









September 20, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom California Governor 1021 O Street, Room 9000 Sacramento, CA 95814-0007

## RE: SENATE BILL 428 (BLAKESPEAR) – REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill (SB) 428, a measure that will allow an employer to seek a temporary restraining order on behalf of an employee who is being harassed by a third party such as a member of the public.

Collectively, our organizations are made up of public employers that value respectfulness, collaboration, and teamwork in the workplace. We prohibit any form of discrimination and harassment that would otherwise conflict with these values.

This bill is necessary because under current law, an employer can seek a Workplace Violence Restraining Order on behalf of an employee only when there is a <u>credible threat of violence</u>. As employers for whom the safety of their employees is of the utmost importance, we would like the opportunity to be proactive and take action prior to a situation escalating to a level of possible violence. This bill provides an effective balance of providing employers with the tools they need to protect their employees

from undue harassment as a result of their jobs while ensuring that the public retains the right to respectfully engage with their government.

We thank you for reviewing our letter and we respectfully request your signature on SB 428. Should you have any questions with respect to our stated position please contact any of the representatives enumerated below.

Sincerely,

**Faith Borges** 

Legislative Advocate

California Association of Code Enforcement

Officers

Kalyn Dean

Legislative Advocate

Kalin Dear

California State Association of Counties

Sarah Dukett

**Policy Advocate** 

Rural Counties Representatives of California

Jean Kinney Hurst Legislative Advocate Urban Counties of California

Immée Pina

Johnnie Piña

Legislative Representative League of California Cities

CC: The Honorable Catherine Blakespear, Senate District 38

Jessica Devencenzi, Chief Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Legislative Affairs, Officer of Governor Newsom