

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 12, 2007

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 19, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007—08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 18

Introduced by Assembly Member Blakeslee

December 4, 2006

An act to amend Section 14 of, and to add Section 15 to, the Civil Code, to amend Section 17 of the Code of Civil Procedure, to amend Section 17 of the Corporations Code, to amend Section 354.5 of the Elections Code, to amend Section 17 of the Financial Code, to amend Section 81 of the Fish and Game Code, to amend Section 16 of, and to add Section 12172.7 to, the Government Code, to amend Section 18 of the Harbors and Navigation Code, to amend Section 18 of the Health and Safety Code, to amend Section 18 of the Insurance Code, to amend Section 17 of the Labor Code, to amend Section 17 of the Military and Veterans Code, to amend Section 7 of the Penal Code, to amend Section 17 of the Public Resources Code, to amend Section 16 of the Public Utilities Code, to amend Section 18 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to amend Section 18 of the Streets and Highways Code, to amend Section 17 of the Unemployment Insurance Code, to amend Section 17 of the Vehicle Code, to amend Section 17 of the Water Code, and to amend Section 17 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, relating to disabled persons.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 18, as amended, Blakeslee. Disabled persons: signature stamps. Existing law generally provides that, when a signature is required on a document or writing, a person who cannot write may satisfy that

requirement by the use of a mark if certain conditions are met, except as specified.

This bill would establish the Warren Mattingly Signature Stamp Act, which would provide, in addition, that a person with a disability, as defined, who, by reason of the disability, is unable to write may use a signature stamp, or authorize another person to use the stamp, to affix his or her signature to a document or writing any time that a signature is required by law or requested in connection with a transaction. The bill would require that a signature affixed with a signature stamp pursuant to these provisions be treated in the same manner as a signature made in writing. It would impose certain conditions on the use of signature stamps, including a condition that the signature stamp be used in the presence of the person, entity, or representative of the person or entity that requires or requests the signature and a condition that the owner of the signature stamp present valid identification, as specified. *The bill would require that, in certain circumstances, a signature by signature stamp be accompanied by the signature of a witness or, in certain other circumstances, 2 witnesses.*

The bill would prohibit the use of a signature stamp on a ballot, or to obtain a ballot, in any local, state, or federal election unless the person has registered the signature stamp with the Secretary of State, and would require the Secretary of State to develop such a registry.

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. This act shall be known as the Warren Mattingly
- 2 Signature Stamp Act.
- 3 SEC. 2. Section 14 of the Civil Code is amended to read:
- 4 14. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include
- 5 the future as well as the present; words used in the masculine
- 6 gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number
- 7 includes the plural, and the plural the singular.
- 8 (1) "Person" includes a corporation as well as a natural person.
- 9 (2) "County" includes city and county.
- 10 (3) "Writing" includes printing and typewriting.
- 11 (4) "Oath" includes affirmation or declaration; and every mode
- 12 of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by the
- 13 term "testify," and every written one in the term "depose."

1 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
2 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
3 the context:

4 (1) "Property" includes property real and personal.

5 (2) "Real property" is coextensive with lands, tenements, and
6 hereditaments.

7 (3) "Personal property" includes money, goods, chattels, things
8 in action, and evidences of debt.

9 (4) "Month" means a calendar month, unless otherwise
10 expressed.

11 (5) "Will" includes codicil.

12 (6) "Section," whenever employed, refers to a section of this
13 code, unless some other code or statute is expressly mentioned.

14 (7) "Signature" or "subscription" includes the following:

15 (A) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer's or
16 subscriber's name being written near the mark by a person who
17 writes his or her own name as a witness, provided that when a
18 signature is by mark it must, in order that it may be acknowledged
19 or may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed
20 by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses
21 thereto.

22 (B) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp
23 pursuant to the requirements specified in Section 15.

24 SEC. 3. Section 15 is added to the Civil Code, to read:

25 15. (a) Except as provided in subdivisions (b) to (d), inclusive,
26 and notwithstanding any other provision of law, the following
27 provisions apply:

28 (1) An authorized user may use a signature stamp to affix a
29 signature to a document or writing any time that a signature is
30 required by law or requested in connection with a transaction.

31 (2) A signature affixed with a signature stamp by an authorized
32 user in accordance with the requirements of this section shall be
33 treated in the same manner as a signature made in writing.

34 (b) If the requirement that a document or writing be signed is
35 accompanied by any additional qualifying requirement, subdivision
36 (a) shall apply only if each additional qualifying requirement is
37 satisfied.

38 (c) A person shall not use a signature stamp unless the following
39 requirements are met:

40 (1) The person is an authorized user of that signature stamp.

1 (2) The person uses the signature stamp in the presence of the
2 person, entity, or representative of the person or entity that requires
3 or requests the signature *in the execution of the document*.

4 (3) The owner of the signature stamp presents valid
5 identification as proof of his or her identity to ensure that the person
6 using or authorizing the use of the signature stamp is the owner
7 of the stamp.

8 (d) A person shall not use a signature stamp on a ballot, or to
9 obtain a ballot, in any local, state, or federal election unless the
10 person has registered the signature stamp with the Secretary of
11 State pursuant to Section 12172.7 of the Government Code.

12 (e) The following definitions apply for purposes of this section:

13 (1) “Authorized user” means either of the following:

14 (A) A person with a disability who, by reason of that disability,
15 is unable to write and who owns a signature stamp.

16 (B) A person using the signature stamp on behalf of the owner
17 of the stamp with the owner’s express consent and in the presence
18 of the owner.

19 (2) “Disability” means a medical condition, mental disability,
20 or physical disability, as those terms are defined in subdivisions
21 (h), (i), and (k), respectively, of Section 12926 of the Government
22 Code.

23 (3) “Identification” means any form of identification listed in
24 *paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 20107 of Title 2 of the*
25 *California Code of Regulations*.

26 (4) “Signature stamp” means a stamp that contains the
27 impression of any of the following:

28 (A) The actual signature of a person with a ~~physical~~ disability.

29 (B) A mark or symbol that is adopted by the person with the
30 ~~physical~~ disability.

31 (C) A signature of the name of a person with a ~~physical~~ disability
32 that is made by another person and is adopted by the person with
33 the ~~physical~~ disability.

34 SEC. 4. Section 17 of the Code of Civil Procedure is amended
35 to read:

36 17. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include
37 the future as well as the present; words used in the masculine
38 gender include the feminine and neuter; the singular number
39 includes the plural, and the plural the singular.

40 (1) “Person” includes a corporation as well as a natural person.

1 (2) "County" includes "city and county."

2 (3) ~~Writing~~ "Writing" includes printing and typewriting.

3 (4) ~~Oath~~ "Oath" includes affirmation or declaration; and every
4 mode of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by
5 the term "testify," and every written one in the term "depose."

6 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
7 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
8 the context:

9 (1) "Property" includes both real and personal property.

10 (2) "Real property" is coextensive with lands, tenements, and
11 hereditaments.

12 (3) "Personal property" includes money, goods, chattels, things
13 in action, and evidences of debt.

14 (4) "Month" means a calendar month, unless otherwise
15 expressed.

16 (5) "Will" includes codicil.

17 (6) "Writ" signifies an order or precept in writing issued in the
18 name of the people, or of a court or judicial officer, and "process"
19 signifies a writ or summons issued in the course of judicial
20 proceedings.

21 (7) "State," when applied to the different parts of the United
22 States, includes the District of Columbia and the territories, and
23 "United States" may include the district and territories.

24 (8) "Section," whenever employed, refers to a section of this
25 code, unless some other code or statute is expressly mentioned.

26 (9) "Affinity," when applied to the marriage relation, signifies
27 the connection existing, in consequence of marriage, between each
28 of the married persons and the blood relatives of the other.

29 (10) "Sheriff" includes "marshal."

30 (11) "Signature" or "subscription" includes the following:

31 (A) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer's or
32 subscriber's name being written near the mark by a person who
33 writes his or her own name as a witness, provided that when a
34 signature is by mark it must, in order that it may be acknowledged
35 or may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed
36 by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses
37 thereto.

38 (B) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp
39 pursuant to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil
40 Code.

1 SEC. 5. Section 17 of the Corporations Code is amended to
2 read:

3 17. (a) "Signature" includes mark when the signer cannot
4 write, the signer's name being written near the mark by a witness
5 who writes his or her own name near the signer's name; but a
6 signature by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
7 signature to a sworn statement only when two witnesses so sign
8 their own names thereto.

9 (b) "Signature" also includes an impression made by the use of
10 a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements specified in Section
11 15 of the Civil Code.

12 SEC. 6. Section 354.5 of the Elections Code is amended to
13 read:

14 354.5. (a) "Signature" includes both of the following:

15 (1) A person's mark if the name of the person affixing the mark
16 is written near the mark by a witness over the age of 18 years
17 designated by the person and the designee subscribes his or her
18 own name as a witness thereto.

19 (2) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant
20 to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

21 (b) A mark attested as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision
22 (a), or an impression made by a signature stamp as provided in
23 paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), may serve as a signature for any
24 purpose specified in this code, including a sworn statement.

25 SEC. 7. Section 17 of the Financial Code is amended to read:

26 17. (a) "Signature" or "subscription" includes mark. The mark
27 shall be made as required in the Civil Code.

28 (b) "Signature" or "subscription" also includes an impression
29 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
30 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

31 SEC. 8. Section 81 of the Fish and Game Code is amended to
32 read:

33 81. (a) "Signature" or "subscription" includes mark when the
34 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer's or subscriber's name
35 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
36 own name near the signer's or subscriber's name; but a signature
37 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
38 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
39 witnesses also sign their own names.

1 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
2 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
3 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

4 SEC. 9. Section 16 of the Government Code is amended to
5 read:

6 16. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
7 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
8 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
9 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
10 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
11 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
12 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

13 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
14 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
15 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

16 SEC. 9.5. Section 12172.7 is added to the Government Code,
17 to read:

18 12172.7. (a) The Secretary of State shall develop a registry
19 for signature stamps that are authorized for use, pursuant to Section
20 15 of the Civil Code, on a ballot, or to obtain a ballot, in a local,
21 state, or federal election.

22 (b) The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations relating to the
23 registration procedures for signature stamps and the verification
24 of signature stamp registration.

25 SEC. 10. Section 18 of the Harbors and Navigation Code is
26 amended to read:

27 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
28 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
29 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
30 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
31 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
32 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
33 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

34 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
35 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
36 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

37 SEC. 11. Section 18 of the Health and Safety Code is amended
38 to read:

39 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
40 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name

1 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 2 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 3 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 4 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 5 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

6 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 7 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 8 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

9 SEC. 12. Section 18 of the Insurance Code is amended to read:

10 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 11 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
 12 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 13 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 14 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 15 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 16 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

17 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 18 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 19 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

20 SEC. 13. Section 17 of the Labor Code is amended to read:

21 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 22 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
 23 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 24 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 25 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 26 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 27 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

28 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 29 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 30 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

31 SEC. 14. Section 17 of the Military and Veterans Code is
 32 amended to read:

33 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 34 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
 35 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 36 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 37 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 38 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 39 witnesses so sign the same.

1 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
2 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
3 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

4 SEC. 15. Section 7 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

5 7. (a) Words used in this code in the present tense include the
6 future as well as the present; words used in the masculine gender
7 include the feminine and neuter; the singular number includes the
8 plural, and the plural the singular.

9 (1) “Person” includes a corporation as well as a natural person.

10 (2) “County” includes “city and county.”

11 (3) “Writing” includes printing and typewriting.

12 (4) “Oath” includes affirmation or declaration; and every mode
13 of oral statement, under oath or affirmation, is embraced by the
14 term “testify,” and every written one in the term “depose.”

15 (b) The following words have in this code the signification
16 attached to them in this section, unless otherwise apparent from
17 the context:

18 (1) “Willfully,” when applied to the intent with which an act is
19 done or omitted, implies simply a purpose or willingness to commit
20 the act, or make the omission referred to. It does not require any
21 intent to violate law, or to injure another, or to acquire any
22 advantage.

23 (2) “Neglect,” “negligence,” “negligent,” and “negligently”
24 import a want of the attention to the nature or probable
25 consequences of the act or omission that a prudent person ordinarily
26 bestows in acting in his or her own concerns.

27 (3) “Corruptly” imports a wrongful design to acquire or cause
28 some pecuniary or other advantage to the person guilty of the act
29 or omission referred to, or to some other person.

30 (4) “Malice” and “maliciously” import a wish to vex, annoy, or
31 injure another person, or an intent to do a wrongful act, established
32 either by proof or presumption of law.

33 (5) “Knowingly” imports only a knowledge that the facts exist
34 which bring the act or omission within the provisions of this code.
35 It does not require any knowledge of the unlawfulness of that act
36 or omission.

37 (6) “Bribe” signifies anything of value or advantage, present or
38 prospective, or any promise or undertaking to give any, asked,
39 given, or accepted, with a corrupt intent to influence, unlawfully,

1 the person to whom it is given, in his or her action, vote, or opinion,
2 in any public or official capacity.

3 (7) “Vessel,” when used with reference to shipping, includes
4 ships of all kinds, steamboats, canalboats, barges, and every
5 structure adapted to be navigated from place to place for the
6 transportation of merchandise or persons, except that, as used in
7 Sections 192.5 and 193.5, “vessel” means a vessel as defined in
8 subdivision (c) of Section 651 of the Harbors and Navigation Code.

9 (8) “Peace officer” signifies any one of the officers mentioned
10 in Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 830) of Title 3 of Part
11 2.

12 (9) “Magistrate” signifies any one of the officers mentioned in
13 Section 808.

14 (10) “Property” includes both real and personal property.

15 (11) “Real property” is coextensive with lands, tenements, and
16 hereditaments.

17 (12) “Personal property” includes money, goods, chattels, things
18 in action, and evidences of debt.

19 (13) “Month” means a calendar month, unless otherwise
20 expressed; “daytime” means the period between sunrise and sunset,
21 and “nighttime” means the period between sunset and sunrise.

22 (14) “Will” includes codicil.

23 (15) “Writ” signifies an order or precept in writing, issued in
24 the name of the people, or of a court or judicial officer, and
25 “process” a writ or summons issued in the course of judicial
26 proceedings.

27 (16) When the seal of a court or public officer is required by
28 law to be affixed to any paper, the word “seal” includes an
29 impression of the seal upon the paper alone, or upon any substance
30 attached to the paper capable of receiving a visible impression.
31 The seal of a private person may be made in like manner, or by
32 the scroll of a pen, or by writing the word “seal” against his or her
33 name.

34 (17) “State,” when applied to the different parts of the United
35 States, includes the District of Columbia and the territories, and
36 “United States” may include the district and territories.

37 (18) “Section,” whenever hereinafter employed, refers to a
38 section of this code, unless some other code or statute is expressly
39 mentioned.

1 (19) To “book” signifies the recordation of an arrest in official
2 police records, and the taking by the police of fingerprints and
3 photographs of the person arrested, or any of these acts following
4 an arrest.

5 (20) “Signature” or “subscription” includes both of the
6 following:

7 (A) A mark when the person cannot write, the signer’s or
8 subscriber’s name being written near the mark by a person who
9 writes his or her own name as a witness; provided, that when a
10 signature is made by mark it must, in order that it may be
11 acknowledged or serve as the signature to any sworn statement,
12 be witnessed by two persons who must subscribe their own names
13 as witnesses thereto.

14 (B) An impression made by the use of a signature stamp
15 pursuant to the requirements specified in Section 15 of the Civil
16 Code.

17 (c) Words and phrases must be construed according to the
18 context and the approved usage of the language; but technical
19 words and phrases, and any others that may have acquired a
20 peculiar and appropriate meaning in law, shall be construed
21 according to that peculiar and appropriate meaning.

22 (d) Words giving a joint authority to three or more public
23 officers or other persons are construed as giving that authority to
24 a majority of them, unless it is otherwise expressed in the act giving
25 the authority.

26 SEC. 16. Section 17 of the Public Resources Code is amended
27 to read:

28 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
29 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
30 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
31 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
32 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
33 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
34 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

35 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
36 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
37 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

38 SEC. 17. Section 16 of the Public Utilities Code is amended
39 to read:

1 16. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 2 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
 3 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 4 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 5 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 6 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 7 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

8 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 9 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 10 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

11 SEC. 18. Section 18 of the Revenue and Taxation Code is
 12 amended to read:

13 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark. The mark
 14 shall be made as required in the Civil Code.

15 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 16 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 17 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

18 SEC. 19. Section 18 of the Streets and Highways Code is
 19 amended to read:

20 18. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
 21 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
 22 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
 23 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
 24 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
 25 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
 26 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

27 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 28 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 29 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

30 SEC. 20. Section 17 of the Unemployment Insurance Code is
 31 amended to read:

32 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark. The mark
 33 shall be made as required in the Civil Code.

34 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
 35 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
 36 ~~specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.~~ *when used pursuant to*
 37 *the following requirements:*

38 (1) *The impression shall be made by an authorized user of the*
 39 *signature stamp. For purposes of this section, “authorized user”*
 40 *means either of the following:*

1 (A) A person with a disability who, by reason of that disability,
2 is unable to write and who owns the signature stamp. For purposes
3 of this section “disability” means a medical condition, mental
4 disability, or physical disability, as those terms are defined in
5 Section 12926 of the Government Code.

6 (B) A person using the signature stamp on behalf of the owner
7 of the stamp with the owner’s express consent and in the presence
8 of the owner.

9 (2) An impression, when made by the use of a signature stamp
10 by an authorized user, shall include the signer’s or subscriber’s
11 name written near the impression by a person who writes his or
12 her own name as a witness, provided that when a signature is by
13 signature stamp it must, in order that it may be acknowledged or
14 may serve as the signature to any sworn statement, be witnessed
15 by two persons who must subscribe their own names as witnesses
16 thereto.

17 SEC. 21. Section 17 of the Vehicle Code is amended to read:

18 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
19 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
20 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
21 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
22 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
23 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
24 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

25 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
26 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
27 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

28 SEC. 22. Section 17 of the Water Code is amended to read:

29 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
30 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
31 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
32 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
33 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
34 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
35 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.

36 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
37 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
38 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.

39 SEC. 23. Section 17 of the Welfare and Institutions Code is
40 amended to read:

1 17. (a) “Signature” or “subscription” includes mark when the
2 signer or subscriber cannot write, the signer’s or subscriber’s name
3 being written near the mark by a witness who writes his or her
4 own name near the signer’s or subscriber’s name; but a signature
5 or subscription by mark may be acknowledged or may serve as a
6 signature or subscription to a sworn statement only when two
7 witnesses so sign their own names thereto.
8 (b) “Signature” or “subscription” also includes an impression
9 made by the use of a signature stamp pursuant to the requirements
10 specified in Section 15 of the Civil Code.