

## LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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June 19, 2023

The Honorable Reggie Jones-Sawyer California State Assembly 1021 O Street, Suite 5210 Sacramento, CA 95814

## **ASSEMBLY BILL 353 (JONES-SAWYER) SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Jones-Sawyer:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 353.

AB 353 requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to permit inmates to shower at least every other day, unless access to a shower is prohibited. Whenever a request for a shower is prohibited or denied, the facility manager or their designee shall approve the decision and document the reasons for the denial.

CDCR's Department Operational Manual (DOM) requires inmates in segregated confinement to be permitted to shower at least three times a week. There are no other regulations regarding access to showers in the DOM. In comparison, local correctional facilities are required to permit inmates to "shower/bathe upon assignment to a housing unit and at least every other day or more often if possible. Absent exigent circumstances, no person shall be prohibited from showering at least every other day following assignment to a housing unit. If showering is prohibited, it must be approved by the facility manager or designee, and the reason(s) for prohibition shall be documented."

How we can expect positive outcomes from individuals released from prison if basic human rights and human dignities like showering are not provided while they are incarcerated? AB 353 ensures that California honors a basic human right and human dignity even for individuals who have committed serious offenses.

AB 353 will help improve the mental health of our inmate population and reduce health issues/problems that are common in correctional facilities.

> Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 442-0668 Fax: (916) 444-8729

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For these reasons our Office is pleased to support AB 353.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Daniel Felizzatto in my Sacramento Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN District Attorney