

Submitter: Neelam Lal
On Behalf Of:
Committee: Senate Committee On Judiciary
Measure: SB586

As a Restorative Justice Facilitator over the past 3 years, I support confidentiality for our clients in regards to the case they are meeting for. Vulnerability and openness are key to healing dialogues. Confidentiality helps our participants make the most of restorative dialogue as they are able to be honest with themselves and others; consequently leading them to take accountability and learn to make better choices. The risk of receiving further punishment in order to restore harm, prevents those who caused harm from opening and owning up; therefore creating boundaries towards healing, accountability and growth for all involved. With less fear we are able to be honest, take accountability and work towards making things right for those harmed. Restorative Justice is preventative and helps those who have caused harm to exist more mindfully and kindly in the world if we can give them the proper space to learn and grow.