



April 28, 2023

The Honorable Catherine Blakespear
California State Senate
1021 O Street, Room 7340
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 428 (BLAKESPEAR) Temporary restraining orders and protective orders: employee harassment: Support [As Amended 04/11/23]

Dear Senator Blakespear:

On behalf of the undersigned organizations, we write in support of your Senate Bill (SB) 428 which 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 credible threat of violence. 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. In addition we appreciate the recent amendments to ensure that action taken by an employer does not interfere with legally protected speech or activity. This amendment strikes 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 right to respectfully engage with their government.

It is for the reasons listed above that the undersigned organizations are pleased to support your Senate Bill 428. Should you have any questions with respect to our stated position please contact any of the representatives enumerated below.

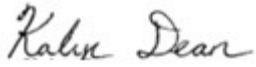
Sincerely,



Faith Borges
Legislative Advocate
California Association of Code Enforcement
Officers



Jean Kinney Hurst
Legislative Advocate
Urban Counties of California



Kalyn Dean
Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties



Johnnie Piña
Legislative Representative
League of California Cities

CC: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee