



## Your Turn: Borenstein column right about the death penalty

By Beth Weinberger  
Your Turn

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Thank you for Daniel Borenstein's thoughtful and eye-opening column on the unacceptable costs of the death penalty to the people of California.

Although he focused on the statewide costs, it is important for East Bay readers to realize that Alameda County is in the top five of counties that overzealously pursue the death penalty at an excessive cost of more than \$1 million per case higher than life in prison.

This in a county that does not have the funds and resources to actively investigate many cases, leaving unapprehended murderers out in our communities to continue killing.

I agree with Borenstein that California should follow New Jersey's example in concluding that the death penalty is too costly, does not deter crime, risks execution of innocent people and undermines our commitment to the sanctity of life.

California needs to abolish the death penalty and sentence murders to die in prison, also known as life without parole.

**Weinberger is a resident of Oakland.**