



Judicial Council of California
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS
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

STEVEN JAHR
Administrative Director of the Courts

CORY T. JASPERSON
Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

April 24, 2013

Hon. Bob Wieckowski, Chair
Assembly Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 4016
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1293 (Bloom), as amended April 1, 2013 – Support/Sponsor
Hearing: Assembly Judiciary Committee – April 30, 2013

Dear Assembly Member Wieckowski:

The Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor AB 1293, which would allow courts to charge a \$40 fee for the filing of special notices under sections 1250, 2700, and 17204 of the Probate Code. The benefit of this proposal is to help courts offset the costs of providing special notice in the specified hearings, a savings to the courts of nearly \$200,000 every year.

In December of 2011, the Judicial Council adopted legislative priorities for 2012. The first priority was to “advocate for a combination of solutions to restore some of the funding eliminated from the branch in recent years.” The action included pursuing legislation to implement cost savings, efficiencies, and new revenue.

Proposals for efficiencies, costs savings, and new revenue were initially solicited from presiding judges and court executive officers. The proposals were forwarded to the Office of Governmental Affairs (OGA) to coordinate next steps. The chair of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee each appointed seven members for a 14-person PJ/CEO Trial Court Efficiencies Working Group. The proposals were circulated to the group; additional proposals were added as they were received. The group met three times, reviewing each of the proposals. The working

Hon. Bob Wieckowski

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group recommended that roughly one-half of those proposals be forwarded on for consideration for Judicial Council sponsorship. In the meantime, the chairs of most of the council's subject matter advisory committees, the Open Courts Coalition, and the president of the California Judges Association, were asked to designate members to participate on an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Court Efficiencies, Cost Savings, and New Revenue. The committee was created to ensure that all of the proposals could be acted on timely, while providing the council with the benefit of the expertise of the various advisory committees. The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee met four times to review the proposals recommended by the Trial Court Efficiencies Working Group. The advisory committee further winnowed the proposals for recommendation for council sponsorship.

This past December, the Judicial Council voted to include 17 proposals for cost recovery, revenue generation and court efficiencies among the branch's legislative priorities for 2013. Of these, 11 are included in Trailer Bill Language, and several others are included in other policy bills (AB 648, AB 1352, and AB 1004). The proposal included in AB 1293, allowing courts to charge a fee for special notice, was among the 17 proposals that were vetted through the process described above, and approved for sponsorship by the Judicial Council. As a result, Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor AB 1293.

Sincerely,



Andi Liebenbaum

Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst

AL/yc-s

cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Hon. Richard H. Bloom, Member of the Assembly
Ms. Leora Gershenzon, Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Mr. Paul Dress, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy



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CORY T. JASPERSON
Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

June 18, 2013

Hon. Noreen Evans, Chair
Senate Judiciary Committee
State Capitol, Room 4085
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1293 (Bloom), as amended April 23, 2013 – Support/Sponsor
Hearing: Senate Judiciary Committee – June 25, 2013

Dear Senator Evans:

The Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor AB 1293, which would allow courts to charge a \$40 fee for the filing of special notices under sections 1250, 2700, and 17204 of the Probate Code. The benefit of this proposal is to help courts offset the costs of providing special notice in the specified hearings, a savings to the courts of nearly \$200,000 every year.

In December of 2011, the Judicial Council adopted legislative priorities for 2012. The first priority was to “advocate for a combination of solutions to restore some of the funding eliminated from the branch in recent years.” The action included pursuing legislation to implement cost savings, efficiencies, and new revenue.

The Efficiency Proposal Process

Proposals for efficiencies, costs savings, and new revenue were initially solicited from presiding judges and court executive officers. In January 2012, the proposals were forwarded to the Judicial Council’s Office of Governmental Affairs to coordinate next steps. The chairs of the Trial Court Presiding Judges Advisory Committee and the Court Executives Advisory Committee each appointed seven members for a 14-person PJ/CEO Trial Court Efficiencies

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Working Group. The group met three times, reviewing each of the proposals. The working group recommended that roughly one-half of those proposals be forwarded on for consideration for Judicial Council sponsorship. In the meantime, the chairs of most of the council's subject matter advisory committees, as well as the chair of the Open Courts Coalition, and the president of the California Judges Association, were asked to designate members to participate on an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Court Efficiencies, Cost Savings, and New Revenue. The committee was created to provide the council with expertise and input. The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee met four times to review the proposals previously recommended by the Trial Court Efficiencies Working Group. The advisory committee further winnowed the proposals for recommendation for council sponsorship.

This past December, the Judicial Council voted to include 17 proposals for cost recovery, revenue generation and court efficiencies among the branch's legislative priorities for 2013. Of those 17 proposals, four are included in Trailer Bill Language, and several others are included in other policy bills (AB 648, AB 1352, and AB 1004). The proposal included in AB 1293, allowing courts to charge a fee for special notice, was among 17 proposals that were vetted through the process described above, and approved for sponsorship by the Judicial Council. As a result, the Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor AB 1293.

Sincerely,



Andi Liebenbaum

Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst

AL/yc-s

cc: Members, Senate Judiciary Committee

Hon. Richard Bloom, Member of the Assembly

Mr. Benjamin Palmer, Chief Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee

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

Mr. Mike Petersen, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy



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STEVEN JAHR
Administrative Director of the Courts

CORY T. JASPERSON
Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

September 11, 2013

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

Subject: AB 1293 (Bloom) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Judicial Council is pleased to sponsor AB 1293, which would allow courts to charge a \$40 fee for the filing of special notices under sections 1250, 2700, and 17204 of the Probate Code. The benefit of this proposal is to help courts offset the costs of providing special notices in the specified hearings, a savings to the courts of nearly \$200,000 every year.

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recommended that roughly one-half of those proposals be forwarded on for consideration for Judicial Council sponsorship. In the meantime, the chairs of most of the council's subject matter advisory committees, as well as the chair of the Open Courts Coalition, and the president of the California Judges Association, were asked to designate members to participate on an Ad Hoc Advisory Committee on Court Efficiencies, Cost Savings, and New Revenue. The committee was created to provide the council with expertise and input. The Ad Hoc Advisory Committee met four times to review the proposals previously recommended by the Trial Court Efficiencies Working Group. The advisory committee further winnowed the proposals for recommendation for council sponsorship.

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Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Andi Liebenbaum".

Andi Liebenbaum
Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst

AL/nco

cc: Hon. Richard Bloom, Member of the Assembly

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