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CITY OF LOMITA

April 22, 2026

Assemblymember Mike A. Gipson
Chair, Revenue and Taxation Committee
1020 N. Street, Room 167A
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Oppose AB 1768 Transactions and Use Taxes: County of Los Angeles

Dear Chair Gipson:

The City of Lomita writes to respectfully oppose AB 1768, which would authorize the County of Los Angeles to levy a new transaction and use tax of up to 0.5 percent for general and special purposes, subject to voter approval. The bill would also authorize these taxes to exceed the existing 2 percent cap, resulting in a significant expansion of current law.

While the City recognizes the fiscal challenges facing Los Angeles County, AB 1768 raises significant concerns regarding the preservation of local fiscal authority and the long-term ability of cities to fund essential municipal services. Cities like Lomita rely on the limited remaining tax capacity available under current law to pursue locally controlled, voter approved revenue measures that directly support community priorities, including public safety, infrastructure maintenance, and quality of life services. Authorizing the County to exceed the cap risks crowding out this remaining capacity and limiting the City's ability to address future needs.

Additionally, residents and businesses throughout Los Angeles County already face some of the highest cumulative sales tax rates in the nation, and further increases would place an added burden on Lomita residents, disproportionately impact lower income households, discourage consumer spending, and disadvantage small businesses. The City is also concerned that revenues generated locally may not be returned in proportion to their contribution, as AB 1768 relies on centralized county allocation without guaranteeing direct benefits, while allowing the County to exceed the cap sets a concerning precedent that could erode taxpayer protections and limit local control.

For these reasons, the City of Lomita respectfully opposes AB 1768 and urges the Committee to consider the impact this measure would have on smaller cities and their ability to serve their communities.

Sincerely,


Cindy Segawa
Mayor, City of Lomita