



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

770 L Street, Suite 1240 • Sacramento, California 95814-3368  
Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

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

MARTIN HOSHINO  
*Administrative Director*

CORY T. JASPERSON  
*Director, Governmental Affairs*

May 4, 2017

Hon. Jordon Cunningham  
Member of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 4102  
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 808 (Cunningham), as amended March 21, 2017 – Oppose  
Hearing Assembly Judiciary Committee – May 9, 2017

Dear Assembly Member Cunningham:

The Judicial Council regrettably opposes AB 808, which would allow a court to appoint a private attorney to represent a child in a custody or visitation proceeding who has not met the training, education, and/or experience requirements set forth in the California Rules of Court.

The council opposes AB 808 because it would essentially reverse the increased training and education requirements that help protect children in custody and visitation cases. It is important that our most vulnerable citizens, specifically our children, are represented by attorneys who are cognizant of the special and specific needs that minors have when they appear before the court. The council has worked with the legislature session after session to secure the appointment of qualified individuals to represent members of the public with specialized needs, no matter what the case type or court department they appear in. It should further be noted that these training requirements do not add any additional continuing legal education hours than would otherwise be required, but instead merely specify the types of training that those hours should include.

Hon. Jordan Cunningham

May 4, 2017

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For these reasons, the Judicial Council regrettably opposes AB 808.

Sincerely,

*Mailed on May 4, 2017*

Alan Herzfeld

Attorney

ANH/yc-s

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

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



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*Director, Governmental Affairs*

May 4, 2017

Hon. Mark Stone, Chair  
Assembly Judiciary Committee  
State Capitol, Room 3146  
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 808 (Cunningham), as amended March 21, 2017 – Oppose  
Hearing Assembly Judiciary Committee – May 9, 2017

Dear Assembly Member Stone:

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Hon. Mark Stone

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Cory T. Jasperson

Director, Governmental Affairs

CTJ/ANH/yc-s

cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Hon. Jordan Cunningham, Member of the Assembly

Ms. Leora Gershenzon, Deputy Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee

Mr. Paul Dress, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy

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

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