



# CITY OF OCEANSIDE

March 17, 2022

The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris  
California State Assembly, AD 74  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0074

## **RE: SUPPORT FOR AB 2496: ILLEGALLY MODIFIED EXHAUST**

Dear Assemblymember Petrie-Norris:

On behalf of the City of Oceanside, I am writing to express support for your AB 2496, which will help address loud vehicle noise in our community. We appreciate your initiative and interest in the subject and are eager to help improve the quality of life for all Californians.

Inconsistencies in law and a lack of meaningful enforcement mechanisms in current statute contribute to the rising problem and leave public safety officers without the tools to appropriately protect the public. AB 2496 proposes changes to the motor vehicle inspection and maintenance program (Smog Check) administered by the Department of Consumer Affairs and will provide an accountable inspection of vehicles during routine smog checks to look for willful violations of existing Vehicle Code. Failing this inspection will ensure that these vehicles will not be registered in the State.

A majority of loud vehicle noise comes from willful violations of existing Vehicle Code that makes it a crime to modify the exhaust system of a vehicle for the purpose of increasing or amplifying noise emitted by the vehicle. However, this is difficult to judge and enforce by public safety officers. Furthermore, current law states that such violations be addressed with a fix-it ticket, which is woefully inadequate to manage the problem and routinely does not provide enough discouragement for individuals illegally modifying their vehicles.

For these reasons, the City of Oceanside is supportive of AB 2496 and other efforts to address loud vehicle noise.

Sincerely,

Esther C. Sanchez  
MAYOR