Judicial Council *of* California

520 Capitol Mall, Suite 600 · Sacramento, California 95814-4717
Telephone 916-323-3121 · Fax 916-323-4347

PATRICIA GUERRERO
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

MICHELLE CURRAN
Administrative Director

August 19, 2026

Hon. Gavin Newsom
Governor of California
1021 O Street, Suite 9000
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 2789 (Committee on Judiciary)—Request for Signature

Dear Governor Newsom:

The Judicial Council respectfully requests your signature on Assembly Bill 2789 (Committee on Judiciary), a Judicial Council-sponsored bill to update 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 This reliance on certified mail as the sole option is outdated and creates additional costs for courts by placing restrictions on a court's ability to use technology to provide notice and potentially inhibits prompt access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 bill 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, including via electronic service if the parties agree. 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 AB 2789 and requests your signature.

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

Sincerely,

Cory T. Jasperson
Director
Judicial Council Governmental Affairs

CTJ/TK/lmm
cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Matthew Fleming, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council

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PATRICIA GUERRERO
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MICHELLE CURRAN
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May 29, 2026

Hon. Thomas J. Umberg
Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 3240
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Assembly Bill 2789 (Committee on Judiciary), as introduced – Sponsor
Hearing: Senate Judiciary Committee—June 9, 2026

Dear Senator Umberg:

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, including via electronic service if the parties agree. 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.

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

Sincerely,

Cory T. Jasperson
Director
Judicial Council Governmental Affairs

CTJ/TK/lmm
cc: Members, Senate Judiciary Committee
Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Allison Whitt Meredith, Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee
Manuela Boucher, Deputy Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy and Budget
Matthew Fleming, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California

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PATRICIA GUERRERO
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Chair of the Judicial Council

MICHELLE CURRAN
Administrative Director

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.

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

Sincerely,

Cory T. Jasperson
Director
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/TK/lmm
cc: Members, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Manuela Boucher, Deputy Chief Counsel, Assembly Judiciary Committee
Elizabeth Enea, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy and Budget
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California