

# California State Senate

CAPITOL OFFICE  
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 305  
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814  
TEL (916) 651-4016  
FAX (916) 651-4916

SENATOR.GROVE@SENATE.CA.GOV

SENATOR  
SHANNON GROVE  
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER  
SIXTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICES  
5701 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 150  
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309  
TEL (661) 323-0443  
FAX (661) 323-0446

7248 JOSHUA LANE  
YUCCA VALLEY, CA 92284  
TEL (760) 228-3136  
FAX (760) 228-2462



September 16, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of SB 136 (Wiener)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Senate Bill 136, which eliminates an existing one-year sentence enhancement imposed for every prior felony conviction.

This enhancement serves an important purpose. It allows the courts to differentiate crimes based on repeat criminality. Without this enhancement an individual who commits a crime multiple times would receive the same sentence as an individual who commits that same crime for the first time. It makes sense that a person who repeatedly commits crimes should receive a commensurate sentence. Recognizing that this may not always be necessary due to unique circumstances, current law also allows a judge to strike any or all of this enhancement in the interest of justice. As a result, it is unclear why the state would want to remove this tool from the courts and prosecutors when they are considering appropriate sentences for repeat offenders.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Grove".

Shannon Grove  
Senate Republican Leader