



COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

June 10, 2014

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

RE: AB 2314 (Hall) – As Amended on May 7, 2014 –OPPOSE
Set for hearing on June 24, 2014 – Senate Public Safety Committee

Dear Senator Hancock:

The County of San Bernardino respectfully opposes AB 2314, legislation requiring a chief probation officer, who has not armed or has not adopted an arming policy by June 30, 2015, to develop a policy as to whether probation officers who supervise high-risk caseloads should be armed.

The current process allows counties to consider and make appropriate adjustments in light of the changed environment resulting from the implementation of 2011 public safety realignment. The decision on who should be armed should be made locally, based on the needs, preferences and requirements of that particular community as determined by the individual county. This model works well and allows county boards of supervisors and chief probation officers to evaluate and assess the circumstances, caseload, and risk exposure that might necessitate officer arming on a case-by-case basis.

The County of San Bernardino supports a well-equipped and well-trained probation staff but opposes a legislative mandate that removes the ability for a county to make critical public safety decisions, such as whether to arm local probation officers.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino respectfully opposes AB 2314 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@sbcounty.gov.

Sincerely,

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

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