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Chief Justice Applauds Governor's Approval of Revenue Bond Bill To Repair California Courthouses

San Francisco—Chief Justice Ronald M. George today applauded Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger for signing Senate Bill 1407, landmark legislation authored by Senate President pro Tempore Don Perata that will provide \$5 billion in revenue bonds to build and renovate California courthouses.

“Senate Bill 1407 is a major step forward that will help ensure the safety and security of our courthouses for all Californians, including litigants, jurors, lawyers, employees, and other members of the public,” declared Chief Justice George.

The Chief Justice continued:

“This legislation represents the third and final installment of the three key reforms of the judicial branch, along with trial court unification and trial court funding.”

“Many of California’s courthouses are in such a state of disrepair that we have identified 68 facilities as demonstrating either ‘critical or immediate needs.’ SB 1407 will provide funding to repair up to 40 of these courthouses. Importantly, the revenue bonds created by SB 1407 will not impact the state’s general fund and will be financed entirely by court users through increases in court-related fines and fees. It is a fiscally sound measure that will have great benefits for Californians in years to come.”

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