



# City of Whittier

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Joe Vinatieri  
Mayor

Fernando Dutra  
Mayor Pro Tem

Cathy Warner  
Council Member

Octavio Martinez  
Council Member

Jessica Martinez  
Council Member

Brian Saeki  
City Manager

March 13, 2024

The Honorable Bob Archuleta  
Senator, 32<sup>nd</sup> District  
State Capitol Bldg., Room 4066  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 1262  
LETTER OF SUPPORT**

Dear Senator Archuleta:

As Mayor of the City of Whittier, I write in appreciation and strong support of your Senate Bill 1262, which will enhance public safety throughout California. Your leadership in addressing the complex issues surrounding post-release community supervision (PRCS) and parole is commendable and necessary for the wellbeing of our communities. As you recall, the City of Whittier supported the bill in its previous version, 2017's AB 1408 sponsored by then Assembly Leader Calderon, in response to the horrific murder of Whittier Police Officer Keith Boyer and wounding of Officer Patrick Hazel.

Then and now, the City of Whittier recognizes the importance of SB 1262 in ensuring that law enforcement agencies are equipped with comprehensive information about individuals under PRCS or parole. This initiative is vital for fostering a safer environment for our residents and for individuals transitioning back into community life. The bill's focus on accountability, transparency, and comprehensive oversight aligns with our city's commitment to public safety and justice. SB 1262's requirement for the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to provide local law enforcement with access to an inmate's supervision record is a significant step forward. Additionally, the legislation's mandate for more thorough considerations by the Board of Parole Hearings and the provisions for dealing with violations of PRCS terms underscore a holistic approach to criminal justice reform that our city fully supports.

The tragic loss of an officer's life is a stark reminder of the need for reform. Officer Boyer's death not only impacted the community of Whittier but resonated with cities across California, highlighting the critical need for

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effective management of post-release supervision. SB 1262's comprehensive approach to enhancing the supervision process and holding repeat offenders accountable is a testament to the lessons learned from this tragedy. As we reflect on the negative impacts of prior legislative measures and their unintended consequences on public safety, it is clear that SB 1262 represents a thoughtful, balanced approach to reform. By addressing the gaps in our current system, this bill promises to make our communities safer for residents, law enforcement personnel, and all Californians.

We applaud your efforts to champion legislation that prioritizes the safety and security of our communities while respecting the complexities of corrections and rehabilitation. Thank you for your dedication to improving public safety and for your leadership on this crucial issue.

Sincerely,



Joe Vinatieri  
Mayor

c: The Honorable Assembly Member Lisa Calderon  
Whittier City Council