

Allocation of Funding for Remote Access to Court Proceedings (AB 716)

March 9, 2023



What is AB 716?

October 5, 2021

Requires courts to provide, at a minimum, a public audio stream or telephonic means by which to listen to the proceedings when the courthouse is physically closed, except when the law authorizes or requires the proceedings to be closed.

Assumptions for BCP Funding

- **Pre-pandemic:** Audio/Video (AV) refresh
 - BCP allowed for \$35,000/courtroom
 - Average cost was \$50,000/courtroom
- One-time IT Modernization program funded projects totaling \$6.9m (over 3 fiscal years)
- Budget Change Proposal (BCP) assumed 1775 courtrooms* would need funding

* Total number of eligible (older than 2000) courtrooms as of January 2021

BCP Approved Funding

- Facilities built before year 2000
- Audio and video (AV) upgrades (pre-pandemic costs)
- Funding disbursement
 - Year 1 \$31,062,500
 - Year 2 \$31,062,500

New Reality 2023

Post-pandemic: AV per courtroom cost averages**

Full AV upgrades: \$135,000 - \$300,000 per courtroom

Audio only upgrade: \$50,000 per courtroom

**Estimates based on branch RFP from Los Angeles Superior Court

Funding Allocation Criteria

Year 1 funding to courts that

- Submitted courtroom audio/video inventory
- Requested funding for compliance
- For larger courts
 - focus on civil case types
 - max allocation of \$50,000 for audio only

Analysis and Next Steps

- Current funding can meet **audio** upgrades requirements.
- **Video** would be removed from scope.
- Begin analysis for current BCP funding, Year 2 allocation.
- Seek additional funding for **video** upgrades through a new budget change proposal.

Recommendation/Action Requested

Approve the recommended allocation of funding to courts related to the remote access to court proceedings (AB 716) budget appropriation, per attached detail.

Questions & Discussion

Thank you!