



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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June 24, 2022

The Honorable Steven Bradford
Senate Public Safety Committee, Chair
1020 O Street, Room 545
Sacramento, CA 95814

**ASSEMBLY BILL 2730 (VILLAPUDUA)
SUPPORT
Senate Public Safety Committee**

Dear Senator Bradford:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2730 (Villapudua).

AB 2730 would establish the California Antirecidivism and Public Safety Act which requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to establish a pilot program to provide opportunities for job training and work experience to individuals during their last two years of incarceration.

The primary purpose of the California Antirecidivism and Public Safety Act is to provide opportunities for job training and work experience to individuals during their incarceration to ensure their readiness for employment upon release from prison.

AB 2730 provides that the pilot program shall require program participants to have access to evidence-based programs suitable for serving their rehabilitative, workforce training and education needs, including but not limited to mental and behavioral health assistance; group therapy; family reunification services; education and workforce programs, including adult basic education, college and postsecondary education programs; substance use disorder treatment programs; and, services to prepare the program participants for employment. It also requires program participants to participate in workplace training, on-the-job training, internships, apprenticeships, and work experiences in realistic work environments aimed at job placement opportunities upon their release from incarceration.

Program participants are required to be housed in a community campus setting, which is defined as a public or private facility in the community in an environment away from the prison setting. All persons transferred to a community campus remain under the legal custody CDCR.

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Despite many changes to our criminal justice system in the last 20 years recidivism rates have remained steady, hovering at about 50% over the past decade. As of 2020, about 46% of offenders released in California are reconvicted within three years of release and even more are rearrested.

Ensuring that individuals who are incarcerated have the tools they need to ensure they have a real opportunity at redemption and financial independence when they are released from custody and return home is the best way to reduce the recidivism rate in California.

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,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "George Gascón", written in a cursive style.

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney

cc: Assembly Member Villapudua
Members, Senate Public Safety Committee
Eric Csizmar, Senate Republican Caucus