



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney
SHARON L. WOO • Chief Deputy District Attorney
JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief of Staff

DANIEL FELIZZATTO • Legislative Advocate
TAMAR TOKAT • Legislative Advocate

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Senators David Min & Susan Rubio
1021 O Street, Ste 6710 & 8710
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Senate Bill 863
SUPPORT**

Dear Senators Min and Rubio:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 863 (Min and Rubio).

SB 863 would authorize interagency domestic violence death review teams to assist local agencies in identifying and reviewing domestic violence near-death cases. Near death is defined as "the victim suffered a substantial risk of serious bodily injury or death from domestic violence, or the circumstances of the domestic violence event indicate that the perpetrator more likely than not intended to kill or seriously injure the victim."

California's existing law on domestic violence death review teams was inspired by the LA County Child Death Review Team, which began in 1978. Domestic violence death review teams allow legal, health service, advocacy, and judicial groups to collaboratively review domestic violence-related deaths and provide crucial data to local law enforcement, service providers, and advocates for survivors to help prevent future fatalities.

California currently limits domestic violence death review teams to only explore fatalities, while 15 other states have expanded their role by authorizing near-death case examinations. By adding CA to the list of states that allow death review teams to examine near death domestic violence incidents, SB 863 acknowledges the seriousness of domestic violence cases that result in near-death incidents and the role domestic violence death review teams play in protecting survivors of domestic violence.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney