



500 S. Main Street, Suite #410, Orange, CA 92868 | P: (714) 953-1300 | F: (714) 953-1302 | www.ACCOC.org

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Janet Nguyen
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3048
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 284 (Nguyen) Criminal procedure: misdemeanor citations. – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Nguyen,

The Association of California Cities – Orange County (ACC-OC) would like to express its support for Senate Bill 284 (Nguyen). SB 284 would open up the option for law enforcement to book and hold violators who commit misdemeanor property crimes. We at ACC-OC feel strongly about the importance of legislation that supports our local law enforcement officers and gives them the tools necessary to properly protect our communities; SB 284 is an example of such legislation.

SB 284 gives officers the ability to better protect our communities from property crime. Crime rose 23 percent in Orange County in 2015 – the greatest single-year jump in at least a decade – with the steepest increases coming in stolen vehicles, aggravated assaults, theft and burglaries. And while overall crime fell by 4% in 2016, both burglary and aggravated assault rates defied the trend and continued to rise. In Buena Park, for example, property crime is up 26 percent from two years ago and at the highest rate in more than a decade. Additionally, data recently collected by the Orange County Register indicates that in 2016 car burglary rates held near 2015's record-high levels.

Property crime is felt acutely by the cities and counties it affects, where residents are robbed of the sense of safety and security that a strong community is meant to provide. While experts are currently unsure of what is driving the rise in property crime, our government officials should not be deterred from crafting legislation to combat the problem itself, of which SB 284 is a prime example. We cannot sit idly by as our residents are increasingly victimized by property crime. SB 284 will make it more difficult for perpetrators to re-offend and hinder their ability to commit multiple crimes in a short period of time.



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The health and safety of California's cities are of paramount importance to ACC-OC. For this and the reasons described above, the Association of California Cities – Orange County is proud to support SB 284. Should you have any questions about our position or about ACC-OC, please contact Diana Coronado, ACC-OC's Legislative Affairs Director, at (714) 953-1300 or at dcoronado@accoc.org.

Sincerely,

Heather Stratman
Chief Executive Officer
Association of California Cities – Orange County