



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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May 5, 2006

Hon. John Benoit
Member of the Assembly
State Capitol, Room 4144
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 1932 (Benoit), as amended April 26, 2006 - Support

Dear Assembly Member Benoit:

The Judicial Council supports AB 1932, which provides for the licensing and regulation of home study-based traffic violator schools by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

The Judicial Council supports AB 1932, assuming adequate resources and funding are provided to the DMV to carry out the new responsibilities. The traffic violator school industry has expanded over the years to include various means of home study, including Internet, video, and workbook programs. Existing law requires the DMV to regulate classroom-based programs, but not home study programs.

In the absence of DMV involvement, courts have been left to respond to complaints about the quality of the home study programs on their own. As the home study option has become more popular, courts statewide have struggled to fill the regulatory void by developing their own criteria for approving, monitoring, and essentially regulating home study programs offered to traffic violators, rather than denying a traffic violator the convenience and efficacy of the home study option.

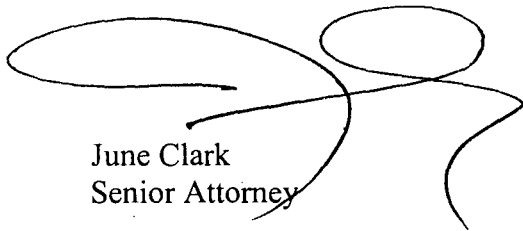
The result is a patchwork of judicial branch "regulatory" schemes around the state. While courts statewide have necessarily felt compelled to fill this gap, regulation of an industry is properly an executive branch function. AB 1932 appropriately assigns regulatory responsibility to the DMV.

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The council believes that the home study programs are in desperate need of a uniform statewide regulatory scheme, and supports the concept of relieving the judicial branch of the responsibility.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 1932.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' and 'C' that are interconnected, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the left.

June Clark
Senior Attorney

JC/yt

cc: Mr. Michael Corbett, Michael Y. Corbett & Associates
Mr. Eric Csizmar, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Ms. Sue Blake, Director of Legislation, Office of Planning and Research