



County of Monterey

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April 14, 2025

The Honorable John Laird
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 8720
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 577 (Laird) Protecting Victims' Rights and Stability of Public Agencies. – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Laird,

On behalf of the County of Monterey, we write to support SB 577. This bill provides a five year refiling limitation on cases dismissed without prejudice, an allowance for cost recovery at the demurrer stage, and clarification that a validation proceeding may be brought by a public agency before tort action judgments are entered against the public agency.

SB 577 provides financial and legal mechanisms to public agencies facing substantial judgments from lookback childhood sexual assault cases. SB 577 strikes a balance between maintaining victims' rights and their ability to be made whole for the harms they have suffered, and ensuring our public agencies, including school districts, cities and counties, maintain fiscal solvency and are able to continue to provide essential services to the people they serve. It does so by providing a five year refiling limitation on cases dismissed without prejudice, an allowance for cost recovery at the demurrer stage, and clarification that a validation proceeding may be brought by a public agency before tort action judgments are entered against the public agency. The County of Monterey could benefit from this bill and therefore we support this measure.

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact Monterey County's Public Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker of Nossaman LLP, at 916-442-8888.

Sincerely,

DRAFT

Chris M. Lopez, Chair
Board of Supervisors

cc: The Honorable Robert Rivas, 29th Assembly District
The Honorable Dawn Addis, 30th Assembly District
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Members and Consultants, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members and Consultants, Senate Appropriations Committee



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