



## Judicial Council of California

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*Chief Justice of California  
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February 25, 2024

Hon. Nick Schultz  
Chair, Assembly Public Safety Committee  
1020 N Street, Room 111  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Subject: Assembly Bill 32 (Soria), as introduced—Support**

**Hearing: Assembly Public Safety—March 4, 2025**

Dear Assemblymember Schultz:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support Assembly Bill 32, which includes tribal court judges in the category of public safety officer which would provide tribal court judges with the same protections as state court judges in terms of address confidentiality and protection from criminal assaults in connection with carrying out their judicial duties. It is imperative to promote the safety and security of tribal court judges and thus the independence and integrity of their proceedings in the same manner that state court judges are protected.

This position is consistent with the council's previous support of prior legislation aimed at protecting the privacy of state court judges and recognizes the relationship between state courts and tribal courts in California given the overlapping jurisdiction of these courts under federal law.

In order to maintain judicial independence, judges must feel that they and their families are secure from threats of violence or other harm.

AB 32 will allow tribal court judges to exercise the same privacy protections currently in place for state court judges. Given that state courts and tribal courts have overlapping jurisdiction, it is critical that both entities can maintain independence from threats of violence or intimidation.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council strongly supports AB 32.

Hon. Nick Schultz  
February 25, 2025  
Page 2

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 Public Safety Committee  
Hon. Esmeralda Soria, Member of the Assembly, 27th District  
Andrew Ironside, Chief Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee  
Gary Olson, 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