



Judicial Council of California

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February 20, 2026.

Subject Text

Meeting materials
are available through

File #: 20-073, Version: 1

Title

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

Summary

The Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act (Assem. Bill 590; Stats. 2009, ch. 457) provided that, commencing in fiscal year 2011-12, 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. These grants are awarded every three years and recommendations are to be made to the council by the Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee.

Recommendation

The Shriver Civil Counsel Act Implementation Committee recommends that the Judicial Council, effective October 1, 2020, approve Sargent Shriver Civil Counsel Act grants in an amount not to exceed \$11,813,025 per year for the period beginning October 1, 2020, and ending September 30, 2023. It also recommends deferring two applications and one request for additional funding pending further information on projected revenue based on the uncertainty created by the COVID-19 pandemic. The committee will make further recommendations to the Judicial Council once there is more certainty regarding funding. The committee is making initial recommendations at this time to allow ongoing programs sufficient time to make informed decisions regarding staffing and services to clients, and for new programs to begin to make preparations.

The following partnerships between legal services agencies and superior courts are recommended for funding at the following annual level for three years to provide legal representation and improved court services to eligible low-income litigants:

Central California Legal Services
Superior Court of Fresno County
Housing Pilot Project.....\$386,858

Centro Legal de la Raza
Superior Court of Alameda County
Housing Pilot Project.....\$640,323

Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance
Superior Court of Kern County
Housing Pilot Project.....\$813,579

Legal Access Alameda
Superior Court of Alameda County
Child Custody Pilot Project.....\$93,342

Legal Aid Foundation of Santa Barbara County

Superior Court of Santa Barbara County
Northern Santa Barbara County Housing and Probate
Guardianship/Conservatorship Pilot Project.....\$1,072,239

Legal Aid Society of San Diego
Superior Court of San Diego County
Housing and Child Custody Pilot Project.....\$3,047,856

Legal Services of Northern California
Superior Court of Yolo County
Housing Pilot Project.....\$423,789

Los Angeles Center for Law and Justice
Superior Court of Los Angeles County.
Child Custody Pilot Project.....\$882,598

Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County
Superior Court of Los Angeles County
Housing Pilot Project\$3,125,555

San Diego Voluntary Legal Services Program
Superior Court of San Diego County
Child Custody Pilot Project.....\$409,352
Domestic Violence Pilot Project.....\$231,135

San Luis Obispo Legal Assistance Foundation
Superior Court of San Luis Obispo County
Housing, Elder Abuse, Guardianship,
Probate\$686,399

Total: \$11,813,025