



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold, M.D., Mayor

September 13, 2023

The Honorable Dave Cortese
California State Senate, District 15
1021 O Street, Suite 6630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **SB 94 (Cortese) Recall and resentencing: special circumstances
City of Beverly Hills – OPPOSE**

Dear Senator Cortese,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to you in respectful **OPPOSITION to your SB 94 (Cortese)**, which would allow a person who has been sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole (LWOP) who meets certain requirements to file a petition in court to seek a lesser sentence.

While we appreciate the bill's intent to provide some well-behaved LWOP-serving individuals who have committed less-serious crimes the chance to seek a lesser sentence, we still believe that the largely contemptible nature of the crimes committed by most LWOP-serving individuals who meet the requirements of this bill largely outweighs any justification to possibly allow them societal reentry.

In addition to the public safety concerns posed by the bill, we also believe that the expenses incurred to carry out the adjudications of the petitions filed by LWOP-serving individuals would be extremely costly. For example, it costs about \$1,000 to operate a courtroom for just one hour. Depending on how many petitions are filed—which your office estimates around 550 people would be eligible to do so—courtroom costs alone could exceed over half a million dollars. Moreover, this process would become even more expensive when people denied parole file appeals to their denial for resentencing.

Besides costs, it cannot be overlooked that the reentry of many LWOP-serving individuals into society would cause extra anxiety, stress, and trauma to their victims or victims' families who already endured enough pain because of the crimes committed by LWOP-serving individuals.

The City of Beverly Hills prides itself on being one of Los Angeles' safest neighborhoods and we want to continue providing for the public safety and protection of our residents. For the reasons mentioned above, the City of Beverly Hills must respectfully **OPPOSE SB 94 (Cortese)**. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian A. Gold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Julian A. Gold, M.D.
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 24th District
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51st District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange