

California State Senate

CAPITOL OFFICE
1021 O STREET
SUITE 7110
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4006

DISTRICT OFFICE
2220A DOUGLAS BLVD.
SUITE 100
ROSEVILLE, CA 95661
TEL (916) 772-0571

SENATOR
ROGER NIELLO
SIXTH SENATORIAL DISTRICT



COMMITTEES
BANKING & FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS
VICE CHAIR
BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW
VICE CHAIR
BUSINESS, PROFESSIONS &
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
INSURANCE
JUDICIARY
TRANSPORTATION
VICE CHAIR
LEGISLATIVE ETHICS

December 12, 2024

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 900
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Budget Request: Fully Funding Prop 36 Implementation

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing to emphasize the critical importance of allocating sufficient funding for the implementation of Proposition 36, which was overwhelmingly approved by nearly 70% of California voters. The resounding voter support for this measure highlights a strong public mandate for meaningful criminal justice reform that holds criminals accountable while also providing drug treatment and mental health services that will be necessary to help keep many people out of the criminal justice system.

The success of Proposition 36's treatment-focused approach depends heavily on the availability of well-funded mental health and substance abuse services, which are critical for breaking cycles of addiction and reducing recidivism. I have long advocated for self-sufficiency to be at the forefront of any reform program and it is clear with the overwhelming passage this is also a priority of Californians. These programs require significant funding to be scaled statewide, ensuring that services are accessible and impactful to individuals.

By addressing repeat offenses and prioritizing rehabilitation, Proposition 36 has the potential to improve public safety, reduce crime rates, and alleviate the long-term strain on the criminal justice system. Californians' significant support for this measure emphasizes the public's confidence in these reforms and their desire for meaningful progress.

The Legislative Analyst's Office stated that Prop 36 would increase state criminal justice costs ranging from several tens of millions of dollars to the low hundreds of millions on an annual bases, noting that this is less than one half of one percent of the state's total general fund budget.

I respectfully urge your administration to prioritize the allocation of all funding necessary to implement Proposition 36 in the upcoming budget cycle. This funding is not only a practical necessity but an imperative to uphold the will of the voters. By providing the necessary financial resources, California can fulfill its commitment to a more just and effective criminal justice system.

Sincerely,



ROGER NIELLO
Senator, 6th District



BRIAN W. JONES
Senate Minority Leader



MARIE ALVARADO-GIL
Senator, 4th District



STEVEN CHOI
Senator, 37th District



MEGHAN DAHLE
Senator, 1st District



SHANNON GROVE
Senator 12th District



ROSILICIE OCHOA BOGH
Senator, 19th District



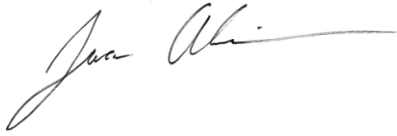
KELLY SEYARTO
Senator, 32nd District



SUZETTE VALLADARES
Senator, 23rd District



JAMES GALLAGHER
Assembly Member, 3rd District



JUAN ALANIS
Assembly Member, 22nd District



JOSH HOOVER
Assembly Member, 7th District



DAVIS TANGIPA
Assembly Member, 8th District



TRI TA
Assembly Member, 70th District