

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

June 5, 2014

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

Subject:

AB 2397 (Frazier), as amended May 12, 2014 - Support

Hearing:

Senate Public Safety Committee - June 10, 2014

Dear Senator Hancock:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 2397, which expands the types of appearances that can be made using two-way video conference technology between a defendant housed in state, county, or local facility within the county, and a courtroom to include specified non-critical trial appearances, if the defendant and defense counsel consent to the defendant's physical absence from court.

The Judicial Council believes that the use of video technology provided for in AB 2397 will improve the efficiency of courts, and that over time the use of that and similar technology will become more frequent. Further, while the primary beneficiaries of the costs savings will be the Sheriffs, the Judicial Council believes that the use of the technology can increase the efficiency of court hearings because it potentially reduces court time on individual hearings. Moreover, several courts are already successfully using such technology. While the use of this technology may not be practical or affordable in some courts, the Judicial Council supports AB 2397 because the use of such technology by courts is voluntary, thus if the use of the technology is impracticable for some courts, they are not required to use it.

Hon. Loni Hancock June 5, 2014 Page 2

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 2397.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Members, Senate Public Safety Committee

The Rully

Hon. Jim L. Frazier, Jr., 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



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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

July 9, 2014

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

Subject: AB 2397 (Frazier), as amended May 12, 2014 – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support AB 2397, which expands the types of appearances that can be made using two-way video conference technology between a defendant housed in state, county, or local facility within the county, and a courtroom to include specified non-critical trial appearances, if the defendant and defense counsel consent to the defendant's physical absence from court.

The Judicial Council believes that the use of video technology provided for in AB 2397 will improve the efficiency of courts, and that over time the use of that and similar technology will become more frequent. Further, while the primary beneficiaries of the costs savings will be the Sheriffs, the Judicial Council believes that the use of the technology can increase the efficiency of court hearings because it potentially reduces court time on individual hearings. Moreover, several courts are already successfully using such technology. While the use of this technology may not be practical or affordable in some courts, the Judicial Council supports AB 2397 because the use of such technology by courts is voluntary, thus if the use of the technology is impracticable for some courts, they are not required to use it.

Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. July 9, 2014 Page 2

For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on AB 2397.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Hon. Jim L. Frazier, Jr., Member of the Assembly
Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor