From: Richie Weinman [mailto:richieweinman@gmail.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 03, 2013 4:22 PM
To: Sen Prozanski
Subject: Testimony HB 3194

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To: Joint Committee on Public Safety

Subject: HB 3194, Support

I support reforms to Measure 11 and Measure 57. The state spends too much money on prisons and not enough money on alternatives that will result in fewer crimes and lower costs.

We need to seriously look at our priorities. Better schools, more after school activities, mental health and drug treatment and help for the poor and disabled are among the most important priorities facing the state.

In our environment of tight resources we need to be more thoughtful about spending money where it will do the most good. We don't need more prison beds – especially at the long-term cost. We do need to look at models that are proven to be successful alternatives.

HB 3194 makes sense and it balances priorities. I encourage you to support this bill.

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