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California Civil Liberties Advocacy  
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Monday, April 2, 2018

*Emailed to nate.solov@sen.ca.gov*

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Senator Jerry Hill  
State Capitol  
Room 5035  
Sacramento, CA 95814-4900

**RE: Support for Senate Bill 1186**

Dear Senator Hill:

The California Civil Liberties Advocacy (CCLA) is writing to express SUPPORT for SB 1186 and the author's proposed amendments.

The CCLA strongly believes that law enforcement must be able to do their job effectively and have the tools that enable them to be most efficient. At the same time, in their zeal for justice, law enforcement agencies sometimes overlook the potential for unintended consequences that come with such technology and the far-reaching effects they can and do have. We strongly believe that the rights of the citizenry must be balanced with the needs of law enforcement.

At a time when public opinion is becoming increasingly critical of police officers and the tactics employed in crime detection, it is absolutely essential that departments strive for greater transparency and public input when new technologies are employed to aid in criminal investigations. For several years now, the CCLA has openly rejected the false dichotomy that the adoption of new technologies is a total loss for citizen's rights and vice versa. While it may be difficult to balance the two effectively, this does not mean that citizens' legitimate privacy interests must be trumped in favor of emerging

*"Indifference to personal liberty is but the precursor of the state's hostility to it."*

*— Justice Kennedy, U.S. Supreme Court*

technologies—technologies that were likely designed with no consideration for the potential to invade a person’s privacy or chill free expression.

By ensuring that law enforcement tools and practices are open to public scrutiny, this will enhance both trust and confidence in the agencies and the officers, thus making SB 1186 a win-win for all interested parties, especially the public at large.

For all of the foregoing reasons, the CCLA strongly SUPPORTS SB 1186 and the proposed amendments.

Yours truly,



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Cc: Senate Public Safety Committee  
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