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# California State Senate

SENATOR  
**JEFF STONE, PHARM.D.**  
TWENTY-EIGHTH SENATE DISTRICT



September 20, 2017

VICE CHAIR  
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& WATER  
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BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW  
PUBLIC SAFETY

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Veto Request – Assembly Bill 878**

Dear Governor Brown:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you veto Assembly Bill 878 (Gipson) which limits the use of handcuffs and other restraining devices on juvenile criminals, while being transported and while in court.

It is understandable that supporters believe putting juvenile criminals into handcuffs is traumatic, but it needs to be remembered that these juveniles are already convicted criminals and are often handcuffed for their own safety as well as the safety of public safety officers.

The men and women who are responsible for the safety of inmates often have a real need to restrain the criminal. Simply because a person may be under the age of 18 does not mean that person is not capable of inflicting great bodily harm on innocent victims.

Currently, a juvenile criminal may be unrestrained if public safety personnel believe the criminal is not a risk during transport. AB 878 changes existing policy to presume the criminal is not a threat unless evidence is presented to contradict that presumption. The California Chief Probation Officers and the State Sheriffs Association seem to agree that existing law is much more appropriate, and I share their opinion.

For these and many other reasons, I respectfully request that you veto AB 878. Thank you for your time in reading this letter and am available to answer any questions if they arise. I can be contacted at (916) 651-4028.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jeff Stone".

Jeff Stone  
Senator, 28<sup>th</sup> District