



# COUNTY OF SISKIYOU

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## Board of Supervisors

1312 Fairlane, Suite 1  
Yreka, California 96097  
www.co.siskiyou.ca.us

(530) 842-8005  
FAX (530) 842-8013  
Toll Free: 1-888-854-2000, ext. 8005

August 25, 2023

The Honorable Anthony Portantino  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Suite 7630  
Sacramento CA 95814

**Subject: AB 505 (Ting) – The Office of Youth and Community Restoration – OPPOSED**

Dear Senator Portantino:

The Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors is sending this letter to respectfully oppose AB 505, by Assembly Member Phil Ting, which seeks to make changes to several key provisions of SB 823, the 2020 legislation that realigned full responsibility for the juvenile justice continuum to county governments.

As described in the August 18, 2023, letter from the California State Association of Counties et al., we acknowledge recent efforts to narrow the scope of AB 505 and appreciate recent amendments. However, we remain concerned with several provisions of the bill which if implemented would disrupt the vital governance principle that responsibility must be accompanied by the authority to implement. As stated in the August 18, 2023, letter “The Division of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) realignment framework enacted in SB 823 is explicit with respect to realigning responsibility from the state to county governments for the population of young people who previously were eligible for placement in a DJJ facility and under the state’s jurisdiction. AB 505 would erect barriers to counties’ efforts to thoughtfully and successfully carry out DJJ realignment by fracturing the important link between the responsibility for addressing the needs of youth previously under state jurisdiction and the authority to develop, guide, implement, and support a responsive local plan”.

Our opposition is primary to the provisions related to our authority to make local expenditure decisions (Welfare and Institutions Code [WIC] Section 1991) along with changes in WIC Section 1995 to the subcommittee of the multiagency juvenile justice coordinating council. It is very concerning that the subcommittee charged with developing a plan to support and treat the young people in our care and custody could be deprived of the leadership and guidance of the county department head responsible and fully accountable for carrying out the realigned responsibilities.

From a fiscal perspective, as further detailed in the August 18, 2023, letter “AB 505 continues to contemplate considerable and newly mandated state and local costs associated with all of the following: expanded inspections of local juvenile detention facilities; new processes and responsibilities for local planning subcommittees, including mandated meeting frequency, mandated plan updates annually versus every three years, and newly required elements in the local

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Brandon Criss  
*District 1*

Ed Valenzuela  
*District 2*

Michael Kobseff  
*District 3*

Nancy Ogren  
*District 4*

Ray Haupt  
*District 5*

plan; potential funding delays given interactions between WIC Section 1995 (e) and (f); and, finally, broadened OYCR responsibilities given required annual site visits and added requirements to accessing the expansive list of county records defined in the bill, all of which will have an impact on county staffing and resources”.

For the reasons above Siskiyou County must oppose AB 505.

Sincerely,

DocuSigned by:  
*Ed Valenzuela*

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Ed Valenzuela

Chair, Board of Supervisors

cc: Assemblywoman Megan Dahle  
Senator Brian Dahle  
Rural County Representative of California (RCRC)  
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)  
Shaw Yoder Antwih Schmelzer & Lange  
Chief Probation Officers of California (CPOC)