



® May 12, 2017

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The Honorable Jim Beall
Chair, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
State Capitol, Room 2082
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 790 (Stone, M) – Identification cards: replacement: reduced fee.
As Amended April 19, 2017 – SUPPORT
Referred to the Senate Transportation and Housing Committee**

Dear Senator Beall,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of AB 790 by Assembly Member Mark Stone. This measure, as amended, would ensure that eligible offenders in local and state detention facilities qualify for a reduced fee identification card (ID) issued by California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

Under the existing Reduced-Fee ID Card Program, DMV provides identification cards to applicants at a reduced price of \$8, provided that they meet specific income eligibility requirements. State and local detention facility officials are authorized to verify an inmate or patients eligibility for the Reduced-Fee ID Card Program. Given that incarcerated or hospitalized individuals do not generally possess income documentation, officials cannot verify the inmate or patient's income level, a requirement to qualify for the reduced-fee. This issue has come up in several situations where CSAC has been working with the DMV and various county jails to streamline the process for issuing IDs to offenders in county jails prior to their release.

AB 790 would provide ID cards to individuals upon release from incarceration or hospitalization without the required income documentation. Identification cards can assist in an individual's ability to transition back into society and aid in obtaining employment, health benefits, housing, and services. Additionally, this measure could reduce recidivism and overcrowding at state, federal, and local detention facilities which would benefit state and local government, communities and the formerly incarcerated.

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports AB 790 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 blue ink that reads 'Darby Kernan'.

Darby Kernan
Legislative Representative

cc: The Honorable Mark Stone, California State Assembly
Members and Consultant, Senate Transportation and Housing Committee
Ted Morley, Consultant, Senate Republican Consultant