

ALLIANCE FOR CONSTITUTIONAL SEX OFFENSE LAWS
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June 19, 2018

Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair
Senate Public Safety Committee
State Capitol, Room 2031
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 514 - OPPOSE

Dear Senator Skinner:

The purpose of this letter is to strongly recommend that you and all members of the Senate Public Safety Committee vote "no" on Assembly Bill 514. This bill is currently scheduled to be considered by the Committee on June 26, 2018.

As currently written, AB 514 would reduce public safety by increasing the number of homeless sex offenders in the state of California. In addition, AB 514 is inconsistent with both the findings of the California Sex Offender Management Board (CASOMB) and academic research. Finally, AB 514 would overturn an important decision made by the California Supreme Court about three years ago.


AB 514 would reduce public safety because it would significantly increase the number of homeless sex offenders. There are currently more than 6,000 homeless sex offenders in the state and that number would increase if sex offenders were prohibited throughout the state from living within 1,000 feet of a day care center or a family day care home. An increased number of homeless sex offenders would hamper the efforts of law enforcement to monitor and supervise those individuals.

AB 514 is inconsistent with a recent report issued by CASOMB, the legislature's expert on sex offender policy, which concluded that restricting where a sex offender may reside is "likely to have the unintended effect of increasing the likelihood of sexual re-offense." AB 514 is also inconsistent with findings in recent academic reports such as "Hidden Challenges: Sex Offenders Legislated into Homelessness" published by Jill S. Levenson, Ph.D., in 2016. In that report, Dr. Levenson concluded that limitations on where a sex offender may live often hinder the ability of a sex offender to successfully reintegrate into society.

Finally, AB 514 could overturn a recent decision by the California Supreme Court which determined that restrictions regarding where a sex offender lives bears no rational relationship to the state's legitimate goal of protecting children. *In re Taylor*, 60 Cal. 4th 1019, 1042 (2015).

Thank you for your attention to this important matter. For the reasons stated above, the Alliance for Constitutional Sex Offense Laws strongly recommends that you and all members of the Public Safety Committee vote "no" when you consider AB 514.

Sincerely,


Janice M. Bellucci
Executive Director