

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF  
CALIFORNIA  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE  
OF THE COURTS  
Public Information Office  
455 Golden Gate Avenue  
San Francisco, CA 94102-3688  
www.courts.ca.gov

415-865-7740

Lynn Holton  
Public Information Officer

# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Chief Justice Relieved by Governor's Budget Veto**

### *Will Work to Avoid Further Cuts to the Courts*

San Francisco—Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye today applauded Governor Jerry Brown's veto of the budget submitted by the state Legislature, saying the veto will provide time for judicial branch leaders to work toward averting any further cuts to the budgets of the state court system.

"I am relieved by this speedy veto and the Governor's resolve in obtaining a balanced budget," said the Chief Justice. "This will provide us with an opportunity to continue negotiating with the Legislature and demonstrate why the courts would be devastated by additional cuts in funding.

"We are in the process of gathering information from the trial courts as to how the proposed cuts would have affected the public. We intend to share that information with the Legislature and Governor as they work to resolve the budget impasse."

Under the budget approved by the Legislature on Wednesday, state court funding would have been cut an additional \$150 million, over and beyond a \$200 million budget reduction already approved as part of Governor Brown's fiscal year 2011–2011 State Budget.

"That budget would have been devastating and crippling to the judicial branch and to the public it serves by posing the risk of court closures, rolling worker furloughs, and a reduction in the services that courts provide to our citizens, particularly the growing number of self-represented litigants," said the Chief Justice.

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