



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
**COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT**

825 5TH STREET, ROOM 111  
EUREKA, CALIFORNIA 95501    PHONE: (707) 476-2390

April 4, 2023

The Honorable Dr. Corey A. Jackson  
Capitol Office (AD-60) P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249-0060

Re: Letter of Opposition to Assembly Bill 742 (Jackson)

Dear Assemblymember Dr. Jackson,

The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors is writing to express our opposition to your Assembly Bill 742. This bill would make it illegal for law enforcement to use an unleashed police canine to apprehend a person and prohibit their use for crowd control.

Canines have a remarkable sense of smell and are agile and fast. Therefore, canine officers can be extremely valuable in tracking and apprehending a suspect and removing that threat to the public. The use of canine officers to apprehend criminals is warranted for the safety of our human deputies and this vital tool should not be taken away from law enforcement agencies who discretely utilize this asset at critical times.

Humboldt County currently uses canine officers in direct response to public safety threats, but we also send our canine officers to school demonstrations, community events, as well as routine patrols, narcotic vehicle searches, area searches for lost citizens, recruitment fairs, etc. They are used in various circumstances that do not pertain to "touching" a suspect. For these reasons, Humboldt County respectfully opposes AB 742.

Sincerely,

Steve Madrone, Chair

cc:     Senator Mike McGuire  
       Assemblymember Jim Wood