



## City of Encinitas City Council's Office

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September 18, 2025

Governor Gavin Newsom  
1021 O Street, Room 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

*Bruce Ehlers*  
Mayor

### **RE: AB 492 (Valencia) Alcohol and drug programs: licensing – Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

*Joy Lyndes*  
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas is pleased to support AB 492 (Valencia), which would require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to notify cities anytime a new alcohol and drug treatment facility is approved in their jurisdiction, and respectfully requests your signature on the measure.

*Jim O'Hara*  
Council Member

California has 2,043 alcohol and drug treatment facilities, nearly 70% of which are in Southern California. DHCS is not currently required to notify local governments when approving licenses, leaving cities in the dark about the operation of new facilities within their jurisdictions. This lack of communication can make it challenging to address community concerns, maintain public safety, and ensure that recovery and treatment programs are effectively integrated into local communities.

*Maro San Antonio*  
Council Member

AB 492 would enable cities to better coordinate services and identify emerging trends and potential gaps in the state's approach to treatment needs. Similar notification requirements are already in place for liquor licenses, cannabis businesses, and syringe exchange programs.

*Luke Shaffer*  
Council Member

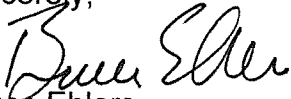
By receiving direct notifications of new or renewed licenses, Encinitas can better monitor the establishment and operation of recovery facilities within its jurisdiction, ensuring they align with local zoning laws and community standards. Residents and local organizations will be informed about the presence of treatment facilities, facilitating community engagement and support for individuals seeking recovery services. With timely information, Encinitas can coordinate with DHCS and other stakeholders to address any emerging public health concerns related to substance use and recovery services.

*Jennifer Campbell*  
City Manager

A recent state audit on drug and alcohol treatment facilities in California confirmed what cities across California have been saying for years: There is an overconcentration of recovery housing in residential neighborhoods. AB 492 takes a critical step forward by keeping cities informed and enhancing their collaboration with the state to more effectively address substance use treatment needs.

For these reasons, the City of Encinitas strongly urges your signature on the measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bruce Ehlers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "B".

Bruce Ehlers  
Mayor  
City of Encinitas