



**Judicial Council of California**  
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
770 L Street, Suite 1240 • Sacramento, California 95814-3368  
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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*

May 13, 2014

Hon. Rob Bonta  
Member of the Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 6025  
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1610 (Bonta), as amended May 8, 2014 - Support

Dear Assembly Member Bonta:

The Judicial Council supports AB 1610, which authorizes the defendant or the people to apply for an order that a witness be examined conditionally when the defendant has been charged with human trafficking and there is evidence that the life of the witness is in jeopardy or that the witness has been threatened or dissuaded from testifying, or if the court finds there is a reasonable basis to believe that the witness will not attend the trial.

Under existing law, a defendant may apply to the court for an order to have a witness examined conditionally if there is, among other things, evidence that the life of the witness is in danger. (Penal Code § 1337.) If the court is satisfied that the examination of the witness is necessary, the court must issue an order requiring that the witness be examined conditionally. (Penal Code § 1339.) AB 1610 enhances judicial discretion to preserve evidence that may otherwise be lost if a victim of human trafficking is threatened pre-trial or has moved outside the local jurisdiction. This results in cases being dismissed for lack of evidence because the witness is unavailable at trial. By granting courts the authority to order that a witness be conditionally examined in cases involving human trafficking, AB 1610 both enhances judicial discretion and enhances the quality of justice.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 1610.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Reilly". The ink is dark and the signature is fluid.

Sharon Reilly  
Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Hon. Cristina Garcia, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Lorena Gonzalez, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Brian Maienschein, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Nancy Skinner, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Philip Y. Ting, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Marie Waldron, Member of the Assembly  
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor



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May 14, 2014

Hon. Loni Hancock, Chair  
Senate Public Safety Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2082  
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1610 (Bonta), as amended May 8, 2014 – Support  
Hearing: Senate Public Safety Committee – June 10, 2014

Dear Senator Hancock:

The Judicial Council supports AB 1610, which authorizes the defendant or the people to apply for an order that a witness be examined conditionally when the defendant has been charged with human trafficking and there is evidence that the life of the witness is in jeopardy or that the witness has been threatened or dissuaded from testifying, or if the court finds there is a reasonable basis to believe that the witness will not attend the trial.

Under existing law, a defendant may apply to the court for an order to have a witness examined conditionally if there is, among other things, evidence that the life of the witness is in danger. (Penal Code § 1337.) If the court is satisfied that the examination of the witness is necessary, the court must issue an order requiring that the witness be examined conditionally. (Penal Code § 1339.) AB 1610 enhances judicial discretion to preserve evidence that may otherwise be lost if a victim of human trafficking is threatened pre-trial or has moved outside the local jurisdiction. This results in cases being dismissed for lack of evidence because the witness is unavailable at trial. By granting courts the authority to order that a witness be conditionally examined in cases

Hon. Loni Hancock  
May 14, 2014  
Page 2

involving human trafficking, AB 1610 both enhances judicial discretion and enhances the quality of justice.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 1610.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sharon Reilly". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Sharon Reilly  
Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Members, Senate Public Safety Committee  
Hon. Rob Bonta, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Cristina Garcia, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Lorena Gonzalez, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Brian Maienschein, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Nancy Skinner, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Philip Y. Ting, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Marie Waldron, Member of the Assembly  
Ms. Mary Kennedy, Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee  
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Mr. Eric Csizmar, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy



## JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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CORY T. JASPERSON  
*Director, Governmental Affairs*

September 10, 2014

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

Subject: AB 1610 (Bonta) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Judicial Council is pleased to AB 1610, which authorizes the defendant or the people to apply for an order that a witness be examined conditionally when the defendant has been charged with human trafficking and there is evidence that the witness has been dissuaded from testifying by physical threat or intimidation, or if the court finds there is a reasonable basis to believe that the witness will not attend the trial because he or she is under the direct control of the defendant or another person involved in human trafficking and, by virtue of this relationship, the defendant or other person seeks to prevent the witness or victim from testifying. The Judicial Council believes that AB 1610 enhances judicial discretion to preserve evidence from victims of human trafficking.

By permitting courts to order conditional examinations, AB 1610 enhances judicial discretion to preserve evidence that may otherwise be lost when there is evidence that a victim of human trafficking is threatened pre-trial or is under the direct control of the defendant or other person involved in human trafficking who seeks to prevent the victim from testifying, thereby making

the witness unavailable at trial. As a result, without the authority for courts to order conditional examinations, cases may be dismissed for lack of evidence. By granting courts the authority to order that a witness be conditionally examined in cases involving human trafficking, AB 1610 both enhances judicial discretion to preserve evidence and enhances the quality of justice.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on AB 1610.

Sincerely,

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

Sharon Reilly  
Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Hon. Rob Bonta, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Joel Anderson, Member of the Senate  
Hon. Cristina Garcia, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Lorena Gonzalez, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Brian Maienschein, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. V. Manuel Pérez, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Nancy Skinner, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Philip Y. Ting, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Marie Waldron, Member of the Assembly  
Hon. Bob Wieckowski, Member of the Assembly  
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor