



PRESS ADVISORY

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Los Angeles Regional Reentry Partnership (LARRP), a Los Angeles County network of 125 public and non-profit agencies concerned with reentry and realignment, applauds Governor Brown's signature on key bills that that reduce recidivism, improve public safety and social justice, but is disappointed by some late vetoes and the demise of some good bills that didn't make it to the Governor's desk.

In the last week the Governor signed key bills that will help move California towards a more humane criminal justice system while still protecting public safety. Those include:

- SB9 - This bill will authorize a prisoner who was under 18 years of age at the time of committing an offense for which the prisoner was sentenced to life without parole to submit a petition for recall and resentencing to the sentencing court, and to the prosecuting agency, as specified.
- AB2127 - This bill would authorize a sheriff or other official to permit a participant in a work release program to receive work release credit for documented participation in educational programs, vocational programs, substance abuse programs, life skills programs, or parenting programs.
- AB1445 - The bill authorizes the sheriffs of specified counties participating in the program or the county officer responsible for operating the jails, to spend money from the inmate welfare fund for the purpose of assisting indigent inmates with the reentry process within 30 days after the inmate's release from the county jail or other adult detention facility, as specified.

Members of LARRP remain disappointed by the many excellent bills that did not make it to the Governor's desk or received his veto. Those include:

- AB1270 (vetoed) - Would have required the CDCR, upon reasonable notice, to permit representatives of the news media to interview prisoners in person, as specified. The bill would forbid retaliation against an inmate for participating in a visit or communicating with a representative of the news media.
- AB2527 (vetoed) - This bill would have required the court to terminate the period of probation and discharge the probationer at any time when the ends of justice will be subserved, and when the good conduct and reform of the person so held on probation warrant it.

- SB 210 (died in Assembly) would have provided an effective and necessary tool in managing jail overcrowding by providing a framework for granting own recognizance release.
- AB1831 (died in Senate) - Would have prohibited a local agency from inquiring into or considering the criminal history of an applicant or including any inquiry about criminal history on any initial employment application.
- AB828 (died in Senate) – Would have allowed people with drug felony convictions to apply for food stamps
- SB1506 (died in Senate) –Would have reduced drug possession to a misdemeanor.

LARRP's Policy and Advocacy Committee reviewed over 50 state bills, prioritized 25 for immediate action, which included letters of opposition/support sent to bill authors and Los Angeles delegation members, as well as phone calls and district visits. The committee works to develop and advocate for the implementation of legislative and administrative policies that reduce recidivism, improve public safety and social justice, safeguard the rights of victims, and decrease incarceration levels while providing accountability to taxpayers, protecting against costly liability, and reducing structural inequalities. The Committee focused on policies that:

- Develop Community Corrections System
- Remove Barriers to Reentry
- Reduce Incarceration Rates and Disproportionate Minority Contact

With more than twenty-five Los Angeles-based organizations participating, the Policy and Advocacy Committee is co-chaired by Lynne Lyman of the Drug Policy Alliance and Hanna Dershowitz of the ACLU. It meets monthly on the 3rd Friday from 11am-1pm at Amity Foundation.

About LARRP:

LARRP is a network of public and non-profit agencies and advocates working together to ensure that our reentry system meets the needs of our agencies, communities, and the people we serve, both in terms of capacity and public policy. LARRP is the successor organization to several other reentry groups including the Los Angeles Sheriffs Dept. Reentry Advisory Board and the 21st Century Reentry Project. The work of LARRP is accomplished through a Steering Committee and three standing committees: Service Delivery, Policy and Advocacy, and Regional Coalitions.