



Judicial Council of California

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Chief Justice of California
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May 6, 2025

Hon. Anna M. Caballero, Chair
Senate Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Room 2200
Sacramento, California 95814

Subject: Senate Bill 808 (Caballero), as introduced—Oppose
Hearing: Senate Appropriations Committee—TBD

Dear Senator Caballero:

The Judicial Council opposes Senate Bill 808, which establishes an expedited judicial review process for a local agency's decision to deny a permit for a new housing development or residential unit, because it (1) establishes an unreasonable expedited judicial review process for a local agency's decision to deny a permit for a new housing development or residential unit, (2) requires the court to hear the matter and issue a decision within unrealistic timeframes, and (3) requires the temporary assignment of judicial officers, which the courts have no ability to adequately accommodate.

Our courts already have heavily impacted calendars which have only been compounded by a bevy of legislatively mandated accelerated calendaring requirements with no new funding for additional judges to handle more cases. There are simply not sufficient numbers of available judicial officers to comply with the requirements in this bill.

The bill will have significant calendaring impacts and create unnecessary workload pressure to ensure these specific actions might be scheduled within the set timeframe. In order to attempt to meet the timelines, the courts would need to rely on the Temporary Assigned Judges Program. This program has a set budget and a limited number of judges available in any given year. If this

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bill creates a high demand for temporary assigned judges, the program may not have the funding and judges available to be responsive to court need.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council is opposed to SB 808.

Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Heather Resetarits at 916-323-3121.

Sincerely,



Cory T. Jasperson

Director

Governmental Affairs

CTJ/HR/jh

cc: Members, Senate Appropriations Committee
Jith Meganathan, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Michelle Curran, Administrative Director, Judicial Council of California