



HUMBOLDT COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

WILLIAM F. HONSAL, SHERIFF/CORONER

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August 17, 2017

Linda Penner, Chair
Board of State and Community Corrections
2590 Venture Oaks Way
Sacramento, CA 95833

Dear Chair Penner,

I am in receipt of your letter dated June 14, 2017 rejecting the County's change of scope for SB 1022. While I feel our change in scope would have improved the project and benefited the community dramatically, I understand the Board's stance.

Before I concede defeat on the SB 1022 funding, I would like to voice my concern regarding the housing of mentally ill offenders in jail settings. Humboldt County along with most others in the state are seeing a large jump in the mentally ill population. The jail environment is not therapeutic and in most cases goes against all treatment philosophies for this type of inmate. I hope that in the near future the State identifies money for hospital/therapeutic beds for this group of our population. Until then, counties will continue to see a rise in inmates that are declared incompetent to stand trial, suicides, and assaults on staff and other inmates.

With that, Humboldt County acknowledges the Board's recommendation to not approve the change of scope. Humboldt County will no longer pursue the funding for SB 1022. I would like to voice my appreciation for you and all the BSCC staff for the highly professional level of service Humboldt County has received during the jail construction funding projects.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "W. F. Honsal".

William F. Honsal, Sheriff
County of Humboldt

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