

June 11, 2020
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Dear Governor Newsom:

I am concerned about coronavirus in prisons. As was clear since this pandemic began our jails and prisons are ideal for the virus to spread with overcrowding, understaffed hospitals, poor sanitation and communal dining. Federal leadership is all but absent and California has also failed creating a disaster at San Quentin which left hundreds of prisoners and guards infected for which the state Senate has demanded an accounting. After decades of excessive incarceration the Brennan center finds that many are being held with no public safety benefit even ignoring the public health cost.

Please assure me that coronavirus will be eliminated from California prisons.

I am very proud to be a California resident and a large part of that derives from our humane justice system.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson