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DEMOCRATIC PARTY OF THE SAN FERNANDO VALLEY

March 20, 2022

RE: DPSFV Supports Senate Bill 906 (Portantino) – School safety: mass casualty threats: firearm disclosure

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 SB 906 which will require the State Department of Education, in conjunction with the Department of Justice, to develop model content for use by local educational agencies related to a threat or perceived threat of an incident of mass casualties at a school.

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 twenty-one Democratic Clubs located in the six Assembly Districts (38, 39, 43, 45, 46, and 50) which are wholly or partially in the San Fernando Valley.

The DPSFV Political Action Committee met last month to discuss SB 906 and voted to recommend that the DPSFV Executive Board support this vital piece of legislation. The committee noted that SB 906 will require local educational agencies to require parents or guardians of a pupil to disclose whether any firearms are located at the home of the pupil and to answer questions about the ownership, storage and accessibility by the pupil of the firearms.

The United States has had 1,316 school shootings since 1970, with 164 in California alone. The recent proliferation of school shootings necessitates increased caution and vigilance. While California has adopted strenuous firearm storage safety laws in recent years, increased measures are needed to ensure that parents are aware of safe storage regulations that protect their children and their peers. Warning signs frequently forecast subsequent school tragedies, and local educators should be able to investigate perceived threats to their students' safety.

Prioritizing the safety of students by increasing transparency, ensuring safe at-home storage, and empowering educators to investigate threats is crucial to keeping California students safe. For these reasons, DPSFV urges you to support this bill.

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