



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

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Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

October 1, 2009

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

Subject: SB 678 (Leno and Benoit) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The Judicial Council supports SB 678, which creates the California Community Corrections Performance Incentives Act to provide sustainable funding for improved, evidence-based probation supervision practices and capacities to improve public safety outcomes among adult felons who are on probation.

SB 678 is consistent with the recommendations of the Advisory Committee to the 2008 Summit of Judicial Leaders on Sentencing, Community Corrections, and Evidence-Based Practices (Summit Advisory Committee). The 2008 Summit culminated in the identification by participants of "next steps" that should be pursued by the leaders of the California judicial branch, in cooperation with the executive and legislative branches and its criminal justice partners, to improve public safety through implementation of sentencing and probation practices that more effectively reduce recidivism and hold offenders accountable.

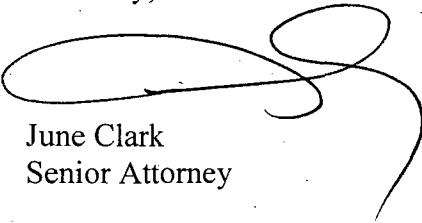
After reviewing the Summit proceedings and input by participants, the Summit Advisory Committee recommended, among other things, that the council support legislation to clearly and explicitly include reduction of recidivism as a primary purpose of sentencing, and a primary purpose of the provision of probation services. The Summit Advisory Committee also recommended that the council develop statewide strategies to implement evidence-based

sentencing practices and principles of evidence-based practice in the supervision of offenders placed on probation, in order to reduce recidivism while holding probationers accountable.

SB 678 would further these goals by providing probation departments with financial incentives to implement and expand evidence-based risk and needs assessments; implement and expand intermediate sanctions; provide more intensive probation supervision; and expand the availability of evidence-based rehabilitation programs.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on SB 678.

Sincerely,



June Clark
Senior Attorney

JC/yt

cc: Ms. Karen Pank, Executive Director, Chief Probation Officers of California
Hon. Mark Leno, Member of the Assembly
Hon. John Benoit, Member of the Assembly
Mr. Mike Prosio, Chief Deputy, Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of the Governor
Ms. Kirsten Kolpitcke, Deputy Director of Legislation, Governor's Office of Planning and Research



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August 18, 2009

Hon. Kevin de Leon, Chair
Assembly Appropriations Committee
State Capitol, Room 2114
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: SB 678 (Leno), as amended June 25, 2009 – Fiscal Impact Statement
Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee – August 19, 2009

Dear Assembly Member de Leon:

SB 678 establishes a performance-based system relating to the supervision of adult felony probationers. Specifically, the measure directs the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) to:

- A. Develop, in consultation with the Chief Probation Officers of California, outcome-based measurements to evaluate the program;
- B. Consult with the Director of Finance and other designated agencies to assist in the Director's calculation of a baseline felony probation revocation rate for each county as a result of a probation revocation or conviction for a new offense while on probation;
- C. Consult with the Director of Finance and other designated agencies to assist in the Director's calculation of costs to the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation that have been avoided due to reductions in supervised felony probationers whose probation is revoked and sentenced, or felons admitted to state prison after a conviction for a new offense;
- D. Receive annual reports from participating county probation departments evaluating the effectiveness of the community corrections program;

- E. Prepare, in consultation with the chief probation officer of each participating county and the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, a quarterly statistical report to the Department of Finance;
- F. Perform specified accounting and transfer responsibilities relating to each participating county's Community Corrections Performance Incentive Fund;
- G. Report, no later 18 months following the initial distribution of funding under the Act, to the Governor and Legislature on the implementation of the program; and
- H. Administer high performance grants to county probation departments authorized by SB 678.

SB 678 also directs the Judicial Council to consider adoption of Rules of Court that would support implementation of the program and practices authorized under this measure.

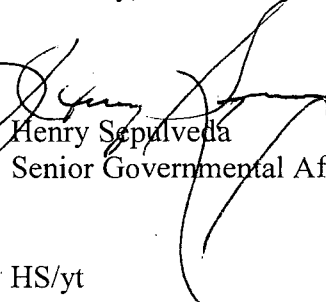
Fiscal Impact:

The AOC estimates an annual cost of \$212,000 to perform the tasks described in items A through D, and F through H, above. The estimated costs associated with the assigned accounting tasks described in Item E are estimated at \$290,000. The costs associated with the adoption of revisions to existing rules of court are expected to be minor and absorbable within existing resources.

SB 678 authorizes the AOC to use up to 3 percent of funds annually appropriated by the Legislature to support this program to cover the costs to administer its responsibilities under this program.

Please contact me at 916-323-3121 or henry.sepulveda@jud.ca.gov if you would like further information or have any questions about the fiscal impact of this legislation on the judicial branch.

Sincerely,



Henry Sepulveda
Senior Governmental Affairs Analyst

HS/yt

cc: Hon. Mark Leno, Member of the Assembly

Ms. Alison Anderson, Chief Counsel, Senate Public Safety Committee

Mr. Geoff Long, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Mr. Allan Cooper, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy

Ms. Teresa Calvert, Budget Analyst, Department of Finance