



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

MARTIN HOSHINO
Administrative Director

CORY T. JASPERSON
Director, Governmental Affairs

January 3, 2018

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 2032
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Senate Bill 38 (Roth), as introduced – Sponsor and Support
Hearing: Senate Judiciary Committee – January 9, 2018

Dear Senator Jackson:

The Judicial Council is the sponsor for SB 38, which would increase, from seven to eight, the number of appellate justices for the Fourth Appellate District in the San Bernardino/Riverside Division. SB 38 would appropriate funding for that new justice, as well as funding for ten of the 50 superior court judgeships that have been authorized, but not funded, since 2007, including funding for staff.

Riverside and San Bernardino counties have experienced significant population growth over the last two decades. A report by the United States Conference of Mayors found that the Riverside-San Bernardino-Ontario metro area is expected to grow from 4.5 million (2017) to 7.2 million people in the next 30 years, making it one of the top 10 largest metro areas by 2046. With that growth comes the need for enhanced infrastructure of many kinds, including courts. In the context of this projected growth, the Fourth Appellate District, which includes the counties of Riverside and San Bernardino, has a workload that *currently* requires the justice proposed in SB 38 to help address significant backlogs and delays in issues on appeal in that district.

The need for trial court judges is, likewise, acute. A detailed analysis required by state law of judicial workload conducted in 2016 identified a need for more than 180 additional judges statewide to satisfy workload requirements in California's 58 Superior Courts. In that report, six of the first ten judges are needed in the same Inland Empire counties of Riverside and San Bernardino.

SB 38 is a crucial step to addressing the need for judges in these counties. The number of authorized judges in these counties falls well below the number of judges needed to handle the workload:

- San Bernardino County has experienced a 13 percent growth in population in the last decade, and has less than 65 percent of the judges needed in that county.
- Riverside County has experienced a 30 percent growth in population and has less than 65 percent of the judges needed in that county.
- Kern County has experienced a 22 percent growth in population and has 75 percent of the judges needed in that county.

The judgeships for which funding is appropriated in SB 38 were authorized by law in 2007, pursuant to AB 159 (Stats. 2007, ch. 722). These judgeships remain unfunded. (The Judicial Council has sponsored legislation to fund these judgeships in 2008 (SB 1150, Corbett), 2009 (SB 377, Corbett), 2011 (AB 1405, Feuer), 2014 (SB 1190, Jackson), 2015 (SB 229, Roth), and 2016 (SB 1023, Judiciary Committee), but in the midst of the state's economic downturn, these efforts were unsuccessful.)

Public safety is endangered when there are too few judicial officers to hear criminal cases, and delays in criminal cases due to an insufficient number of judges may result in cases being dismissed. Insufficient numbers of judges result in delays in civil case processing. These delays harm civil litigants and create uncertainty and instability for the business community. All Californians need access to courts to address civil matters of all types, including family law matters such as divorce, paternity, support, and child custody issues, landlord-tenant and other housing disputes, domestic violence, and workplace violence.

Under this proposal, one appellate justice and 10 trial court judgeships will be funded, helping to alleviate the strain on our most severely burdened courts. The funding appropriated includes a complement of staff to support the work of each new judge. Each judgeship requires the equivalent of approximately nine (9) full time positions allocated among research attorneys, secretarial support, and court clerks. (Additional staff positions, including bailiffs or internal court security and court interpreters, are funded through separate budgetary line items.) The funding requested also includes one-time expenses for facility improvements and operating expenses for the judges and associated staff.

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson

January 3, 2018

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If you have any questions for the judicial branch about SB 38, please contact Andi Liebenbaum at 916-323-3121.

Sincerely,

Mailed on January 3, 2018

Cory T. Jaspersen
Director, Governmental Affairs

CTJ/AL/yc-s

cc: Members, Senate Judiciary Committee

Hon. Richard Roth, Member of the Senate

Mr. Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy

Mr. Daniel Seeman, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California



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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

MARTIN HOSHINO
Administrative Director

CORY T. JASPERSON
Director, Governmental Affairs

January 16, 2018

Hon. Ricardo Lara, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 5050
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Senate Bill 38 (Roth), as introduced – Sponsor and Support
Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee – January 16, 2018

Dear Senator Lara:

The Judicial Council is the sponsor for SB 38, which would increase, from seven to eight, the number of appellate justices for the Fourth Appellate District in the San Bernardino/Riverside Division. SB 38 would appropriate funding for that new justice, as well as funding for ten of the 50 superior court judgeships that have been authorized, but not funded, since 2007, including funding for staff.

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Hon. Ricardo Lara
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If you have any questions for the judicial branch about SB 38, please contact Andi Liebenbaum at 916-323-3121.

Sincerely,

Mailed on January 11, 2018

Cory T. Jasperson
Director, Governmental Affairs

CTJ/AL/yc-s

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee

Hon. Richard Roth, Member of the Senate

Mr. Shaun Naidu, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee

Mr. Matt Osterli, Consultant, Senate Republican Fiscal Office

Mr. Daniel Seeman, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California