



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE ▪ BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Julian A. Gold, M.D., Mayor

September 13, 2023

The Honorable Steven Glazer
California State Senate, District 7
1021 O Street, Suite 7520
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: **ACA 13 (Ward): Voting Thresholds**
City of Beverly Hills – SUPPORT

Dear Chair Glazer,

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I am pleased to write to you in **SUPPORT of ACA 13**, which will require any constitutional amendment proposed by initiative to comply with any increased voter approved threshold that it seeks to impose on future ballot measures. This measure will also guarantee in the state constitution the ability of local governments to submit advisory questions to voters.

Under existing law, a simple majority of voters (50 percent plus 1 vote) may pass a measure which would require in the future a super majority (66 2/3 percent) of voter approval for future actions. This framework has given disproportionate power to a small number of voters, with a little more than one-third of the voters being able to prevent the enactment of laws that a majority of voters agree upon. At the local level, this has made it unnecessarily difficult to pass revenue measures dedicated to critical services such as homelessness and housing, fire, public safety, and roads.

ACA 13 would retain the majority vote requirement for passage of state and local initiatives. If passed, ACA 13 will require future initiatives that seek to increase voter thresholds on future ballot measures to pass with that same proportional higher vote threshold. For example, a measure that would impose a two-thirds vote threshold on future measures should also pass with a two-thirds vote to be implemented.

In addition, cities and counties often place non-binding advisory measures on the ballot to allow voters to provide direction to their governing body on various issues. This is a critical tool, which allows voters to advise their local government, would be protected by ACA 13. For these reasons, the **City of Beverly Hills is pleased to support ACA 13**. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Julian A. Gold". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Julian A. Gold, M.D.
Mayor, City of Beverly Hills

cc: The Honorable Ben Allen, Senator, 24th District
The Honorable Rick Zbur, Assemblymember, 51st District
Andrew K. Antwih, Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange