



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE

*Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council*

JODY PATEL

Interim Administrative Director of the Courts

CURT SODERLUND

Interim Chief Deputy Director

CURTIS L. CHILD

Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

June 5, 2012

Hon. Noreen Evans, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 4032
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1337 (Alejo), as amended May 25, 2012 - Support
Hearing: Senate Judiciary Committee – June 12, 2012

Dear Senator Evans:

The Judicial Council supports AB 1337, which specifies who shall be served with notice of a parentage proceeding when one parent is deceased and there is no current or pending custody or guardianship matter before the court, because it will clarify the procedures to be followed in these parentage actions in a manner that ensures that the court has the best information to take action. Providing notice to those with the custody of the child as well as the child's surviving family will ensure that the interests of the child are represented in the parentage action. Current law is silent on how to proceed in these matters, yet many of the litigants seeking to establish their parentage are unable to afford counsel to assist them in bringing these actions. As a result, significant court time can be spent trying to fashion a procedure for these actions to suit the individual cases that come forward. AB 1337 will fill the existing gap by providing clear information for the court on what is required to establish parentage under these circumstances. Being able to establish such parentage is critical because it ensures that the child will have a legal parent who is obligated to support the child and is empowered to make critical legal decisions. Finally, the existence of a clear procedure will allow court self-help center staff to provide legal information on what is required to establish parentage in these actions so that self-represented litigants can access the courts and obtain the relief they are seeking in an efficient and just manner.

Hon. Noreen Evans
June 5, 2012
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For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 1337.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Tracy Kenny". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Tracy Kenny
Attorney

cc: Members, Senate Judiciary Committee
Hon. Luis Alejo, Member of the Assembly
Ms. Nichole Rapiet, Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Mr. Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy



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July 10, 2012

Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1337 (Alejo) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Judicial Council supports AB 1337, which specifies who shall be served with notice of a parentage proceeding when one parent is deceased and there is no current or pending custody or guardianship matter before the court. AB 1337 will clarify the procedures to be followed in these parentage actions in a manner that ensures that the court has the best information to take action. Providing notice to those with the custody of the child as well as the child's surviving family will ensure that the interests of the child are represented in the parentage action. Current law is silent on how to proceed in these matters, yet many of the litigants seeking to establish their parentage are unable to afford counsel to assist them in bringing these actions. As a result, significant court time can be spent trying to fashion a procedure for these actions to suit the individual cases that come forward. AB 1337 will fill the existing gap by providing clear information for the court on what is required to establish parentage under these circumstances. Being able to establish such parentage is critical because it ensures that the child will have a legal parent who is obligated to support the child and is empowered to make critical legal decisions. Finally, the existence of a clear procedure will allow court self-help center staff to provide legal information on what is required to establish parentage in these actions so that self-represented litigants can access the courts and obtain the relief they are seeking in an efficient and just manner.

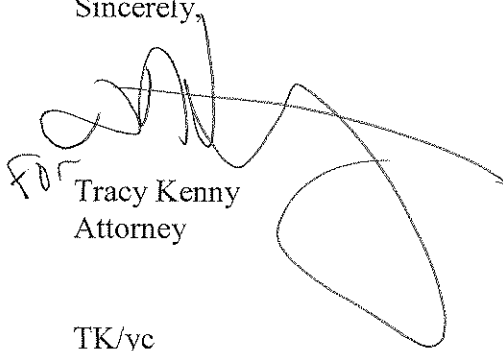
Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr.

July 10, 2012

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For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on AB 1337.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Tracy Kenny". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping loop at the end.

For Tracy Kenny
Attorney

TK/yc

cc: Hon. Luis Alejo, Member of the Assembly

Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor