



## Judicial Council of California

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PATRICIA GUERRERO  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

MICHELLE CURRAN  
*Administrative Director*

July 23, 2025

Hon. Anna M. Caballero  
Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
State Capitol, Room 412  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Subject: Assembly Bill 792 (Lee), as amended June 12, 2025—Remove opposition.**  
**Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee—August 18, 2025**

Dear Senator Caballero:

The Judicial Council is pleased to remove its opposition to Assembly Bill 792, which amends section 71808 of the Government Code to authorize the recognized employee organization to request multiregional bargaining when more than one interpreter bargaining region is engaged in bargaining within the same calendar year. The bill also requires mutual consent between the union and the regional court interpreter employment relations committees who would be involved in bargaining negotiations.

The council adopted an oppose position on the prior version of AB 792 that would have required the regional committees to accept any request made by the employee organization. The Judicial Council raised concerns with the unbalanced approach to bargaining that could have created issues and interfered with good faith bargaining environments. As the author and sponsors were willing to work on these concerns and amended the bill to reflect the need for mutual agreement, the Judicial Council no longer has this concern.

The prior concern of allowing these requests when multiple regions are bargaining within the same calendar year leading to potential timeline disruptions to negotiations are still present. However, as the multiregional bargaining approach now requires mutual consent, this concern has been minimized.

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The Judicial Council notes there may be associated increased workload to receive, consider, and respond to requests for multiregional bargaining and maintains that this approach may require more staff time than individual regional bargaining. However, the workload is anticipated to be minor and absorbable for the judicial branch.

For these reasons the Judicial Council removes its opposition to AB 792.

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

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jasperson  
Director  
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/ML/lmm

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Hon. Alex Lee, Member of the Assembly, 24th District  
Liah Burnley, Consultant, Senate Appropriations Committee  
Morgan Branch, Consultant, Senate Republican Office of Policy  
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California



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PATRICIA GUERRERO  
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April 21, 2025

Hon. Buffy Wicks  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
1021 O Street, Room 8220  
Sacramento, California 95814

**Subject: Assembly Bill 792 (Lee), as amended March 10, 2025—Oppose, unless amended**  
**Hearing: Assembly Appropriations Committee—April 23, 2025**

Dear Assembly Member Wicks:

The Judicial Council has adopted an oppose unless amended position on Assembly Bill 792 which amends section 71808 of the Government Code to authorize the recognized employee organization to request multiregional bargaining when more than one interpreter bargaining region is engaged in bargaining within the same calendar year. The bill also requires the courts to accept the request within 30 days unless agreement is reached by all but one region.

The Judicial Council has concerns with the language in the bill that requires the courts to accept all multiregional bargaining requests. This unbalanced approach to bargaining could be problematic and does not lend to good faith bargaining environments. To address this problem, the council requests amendments to remove the requirement that forces the courts to accept any multiregional bargaining request and instead allow multiregional bargaining upon mutual consent of both parties.

While the judicial branch appreciates the resources required to conduct bargaining negotiations in multiple regions at the same time, this approach may not create efficiencies as the more regions involved in a negotiation, the more complicated the negotiations become. While there are common issues between the regions, there are not always solutions that can be applied across regions. The regions were originally established to allow for regional components to be considered during bargaining negotiations, including cost of living factors and regional needs.

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April 21, 2025

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The judicial branch also has concerns with the language that would allow the multiregional request to be submitted whenever there is more than one region bargaining within the same year. The timeline of negotiations may be held up or requested earlier than appropriate in order for the bill's provisions to be applied and that may result in negative impacts on court administration and the relationship between the courts and the court interpreters. The Judicial Council looks forward to continuing to work through these concerns with the author and sponsors of the bill.

For these reasons the Judicial Council is opposed to AB 792 unless amended to allow the courts to engage in multiregional bargaining upon mutual consent of the parties.

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

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jaspersen  
Director  
Governmental Affairs

CTJ/ML/lmm

cc: Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Hon. Alex Lee, Member of the Assembly, 24th District  
Ms. Irene Ho, Deputy Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
Mr. Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy  
Mr. Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor  
Ms. Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California