



City of Riverside, California
Office of the Mayor
PATRICIA LOCK DAWSON



April 30, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
1021 O St., Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 2042

Dear Chairwoman Wicks,

On behalf of the City of Riverside, I write to respectfully oppose AB 2042 (Jackson) which sets vague requirements for the Commission on Peace Officers Standards and Training (POST) to develop guidelines on police K9 programs.

Law enforcement agencies view the use of police canines as indispensable to protecting the public and law enforcement personnel. When properly used, a canine team greatly increases the degree of safety to citizens within a contained search area, enhances individual officer safety, significantly increases the likelihood of suspect apprehension, and dramatically reduces the amount of time necessary to conduct a search.

While the City supports comprehensive standards on the use of police K9s, we have concerns with specific sections of the bill. AB 2042 states POST shall develop guidelines based on "best practices" but remains unclear what those are, and how they are determined. Also, AB 2042 limits POST's ability to make future revision to the guidelines they develop.

Due to the concerns outlined above, the City of Riverside must respectfully oppose AB 2042. If you have questions regarding the City's position, please contact Chekesha Gilliam, Intergovernmental Relations Officer at (951) 826-2419 or CGilliam@riversideca.gov.

Sincerely,

Patricia Lock Dawson
Mayor, City of Riverside

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Committee on Appropriations
The Honorable Corey Jackson
City of Riverside Legislative Delegation