



**COUNTY OF
SAN BERNARDINO**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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April 19, 2007

The Honorable George C. Runner
17th Senate District
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 657 (Runner)– As Introduced February 22, 2007 - SUPPORT

Dear Senator Runner:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 657, which supports the punishment and deterrence of criminal activities of street gangs through the forfeiture of the profits, proceeds and any instruments acquired, accumulated or used by street gangs.

As you know, criminal gang activity is an increasing threat to the citizens within the County of San Bernardino as well as throughout the State. Within San Bernardino County alone, it is estimated that there are nearly 300 active gangs that are continually recruiting new members.

The forfeiture of the profits and proceeds, acquired by street gangs, will give our law enforcement agencies statewide an additional means of punishing and deterring criminal gang activities. In addition, the forfeiture proceeds will enhance law enforcement agency’s ability to focus on the patterns of criminal gang activity and on the organized nature of street gangs, which together, are the chief source of terror created by the gangs. For these reasons, the San Bernardino County Board of Supervisors supports SB 657.

Sincerely,

PAUL BIANE
Chairman, Board of Supervisors

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.