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California State Senate

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



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September 21, 2017

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Requested Veto of AB 1448 (Weber)

Dear Governor Brown:

I would like to respectfully request that you veto AB1448 (Weber) that would establish an “Elderly Parole Program” for inmates who are 60 years of age or older. As you know, inmates who happen to be 60 years of age can still pose a serious risk to the public, and I wish to applaud your revocation of parole of Hau Chan – age 61 - just this past week.

The arguments around AB 1448 have largely centered on “non-violent” offenders, but Proposition 57 already took care of that as the initiative allowed for parole of these offenders after their initial term. This legislation would give convicted felons who have committed heinous crimes a chance at early parole simply because they lived to the age of 60. Where is the justice for the victims who may not have survived to that age?

According to Crime Victims United, this measure would undermine lawfully imposed sentences, and I concur with their assessment. Mandatory parole consideration upon reaching the age of 60 would place the Parole Board and victims in a very difficult position, and this is just one reason AB 1448 is worthy of your veto.

For these and many other reasons, I respectfully request that you veto AB 1448. Just because a convicted felon celebrates his or her 60-year birthday does not mean that felon is incapable of doing more harm. If parole is warranted for other reasons, so be it. But age should not be a determining factor in granting parole.

Thank you for your consideration, and please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

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

Jeff Stone
State Senator, 28th District