



County of Monterey

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

August 10, 2026

The Honorable Sabrina Cervantes
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 412
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: AB 1537 (Bryan) - Peace officers: secondary employment - Support

Dear Chair Cervantes,

On behalf of the County of Monterey, I am pleased to express our support for AB 1537, which prohibits certain California peace officers from engaging in secondary employment involving the arrest, detention, transportation, or deportation of individuals pursuant to federal immigration laws and establishes appropriate reporting and accountability requirements.

Counties have a strong interest in maintaining public trust in local law enforcement agencies and ensuring that peace officers remain focused on carrying out the duties and responsibilities assigned to them under California law. AB 1537 provides important clarity regarding the types of secondary employment that are incompatible with the responsibilities and expectations placed upon California peace officers.

The County of Monterey serves a diverse population, including immigrant communities whose willingness to report crimes, cooperate with investigations, and access government services depends in part on their trust in local law enforcement. When peace officers participate in federal immigration enforcement activities through off-duty or contract employment, it can create confusion regarding the role of local law enforcement agencies and undermine community confidence. AB 1537 helps establish clear boundaries that distinguish local public safety responsibilities from federal immigration enforcement activities conducted outside the scope of official duty.

AB 1537 promotes accountability, supports community trust, and helps preserve the distinction between local law enforcement and federal immigration enforcement activities conducted through secondary employment arrangements.

For these reasons, the County of Monterey is pleased to support AB 1537. Should you have any questions regarding our position please contact Senior Policy Advisor, Ashley Walker at 916-930-7780.

Sincerely,

Wendy Root Askew, Chair
Board of Supervisors

