

Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

June 19, 2014

Hon. Mark Stone Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 5155 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject:

AB 2573 (Stone), as amended April 21, 2014 - Support

Dear Assembly Member Stone:

The Judicial Council supports AB 2573, which makes various technical and clarifying changes to implement the California Fostering Connections to Success Act of 2010 (AB 12, Stats. 2010, ch. 559). Specifically, it would allow courts to resume transition jurisdiction under Welfare and Institutions Code section 450 regardless of whether a nonminor's rehabilitative goals set at dismissal of delinquency jurisdiction under section 607.2 have been met.

The council supports AB 2573 because it will clarify and enhance the implementation of the significant policy changes enacted by AB 12. As a co-sponsor of AB 12, the Judicial Council has been working closely with other child welfare system stakeholders to ensure that AB 12's policy changes are implemented fairly and effectively. AB 12 was a voluminous and complicated bill that amended numerous sections of the Welfare and Institutions Code regarding dependent and delinquent youth. As implementation progresses, issues continue to arise that require statutory clarification.

One of the purposes of AB 12 was to assist former dependents who are no longer minors, but still require public support and assistance. Nonminor former dependents who were also under

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court's delinquency jurisdiction have some of the most complex needs of anyone who interacts with the courts. AB 2573 will help these nonminors transition into productive members of society by allowing them to extend their dependency on the courts until age 21, as AB 12 was specifically intended to do.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 2573.

Sincerely,

Alan Herzfeld Associate Attorney

ANH/yc-s

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