



CITY OF MURRIETA

September 23, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 1637 (Smith) Unclaimed Property: Public Agencies
Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

The City of Murrieta respectfully requests your Signature on AB 1637 (Smith). This bill authorizes the State Controller to automatically allocate to a state or local agency, without the requirement for an agency to file a claim, any unclaimed property in that agency's name received as part of the Controller's unclaimed property database.

This is a common-sense cost saving bill for both state and local agencies. The State Controller currently holds over \$9 billion in unclaimed property owed to individuals and public agencies. While widespread efforts including an online database are undertaken to help return this property to its rightful owners, the application process can be time-consuming. For local public agencies, the cost of having someone monitor this database for unclaimed property and then file claims often exceeds the amounts recovered.

AB 1637 advances the interests of public agencies and taxpayers while reducing bureaucracy. For the reasons stated above, the City requests your signature on AB 1637. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Louie Lacasella, City Manager's Office at (951) 461-6008 or llacasella@MurrietaCA.gov.

Sincerely,

Kelly Seyarto
Mayor

Cc. Murrieta City Council
Senator Jeff Stone
Assembly Member Melissa Melendez
Erin Sasse, League of California Cities Public Affairs Manager
David Jones, Emanuels Jones & Associates