



## **LEGISLATIVE ALERT**

### **SUPPORT FOR SENATOR CEDILLO'S LEGISLATIVE PACKAGE**

In February 2006, State Senator Gil Cedillo introduced a package of bills in the Legislature aimed at alleviating Downtown Los Angeles' Skid Row of its burden of homelessness and substance abuse. CCA has worked tirelessly to support Senator Cedillo's legislation, testifying in Sacramento on numerous occasions in support of his bills.

However, presently, two of Senator Cedillo's crucial pieces of legislation, Senate Bill 1318 and Senate Bill 1320, have been placed in the State Assembly's Appropriations Suspense File. SB 1318 establishes a two-year sentence enhancement for persons convicted of selling drugs near homeless shelters and drug treatment centers Downtown, while SB 1320, requires courts to impose, as a condition of probation for persons convicted of certain drug offenses, a requirement that they do not enter Skid Row for any unlawful purpose. These bills are essential in addressing Downtown's public safety crisis.

As these bills are important pieces of legislation for the Downtown community, it is imperative that we begin a letter writing campaign to urge Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez to support these critically important bills and move them forward in the Legislature. Your participation in this letter writing campaign is strongly requested. We have attached a sample letter for your convenience. We would appreciate your support as we strive to make Downtown truly a place to live, work and play. Letters must be sent by tomorrow, Wednesday, August 16<sup>th</sup> at 5 p.m.

If you have any questions or would like more information on this issue, please contact CCA's Manager of Public Policy, Linda Mogadam at 213-624-1213 or by email at [lmogadam@ccala.org](mailto:lmogadam@ccala.org).