

SB 510 Proponent Testimony
Senate Local Government
26 February 2024

Chair McGinn, Vice-Chair Bowers, Ranking Minority Francisco, and Esteemed Members of the Senate Local Government Committee,

Today I ask you to support common sense in local government by supporting SB 510. Two primary issues should be considered when making law regarding city sewer lines: public health, and economic development. Thankfully, this bill fosters both categories!

While it should go without saying, the ability to use the restroom in a place of business is good for business. I've always found it challenging to shop in a store that disregards physical needs of all humans, but recognize that boutiques and gift shops might not require the time inside that restaurants, hotels, larger malls, insurance agencies, car dealerships, offices, and medical facilities do. Let's treat our business owners with common decency—providing public sanitation. When we are comfortable, we spend more money. When we stay longer, we spend more money. When money is spent, the economy grows. Functioning sewer lines are good for the economy.

City sewer lines are good for public health. While most will not participate, some people who lack a restroom will relieve themselves on the sidewalk or public spaces which radically impacts sanitation for the public. We've seen San Francisco's economy struggle as major offices and medical facilities have pulled out due to human feces all over the sidewalks. My relatives have suffered from losing their physicians there due to the unsafe sanitation conditions harming their business to the point they closed. With e-coli living in intestinal tracts, and a great desire to avoid contamination, having flushable toilets and sinks to wash hands with is essential. I believe we will be better off with functioning city sewer lines to all buildings within our cities' reach.

Because we live in America, not a third world country, passing SB 510 as written is necessary not only for local economies, but also for public health. Please support our business owners by supporting SB 510!

Gratefully,

Melissa Campbell
Senate District 9

