



A Neighborhood Where Families Grow



May 23, 2019

Honorable Senator Portantino

Via email: senator.portantino@senate.ca.gov

Re: AB 516 – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Shadow Hills Property Owners Association (SHPOA) is opposed to AB 516 which would remove peace officers' ability to request towing of vehicles where the owner has 5 or more unpaid parking tickets, the car registration is more than six months out of date, or when a car has been legally parked for more than 72 hours.

Proponents of this bill say it unfairly targets low-income vehicle owners who cannot afford to pay impound fees when they attempt to retrieve their vehicles from impound yards.

We oppose this bill because it would give vehicle owners free rein to park their vehicles anywhere for over 72 hours without any repercussions. In commercial areas, allowing parking spaces to be used as "storage" negatively impacts restaurants, businesses, and retail as these vehicles are taking up precious space that could and should be used for paying customers. Additionally, it enables drivers who have failed to timely pay their vehicle license fees or racked up parking tickets to avoid having their vehicles rightfully impounded. California's VLF revenue fund is a major revenue source for California and it is imperative that fees are paid in a timely fashion to accurately meet revenue projections.

If you have ever experienced having another person's vehicle parked in front of your residence or business for more than 72 hours, you would find it to be annoying, irritating and frustrating, especially when you cannot park your own vehicle in front of your own residence or business. Public parking spaces are intended to be for temporary parking, and this bill would effectively turn them into permanent vehicle storage areas.

Therefore, we strongly urge you and the Appropriations Committee to reject this bill when it comes before you for consideration. Thank you for your continued thoughtful representation of your constituents.

Warm regards,

Cindy Bloom
President, Shadow Hills Property Owners Association

Cc: Senator Robert Hertzberg, Assemblymember Luz Rivas