

JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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Administrative Director

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January 26, 2016

Hon. Shannon L. Grove Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 4208 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1272 (Grove), as amended January 13, 2016 – Support

Dear Assembly Member Grove:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 1272, as amended January 13, 2016, which requires that, in scheduling a trial date at an arraignment in superior court where the allegation is that the defendant committed a crime against a person with a developmental disability, courts make reasonable efforts to avoid setting that trial, when that case is assigned to a particular prosecuting attorney, on the same day that another case is set for trial involving the same prosecuting attorney.

The Judicial Council believes that cases involving crimes against persons with developmental disabilities are very difficult, very sensitive, and much more challenging than other criminal cases. Thus, the council believes that it is appropriate to require courts to make reasonable efforts to avoid setting those trials on the same day that another case is set for trial involving the same prosecuting attorney. The council also notes that the population to which AB 1272 applies is not so large that it would make it difficult for courts to make this accommodation. Finally, the council observed that AB 1272 gives courts flexibility because it requires courts to make "reasonable efforts" to make this accommodation rather than requiring courts to do so in all instances.

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For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 1272.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly
Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Mr. Greg deGiere, Public Policy Director, The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California