



Mayor

Will O'Neill

Mayor Pro Tem

Joe Stapleton

Council Members

Brad Avery

Noah Blom

Robyn Grant

Lauren Kleiman

Erik Kenneth Weigand

April 24, 2024

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 5310
Sacramento CA, 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 2309 (Muratsuchi): City Attorney: State Law:
Misdemeanor City of Newport Beach – Notice of Support**

Dear Assembly Member Muratsuchi,

On behalf of the City of Newport Beach, I write in support of AB 2309 (Muratsuchi), which allows a city attorney to prosecute any state misdemeanor crime that occurs within their city, upon approval of a local ordinance.

At its core, this is a local control and parity issue. Cities possess a unique understanding of the public safety challenges within their jurisdictions. However, in California, many cities do not have the ability to prosecute all misdemeanors and must defer to the county district attorney's office.

AB 2309 seeks parity with this allowance by giving all cities an ability to take steps to ensure the public and their residents are protected from crime.

AB 2309 empowers cities to pass a local ordinance that restores autonomy to local governments by allowing a city attorney to prosecute state misdemeanors and respond swiftly and appropriately to the public safety challenges their community faces.

For the reasons listed above, the City of Newport Beach supports AB 2309.

Sincerely,

Will O'Neill
Mayor
City of Newport Beach

Cc: Senator Janet Nguyen
Assemblymember Diane Dixon
Newport Beach City Council