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April 17, 2013

The Honorable Nancy Skinner
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3160
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 720 (Skinner): Inmates: Health Care Enrollment
SUPPORT IF AMENDED**

Dear Assembly Member Skinner:

The Solano County Board of Supervisors has taken a **SUPPORT IF AMENDED** position on your **AB 720**, which would help reduce recidivism and assist counties in our responsibility for post release community supervision of individuals in county jails by enrolling them in the federally funded Medi-Cal program before their release.

We believe that this bill will ultimately give counties an important tool to reduce repeat crimes and recidivism by allowing newly released inmates to access critical health care and substance use disorder services through Medi-Cal, or, if they qualify, through a qualified health plan in the state's health benefits exchange. By pre-enrolling incarcerated individuals, counties can get a jump on providing wrap-around services to the most high-risk inmates to ensure adequate supervision and successful and sustainable reentry in our communities.

Upon review of the bill however, we would appreciate explicit clarification on the definition between "detained" and "incarcerated" inmates within the language. We feel that this clarification is important in order to make sure that the application of this bill is clear and consistent to all stakeholders and by doing so, we hope to avoid unnecessary administrative complications.

With the aforementioned amendment, Solano County would be happy to fully support this measure. We thank you for working with counties to ensure safer communities and effective implementation and look forward to working with your office on this well-intentioned measure.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Linda J. Seifert", is written over a faint circular stamp.

Linda J. Seifert, Chair
Solano County Board of Supervisors

The Honorable Nancy Skinner

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Cc: The Honorable Tom Ammiano, Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee
The Honorable Members of the Assembly Public Safety Committee
The Honorable Mariko Yamada, Assembly District 4
The Honorable Susan Bonilla, Assembly District 14
The Honorable Lois Wolk, Senate District 3
Paul Yoder, Partner, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih Inc.