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BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF FRESNO
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

RESOLUTION NO. 16-375

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING
OPPOSITION TO PROPOSITION 57

WHEREAS, Over the previous five years, the State of California has seen an unprecedented release of criminals from the state prison system, due to a number of release programs such as Realignment, Proposition 36, Proposition 47, so-called Non-Violent Second Strike Release; and

WHEREAS, Prison inmates are already being given increased opportunity to earn credits for good behavior and educational achievements in excess of those authorized by the California Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Crime in California has shown a dramatic increase from 2014 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 57 has multiple ambiguous terms that are not defined by the Initiative, such as just what constitutes a "non-violent felony" or what would constitute "parole consideration", that will lead to extensive appellate litigation; and


WHEREAS, Proposition 57 would violate long-standing California law that the purpose of imprisonment is punishment and that this purpose is best served by "terms proportionate to the seriousness of the offense with provision for uniformity in the sentences of offenders committing the same offense under similar circumstances"; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 57 would conflict with many other initiatives passed by the voters of California, such as, The Victims' Bill of Rights, Marsy's Law, The Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Act, The Three Strikes Law, The Use a Gun and You're Done Law, as well as the recent Californians Against Sexual Exploitation Act.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors does hereby proclaim opposition to Proposition 57, the so-called Public Safety & Rehabilitation Act of 2016.

Adopted by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors this 27th day of September, 2016, by the following vote, to wit:

AYES: Supervisors Borgeas, Mendes, Pacheco, Perea, Poochigian
NOES: None
ABSENT: None


CHAIRMAN, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ATTEST:
BERNICE E. SEIDEL, Clerk
Board of Supervisors

By Susan Bishop
Deputy