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May 21, 2025

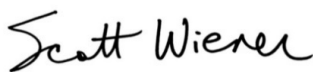
Mr. Joe Stephenshaw, Director
Department of Finance
1021 O Street, Suite 3110
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Stephenshaw:

In a letter dated April 24, 2025, you notified the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, pursuant to Item 0250-101-0932, Provision 4 in the *2024-25 Budget Act*, of your intention to approve a request from the Judicial Council to increase expenditure authority for the Court Interpreters Program (Program) by \$16.2 million. The funding shortfall arises from several factors, including the expansion of interpreter services, rising wages, and increased reliance on contractors at higher rates. The Judicial Council has indicated that the Program has adequate reserves to accommodate this one-time funding increase.

After reviewing the request, I concur that the additional expenses comply with state law and that the necessary resources are available to cover these costs.

Sincerely,



Scott Wiener
Chair

cc: Members of the Joint Legislative Budget Committee