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# SENATE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET AND FISCAL REVIEW

Senator Nancy Skinner, Chair  
2021 - 2022 Regular

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<b>Bill No:</b>	AB 143	<b>Hearing Date:</b>	June 30, 2021
<b>Author:</b>	Committee on Budget		
<b>Version:</b>	June 27, 2021 As amended		
<b>Urgency:</b>	No	<b>Fiscal:</b>	Yes
<b>Consultant:</b>	Christopher Francis		

**Subject:** Courts

**Summary:** Provides for statutory changes necessary to enact courts related provisions of the Budget Act of 2021.

**Background:** As part of the 2021-22 fiscal year budget package, AB 143 makes statutory changes to implement the budget act.

**Proposed Law:** This bill makes the following statutory changes:

- 1) ***Ability to Pay Expansion.*** Expands upon a pilot program approved in the 2018 Budget Act which implemented online traffic adjudication and ability to pay projects in eight courts. Eliminates the pilot program and makes certain components of the pilot program permanent, and applicable statewide, such as requirements related to the ability-to-pay determinations and to online trials for those trial courts that choose to offer them.
- 2) ***Courts' Design Build Authority.*** Authorizes the Judicial Council to use a design-build procurement process in contracting and procuring public works projects and would authorize the Judicial Council to award contracts using either the best value or low bid selection method for all projects.
- 3) ***Construction Fund Consolidation.*** Combines the Immediate and Critical Needs Account and the State Court Facilities Construction Fund which were facing insolvency due to steady decreases in fine and fee revenue.
- 4) ***Commission on Judicial Performance (CJP).*** Creates the Committee to Review Operations and Structure of the Commission on Judicial Performance to study and recommend changes to structure and operation of the CJP.
- 5) ***AB 1869, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020 Allocation Schedule.*** AB 1869 eliminated 23 criminal administrative fees. These statutory changes specify how the backfill amounts will be allocated to counties.

**Fiscal Effect:** This bill appropriates \$100,000 General Fund to the Judicial Council to address deferred maintenance projects that represent critical infrastructure deficiencies in the trial courts, courts of appeal, and the Supreme Court.

**Support:** None on file.

**Opposed:** None on file.

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