

Paul Gladfelty  
Felipe Fuentes  
Jamie Khan  
Bret Gladfelty



1201 K Street Suite 750  
Sacramento CA 95814  
T. (916) 444-3116  
F. (916) 444-7841  
www.theapexgroup.net

## THE APEX GROUP

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July 10, 2019

Assemblymember Santiago  
State Capitol, Room 6027  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: AB 516 (Chiu and Santiago) – Oppose Unless Amended**

Dear Assemblymember Santiago:

On behalf of our clients, the California Association of Harbor Masters and Port Captains, the California Yacht Brokers Association, the Marine Recreation Association the purpose of this letter is to respectfully present our opposition to your bill AB 516, relating to public authorization to remove vehicles. Our primary concern is that this policy is counter to the statute prescribed in California Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002. Specifically, the act specifies to **promote public access** to the beaches and waterways in California and AB 516 will hinder the state's ability to allow for public access. California's coastal and waterfront access are extremely important to the millions of visitors that drive to the coast or waterfronts. With such a high demand for parking in these areas, it is essential for harbors and marinas to have the ability to promptly remove a vehicle that has been delinquent on tickets or has not followed the parking terms associated with a parking lot. This bill will create delays in towing vehicles that their owners have no intention of removing them.

Our clients represent the breadth of California's boating industry and the marine recreational economy. Additionally, the membership of these organizations includes private marina owners and operators, public agency marina managers, boat dealers, boating publications, yacht brokers, boat repair facilities, marine insurance and financing firms, and more than 18,000 individual boaters.

A solution to remove our opposition from AB 516 would simply be to exempt regions that are within 1 mile from California's coastal and waterfront regions in order to promote waterfront access as prescribed in California Coastal and Beach Protection Act of 2002.

We hope we can remove our opposition and come to a neutral position on AB 516.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely,

Bret Gladfelty

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee

ADVOCACY, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS, PROCUREMENT.