



City of Glendora | City Hall

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May 5, 2023

Honorable Corey A. Jackson
California State Assembly
California State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: LETTER OF OPPOSITION - ASSEMBLY BILL 742 (JACKSON)

Dear Assemblymember Jackson,

On behalf of the City of Glendora, we join California Police Chiefs Association and law enforcement leaders throughout California, in strong opposition to AB 742, which would prohibit the use of police canines in the apprehension or arrest of a suspect, to bite in any situation, or in any manner of crowd control. In doing so, AB 742 eliminates an irreplaceable public safety team member and invaluable tool who has been responsible for countless saved lives and de-escalated situations.

Canines possess abilities for hearing and smell that law enforcement officers rely on for safety and protection. Scientific research has estimated that a canine's sense of smell is, on average, anywhere between 10,000 and 100,000 times greater than a human. Similarly, a canine's ability to not only hear sounds humans cannot register, but their ability to alert to even the most minor sound within aggregate noise makes them even more critically perceptive. Whether searching for a violent suspect hiding inside a house, or identifying a potential threat down a dark alley, police canines play an exceptional role in protecting their public safety partners and our communities.

Law enforcement has also recognized the power canines possess, and the need to control that force. As such, canine programs go through incredible amounts of ongoing training and review. All actions are overseen and governed by well-established department policies and held accountable by respective local governing bodies and state law. Furthermore, the use of force standards set in statute are applicable in the event of a canine deployment. Fortunately, in the overwhelming majority of situations, canines assist in de-escalating conflict and prevent force from being necessary.

For the reasons outlined above, we must strongly oppose AB 742.

Sincerely,

CITY OF GLENDORA

Gary Boyer, Mayor