County Executive David Villanueva

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer Elisia De Bord



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June 26, 2024

The Honorable Kevin McCarty, Chair Assembly Public Safety Committee State Capitol, Room 5610 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: SB 1057 (Menjivar). Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council.

Oppose (As amended May 16, 2024)

Hearing: July 2, 2024

Dear Assembly Member McCarty:

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully write to oppose SB 1057. This bill repurposes and reprioritizes new processes that will redirect the expenditure of critical juvenile justice investments. This funding resulted in a 60% decline in youth detention rates and a 73% decline in juvenile arrest rates over the last decade statewide. Sacramento County has observed an approximate 73% decline in bookings at the Youth Detention Facility over the last 15 years.

SB 1057 also revises the composition of local Juvenile Justice Coordinating Councils and changes the multiagency juvenile justice plans. It forgoes collaborative and multi-agency approaches, which have been essential to support an entire continuum that prevents juveniles from becoming more system involved.

The current system supports both transparency and multi-disciplinary voices as fundamental pieces to advise the direction of these plans in each of the 58 counties. County probation departments, like ours, invested resources and organizational culture changes in the evolution of the juvenile justice system for over the past two decades by integrating system responses and focusing on the development of a continuum from prevention to re-entry. The Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act supports our ability to provide cognitively designed, evidence-based and trauma-informed care. These efforts manifest in either partnerships with other system stakeholders, contracts with non-governmental entities where appropriate, or specific skill building within the probation department to deliver direct prevention services and programming. SB 1057 creates further instability at a time we absorb the responsibility and liability of moving the entire continuum to probation and counties as continue to advance the historical progress made to divert youth away from detention.

SB 1057 negatively impacts the County as follows:

• The bill would jeopardize county funding, tying receipt of the grant to a new council composition that has considerable challenges in seating. Community participation is

voluntary and not compelled, yet community participation becomes a requirement for counties to meet with 50 percent of its council membership.

- Requires, rather than permits, a council to have at least 50% community representatives.
  This mandate becomes particularly difficult, and in some cases would likely not be able to
  be met, in many parts of the State. There are instances within the current committee
  composition that despite best efforts to obtain participation for all of the members, there
  have been challenges in doing so.
- Requires, rather than permits, a community representative co-chair. Not only does this
  mandate a co-chair, but further specifies that it shall be a community representative.
  Mandating it with the level of specificity in the bill does not reflect the local needs, nor the
  challenges faced in many counties to be able to meet these new requirements for
  community members.
- Narrowly defines community representative, which exacerbates the challenges to fill these very prescriptive volunteer positions in many parts of the State.

For these reasons, Sacramento County opposes SB 057. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or deborde@saccounty.gov.

Sincerely,

Elisia De Bord

Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer

cc: Hon. Caroline Menjivar
Members, Public Safety Committee
Sacramento County Delegation
Chair and Members, Board of Supervisors
Audrey Ratajczak, Cruz Strategies
Danielle Sanchez, CPOC