



Peace and Freedom Party of California

Legislative Committee

Kevin Akin, Riverside; Mary Lou Finley, San Diego; Dave Kadlecsek, Vice Chair, Santa Clare; Tom Lacey, San Francisco; John Reiger, Sacramento; Maureen Smith, Santa Cruz; Alice Stek, Los Angeles; Bill Storm, Sacramento; C. T. Weber, Chair, Sacramento.

March 30, 2019

Honorable Rob Bonta
State Capitol, Room 2148
Sacramento, CA 94249-0076

Subject: AB 33 (Bonta) CalPERS/CalSTRS Divestiture from Private Prisons

Support

Dear Assemblymember Bonta,

I am writing on behalf of Peace and Freedom Party which first qualified for the ballot in California over 50 years ago. We represent poor people, especially those from ghettos and barrios, those without a voice and those without hope. For years, Peace and Freedom Party has advocated for major prison transformation, including the abolition of private prisons, long term solitary confinement, and of course, the death penalty; and providing voting rights and work with dignity. Therefore, Peace and Freedom Party supports AB 33 (Bonta) because it eliminates some of the money needed to maintain private prisons.

AB 33 would prohibit the boards of the Public Employees' Retirement System and the State Teachers' Retirement System from making new investments or renewing existing investments of public employee retirement funds in private prisons before July 1, 2020 and establish whether the companies are transitioning their business models to other industries. While this bill would allow board members not to take any action that they determine does not meet their fiduciary responsibilities, if AB 32 passes it would be fiduciarily irresponsible to invest in private prisons. AB 33 would provide that board members and other officers and employees shall be held harmless and be eligible for indemnification in connection with actions taken pursuant to the bill's requirements, as specified.

For these and other reasons, Peace and Freedom Party of California, State Central Committee voted on March 23, 2019, to support AB 33. We will do what we can to help pass this bill. If you have any questions regarding this bill, you may contact me at (916) 422-5395 or CTWeberVoters@att.net.

We urge members of the State Assembly to vote Yes on AB 33.

Sincerely,

CT Weber

C. T. Weber
Peace and Freedom Party of California
Legislative Committee Chair