



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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The Honorable Steven Bradford
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7210
Sacramento, CA 95814

SENATE BILL 1178 (BRADFORD)
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Bradford:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 1178.

SB 1178 eliminates the November 2022 deadline to file petitions for relief for persons seeking to have their prior felony conviction reduced to a misdemeanor as authorized by Proposition 47 of 2014.

Proposition 47, passed by the voters in 2014, reclassified six low-level, non-violent felonies as misdemeanors and authorized individuals convicted of qualifying felonies to petition the court to resentence their previous convictions as misdemeanors.

There are still massive numbers of individuals eligible for resentencing that have not yet petitioned for their entitled relief. Many of these individuals suffer from mental illness and/or substance abuse disorders and are reluctant to seek the relief. Others are indigent or homeless and are pre-occupied with obtaining basic survival needs. These populations are likely unaware of the requirements to prepare and file their petitions or that their window of opportunity to seek relief is nearing its end.

Eliminating a felony drug conviction from an individual's criminal history will help eliminate barriers to housing, employment, educational opportunities and government benefits that can hopefully provide these individuals with family stability, economic security and self-sufficiency.

By eliminating the statutory deadline to seek relief under the resentencing provisions of Proposition 47, SB 1178 will help ensure that all Californians will have equitable access to the benefits they are entitled to under the law.

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

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