CALIFORNIA REFORM SEX OFFENDER LAWS ACLU Building - 1313 W. 8th Street Los Angeles, CA 90017 (805) 896-7854

September 12, 2015

Assemblyman Bill Quirk, Chair Public Safety Committee 1020 N Street (LOB), Room 111 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairman Quirk:

Thank you for the courage you displayed on September 11, 2015, when you refused to conduct a Public Safety Committee hearing on Senate Bill 448. Your brave actions stopped further consideration of a bill that would have subverted the legislative process and stolen the First Amendment rights of thousands of California residents known to many as "sex offenders".

In today's society, "sex offenders" are often treated as lepers and their rights are trampled upon by individuals, including elected officials, who rely upon myths and refuse to see the facts presented through empirical evidence. Perhaps due to your scientific background and/or your personal integrity, you have seen the facts and acted accordingly.

Because of the courageous acts you took yesterday, the First Amendment and the Bill of Rights remain strong today. Your decision not to conduct a hearing on a bill that required careful consideration of a complex topic protected unpopular individuals from retaliation and their ideas from suppression by the tyranny of the majority. For that, we sincerely thank you.

Warm regards,

Janice M. Bellucci, President

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Attorney-at-Law