

[Date]

Honorable Governor Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
C/O State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 2228 – Certified Code Enforcement Officers

Dear Governor Brown:

As a [Title] for [name of organization/department/division], I strongly support AB 2228. **[1-2 statements about your organization, for example, mission, vision, or other statement about your work and interest in advancing goals that are achieved through code enforcement].**

The combination of increasingly complex modern developments, aging structures and infrastructures, and the growing diversity of the population calls for increased attention to the need to regulate land use activities, address housing maintenance and repair needs, resolve community concerns, and preserve the quality of life of neighborhoods. Communities that do not receive this ongoing care and attention fall into disrepair and deteriorate. This increases the burden on local agencies' responsibilities to cure the disintegration, decline, decay, disorder, and blight that occurs if laws, codes, and standards are not effectively enforced.

Additionally, there has been considerable civil liability against California cities that may have been prevented if the code enforcement officers involved had been adequately trained. There has also been a history of assaults and batteries on code enforcement officers that may have been averted if the officers were better prepared in the areas of officer safety tools and techniques.

The best way to combat these issues is to provide code enforcement officers with a standardized program of professional education prepared by experienced instructors who have the motivation and interest in developing high quality code enforcement training programs. Under AB 2228, the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers (CACEO) accomplishes this with a voluntary code enforcement officer certification programs that will enable agencies to reliably hire Certified Code Enforcement Officers as designated by statute and proven by certification, rather than taking chances on hiring uncertified personnel who may not know essential laws, have the critical skills, or know the best work practices to best perform their jobs.

As a voluntary certification program, AB 2228 creates no mandates on local agencies, does not preempt any local agency training programs, and does not interfere or conflict with any other state industry or association programs or requirements. CACEO will administer this program at no cost to the State or local agencies.

Thank you for your leadership on this issue and your commitment to the education and training standards for Code Enforcement Officers.

Sincerely,

[signature]

[name]

[title]

[Organization]