



Judicial Council of California
Administrative Office of the Courts

Office of Governmental Affairs
770 "L" Street, Suite 700 ♦ Sacramento, CA 95814-3393
Telephone 916-323-3121 ♦ Fax 916-323-4347 ♦ TDD 800-735-2929

RONALD M. GEORGE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT
Chief Deputy Director

RAY LEBOV
Director
Office of Governmental Affairs

TO: Honorable Ronald M. George
Chief Justice of California

Presiding Justices of the Courts of Appeal
Presiding Judges of the Trial Courts
Appellate and Superior Court Executive Officers
Judicial Council Members
Judicial Council Advisory Committee Chairs
AOC Division Directors
Members of ELAN

FROM: Ray LeBov, Director
Office of Governmental Affairs

DATE: October 17, 2001

SUBJECT/PURPOSE OF MEMO: Judicial Council-Sponsored Legislation Signed by the Governor

CONTACT FOR FURTHER INFORMATION:	NAME: Michelle Mendoza	TEL: 916-323-3121	FAX: 916-323-4347	EMAIL: michelle.mendoza@jud.ca.gov
---	----------------------------------	-----------------------------	-----------------------------	--

We are pleased to report that the Judicial Council's sponsored legislation program for 2001 has met with great success. Attached is a brief summary of the eleven measures sponsored by the Judicial Council that have been signed by the Governor.

Additional information on court related legislation can be found on the California Courts website at: <http://www.courtinfo.ca.gov/courtadmin/cr-legis.htm>

2001 JUDICIAL COUNCIL-SPONSORED LEGISLATION

Bill No. (Advocate)	Bill No. (Author) Description	Sponsor	Status as of 10/16/01
AB 145 (MR)	<u>Assembly Bill 145 (Robert Pacheco) – Credit cards: acceptance by courts</u> Authorizes credit card payments for the deposit of bail for any offense not declared to be a felony or for any court-ordered fee or fine.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 108, Stats of 2001
AB 223 (EO/DP)	<u>Assembly Bill 223 (Frommer) – Civil procedure & TCF Clean-up</u> Among other things, authorizes clerk of court to issue a commission authorizing a deposition in another state or place without a noticed motion or court order. If the foreign jurisdiction requires a court order, one can be obtained by ex parte application. Expands the Judicial Council's authority to develop and approve official form interrogatories in any civil action. Also specifies circumstances under which a judicial officer may or may not require disclosure of attorney work product. Includes several trial court funding clean-up provisions. Revises the procedures for the audit and review of trial court operations fund. Provides for the use of advanced electronic technologies in conducting discovery in certain cases. Eliminates references to the Trial Court Budget Commission.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 812, Stats of 2001
AB 1099 (KH)	<u>Assembly Bill 1099 (Havice) – Judges Retirement</u> Provides reciprocity for JRS II judges who have prior service in a state or county retirement system. Permits a judge to elect to make contributions and receive service credit for the time in which the judge served as a subordinate judicial officer. Permits judges to participate in the state's supplemental contribution program. Permits a judge to change a modified retirement allowance if the judge's spouse pre deceases the judge.	Judicial Council and California Judges Association	Chaptered. Ch. 433, Stats of 2001
AB 1549 (EO)	<u>Assembly Bill 1549 (Wiggins) – Trial court facilities: date extension</u> Requires the state, unless a court and a county otherwise mutually agree, to assume responsibility for suitable and necessary facilities for judicial officers and support staff for any judgeships authorized during the period from January 1, 1998, to December 31, 2002.	Judicial Council and CSAC	Chaptered. Ch. 852, Stats of 2001
AB 1697 (TK)	<u>Assembly Bill 1697 (Assembly Judiciary Committee) – CASAs: mandated reporting of child abuse *</u> Classifies employees or volunteers of a Court Appointed Special Advocate program as "mandated reporters" who are required to report suspected child abuse or neglect to specified departments.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 754, Stats of 2001

* This bill includes numerous other provisions; only the Judicial Council-sponsored provision is described here.

Bill No. (Advocate)	Bill No. (Author) Description	Sponsor	Status as of 10/16/01
AB 1700 (MR)	<u>Assembly Bill 1700 (Steinberg and Frommer) – Trial court funding: cleanup</u> Deletes obsolete provisions and numerous technical changes related to trial court funding clean-up. Among other things, clarifies the procedures for reclassifying civil cases; increases the maximum amount of a grant that the Judicial Council may award to a Court Appointed Special Advocate program; and requires that certain court documents that are filed electronically be signed prior to or on the same day they are transmitted to the court.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 824, Stats of 2001
SB 128 (EO)	<u>Senate Bill 128 (Burton) – Trial court employees: cleanup</u> * Makes various technical and clarifying changes related to trial court employees.	Judicial Council, CSAC, SEIU, and AFSCME	Chaptered. Ch. 270, Stats of 2001
SB 475 (RL/DP)	<u>Senate Bill 475 (Escutia) – Dispute resolution: referees and arbitrators</u> Among other things, requires an appointed arbitrator in non-judicial (private) arbitrations to comply with all disclosure requirements established in current law. Directs the Judicial Council to adopt ethical guidelines for these arbitrators by July 1, 2002. Requires the courts to dismiss an arbitration award if the arbitrator failed to disclose, within the time required for disclosure, grounds for disqualification of which the arbitrator was then aware. Also revises a court's ability to appoint a hand-picked referee when the parties do not agree to a referee, and expands the scope of the Judicial Council's report to specifically review both the voluntary and involuntary use of referees in discovery matters.	Judicial Council/ Governor's Office/ Author	Chaptered. Ch. 362, Stats of 2001
SB 485 (JC)	<u>Senate Bill 485 (Senate Public Safety Committee) – Exhibits: harmful matter</u> * Requires the court, on its own motion or on the motion of the People, to make a finding that photographs of minors are harmful matter, and to direct the preservation, handling, and disposition of the material accordingly.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 473, Stats of 2001
SB 940 (JC/TW)	<u>Senate Bill 940 (Senate Judiciary Committee) – Juvenile traffic infractions</u> * Allows the court to proceed in juvenile infraction cases directly on a notice to appear.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 830, Stats of 2001
SB 1112 (RL)	<u>Senate Bill 1112 (Polanco) – Cesar Chavez Holiday</u> Makes Cesar Chavez Day a judicial holiday.	Judicial Council	Chaptered. Ch. 542, Stats of 2001

* This bill includes numerous other provisions; only the Judicial Council-sponsored provision is described here.