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May 6, 2024

The Honorable Anna Caballero
Chairwoman, Senate Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Ste. 7620
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: OPPOSE – SB 1057 (Menjivar), Juvenile Justice Coordinating Council

Dear Chairwoman Caballero,

On behalf of the Solano County Board of Supervisors, I write to inform you that we must respectfully oppose SB 1057, which would explicitly require a county or city and county to establish a juvenile justice coordinating council in order to obtain Juvenile Justice Crime Prevention Act (JJCPA) funding; require the Board of Community and State Corrections (BSCC) to evaluate if a county or a city and county has complied with the requirements of these provisions and authorize the BSCC or any state agency overseeing the administration of the JJCPA funds to determine an appropriate remedial action or to withhold funding if a county or city and county fails to create a juvenile justice coordinating council; change the membership requirements of a juvenile justice coordinating council to require each county juvenile justice coordinating council to consist of at least 50 percent community representatives and specifies the governmental agencies that may hold the remaining seats on the council; and require a council to select two co-chairs from its members, and requires one of the co-chairs to be a community representative.

To be clear, Solano County welcomes the participation of community members and value partner organizations in supporting the therapeutic needs of justice-involved youth in our community. However, it is not appropriate for community organizations to assume responsibility of core functions for which counties – probation departments, specifically – are prescribed by law to provide and are held fully accountable for the outcomes. Further, Solano County has serious concerns about the potential of disrupting the flow of JJCPA funds or any other resources that accompany services and responsibilities realigned to counties in 2011.

SB 1057 would repurpose and reprioritize new processes thereby redirecting the expenditure of critical juvenile justice investments which are expended in accordance with research-based standards and producing highly effective results. This funding has been foundational to supporting positive youth outcomes resulting in a 60 percent decline in youth detention rates and a 73 percent decline in juvenile arrest rates over the last decade. Thus, the amendment to Government Code section 30061(a)(4) would impede the flow of realigned funds for circumstances that are often outside of county control, and again, appears to ignore the constitutional protections that surround this funding stream. Redirection of important investments in local systems would create instability and diminution for the provision of necessary support and services for youth in Solano County.

JJCPA funds are – in many instances – dedicated to staffing and personnel costs that are the backbone of our juvenile probation department. These expenditures have been and continue to be wholly eligible and lawful under the JJCPA. Therefore, Solano County must oppose SB 1057 as it would undercut a

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stable, constitutionally protected funding structure at a time when all counties are working diligently to support the entirety of the juvenile justice system. The goal of this measure would contradict the spirit – if not letter – of 2011 Realignment legislation, as well as provisions of Proposition 30.

For these reasons, Solano County must respectfully oppose SB 1057.

Sincerely,



Mitch Mashburn, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

CC:

Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Caroline Menjivar, California State Senator
The Honorable Bill Dodd, California State Senator
The Honorable Lori Wilson, California State Assemblymember
Honorable Solano County Board of Supervisors
Dear Farrah, Chief Probation Officer, Solano County
Paragon Government Relations
Karen Lange, SYASL Partners, Inc.