



May 8, 2025

TO: INTERESTED LEGISLATORS

RE: OPPOSITION TO LOS ANGELES CITY ATTORNEY PROPOSAL TO CAP NON-ECONOMIC DAMAGES AND ATTORNEY'S FEES

The above groups oppose the recent proposal circulated by Los Angeles City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto to reduce the legal rights of Californians harmed by a public entity. Her proposal, given to some legislators on April 23, 2025, seeks to avoid financial liability by drastically limiting the legal rights of people whose rights are violated, including but not limited to, cases involving civil rights, discrimination, sexual abuse, sexual harassment, assault and police brutality, government whistleblowers, workers who exercise their First Amendment rights, and people injured by a public entity's failure to maintain safe streets and public facilities.

Local governments have a responsibility to protect the civil rights, health and safety of their communities and limiting the rights of survivors and victims would not solve the current budgetary problems. Maintaining fiscal responsibility and ensuring that the victims of negligence and harm receive compensation are not mutually exclusive goals. We believe local governments must address budgetary constraints without jeopardizing the rights of the people they serve.

Sincerely,

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