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NEWS RELEASE

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Assemblymember Mike Feuer Honored With Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award

San Francisco—The Judicial Council of California has named Assembly Member Mike Feuer (D-Los Angeles) as the recipient of the Stanley Mosk Defender of Justice Award for his work to strengthen the independence of the California court system.

The award, to be presented at a later date, is named after the late Justice Stanley Mosk, who spent almost six decades in public service as California Attorney General, judge, and Supreme Court justice and was well known for his unwavering support of individual liberties.

Assembly Member Feuer was chosen as the award recipient for his leadership and commitment, in partnership with the judicial branch, to achieve positive changes in state court administration and for his personal dedication and willingness to advance the course of justice.

Elected to office in 2006, Assembly Member Feuer has been a leader in handling many significant issues facing California and the courts, including reform of the state's budget process, and recently, crafting solutions for critical budget and policy issues facing the judicial branch.

Shortly after his appointment in March 2010 as Majority Policy Leader, Assembly Member Feuer took the lead in securing sufficient revenue to keep California courts open and operating.

As a member of the Assembly Budget Committee, he has consistently supported efforts to ensure that the judicial branch is adequately funded in order to carry out its constitutional responsibilities. He also has supported efforts to authorize and fund new judgeships and to advance the branch's projects to improve court infrastructure.

In 2010, Assembly Member Feuer was named an Attorney of the Year by *California Lawyer* magazine for authoring AB 590, the Sargent Shriver

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Civil Counsel Act that creates a groundbreaking program to provide lawyers to indigent litigants in civil cases.

He also authored legislation to advance the Judicial Council's goal to improve public access to the courts and legal services, including a bill to enable county social services departments to identify family members of foster children and expand efforts to place foster children with relatives. Another bill modified laws governing court fee waivers, improving indigents' access to the courts and allowing the courts to recover fees where appropriate.

The Judicial Council is the policymaking body of the California courts, the largest court system in the nation. Under the leadership of the Chief Justice and in accordance with the California Constitution, the council is responsible for ensuring the consistent, independent, impartial, and accessible administration of justice. The Administrative Office of the Courts carries out the official actions of the council and ensures leadership and excellence in court administration.

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