



April 7, 2021

To: Assembly Member Phillip Chen

From: Rex D. Frazier, President
Seren Taylor, Senior Legislative Advocate
Deanna LaTour-Jarquin, Legislative Advocate

Re: AB 308 As Amended, March 25, 2021 (Chen) Law enforcement: vehicle burglary and theft task forces.

Members:

STATE FARM

LIBERTY MUTUAL

PROGRESSIVE

MERCURY

NATIONWIDE

FARMERS

ALLSTATE

Associate Members:

NAMIC

CHUBB

CONNECT
by American Family

PIFC Position: Support

The Personal Insurance Federation of California (PIFC) is a statewide trade association that represents seven of the nation's largest property and casualty insurance companies including (State Farm, Farmers, Liberty Mutual Insurance, Progressive, Mercury, Nationwide and Allstate as well as associate members CHUBB, CONNECT by American Family Insurance, and NAMIC) who collectively write the majority of personal lines auto and home insurance in California, **supports AB 308: Law enforcement: vehicle burglary and theft task forces.**

California has the highest number of motor vehicle thefts in the country and California consumers pay rates for comprehensive coverage, which covers theft of a vehicle among other things, based on the likelihood of a car being stolen. PIFC is pleased to support legislation to help regional law enforcement agencies combat this growing problem and subsequently, promote insurance affordability. AB 308 would administer grants to law enforcement agencies that participate in regional vehicle burglary and theft reduction joint task forces. This bill will assist local agencies by sharing information regarding vehicle thefts and burglaries to develop best practices.

According to the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) since the onset of the coronavirus pandemic, both motor vehicle theft and commercial burglaries increased markedly, by roughly 20%. Creating a Vehicle Burglary and Theft Task Force will provide funding for salaries, equipment, and travel for representatives of major law enforcement agencies heavily impacted by vehicle burglary. This bill will provide law enforcement with adequate tools to stop car burglars and to prosecute them to the fullest extent of the law.

For these reasons, PIFC is pleased to support AB 308. Should you have any questions, please contact Deanna LaTour-Jarquin at (925) 395-8802 or dlatour-jarquin@pifc.org

Cc: Assemblymember Phillip Chen, Author
Jay M. Dickenson, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee
Joe Shinstock, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Ronda Paschal, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor