

East Los Angeles Residents Association

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Oscar Gonzales
President

Diana Tarango
Vice-President

Benjamin Cardenas
Vice-President

Alberto Palacios
Parliamentarian

Gustavo Camacho
Treasurer

Yobany Chacon
Secretary

Francisco Cendejas

Kristie Hernandez

Ana Mascareñas

August 6, 2008

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

On behalf of the East Los Angeles Residents Association, I am writing to ask that you sign Senate Bill 301 (Romero). This legislation will benefit unincorporated communities across California who do not have any form of local government, and wish to form one. The great State of California was built on the ability of its residents to create a governance structure that would give them a voice. Imagine if a century ago the door was closed on residents who wanted a local government that could meet their needs. Many communities are ready for self-governance, and for those areas, county government alone is no longer an adequate form of representation.

The community of East Los Angeles is in the middle of a signature gathering process that we hope will lead to cityhood. We recently commissioned a financial study that proved East Los Angeles is economically viable and can sustain itself as a city. The current source of revenue from the License Fee allows fledgling cities to develop, and ensures success in their path towards self-governance. By signing this bill, you are allowing future cities to benefit from a system that so many other new cities have already benefited from. Our community is committed to addressing local concerns with grassroots solutions, and as the City of East Los Angeles, we would welcome our role as the gateway to the San Gabriel Valley, Southeast L.A., and the City of Los Angeles.

There are several communities across California that will benefit when you sign SB 301. East Los Angeles is proud of its leadership role in this legislation, and we are grateful to Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero for championing a bill that will allow Californians to improve their own communities through self-governance for years to come. For these reasons we urge you to sign SB 301.

Sincerely,

Oscar Gonzales
President
East Los Angeles Residents Association

cc: Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero

**1278 La Veque Ave.
East Los Angeles, CA 90063
(323) 230-8562**

-Computer generated, labor donated-