ASSEMBLY FLOOR ALERT

August 8, 2022

To: Members of the California State Assembly
From: Above Noted Organizations
Re: **SB 1149 (Leyva) - SUPPORT**

We, the above noted organizations, voice our **STRONG SUPPORT for SB 1149 (Leyva) – the Public Right to Know Act**, as amended on August 4, 2022.

This important legislation will allow the public to access information about defective products and environmental hazards that pose a danger to public health or safety.

For decades, settlement agreements between the parties in litigation and, more recently, stipulations for court orders and standing protective orders

have sealed information that the public has a right to know. This information relates not to legitimate trade secrets, but to dangers related to defective products and environmental hazards that must be disclosed to protect people from serious risk of injury or death.

There are too many tragic examples of the harms caused by court secrecy. Harms that include hundreds of thousands of deaths and irreversible injuries. Examples include faulty Firestone tires, Remington rifles that discharge without pulling the trigger, the defective birth control device Essure, highly-addictive Oxycontin, and many more. In each of these instances, the overly broad use of court protective orders prevented this information from reaching the public.

SB 1149 will put an end to these dangerous practices and, ultimately, save lives. It will replace the protective order status quo with a presumption of disclosure and transparency.

For these reasons, we strongly urge an AYE vote for SB 1149 (Leyva).

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