



March 28, 2019

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The Honorable Jose Medina  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2141  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: Assembly Bill 964 (Medina) – County jails: visitation.  
As Amended March 14, 2019 – OPPOSE  
Set to be heard April 2, 2019 in the Assembly Public Safety Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Medina,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 of the state's counties, writes in opposition to AB 964, which requires all local detention facilities provide in-person visitation. Specifically, this legislation requires that all local detention facilities offer in-person visitation at the facility. For existing correctional facilities that do not provide in-person visitation, these facilities must comply with these requirements by January 1, 2025.

The California Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) is responsible for promulgating regulations for adult and juvenile detention facilities, including regulatory requirements on jail visitation (Penal Code § 6030.) Prior to amendments made to Section 1006 of Title 15 in 2017, the regulations relating to visitation were silent on the use of in-person or video visitation. Given this, counties who received funding for additional and replacement jail facilities through AB 900 (2007), SB 1022 (2012), and SB 863 (2014), had jail plans approved by the State of California that did not include in-person visitation space. These counties are in various stages of construction process—with a number nearing completion or having already completed construction.

While this legislation allows counties five years to comply with the provisions of the legislation, it does not take into consideration the significant costs that retrofitting brand new facilities with in-person visiting will cost. As such, this measure creates a new and costly mandate on counties who complied with all state guidelines when building their facilities.

It is for these reasons that CSAC respectfully opposes AB 964. If you have any questions and/or concerns about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at [jdevencenzi@counties.org](mailto:jdevencenzi@counties.org) or 916.650.8131.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Devencenzi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jessica Devencenzi  
Legislative Representative