

Judicial Council of California

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PATRICIA GUERRERO Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council MS. SHELLEY CURRAN

Administrative Director

April 10, 2024

Hon. Anna M. Caballero Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 412 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Senate Bill 949 (Blakespear), as amended—Support Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee—April 15, 2024

Dear Senator Anna M. Caballero:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support Senate Bill 949 which would require all superior courts by July 1, 2026 to provide court users a reasonable amount of break time during a court proceeding to express breast milk, require the Judicial Council to adopt or amend rules of court so that court users may make a lactation accommodation request through a confidential process, and correct a prior drafting error to permit a superior court to designate a lactation space without running water or a refrigerator due to operational, financial, or space limitations.

The first of seven goals in the Judicial Branch Strategic Plan is "Access, Fairness, Diversity, and Inclusion." SB 949 furthers this goal of seeking to remove all barriers to access and fairness by ensuring that our courts are inclusive of attorneys and all court users who are breastfeeding and participating in court proceedings.

The Judicial Council was supportive of the enacting legislation providing for lactation accommodations for court users in courthouses and anticipates the incurred costs of SB 949 to adopt or amend the rules of court to be minor and absorbable.

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

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Sincerely,

Cory T. Jasperson

Director

Governmental Affairs

CTJ/HR/ad

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee

Hon. Catherine Blakespear, Senator

Mr. Mark McKenzie, Staff Director, Senate Appropriations Committee

Mr. Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy

Mr. Jith Meganathan, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Ms. Shelley Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California