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**CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA**

April 19, 1990

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Law and Legislation Committee
City Council
Sacramento, California 95814

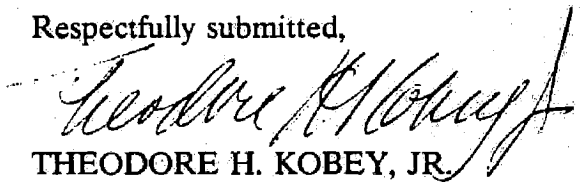
**SUBJECT: A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF A TRAFFIC
SCHOOL IN SACRAMENTO COUNTY**

Honorable Members in Session:

At the City Council meeting on Tuesday, April 17, agenda item 7.1, a resolution in support of a traffic school in Sacramento County, was referred back to the Law and Legislation Committee for review and consideration at their April meeting.

Mr. Barry Broad, Legal Counsel for the California Teamsters Public Affairs Council, will attend this meeting and present this item to the Committee. Also present will be a representative from the Sacramento Police Department.

Respectfully submitted,


THEODORE H. KOBEY, JR.
Assistant City Attorney

April 26, 1990
(All Districts)



DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

February 12, 1990

HALL OF JUSTICE
813 SIXTH STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA
95814-2495

916-449-5121

JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

Ref. No.: 02-20

Dennis B. Jones
Clerk/Administrator
Sacramento County Courthouse
720 9th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Mr. Jones:

Personnel throughout the Sacramento Police Department were contacted and asked for their input regarding T.V.S. prior to the preparation of this response. Most of those contacted had vivid and negative memories of Sacramento County's past experience with T.V.S. Many officers recounted incidents where they had stopped chronic traffic violators and issued them citations, only to have the violators laughingly say "well it looks like I'll have to go to Traffic School again". Not only was the school having little impact on their driving...the violators were not being documented in DMV's negligent driver program. Therefore, I view the prospective rebirth of T.V.S. with a great deal of skepticism.

It would be short-sighted to say that T.V.S. is without any redeeming value. A referral of defendants to a T.V.S. "pre-plea" with dismissal upon proof of completion may help "enlighten" some first-time offenders of minor violations. Some would become safer drivers. An application of T.V.S. which involves defendants attending "post conviction" classes would probably produce a few "converted" drivers. Each process would result in lesser monetary penalties for the violators and would help prevent an increase in their insurance premiums.

If the T.V.S. compliance standards were strictly monitored it could produce some better drivers from each class.

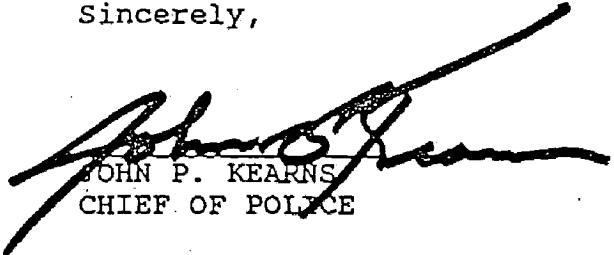
DENNIS B. JONES LETTER
PAGE TWO

FEBRUARY 12, 1990

The impact of T.V.S. on the Sacramento Police Department would be negative. Morale of officers would suffer when they learn that many of their citations were being voided whenever violators went to T.V.S. Negligent drivers would be able to retain their licenses longer because documentation of their violations would be lessened. Our community would be further jeopardized because of the increased number of licensed negligent drivers.

Swift, certain, and meaningful penalties imposed against traffic law violators, with the goal of revoking the licenses of negligent drivers, get the best results. Our current method of fines and license revocation when necessary is most effective. It results in removing negligent drivers from the roadway and provides revenues necessary to fund ongoing traffic safety programs. It is my recommendation that traffic school not be used by the County as an alternative to its current practice of adjudicating traffic violations.

Sincerely,



JOHN P. KEARNS
CHIEF OF POLICE

JPK:dmr



DEPARTMENT OF
FINANCE

BETTY MASUOKA
DIRECTOR

CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CALIFORNIA

February 13, 1990
FA:90016:BM:KMF

CITY HALL
ROOM 14
915 I STREET
SACRAMENTO, CA
95814-2685

916-449-5736

DIVISIONS:
ACCOUNTING
BUDGET
REVENUE
RISK MANAGEMENT

Mr. Dennis B. Jones
Clerk/Administrator
Sacramento Municipal Court District
720 Ninth Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Dennis:

Walter Slipe has requested that I respond to your letter to him dated January 31, 1990. In that letter you asked if there would be any fiscal impacts on the City if the use of Traffic Violators School was reimplemented.

The City receives approximately \$1 million a year in Traffic Safety fines. To the extent that defendants are relieved of their obligation to pay traffic fines as a result of the program, there would be a negative fiscal impact to the City.

In your review of this program, the revenue loss should be contrasted against the proven effectiveness of the program. I understand that the Sacramento Police Department has some concerns in this area which they will separately transmit to you.

If you have any further questions, please call me at 449-5736.

Sincerely,

BETTY MASUOKA
Director of Finance

RESOLUTION NO.

ADOPTED BY THE SACRAMENTO CITY COUNCIL

ON DATE OF _____

In Support of a Traffic School in Sacramento County

WHEREAS, the cost of automobile insurance has skyrocketed in the last decade; and

WHEREAS, the people of the State of California have enacted Proposition 103 in order to control insurance rates; and

WHEREAS, Proposition 103 requires insurance carriers to offer a "good driver discount"; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento County is one of only eleven counties in California not to offer its citizens the option of attending traffic violators' school, and the only large urban county not to do so; and

WHEREAS, Sacramento residents, being unable to attend school, are placed at an economic disadvantage compared with other Californians in obtaining automobile insurance at reasonable rates or to qualify for "good driver discounts": and

WHEREAS, the City of Sacramento believes that its residents should be able to obtain automobile insurance at the lowest possible rates and should be treated equally with the residents of other large, urban counties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Council of the City of Sacramento that we hereby urge the Honorable John R. Lewis, presiding Judge of Sacramento County Municipal Court and the entire municipal court bench to establish a traffic school option for the residents of Sacramento County.

ISSUED: This 17th day of April, 1990.

MAYOR

ATTEST:

CITY CLERK

FOR CITY CLERK USE ONLY

RESOLUTION NO.: _____

DATE ADOPTED: _____