



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

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July 1, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SENATE BILL 357 (WIENER)
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office respectfully requests that you sign Senate Bill 357 (Wiener).

SB 357 would repeal the crime of loitering with intent to commit prostitution and would allow a person to petition the court to recall and dismiss the sentence if the person is currently serving a sentence for that offense or to seal the conviction for a prior conviction.

Existing law uses broad subjective language that criminalizes loitering for the intent to engage in sex work. This offense permits law enforcement to stop and arrest people for discriminatory reasons, such as wearing what some may consider revealing clothing in public. The effect of the subjective nature of the language of this statute has resulted in the disproportionate targeting of Black and Brown persons especially in the transgender community.

SB 357 does not decriminalize soliciting or engaging in sex work. SB 357 simply eliminates an anti-loitering offense that results in the legal harassment of LGBTQ+, Black, and Brown communities for simply existing and looking like a "sex worker" to law enforcement.

For these reasons our Office respectfully requests you sign Senate Bill 357.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Special Assistant Daniel Felizzatto in my Legislative Office at (916) 442-0668.

Very truly yours,

GEORGE GASCON

District Attorney