

Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

770 L Street, Suite 700 • Sacramento, California 95814-3393 Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council WILLIAM C. VICKREY

Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT Chief Deputy Director

CURTIS L. CHILD Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

April 8, 2009

Hon. Jeff Miller Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 3147 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 250 (Miller), as introduced - Support

Dear Assembly Member Miller:

The Judicial Council supports AB 250, which requires a defendant's withdrawal of a waiver of his or her speedy trial time limits to be taken in open court.

The council supports AB 250 because it will improve court efficiency and ensure all parties have actual notice of a change in the status of a criminal case. When parties are unaware of a change of this significance, court efficiency suffers. For example, if a prosecutor becomes aware of the withdrawal of the time waiver late in the process, he or she is likely to seek dismissal and then re-file the case in order to avoid violation of the defendant's speedy trial rights. This results in duplicative and avoidable arraignments and preliminary hearings.

In addition, requiring withdrawal of the time waiver in open court would also eliminate the ability of a party to manipulate the system. For example, a party may set several cases for hearing on one date and then withdraw the time waivers. The court then must either find available courtrooms, judges, and juries, or dismiss the cases.

Hon. Jeff Miller April 8, 2009 Page 2

By requiring personal appearances to withdraw the waiver, the court can better manage its calendar. This will reduce unnecessary duplicative hearings and potentially inappropriate dismissals.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 250.

Sincerely,

June Clark

Senior Attorney

JC/yt

cc: Mr. Cory Salzillo, Director of Legislation, California District Attorneys Association

Mr. Michael Prosio, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Ms. Kirsten Kolpitcke, Deputy Director of Legislation, Governor's Office of Planning and Research



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

770 L Street, Suite 700 • Sacramento, California 95814-3393 Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT Chief Deputy Director

CURTIS L. CHILD Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

June 8, 2009

Hon. Mark Leno, Chair Senate Public Safety Committee State Capitol, Room 2196 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 250 (Miller), as amended May 7, 2009 – Support Hearing: Senate Public Safety Committee – June 16, 2009

Dear Senator Leno:

The Judicial Council supports AB 250, which requires a defendant's withdrawal of a waiver of his or her speedy trial time limits to be taken in open court.

The council supports AB 250 because it will improve court efficiency and ensure all parties have actual notice of a change in the status of a criminal case. When parties are unaware of a change of this significance, court efficiency suffers. For example, if a prosecutor becomes aware of the withdrawal of the time waiver late in the process, he or she is likely to seek dismissal and then re-file the case in order to avoid violation of the defendant's speedy trial rights. This results in duplicative and avoidable arraignments and preliminary hearings.

In addition, requiring withdrawal of the time waiver in open court would also eliminate the ability of a party to manipulate the system. For example, a party may set several cases for hearing on one date and then withdraw the time waivers. The court then must either find available courtrooms, judges, and juries, or dismiss the cases.

Hon. Mark Leno June 8, 2009 Page 2

By requiring personal appearances to withdraw the waiver, the court can better manage its calendar and ensure that withdrawn waivers do not slip through the cracks. This will reduce unnecessary duplicative hearings and potentially inappropriate dismissals.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 250.

Sincerely,

June Clark Senior Attorney

JC/yt

cc: Members, Senate Public Safety Committee

Hon. Jeff Miller, Member of the Assembly

Mr. Cory Salzillo, Director of Legislation, California District Attorneys Association

Ms. Mary Kennedy, Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee

Mr. Michael Prosio, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Ms. Kirsten Kolpitcke, Deputy Director of Legislation, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Mr. Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

770 L Street, Suite 700 • Sacramento, California 95814-3393
Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council WILLIAM C. VICKREY
Administrative Director of the Courts

RONALD G. OVERHOLT Chief Deputy Director

CURTIS L. CHILD Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

April 29, 2009

Hon. Jose Solorio, Chair Assembly Public Safety Committee State Capitol, Room 2196 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 250 (Miller), as introduced – Support

Hearing: Assembly Public Safety Committee - May 12, 2009

Dear Assembly Member Solorio:

The Judicial Council supports AB 250, which requires a defendant's withdrawal of a waiver of his or her speedy trial time limits to be taken in open court.

The council supports AB 250 because it will improve court efficiency and ensure all parties have actual notice of a change in the status of a criminal case. When parties are unaware of a change of this significance, court efficiency suffers. For example, if a prosecutor becomes aware of the withdrawal of the time waiver late in the process, he or she is likely to seek dismissal and then re-file the case in order to avoid violation of the defendant's speedy trial rights. This results in duplicative and avoidable arraignments and preliminary hearings.

In addition, requiring withdrawal of the time waiver in open court would also eliminate the ability of a party to manipulate the system. For example, a party may set several cases for hearing on one date and then withdraw the time waivers. The court then must either find available courtrooms, judges, and juries, or dismiss the cases.

Hon. Jose Solorio April 29, 2009 Page 2

By requiring personal appearances to withdraw the waiver, the court can better manage its calendar and ensure that withdrawn waivers do not slip through the cracks. This will reduce unnecessary duplicative hearings and potentially inappropriate dismissals.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 250.

Sincerely,

June Clark Senior Attorney

JC/yt

cc: Members, Assembly Public Safety Committee Hon. Jeff Miller, Member of the Assembly

Mr. Cory Salzillo, Director of Legislation, California District Attorneys Association

Mr. Gregory Pagan, Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee

Mr. Michael Prosio, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor

Ms. Kirsten Kolpitcke, Deputy Director of Legislation, Governor's Office of Planning and Research

Mr. Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy