PRESS RELEASE

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Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer Highlights Notable Legislation Effective January 1, 2019

(Sacramento – January 4, 2019) – Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer (D – South Los Angeles) released the following statement about his 2018 accomplishments that went into effect on January 1st.

"I am pleased to share some of my 2018 successes which will improve the lives of the people of California. Last year, my colleagues and the Governor voted to approve17 of my Assembly bills (AB) and my budget proposal to allocate \$37.3 million to create the Youth Reinvestment Fund (YRF)."

"The YRF protects our most vulnerable children and keeps them out of the juvenile justice system by funding alternatives to incarceration and critical services such as education, mentorship, and counseling," said Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer. An important part of my job is to ensure that the issues that are important to the residents of the 59th Assembly District are being addressed. Successful alternatives to youth incarceration are an important issue to the communities I represent and all Californians."

Among the bills going into effect in 2019, Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer is especially proud to spotlight:

AB 1892 (CalFresh) – Increases the number of people who are able to participate in CalFresh Employment Training programs, improving access to employment resources;

AB 1934 (Dependent persons: definition) – Closes a loophole to ensure individuals with disabilities who are living independently are protected against elder and "dependent adult" abuse;

AB 1941 (**Misdemeanors**) – Gives judges more discretion in sentencing decisions in order to better incentivize completion of probation and reduce barriers to successful reentry, such as accessibility to housing and employment options;

AB 2532 (Infractions: community service) – Standardizes the traffic infraction process in order to make it easier for low-income individuals experiencing financial hardships to pay off some of the nation's highest total fines; and

AB 2944 (Personal income taxes: voluntary contributions: Schools Not Prisons Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund) – Creates the "Schools Not Prisons" voluntary tax contribution fund to support programs working to end the school to prison pipeline and keep students in schools.

"It is an honor to represent the people of 59th Assembly District. I am looking forward to continuing last year's work and tackling issues that help keep California moving in the right direction."

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Assemblymember Reginald Byron Jones-Sawyer, Sr. represents South Los Angeles, Florence-Firestone, Walnut Park, and a portion of Huntington Park. For more information about Assemblymember Jones-Sawyer, Sr., please visit https://a59.asmdc.org/