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April 4th, 2025

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
Senate Committee on Transportation
1021 O Street, Room 7720
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 569 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Blakespear,

On behalf of the San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) and the over 2,000 members and over 300,000 jobs we represent, I am writing to express our support for SB 569, which improves coordination and streamlines the process for clearing homeless encampments on California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) rights-of-way.

As the largest local chamber on the West Coast, the Chamber is committed to fostering safe, thriving communities. Cities across California, including San Diego, have seen a rise in encampments on Caltrans property, but jurisdictional barriers prevent local governments from efficiently addressing them. Many cities have expressed their willingness to enter Delegated Maintenance Agreements (DMAs) with Caltrans to clear encampments in exchange for reimbursement, but the existing framework has been inconsistent and overly bureaucratic. SB 569 would allow local governments under a DMA to follow their own policies and streamline the permit process, improving the efficiency of encampment abatement and enhancing public safety.

For these reasons, we thank you for amending AB 399 and request the committee's support of this bill. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Justine Murray, Executive Director of Public Affairs, at jmurray@sdchamber.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Anderson', written in a cursive style.

Jessica Anderson
Interim President & CEO
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce