



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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July 3, 2023

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

ASSEMBLY BILL 60 (BRYAN) SUPPORT Senate Appropriations Committee

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Assembly Bill 60 (Bryan).

AB 60 provides that a victim of a crime has a right to be notified of the availability of community-based restorative justice programs and processes available to them, including, but not limited to, programs servicing their community county, county jails, juvenile detention facilities, and CDCR. The bill also requires the Attorney General to include in the "Victim Protections and Resources" card information about the availability of community-based restorative justice programs and processes available to them, including programs serving their community, county, county jails, juvenile detention facilities, and CDCR.

Existing law provides statutory rights to victims of crimes, including, among other things, the right to be informed of the final disposition; the right to be notified of any pretrial disposition in the case; the right to receive notice that the defendant has been convicted; and the right to receive information about civil recovery and the opportunity to be compensated from the Restitution Fund. Every victim of crime has the right to receive without cost or charge a list of the rights of victims of crime.

Existing law also requires the Attorney General, by June 1, 2025, to design and make available in PDF or other imaging format to specified agencies a "Victim Protections and Resources" card that contains information in lay terms about victim rights and resources, which a law enforcement agency investigating a criminal act and an agency prosecuting a criminal act will have to provide to each victim. The card must contain information about the victim's rights under applicable laws, including rights relating to housing, employment, compensation, and immigration relief.

Restorative Justice is a community-based, non-punitive set of processes that center the needs of people who have been harmed. These programs have shown successful results for participants and survivors in places it has been implemented. They have helped to bring healing and accountability for those who choose to participate.

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AB 60 simply makes crime victims aware of the availability of restorative justice programs.

Crime victims come from all walks of life; just as criminal offenders come from all walks of life. While most victims of crime do not want to have direct contact with their offender, this is not the case for all victims.

Participation in a restorative justice program can benefit some victims as well as potentially reduce recidivism amongst criminal offenders.

For these reasons I am proud to support AB 60 and respectfully request your AYE vote.

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 Bryan