



May 24, 2019

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The Honorable Nancy Skinner
Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee
State Capitol, Room 5094
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 1390 (Stone, M.) – Deferred entry of judgment pilot program.
As Amended March 19, 2019 – SUPPORT
Set to be heard June 4, 2019 in the Senate Public Safety Committee**

Dear Senator Skinner,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 of the state's counties, writes in support of Assembly Bill 1390 by Assembly Member Mark Stone. This measure would authorize counties within the Transitional Age Youth (TAY) Pilot Program to allow young adult offenders up to the age of 25 participate in the program.

Scientific evidence on adolescent and young adult development has begun to show that the adolescent brain develops until at least age 25. (<https://www.nimh.nih.gov/health/publications/imaging-listing.shtml>) Youthful offenders who are still undergoing significant cognitive brain development can be better served by local juvenile detention facilities that offer age appropriate intensive services. Local juvenile detention facilities offer services specifically tailored to the needs of adolescents including, cognitive behavioral therapy, mental health treatment, vocational training, and education, as well as other programming intended to specifically address the needs of the emerging adolescent brain.

Given this, AB 1390 expands the existing youth deferred entry of judgment pilot program in the counties of Alameda, Butte, Napa, Nevada, Santa Clara and Ventura to defendants who are 21 years of age or older, but under 25 years of age at the time of the offense with the approval of the multidisciplinary team be voluntarily housed in a juvenile detention facility, rather than a county jail.

By extending the existing Transitional Age Youth pilot program to an expanded age group, AB 1390 will allow more young adult offenders to be housed in local juvenile detention facilities, instead of adult local detention facilities, where they will have access to these services.

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports AB 1390 and respectfully requests your **AYE** vote. If you have any questions and/or concerns about our position, please do not hesitate to contact me at jdevencenzi@counties.org or 916.650.8131.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Jessica Devencenzi'.

Jessica Devencenzi
Legislative Representative

cc: The Honorable Mark Stone, California State Assembly
Members and Consultant, Senate Public Safety Committee
Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus