



March 28, 2014

- Campbell
- Cupertino
- Gilroy
- Los Altos
- Los Altos Hills
- Los Gatos
- Milpitas
- Monte Sereno
- Morgan Hill
- Mountain View
- Palo Alto
- San Jose
- Santa Clara
- Saratoga
- Sunnyvale

Honorable V. Manuel Perez  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 4112  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 1449 (Perez) Realignment Omnibus Act 2014 - SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Perez:

On behalf of the Cities Association of Santa Clara County, I am writing you to express support for AB 1449. Thank you for your leadership and for prioritizing public safety for our communities.

The Cities Association of Santa Clara County is a collaborative organization that represents the mutual interests of the diverse 15 cities of Santa Clara County and advocates for positive action to enhance the quality of life for the people of our county. As a unified voice of the cities of Santa Clara County, we recognize that communities in our region and across the state have been struggling with the preservation of public safety since the implementation of AB 109 Realignment.

Since the implementation of AB 109 in 2011, Santa Clara County has seen a 20% increase in property crimes across the region. Many of our cities have experienced over 45% increase of residential burglaries in their communities. These types of crimes (e.g. car theft, residential burglaries, vandalism) are direct assaults on our families and our homes.

A 2014 Stanford University Law School report, *Voices from the Field*, identifies several implementation challenges related to AB 109, that, if not addressed, will place the health and safety of California at risk. Echoing the Stanford report, AB 1449 addresses the following three crucial deficiencies in the implementation of AB 109: 1) allow the offender's full criminal history to be considered when determining whether the county or state would supervise a parolee rather than the most recent offense; 2) impose a one-year prison sentence on anyone convicted of three or more technical probation violations; and 3) provide that a defendant serve time in a state prison if their felony sentence is more than three years.

Since early 2013, we have been collaborating with our local police chiefs to understand the reason why crime has increased significantly since 2011. They weighed in with data, as well as their own experiences and those of their peers.

They all agreed that AB109 realignment is significantly contributing to the increase in crimes across the region and strongly supported the recommendations suggested in the Stanford report.

Our police departments are on the front lines on this issue and have to cope with the challenging effects of realignment on a daily basis. We are appreciative to the California Police Chiefs Association for sponsoring this important legislation. And we are grateful for your leadership and authorship of AB 1449, which would provide much needed reform to public safety realignment in California. The Cities Association of Santa Clara County is pleased to support AB 1449 the Realignment Omnibus Act of 2014.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Steve Tate". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Steve Tate  
President, Cities Association of Santa Clara County  
Mayor, City of Morgan Hill

CC: Assembly Public Safety Committee FAX: 916-319-3745

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Board of Directors, Cities Association of Santa Clara County