May 4, 2020

Senator Lena Gonzalez
33rd California State Senate District
State Capitol, Room 2068
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Senator Gonzalez,

As the Mayor for the City of Paramount, I am writing to express my support of S.B. 1410 (COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program) that you have sponsored. S.B. 1410 extends relief to renters during these challenging times. Paramount has a significant population of renters (61% of our housing stock) who face mounting financial hardship related to the global COVID-19 pandemic.

The COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program augments our local rental assistance efforts by taking action to prevent landlords from increasing rent between the date the owner consents to participate in the program and December 31, 2020, and charging or attempting to collect a late fee for any rent payment due between April 1 and October 31, 2020. Your bill also requires landlords who participate in the program to accept a payment provided under the program as full payment of the missed or insufficient rent payments, as specified.

California’s local leaders are on the frontlines of responding to the outbreak of the COVID-19 in their communities, doing what is necessary to ensure the health and safety of their residents, and will continue to be for some time. We must concurrently protect our community’s financial and housing future. I fully support your efforts to enact S.B. 1410 to ensure our residents have the resources to stay in their homes, especially as we attempt to emerge and recover from the crippling impact of this pandemic.

CITY OF PARAMOUNT

Peggy Lemons
Mayor

cc: Kristine Guerrero, League of California Cities, kguerrero@cacities.org