



**Office of the District Attorney
Alameda County**

Nancy E. O'Malley
District Attorney
Kevin E. Dunleavy
Chief Assistant District Attorney
alcoda.org

September 1, 2020

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, 95814

Re: Assembly Bill 3228 (Bonta)- REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE

Dear Governor Newsom,

As the Alameda County District Attorney, I urge you to sign AB 3228. This bill would create a working group to assess and address issues relating to Covid 19 in all detention facilities.

The onset of Covid-19 has created unforeseen challenges in detention centers worldwide. The California Detention Standards and Safety group, as outlined in this bill, is needed in developing a plan for making detention centers safe in the age of Covid 19. It is wise to include such a diverse group of advisors in the group, as this issue impacts every aspect of the justice system. It should be addressed in a methodical and thoughtful manner.

Since the beginning of the outbreak, I have been deeply involved in the process of reviewing and recommending release of individuals who were being detained. Ultimately, over 1,000 have been released with the goal of preventing a devastating outbreak. I know better than anyone the challenges that this pandemic has introduced to our detention centers.

For these reasons, I urge you to sign AB 3228. If you have any questions about this position, please contact, Michelle Thomas Shaw, Policy Director, at michelle.thomasshaw@acgov.org.

Sincerely,

NANCY E. O'MALLEY
District Attorney

Cc: Assemblymember Rob Bonta