



City of Encinitas *City Council's Office*

September 8, 2021

The Honorable Patricia Bates
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3063
Sacramento, CA 95814

Catherine S. Blakespear
Mayor

**Re: AB 361 (Rivas, Robert) Open Meetings. Local Agencies. Teleconferences.
Notice of SUPPORT (As amended on 9/3/2021)**

Dear Senator Bates:

Tony Kranz
Deputy Mayor

The City of Encinitas is pleased to support AB 361, which would allow local agencies to meet remotely under modified Brown Act requirements during state of emergencies to continue to provide essential local services. Public access and participation remain a core value of local democracy, and the City of Encinitas has risen to this challenge and are engaging and listening to the public in a new, digital environment.

Joe Mosca
Council Member

The City of Encinitas urgently needs AB 361 to pass, so our city's Brown Act bodies can continue to provide essential services while prioritizing health and safety of our residents and ensuring government transparency, access, and public engagement.

Kellie Shay Hinze
Council Member

Due to the increased spread of COVID-19 and the uncertainty that COVID-19 variants present, our city needs to retain the ability and flexibility to continue to conduct meetings in a safe manner. AB 361 would give our city the much-needed continued flexibility.

For these reasons, the City of Encinitas supports AB 316.

Joy Lyndes
Council Member

Sincerely,

Catherine S. Blakespear
Mayor

Pamela Antil
City Manager

cc: The Honorable Robert Rivas
Your Cal Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager (via email)
League of California Cities, cityletters@calcities.org