

Sheila de la Guerra *Public Comment*

From: shirlee heitman <heitman3@icloud.com>
Sent: Monday, April 20, 2026 5:06 PM
To: sbcob
Subject: Fwd: AB 2257 and support
Attachments: Dear Snata Barbara County Board of Supervisors.docx



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Begin forwarded message:

From: shirlee heitman <heitman3@icloud.com>
Subject: AB 2257 and support
Date: April 20, 2026 at 4:50:46 PM PDT
To: sbcob@countyofsb.org



INDIVISIBLE SANTA MARIA

Dear Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors;

We would like your support for Assembly Member Gregg Hart's bill AB 2257 giving counties the option to appoint an official other than the Sheriff to operate the county jail system. We are hopeful that you can join other counties who are supporting this effort. We believe it puts more control and transparency in the hands of the County to make these and other decisions regarding the Sheriff's office.

Throughout this past year, we have seen many independent Sheriff's departments taking action and control beyond the will of the voters. There have been major steps, without repercussion, of Sheriff's departments stepping outside the boundaries of their law enforcement duties independent of the County they serve. An example is a sheriff running for our state's governor's race, taking control from county election offices of voter ballots. These ballots from past elections were without County election officials direction and in violation of voter rights.

We believe that checks and balances should exist for all departments at the County level and this bill, begins to assert that in favor of the voter. The role of the County Board of Supervisors through elected officials broadens the assurance that all voices are heard and felt by individual departments., especially the Sheriff's Department. We would urge you to you support AB 2257.

Thank you for your consideration.

Shirlee Heitman, Leadership Team