

CITY OF PALM DESERT STAFF REPORT

MEETING DATE: April 10, 2025

PREPARED BY: Anthony J. Mejia, City Clerk

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 664 (OCHOA BOGH) AND
MONITOR ASSEMBLY BILL 262 (CALOZA)

RECOMMENDATION:

1. Direct staff to take a monitor position on Assembly Bill 262 (Caloza) – California Individual Assistance Act, allowing staff to track the bill as it progresses and return for further City Council consideration once a legislative analysis and fiscal impact are available.
2. Authorize the issuance of a letter of support for Senate Bill 664 (Ochoa Bogh) – Blue Envelope Program.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS:

At the City Council meeting of March 27, 2025, Councilmember Quintanilla, with the concurrence of Mayor Harnik, requested that the City Council Subcommittee on Legislative Affairs review Assembly Bill 262 (Caloza) and Senate Bill 664 (Ochoa Bogh) to determine whether to recommend City positions.

The Subcommittee, consisting of Mayor Harnik and Mayor Pro Tem Trubee, subsequently reviewed both bills. The Subcommittee expressed support for issuing a letter of support for SB 664. However, the Subcommittee recommended taking no position on AB 262 at this time and instead monitoring its progress. AB 262 is still in the early stages of the legislative process and is pending a formal bill analysis. Additionally, while the bill would create a new state grant program to assist individuals, families, and local agencies with disaster recovery costs, the bill does not yet identify a specific funding structure or fiscal impact.

Assembly Bill 262 (Caloza) – California Individual Assistance Act

AB 262 would establish a state-funded grant program to assist individuals, families, local agencies, and community-based organizations with disaster recovery costs. The program is intended to provide financial assistance for housing repairs, essential personal property replacement, income loss, and other recovery needs when disasters do not meet thresholds for federal individual assistance.

Senate Bill 664 (Ochoa Bogh) – Blue Envelope Program

SB 664 would require the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to create the Blue Envelope Program by January 1, 2027. The program would provide individuals with disabilities or conditions that may require additional accommodations during traffic stops with a standardized envelope. The envelope would contain safety tips for the individual, recommended communication strategies for law enforcement, and space for personal and emergency contact information.

Legal Review:

This report has been reviewed by the City Attorney's Office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

There is no financial impact associated with this action.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. AB 262
2. SB 664
3. Draft Letter of Support for SB 664