



June 25, 2024

Senator Maria Elena Durazo  
Chair, Senate Local Government Committee  
State Capitol, Room 407  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Assembly Bill (AB) 2986 (W. Carrillo) Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles: East Los Angeles Task Force

Dear Senator Durazo,

Jovenes, Inc. is a nonprofit stakeholder that serves homeless youth and students in the East Los Angeles community. These young people represent some of the most vulnerable of our community members. On behalf of the East Los Angeles residents that we serve, I am writing to urge you to oppose AB 2986. AB 2986 is an expensive and fundamentally flawed bill which has the potential to harm East Los Angeles and its residents. That is why we are joining the over 500 East LA residents and service providers standing together in opposition of this bill.

If AB 2986 passes, it would require a costly study — nearly \$6 million — at a time when the State is facing a historic deficit. Those funds would be better spent by directly investing in programs and services for the East LA community. In addition, past studies have forecasted a multi-million dollar budget deficit if East LA were to become a city. Families and businesses owners would bear the brunt of that deficit either by paying higher taxes, losing vital community services, or outsourcing services to private, possible non-union, contractors. These actions would create significant challenges and increased barriers for many within the East LA community, specifically the already vulnerable residents that we serve.

Less than half of the LA Angeles County State Assembly Delegation voted to support AB2986 because they were concerned about the impacts for East LA residents. As a concerned stakeholder, we urge you to oppose this bill.

Thank you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Andrea Marchetti".

Andrea Marchetti  
Executive Director, Jovenes, Inc.

CC: Speaker Pro Tem McGuire  
Senate Local Government Committee