

April 3, 2015

Assembly member Rob Bonta P.O. Box 942849 Sacramento, CA 94249-0018

RE: AB 1140 (BONTA) Modernizing the California Victim Compensation Program: SUPPORT

Dear Assembly member Bonta:

On behalf of Youth ALIVE!, I am writing to express our strong support for AB 1140. This bill addresses outdated restrictions in the law to reflect changes to technologies and crimes. The California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board administers the California Victim Compensation Program (CalVCP). The CalVCP conducted a Statue Modernization Project, bringing various stakeholder groups together to make recommendations on revising and updating the state compensation program to better serve victims. AB 1140 would implement many of the recommendations made by the CalVCP Statue Modernization Project, and make a number of other improvements to address emerging issues in law.

Youth ALIVE! is a violence prevention and intervention organization that helps young people become leaders and advocates for the change they would like to see in their communities through our Teens on Target Program, mentors and supports healing for young people who have been violently injured through our Caught in the Crossfire program, and works with families grieving in the wake of a homicide through our Khadafy Washington Project.

We work closely with people who are impacted by crime and know how CalVCP could improve services to those most in need. AB 1140 would remove restrictions on victims of crime that are on probation or parole (other than violent crime and sex offenders) from receiving compensation. It will include online harassment as an eligible crime for reimbursement and prevent victims of domestic violence from having to cooperate with law enforcement at the scene of the crime, among other things.

These changes will extend the helpful reach of CalVCP to victims across the state and provide much needed relief. AB 1140 is one way to address the changing landscape of crime and technology and to give CalVCP the tools to address the needs of victims across the state.

Sincerely,

Anne Marks
Executive Director

YOUTH ALIVE!
3300 EIm Street
Oakland, CA 94609
Tel: (510) 594-2588
Fax: (510) 594-0667
mail@youthalive.org

HONORARY ADVISORY COUNCIL

ANTONIO VILLARAIGOSA Former Mayor of Los Angeles

> DIANNE FEINSTEIN United States Senator

EDWARD JAMES OLMOS Actor

> AL JARREAU Singer/Musician

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PHILLIP S. CHANG Principal Redondo Surgical Los Angeles, CA

ALISA DEWYS Consultant Resources Global Professionals San Francisco, CA

> DAVID E. DURANT General Counsel Blackhawk Network Pleasanton, CA

ANGELA JENKINS Director N. Cal Community Benefit Funded Programs Kaiser Permanente Oakland, CA

> MICHAEL NIETO Deputy District Attorney Alameda County District Attorney's Office Oakland, CA

ELIZABETH SEKERA Clinic Director Lyon-Martin Health Services San Francisco, CA

> SIARA SPRIGGS Residential Counselor The Refuge, Inc. Oakland, CA

> > LA'BAN WADE II Student UC Berkelev

STAN WEISNER Director Behavioral and Biological Sciences UC Berkeley Extension Berkeley, CA

GREGORY VICTORINO Chief, Division of Trauma Alameda Health System Oakland, CA

> ANNE C. MARKS Executive Director Youth ALIVE! Oakland, CA