



## Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

770 L Street, Suite 700 • Sacramento, California 95814-3393

Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

RONALD M. GEORGE  
*Chief Justice of California*  
*Chair of the Judicial Council*

WILLIAM C. VICKREY  
*Administrative Director of the Courts*

RONALD G. OVERHOLT  
*Chief Deputy Director*

KATHLEEN T. HOWARD  
*Director, Office of Governmental Affairs*

September 1, 2005

Hon. Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 27 (Mullin) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The Judicial Council supports AB 27 because it clarifies existing law and formalizes a procedure for courts in change of venue trials that has been helpful in resolving conflicts over reimbursements.

When the author introduced AB 27 in December of 2004, San Mateo and Stanislaus Counties could not resolve a dispute over reimbursement claims that San Mateo County submitted to Stanislaus County during the Scott Peterson trial. Several months later, the counties had resolved their differences, but staff involved in the discussions to resolve the issue felt that Penal Code 1037 could be restructured in a way that made clear which sections related to courts and which to counties. AB 27 was subsequently amended to address the confusing statutory scheme in change of venue cases.

AB 27 is consistent with the Judicial Council's efforts to clarify court and county responsibilities after Trial Court Funding and appropriately recognizes judicial branch autonomy by requiring the adoption of financial policies and procedures to address a funding issue within the branch.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council respectfully requests your signature of AB 27.

Sincerely,

Eraina Ortega  
Manager

EO/lb

cc: Hon. Gene Mullin, Member of the Assembly  
Ms. Sue Blake, Assistant Director of Legislation, Office of Planning and Research  
Ms. Karen Pank, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor