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June 21, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: CPOA Opposition to AB 186

Dear Dr. Hernandez,

The California Peace Officers' Association (CPOA) regrettably opposes AB 186 (Eggman) as it is to be heard in Senate Health Committee. Even though certain counties will be authorized to designate "safer drug consumption programs" under the watch of healthcare professionals, AB 186 poses a public safety risk by not only adding to the perception that drug consumption is inevitable by users, but also actually providing drug consumption and use supplies.

CPOA is comprised of over 22,000 law enforcement officers across California. Our members are both supervisory and front-line peace officers. Our members, and all local law enforcement are witnessing increased usage of dangerous drugs, including heroin, fentanyl, opiates, and even cocaine-laced marijuana. AB 186 does nothing to curtail these activities, and in fact only promotes legal drug consumption of pre-obtained drugs, of which the "safer" consumption could lead to dependency and usage of other illegal, fatal and dangerous drugs.

For communities to feel safe, drug users and offenders must be pushed to adequate treatment to resolve their dependency. That contributes to a healthy and well-balanced society. AB 186 will produce an opposite effect, where drug users are given a safe-haven for consumption. The bill sets forth no requirements for how long after drugs have been consumed for users to stay on the premises, and by reporting the number of overdoses implies that these sites expect there to be drug overdoses. That is simply unacceptable.

For these reasons, CPOA must opposes AB 186.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Marc Coopwood". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Assistance Chief Marc Coopwood
President, California Peace Officers' Association
Beverly Hills Police Department

CC: Senate Health Committee
Assembly member Susan Eggman



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June 22, 2017

The Honorable Ed Hernandez
Chair, Senate Health Committee
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1090 (Cunningham)-SUPPORT

Dear Dr. Hernandez,

The California Peace Officers' Association (CPOA) is pleased to support AB 1090 (Cunningham) as it is to be heard in Senate Health Committee. The bill provides a response to one of the biggest concerns for law enforcement in the wake of Prop 64, and one of the reasons our association opposed the measure. That of course, is youth access to marijuana.

CPOA is comprised of over 22,000 law enforcement officers across California. Our members are executive, supervisory and front line sworn, reserve and retired peace officers. The passage of Proposition 64 last November altered the access and approach to recreational marijuana in California, and AB 1090 wisely takes steps to ensure that children and youth are not exposed to consumption near schools, day care centers, or youth centers.

By not allowing consumption or possession even during non-school hours, Mr. Cunningham's bill provides for safeguards against marijuana paraphernalia or burnt residue from being found by administration or even worse, young students and youth center participants.

For these reasons, CPOA is proud to support AB 1090 and ask for your "aye" recommendation on this bill.

Respectfully,

Assistant Chief Marc Coopwood
President, California Peace Officers' Association
Beverly Hills Police Department

CC: Assembly member Jordan Cunningham
Senate Health Committee