



LOS ANGELES AREA
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



September 8, 2022

Governor Gavin Newsom
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1338 (Umberg/Eggman) CARE Court – SUPPORT/Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

As business leaders across California, we are in strong support of your CARE Court initiative, Senate Bill 1338 (Umberg/Eggman), and look forward to your signature on this legislation.

Homelessness affects all of us and the CARE Court proposal provides a compassionate, innovative approach to addressing this issue that clearly a majority of Californians care about. Homelessness has become an all-too-common feature of our communities, impacting public safety and public health. SB 1338 is a bold step toward reversing the tide of homelessness in California.

We especially appreciate that SB 1338's CARE Court provides an alternative to more restrictive options such as forced institutionalization or conservatorship while requiring accountability from both clients and service agencies. The CARE Court program treatment of struggling Californians as *individuals*, assigning each a court-ordered CARE plan managed by a care team in the community that includes supportive services, medication, and a housing plan is very welcome. The individual self-directed decisions in conjunction with medical, legal, and community support brings all facets of care together to the benefit of all Californian's, for the hope of a better future. SB 1338 allows family, health providers, first responders, and social service agencies to make referrals in the best interest of these under-served individuals.

As business leaders representing retail, tourism, restaurants, housing, and other industries in a state representing the fifth largest economy in the world, we invest in the communities in which our industries reside, are committed to the safety of our employees, and share the common goal of seeing all communities in California thrive. We look forward to working with you on the implementation of SB 1338.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Rachel Michelin', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Rachel Michelin
President and CEO
California Retailers Association

On behalf of:

California Building Industry Association
California Business Properties Association
California Chamber of Commerce
California Hotel and Lodging Association
California Manufacturing and Technology Association
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
National Federation of Independent Business
Southern California Leadership Council