

"SERVING OUR MEMBERS FROM EAST TO WEST"

April 14, 2003

Honorable Martha Escutia, Member  
California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 5080  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 144 – SUPPORT


Dear Senator Escutia:

The Riverside Sheriffs' Association, which represents over 2,000 rank and file Deputy Sheriffs, Deputy Probation Officers, District Attorney Investigators, and Deputy Coroners – the entire law enforcement team in the County of Riverside - is pleased to support SB 144 which requires the Judicial Council to adopt new court rules to provide greater public access to meetings related to the administration of the courts.

Decisions are made by the courts behind closed doors with no public input invited or accepted. SB 144 would address this issue by requiring the Judicial Council to adopt appropriate rules providing for the public to attend meetings of any board, committee, or multimember body performing or empowered to perform administrative or financial functions of a trial court, including, but not limited to, meetings relating to the budget of the trial court prior to submittal to the Judicial Council and subsequent to budget approval.

Very truly yours,

  
Pat McNamara  
President

  
Timothy H. B. Yaryan  
Legislative Counsel and Advocate

cc: RSA