



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS

455 NORTH REXFORD DRIVE • BEVERLY HILLS, CALIFORNIA 90210

Lili Bosse, Mayor

August 29, 2017

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

RE: S.1593, the Pretrial Integrity and Safety Act of 2017 – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Feinstein:

On behalf of the City of Beverly Hills, I write to express the City's opposition to S.1593, the Pretrial Integrity and Safety Act of 2017. By incentivizing and encouraging states to replace the current bail system with individualized, pretrial assessments with risk-based decision-making, the legislation, while well-intentioned, has the potential to lead to increased flight risks by defendants who may endanger the safety of our community members.

Under our criminal justice system, judges and magistrates are the ultimate arbiters in deciding under what conditions defendants may be released before trial. Options include ordering surety, cash or property bonds or allowing defendants to be released under their own recognizance. The bail bond system, while imperfect, does provide for enforcement mechanisms and incentives to encourage defendants to abide by the terms of their release.

Our primary concern with S.1593 is that it proposes to eliminate the enforcement mechanism of our bail system without providing a suitable alternative to discourage flight risk and/or criminal activity. While defendants, in general, have a right to be released before trial, our court system has an obligation to weigh reasonable measures to help ensure pretrial releases do not endanger our residents or, for that matter, crime victims or witnesses. In this delicate balancing act, managing risk should be as important as assessing risk in determining whether a defendant should be granted the opportunity of pretrial

release. Judges assigned to criminal cases consider these factors before deciding what, if any, bail should be established for the defendant.

For these reasons, the City of Beverly Hills is opposed to S.1593, the Pretrial Integrity and Safety Act of 2017. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lili Bosse". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lili" being more prominent than the last name "Bosse".

Lili Bosse

Mayor, City of Beverly Hills