

Felons in Calif. county jails allowed to vote

By Patrick McGreevy, Los Angeles Times

Despite widespread opposition from law enforcement, Gov. Jerry Brown signed a bill that will allow thousands of felons in county jails to vote in California elections as part of an effort to speed their transition back into society.

Through a representative, Brown declined to comment on the bill by Assemblywoman Shirley Weber, D-San Diego, who said it would reduce the likelihood of convicts committing new crimes.

“Civic participation can be a critical component of re-entry and has been linked to reduced recidivism,” Weber said when the bill was introduced.

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