



RURAL COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES  
OF CALIFORNIA

February 19, 2019

The Honorable Ken Cooley  
Member, California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 3013  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 510 – SUPPORT**

Dear Assembly Member Cooley:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), I am writing to express our support for your Assembly Bill 510, which allows public agencies to manage their records retention policies for recordings related to routine video monitoring, radios, and telephones. RCRC is an association of thirty-six rural California counties, and the RCRC Board of Directors is comprised of elected supervisors from those member counties.

AB 510 modernizes the Government Code to allow local public agencies, including counties, to adopt records retention policies designed for modern digital recording technologies. However, the bill also ensures that proper retention of any records are retained when there may be an incident that has occurred. This change in law will allow agencies to retain important records while deleting useless ones, thus saving a significant amount of taxpayer dollars on unnecessary data storage costs.

Since 1998, when the original video records retention law was enacted, technology has advanced significantly. The vast majority of video monitoring is now done using digital cameras that record onto DVRs, agency servers, and cloud-based servers, not on video cassettes. As a result, many counties have been installing an ever-increasing number of cameras that are recording in significantly higher resolution making the recordings increasingly more useful and effective. However, with the increased number of cameras and picture quality, the amount of data that must be stored to comply with the current legally-mandated retention requirements can be significant, especially for small, low-population counties.

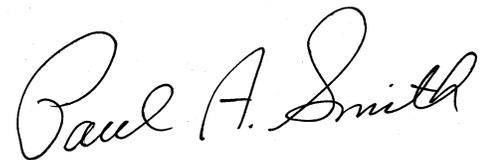
AB 510 modernizes our state's retention records mandate to allow for modern practices and provides flexibility for counties to adapt to future technological advances.

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If you should have any questions or concerns regarding RCRC's support of AB 510, please do not hesitate to contact me at [psmith@rcrcnet.org](mailto:psmith@rcrcnet.org) or (916) 447-4806.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul A. Smith". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

PAUL A. SMITH  
Vice President Governmental Affairs