



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**

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March 26, 2008

The Honorable Paul Cook
65th Assembly District
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1899 (Cook)– As Introduced March 2, 2008 - SUPPORT

Dear Assemblyman Cook:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support AB 1899, which would authorize local and regional California Remote Access Network (RAN) Boards the authority to manage and fund DNA analyst positions and equipment from funding sources other than Proposition 69 revenue (DNA database funding) or those funding sources mandated for fingerprint identification systems and equipment.

As you know, current law allows the RAN authority to govern fingerprint identification procedures, systems and related equipment. This statute was written in approximately 1986 at a time when fingerprints were the most common method used for identification purposes. Since then, identification procedures, systems and equipment have grown to include the area of DNA analysis. The current statute limits RAN authority to fingerprints and does not provide RAN the authority to fund crime lab DNA positions and equipment for the purpose of DNA analysis.

Our local RAN Board’s responsibilities have historically included CAL-DNA, and there is an anticipation of continuing this joint relationship in the future as the need for more DNA analysts continues to grow. The ability to fund DNA Analyst positions and equipment will assist in reducing case backlog and will allow us to further equip law enforcement with the resources necessary to identify perpetrators or release the innocent. For these reasons, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors supports AB 1899.

Sincerely,

PAUL BIANE
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

cc: Members, San Bernardino County Legislative Delegation

The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.