DANIEL ANAIAH KIRK DISTRICT 3 SUPERVISOR



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March 3, 2022

To: Assemblyman Kevin Kiley From: Anaiah Kirk District 3 Supervisor Dan Hawks Chief Probation Officer Cassandra Jenneke District Attorney Billy Pooley Tuolumne County Sheriff

Re: AB 1599 (Kiley) Support

Dear Assemblyman Kiley,

On behalf of Anaiah Kirk, Supervisor District 3, Dan Hawks, Chief Probation Officer, Cassandra Jenneke, District Attorney, and Billy Pooley, Tuolumne County Sheriff, we are pleased to support Assembly Bill 1599, which brings Proposition 47 back before the voters.

California voters passed the "Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act" on November 5, 2014. This citizen's initiative implemented broad changes to felony sentencing laws within California's criminal justice system. Proposition 47 created the crime of "shoplifting," in which a person would be charged with a misdemeanor if the value of the stolen property was less than \$950. It also reclassified certain "wobbler" crimes such as writing a bad check and forgery. Prop 47 reclassified certain types of grand theft from felonies to misdemeanors. Examples include firearms and agricultural equipment worth less than \$950. It changed certain drug possession offenses from felonies to misdemeanors. Proposition 47 authorized defendants serving sentences for felony offenses that would have qualified as misdemeanors under the proposition to petition courts for resentencing. It authorized defendants to retroactively apply their new reclassified convictions to past sentences, resulting in their sentence being shortened or changed.

A 2018 report by the Public Policy Institute of California found that the passage of Proposition 47 directly correlated to the 9% uptick in larceny thefts throughout the state. The Times of San Diego declared that Proposition 47 has "bolstered" criminals engaging in these types of crimes because they know they will not be severely punished for their actions. Proposition 47 has wreaked havoc on our state since 2014.

AB 1599 replaces proposition 47 with the pre-2014 language. It would provide forgery and writing a bad check punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for one year. The language would also provide that every person who buys or receives property that has been stolen or has been obtained in a manner constituting theft or extortion, knowing the property to be so stolen or obtained, or who conceals, sells, withholds, or aids in any way shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail for one year. AB 1599 provides that people who, having been convicted three or more times of petty theft, grand theft, auto theft, burglary, carjacking, robbery are punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for one year.

The "Safe Neighborhoods and Schools Act" resulted in more crime in our communities and little punishment for criminals. Voters deserve the opportunity to reconsider this failed endeavor.

Thank you,

Anaiah Kirk

Supervisor District 3 Tuolumne County

Cassandra Jenneke

District Attorney Tuolumne County

Dan Hawks

Chief Probation Officer

Tuolumne County

Bill Pooley Sheriff

Tuolumne County