August 28, 2013

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Assembly Budget Committee  
State Capitol, Room 6026  
Sacramento, CA  95814

RE: SB 105 (Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) – Corrections  
As amended August 27, 2013 – SUPPORT  
Set for hearing in the Assembly Budget Committee – August 29, 2013

Dear Assembly Member Skinner:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), I write in support of SB 105, the measure that carries out a much-needed plan to comply with the federal court order regarding the state’s prison population levels. In addition to offering an immediate and tangible solution that avoids a release of state prison inmates, the bill sets the course for thoughtful consideration of longer-term solutions with the input of key policy makers and stakeholders.

SB 105 offers a responsible and structured solution for the near-term by authorizing additional in- and out-of-state capacity that will bring the state in compliance with the court-ordered population threshold. CSAC agrees that a long-term plan is needed to ensure stability and to sustain improved outcomes across the criminal justice continuum, and we are committed to working with the Legislature and Governor to achieve those mutual goals. Counties continue to responsibly implement far-reaching public safety reforms implemented less than two years ago. The plan contained in SB 105 will preserve ongoing efforts to further develop community corrections practices and to manage new offender populations the local level, while providing a safe yet temporary solution necessitated by the court’s order.

For these reasons, we fully support SB 105 and urge the Legislature to move expeditiously on this important public safety measure. Thank you for considering the county perspective.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth Howard Espinosa  
Senior Legislative Representative

cc: Members and Consultants, Assembly Budget Committee