

**DAS WILLIAMS**

First District, Vice Chair

**JANET WOLF**

Second District

**JOAN HARTMANN**

Third District, Chair

**PETER ADAM**

Fourth District

**STEVE LAVAGNINO**

Fifth District



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

County Administration Building  
105 East Anapamu Street  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
Telephone: (805) 568-2190  
[www.countyofsb.org](http://www.countyofsb.org)

**COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA**

March 21, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
Ranking Minority Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

I am writing on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara to advocate in support of adequate Federal resources to assist local government agencies such as the County to address juvenile justice and delinquency prevention needs in the community.

California counties such as Santa Barbara have first-line responsibilities for the juvenile justice system. In addition to resources to hold delinquent youth accountable for their crimes, the County needs adequate resources for delinquency prevention and diversion activities so that it can provide a full range of prevention, early intervention and community-based options, as well as resources for the development of strategies that maximize collaborative and integrated services for at-risk youth and their families. The underpinnings of the County's juvenile justice system is an array of services that enable it to utilize the appropriate resources and responses to meet the needs of children and youth.

On February 28, the Judiciary Committee held a legislative hearing entitled, *Improving Outcomes for Youth in the Juvenile Justice System*. As your Committee moves forward on legislative efforts to improve the juvenile justice system, please work with your colleagues to assure that the County's needs for improving its local efforts are addressed, including the adequate funding of resources to enable it to meet the many challenges involved in dealing with juvenile crime.

Sincerely yours,

Thomas P. Walters  
Washington Representative

TPW:awg