



CITY OF LAGUNA NIGUEL

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CITY COUNCIL

Mayor Elaine Gennawey
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Council Member Kelly Jennings
Council Member Fred Minagar
Council Member Risch Paul Sharma

August 12, 2022

The Honorable Connie Leyva
California State Senate, 20th District
1021 O Street, Suite 7610
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: OPPOSE SB 931 (Leyva) – Deterring union membership: violations

Dear Senator Leyva,

The City of Laguna Niguel regrets to inform you of our opposition to SB 931. This bill would authorize an employee organization to bring a claim to the Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) alleging that a public employer has violated existing laws over deterring or discouraging union membership. The bill would also make the public employer subject to payment of civil penalties and attorney's fees.

As there is little precedent to guide local agencies as to what constitutes a violation, SB 931 exposes local agencies to significant liabilities and financial burdens over minor clerical errors as opposed to intentional, willful conduct. SB 931 also does not include a process and opportunity to cure a compliance issue prior to penalties being assessed.

Should you have any questions about our position, please contact Kevin O'Connor, Management Assistant, at koconnor@cityoflagunaniguel.org.

Sincerely,

Elaine Gennawey
Mayor