



INTERNATIONAL FAITH BASED COALITION

MEMORANDUM

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE CALIFORNIA SENATE

FROM: BISHOP RON ALLEN, PRESIDENT, INTERNATIONAL FAITH BASED COALITION

SUBJECT: OPPOSITION TO ASSEMBLY BILL 186

The International Faith Based Coalition, which represents approximately 5000 primarily inner-city houses of worship in California, respectfully opposes Assembly Bill 186. This measure will permit the establishment of virtual unfettered drug use centers. If past is prologue, these centers, just like the other marginal establishments that plague our communities will be located in our fragile, underserved neighborhoods.

We already bear the brunt of establishments that pose real quality of life challenges on a daily basis. Too frequently a well-meaning proposal is not well thought out and instead does severe harm in our neighborhoods. Tragically missing from this bill are any safeguards for our embattled communities. In addition, there is no real content in this measure that guides the drug user to a path of recovery. AB 186 has the real potential to do continued damage on our most vulnerable communities. We must respectfully, though vigorously, oppose this bill.

We respectfully ask that you prevent further damage to our underserved communities by voting "No" on Assembly Bill 186.