



Office of the Mayor

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May 14, 2019

The Honorable David Chiu
California State Assembly, District 17
California State Capitol, Room 4112
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 516 (Chiu) Authority to Remove Vehicles.
Notice of Opposition

Dear Assembly Member Chiu:

The City of Fremont is **opposed** to your AB 516 (Chiu), a measure that would eliminate the ability for the City of Fremont to adequately enforce state and local vehicle violations.

AB 516 would eliminate enforcement tools for cities to address motorists who disregard basic laws designed to benefit entire communities. Specifically, the measure would eliminate the ability for cities to:

- “Immobilize,” or place a boot on a vehicle, for motorists who have five or more unpaid parking tickets.
- Remove vehicles with expired registration that are operating illegally; and
- Remove vehicles in violation of parking time restrictions.

If this bill is passed as proposed, it would cause some significant challenges to the City of Fremont’s business community and residents’ quality of life. This legislation would allow any vehicle to park for essentially any length of time anywhere in the City and would give agencies very little recourse to remove it. It would severely impact our business districts and residential neighborhoods. In the past year, the City of Fremont received and handled over 3,000 abandoned vehicle complaints and towed 349 cars after giving the appropriate warnings. Most recently, our Police Department had to address a small cul-de-sac area where more than 12 motorhomes and vehicles had stationed for over one month. At the City of Fremont, we value providing these occupants with outreach and resource material prior to abatement, but to take away the City’s ability to regulate public street parking, a large street encampment could remain for a long period of time and present safety issues for other residents.

The approach in AB 516 rewards people who fail to pay their parking tickets, register their vehicles, or adhere to reasonable policies aimed at preventing abandonment and/or street storage of vehicles, regardless of income.



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AB 516 will exacerbate parking scarcity by creating an environment extremely vulnerable for exploitation with consequences much more serious than the problem the bill is trying to solve. This bill, coupled with efforts by the state aimed at eliminating local parking minimums, will create quality of life concerns across income demographics in California.

For these reasons, the City of Fremont is **opposed** to AB 516.

Sincerely,



Lily Mei

Mayor

City of Fremont

cc: The Honorable Bob Wieckowski, The Honorable Kansen Chu & The Honorable Bill Quirk
Meg Desmond, League of California Cities, cityletters@cacities.org