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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS COUNTY OF VENTURA

GOVERNMENT CENTER, HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
800 SOUTH VICTORIA AVENUE, VENTURA, CALIFORNIA 93009

July 29th, 2014

Board of Supervisors
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

SUBJECT: Support for Gun Violence Bill SB 580 (Jackson, Leno)

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a position of formally supporting SB 580 (Jackson, Leno) and Direct County Staff and the County's State Lobbyist to Convey our Position to the State Legislature

DISCUSSION:

In the wake of the Isla Vista mass shooting, our local State Senator authored two important bills to help address the possession of guns by individuals who pose a significant risk of violence to themselves or others. Last week, our Board voted to support SB 505 (Jackson), as well as AB 1014, (Skinner and Williams).

SB 505 introduced by Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson requires, except in exigent circumstances, that a peace officer search the Department of Justice (DOJ) Automated Firearms System (AFS) to determine if a person is the registered owner of a firearm, before checking on the welfare or well-being of that person if the check is motivated by a concern that the person may be a danger to others or themselves.

In addition to the two bills our Board took a position of support on last week, Senator Jackson along with Senator Leno have introduced/amended SB 580 to direct existing State funding to expedite updating the State firearm and prohibited person database and enhancing the coordination of information with law enforcement agencies to assure that persons who are prohibited from owning firearms are appropriately addressed. Senator Jackson requested that our Board also support SB 580, as it funds the implementation of measures provided for in SB 505 and does so without additional tax revenues.

This bill would appropriate the sum of \$5,000,000 from the Firearms Safety and Enforcement Special Fund to the Department of Justice for the Fiscal Year 2014–15 to contract with local law enforcement agencies to reduce the backlog of individuals who are identified by the Armed Prohibited Persons System as illegally possessing firearms. The bill would additionally



appropriate from the fund, \$3,333,334 for the Fiscal Year 2014–15, and \$3,333,333 for each of the Fiscal Year's 2015–16 and 2016–17, to the department to redesign and update

computer systems related to firearms, as specified. The bill would appropriate an additional \$50,000 from the fund to the department for the Fiscal Year 2014–15 to provide training to local law enforcement agencies on the use of the Automated Firearms System. The bill would require that the training be completed on or before June 1, 2015.

Together, SB 505 and SB 580 will provide important measures toward helping stem the tide of gun violence by disturbed individuals. Please join us in supporting SB 580 as it serves as an important complementary legislative link to SB 505 and AB 1014.

Cordially,



Steve Bennett,
Supervisor, First District



Kathy I. Long,
Supervisor, Third District