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May 3, 2024

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 2432 (Gabriel) Corporations: criminal enhancements.
As Amended April 10, 2024 – SUPPORT
Suspense File – Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Wicks:

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) writes in support of AB 2432 by Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel. This measure would establish the California Crime Victims Fund (CVF) in the California State Treasury and authorizes courts to impose additional fines on *corporations* convicted of a misdemeanor or felony, otherwise known as the corporate while collar criminal enhancement, with the fines deposited into the California Crime Victims Fund. AB 2432 (Gabriel) supports victims of crime through additional and separate restitution fines.

The existing federal Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) facilitates funding for the delivery of essential crime victim services via the VOCA Crime Victims Fund (CVF). The CVF is a non-taxpayer source of funding that is financed by monetary penalties associated with federal criminal convictions, as well as penalties from federal deferred prosecution and non-prosecution agreements. Deposits into the CVF fluctuate based on the number of criminal cases that are handled by the United States Department of Justice, with Congress determining on an annual basis how much to release from the CVF to states. Unfortunately, funding through VOCA has steadily declined in recent years. As such, a tangible impact will undeniably be felt across California’s victim service providers as many will be forced to lay off staff, cut programs, and shut down operations unless there is supplemental support.

The positive impact of victim services across California cannot be understated. This can include health and higher education access for victims of gender-based violence, legal and housing services for victims of human trafficking, a wide range of culturally appropriate victim services programs, and plenty more. Accordingly, AB 2432 (Gabriel) will provide a crucial source of revenue to support the provision of victim services in California by helping address reductions in federal dollars by imposing additional penalties against a corporation of up to 25 million dollars.

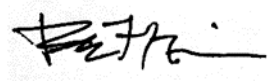
It is for these reasons that CSAC is in strong support of AB 2432 (Gabriel). Should you have any questions regarding CSAC’s position, please do not hesitate to contact Ryan Morimune at CSAC (rmorimune@counties.org). Thank you for your consideration.

The Honorable Buffy Wicks

May 3, 2024

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ryan Morimune". The signature is stylized with a prominent initial "R" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Ryan Morimune
Legislative Advocate

CC: Assembly Member Jesse Gabriel
Members and Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee