



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

June 17, 2016

Hon. Ed Hernández, Chair
Senate Health Committee
State Capitol, Room 2080
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1300 (Ridley-Thomas), as amended June 16, 2016 – Support
Hearing: Senate Health Committee – June 22, 2016

Dear Senator Hernández:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support Section 8 of AB 1300, which conforms the immunity provisions in the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act. The council takes no position on the remaining provisions in the bill, which are outside its purview.

Section 8 of AB 1300 extends the immunity protections currently provided to court-appointed hearing officers and other specified persons involved in other stages of the involuntary commitment process to the same group of persons in counties that utilize the 30-day involuntary hold provision under the LPS Act. Specifically, Section 8 of the bill (which amends Welfare and Institutions Code section 5270.50) provides that the court-appointed commissioner or referee, or the certification review hearing officer, among others, would be entitled to immunity from liability for any action by a person who is released at or before the end of the 30-day intensive treatment period.

The Judicial Council believes that this provision is a non-controversial but important change in the law since it would remove any uncertainty about protection from liability for court-appointed

Hon. Ed Hernández

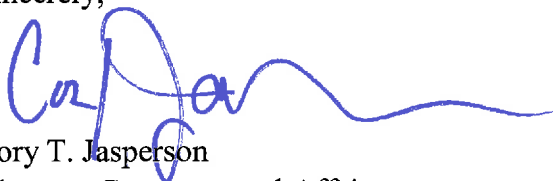
June 17, 2016

Page 2

hearing officers who preside over 30-day involuntary mental health commitments, and help ease their willingness to participate in these proceedings.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support Section 8 of AB 1300.

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jaspersen

Director, Governmental Affairs

CTJ/ka

cc: Members of the Senate Health Committee
Hon. Sebastian Ridley-Thomas, Member of the Assembly
Mr. Reyes Diaz, Consultant, Senate Health Committee
Mr. Joe Parra, Policy Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
Mr. Daniel Seeman, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Mr. Martin Hoshino, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California