CITY OF NEWPORT BEACH

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May 27, 2025

The Honorable Matt Haney California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 6210 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 255 (Haney) – Supportive-Recovery Residence Program Notice of Opposition – City of Newport Beach

Dear Assemblymember Haney:

On behalf of the City of Newport Beach, we respectfully oppose AB 255, which would establish the Supportive-Recovery Residence Program under the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). While we support the intent to expand access to recovery housing for individuals with substance use disorders, we are deeply concerned that the bill lacks the clarity and specificity necessary to ensure proper program oversight, enforcement and public accountability.

As drafted, AB 255 introduces significant ambiguity regarding how supportive-recovery residences will be certified, what standards will apply, and who will be responsible for ensuring compliance. This lack of clarity creates uncertainty for local governments, recovery housing providers, and—most importantly—residents who rely on these services during vulnerable stages of recovery.

The City of Newport Beach is committed to supporting high-quality, ethical and accountable recovery housing. However, vague or incomplete regulatory frameworks risk enabling bad actors and diminishing public trust in recovery services. We believe that any new program in this space must be built on a foundation of transparency, enforceable standards, and a clear delineation of responsibilities.

For these reasons, the City of Newport Beach must respectfully oppose AB 255.

Sincerely.

Joe Stapleton

Mayor

cc: Newport Beach City Council