



Judicial Council of California

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April 11, 2024

Hon. Ash Kalra
Chair, Assembly Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 4610
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 2049 (Pacheco), as introduced February 01, 2024—Support

Dear Assembly Member Kalra:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support Assembly Bill 2049 to change the deadlines for a party to file a motion for summary judgment or summary adjudication from at least 75 days to at least 81 days before the hearing on the motion, for filing an opposition from at least 14 days to at least 20 days before the hearing, and for filing a reply to the opposition from at least five days to at least 11 days before the hearing because it would ensure that judicial officers and their research attorneys have sufficient time to review both the opposition and reply papers before the noticed hearing.

The fifth of seven goals in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan is “Quality of Justice and Service to the Public.” AB 2049 furthers this goal because it will support judicial officers in being prepared to act on summary judgment motions in a timely and informed manner. Motions for summary judgment are some of the most time-consuming pretrial matters that civil courts handle. The current five-day timeline for a reply to an opposition brief can cause significant challenges, particularly when it is filed at the end of the week, leaving only two court days to review the reply.

Importantly, AB 2049 would adjust all of these deadlines to ensure that no party has less time to prepare or respond than what is provided under current law. Providing adequate time to support a fully informed bench is not only a benefit unto itself but it will also promote efficiencies for

Hon. Ash Kalra

April 11, 2024

Page 2

courts and court users by reducing the need for continuances and enhancing the ability to make effective use of the noticed hearings.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 2049.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Heather Resetarits at 916-323-3121.

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jaspersen
Director
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/HR/ad

cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Hon. Blanca Pacheco, Member of the Assembly
Ms. Alison Merrilees, Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Mr. Daryl Thomas, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy and Budget
Mr. Jith Meganathan, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Ms. Shelley Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California