



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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The Honorable Anthony Portantino
Senate Appropriations Committee, Chair
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

ASSEMBLY BILL 2343 (WEBER)
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Los Angeles District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2343 (Weber).

AB 2343 requires the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to develop standards for mental health care in local correctional facilities.

AB 2343 would add a licensed health care provider and a licensed mental health care provider, both to be appointed by the Governor, to the BSCC and would require the BSCC to develop and adopt regulations setting minimum standards for mental health care at local correctional facilities that either meet or exceed the standards for health care services in jails established by the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

A recent California State Auditor report revealed disturbing facts regarding the inadequate statewide standards within county jails. Between 2006-2020 there were 185 in-custody deaths for San Diego County, 421 death in Los Angeles, 104 deaths in Riverside County, and 124 deaths in San Bernardino. Many of these deaths were preventable.

AB 2343 will help reduce the number of preventable deaths in our local correctional facilities by requiring new intake health evaluations, increased safety checks and training of staff working in our local correctional facilities.

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