



® April 18, 2017

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The Honorable Nancy Skinner
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 2059
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 421 (Wiener) – Sex offenders: registration: criminal offender record information systems.

As Amended April 17, 2017 – SUPPORT

Set to be heard April 25, 2017 - Senate Public Safety Committee

Dear Senator Skinner,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of Senate Bill 421 by Senator Scott Wiener. This measure would establish a statewide three-tiered sex offender registry system.

California has are over 100,000 registered sex offenders and is in need of a registry system reform that focuses on high risk and violent sex offenders. Law enforcement agencies cannot effectively protect the community when they are in the office handling monthly or annual administrative paperwork for low risk offenders.

Currently, all sex offenders must register for life under the Sex Offender Registration Act, regardless of the seriousness of the underlying crime. Approximately 2/3 of the funding to supervise registered sex offenders is spent on registration paperwork rather than field supervision. Instead of mandatory lifetime registration for all offenders, SB 695 would divide registrants into three tiers: tier one would require a minimum of 10 years, tier two would require a minimum of 20 years and tier three would require lifetime registration.

By implementing a tiered sex offender registry system, SB 421 would be a proactive public safety policy that allows law enforcement agencies to concentrate their investigative efforts on making sure high risk and violent offenders comply with the law. In addition, SB 421 was created after many years of work by the Sex Offender Management Board and discussions with District Attorneys and law enforcement agencies.

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports SB 421 and respectfully requests your AYE vote. If you have any questions about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at dkernan@counties.org or 916.650.8131.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads 'Darby Kernan'.

Darby Kernan
Legislative Representative

cc: The Honorable Scott Wiener, California State Senate
Members and Consultant, Senate Public Safety Committee
Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus