

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF
FRESNO, CALIFORNIA, OPPOSING PROPOSITION 57

WHEREAS, over the previous five years, the State of California has seen an unprecedented release of criminals from the state prison system, due to a number of release programs such as Realignment, Proposition 36, Proposition 47, and so-called Non-Violent Second Strike Release; and

WHEREAS, prison inmates are already being given increased opportunity to earn credits for good behavior and educational achievements in excess of those authorized by the California Legislature; and

WHEREAS, crime in California has shown a dramatic increase from 2014 to 2015; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 57 has multiple ambiguous terms that are not identified by the Initiative, such as just what constitutes a “non-violent felony” or what would constitute “parole consideration,” that will lead to extensive appellate litigation; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 57 would violate long-standing California law that the purpose of imprisonment is punishment and that this purpose is best served by “terms proportionate to the seriousness of the offense with provision for uniformity in the sentences of offenders committing the same offense under similar circumstances”; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 57 would conflict with many other initiatives passed by the voters of California, such as the Victims’ Bill of Rights, Marsy’s Law, the Gang Violence and Juvenile Crime Prevention Act, the Three Strikes Law, as well as the recent Californians Against Sexual Exploitation Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Fresno as follows:

1. The Fresno City Council opposes Proposition 57, the so-called Public Safety & Rehabilitation Act of 2016, and urges voters to vote no on this ill-conceived attempt to accelerate the release of state prison inmates.

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA)
COUNTY OF FRESNO) ss.
CITY OF FRESNO)

I, YVONNE SPENCE, City Clerk of the City of Fresno, certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the Council of the City of Fresno, at a regular meeting held on the _____ day of _____, 2016.

AYES :
NOES :
ABSENT :
ABSTAIN :

YVONNE SPENCE, CMC
City Clerk

By: _____
Deputy

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DOUGLAS T. SLOAN
City Attorney

By: _____ [Date]
Katie Doerr
Chief Assistant

KBD:ns [72230ns/kbd]