



# COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE

## Board of Supervisors

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<b>District 2</b> <i>Chairman</i>	<b>John F. Tavaglione</b> 951-955-1020
<b>District 3</b>	<b>Chuck Washington</b> 951-955-1030
<b>District 4</b>	<b>V. Manuel Perez</b> 951-955-1040
<b>District 5</b>	<b>Marion Ashley</b> 951-955-1050

December 26, 2017

The Honorable Richard Roth  
Member, California State Senate  
State Capitol, Room 4034  
Sacramento CA 95814

RE: SB 38 (Roth) – Courts; judgeships  
As introduced 12/5/2016 – SUPPORT – Per Legislative Platform  
Awaiting hearing – Senate Judiciary Committee

Dear Senator Roth:

On behalf of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, I write in support of SB 38, your measure that would authorize and fund one appellate court justice as well as provide funding for ten superior court judgeships statewide in an effort to address judicial branch workload needs.

The County of Riverside is acutely aware of the judgeship needs in the Inland Empire. The Judicial Council, in its biennial Judicial Needs Assessment most recently published in Fall 2016, identifies overall statewide judicial officer needs and then prioritizes placement of those positions on the basis of workload across 31 courts. The 2016 assessment identifies a need for 188.5 additional judicial officers to meet statewide workload and caseload demands. Further, the assessment compares each local court's assessed judicial need against its authorized judicial positions. Riverside County, regrettably, stands above all others in terms of overall need – the superior court's workload warrants an additional 46.8 judicial officers (a figure that is 62 percent greater than the level of judicial positions presently authorized). Steep population growth in Riverside County over the last several decades has greatly outpaced the trial court's ability to keep up with the attendant demand on judicial resources.

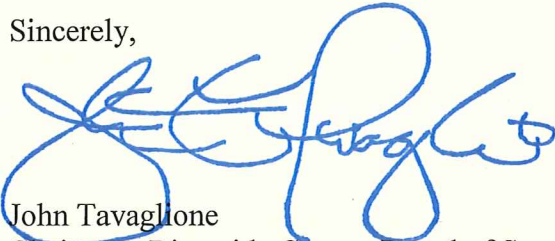
SB 38 would fund for the first time a portion (one-fifth) of the superior court judgeships authorized a decade ago (AB 159 – Chapter 22, Statutes of 2007). The County previously supported the effort to re-distribute existing judicial positions as a first step in addressing the critical need for additional resources statewide (AB 103 – Chapter 17, 2017). SB 38 takes the next necessary step in improving access to justice and assisting our county criminal justice partners in fulfilling core county responsibilities related to matters before the court. It would go a long way toward improving access to justice in our County.

For these reasons, Riverside County is pleased to support SB 38. We stand ready to assist you as the measure makes its way through the legislative process. If you have any questions about the

The Honorable Richard Roth  
December 26, 2017  
Page 2

County's position, please do not hesitate to contact Deputy County Executive Officer, Brian Nestande at (951) 955-1110 or [bnestande@rivco.org](mailto:bnestande@rivco.org).

Sincerely,



John Tavaglione  
Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors



Chuck Washington  
Vice-Chairman, Riverside County Board of Supervisors

cc: Members and Counsel, Senate Judiciary Committee  
Riverside County Delegation