Capitol Update, October 5, 2017

The ongoing efforts to further reform our criminal justice system made 2017 another challenging year at the State Capitol. As part of CPCA’s advocacy work to hold legislators accountable for their decisions, we’ve decided to put together a legislative scorecard for the most recent session. Attached you’ll find our report, which will also be delivered to every Assemblymember and Senator. It provides a brief description of the priority bills we faced this year and a full record of votes cast in either chamber. We encourage every chief to find out where their legislator ranks; it may even be worth the time to sit down with the Assemblymember or Senator to discuss their decisions. If you have any questions regarding the bills, or the scorecard itself, please do not feel hesitant to reach out to us. And whether your legislator had a good or bad voting record on our issues, now is a great time, because legislators are in their districts, for you to schedule a meeting with them to establish a relationship if you don’t already have one. Encourage them to reach out to you for information on public safety issues and offer to serve as a resource for them.

As we use this scorecard to help prepare for next year, CPCA is also looking for ideas about possible legislation for us to sponsor next year. If you have any thoughts about possible changes to current law, or new laws that are needed – even if they are concepts – please send them to us for review. We rely heavily on the input from our membership to give us direction, so all bill ideas are welcome!

Send any responses to Jonathan Feldman at jfeldman@californiapolicechiefs.org.