



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.
C5

For the meeting of: April 3, 2018

Date: March 23, 2018
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Supervisor Ryan Sundberg
Subject: Resolution of the County of Humboldt Supporting the Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018

RECOMMENDATION(S): That the Board of Supervisors authorize the Chair to sign the resolution.

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

DISCUSSION: Keep California Safe is a project of the California Public Safety Partnership and is supported by a growing coalition of crime victims, law enforcement groups, business owners, and public safety leaders working to stop rising crime in California resulting from recent criminal justice reform measures. Local law enforcement is asking for help from County and City officials to support a statewide ballot initiative by adopting a resolution in support of the Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018.

The Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018 will reclassify non-violent crimes to prevent the early release of inmates convicted of these crimes, reform the parole system to stop the early release of violent felons, expand parolee oversight, and strengthen penalties for parole violations, and reform theft laws to restore accountability for serial thieves and organized theft gangs, and expand DNA collection to include those convicted of drug, theft, domestic violence and other serious crimes to help solve rape, murder and other violent crimes, and to exonerate those wrongly accused.

Prepared by Kathy Hayes

Signature *Ryan Sundberg*

REVIEW:

Auditor _____ County Counsel _____ Personnel _____ Risk Manager _____ Other _____

TYPE OF ITEM:

- Consent
- Departmental
- Public Hearing
- Other

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No. _____

Meeting of: _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor _____ Seconded by Supervisor _____

- Ayes
- Nays
- Abstain
- Absent

SEE ACTION SUMMARY

and carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this Board report.

Dated: _____

By: _____

Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS: Board discretion.

ATTACHMENTS: Resolution.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
Certified copy of portion of proceedings, Meeting of April 3, 2018

RESOLUTION NO. 18-26

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT SUPPORTING THE REDUCING
CRIME AND KEEPING CALIFORNIA SAFE ACT OF 2018**

WHEREAS, protecting every person in our state, including our most vulnerable children from violent crime is of the utmost importance. Murderers, rapists, child molesters and other violent criminals should not be released early from prison; and

WHEREAS, since 2014, California has had a larger increase in violent crime than the rest of the United States. Since 2013, violent crime in Los Angeles has increased 69.5%. Violent crime in Sacramento rose faster during the first six months of 2015 than in any of the 25 largest U.S. cities tracked by the FBI; and

WHEREAS, The FBI Preliminary Semiannual Uniform Crime Report for 2017, which tracks crimes committed during the first six months of the past year in U. S. cities with populations over 100,000, indicates that last year violent crime increased again in most of California's largest cities; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to parole laws allowed the early release of dangerous criminals by the law's failure to define certain crimes as "violent." These changes allowed individuals convicted of sex trafficking of children, rape of an unconscious person, felony assault with a deadly weapon, battery on a police officer or firefighter, and felony domestic violence to be considered "nonviolent offenders."; and

WHEREAS, as a result, these so-called "non-violent" offenders are eligible for early release from prison after serving only a fraction of the sentence ordered by a judge; and

WHEREAS, violent offenders are also being allowed to remain free in our communities even when they commit new crimes and violate the terms of their post release community supervision, like the gang member charged with the murder of Whittier Police Officer, Keith Boyer; and

WHEREAS, this measure reforms the law so felons who violate the terms of their release can be brought back to court and held accountable for such violations; and

WHEREAS, nothing in this act is intended to create additional "strike" offenses which would increase the state prison population, nor is it intended to affect the ability of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to award educational and merit credits; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to California law allow individuals who steal repeatedly to face few consequences, regardless of their criminal record or how many times they steal; and

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WHEREAS, as a result, between 2014 and 2016, California had the 2nd highest increase in theft and property crimes in the United States, while most states have seen a steady decline. According to the California Department of Justice, the value of property stolen in 2015 was \$2.5 billion with an increase of 13 percent since 2014, the largest single-year increase in at least ten years; and

WHEREAS, grocery store operators around the state have seen unprecedented increases in the amount of losses associated with shoplifting in their stores, with some reporting up to 150% increases in these losses from 2012 to present, with the largest jumps occurring since 2014; and

WHEREAS, shoplifting incidents have started to escalate in such a manner that have endangered innocent customers and employees; and

WHEREAS, individuals who repeatedly steal often do so to support their drug habit. Recent changes to California law have reduced judges' ability to order individuals convicted of repeated theft crimes into effective drug treatment programs; and

WHEREAS, California needs stronger laws for those who are repeatedly convicted of theft related crimes, which will encourage those who repeatedly steal to support their drug problem to enter into existing drug treatment programs. This measure enacts such reforms; and

WHEREAS, collecting DNA from criminals is essential to solving violent crimes. Over 450 violent crimes including murder, rape and robbery have gone unsolved because DNA is being collected from fewer criminals; and

WHEREAS, DNA collected in 2015 from a convicted child molester solved the rape-murders of two six-year-old boys that occurred three decades ago in Los Angeles County. DNA collected in 2016 from an individual caught driving a stolen car solved the 2012 San Francisco Bay Area rape/murder of an 83-year-old woman; and

WHEREAS, recent changes to California law unintentionally eliminated DNA collection for theft and drug crimes. This measure restores DNA collection from persons convicted for such offenses; and

WHEREAS, permitting collection of more DNA samples will help identify suspects, clear the innocent and free the wrongly convicted; and

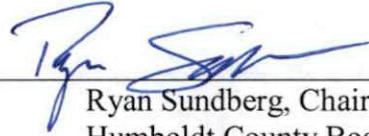
WHEREAS, this measure does not affect existing legal safeguards that protect the privacy of individuals by allowing for the removal of their DNA profile if they are not charged with a crime, are acquitted or are found innocent.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the County of Humboldt hereby supports the Reducing Crime and Keeping California Safe Act of 2018.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT, STATE OF CALIFORNIA
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Dated: April 3, 2018



Ryan Sundberg, Chair
Humboldt County Board of Supervisors

Adopted on motion by Supervisor Fennell, seconded by Supervisor Bohn, and the following vote:

AYES:	Supervisors	Bohn, Sundberg, Bass, Fennell
NAYS:	Supervisors	Wilson
ABSENT:	Supervisors	--
ABSTAIN:	Supervisors	--

STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
County of Humboldt)

I, KATHY HAYES, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors, County of Humboldt, State of California, do hereby certify the foregoing to be an original made in the above-entitled matter by said Board of Supervisors at a meeting held in Eureka, California.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the Seal of said Board of Supervisors.



By Ryan Sharp
Deputy Clerk of the Board of Supervisors of the
County of Humboldt, State of California