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California State Senate

SENATOR
KELLY SEYARTO

THIRTY-SECOND SENATE DISTRICT



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September 10, 2025

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Signing Request – Senate Bill 221

Dear Governor Newsom:

I am writing today to respectfully request that you sign Senate Bill 221.

This bill, if implemented, will conform California law to the federal stalking statute by including threats to a victim's pet as an element of threatening behavior.

The emotional bond between humans and their companion animals is a source of vulnerability for victims of stalking. A victim's pet, who is often tantamount to a family member, is an easy target for a stalker as threats to a family pet send a strong message to stalking victims about their own helplessness. While federal law already recognizes this vulnerability, California law ignores how powerful a threat to a beloved pet can be.

Conforming state law to federal anti-stalking law will protect victims from threats to their companion animals and prevent stalkers from exploiting a loophole to perpetuate fear in their victims without consequence. California's anti-stalking law must be updated in order to better protect victims and cut-off this loophole.

I thank you for your consideration and I respectfully request that you sign SB-221. Please feel free to contact me with any questions at (916) 651-4032.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kelly Seyarto".

Kelly Seyarto
Senator, 32nd District