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September 6, 2023

SENATE FLOOR ALERT

**AB 1329 (Maienschein): County Jail Incarcerated Persons: Identification Card Pilot Program
As Amended – April 12, 2023 – SUPPORT
Senate Third Reading File**

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC), representing all 58 of the state’s counties, is pleased to support AB 1329 by Assembly Member Brian Maienschein. This measure would authorize the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department and the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to implement a 5-year pilot program, similar to the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the DMV’s California Identification Card (CAL-ID) program, which would provide a valid identification card (ID) or driver’s license (DL) to eligible incarcerated individuals released from a County of San Diego detention facility.

In 2014, CSAC took action to pursue options to establish a statewide protocol for issuing state ID cards for incarcerated individuals released from county facilities. CSAC also convened meetings with the DMV and San Diego County to develop the first ID pilot program, which led to the DMV and San Diego County establishing a Memorandum of Understanding to facilitate the issuance of ID cards to incarcerated persons in San Diego County jails. Since the inception of the program in 2015, the county has provided over 3,500 replacement ID cards for individuals, improving opportunities for successful reintegration. Simply put, AB 1329 builds upon these efforts and partnerships with the state to improve efficiency by reducing the ID issuance time in half for the San Diego County Sheriff’s Department, reducing local and state criminal justice system costs.

Counties are keenly aware of the long-term fiscal return on investments that prioritize demonstrated programming and treatment, increase support and resources, and in particular, expand reentry services to reduce recidivism. To the extent that counties are successful in building strong reentry bridges, the societal benefits are clear – decreased victimization, increased public safety, and improved outcomes for justice-involved populations and their families. A foundational need for individuals to successfully reintegrate is a valid state-issued ID or DL, which directly impacts access to fundamental services such as housing, employment, health care, banking, and education. It is our hope that the development of this program through AB 1329 will encourage the state to work with additional counties so individuals across California can reap the shared benefits.

It is for these reasons CSAC supports AB 1329 and respectfully requests your AYE vote. Should you have any questions or concerns regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Ryan Morimune, CSAC Legislative Advocate at rmorimune@counties.org.

cc: The Honorable Brian Maienschein, California State Assembly