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SAN BERNARDINO

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Chief Executive Officer

385 North Arrowhead Avenue
San Bernardino, CA 92415-0110
(909) 387-4821

June 12, 2014

The Honorable Loni Hancock, Chair
Senate Public Safety
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1876 (Quirk) – As Amended on June 10, 2014 – OPPOSE
Set for hearing on June 17, 2014 – Senate Public Safety Committee

Dear Senator Hancock:

The County of San Bernardino joins our Sheriff, John McMahon, and respectfully opposes AB 1876, legislation that would prohibit a contract for telephone services at a juvenile facility or county jail from including any commission or other payment to the entity operating the jail or juvenile facility.

Under existing law, any money, refund, rebate or commission received from a provider of an inmate phone service must be deposited into the Inmate Welfare Fund (IWF), which is used to assist with the cost of inmate education and rehabilitation. In San Bernardino County, many of rehabilitative programs are paid from the IWF, including educational, cognitive, job training and substance abuse programs. These programs are essential to the successful reintegration of inmates back into society and require support staff, equipment and supplies. Reducing funding would impact the County's ability to deliver these services.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully opposes AB 1876 and requests your no vote when the item comes before your committee. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs, at (909) 387-4821 or jcandelaria@sbcountry.gov.

Sincerely,

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Board of Supervisors Chair
Second District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

c: Honorable Bill Quirk
Members and Consultants, Senate Public Safety Committee
County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation