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# California State Senate

COMMITTEES  
GOVERNMENTAL  
ORGANIZATION  
TRANSPORTATION

SENATOR  
**SCOTT WILK**  
SENATE REPUBLICAN LEADER  
TWENTY-FIRST SENATE DISTRICT



December 17, 2021

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of SB 357 (Wiener)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Senate Bill 357, which repeals existing criminal statutes pertaining to loitering with intent to engage in prostitution, as well as directing or supervising an individual engaged in loitering with intent to engage in prostitution.

While the intent of this legislation is to eliminate perceived profiling, the unintended consequence will be for it to embolden human traffickers and those seeking to purchase sex. Penal Code section 653.22 discourages prostitution, gets trafficking victims off the street and away from the individuals that hold them captive or take advantage of them.

According to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, current law is used "to target sex buyers who seek to exploit" and SB 357 would "take a major tool away from law enforcement" when it comes to combatting this issue.

SB 357 would hinder law enforcement's ability to crack down on these perpetrators and limit their ability to help sex trafficking victims. While the author and sponsors claim that the same level of enforcement can be achieved through undercover work, those operations require extensive time, resource and personnel relative to the number of cases.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto. If you have any questions about my request, please call my office at 916-651-4021 or email me at [Senator.Wilk@senate.ca.gov](mailto:Senator.Wilk@senate.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Scott Wilk".

Scott Wilk  
Senate Republican Leader