

CITY COUNCIL

BILL UPHOFF
MARK A. WARONEK
JAMES GAZELEY
CINDY SEGAWA
BARRY WAITE



ADMINISTRATION

CITY MANAGER
ANDREW VIALPANDO

CITY OF LOMITA

May 14, 2024

The Honorable Al Muratsuchi
Member, California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room 5310
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **AB 2404 (Lee) State and Local Public Employees: Labor Relations: Strikes.**
Notice of OPPOSE (As Amended March 21, 2024)

Dear Assembly Member Muratsuchi,

The City of Lomita must respectfully take a position of **oppose** on **AB 2404**. This measure is a reintroduction of last year's AB 504 (Reyes), which would declare the acts of sympathy striking and honoring a strike line a human right and, thereby, disallow provisions in public employer policies or collective bargaining agreements going forward that would limit or prevent an employee's right to sympathy strike.

We are not disputing the right of employee organizations to engage in the protected activity of striking. State law has created a framework for when unions can engage in protected strike activity that has been honored by local government and unions alike. Unfortunately, this bill would allow those who have not gone through the negotiation process to refuse to work simply because another bargaining unit is engaging in striking.

As local agencies, we have a responsibility to provide services to our communities throughout the state. No-strike provisions in local contracts have been agreed to by both parties in good faith often due to the critical nature of the employees' job duty. Local memorandums of understanding provisions around striking and sympathy striking ensure local governments can continue to provide critical services. Eliminating this ability while also ignoring the essential employee designation process for sympathy strikers would likely result in workforce shortages that jeopardize our ability to operate and provide critical services. The passage of this bill would impact Lomita's already small workforce. This bill jeopardizes the delivery of necessary city services and undermines the collective bargaining process. For these reasons, the Lomita respectfully **opposes AB 2404**.

Sincerely,

Bill Uphoff
Mayor

- c. Lomita City Council
The Honorable Alex Lee, Member of the California State Assembly
Jeff Kiernan, Cal Cities Regional Public Affairs Manager via email jkiernan@calcities.org
League of California Cities, via email: cityletters@calcities.org