



Judicial Council of California

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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August 30, 2006

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

Subject: SB 1281 (Romero) – Request for Signature

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

The Judicial Council supports SB 1281, which prohibits a state agency from entering into a contract for the acquisition of goods or services with a contractor employing more than 100 full time employees who does not have and adhere to a written policy annually providing employees with not less than five days of regular pay for actual jury service.

For the past decade, the Judicial Council has been working on jury reform, first through its blue ribbon commission and then through its Task Force on Jury System Improvements.

Selected accomplishments of these efforts include:

- Implementation of one-day or one-trial terms of jury service;
- First increase in jury fees since 1957;
- Requirement that jury commissioners apply standards for hardship excuses; and
- Development of a Model Juror Summons that is easier to understand and has consumer appeal.

Hon. Arnold Schwarzenegger

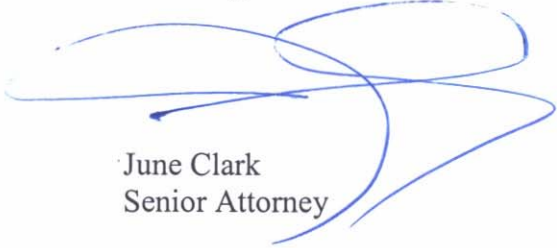
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SB 1281 is consistent with the foregoing efforts. It imposes a reasonable obligation on employers that will result in fewer hardship requests, allowing more jurors to serve.

For these reasons, the Judicial Council requests your signature on SB 1281.

Sincerely,



June Clark
Senior Attorney

JC/ml

cc: Consumer Attorneys of California
Hon. Gloria Romero, Member of Senate
Mr. Eric Csizmar, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of the Governor
Ms. Sue Blake, Director of Legislation, Office of Planning and Research