



## City of Encinitas City Council's Office

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March 12, 2026

*Bruce Ehlers*  
Mayor

The Honorable José Luis Solache  
California State Assembly  
1020 N St. Rm. 5110  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1708 (Solache) HHAP Pathways for Cities Act.**  
**Notice of SUPPORT** (*As Introduced 2/4/2026*)

*Jim O'Hara*  
Deputy Mayor

Dear Assembly Member Solache,

The City of Encinitas is pleased to support AB 1708 (Solache), which would create a new pathway for cities with populations under 300,000 to access state homelessness funding.

*Joy Lyndes*  
Council Member

Since 2019, the state's flagship homelessness grant program, the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Grant program, has provided direct funding to cities with populations over 300,000, all 58 counties, and the 44 Continuums of Care (CoC) across California.

*Marco San Antonio*  
Council Member

This structure has left most cities without a consistent pathway to access HHAP funding, despite investing significant General Fund resources to prevent and reduce homelessness in their communities. AB 1708 would address this by creating a new opportunity for the 469 California cities with populations under 300,000 to apply for HHAP funding through their CoC.

*Luke Shaffer*  
Council Member

Specifically, AB 1708 would require CoCs, before allocating funding to other subrecipients in their region, to accept applications for 30 days only from cities with populations under 300,000. This measure would strike a reasonable balance between access and accountability, requiring interested cities to commit to regionally coordinated action plans and adhere to state housing and encampment policies.

*Jennifer Campbell*  
City Manager

AB 1708 would also require CoCs to prioritize applications from cities that have existing partnerships with non-profits, other cities, or have already leveraged state and local funding for existing projects in their communities. This would ensure that limited state resources are deployed efficiently and deliver measurable results in reducing homelessness.

RE: **AB 1708 (Solache) HHAP Pathways for Cities Act.**  
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The City of Encinitas will benefit from this proposal by gaining access to immediate funding that will strengthen and expand our existing homeless outreach programs and services. These resources will help save lives by connecting individuals experiencing homelessness to critical support, while also enabling proactive strategies to identify at-risk residents and develop personalized plans to prevent homelessness before it occurs. This legislation will provide smaller cities like Encinitas with the tools and resources needed to implement proven, locally tailored strategies that prevent homelessness and help our most vulnerable residents find stability. We appreciate your leadership on this critical issue and look forward to working collaboratively to ensure its success.

For these reasons, the City of Encinitas is pleased to support AB 1708 (Solache).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Bruce Ehlers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bruce Ehlers, Mayor  
City of Encinitas