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From the Office of the City Council

August 5, 2025

The Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez California State Senator 1021 O Street, Room 6720 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Senate Bill 805 (Pérez): Crimes. (Amended – 7/18/2025)

City of Costa Mesa – Notice of Support

Dear Senator Pérez,

On behalf of the City of Costa Mesa, I am writing to express our support for Senate Bill 805, the No Vigilantes Act. This important legislation encourages community-conscious public safety by protecting communities against the impersonation of law enforcement officers and other public safety personnel.

As detailed in the Senate Public Safety Committee's analysis of the bill, recent incidents across California and other states include incidents of impersonators engaging in behavior ranging from harassment to serious criminal acts such as kidnapping and sexual assault. These actions sow distrust in public institutions and threaten the safety of our residents, particularly those in vulnerable communities. The bill's prohibition against impersonation, especially through deceptive means or with intent to defraud, is a critical and necessary step forward.

The City of Costa Mesa strongly supports SB 805's intent to address the alarming rise in law enforcement impersonation, which puts vulnerable populations at heightened risk. City of Costa Mesa residents have expressed their concerns and fears of being subject to false imprisonment when attending public events, parks, or community facilities. This has become evident over the recent months in the declining numbers of attendees at some of our most popular community events. City residents and business have expressed their desire that the focus of immigration enforcement should be on serious and violent criminals and not legitimate workers or employment sites.

While the City acknowledges the bill's provision requiring on-duty law enforcement officers to display identification, we note that this requirement is already a standard practice under most existing law enforcement agency protocols.

SB 805 also wisely places limitations on bail fugitive recovery agents, ensuring they are not misused for immigration enforcement purposes, and protects defendants' immigration status confidentiality.

The City of Costa Mesa stands firmly by its core values of inclusivity and compassion for its diverse population while ensuring the public's safety. For these reasons, the City of Costa Mesa is pleased to support SB 805.

Sincerely,

John Stephens Mayor City of Costa Mesa