



June 17, 2009

Honorable Juan Arambula, Chair
Assembly Committee on Public Safety
1020 N Street, Room 111
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 52 - SUPPORT

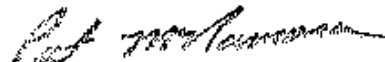
Dear Assemblymember Arambula:

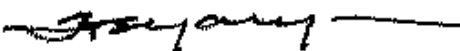
The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents more than 3,200 rank and file deputy probation officers and employees in Los Angeles County, supports SB 52.

This measure to recast the Public Safety Officer Medal of Valor Act has come to be because public safety officials and Governor Schwarzenegger can no longer single out only one special Medal of Valor winner to be lauded for exceptional circumstances. The Medal of Valor Board no longer meets only on one occasion to decide upon the one deserving medal winner. Today we must recognize multiple circumstances and multiple candidates, as well as need for a more flexible board (still serving without compensation) that shall meet on more than one occasion to track and learn about the number of exemplary individuals from many services who may qualify for an award. Board members shall track background information for the Attorney General who will then advise the Governor.

This bill will not only better reorganize existing functions, but it will reaffirm the stature of those who sacrificed their lives in service. Such deaths are news stopping with their stories remaining in the hearts of most Californians. It is with this in mind and in gratitude that we give the highest honor that California can bestow - The Public Safety Medal of Valor.

Very truly yours,


Pat McNamara
President


Timothy H. B. Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: Members, Consultants - Assembly Committee on Public Safety
RSA
Senator Lou Correa

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