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SAN BERNARDINO

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GOVERNMENTAL & LEGISLATIVE
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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX
Chief Executive Officer

March 17, 2014

The Honorable Hannah-Beth Jackson
Member California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5080
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 1190 (Jackson) – As introduced February 20, 2014 – SUPPORT

Dear Senator Jackson:

The County of San Bernardino is pleased to support SB 1190, which would fund the 50 judge positions the Legislature authorized in 2007.

San Bernardino County Superior Court is one of the most underfunded and understaffed court systems in California even though it handles some of the highest caseloads in the state. On December 13, 2012, the California Judicial Council voted to approve the 2012 Judicial Needs Assessment which determined the County of San Bernardino needed 156 judges to meet the community's needs. Unfortunately, to date, only 84 of those judges are funded.

Court budget reductions over the years have resulted in drastic operational and service cuts throughout the County. Over the last few years, San Bernardino County courts in Chino, Twin Peaks, Big Bear and Needles have closed due to funding issues. SB 1190 would help alleviate the backlog of cases that is slowing the wheels of justice in San Bernardino County by providing new judges to hear those matters.

For the above reasons, the County of San Bernardino supports SB 1190 and thanks you for addressing this important issue. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Josh Candelaria, Director of Governmental and Legislative Affairs at (909) 387-4821.

Sincerely,

JANICE RUTHERFORD
Board of Supervisors Chair
Second District Supervisor
County of San Bernardino

- c: The Honorable Mark Leno - Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee
- The Honorable Nancy Skinner - Chair, Assembly Budget Committee
- The Honorable Lori Hancock - Chair, Senate Budget Subcommittee #5
- The Honorable Reginald B. Jones-Sawyer, Sr. - Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee #5
- County of San Bernardino Legislative Delegation