



# County of Monterey

Board of Supervisors

Luis A. Alejo, District 1  
Glenn Church, District 2  
Chris M. Lopez, District 3  
Wendy Root Askew, Chair, District 4  
Kate Daniels, Vice Chair, District 5

Clerk of the Board  
168 West Alisal St. 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901  
831 755 5066  
cob@co.monterey.ca.us

June 8, 2026

The Honorable Dawn Addis  
California State Assembly  
1021 O St, Suite 4120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 2393 (Addis) False imprisonment: false arrest: remedies - SUPPORT.**

Dear Assemblymember Addis,

On behalf of the County of Monterey, I write in support of your Assembly Bill 2393, which would allow prevailing plaintiffs in false imprisonment or false arrest civil actions to choose \$10,000 per specified wrongful act instead of actual damages with a \$250,000 per-incident cap on total recovery.

The County of Monterey agrees that there is a rising concern that people are being wrongfully detained, including by both federal agents acting outside of the law and individuals impersonating law enforcement. Instances are becoming too common where federal agents wear face coverings to obscure their identity, use restraints to bind their victims, forcibly transport them to another location, and display firearms and other weapons.

These incidents of false arrest and imprisonment are incredibly traumatic for victims. People who are wrongfully and violently detained suffer emotional distress. Given the severe psychological trauma experienced by survivors of false imprisonment, it's important that they are properly compensated and that perpetrators are held accountable for their actions. However, emotional distress can be difficult to quantify with a dollar amount. Setting statutory damages for specific egregious conduct that contributes to a victim's distress would help courts streamline litigation and empower plaintiffs to seek compensation for valid claims, both of which are in the public interest.

AB 2393 would allow the prevailing plaintiff in a lawsuit for false arrest or imprisonment to choose a set payment instead of proving actual damages when certain aggravating actions occurred. The plaintiff may receive \$10,000 for each aggravating action by the perpetrator. These actions include wearing a face covering to hide their identity, using restraints to bind the plaintiff, forcibly transporting the plaintiff in a vehicle, and brandishing a firearm.



WWW.CO.MONTEREY.CA.US

The bill does not apply to California police officers or the public agencies that employ them. Instead, it targets those who are impersonating these officers and federal agents violating Californians' constitutional rights.

For these reasons, the County of Monterey is happy to support AB 2393. Should you have any questions, please contact Senior Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker at 916-930-7780.

Sincerely,

Wendy Root Askew  
Chair  
County of Monterey Board of Supervisors