



## **POSITION PAPER THE OPERATION OF CPPCA'S LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

### **Summary of Issue**

During each year of a legislative session, the Legislature introduces and CPPCA staff review 1,500 to 2,000 bills related to corrections. Of these, the Legislative Committee makes recommendations to the Board of Directors to support, oppose or take no position on 300 to 400 separate bills; these recommendations provide direction to the CPPCA Lobbyist. In developing recommendations, the Legislative Committee takes positions which are consistent with organizational goals, CPPCA position papers, delegate resolutions and relevant research findings. The Legislative Committee has also adopted guidelines which it uses to formulate positions. These guidelines enable the committee to recommend positions on a significant number of bills and yet allow the Association to respond vigorously to bills of major importance.

### **The Legislative Committee generally recommends support of the following types of legislation:**

- Legislation supportive of probation, parole and corrections (particularly related to training and professionalism),
- Legislation supportive of early intervention, prevention of crime and offender rehabilitation efforts and programs,
- Legislation which emphasizes intermediate sanctions, alternative means of incarceration and corrections programming for adults and juveniles,
- Legislation in keeping with the recommendations of the Blue Ribbon Commission on Inmate Population Management (1990) and the California Corrections Policy Development Project (1992) (i.e., community corrections, balance in the system, sentencing commissions, etc.).

### **The Legislative Committee generally recommends opposition to the following types of legislation:**

- Legislation which bars probation based solely on the offense or which otherwise undermines judicial discretion,
- Legislation which attempts to make the juvenile justice system more like the adult model,
- Legislation which adds more or nonviolent crimes to W&I Code 707 (b) or otherwise arbitrarily remands more juveniles to adult court,

- Legislation which would lower the age to remand from juvenile to adult court,
- Legislation which mandates services without sufficient funding.

**The Legislative Committee generally recommends no position on the following types of legislation:**

- Legislation which does not directly impact probation, parole and corrections,
- Legislation which causes divisiveness/lack of consensus among members so severe as to diminish the effectiveness of the organization.

**The Legislative Committee uses the following nomenclature to express recommended positions for the organization on pending bills.**

ACT SUP	Active Support–All-out lobbying
ACT OPP	Active Opposition–All-out lobbying
SUP	Support-correspondence an active lobbying
OPP	Oppose-Correspondence and active lobbying
SUP/AM	Support if amended–propose amendment(s) to author which would make bill acceptable
OPP/AM	Oppose unless mended–propose amendment(s) to author which would remove opposition
SUP/IFA	Support if asked–low level of support unless requested by author, other organizations or etc.
OPP/IFA	Oppose if asked–low level of involvement unless involvement requested
N	Neutral–don’t need/choose to take a position
NP	No position–does not affect CPPCA membership–is so divisive as to generate significant disagreement among the membership
W	Watch–may have an impact, may be amended, may become something To review at a later date

The Legislative Committee is and must be highly selective in proposing legislation and actively supporting or opposing individual bills to ensure that the limited resources of the organization are managed efficiently. Being selective helps to ensure that our lobbying activities are effective in the Legislature.

The Legislative Committee and CPPCA Lobbyist continually dialogue with other professional groups (CDCR, DJJ, CPOC, CCPOA, SCOPO et al) and when appropriate act in concert with such organizations to influence the outcome of legislation of mutual interest. Ongoing dialogue with local CPPCA chapters occurs throughout the year via calls for legislative proposals, legislative updates in the **Correctional News** and initiation of special bulletins or legislative alerts when membership action/input is needed quickly.

## **Position**

By engaging in the described activities, the state Legislative Committee is able to remain abreast of legislative trends, issues and changes; seek resolution of professional problems through legislative remedies; and proactively enhance the image of the profession by proposing new legislation and of formally advocating change through the political process. Through the endeavors of the Legislative Committee, the membership has assurance its voice is begin heard in the State Capitol when issues related to probation, parole and corrections are under consideration.

Adopted July 1992

Revised and Reaffirmed September 2011