



Judicial Council of California

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April 15, 2026

Hon. Ash Kalra
Chair, Assembly Judiciary Committee
1020 N Street, Room 104
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 2789 (Committee on Judiciary), as introduced – Sponsor
Hearing: Assembly Judiciary Committee – April 21, 2026

Dear Assembly Member Kalra:

The Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor Assembly Bill 2789 (Committee on Judiciary), which updates procedures for providing notice of child custody mediation by allowing for alternative methods for the court to give notice and require specific content in the notice for cases involving domestic violence.

Family Code section 3176 currently requires that notice of mediation must be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to the last known address. This reliance on certified mail as the sole option is outdated and creates additional costs for courts by placing restrictions on a court's ability to use technology to provide notice and potentially inhibits prompt access to court services by increasing waiting times before parties receive notice.

This proposal amends subdivision (b) in Family Code section 1376 to allow courts the ability to choose from one of five methods to provide notice of mediation. The proposed amendments increase delivery efficiency and reduce reliance on paper. These amendments also increase access to court services and will assist victims of domestic violence to understand their right to meet with a mediator separately in cases involving domestic violence.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor Assembly Bill 2789.

Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee

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

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jaspersen
Director
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/TK/lmm

cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Manuela Boucher, Deputy Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee
Elizabeth Enea, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy and Budget
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
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