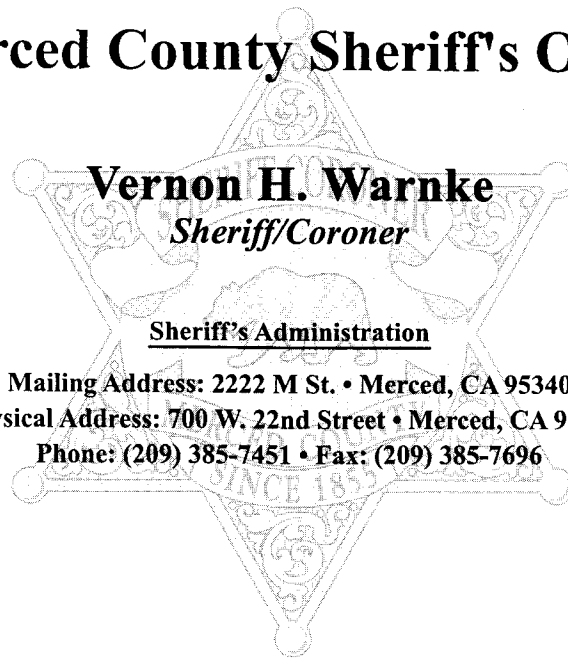


Merced County Sheriff's Office

Los Banos Station
445 "I" Street
Los Banos, CA 93635
Phone: (209) 710-6000
Fax: (209) 827-1433

CF Bludworth Station
9481 Shanks Road
Delhi, CA 95315
Phone: (209) 385-7660
Fax: (209) 669-7771

Coroner's Division
455 E. 13th Street
Merced, CA 95340
Phone: (209) 385-7369
Fax: (209) 725-3390



Civil Division
670 W. 22nd Street
Merced, CA 95340
Phone: (209) 385-7639
Fax: (209) 725-3516

Main Detention Facility
700 W. 22nd Street
Merced, CA 95340
Phone: (209) 385-7410
Fax: (209) 385-7489

John Latorraca Correctional Center
2584 W. Sandy Mush Road
El Nido, CA 95317
Phone: (209) 385-7575
Fax: (209) 725-3944

April 27, 2015

Assemblymember Adam Gray
California State Capitol Office
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0021

RE: Support Letter for AB 1242 (Gray)

Dear Assemblymember Gray:

As Merced County's chief law enforcement officer, I have written to you in the past on matters that are of great importance to the public safety of our residents. I am writing to you now on a measure that is essential to the quality of life within our community.

I strongly support your proposed bill, AB 1242. If the State Water Board succeeds in its plan to take 350,000 acre feet of water per year, every year, from the tributaries of the San Joaquin River, including the Merced, the environmental and economic quality of life in our area will be significantly diminished.

As we work hard in the law enforcement community to protect the residents of Merced County, every day we see that part of solving the problem of crime involves providing economic opportunity and hope to our area.

Let me be clear - there will be no economic prosperity in Merced without resolution of our water issues. Without certainty of the water supply in our area, there will be no economic investment or growth in our jobs sector. No jobs equals no hope.

I appreciate your authorship of this important bill and wanted to share my thoughts regards our future economic prosperity.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Vern Warnke". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the word "Sincerely,".

Vern Warnke

Merced County Sheriff