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California State Senate

SENATOR
BRIAN DAHLE
FIRST SENATE DISTRICT



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SUBCOMMITTEE #2 ON
RESOURCES, ENVIRONMENTAL
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NATURAL RESOURCES
& WATER
TRANSPORTATION

September 26, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request for Veto of AB 600 (Ting)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully request your veto of Assembly Bill 600 (Ting) which authorizes a court to recall and resentence an inmate if the sentencing laws at the time of the original sentence have been changed. This bill also removes the requirement that this resentencing be done with the approval of the district attorney or Attorney General.

There are several major issues with this bill. AB 600 allows the court to resentence and impose a lesser judgement on a defendant without the approval of the district attorney or Attorney General. This is a massive change that essentially leaves the decision of whether or not to resentence entirely up to the courts, completely removing the role of the prosecution.

Additionally, this bill does not include any provisions requiring that there be evidence of error or prejudice in the original sentence, which justifies the resentencing. This means that the courts can simply choose what meets the standards of today's political agenda and then resentence accordingly. This is a dangerous precedent to set for California.

AB 600 is not good for justice, public safety, or Californians. This bill will undoubtedly lead to dangerous criminals receiving reduced sentences, and there are no sufficient safeguards to prevent this bill from being misused. It is misguided policy that puts politics ahead of the wellbeing and safety of our communities.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto of this measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brian Dahle".

Brian Dahle, Senator
1st Senate District