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**Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento**  
P.O. Box 2215, Metro Station, Sacramento, CA 95812-2215

June 28, 2011

Honorable Edmund G. Brown  
Governor of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814

Members of the California State Legislature  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, California 95814

Re: Judicial Branch Budget

Dear Governor Brown, Senators, and Assembly Members:

The proposed budget reduction to the California Judiciary is of great concern to Asian/Pacific Bar Association of Sacramento (ABAS). We join Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and the presiding judges of the 58 counties in California to oppose the proposed cuts to the budget of the gate keepers of the judicial system in this State.

ABAS has a long history of helping and encouraging members of the minority bar to achieve their potential, whether becoming a member of the judiciary, a better advocate as a lawyer, protecting civil rights, and most importantly, voicing our concerns when issues arise that will result in a denial of constitutional rights. As Chief Justice Cantil-Sakauye stated in response to the proposed \$150 million additional budget reduction included in AB 98, "[w]ith these cuts courts cannot provide . . . fundamental services or protect the rights of Californians. By marginalizing the courts, California strikes a blow against justice."

Budget problems in the 58 counties in California have already contributed to major backlogs in the criminal justice system. District Attorneys' Offices do not have the resources to adequately provide constitutionally mandated discovery. The proposed reduction in the courts' budget will deprive individuals from having their day in court in a timely manner. Individuals who should pay the consequences for their actions may be freed. Inadequate funding and lack of court staff and resources may deny a speedy trial resulting in the innocent being locked in jail or having the mental anguish of being accused for months or years. The backlog of criminal cases will further delay civil trials from going forward. Those deserving will not be made whole. Those who do not understand the court process will be denied their day in court because of language barriers.

In effect, the proposed budget cut will result in a violation of due process in both civil and criminal cases and in a violation of constitutional rights under both the US and California Constitutions for an untold number of individuals.

We urge you to oppose the drastic cuts to the judiciary that will undoubtedly result in the denial of equal access and justice to the residents of the Great State of California.

Respectfully yours,



Joshua Kaizuka  
Chair  
Advocacy & Issues Committee

cc: Hon. Tani Cantil-Sakauye, Chief Justice of California