



® June 27, 2017

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The Honorable Reginald Jones-Sawyer
Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
State Capitol, Room 2117
Sacramento, CA 95814

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

As Amended May 26, 2017 – SUPPORT

Set to be heard July 11, 2017 - Assembly Public Safety Committee

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of Senate Bill 421 by Senator Scott Wiener. This measure, as amended, would establish a statewide tiered sex offender registry system for adult and juvenile registrants.

California has 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 421 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. Additionally, the recently amended version of the measure, would add dividing juvenile registrants into two tiers: tier one would require a minimum of 5 years and tier two would require a minimum of 10 years registration depending on the conviction offense.

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 and resources 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. Should you have any questions or concerns 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, Assembly Public Safety Committee
Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus