



January 14, 2010

The Honorable Mark Leno, Chair
Senate Public Safety Committee
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 408 (Padilla) Support and Co-Sponsor

Dear Senator Leno:


On behalf of the Riverside Sheriffs' Association, we are pleased to support SB 408 which would reinstate California law that made it illegal for violent felons to possess body armor.


SB 408 was introduced in response to the court's decision to overturn the law that prohibited a violent felon from possessing body armor, due to the vagueness of the definition. SB 408 seeks to remedy this issue by defining body armor in a straightforward definition taken from Penal Code Section 12022.2 and removes any vagueness in the law by making it very clear that violent felons are prohibited from possessing any body armor whatsoever.

Violent felons who possess body armor represent a serious threat not only to law enforcement officers but to the general public as well. SB 408 will help protect the lives of law enforcement officers and citizens by making it illegal again in California for violent felons to possess body armor.

For these reasons we are pleased to support SB 408.

Very truly yours,


Pat McNamara
President


Tim Yaryan
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: Members/Consultants – Senate Public Safety Committee
RSA