

# Judicial Council of California ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

# OFFICE OF GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS 770 L Street, Suite 1240 • Sacramento, California 95814-3368 Telephone 916-323-3121 • Fax 916-323-4347 • TDD 415-865-4272

TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE Chief Justice of California Chair of the Judicial Council

STEVEN JAHR
Administrative Director of the Courts

CORY T. JASPERSON Director, Office of Governmental Affairs

June 5, 2014

Hon. Tom Ammiano, Chair Assembly Public Safety Committee State Capitol, Room 3146 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject:

SB 1110 (Jackson), as amended April 22, 2014 - Support, if amended

Hearing:

Assembly Public Safety Committee - June 10, 2014

#### Dear Assembly Member Ammiano:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110, if amended. SB 1110 currently does the following: (1) requires a magistrate to inquire as to the active duty or veteran status of the defendant and requires specified actions if the defendant acknowledges military service, including filing Judicial Council Form MIL-100 and transmitting the form to the county veterans services officer for confirmation of military service; (2) provides that a defendant may decline to provide military service information without penalty; (3) requires, if the defendant is not represented by counsel, that the magistrate not make an inquiry into the defendant's current or past military status and requires that the court advise the defendant that certain current or former members of the United States military who meet certain qualifications are eligible for specific forms of restorative relief.

The Judicial Council believes that SB1110 would benefit from the following amendments:

(1) Treat represented and unrepresented defendants the same when informing them of options for individuals with veterans status

- (2) Require a court to advise a defendant or defendants that they may be entitled to certain services if they have military or veterans statutes.
- (3) Require courts to transmit the Judicial Council Military Status form to the State Department of Veterans Affairs
- (4) Require the Judicial Council to amend Judicial Council Form MIL-100 to also include information about Penal Code section 1170.9 and related status.
- (5) Ensure the language regarding veterans status is broad enough to include individuals who serve or served in the reserve or national guard.

The Judicial Council supports SB 1110 if amended as described above because it should result in better and more timely results for criminal cases involving individuals with military-related service. Moreover, by providing specific information about their rights under Penal Code section 1170.9 and related laws, the bill should raise the awareness of veterans about their options during criminal proceedings. Thus, the bill should result in individuals who have military service being assigned to Veteran's Court in a timely manner in the counties where those courts exist. The amendments will also provide defendants having military status with important information about access to services provided at local, state, and federal level.

The Judicial Council also believes the bill should be amended to eliminate the distinction between represented and unrepresented defendants because on a practical level this could be problematic for courts that arraign several defendants at once. It is common practice in larger courts to hold mass arraignments, where some individuals may be represented and others are not. Further the committees believe that it is very important that both groups of defendants are provided with the same information. Also, by requiring that courts provide the information to the State Department of Veterans Affairs, there will be a central depository of the forms filed, which can help inform decisions of the Judicial, Executive, and Legislative Branch. Finally, by regularly providing this information at arraignments, courts will increase the awareness of the criminal defense bar that there are special services available to veterans who have been accused of committing a crime.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110, if amended.

Sincerely, Man Rully

Sharon Reilly Senior Attorney Hon. Tom Ammiano June 5, 2014 Page 3

## SR/yc-s

cc: Members, Assembly Public Safety Committee

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Member of the Senate

Ms. Sandy Uribe, Counsel, Assembly Public Safety Committee

Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor

Mr. Gary Olson, Consultant, Assembly Republican Office of Policy



### JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

STEVEN JAHR Administrative Director

CORY T. JASPERSON Director, Governmental Affairs

August 5, 2014

Hon. Mike Gatto, Chair Assembly Appropriations Committee State Capitol, Room 2114 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject:

SB 1110 (Jackson), as amended July 3, 2014 - Support

Hearing:

Assembly Appropriations Committee – August 6, 2014

Dear Assembly Member Gatto:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110. SB 1110 currently does the following: (1) requires a magistrate to inquire as to the active duty or veteran status of the defendant and requires specified actions if the defendant acknowledges military service, including filing Judicial Council Form MIL-100 and transmitting the form to the county veterans services officer for confirmation of military service; (2) provides that a defendant may decline to provide military service information without penalty; (3) requires, if the defendant is not represented by counsel, that the magistrate not make an inquiry into the defendant's current or past military status and requires that the court advise the defendant that certain current or former members of the United States military who meet certain qualifications are eligible for specific forms of restorative relief.

The Judicial Council supports SB 1110 because it should result in better and more timely results for criminal cases involving individuals with military-related service. Moreover, by providing specific information about their rights under Penal Code section 1170.9 and related laws, the bill should raise the awareness of veterans about their options during criminal proceedings. Thus, the bill should result in individuals who have military service being assigned to Veteran's Court

Hon. Mike Gatto August 5, 2014 Page 2

in a timely manner in the counties where those courts exist. The bill also provides defendants having military status with important information about access to services provided at local, state, and federal level.

In addition, by requiring that courts provide the information to the State Department of Veterans Affairs, there will be a central depository of the forms filed, which can help inform decisions of the Judicial, Executive, and Legislative Branch. Finally, by regularly providing this information at arraignments, courts will increase the awareness of the criminal defense bar that there are special services available to veterans who have been accused of committing a crime.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly
Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc:

Members, Assembly Appropriations Committee

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Member of the Senate

Mr. Geoff Long, Chief Consultant, Assembly Appropriations Committee Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor



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Chief Justice of California
Chair of the Judicial Council

STEVEN JAHR Administrative Director

CORY T. JASPERSON Director, Governmental Affairs

August 5, 2014

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson Member of the Senate State Capitol, Room 5080 Sacramento, California 95814

Subject:

SB 1110 (Jackson), as amended July 3, 2014 - Support

Dear Senator Jackson:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110. SB 1110 currently does the following: (1) requires a magistrate to inquire as to the active duty or veteran status of the defendant and requires specified actions if the defendant acknowledges military service, including filing Judicial Council Form MIL-100 and transmitting the form to the county veterans services officer for confirmation of military service; (2) provides that a defendant may decline to provide military service information without penalty; (3) requires, if the defendant is not represented by counsel, that the magistrate not make an inquiry into the defendant's current or past military status and requires that the court advise the defendant that certain current or former members of the United States military who meet certain qualifications are eligible for specific forms of restorative relief.

The Judicial Council supports SB 1110 because it should result in better and more timely results for criminal cases involving individuals with military-related service. Moreover, by providing specific information about their rights under Penal Code section 1170.9 and related laws, the bill should raise the awareness of veterans about their options during criminal proceedings. Thus, the bill should result in individuals who have military service being assigned to Veteran's Court in a timely manner in the counties where those courts exist. The bill also provides defendants

Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson August 5, 2014 Page 2

having military status with important information about access to services provided at local, state, and federal level.

In addition, by requiring that courts provide the information to the State Department of Veterans Affairs, there will be a central depository of the forms filed, which can help inform decisions of the Judicial, Executive, and Legislative Branch. Finally, by regularly providing this information at arraignments, courts will increase the awareness of the criminal defense bar that there are special services available to veterans who have been accused of committing a crime.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly

Senior Attorney

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cc: Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor



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#### **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS**

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TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAU

Chief Justice of California

Chair of the Judicial Council

STEVEN JAHR Administrative Director

CORY T. JASPERSON Director, Governmental Affairs

August 25, 2014

Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. Governor of California State Capitol, First Floor Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: SB 1110 (Jackson) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Brown:

The Judicial Council is pleased to support SB 1110. SB 1110 does the following: (1) requires a magistrate to inquire as to the active duty or veteran status of the defendant and requires specified actions if the defendant acknowledges military service, including filing Judicial Council Form MIL-100 and transmitting the form to the county veterans services officer for confirmation of military service; (2) provides that a defendant may decline to provide military service information without penalty; (3) requires, if the defendant is not represented by counsel, that the magistrate not make an inquiry into the defendant's current or past military status and requires that the court advise the defendant that certain current or former members of the United States military who meet certain qualifications are eligible for specific forms of restorative relief.

The Judicial Council supports SB 1110 because the council believes it will result in better and more timely results for criminal cases involving individuals with military-related service. Moreover, by providing specific information about their rights under Penal Code section 1170.9 and related laws, the bill should raise the awareness of veterans about their options during criminal proceedings. Thus, the council believes the bill will result in individuals who have

Hon. Edmund G. Brown, Jr. August 25, 2014 Page 2

military service being assigned to Veteran's Court in a more timely manner in the counties where those courts exist. The bill also provides defendants having military status with important information about access to services provided at local, state, and federal level.

In addition, by requiring that courts provide the information to the State Department of Veterans Affairs, there will be a central depository of the forms filed, which can help inform decisions of the Judicial, Executive, and Legislative Branch. Finally, by regularly providing this information at arraignments, courts will increase the awareness of the criminal defense bar that there are special services available to veterans who have been accused of committing a crime.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on SB 1110.

Sincerely,

Sharon Reilly
Senior Attorney

SR/yc-s

cc: Hon. Hannah-Beth Jackson, Member of the Senate

Ms. June Clark, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor