



CITY OF SOLANA BEACH

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April 23, 2026

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
State Capitol, Room 407
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 936 – Support

Dear Senator Blakespear,

As the Mayor of the City of Solana Beach and on behalf of our City Council, I write to express our strong support for SB 936. This legislation addresses the critical public health, safety, and waste management challenges posed by the retail sale of large-scale nitrous oxide tanks.

While nitrous oxide has legitimate culinary, medical, and automotive applications, these large canisters are increasingly marketed as "Whippets"—illegal recreational party inhalants. In 2025, the FDA warned of severe short-term impacts including impaired brain function and death, as well as long-term neurological and organ damage. Furthermore, retailers are intentionally targeting younger demographics by offering flavors such as "cherry" and "bomb pop" under slogans that blur the line between baking and recreational drug use.

Beyond the human toll, these cylinders present an unfunded mandate and a growing waste management crisis for local agencies. While a cylinder may cost a consumer \$30 to \$50, the disposal cost for local governments ranges from \$50 to \$75 per tank. This financial burden falls unfairly on municipal haulers and counties, which must then pass these costs on to our residents.

SB 936 offers a common-sense solution by:

- **Prohibiting Retail Sale:** Restricting the public sale of canisters larger than the standard 8-gram whipped cream charger.
- **Protecting Legitimate Use:** Maintaining exemptions for authorized, licensed distributors serving medical, dental, and culinary professionals.
- **Aligning with Regional Efforts:** Following the lead of California counties like Orange and Santa Cruz that have already moved to ban these retail sales.

Solana Beach remains committed to safeguarding our youth and protecting municipal infrastructure from hazardous waste burdens. We respectfully request that the legislature pass SB 936 to curb the proliferation of these dangerous products in our communities.

Sincerely,

LESA HEEBNER
Mayor, City of Solana Beach