



# CITY OF COSTA MESA

CALIFORNIA 92628-1200

P.O. BOX 1200

FROM THE OFFICE OF MAYOR

STEPHEN M. MENSINGER

October 13, 2016

Honorable Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
Governor of the State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Governor Brown:

The City of Costa Mesa strongly opposes Proposition 57. Legislation that will let career criminals and repeat offenders get out on parole with years or even decades off of their sentence. Legislation that will ease punishment for criminals convicted of rape by intoxication, rape of an unconscious person, human trafficking, assault with a deadly weapon, and domestic violence - just to name a few.

Reading through Prop. 57, it would appear that a repeat sexual predator who is convicted on multiple counts of non-violent sexual assault or rape would be eligible for parole after serving ONLY the original sentence. That could mean decades less in prison and even more frightening, could mean they are back in our communities preying on our friends, family, and neighbors. Furthermore, when these criminals do reoffend, Proposition 57 would ensure that their sentence doesn't take into account past convictions.

Proposition 57 will undermine the work that has been put into stopping sexual assault, domestic violence, and human trafficking and weakens legislation protecting victims. Important legislation such as the Victim's Bill of Rights, Mary's Law, Californians against Sexual Exploitation Act, and the Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Act will become weaker if Proposition 57 passes. And if that wasn't enough, the proposition would place the new privileges for criminals in the California Constitution, making it more difficult for the legislature to change the language if necessary.

That's why Proposition 57 is OPPOSED statewide by California Law Enforcement — District Attorneys, Sheriffs, Police, Courtroom Prosecutors, Crime Victims and local community leaders.

For these reasons, and many more, The City of Costa Mesa will not be supporting Proposition 57.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN M. MENSINGER  
MAYOR  
CITY OF COSTA MESA

77 FAIR DRIVE

PHONE: (714) 754-5285 • [www.costamesaca.gov](http://www.costamesaca.gov) • FAX: (714) 754-5330