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PRESS RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA DISTRICT ATTORNEYS ASSOCIATION FILES WRIT OF MANDATE TO GOVERNOR BROWN'S RECENT INITIATIVE FILING

Cites circumvention of public process and the laws afforded by
the legislature to the people of California

Sacramento, CA – Thursday afternoon, the California District Attorneys Association [CDAA] and Sacramento County resident Anne Marie Schubert filed a writ of mandate with the courts seeking to direct Attorney General Kamala Harris to not issue the title and summary of Governor Jerry Brown's "Public Safety and Rehabilitation Act of 2016" due to a denial of proper public due process, as required by statute.

CDAA and Schubert believe the proposed initiative hijacked the initiative system and cut in line to the front, ahead of other initiatives and completely avoided the proper public comment period.

"The Governor cut in line bypassing the normal initiative process. This maneuver denied the public its right of review, and deprived the Legislative Analyst's Office of valuable time necessary to analyze the fiscal impact of this sweeping initiative," said Greg Totten, Ventura County District Attorney. "We believe the Governor should follow the same rules that all other Californians are expected to comply with."

At the last minute, the Governor added his new language to the "Justice and Rehabilitation Act" initiative. This language is not an "amendment" but creates an entirely new initiative having provided NO public review period, giving the Legislative Analysts Office (LAO) just 16 days to analyze an extremely complex initiative, and providing the Attorney General just 31 days to prepare a title and summary for the newly proposed initiative. It should be noted that as of the date this petition was filed, the LAO had already missed the deadline to transmit its fiscal analysis to the Attorney General.

"We filed this writ because there is nothing more important than elected officials following the same rules and laws that apply to the citizens they represent," explained Pat McGrath, President of the California District Attorneys Association.

As petitioners the most pressing concern for CDAA is the lack of due process, not just for the public and with respect for the citizens of California but also for the victims of crime in this state.

"I signed as a petitioner plain and simple to protect the rights of victims. This initiative effectively repeals Proposition 8, the California's Victims Bill of Rights law that the voters passed in 1982. It also effectively repeals Marsy's Law passed by the voters in 2008," stated Anne Marie Schubert. "The crime victims of this state and the people who voted to protect their rights deserve their due process, at the very least, the statutorily allowed public comment period to express how this would affect them and their families."