

## Judicial Council of California

520 Capitol Mall, Suite 600 · Sacramento, California 95814-4717 Telephone 916-323-3121 · Fax 916-323-4347

PATRICIA GUERRERO Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council MICHELLE CURRAN Administrative Director

April 16, 2025

Hon. Alex Lee Chair, Assembly Human Services Committee 1020 N Street, Room 124 Sacramento, California 95814

## Subject: Assembly Bill 1099 (Bryan), as introduced—Support

Dear Assembly Member Lee:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1099 which creates specific procedures to expedite assessments for foster children who are being assessed by a regional center because it would aid the juvenile court in meeting the needs of foster children with disabilities that may make them eligible for regional center services and thereby support the court in its work to protect their best interests and move them towards permanency.

Welfare and Institutions Code section 300.2 provides that the purpose of the court's jurisdiction in child welfare cases is "to provide maximum safety and protection for children who are currently being physically, sexually, or emotionally abused, being neglected, or being exploited, and to ensure the safety, protection, and physical and emotional well-being of children who are at risk of that harm. This safety, protection, and physical and emotional well-being may include provision of a full array of social and health services to help the child and family and to prevent reabuse of children." To ensure that these services are being provided, Welfare and Institutions Code section 362 specifically authorizes the court to join in the juvenile court proceedings any agency that the court determines has failed to meet a legal obligation to provide services to a child who is the subject of a dependency petition.

These statutes demonstrate the importance for the juvenile court to ensure that the children under its jurisdiction are assessed expeditiously so that the court can make informed orders about how to protect the best interests of these children. AB 1099 will enhance the court's ability to carry out these duties. Streamlining the assessment process for dependent youth with intellectual disabilities will allow the juvenile court to place these children in non-congregate settings more easily and thereby fulfill their core statutory duties.

For these reasons the Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 1099.

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

Sincerely,

Cory T. Jasperson Director Governmental Affairs

## CTJ/TK/lmm

Members, Assembly Human Services Committee
Hon. Isaac G. Bryan, Member of the Assembly, 55th District
Ms. Alexandria Smith, Chief Consultant, Assembly Human Services Committee
Mr. Eric Dietz, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy
Mr. Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Ms. Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California