

SB 1203 OPPOSITION — GOVERNOR VETO OUTREACH GUIDE

September 2026

TIPS FOR CONTACTING GOVERNOR NEWSOM'S OFFICE

Be concise and specific. Governor's staff review hundreds of contacts daily. State your name, your company, your city, and your ask in the first two sentences. Aim for one page in writing, 90 seconds on the phone.

Call the constituent services line. The Governor's office main line is [\(916\) 445-2841](tel:9164452841). Ask to speak with the Legislative Affairs staff handling SB 1203, or leave a clear message requesting a veto. Every call is logged and counted.

Submit a written veto request. Use the Governor's online contact form at gov.ca.gov/contact to submit a formal written request. Written contacts create a record and carry weight with policy staff reviewing a bill ahead of the signing deadline.

Lead with your community footprint. "I employ X licensed security officers in [CITY] and serve clients including hospitals, schools, and retail centers in [DISTRICT]" is more persuasive than industry-wide statistics. Make it local.

Ask for a clear action. Don't just express concern. Ask Governor Newsom to veto SB 1203. If you're open to meeting, offer that as an alternative, but only if you genuinely want to participate in a conversation.

Frame opposition constructively. Position yourself as someone who supports well-trained security professionals, not someone opposing worker protection. "We want rigorous standards too. This bill makes that harder and leaves communities less safe" is more persuasive than pure opposition.

PICK YOUR TOP 3 TALKING POINTS

You won't have time for all six. Choose the 3 most relevant to your client base and community:

- High-crime or retail-heavy areas → points 2, 4, and 6
- Affordability and cost of living → points 1, 3, and 6
- Olympics in your region → points 2, 5, and 6
- Workforce and job quality → points 3, 6, and 4

CALL SCRIPT

OPENING — IDENTIFY YOURSELF

"Hello, my name is [NAME] and I represent [COMPANY], a licensed private security company in [CITY/REGION]. I'm calling to respectfully urge Governor Newsom to veto SB 1203."

TALKING POINTS — PICK YOUR TOP 3

- 1 California already leads the nation in training standards.** No other state requires 8 hours of Powers to Arrest and Use of Force with mandatory in-person instruction. SB 1203 doubles this requirement with no demonstrated public safety benefit, raising the bar without evidence it is needed.
- 2 This bill creates a hiring bottleneck that will leave communities unprotected.** Outsourcing training to third-party organizations that do not yet exist at the necessary scale will delay hiring across all 300,000+ security positions statewide. Hospitals, schools, retail centers, and public agencies will face dangerous staffing gaps.
- 3 The cost impact exceeds \$2 billion annually and Californians are already stretched thin.** Training mandates alone will cost over \$350 million per year. In a state grappling with an affordability crisis, these expenses cascade from security companies to clients to consumers through higher prices on groceries, healthcare, housing, and retail. Guard card renewal alone would rise from \$44 to over \$350.
- 4 Higher costs push businesses toward unregulated alternatives, making communities less safe.** When licensed security becomes too expensive, employers turn to untrained ushers, ambassadors, or AI and camera systems. These workers fall entirely outside state training requirements. SB 1203 does not raise the floor. It incentivizes going around it.
- 5 The timing could not be worse. California is hosting the Olympics.** The 2028 Olympics will demand tens of thousands of certified security personnel. Creating a hiring and training bottleneck right now undermines public safety at the exact moment California needs a strong, deployable workforce.
- 6 This bill hurts the very workers it claims to help.** When costs rise, clients automate. Cameras and AI replace human officers. Licensed security companies that invest in training and compliance become uncompetitive against underground operators who ignore the rules, and workers lose good jobs as a result.

CLOSING ASK

"We fully support well-trained security professionals. That is our business. But SB 1203 will make California less safe, not more. We urge Governor Newsom to veto this bill. I will be following up in writing as well. Thank you for your time."

FOLLOW-UP WRITTEN CONTACT

Submit via gov.ca.gov/contact within 24 hours of your call. Written contacts create a record and reinforce your message with policy staff reviewing SB 1203 ahead of the Governor's signing deadline.

WRITTEN VETO REQUEST — EMAIL TEMPLATE

To: Governor Gavin Newsom — via gov.ca.gov/contact

Subject: Veto Request: SB 1203 — [COMPANY NAME], [CITY]

Dear Governor Newsom,

My name is [NAME], and I represent [COMPANY], a licensed private security company operating in [CITY/REGION]. We employ [X] security officers and serve clients including [types of clients: hospitals, retail centers, public agencies, schools, etc.].

I am writing to respectfully request that you veto SB 1203. While we strongly support rigorous training for security professionals, California already leads the nation in this area. We believe this bill will produce serious unintended consequences:

- [Insert your first talking point in 1-2 sentences]
- [Insert your second talking point in 1-2 sentences]
- [Insert your third talking point in 1-2 sentences]

SB 1203 risks making California less safe, not more, by driving up costs, creating hiring bottlenecks, and pushing businesses toward unregulated alternatives. We urge a veto.

We would welcome the opportunity to meet with your office to discuss our concerns. Please feel free to reach me at [PHONE] or [EMAIL].

Thank you for your time and your service to California.

Sincerely,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

[COMPANY]

[PHONE] | [EMAIL]

GOVERNOR'S OFFICE CONTACT INFORMATION

Phone: [\(916\) 445-2841](tel:9164452841)

Online Contact Form: gov.ca.gov/contact

Mailing Address: Governor Gavin Newsom, 1021 O Street, Suite 9000, Sacramento, CA 95814