

ERIN HANNIGAN

District 1, (707) 553-5363

MONICA BROWN

District 2, Vice-Chair, (707) 784-3031

WANDA WILLIAMS

District 3, Chair Pro-Tem (707) 784-6136

JOHN M. VASQUEZ

District 4, Chair, (707) 784-6129

MITCH MASHBURN

District 5, (707) 784-6030

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**SOLANO
COUNTY****BILL EMLIN**County Administrator
(707) 784-6100675 Texas Street, Suite 6500
Fairfield, CA 94533-6342
Fax (707) 784-6665www.solanocounty.com

August 23, 2023

The Honorable Aisha Wahab
Chair, Senate Committee on Public Safety
1020 N Street, Room 545
Sacramento, CA 95814**RE: OPPOSE, AB 505 (Ting) – The Office of Youth and Community Restoration**

Dear Senator Wahab,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write to inform you that we must respectfully oppose AB 505. Counties are fully invested in a strong, vibrant, and responsive juvenile justice system that does not result in more kids being referred to the adult court system and with the goals of producing improved and sustainable positive outcomes for system-involved youth. As counties are now responsible for the entirety of the juvenile justice system pursuant to SB 823 (DJJ realignment), it is imperative that county authority and responsibility remain connected to ensure the system can respond appropriately. In Solano County, we are confident that AB 505 impedes county efforts in this regard.

Counties have been consistent throughout the DJJ realignment discussions that there must be a fiscal structure with certainty and protections needed to assure adequate and sustainable funding over the long-term. This bill, among many other changes, would change the fiscal framework adopted in SB 823 (2020) and would instead require the State's approval of local plans in order to receive annual realignment funding and dictates how the Board shall make local allocations for rehabilitative, housing, and supervision services. This contrasts with the framework passed by the Legislature which requires development of a local plan to set forth locally responsive priorities and plans to guide the allocation of funding for services.

AB 505 unnecessarily adds barriers to stable funding for counties responsible for implementing critical services to youth at the higher end of the system as locals look to build out the responses required upon the state closing DJJ. Additionally, there are other programmatic changes proposed in this bill that create instability and significant changes to the juvenile justice continuum. There has not been a demonstrated need to make the changes proposed in this bill and therefore we urge the Legislature to take caution in making concurrent changes to programs whereby implementation is currently and earnestly underway as counties are working diligently to best serve the youth in our communities. It is for the reasons outlined above; the Solano Board of Supervisors must respectfully oppose AB 505.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John M. Vasquez".

John M. Vasquez, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

Honorable Aisha Wahab

August 23, 2023

Page 2

CC:

Honorable Members and Consultants of the Senate Public Safety Committee

Honorable Phil Ting, Member, California State Assembly

The Honorable Bill Dodd, Senator

The Honorable Lori D. Wilson, Assemblymember

The Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors

Dr. Christopher Hansen, Chief Probation Officer, Solano County

Karen Lange, SYASL Partners