

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1123

**Introduced by Assembly Member Mayes
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chang and Steinorth)**

February 27, 2015

An act to add Section 467.15 to the Business and Professions Code, relating to dispute resolution.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1123, as introduced, Mayes. Dispute resolution programs: court administration.

Existing law authorizes a county to establish a program of grants to public entities and nonprofit organizations for the provision of dispute resolution services and prescribes a variety of eligibility requirements and duties in this regard. Existing law requires the Administrative Office of the Courts to make monthly distributions from superior court filing fees for the support of dispute resolution programs in each county that has acted to establish a program, as specified.

This bill would permit a county that has established and is operating a dispute resolution program as described above to contract with the superior court of the county to transfer operation of the program to the court. The court would be required to operate the program in compliance with all requirements, rules, and regulations associated with the program. The bill would provide that a court that contracts to operate a dispute resolution program assumes the relevant rights and responsibilities connected with the program and would require the county to transfer, within a reasonable time, any funds received for administration of the program, with future program funding to be provided directly to the court.

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 467.15 is added to the Business and
2 Professions Code, to read:
3 467.15. (a) A county that has established and is operating a
4 program pursuant to this chapter may contract with the superior
5 court of the county to transfer operation of the program to the
6 court. The court shall operate the program in compliance with the
7 requirements of the chapter and all rules and regulations associated
8 with the program.
9 (b) If a county and a superior court agree to transfer
10 responsibility for a program pursuant to the authority provided in
11 subdivision (a), the court shall assume all rights and responsibilities
12 associated with operating the program. The county shall transfer
13 to the court, within a reasonable time, any funds received for
14 administration of the program and all future funding of the program
15 shall be provided directly to the court.

O