



JUDICIAL COUNCIL OF CALIFORNIA

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REPORT TO THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL

Item No.:

For business meeting on: July 9, 2021

Title

Legislation Committee Chair's Report to the
Judicial Council

Agenda Item Type

Information Only

Date of Report

June 29, 2021

Submitted by

Legislation Committee
Hon. Marla O. Anderson, Chair

Contact

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Executive Summary

The Legislation Committee represents the Judicial Council's position with other agencies and entities, such as the Legislature, the Governor's Office, the State Bar of California, local government, local bar associations, and other court-related professional associations. The committee determines positions consistent with the council's policy goals and oversees advocacy for those positions. This report summarizes the committee's activities since the May 21, 2021 Judicial Council meeting. The Legislation Committee has met by videoconference four times since then.

Overview of Committee Meetings

Over the course of those meetings, the Legislation Committee's primary focus has been continuing to provide input and take positions on legislation.

At its May 27, 2021, meeting, the Legislation Committee took action on SB 481 and took a neutral, if amended to (1) remove the requirement that the court's reasoning be put in the minutes if requested by either party or when the proceedings are not being recorded electronically or reported by a court reporter; (2) require an entity other than the courts to provide information to victims (the prosecution usually does this); (3) change the court shall place "great weight" on the hallmark feature of youth and certain factors to "consider."

On June 10, the committee voted to support SB 507, if amended to clarify that “videoconferencing” is at the court’s discretion and to use language consistent with the proposed trailer bill permitting remote appearances in civil proceedings “through the use of technology.” The committee also voted to support SB 516 related to the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act and SB 782, related to Laura’s Law.

At its June 24, 2021, meeting, the committee reviewed and voted on the following bills:

- SB 340 (Stern) – Lanterman-Petris-Short Act: hearings (Support if amended)
- SB 578 (Jones) – Lanterman-Petris-Short Act: hearings (Note concerns); and,
- SB 586 (Bradford) – Criminal fees (No position)

On July 7, the committee acted on AB 716, related to court access and took an oppose unless amended position. At this same meeting, the committee acted on SB 775 dealing with felony murder and took a neutral, if amended, position.

I will keep you informed of the progress of the council–sponsored legislation and other bills of interest to the Judicial Branch throughout the remainder of this legislative session.

For further information on any of the bills the Legislation Committee has taken a position on, please refer to the Governmental Affairs Status Chart, which can be found at: www.courts.ca.gov/4121.htm#legcharts. Position and fiscal letters on legislation are available on the Governmental Affairs web page, which is a valuable resource throughout the legislative year.