



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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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 14, 2005

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

Subject: AB 664 (Jones) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The Judicial Council supports AB 664, which would allow courts to list multiple qualified legal service providers on unlawful detainer notices because it would promote the council's objective of increasing access and fairness for litigants. Under current law, the unlawful detainer notice is required to list a legal service provider funded by the federal Legal Services Corporation (LSC). As funding through the federal LSC has contracted in recent years, the number of reputable legal service providers who do not receive LSC funding has increased significantly. For example, in Los Angeles County, there are only two LSC funded providers, while there are many non-LSC funded providers who assist defendants in unlawful detainer matters, and receive funding through the State Bar. Without legislative change, courts are restricted in their ability to provide comprehensive and valuable referral information to defendants facing eviction. Those litigants may find it more difficult to obtain legal assistance if the statute is not changed to allow all qualified providers who are receiving state funds to be listed on the notice.



Hon. Arnold Schwarzenegger September 14, 2005 Page 2

In order to promote meaningful access to justice for such litigants, the Judicial Council requests your signature on AB 664.

Sincerely,

Tracy Kenny

Legislative Advocate

TK/yt

cc: Hon. Dave Jones, Member of Assembly

Ms. Karen Pank, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor

Ms. Sue Blake, Assistant Director of Legislation, Office of Planning and Research



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KATHLEEN T. HOWARD Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

May 31, 2005

Honorable Dave Jones Member of the Assembly State Capitol, Room 3126 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: AB 664 (Jones), as amended April 28, 2005 - Support

Dear Assembly Member Jones:

The Judicial Council supports AB 664, which would expand the parameters of an existing requirement that the court include information on a legal service provider funded by the federal Legal Services Corporation (LSC) to allow the providers listed on the notice to include qualified legal services projects that are not funded by the federal LSC.

The Judicial Council supports AB 664 because it would promote the council's objective of increasing access and fairness for litigants. As funding through the federal LSC has contracted in recent years, the number of reputable legal service providers who do not receive LSC funding has increased significantly. For example, in Los Angeles County, there are only two LSC funded providers, while there are many non-LSC funded providers who assist defendants in unlawful detainer matters. Without legislative change, courts are restricted in their ability to provide valuable referral information to defendants facing eviction. Those litigants may find it more difficult to obtain legal assistance if the statute is not changed to allow qualified providers to be listed on the notice.

Hon. Dave Jones May 31, 2005 Page 2

For these reasons, the Judicial Council supports AB 664.

Sincerely,

Tracy Kenny

Legislative Advocate

TK/yt

cc:

Karen Pank, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor

Sue Blake, Assistant Director of Legislation

Office of Planning and Research