



# Judicial Council of California

Please visit  
courts website:  
courts.ca.gov  
to view live meeting on  
February 20, 2026.

## Subject Text

Meeting materials  
are available through

File #: 17-103, Version: 1

### Title

### Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act: Selection of Pilot Projects (Action Required)

### Summary

The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act (Assem. Bill 590) provided that, commencing in fiscal year 2011-2012, one or more pilot projects selected by the Judicial Council are to be funded to provide legal representation and improved court services to low-income parties on critical legal issues affecting basic human needs. The Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council award \$7,244,437 in grants to qualified legal service organizations and court partners for pilot projects.

### Recommendation

The Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective October 1, 2017:

1. Approve Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act grants in an amount not to exceed \$7,244,437 for distribution to the following legal service agencies and superior courts for pilot projects to provide legal representation and improved court services to eligible low-income litigants. If designated fee revenues are higher than projected, or if there are any encumbered and unspent funds from previous years, the committee also recommends that the project budgets be increased proportionately.

#### Central California Legal Services

##### Superior Court of Fresno County

Housing Pilot Project .....\$306,964

#### Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance

##### Superior Court of Kern County

Housing Pilot Project ..... \$496,711

#### Justice and Diversity Center of the Bar Association of San Francisco

##### Superior Court of San Francisco

Child Custody Pilot Project ..... \$334,730

#### Legal Aid Society of San Diego

##### San Diego Voluntary Legal Services Program

##### Superior Court of San Diego County

Housing and Child Custody Pilot Project ..... \$2,134,747

#### Legal Aid Society of Santa Barbara County

##### Superior Court of Santa Barbara County

Northern Santa Barbara County Housing and Probate

Guardianship/Conservatorship Pilot Project ..... \$700,785

#### Legal Services of Northern California

##### Superior Court of Yolo County

Housing Pilot Project ..... \$294,560

#### Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice

##### Superior Court of Los Angeles County

Child Custody Pilot Project ..... \$652,512

**Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County  
Superior Court of Los Angeles County**

Housing Pilot Project ..... \$2,323,426  
Total: \$7,244,437

2. Given that no program is receiving the entire amount that it requested, authorize the committee to request revised budgets and project plans from the projects once these allocations are approved by the Judicial Council.

**Speakers**

Hon. Earl Johnson, Jr. (Ret.), Chair, Shriver Civil Counsel Act  
Implementation Committee

Hon. Laurie D. Zelon, Vice-chair, Shriver Civil Counsel Act  
Implementation Committee

Ms. Bonnie Rose Hough, Center for Families, Children & the Courts