



Judicial Council of California

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PATRICIA GUERRERO
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

MICHELLE CURRAN
Administrative Director

May 6, 2025

Hon. Anna M. Caballero, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Room 2200
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 1084 (Zbur), as amended May 1, 2025—Oppose, unless amended
Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee (TBD)

Dear Senator Caballero:

The Judicial Council regrettably opposes Assembly Bill 1084, which would streamline processes for specified name changes, including eliminating the mechanism to file an objection to an adult petitioner's change of name to conform to the petitioner's name to the petitioner's gender identity and requiring the court to enter an order granting the petition without a hearing within two weeks of the petition's filing and additionally requiring a change of name to conform a minor petitioner's name to their gender identity signed by all living parents of the minor to be entered within two weeks of the filing of the petition, unless it is amended to remove these two-week requirements.

The Council understands the desire to streamline the process for transgender and nonbinary individuals to receive a court order recognizing their gender change and changing their legal name by shortening the court processing time for uncontested petitions from a minimum of six weeks to a maximum of two weeks, but the two-week requirement is unrealistic and unattainable. Our courts already have heavily impacted calendars which have only been compounded by a bevy of legislatively mandated accelerated calendaring requirements. In addition, pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 1279.5, the court must run a background check via the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) and Criminal Justice Information System (CJIS) to determine whether or not an applicant for a name change is required to register as a sex offender. Most courts do not have the capability to run these checks themselves and must rely on a local law enforcement agency to fulfill this task and often these checks are not complete within two weeks.

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The Judicial Council appreciates the early outreach from the author's office and the bill sponsors to address concerns and we look forward to continuing these productive conversations but for the aforementioned reasons, the Judicial Council is opposed unless amended to AB 1084.

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

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jasperson
Director
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/HR/jh

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Hon. Rick Zbur, Member of the Assembly, 51st District
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California