



Reply to: Alice Fredericks
Chair, Legislative Committee
MCCMC Tiburon Town Hall
1505 Tiburon Blvd
Tiburon, CA 94920

June 29, 2019

Assembly Member Tom Daley
Chair, Assembly Insurance Committee

RE: **SB 542 (Stern) Workers' compensation.
Notice of Opposition**

Dear Assembly Member Daley

The Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers (MCCMC) respectfully opposes SB 542, The bill would create a new presumption of industrial causation for all diagnoses of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), or mental health disorder that develops or manifests itself during a period when a firefighter or peace officer is in service of the city or town.

The California's workers' compensation system is studied thoroughly on an annual basis, yet we are aware of no evidence that the workers' compensation system is treating these types of claims unfairly. Despite specific requests to them from Assembly Member Timothy Grayson about denial rates of the types of claims SB 542 addresses, the Department of Industrial Relations reported no data that indicates public safety officer PTSD claims are being inappropriately denied. Specific data on the volume of claims and the rate of denial is needed to fully inform the State legislature prior to making such sweeping changes in the workers compensation system.

MCCMC has respect, admiration, and appreciation for our public safety personnel. However, without evidence that a problem exists or information about the costs to implement the proffered retrospective and future actions, MCCMC opposes SB 542.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Alice Fredericks".

Alice Fredericks, Chair
Legislative Committee
Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers

cc:

Nancy Hall Bennett, Regional Public Affairs Manager, nbennett@cacities.org
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