

April 1, 2025

The Honorable Ávila Farías California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 4120 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Opposition to AB 933 (Ávila Farías) – Organized Residential Camps: Organized Day Camps

Dear Assembly Member Ávila Farías:

On behalf of the City of Santa Rosa, I write to respectfully express our strong opposition to Assembly Bill 933, which proposes to significantly expand the state's regulatory framework for organized camps by adding "organized day camps" to the same oversight and enforcement structure currently applied to organized residential camps.

While we fully support efforts to ensure the safety and well-being of children participating in day camp programs, AB 933 imposes significant unfunded mandates on local governments—particularly local health departments—by requiring them to enforce building standards and public health regulations on a new category of operations without providing funding or guidance. The scope of these duties will be wide-reaching, as many of the day camps currently operating in our city would now fall under a newly created and burdensome regulatory structure.

Key concerns include:

Unfunded Local Mandates: AB 933 requires local health officers to enforce state-level building codes and safety standards for organized day camps without any state reimbursement. This adds to the already overextended resources of local public health departments, posing administrative and fiscal challenges to municipalities like Santa Rosa.

Lack of Differentiation Between Residential and Day Camps: Applying nearly identical regulatory requirements to day camps as those for overnight residential camps fails to recognize the vastly different operational models and risk profiles between the two. This one-size-fits-all approach is overly broad and could discourage or shut down many community-based youth programs due to compliance costs.

MARK STAPP Mayor

EDDIE ALVAREZ Vice Mayor

CAROLINE BAÑUELOS VICTORIA FLEMING DIANNA MACDONALD JEFF OKREPKIE NATALIE ROGERS Criminal Liability Expansion: By making violations of the new standards a misdemeanor, the bill imposes criminal liability on a wide array of local community organizations and staff, including volunteer-led camps or short-term enrichment programs, many of which are integral to our city's recreation and community services.

Premature and Duplicative Regulation: AB 933 includes provisions that will become inoperative upon the adoption of separate regulations by the Department of Social Services. Enacting a temporary regulatory regime—especially one that imposes mandates and criminal penalties—is both inefficient and potentially disruptive to longstanding programs.

The City of Santa Rosa urges you and your colleagues to reconsider this legislation and instead engage stakeholders—including municipalities, parks and recreation departments, local health officers, and youth-serving organizations—in a more collaborative process to develop safe, reasonable, and sustainable standards for organized day camps.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Rosa respectfully opposes AB 933. For questions or additional information, please contact Coby Pizzotti at cpizzotti@publicpolicygroup.com or

Sincerely,

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Dane Hutchings at <a href="mailto:dhutchings@publicpolicygroup.com">dhutchings@publicpolicygroup.com</a>.