

CALIFORNIA STATEWIDE LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSOCIATION

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March 21, 2025

Assemblymember Pacheco
1021 O Street, Suite 4510
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1178, Support

On behalf of the California Statewide Law Enforcement Association (CSLEA), I strongly support Assembly Bill 1178 (Pacheco), a measure designed to enhance the safety of peace officers and their families—specifically those currently or recently involved in undercover operations, or those who have received verified death threats related to their law enforcement duties.

AB 1178 *does not* alter or weaken existing laws that provide public access to records of sustained officer misconduct. Under current law, the public will continue to receive full disclosure of investigative reports, audio, and video related to verified misconduct. That remains unchanged.

This bill addresses a different concern: the protection of officers who are not the subject of SB 1421 records requests, but who may be inadvertently exposed. An undercover officer's mere proximity to a misconduct incident should not jeopardize their identity, compromise active investigations, or endanger their life. Public disclosure of their presence—via names, photos, or video—can unravel undercover work and expose these officers and their families to real harm.

AB 1178 allows for the redaction of personal information, such as names and images, when an officer faces a verified death threat. In such cases, their identity would be concealed in public records to safeguard their well-being.

Additionally, the bill ensures that officers meeting the criteria for “undercover” status or facing verified threats are excluded from bulk agency roster disclosures. Releasing their identifying information in these contexts exposes them to the very individuals they are investigating—or to those who have already threatened their lives.

Peace officers willingly take on dangerous assignments that put them at personal risk. Protecting their safety, and that of their families, is both necessary and justified.

We respectfully urge your support for AB 1178.

Alan Wayne Barcelona
Special Agent, DOJ
President, CSLEA

Association of Criminalists-DOJ

Association of Conservationist
Employees

Association of California Wildlife
Officers

Association of Deputy
Commissioners

Association of Motor Carrier
Specialists

Association of Motor Vehicle
Investigators of California

Association of Special Agents-DOJ

California Alcohol Beverage Control
Agents

California Association of Criminal
Investigators

California Association of Food &
Drug Investigators

California Association of Fraud
Investigators

California Association of Law
Enforcement Employees

California Association of Regulatory
Investigators & Inspectors

CHP Public Safety Dispatchers
Association

California Organization of Licensing

Fire Marshal Emergency Services
Association

Hospital Police Association of
California

State Park Peace Officers
Association of California