AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 31, 2001 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 16, 2001 AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 27, 2001

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE-2001-02 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 223

Introduced by Assembly Member Frommer

February 13, 2001

An act to amend Sections 425.10, 425.11, 489.220, 685.030, 720.160, 720.260, 877.6, 1013, 1134, 2026, and 2033.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to amend Section 915 of the Evidence Code, to amend Sections 15202, 68085, 68502.5, 68511.3, 72055, 77001, 77003, 77009, 77202, 77206, and 77212, to add Section 77214 to, and to repeal Sections 26835.1, 26838, 26850.1, 26851.1, 26853.1, and and to repeal Section 68113 of, the Government Code, and to amend Sections 1463.1, 4750, 4751, and 4753 of the Penal Code, relating to courts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 223, as amended, Frommer. Evidence: depositions: forms: discovery.

Existing law sets forth the required contents of a civil complaint or cross-complaint, the right of a defendant to request a statement of the nature and amount of damages sought, the required amount of an undertaking to obtain a release of an attachment or a protective order, or to protect the rights of a 3rd-party creditor with regard to a writ of execution on a debtor's property.

This bill would make technical changes in these provisions and increase the required amount of those undertakings, as specified.

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Existing law authorizes the clerk of a court to enter in the Register of Actions a writ of execution on a money judgment as wholly satisfied when no more than \$10 interest deficit exists in a limited civil case, as specified.

This bill would extend that authorization to all civil cases involving money judgments.

Existing law provides that a party may obtain discovery by taking an oral deposition in another state of the United States, or in a territory or an insular possession subject to its jurisdiction. The deposition must be conducted under the supervision of a person authorized to administer oaths by the laws of the United States or before a person appointed by the court.

This bill would authorize the clerk of the court to issue a commission authorizing the deposition in another state or place. The commission would be issued to any party in any action pending in its venue without a noticed motion or court order. The commission would contain such terms as are required by the foreign jurisdiction to initiate the process. If a court order is required by the foreign jurisdiction, an order for a commission would be authorized to be obtained by an ex parte application.

Existing law requires the Judicial Council to develop and approve official form interrogatories and requests for admission of the genuineness of any relevant documents or of the truth of any relevant matters of fact in any civil action in a state court based on personal injury, property damage, wrongful death, unlawful detainer, breach of contract, family law, or fraud.

This bill would *further* require the Judicial Council to develop and approve official form interrogatories and requests for admission for use in any other civil action in a state court as the Judicial Council deems appropriate.

Existing law generally provides that attorney work product is not discoverable unless the court determines the denial of discovery will unfairly prejudice the party seeking discovery, as specified. However, existing law also provides that any writing reflecting an attorney's impressions, conclusions, opinions, or legal research or theories is not discoverable under any circumstances. Existing law relating to the assertion of privilege provides that the presiding officer may not require disclosure of information claimed to be privileged in order to rule on the claim. However, if a court is unable to rule on the validity of the assertion of certain specified privileges without requiring disclosure,

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the court may require the disclosure of the information in chambers out of the presence and hearing of all persons except the person authorized to claim the protection and such other persons as the person authorized to claim the protection is willing to have present.

This bill would specify that a presiding officer may not require disclosure of attorney work product coming within the absolute prohibition in order to rule on a claim of privilege and would provide that other attorney work product may be disclosed pursuant to the above procedure in order to rule on such a claim.

Existing law requires each trial court to report to the Judicial Council on progress towards achieving specified cost reduction goals.

This bill would repeal that requirement.

Existing law specifies the total fee for filing a first paper in a limited civil case, and requires the amount of the demand to be stated on the first page of that paper, as specified.

This bill would revise the total fee for filing a first paper in a limited civil case, as specified, and would eliminate the requirement that the amount of the demand be stated on the first page of that paper.

Existing law provides that the Judicial Council shall establish by rule the Trial Court Budget Commission and may delegate certain budgetary activities and recommending authority to the Trial Court Budget Commission. Existing law also provides specific standards for the allocation determination made of moneys to individual courts proposed by the commission for approval by the Judicial Council. Existing law requires that each trial court send a copy of its budget request to the board of supervisors, and provides that the board of supervisors may comment on the budget to the Trial Court Budget Commission.

This bill would remove the statutory authorization for the Trial Court Budget Commission, *make corresponding changes*, and repeal delete the provision requiring the sending of a copy of a trial court budget request to the board of supervisors. This bill would also provide that the Judicial Council may seek input regarding budgetary activities as it deems appropriate, and expressly permit the consideration of other issues when making allocation determinations. This bill would repeal the statute requiring that each trial court send a copy of its budget request to the board of supervisors, and authorizing the board of supervisors to comment on the budget to the Trial Court Budget Commission.

Existing law contains a variety of provisions for coordinated courts. This bill would eliminate provisions involving coordinated courts.

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Existing law provides for the payment to the counties by the state for the costs, including court costs, for homicide trials in small counties.

This bill would amend the provisions involving homicide trials to include court-related costs to be divided between the county and the court, as specified.

Existing law provides generally for the state funding of trial courts. These provisions require the establishment of a decentralized system of trial court management, define court operations for funding purposes, require the board of supervisors in each county to establish a Trial Court Operations Fund in the county treasury, provide for an annual appropriation to the Judicial Council for general operations of trial courts, require the Judicial Council to adopt appropriate rules for budget submission and management and the reporting of revenues and expenditures by each trial court, and require the continuation by counties of certain services to the courts.

This bill would revise the requirements for decentralized trial court management systems, revise the procedures for the audit and review of Trial Court Operations Fund, revise the budget request procedures for the annual appropriation for trial court funding, and make corresponding changes in the definition of trial court operations.

Existing law provides for the payment to the counties by the state for the costs, including court costs, for trials involving inmates in state penal institutions.

This bill would amend the provisions involving inmate offenses by providing that the superior courts may be compensated directly by the state for court-related costs.

Existing law requires the payment of specified fees for document authentication, filing a motion prior to the filing of the record on appeal, filing and indexing papers for which a charge is not otherwise provided, recording, registering, or issuing any license or certificate, and taking an affidavit.

This bill would repeal the statutes requiring these fees.

Existing law establishes the Trial Court Trust Fund which is funded by fees charged by the court.

This bill would remove certain fees charged by the court from those used to fund the Trial Court Trust Fund.

This bill would authorize the Administrative Office of the Courts to offer services to the courts and, if the Judicial Council directs, require the courts to use these services.

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Existing law provides that, with the prior approval of the county auditor, a municipal court may deposit into a bank account moneys that are deposited with the court as bail.

This bill would extend this provision to all trial courts, require prior approval of the administrative director of the courts rather than the county auditor, and provide for regulation of these accounts by the Judicial Council, as specified.

This bill would expressly authorize the Judicial Council to restrict or prohibit a trial court from transferring money from one program to another, to audit the trial courts, to establish and control separate funds, and to regulate, control, and manage all moneys collected by the trial courts.

Existing law requires the Judicial Council to prepare a form, containing specific required information disclosures, by which litigants to an action may claim financial hardship and be excused from paying certain fees.

This bill would remove from the form the disclosure of the litigant's date of birth.

This bill would also require that any specified costs, charged to the courts by the counties, be expressly stated and contain only items of court operations.

Existing law provides for a confession of judgment without an action, upon the payment of a specified fee and the filing of specified documents, that becomes the judgment roll.

This bill would increase the filing fee for a confession of judgment in limited civil cases, and revise the list of required documents that become the judgment roll.

Existing law provides that a settling party in certain actions may give notice of settlement to all parties and the court and that, within 25 days of the mailing of that notice, a nonsettling party may file a notice of motion to contest the good faith of the settlement.

This bill would shorten the time limitation for the nonsettling party to file a motion contesting the good faith of the settlement to 20 days, if the original notice of settlement was personally served.

Existing law provides that service by mail is completed at the time of deposit and that the period of notice and any required response to the service, or any right or duty based thereon, is extended 5 days if mailed to a destination within California, 10 days if the destination is within the United States but outside California, and 20 days if the destination is outside the United States.

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This bill would specify that the applicable days for this period of notice are calendar days, and that these time extensions shall be determined based upon either the destination or the place of mailing, or both, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 425.10 of the Code of Civil Procedure 2 is amended to read:
- 3 425.10. A complaint or cross-complaint shall contain both of 4 the following:
 - (a) A statement of the facts constituting the cause of action, in ordinary and concise language.
 - (b) A demand for judgment for the relief to which the pleader claims to be entitled. If the recovery of money or damages be is demanded, the amount-thereof demanded shall be stated, unless the action is brought in the superior court to recover actual or punitive damages for personal injury or wrongful death, in which case the amount thereof demanded shall not be stated, except in a limited civil case but the caption shall comply with Section 422.30.
- 14 SEC. 2. Section 425.11 of the Code of Civil Procedure is 15 amended to read:
 - 425.11. (a) As used in this section:
- 17 (1) "Complaint" includes a cross-complaint.
 - (2) "Plaintiff" includes a cross-complainant.
- 19 (3) "Defendant" includes a cross-defendant.
 - (b) When a complaint is filed in an action in the superior court to recover damages for personal injury or wrongful death, the defendant may at any time request a statement setting forth the nature and amount of damages being sought, except in a limited eivil ease. The request shall be served upon the plaintiff, who shall serve a responsive statement as to the damages within 15 days. In the event that a response is not served, the party defendant, on notice to the plaintiff, may petition the court in which the action is pending to order the plaintiff to serve a responsive statement.
 - (c) If no request is made for the statement referred to in subdivision (a), the plaintiff shall serve the statement on the defendant before a default may be taken.

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(d) The statement referred to in subdivision (b) shall be served in the following manner:

- (1) If a party has not appeared in the action, the statement shall be served in the same manner as a summons.
- (2) If a party has appeared in the action, the statement shall be served upon his or her the party's attorney, or upon the party if he or she the party has appeared without an attorney, in the manner provided for service of a summons or in the manner provided by Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 1010) of Title 14 of Part 2.
- (e) The statement referred to in subdivision (b) may be combined with the statement described in Section 425.115.
- SEC. 3. Section 489.220 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 489.220. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), the amount of an undertaking filed pursuant to this article shall be two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) in a limited civil case, and seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500) otherwise ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).
- (b) If, upon objection to the undertaking, the court determines that the probable recovery for wrongful attachment exceeds the amount of the undertaking, it shall order the amount of the undertaking increased to the amount it determines to be the probable recovery for wrongful attachment if it is ultimately determined that the attachment was wrongful.
- SEC. 4. Section 685.030 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 685.030. (a) If a money judgment is satisfied in full pursuant to a writ under this title, interest ceases to accrue on the judgment:
- (1) If the proceeds of collection are paid in a lump sum, on the date of levy.
- (2) If the money judgment is satisfied pursuant to an earnings withholding order, on the date and in the manner provided in Section 706.024 or Section 706.028.
- (3) In any other case, on the date the proceeds of sale or collection are actually received by the levying officer.
- (b) If a money judgment is satisfied in full other than pursuant to a writ under this title, interest ceases to accrue on the date the judgment is satisfied in full.

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 (c) If a money judgment is partially satisfied pursuant to a writ under this title or is otherwise partially satisfied, interest ceases to accrue as to the part satisfied on the date the part is satisfied.

- (d) For the purposes of subdivisions (b) and (c), the date a money judgment is satisfied in full or in part is the earliest of the following times:
- (1) The date satisfaction is actually received by the judgment creditor.
 - (2) The date satisfaction is tendered to the judgment creditor or deposited in court for the judgment creditor.
 - (3) The date of any other performance that has the effect of satisfaction.
 - (e) In a limited civil case, the *The* clerk of a court may enter in the Register of Actions a writ of execution on a money judgment as returned wholly satisfied when the judgment amount, as specified on the writ, is fully collected and only an interest deficit of no more than ten dollars (\$10) exists, due to automation of the continual daily interest accrual calculation.
 - SEC. 5. Section 720.160 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
 - 720.160. (a) If the creditor files with the levying officer an undertaking that satisfies the requirements of this section within the time allowed under subdivision (b) of Section 720.140:
 - (1) The levying officer shall execute the writ in the manner provided by law unless the third person files an undertaking to release the property pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 720.610).
 - (2) After sale, payment, or delivery of the property pursuant to the writ, the property is free of all claims of the third person for which the creditor has given the undertaking.
 - (b) Subject to Sections 720.770 and 996.010, unless the creditor elects to file an undertaking in a larger amount, the amount of the undertaking filed by the creditor under this section shall be in the amount of:
- (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500), or twice the amount of the execution lien as of the date of levy or other enforcement lien as of the date it was created, whichever is the lesser amount.
- (2) In a limited civil case, two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500) ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), or twice the amount of

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the execution lien as of the date of levy or other enforcement lien as of the date it was created, whichever is the lesser amount.

- (c) An undertaking given by the creditor under this chapter shall:
 - (1) Be made in favor of the third person.

- (2) Indemnify the third person against any loss, liability, damages, costs, and attorney's fees, incurred by reason of the enforcement proceedings.
- (3) Be conditioned on a final judgment that the third person owns or has the right of possession of the property.
- (d) If the creditor is a public entity exempt from giving an undertaking, the public entity shall, in lieu of filing the undertaking, file with the levying officer a notice stating that the public entity opposes the claim of the third person. When so filed, the notice is deemed to satisfy the requirement of this section that an undertaking be filed.
- SEC. 6. Section 720.260 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 720.260. (a) If the creditor within the time allowed under subdivision (b) of Section 720.240 either files with the levying officer an undertaking that satisfies the requirements of this section and a statement that satisfies the requirements of Section 720.280 or makes a deposit with the levying officer of the amount claimed under Section 720.230:
- (1) The levying officer shall execute the writ in the manner provided by law unless, in a case where the creditor has filed an undertaking, the secured party or lienholder files an undertaking to release the property pursuant to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 720.610).
- (2) After sale, payment, or delivery of the property pursuant to the writ, the property is free of all claims or liens of the secured party or lienholder for which the creditor has given the undertaking or made the deposit.
- (b) Subject to Sections 720.770 and 996.010, unless the creditor elects to file an undertaking in a larger amount, the amount of the undertaking filed by the creditor under this section shall be in the amount of:
- (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), seven thousand five hundred dollars (\$7,500), or twice the amount of the execution lien

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as of the date of levy or other enforcement lien as of the date it was created, whichever is the lesser amount.

- (2) In a limited civil ease, two thousand five hundred dollars (\$2,500), ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or twice the amount of the execution lien as of the date of levy or other enforcement lien as of the date it was created, whichever is the lesser amount.
- (c) An undertaking given by the creditor under this chapter shall:
 - (1) Be made in favor of the secured party or lienholder.
- (2) Indemnify the secured party or lienholder against any loss, liability, damages, costs, and attorney's fees, incurred by reason of the enforcement proceedings.
- (3) Be conditioned on a final judgment that the security interest or lien of the third person is entitled to priority over the creditor's lien.
- (d) If the creditor is a public entity exempt from giving an undertaking, the public entity shall, in lieu of filing the undertaking, file with the levying officer a notice stating that the public entity opposes the claim of the third person. When so filed, the notice is deemed to satisfy the requirement of this section that an undertaking be filed.
- SEC. 7. Section 877.6 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 877.6. (a) (1) Any party to an action in which it is alleged that two or more parties are joint tortfeasors or co-obligors on a contract debt shall be entitled to a hearing on the issue of the good faith of a settlement entered into by the plaintiff or other claimant and one or more alleged tortfeasors or co-obligors, upon giving notice in the manner provided in subdivision (b) of Section 1005. Upon a showing of good cause, the court may shorten the time for giving the required notice to permit the determination of the issue to be made before the commencement of the trial of the action, or before the verdict or judgment if settlement is made after the trial has commenced.
- (2) In the alternative, a settling party may give notice of settlement to all parties and to the court, together with an application for determination of good faith settlement and a proposed order. The application shall indicate the settling parties, and the basis, terms, and amount of the settlement. The notice, application, and proposed order shall be given by certified mail,

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return receipt requested. Proof of service shall be filed with the court. Within 25 days of the mailing of the notice, application, and proposed order, *or within 20 days of personal service*, a nonsettling party may file a notice of motion to contest the good faith of the settlement. If none of the nonsettling parties files a motion within 25 days of mailing of the notice, application, and proposed order, *or within 20 days of personal service*, the court may approve the settlement. The notice by a nonsettling party shall be given in the manner provided in subdivision (b) of Section 1005. However, this paragraph shall not apply to settlements in which a confidentiality agreement has been entered into regarding the case or the terms of the settlement.

- (b) The issue of the good faith of a settlement may be determined by the court on the basis of affidavits served with the notice of hearing, and any counteraffidavits filed in response, or the court may, in its discretion, receive other evidence at the hearing.
- (c) A determination by the court that the settlement was made in good faith shall bar any other joint tortfeasor or co-obligor from any further claims against the settling tortfeasor or co-obligor for equitable comparative contribution, or partial or comparative indemnity, based on comparative negligence or comparative fault.
- (d) The party asserting the lack of good faith shall have the burden of proof on that issue.
- (e) When a determination of the good faith or lack of good faith of a settlement is made, any party aggrieved by the determination may petition the proper court to review the determination by writ of mandate. The petition for writ of mandate shall be filed within 20 days after service of written notice of the determination, or within any additional time not exceeding 20 days as the trial court may allow.
- (1) The court shall, within 30 days of the receipt of all materials to be filed by the parties, determine whether or not the court will hear the writ and notify the parties of its determination.
- (2) If the court grants a hearing on the writ, the hearing shall be given special precedence over all other civil matters on the calendar of the court except those matters to which equal or greater precedence on the calendar is granted by law.
- (3) The running of any period of time after which an action would be subject to dismissal pursuant to the applicable provisions

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of Chapter 1.5 (commencing with Section 583.110) of Title 8 of Part 2 shall be tolled during the period of review of a determination pursuant to this subdivision.

SEC. 8. Section 1013 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

1013. (a) In case of service by mail, the notice or other paper must shall be deposited in a post office, mailbox, subpost office, substation, or mail chute, or other like facility regularly maintained by the United States Postal Service, in a sealed envelope, with postage paid, addressed to the person on whom it is to be served, at the office address as last given by that person on any document filed in the cause and served on the party making service by mail; otherwise at that party's place of residence. The service is complete at the time of the deposit, but any period of notice and any right or duty to do any act or make any response within any period or on a date certain after the service of the document, which time period or date is prescribed by statute or rule of court, shall be extended five *calendar* days, upon service by mail, if the place of address and the place of mailing is within the State of California, 10 calendar days if either the place of mailing or the place of address is outside the State of California but within the United States, and 20 calendar days if either the place of mailing or the place of address is outside the United States, but the extension shall not apply to extend the time for filing notice of intention to move for new trial, notice of intention to move to vacate judgment pursuant to Section 663a, or notice of appeal. This extension applies in the absence of a specific exception provided for by this section or other statute or rule of court.

- (b) The copy of the notice or other paper served by mail pursuant to this chapter shall bear a notation of the date and place of mailing or be accompanied by an unsigned copy of the affidavit or certificate of mailing.
- (c) In case of service by Express Mail, the notice or other paper must be deposited in a post office, mailbox, subpost office, substation, or mail chute, or other like facility regularly maintained by the United States Postal Service for receipt of Express Mail, in a sealed envelope, with Express Mail postage paid, addressed to the person on whom it is to be served, at the office address as last given by that person on any document filed in the cause and served on the party making service by Express

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Mail; otherwise at that party's place of residence. In case of service by another method of delivery providing for overnight delivery, the notice or other paper must be deposited in a box or other facility regularly maintained by the express service carrier, or delivered to an authorized courier or driver authorized by the express service 5 6 carrier to receive documents, in an envelope or package designated by the express service carrier with delivery fees paid or provided for, addressed to the person on whom it is to be served, at the office address as last given by that person on any document filed in the 10 cause and served on the party making service; otherwise at that party's place of residence. The service is complete at the time of 12 the deposit, but any period of notice and any right or duty to do any 13 act or make any response within any period or on a date certain 14 after the service of the document served by Express Mail or other method of delivery providing for overnight delivery shall be extended by two court days, but the extension shall not apply to 16 extend the time for filing notice of intention to move for new trial, notice of intention to move to vacate judgment pursuant to Section 663a, or notice of appeal. This extension applies in the absence of a specific exception provided for by this section or other statute or rule of court.

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- (d) The copy of the notice or other paper served by Express Mail or another means of delivery providing for overnight delivery pursuant to this chapter shall bear a notation of the date and place of deposit or be accompanied by an unsigned copy of the affidavit or certificate of deposit.
- (e) Service by facsimile transmission shall be permitted only where the parties agree and a written confirmation of that agreement is made. The Judicial Council may adopt rules implementing the service of documents by facsimile transmission and may provide a form for the confirmation of the agreement required by this subdivision. In case of service by facsimile transmission, the notice or other paper must be transmitted to a facsimile machine maintained by the person on whom it is served at the facsimile machine telephone number as last given by that person on any document which he or she has filed in the cause and served on the party making the service. The service is complete at the time of transmission, but any period of notice and any right or duty to do any act or make any response within any period or on a date certain after the service of the document, which time period

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or date is prescribed by statute or rule of court, shall be extended, after service by facsimile transmission, by two court days, but the extension shall not apply to extend the time for filing notice of intention to move for new trial, notice of intention to move to vacate judgment pursuant to Section 663a, or notice of appeal. This extension applies in the absence of a specific exception provided for by this section or other statute or rule of court.

- (f) The copy of the notice or other paper served by facsimile transmission pursuant to this chapter shall bear a notation of the date and place of transmission and the facsimile telephone number to which transmitted or be accompanied by an unsigned copy of the affidavit or certificate of transmission which shall contain the facsimile telephone number to which the notice or other paper was transmitted.
 - (g) Subdivisions (b), (d), and (f) are directory.
- SEC. 9. Section 1134 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 1134. In all courts the (a) The statement must required by Section 1133 shall be filed with the clerk of the court in which the judgment is to be entered, who must endorse upon it, and enter a judgment of the court for the amount confessed with the costs hereinafter set forth provided in subdivision (b). At
- (b) At the time of filing, the plaintiff shall pay as court costs that shall become a part of the judgment the following fees: a fee of fifteen dollars (\$15) or in a limited civil case ten dollars (\$10). No fee shall be collected from the defendant. No fee shall be paid by the clerk of the court in which a confession of judgment is filed for the law library fund nor for services of any court reporter. The
- (c) The statement and affidavit, with the judgment endorsed thereon, together with the certificate filed pursuant to Section 1132, becomes the judgment roll.
- SEC. 10. Section 2026 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:
- 2026. (a) Any party may obtain discovery by taking an oral deposition, as described in subdivision (a) of Section 2025, in another state of the United States, or in a territory or an insular possession subject to its jurisdiction. Except as modified in this section, the procedures for taking oral depositions in California set forth in Section 2025 apply to an oral deposition taken in another

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state of the United States, or in a territory or an insular possession subject to its jurisdiction.

- (b) (1) If a deponent is a party to the action or an officer, director, managing agent, or employee of a party, the service of the deposition notice is effective to compel that deponent to attend and to testify, as well as to produce any document or tangible thing for inspection and copying. The deposition notice shall specify a place in the state, territory, or insular possession of the United States that is within 75 miles of the residence or a business office of a deponent.
- (2) If the deponent is not a party to the action or an officer, director, managing agent, or employee of a party, a party serving a deposition notice under this section shall use any process and procedures required and available under the laws of the state, territory, or insular possession where the deposition is to be taken to compel the deponent to attend and to testify, as well as to produce any document or tangible thing for inspection, copying, and any related activity.
- (c) A deposition taken under this section shall be conducted (1) under the supervision of a person who is authorized to administer oaths by the laws of the United States or those of the place where the examination is to be held, and who is not otherwise disqualified under subdivision (k) and subparagraph (B) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (l) of Section 2025, or (2) before a person appointed by the court. This appointment is effective to authorize that person to administer oaths and to take testimony. On request, the clerk of the court shall issue a commission authorizing the deposition in another state or place. The commission shall request that process issue in the place where the examination is to be held, requiring attendance and enforcing the obligations of the deponents to produce documents and answer questions. The commission shall be issued by the clerk to any party in any action pending in its venue without a noticed motion or court order. The commission may contain such terms as are required by the foreign jurisdiction to initiate the process. If a court order is required by the foreign jurisdiction, an order for a commission may be obtained by ex parte application.

SEC. 2.

SEC. 11. Section 2033.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended to read:

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2033.5. (a) The Judicial Council shall develop and approve official form interrogatories and requests for admission of the genuineness of any relevant documents or of the truth of any relevant matters of fact for use in any civil action in a state court based on personal injury, property damage, wrongful death, unlawful detainer, breach of contract, family law, or fraud and for any other civil actions the Judicial Council deems appropriate. Use of the approved form interrogatories and requests for admission shall be optional.

- (b) In developing the form interrogatories and requests for admission required by this section, the Judicial Council shall consult with a representative advisory committee which shall include, but not be limited to, representatives of the plaintiff's bar, the defense bar, the public interest bar, court administrators, and the public. The form interrogatories and requests for admission shall be drafted in nontechnical language and shall be made available through the office of the clerk of the appropriate trial court.
- (c) The Judicial Council also shall promulgate any necessary rules to govern the use of the form interrogatories and requests for admission.
- (d) The Judicial Council shall develop and approve official form interrogatories for use by a victim who has not received complete payment of a restitution order made pursuant to Section 1202.4 of the Penal Code.
- (e) Notwithstanding whether a victim initiates or maintains an action to satisfy the unpaid restitution order, a victim may propound the form interrogatories approved pursuant to this section once each calendar year. The defendant subject to the restitution order shall, in responding to the interrogatories propounded, provide current information regarding the nature, extent, and location of any assets, income, and liabilities in which the defendant claims a present or future interest.
 - (f) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2000. SEC. 3.
- 36 SEC. 12. Section 915 of the Evidence Code is amended to read:
 - 915. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), the presiding officer may not require disclosure of information claimed to be privileged under this division or attorney work product under subdivision (c)

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of Section 2018 of the Code of Civil Procedure in order to rule on the claim of privilege; provided, however, that in any hearing conducted pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 1524 of the Penal Code in which a claim of privilege is made and the court determines that there is no other feasible means to rule on the validity of such claim other than to require disclosure, the court shall proceed in accordance with subdivision (b).

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(b) When a court is ruling on a claim of privilege under Article 9 (commencing with Section 1040) of Chapter 4 (official information and identity of informer) or under Section 1060 (trade secret) or under subdivision (b) of Section 2018 of the Code of Civil Procedure (attorney work product) and is unable to do so without requiring disclosure of the information claimed to be privileged, the court may require the person from whom disclosure is sought or the person authorized to claim the privilege, or both, to disclose the information in chambers out of the presence and hearing of all persons except the person authorized to claim the privilege and such other persons as the person authorized to claim the privilege is willing to have present. If the judge determines that the information is privileged, neither he nor any other person may ever disclose, without the consent of a person authorized to permit disclosure, what was disclosed in the course of the proceedings in chambers.

SEC. 4. Section 15202 of the Government Code, as added by Section 12 of Chapter 127 of the Statutes of 2000, is amended to read:

15202. (a) A county with a population of 300,000 or less, at the time of the 1980 decennial census, that is responsible for the cost of a trial or trials or any hearing of a person for the offense of homicide may apply to the Controller for reimbursement of 90 percent of the costs incurred by the county for each homicide trial or hearing, without regard to fiscal years, in excess of the amount of money derived by the county from a tax of 0.00625 of 1 percent of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county.

(b) (1) A county with a population of 200,000 or less, as of January 1, 1990, that is responsible for the cost of two or more trials or hearings within a fiscal year of a person or persons for the offense of homicide may apply to the Controller for reimbursement of 90 percent of the costs incurred in a fiscal year

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by the county for the conduct of the first trial within a fiscal year, and 85 percent of the costs incurred in a fiscal year by the county for the conduct of any and all subsequent trials or hearings in excess of the amount of money derived by the county from a tax of 0.00625 of 1 percent of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county.

(2) A county with a population of 200,000 or less, as of January 1, 1990, that, within a fiscal year, is reimbursed for costs incurred by the county for the conduct of only one trial or hearing pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be reimbursed for that one trial or hearing in subsequent fiscal years for costs incurred in those subsequent fiscal years without again being required to expend county funds equal to 0.00625 of 1 percent of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county, so long as all reimbursements to the county under this paragraph are for only that one trial or hearing.

For purposes of this subdivision, in determining the costs of a homicide trial, trials, hearing, or hearings, the costs shall include, all pretrial, trial, and posttrial costs incurred in connection with the investigation, prosecution, and defense of a homicide case or cases within a fiscal year, including, but not limited to, the costs incurred by the district attorney, sheriff, public defender, and witnesses, that were reasonably required by the court and participants in the case or cases, and other extraordinary costs associated with the investigation in homicide cases.

(c) A county with a population exceeding 300,000 at the time of the 1980 decennial census that is responsible for the cost of a trial or trials or any hearing of a person for the offense of homicide may apply to the Controller for reimbursement of 80 percent of the costs incurred by the county in excess of the amount of money derived by the county from a tax of 0.00625 of 1 percent, and not in excess of the amount of money derived from a tax of 0.0125 of 1 percent, and for reimbursement of 100 percent of the costs incurred in excess of the amount of money derived from a tax of 0.0125 percent, of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county.

(d) A county that is eligible for reimbursement under subdivision (a), (b), or (c) shall be reimbursed for the total actual costs incurred for a homicide trial in excess of the amount of money derived by the county from a tax of 0.0125 of 1 percent of

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the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county, when the cost of a trial, as defined in subdivision (a), (b), or (c), exceeds 0.0125 of 1 percent of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county.

- (e) The Controller shall not reimburse any county for costs that exceed the standards for travel and per diem expenses set forth in Sections 700 to 715, inclusive, and Section 718 of Title 2 of the California Code of Regulations. The Controller may reimburse extraordinary costs in unusual cases if the county provides sufficient justification of the need for these expenditures. Nothing in this section shall permit the reimbursement of costs for travel in excess of 1,000 miles on any single round trip, without the prior approval of the Attorney General.
- (f) The Legislature recognizes that the conduct of trials for persons accused of homicide should not be hampered or delayed because of a lack of funds available to the counties for that purpose. While this section is intended to provide an equitable basis for determining the allocation to the state of the costs of homicide trials in any particular county, the rising costs of those trials necessitate an objective study to assure reasonable financial restraints and incentives for cost effectiveness that do not place an unreasonable burden on the treasury of the smaller counties.
- (g) For purposes of this section, county costs include any court-related costs. The county shall ask the superior court how much court-related costs were incurred by the court and shall include these costs in its application. The amount of any reimbursement shall be divided between the court and the county in the proportion in which the total costs in the application are divided between the court and the county.
- (h) This section shall remain operative only until January 1, 2005, and as of that date is repealed.
- SEC. 5. Section 15202 of the Government Code, as added by Section 11 of Chapter 127 of the Statutes of 2000, is amended to read:
- 15202. A county which is responsible for the cost of a trial or trials or any hearing of a person for the offense of homicide may apply to the Controller for reimbursement of the costs incurred by the county in excess of the amount of money derived by the county from a tax of 0.0125 of 1 percent of the full value of property assessed for purposes of taxation within the county.

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The Controller shall not reimburse any county for costs that exceed the State Board of Control's standards for travel and per diem expenses. The Controller may reimburse extraordinary costs in unusual cases if the county provides sufficient justification of the need for these expenditures. Nothing in this section shall permit the reimbursement of costs for travel in excess of 1,000 miles on any single round trip, without the prior approval of the Attorney General.

For purposes of this section, county costs include any court-related costs. The county shall ask the superior court how much court-related costs were incurred by the court and shall include these costs in its application. The amount of any reimbursement shall be divided between the court and the county in the proportion in which the total costs in the application are divided between the court and the county.

This section shall become operative on January 1, 2005.

SEC. 6. Section 26835.1 of the Government Code is repealed.
 SEC. 7. Section 26838 of the Government Code is repealed.
 SEC. 8. Section 26850.1 of the Government Code is repealed.
 SEC. 9. Section 26851.1 of the Government Code is repealed.
 SEC. 10. Section 26853.1 of the Government Code is

repealed.

SEC. 11. Section 68085 of the Government Code is amended to read:

68085. (a) (1) There is hereby established the Trial Court Trust Fund, the proceeds of which shall be apportioned at least quarterly for the purpose of funding trial court operations, as defined in Section 77003. In no event shall apportionment payments exceed 30 percent of the total annual apportionment to the Trial Court Trust Fund for state trial court funding in any 90-day period.

- (2) The apportionment payments shall be made by the Controller. For fiscal year 1997–98, the Controller shall make the first apportionment payment within 10 days of the operative date of this section. The final payment from the Trial Court Trust Fund for each fiscal year shall be made on or before August 31 of the subsequent fiscal year.
- (3) If apportionment payments are made on a quarterly basis, the payments shall be on July 15, October 15, January 15, and April 15. In addition to quarterly payments, a final payment from

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the Trial Court Trust Fund for each fiscal year may be made on or before August 31 of the subsequent fiscal year.

- (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the fees listed in subdivision (c) shall all be deposited upon collection in a special account in the county treasury, and transmitted herefrom monthly to the Controller for deposit in the Trial Court Trust Fund.
- (c) (1) Except as specified in subdivision (d), this section applies to all fees collected pursuant to Sections 631.3 and 116.230 of the Code of Civil Procedure and Sections 26820.4, 26823, 26826, 26826.01, 26827, 26827.4, 26830, 26832.1, 26833.1, 26836.1, 26837.1, 26852.1, 26855.4, 26862, 27081.5, 68086, 72055, 72056, 72056.01, and 72060.
- (2) If any of the fees provided for in this subdivision are partially waived by court order, and the fee is to be divided between the Trial Court Trust Fund and any other fund, the amount of the partial waiver shall be deducted from the amount to be distributed to each fund in the same proportion as the amount of each distribution bears to the total amount of the fee.
- (3) Any amounts transmitted by a county to the Controller for deposit into the Trial Court Trust Fund from fees collected pursuant to Section 27361 between January 1, 1998, and the effective date of this paragraph shall be credited against the total amount the county is required to pay to the state pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 77201 for the 1997–98 fiscal year.
- (d) This section does not apply to that portion of a filing fee collected pursuant to Section 26820.4, 26826, 26827, 72055, or 72056 which is allocated for dispute resolution pursuant to Section 470.3 of the Business and Professions Code, the county law library pursuant to Section 6320 of the Business and Professions Code, the Judges' Retirement Fund pursuant to Section 26822.3, automated recordkeeping or conversion to micrographics pursuant to Sections 26863 and 68090.7, and courthouse financing pursuant to Section 76238. This section also does not apply to fees collected pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) of Section 27361.
- (e) This section applies to all payments required to be made to the State Treasury by any county or city and county pursuant to Section 77201, 77201.1, or 77205.

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(f) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no agency shall take action to change the amounts allocated to any of the above funds

- (g) Before making any apportionments under this section, the Controller shall deduct, from the annual appropriation for that purpose, the actual administrative costs that will be incurred under this section. Costs reimbursed under this section shall be determined on an annual basis in consultation with the Judicial Council.
- (h) Any amounts required to be transmitted by a county or city and county to the state pursuant to this section shall be remitted to the Controller no later than 45 days after the end of the month in which the fees were collected. This remittance shall be accompanied by a remittance advice identifying the collection month and the appropriate account in the Trial Court Trust Fund to which it is to be deposited. Any remittance which is not made by the county or city and county in accordance with this section shall be considered delinquent, and subject to the penalties specified in this section.
- (i) Upon receipt of any delinquent payment required pursuant to this section, the Controller shall calculate a penalty on any delinquent payment by multiplying the amount of the delinquent payment at a daily rate equivalent to 1½ percent per month for the number of days the payment is delinquent. Notwithstanding Section 77009, any penalty on a delinquent payment that a court is required to reimburse to a county's general fund pursuant to this section and Section 24353 shall be paid from the Trial Court Operations Fund for that court.
- (j) Penalty amounts calculated pursuant to subdivision (i) shall be paid by the county to the Trial Court Trust Fund no later than 45 days after the end of the month in which the penalty was calculated.
- (k) The Trial Court Trust Fund shall be invested in the Surplus Money Investment Fund and all interest earned shall be allocated to the Trial Court Trust Fund semiannually and shall be allocated among the courts in accordance with the requirements of subdivision (a). The specific allocations shall be specified by the Judicial Council, based upon recommendations from the Trial Court Budget Commission.

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(1) It is the intent of the Legislature that the revenues required to be deposited into the Trial Court Trust Fund be remitted as soon after collection by the courts as possible. Not later than February 1, 2001, the Judicial Council, in consultation with the California State Association of Counties and the California County Auditors Association, shall study and make recommendations to the Legislature on alternative procedures that would improve the collection and remittance of revenues to the Trial Court Trust Fund.

10 SEC. 12.

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- SEC. 13. Section 68113 of the Government Code is repealed. SEC. 13.
- SEC. 14. Section 68502.5 of the Government Code is 14 amended to read:
 - 68502.5. (a) The Judicial Council may, as part of its trial court budget process, seek input from groups and individuals as it deems appropriate including, but not limited to, advisory committees and the Administrative Director of the Courts. The trial court budget process may include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - (1) The receipt of budget requests from the trial courts.
 - (2) The review of the trial courts' budget requests and evaluate them against performance criteria established by the Judicial Council by which a court's performance, level of coordination, and efficiency can be measured.
 - (3) The annual adoption of the projected cost in the subsequent fiscal year of court operations as defined in Section 77003 for each trial court. This estimation shall serve as a basis for recommended court budgets, which shall be developed for comparison purposes and to delineate funding responsibilities.
 - (4) The annual approval of a schedule for the allocation of moneys to individual courts and an overall trial court budget for forwarding to the Governor for inclusion in the Governor's proposed State Budget. The schedule shall be based on the performance criteria established pursuant to paragraph (2), on a minimum standard established by the Judicial Council for the operation and staffing of all trial court operations, and on such other factors as determined by the Judicial Council. This minimum standard shall be modeled on court operations using all reasonable and available measures to increase court efficiency. The schedule

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of allocations shall assure that all trial courts receive funding for the minimum operating and staffing standards before funding operating and staffing requests above the minimum standards, and shall include incentives and rewards for any trial court's implementation of efficiencies and cost saving measures.

- (5) The reallocation of funds during the course of the fiscal year to ensure equal access to the trial courts by the public, to improve trial court operations, and to meet trial court emergencies. Neither the state nor the counties shall have any obligation to replace moneys appropriated for trial courts and reallocated pursuant to this paragraph.
- (6) The allocation of funds in the Trial Court Improvement Fund to ensure equal access to trial courts by the public, to improve trial court operations, and to meet trial court emergencies.
- (7) Upon approval of the trial courts' budget by the Legislature, the preparation during the course of the fiscal year of allocation schedules for payments to the trial courts, consistent with Section 68085, which shall be submitted to the Controller's office by the 10th day of the month in which payments are to be made.
- (8) The establishment of rules regarding a court's authority to transfer trial court funding moneys from one functional category to another in order to address needs in any functional category.
- (9) At the request of the presiding judge of a trial court, an independent review of the funding level of the court to determine whether it is adequate to enable the court to discharge its statutory and constitutional responsibilities.
- (10) From time to time, a review of the level of fees charged by the courts for various services and prepare recommended adjustments for forwarding to the Legislature.
- (11) Provisions set forth in rules adopted pursuant to Section 77206 of the Government Code.
- (b) The Judicial Council shall retain the ultimate responsibility to adopt a budget and allocate funding for the trial courts and perform the other activities listed in subdivision (a) that best assure their ability to carry out their functions, promote implementation of statewide policies, and promote the immediate implementation of efficiencies and cost savings measures in court operations, in order to guarantee equal access to the courts.

SEC. 14.

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1 SEC. 15. Section 68511.3 of the Government Code is amended 2 to read:

- 68511.3. (a) The Judicial Council shall formulate and adopt uniform forms and rules of court for litigants proceeding in forma pauperis. These rules shall provide for all of the following:
- (1) Standard procedures for considering and determining applications for permission to proceed in forma pauperis, including, in the event of a denial of such permission, a written statement detailing the reasons for denial and an evidentiary hearing where there is a substantial evidentiary conflict.
- (2) Standard procedures to toll relevant time limitations when a pleading or other paper accompanied by such an application is timely lodged with the court and delay is caused due to the processing of the application to proceed in forma pauperis.
- (3) Proceeding in forma pauperis at every stage of the proceedings at both the appellate and trial levels of the court system.
- (4) The confidentiality of the financial information provided to the court by these litigants.
- (5) That the court may authorize the clerk of the court, county financial officer, or other appropriate county officer to make reasonable efforts to verify the litigant's financial condition without compromising the confidentiality of the application.
- (6) That permission to proceed in forma pauperis be granted to all of the following:
- (A) Litigants who are receiving benefits pursuant to the Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and State Supplemental Payments (SSP) programs (Sections 12200 to 12205, inclusive, of the Welfare and Institutions Code), the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids Act (CalWORKs) program (Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 11200) of Part 3 of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code), the Food Stamp program (7 U.S.C. Sec. 2011 et seq.), or Section 17000 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.
- (B) Litigants whose monthly income is 125 percent or less of the current monthly poverty line annually established by the Secretary of Health and Human Services pursuant to the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1981, as amended.
- 39 (C) Other persons when in the court's discretion, this 40 permission is appropriate because the litigant is unable to proceed

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without using money which is necessary for the use of the litigant or the litigant's family to provide for the common necessaries of life.

- (b) (1) Litigants who apply for permission to proceed in forma pauperis pursuant to subparagraph (A) of paragraph (6) of subdivision (a) shall declare under penalty of perjury that they are receiving such benefits and may voluntarily provide the court with their date of birth and social security number or their Medi-Cal identification number to permit the court to verify the applicant's receipt of public assistance. The court may require any applicant, except a defendant in an unlawful detainer action, who chooses not to disclose his or her social security number for verification purposes to attach to the application documentation of benefits to support the claim and all other financial information on a form promulgated by the Judicial Council for this purpose.
- (2) Litigants who apply for permission to proceed in forma pauperis pursuant to subparagraph (B) or (C) of paragraph (6) of subdivision (a) shall file a financial statement under oath on a form promulgated by, and pursuant to rules adopted by, the Judicial Council.
- (c) The forms and rules adopted by the Judicial Council shall provide for the disclosure of the following information about the litigant:
 - (1) Current street address.
 - (2) Date of birth.
- 26 (3)

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- 27 (2) Occupation and employer.
- 28 (4)
- 29 (3) Monthly income and expenses.
- 30 (5)
- 31 (4) Address and value of any real property owned directly or 32 beneficially.
- 33 (6)

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- (5) Personal property with a value that exceeds five hundred dollars (\$500).
- The information furnished by the litigant shall be used by the court in determining his or her ability to pay all or a portion of the fees and costs.
- (d) At any time after the court has granted a litigant permission to proceed in forma pauperis and prior to final disposition of the

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case, the clerk of the court, county financial officer, or other appropriate county officer may notify the court of any changed financial circumstances which may enable the litigant to pay all or a portion of the fees and costs which had been waived. The court may authorize the clerk of the court, county financial officer, or other appropriate county officer to require the litigant to appear before and be examined by the person authorized to ascertain the validity of their indigent status. However, no litigant shall be required to appear more than once in any four-month period. A litigant proceeding in forma pauperis shall notify the court within five days of any settlement or monetary consideration received in settlement of this litigation and of any other change in financial circumstances that affects the litigant's ability to pay court fees and costs. After the litigant either (1) appears before and is examined by the person authorized to ascertain the validity of his or her indigent status or (2) notifies the court of a change in financial circumstances, the court may then order the litigant to pay to the county such sum and in such manner as the court believes is compatible with the litigant's financial ability.

In any action or proceeding in which the litigant whose fees and costs have been waived would have been entitled to recover those fees and costs from another party to the action or proceeding had they been paid, the court may assess the amount of the waived fees and costs against the other party and order the other party to pay that sum to the county or to the clerk and serving and levying officers respectively, or the court may order the amount of the waived fees and costs added to the judgment and so identified by the clerk.

Execution may be issued on any order provided for in this subdivision in the same manner as on a judgment in a civil action. When an amount equal to the sum due and payable to the clerk has been collected upon the judgment, these amounts shall be remitted to the clerk within 30 days. Thereafter, when an amount equal to the sum due to the serving and levying officers has been collected upon the judgment, these amounts shall be due and payable to those officers and shall be remitted within 30 days. If the remittance is not received by the clerk within 30 days or there is a filing of a partial satisfaction of judgment in an amount at least equal to the fees and costs payable to the clerk or a satisfaction of judgment has been filed, notwithstanding any other provision of

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law, the court may issue an abstract of judgment, writ of execution, or both for recovery of those sums, plus the fees for issuance and execution and an additional fee for administering this section. The county board of supervisors shall establish a fee, not to exceed actual costs of administering this subdivision and in no case exceeding twenty-five dollars (\$25), which shall be added to the writ of execution.

- (e) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), a person who is sentenced to imprisonment in a state prison or confined in a county jail and, during the period of imprisonment or confinement, files a civil action or notice of appeal of a civil action in forma pauperis shall be required to pay the full amount of the filing fee to the extent provided in this subdivision.
- (1) In addition to the form required by this section for filing in forma pauperis, an inmate shall file a copy of a statement of account for any sums due to the inmate for the six-month period immediately preceding the filing of the civil action or notice of appeal of a civil action. This copy shall be certified by the appropriate official of the Department of Corrections or a county jail.
- (2) Upon filing the civil action or notice of appeal of a civil action, the court shall assess, and when funds exist, collect, as a partial payment of any required court fees, an initial partial filing fee of 20 percent of the greater of one of the following:
 - (A) The average monthly deposits to the inmate's account.
- (B) The average monthly balance in the inmate's account for the six-month period immediately preceding the filing of the civil action or notice of appeal.
- (3) After payment of the initial partial filing fee, the inmate shall be required to make monthly payments of 20 percent of the preceding month's income credited to the inmate's account. The Department of Corrections shall forward payments from this account to the clerk of the court each time the amount in the account exceeds ten dollars (\$10) until the filing fees are paid.
- (4) In no event shall the filing fee collected pursuant to this subdivision exceed the amount of fees permitted by law for the commencement of a civil action or an appeal of a civil action.
- (5) In no event shall an inmate be prohibited from bringing a civil action or appeal of a civil action solely because the inmate has no assets and no means to pay the initial partial filing fee.

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SEC. 16. Section 72055 of the Government Code is amended to read:

72055. (a) The total fee for filing of the first paper in a limited civil case, shall be ninety dollars (\$90), except that in cases where the amount demanded, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) or less, the fee shall be eighty-three dollars (\$83). The amount of the demand shall be stated on the first page of the paper immediately below the caption eighty-seven dollars (\$87).

- (b) This section applies to the initial complaint, petition, or application, and any papers transmitted from another court on the transfer of a civil action or proceeding, but does not include documents filed pursuant to Section 491.150, 704.750, or 708.160 of the Code of Civil Procedure.
- (c) The term "total fee" as used in this section and Section 72056 includes any amount allocated to the Judges' Retirement Fund pursuant to Section 72056.1, any automation fee imposed pursuant to Section 68090.7, any construction fee imposed pursuant to Section 76238, and the law library fee established pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 6320) of Chapter 5 of Division 3 of the Business and Professions Code. The term "total fee" as used in this section and Section 72056 also includes any dispute resolution fee imposed pursuant to Section 470.3 of the Business and Professions Code, but the board of supervisors of each county may exclude any portion of this dispute resolution fee from the term "total fee."
- (d) The fee shall be waived in any action for damages against a defendant, based upon the defendant's commission of a felony offense, upon presentation to the clerk of the court of a certified copy of the abstract of judgment of conviction of the defendant of the felony giving rise to the claim for damages. If the plaintiff would have been entitled to recover those fees from the defendant had they been paid, the court may assess the amount of the waived fees against the defendant and order the defendant to pay that sum to the county.
- 36 SEC. 17. Section 77001 of the Government Code is amended 37 to read:
- 77001. The Judicial Council shall adopt rules which establish a decentralized system of trial court management. These rules shall ensure:

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(a) Local authority and responsibility of trial courts to manage 1 2 day-to-day operations.

- (b) Countywide administration of the trial courts.
- (c) The authority and responsibility of trial courts to manage all of the following, consistent with statute, rules of court, and standards of judicial administration:
- (1) Annual allocation of funding, including policies and procedures about moving funding between functions or line items or programs.
- (2) Local personnel systems plans, including the promulgation of personnel policies.
- (3) Processes and procedures to improve court operations and responsiveness to the public.
- (4) The trial courts of each county shall establish the means of selecting presiding judges, assistant presiding judges, executive officers or court administrators, clerks of court, and jury commissioners.
 - (d) Trial court input into the Judicial Council budget process.
- (e) Equal access to justice throughout California utilizing standard practices and procedures whenever feasible.

SEC. 15.

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- SEC. 18. Section 77003 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 77003. (a) As used in this chapter, "court operations" means all of the following:
- (1) Salaries, benefits, and public agency retirement contributions for superior and municipal court judges and for subordinate judicial officers. For purposes of this paragraph, "subordinate judicial officers" includes all commissioner or referee positions created prior to July 1, 1997, including positions created in the municipal court prior to July 1, 1997, which thereafter became positions in the superior court as a result of unification of the municipal and superior courts in a county, and including those commissioner positions created pursuant to Sections 69904, 70141, 70141.9, 70142.11, 72607, 73794, 36 74841.5, and 74908; and includes any staff who provide direct
- support to commissioners; but does not include commissioners or
- staff who provide direct support to the commissioners whose
- positions were created after July 1, 1997, unless approved by the
- Judicial Council, subject to availability of funding.

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(2) The salary, benefits, and public agency retirement contributions for other court staff including all municipal court staff positions specifically prescribed by statute.

- (3) Those marshals and sheriffs as the court deems necessary for court operations.
- (4) Court-appointed counsel in juvenile court dependency proceedings and counsel appointed by the court to represent a minor pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3150) of Part 2 of Division 8 of the Family Code.
 - (5) Services and supplies relating to court operations.
- (6) Collective bargaining under the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act or Sections 2201 to 2210, inclusive, of the California Rules of Court Sections 71630 and 71639.3 with respect to court employees specified in Section 3501.5.
- (7) Subject to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 77212, actual indirect costs for county and city and county general services attributable to court operations, but specifically excluding, but not limited to, law library operations conducted by a trust pursuant to statute; courthouse construction; district attorney services; probation services; indigent criminal defense; grand jury expenses and operations; and pretrial release services.
- (b) However, "court operations" does not include collection enhancements as defined in Rule 810 of the California Rules of Court as it read on July 1, 1996.

SEC. 16.

SEC. 19. Section 77009 of the Government Code is amended to read:

77009. (a) For the purposes of funding trial court operations, each board of supervisors shall establish in the county treasury a Trial Court Operations Fund, which will operate as an agency fund. All funds appropriated in the Budget Act and allocated and reallocated to each court in the county by the Judicial Council shall be deposited into the fund. Accounts shall be established in the Trial Court Operations Fund for each trial court in the county, except that one account may be established for courts which have a unified budget. In a county where court budgets include appropriations for expenditures administered on a countywide basis, including, but not limited to, court security, centralized data-processing and planning and research services, an account for

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each centralized service shall be established and funded from those appropriations.

- (b) The moneys of the Trial Court Operations Fund arising from deposits of funds appropriated in the Budget Act and allocated or reallocated to each court in the county by the Judicial Council shall be payable only for the purposes set forth in Sections 77003 and 77006.5, and for services purchased by the court pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) of Section 77212. The presiding judge of each court in a county, or his or her designee, shall authorize and direct expenditures from the fund and the county auditor-controller shall make payments from the funds as directed. Approval of the board of supervisors is not required for expenditure from this fund.
- (c) All funds received by a trial court from any source shall be deposited in the trial court operations fund, except as provided in this section. Funds that are received to fulfill the requirements of Article 4 (commencing with Section 4250) of Chapter 2 of Part 2 of Division 9 and Division 14 (commencing with Section 10000) of the Family Code shall be identified and maintained in a separate account established in the fund for this purpose. All other funds that are received for purposes other than court operations, as defined in Section 77003 and Rule 810 of the California Rules of Court, shall be identified and maintained in one or more separate accounts established in the fund pursuant to procedures adopted by the Judicial Council. This subdivision shall only apply to funds received by the courts for operating and program purposes. This subdivision shall not apply to either of the following:
- (1) Funds received by the courts pursuant to Section 68084, if those funds are not for operating or program use.
- (2) Payments from a party or a defendant received by a trial court or the county for any fees, fines, or forfeitures.
- (d) Interest received by a county which is attributable to investment of money required by this section to be deposited in its Trial Court Operations Fund shall be deposited in the fund and shall be used for trial court operations purposes.
- (e) In no event shall interest be charged to the Trial Court Operations Fund, except as provided in Section 77009.1.
- (f) Reasonable administrative expenses incurred by the county associated with the operation of this fund shall be charged to each

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court on a pro rata basis in proportion to the total amount allocated to each court in this fund.

- (g) A county, or city and county, may bill trial courts within its jurisdiction for costs for services provided by the county, or city and county, as described in Sections 77003 and 77212, including indirect costs as described in paragraph (7) of subdivision (a) of Section 77003 and Section 77212. The costs billed by the county, or the city and the county, pursuant to this subdivision shall not exceed the costs incurred by the county, or the city and the county, of providing similar services to county departments or special districts.
- (h) Pursuant to Section 77206, the Controller, at the request of the Legislature or the Judicial Council, may perform financial and fiscal compliance audits of this fund. The Judicial Council or its representatives may perform audits and reviews of this fund wherever the records may be located.
- (i) The Judicial Council with the concurrence of the Department of Finance and the Controller's office, in consultation with the Controller's office, shall establish procedures to implement the provisions of this section and to provide for payment of trial court operations expenses, as described in Sections 77003 and 77006.5, incurred on July 1, 1997, and thereafter.
- (j) The Judicial Council shall study alternative methods for the establishment and management of the Trial Court Operations Fund as provided in this section, and shall report its findings and recommendations to the Legislature not later than November 1, 1998. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, including, but not limited to, this section, the Judicial Council may establish trial court operations funds separate from the county treasury. The operations funds may supersede those provided for under this section and may require the courts to include any or all money under the control of the court in the funds.
- *SEC.* 20. Section 77202 of the Government Code is amended to read:
- 77202. (a) The Legislature shall make an annual appropriation to the Judicial Council for the general operations of the trial courts based on the request of the Judicial Council. The Judicial Council's trial court budget request shall meet the needs of all trial courts in a manner which promotes equal access to the

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courts statewide. The Judicial Council shall allocate the appropriation to the trial courts in a manner that best ensures the ability of the courts to carry out their functions, promotes implementation of statewide policies, and promotes the immediate implementation of efficiencies and cost saving measures in court operations, in order to guarantee access to justice to citizens of the 7 state.

The Judicial Council shall ensure that its trial court budget request and the allocations made by it reward each trial court's implementation of efficiencies and cost saving measures.

These efficiencies and cost saving measures shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

- (1) The sharing or merger of court support staff among trial courts across counties.
- (2) The assignment of any type of case to a judge for all purposes commencing with the filing of the case and regardless of jurisdictional boundaries.
- (3) The establishment of a separate calendar or division to hear a particular type of case.
- (4) In rural counties, the use of all court facilities for hearings and trials of all types of cases and the acceptance of filing documents in any case.
- (5) The use of alternative dispute resolution programs, such as arbitration.
- (6) The development and use of automated accounting and case-processing systems.
- (b) The Judicial Council shall adopt policies and procedures governing practices and procedures for budgeting in the trial courts in a manner that best ensures the ability of the courts to carry 30 out their functions and may delegate such adoption to the Administrative Director of the Courts. The Administrative Director of the Courts shall establish budget procedures and an annual schedule of budget development and management consistent with these rules.
 - SEC. 17.
- 36 SEC. 21. Section 77206 of the Government Code is amended 37 to read:
 - 77206. (a) The Judicial Council shall adopt appropriate rules for budget submission and management, and reporting of revenues and expenditures by each court. The Controller, in consultation

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with the Judicial Council, shall maintain appropriate regulations 2 for record keeping and accounting by the courts, in order to 3 determine all moneys collected by the courts, including filing fees, 4 fines, forfeitures, and penalties, and all revenues and expenditures relating to court operations. Notwithstanding any other provision 5 of law, the Judicial Council may regulate the budget and fiscal 6 management of the trial courts. The Judicial Council, in consultation with the Controller, shall maintain appropriate 9 regulations for recordkeeping and accounting by the courts. The 10 *Judicial Council shall seek to ensure, by these provisions, that (1)* 11 the fiscal affairs of the trial courts are managed efficiently, effectively, and responsibly, and (2) all moneys collected by the 12 13 courts, including filing fees, fines, forfeitures, and penalties, and 14 all revenues and expenditures relating to court operations are known. The Judicial Council may delegate their authority under 15 this section, when appropriate, to the Administrative Director of 16 17 the Courts.

(b) Regulations, rules, and reporting requirements adopted pursuant to this chapter shall be exempt from review and approval or other processing by the Office of Administrative Law as provided for in Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 11340) of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2.

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- (c) The Controller, at the request of the Legislature or the Judicial Council, may perform and publish financial and fiscal compliance audits of the reports of court revenues and expenditures. The Controller shall report the results of these audits to the Legislature and the Judicial Council. The Judicial Council or its representative may perform audits and reviews of all court financial records wherever they may be located.
- (d) The Judicial Council shall provide for the transmission of summary information concerning court revenues expenditures to the Controller.
- (e) The Judicial Council shall adopt rules to provide for reasonable public access to budget allocation and expenditure information at the state and local level.
- (f) The Judicial Council shall adopt rules ensuring that, upon written request, the trial courts provide, in a timely manner, information relating to the administration of the courts, including financial information and other information that affects the wages, hours, and working conditions of trial court employees.

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1 SEC. 22. Section 77212 of the Government Code is amended 2 to read:

3 77212. (a) The State of California, the counties of California, 4 and the trial courts of California, recognize that a unique and interdependent relationship has evolved between the courts and 5 the counties over a sustained period of time. While it is the intent of this act to transfer all fiscal responsibility for the support of the trial courts from the counties to the State of California, it is 9 imperative that the activities of the state, the counties, and the trial courts be maintained in a manner that ensures that services to the 10 11 people of California not be disrupted. Therefore, to this end, 12 during the 1997–98 fiscal year, commencing on July 1, 1997, 13 counties shall continue to provide and courts shall continue to use, 14 county services provided to the trial courts on July 1, 1997, including, but not limited to: auditor/controller services, 15 coordination of telephone services, data-processing and 16 information technology services, procurement, human resources 17 services, affirmative action services, treasurer/tax collector services, county counsel services, facilities management, and legal 19 20 representation. These services shall be provided to the court at a 21 rate that shall not exceed the costs of providing similar services to 22 county departments or special districts. If the cost was not included 23 in the county base pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of 24 Section 77201 or was not otherwise charged to the court prior to July 1, 1997, and were court operation costs as defined in Section 25 26 77003 in fiscal year 1994–95, the court may seek adjustment of the 27 amount the county is required to submit to the state pursuant 28 Section 77201.

- (b) In fiscal year 1998–99 commencing on July 1, 1998, and thereafter the county may give notice to the court that the county will no longer provide a specific service except that the county shall cooperate with the court to ensure that a vital service for the court shall be available from the county or other entities that provide those services. The notice must be given at least 90 days prior to the end of the fiscal year and shall be effective only upon the first day of the succeeding fiscal year.
- (c) In fiscal year 1998–99, commencing on July 1, 1998, and thereafter, the court may give notice to the county that the court will no longer use a specific county service. The notice shall be given at least 90 days prior to the end of the fiscal year and shall

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be effective only upon the first day of the succeeding fiscal year. However, for three years from the effective date of this section, a court shall not terminate a service that involved the acquisition of equipment, including, but not limited to, computer and data processing systems, financed by a long-term financing plan whereby the county is dependent upon the court's continued financial support for a portion of the cost of the acquisition.

(d) (1) If a trial court desires to receive or continue to receive a specific service from a county or city and county as provided in subdivision (c), and the county or city and county desires to provide or continue to provide that service as provided in subdivision (b), the presiding judge of that court and the county or city and county shall enter into a contract for that service. The contract shall identify the scope of service, method of service delivery, term of agreement, anticipated service outcomes, and the cost of the service. The court and the county or city and county shall cooperate in developing and implementing the contract.

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For any contract entered into after January 1, 2002, the amount of any indirect or overhead costs shall be individually stated in any contract together with the method of calculation of the indirect or overhead costs. In the absence of any statement, indirect or overhead costs may not be charged. This amount shall not contain items that are not otherwise allowable court operations. The Judicial Council may audit the county figures to ensure compliance with this section and to determine the reasonableness of the figures.

- (2) This subdivision applies to services to be provided in fiscal year 1999–2000 and thereafter.
- SEC. 18. Section 77214 is added to the Government Code, to read:
- 77214. The Administrative Director of the Courts may offer services to the trial courts. If the Judicial Council requires that certain services be utilized for enhancing the efficiency or effectiveness of the courts, or upon the court's request, the Administrative Director of the Courts shall ensure that these services are available.
- SEC. 19.
- 39 SEC. 23. Section 1463.1 of the Penal Code is amended to 40 read:

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1463.1. Notwithstanding the any other provisions of Section 1463 law except Section 77009 of the Government Code, any municipal trial court may elect, with prior approval of the county auditor Administrative Director of the Courts, to deposit in a bank account pursuant to Section 53679 of the Government Code, all moneys deposited as bail with such court, or with the clerk thereof.

All moneys received and disbursed through such *a* bank account shall be properly and uniformly accounted for under such procedures as the State Controller may deem necessary. *The Judicial Council may regulate the bank accounts, provided that its regulations are not inconsistent with those of the Controller.*

- SEC. 24. Section 4750 of the Penal Code is amended to read: 4750. A city or county and the superior court in the county shall be entitled to reimbursement for reasonable and necessary costs connected with state prisons or prisoners in connection with any of the following:
- (a) Any crime committed at a state prison, whether by a prisoner, employee, or other person.

With respect to a prisoner, "crime committed at a state prison" as used in this subdivision, includes, but is not limited to, crimes committed by the prisoner while detained in local facilities as a result of a transfer pursuant to Section 2910 or 6253, or in conjunction with any hearing, proceeding, or other activity for which reimbursement is otherwise provided by this section.

- (b) Any crime committed by a prisoner in furtherance of an escape. Any crime committed by an escaped prisoner within 10 days after the escape and within 100 miles of the facility from which the escape occurred shall be presumed to have been a crime committed in furtherance of an escape.
- (c) Any hearing on any return of a writ of habeas corpus prosecuted by or on behalf of a prisoner.
- (d) Any trial or hearing on the question of the sanity of a prisoner.
- (e) Any costs not otherwise reimbursable under Section 1557 or any other related provision in connection with any extradition proceeding for any prisoner released to hold.
- (f) Any costs incurred by a coroner in connection with the death of a prisoner.

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(g) Any costs incurred in transporting a prisoner within the host county or as requested by the prison facility or incurred for increased security while a prisoner is outside a state prison.

SEC. 20.

- *SEC.* 25. Section 4751 of the Penal Code is amended to read: 4751. Costs incurred include all of the following:
- (a) Costs of law enforcement agencies in connection with any matter set forth in Section 4750, including the investigation or evaluation of any of those matters regardless of whether a crime has in fact occurred, a hearing held, or an offense prosecuted.
- (b) Costs of any trial or hearing of any matter set forth in Section 4750, including costs for the preparation of the trial, pretrial hearing, actual trial or hearing, expert witness fees, the costs of guarding or keeping the prisoner, the transportation of the prisoner, the costs of appeal, and the execution of the sentence. The cost of detention in a city or county correctional facility shall include the same cost factors as are utilized by the Department of Corrections in determining the cost of prisoner care in state correctional facilities.
- (c) The costs of the prosecuting attorney in investigating, evaluating, or prosecuting cases related to any matter set forth in Section 4750, whether or not the prosecuting attorney decides to commence legal action.
- (d) Costs incurred by the public defender or court appointed attorney with respect to any matter set forth in Section 4750.
- (e) Any other costs reasonably incurred by a county or superior court in connection with any matter set forth in Section 4750.

SEC. 21.

SEC. 26. Section 4753 of the Penal Code is amended to read: 4753. A city or county shall designate an officer or agency to prepare a statement of costs of the city or county that shall be reimbursed under this chapter. A superior court shall designate an officer or employee to prepare a statement of costs of the court that shall be reimbursed under this chapter.

The statements of the city or county and of the superior court shall be sent together to the Controller for approval. The Controller shall reimburse the city or county and the superior court within 60 days after receipt of the statement or provide a written statement as to the reason for not making reimbursement at that time. The reimbursement to the superior court shall be made directly to the

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- court. If sufficient funds are not available, the Controller shall
 request the Director of Finance to include any amounts necessary
 to satisfy the claims in a request for a deficiency appropriation.