



Mar. 19, 2022

RE: DPSFV Supports AB 1608: The Angelo Quinto Act

Representatives of the Honorable San Fernando Valley Delegation:

On behalf of the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley (DPSFV), we are pleased to report that our Executive Board voted to support AB 1608, which aims to guarantee that medical examinations, when determining cause of death, are separate from the law enforcement offices in order to ensure an unbiased investigation.

We urge you to please support this important piece of legislation.

DPSFV was founded in 1978 and is chartered by the Los Angeles County Democratic Central Committee. Our organization is the coordinating body for a coalition of Democratic Clubs located in the Assembly Districts which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

The DPSFV Political Action Committee met last month to discuss AB 1608 and voted to recommend that the DPSFV Executive Board support this vital piece of legislation. The committee noted that the ruling of “excited delirium” as the cause of death for Navy Veteran Angelo Quinto was very controversial which increased questionings about the validity of medical diagnosis when there is potential conflict of interest. California is one of the few states that still allows counties’ coroner’s and sheriff’s office to be combined.

Ensuring that coroner’s offices are independent is the only way to avoid questionable investigations. This would help to guarantee that medical examinations and investigations of suspicious, violent, or unexplained deaths are conducted impartially. We urge you to support AB 1608.

Please note that DPSFV will be tracking this bill as it travels through the Legislature. Your voting record will be noted and may be considered should you ever seek our endorsement. Your office is always welcome to contact DPSFV if you have any questions.

Sincerely and respectfully,

Chair Sean M. Rivas  
Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley

cc: Assembly Members Rivas, Friedman, Gabriel, Nazarian, Bloom, and Mike Gipson (author)  
Senators Hertzberg, Portantino, Stern, and Allen

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