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* * * FLOOR ALERT * * *

DATE: July 20, 2010
TO: Members, California State Assembly
FROM: Jennifer Whiting, Legislative Representative
RE: **SB 949 (Oropeza). Vehicles: local authority: assessing penalties.**
Request for NO Vote

The League of California Cities opposes Senate Bill (SB) 949 by Senator Oropeza and urges your NO vote on this measure.

- Preemption of Local Authority. SB 949 would preempt the authority afforded to cities and counties through Vehicle Code Section 21100 that allows the regulation of traffic by means of official traffic control devices, amongst other areas, as specifically expressed in this current statute.
- Greater Impact than Assumed. The intent of this legislation is within reason but the additional consequences of SB 949 are problematic for both local agencies and the state. This sets a dangerous precedent for state control over policies intended to address public safety issues specific to a jurisdiction.
- Creates One-Size-Fits All Approach to Public Safety. The discretion afforded through the municipal codes to local jurisdictions, the law enforcement officers serving those jurisdictions, and courts reviewing citations ensures an appropriate response to local needs. SB 949 undermines that flexibility for a one-size-fits-all approach to public safety.

cc: Senator Jenny Oropeza