

1 FEBRUARY 2, 2012

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3 TRANSCRIPTION OF CHIEF JUSTICE'S REMARKS TO A JOINT MEETING OF
4 THE TRIAL COURT PRESIDING JUDGES ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND THE
5 COURT EXECUTIVES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

6
7 HON. TANI G. CANTIL-SAKAUYE
8 CHIEF JUSTICE OF CALIFORNIA

9
10 BY HON. CANTIL-SAKAUYE:

11 IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE, ESPECIALLY TO SEE
12 ALL OF YOU, AND I'M GLAD WE'VE GATHERED.

13 I FIRST WANT TO EXPRESS MY TREMENDOUS THANKS FOR
14 ALL THE HARD WORK YOU DO, ALL YOUR INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS, YOUR
15 SHARING OF INFORMATION, YOUR WORKING CLOSELY WITH YOUR CEO'S
16 TO MAKE THE JUDICIAL BRANCH PROUD.

17 BECAUSE THE TRIAL COURT, THE CEO'S, YOU ARE
18 TRULY THE GATEWAY TO PUBLIC ACCESS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL. AND I
19 KNOW THAT ALL OF YOU IN YOUR OWN WAY, THROUGH YOUR OWN CULTURE
20 AND COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR BAR ASSOCIATIONS AND YOUR ELECTED
21 LEADERS IN YOUR COMMUNITIES WITH EACH OTHER AND WITH ALL OF US
22 ON A STATEWIDE BASIS, REALLY ARE IN TUNE, TRYING TO MAKE IT
23 WORK THE BEST WE CAN UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES THAT WE HAVE.

24 AND I NEED NOT GO OVER WITH YOU WHO PROBABLY
25 KNOW IN GREATER DETAIL THAN I YOUR BUDGETS AND WHAT
26 \$653 MILLION OF A CUT IN THE FOURTH YEAR REALLY MEANS. I ALSO
27 KNOW THAT YOU KNOW THROUGH ALL OF THE WORK YOU DO WITH THE
28 STRUGGLES THAT ARE FACING THE BRANCH AND THE CHALLENGES.

1 BUT I ALSO WANT TO TALK ABOUT SOME OF THE GREAT
2 THINGS THAT ARE HAPPENING IN THE BRANCH AND MAYBE DRAW A CLEAR
3 LINE BETWEEN WHAT HAPPENED IN 2010 AND PRIOR TO WHAT HAPPENED
4 IN 2011 AND FORWARD LOOKING.

5 AND ALL THAT HAPPENED -- ALL THAT HAPPENED IN
6 2011, REALLY, IS A RESULT OF COMING TOGETHER AND TALKING WITH
7 YOU AND HAVING YOU CONTRIBUTE AND YOU SERVE ON COMMITTEES AND
8 YOU TALK WITH US AND PHONE CALLS AND REALLY GETTING TOGETHER
9 WITH IDEAS. AND I'LL TELL YOU THAT THAT WORKS. THAT'S HOW
10 OUR BRANCH OPERATES.

11 IF YOU LOOK AT OUR LEGACY OF CHANGE IN OUR
12 BRANCH, WHICH IS REALLY QUITE MASSIVE -- AND I WON'T GO OVER
13 ANY OF IT WITH YOU -- I KNOW THAT YOU KNOW, IT WASN'T A TOP
14 DOWN. IT WAS REALLY IDEAS BROUGHT BY LAWYERS AND PARTICIPANTS
15 TO LEGISLATORS, TO JUDGES, TO THE GOVERNOR. AND EVEN THOUGH
16 PROBABLY 15 YEARS AGO, I WASN'T GREATLY INVOLVED IN THAT
17 COLLABORATIVE EFFORT, MANY OF YOU WERE. MANY OF YOU REMEMBER
18 IT. AND IT WAS BY WORKING TOGETHER THAT WE ACHIEVED SOME
19 GREAT CHANGES. THAT WE ACHIEVED SOME GOOD THINGS THAT MAYBE
20 NEED A LITTLE WORK NOW. BUT NEVERTHELESS, IT WAS WORK THAT WE
21 ALL DID TOGETHER FOR THE BRANCH GUIDED BY OUR MISSION OF
22 JUSTICE FOR ALL.

23 AND SO WHAT I WOULD DO IS TELL YOU SOME
24 HIGHLIGHTS THAT HAVE OCCURRED IN THIS JANUARY THAT SOME ARE
25 CUMULATIVE FROM LAST YEAR, AND ALSO, THEN, OPEN IT UP TO YOU,
26 BECAUSE THERE MAY BE MANY ISSUES ON YOUR MIND RANGING FROM THE
27 FORM 700 AND WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THAT AND THAT DIALOGUE
28 THAT'S BEEN GOING ON OVER A YEAR NOW WITH ANN RAVEL WHEN THE

1 ISSUE FIRST AROSE AND RON NYE AND BILL AND MET WITH HER AND
2 FOUND A WAY TO TRY TO WORK OUR WAY AROUND THE LAW THAT
3 REQUIRES CERTAIN INFORMATION BE MADE PUBLIC TO WHAT'S
4 HAPPENING WITH OUR BUDGET, WHAT'S HAPPENING AS WE MOVE FORWARD
5 WITH OUR TERRIFIC PARTNERS, THE LAWYERS WHO HAVE REALLY STOOD
6 UP AND LISTENED TO THE SPEECHES AND LISTENED TO YOU TO REALLY
7 NOW UNDERSTAND OUR BUDGET AND UNDERSTAND THAT WE NEED
8 RESTORATION.

9 THAT FOUR YEARS OF CUTS ACTUALLY HAS AN IMPACT,
10 EVEN THOUGH WE'VE TRIED TO STAY THE IMPACT. EVEN THOUGH WE'VE
11 TRIED TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT. BUT FOUR YEARS OF CUTS IS
12 FOUR YEARS OF CUTS, AND AT SOME POINT, WE'RE UNABLE TO COVER
13 THAT, INCLUDING AND ON TOP OF NO FUNDING FOR GROWTH, NO
14 ADDITIONAL JUDGESHIPS.

15 SO WHEN WE TALK ABOUT WHAT THE BRANCH IS TODAY,
16 THAT ALSO IS A COLLABORATIVE RESULT. BECAUSE WHAT HAPPENED TO
17 US SHOULD BE NO SURPRISE TO THE LEGISLATURE, NO SURPRISE TO
18 EVERY CALIFORNIAN, BECAUSE IT HAPPENED TO THEM, TOO. AND THE
19 JUDICIAL BRANCH HAS NOT BEEN TREATED ANY DIFFERENTLY. IN
20 FACT, I WOULD TELL YOU THAT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH HAS STEPPED
21 UP. \$1.1 BILLION STEP UP LAST YEAR.

22 SO LIKE I SAID, THERE ARE A LOT OF ISSUES IN
23 FRONT OF THE BRANCH, AND WE MOVE FORWARD, AND WE HAVE FOCUS.
24 WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DO IS FOCUS ON MESSAGE. BUT I THOUGHT
25 WHAT I'D ADDRESS IS PROBABLY WHAT'S HAPPENED IN THE LAST
26 COUPLE OF MONTHS, PARTICULARLY WITH AB 1208, AND ANSWER ANY
27 AND ALL QUESTIONS. AND EVEN ASK SOME OF YOU WHAT YOUR
28 EXPERIENCE MIGHT HAVE BEEN.

1 BECAUSE I KNOW THAT JUSTICE HILL IS HERE. AND I
2 KNOW PRESIDING JUSTICE HILL WAS WALKING THOSE HALLS AS I WAS
3 WALKING THOSE HALLS WITH JUSTICE POOCHIGIAN AND OTHERS. I
4 WENT TO EDITORIAL BOARDS UP AND DOWN THE STATE SIMPLY TO
5 PROVIDE FACTS, WHICH I HOPE YOU HAVE, WHICH I HOPE YOU HAVE IN
6 YOUR POSSESSION IN THE HANDOUTS, FACTS ON WHAT'S HAPPENED IN
7 2011, NOT 2010, '9, '8, '7, '6, '5, '4, '3, '2, '1. ALSO,
8 FACTS ABOUT CHANGES IN THE AOC, AGAIN, IN 2011, NOT 2010, '9,
9 '8, '7, '6, '5, '4, '3, '2, '1.

10 BECAUSE THERE HAVE BEEN AND THERE ARE
11 POTENTIALLY MATTERS THAT WE CAN TALK ABOUT. BUT I AM MOST
12 CONCERNED AND MOST FOCUSED ON THE REALITY, THE PRESENT AND THE
13 FUTURE. WE CAN TALK ABOUT THE PAST, AND WE LEARN LESSONS FROM
14 THE PAST. BUT WE CAN'T BE FLATFOOTED ABOUT THE PAST. SO I
15 THOUGHT I'D TALK TO YOU A LITTLE BIT ABOUT AB 1208 AND MY
16 EXPERIENCE WITH IT, ANSWER ANY QUESTIONS AS WE GO ALONG. THIS
17 IS INTERACTIVE. FEEL FREE TO RAISE YOUR HAND, WAVE MADLY IF I
18 DON'T SEE YOU.

19 BUT AS YOU KNOW, AB 1208 WAS DISCUSSED AND
20 DEBATED ON THE FLOOR OF THE ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY. AND IT HAD
21 BEEN HEAVILY LOBBIED AND DISCUSSED. NO QUESTION, 80 OF THOSE
22 LEGISLATORS KNEW WHAT AB 1208 WAS AND WHAT IT STOOD FOR AND
23 WHO STOOD ON WHAT SIDE OF THE LINE OF AB 1208.

24 AND I'M GRATEFUL TO YOU 44 PRESIDING JUDGES WHO
25 UNDERSTAND THE THREAT THAT THAT BILL IS TO JUSTICE FOR ALL AND
26 THE UNFORESEEN CONSEQUENCES THAT COULD RESULT FROM LANGUAGE
27 THAT'S CONTAINED IN THAT BILL AND THAT YOU STOOD UP AND YOU
28 SIGNED THE LETTER, AND YOU MOVED THE ISSUE FORWARD.

1 MUCH THE SAME WAY THAT EVERY LAWYER WHO SAW AND
2 READ THE BILL, AND EVERY LAWYER'S ORGANIZATION ALSO STOOD ON
3 THE SIDE OF OPPOSITION TO AB 1208. ALSO, THAT IT JOINED
4 STRANGE BEDFELLOWS, LIKE PLAINTIFFS' BAR AND THE DEFENSE BAR.
5 LIKE THE CORPORATE BAR, BUSINESS BAR AND CIVIL PLAINTIFFS'
6 BAR. LIKE LEGAL ACCESS AND CHILDREN'S LAW AND MANY OTHERS IN
7 BETWEEN WHO ALSO FEAR LACK OF UNIFORMITY AND THE CONSEQUENCES
8 OF THE LACK OF JUSTICE FOR ALL.

9 AND I WILL SAY TO YOU THAT I TALKED WITH
10 ASSEMBLY MEMBER AND SPEAKER PEREZ WELL BEFORE THAT BILL. I
11 TALKED TO MANY PEOPLE ABOUT THAT BILL. GAVE THEM FACTS. AND
12 INDICATED THAT JUDICIAL COUNSEL LEADERSHIP UNANIMOUSLY OPPOSED
13 IT AS WELL AS 44 PJS AND THE GROUPS THAT DID OPPOSE IT. AND,
14 ALSO, HAD FRANK DISCUSSIONS ABOUT WHAT WAS HAPPENING IN THE
15 JUDICIAL BRANCH IN 2011.

16 AND SO I WAS QUITE SURPRISED TO HEAR ON THE
17 FLOOR OF THE ASSEMBLY ALL OF THE MERITLESS FALSE CLAIMS THAT
18 WERE MADE ABOUT THE JUDICIAL BRANCH AND THE AOC. THINGS THAT
19 I KNOW WHEN YOU HEARD IT, YOU MUST HAVE REALIZED WERE FALSE.

20 AND SO AFTER THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, ASSEMBLY
21 SPEAKER PEREZ CALLED ME AND TALKED TO ME ABOUT THAT VOTE. AND
22 AMIDST OUR DISCUSSIONS, I SAID TO HIM, I AM GREATLY DISMAYED
23 BY THE FALSE INFORMATION THAT WAS STATED ON YOUR FLOOR. AND
24 HE WAS GREATLY CONCERNED WITH THE FACT THAT THERE WAS FALSE
25 INFORMATION STATED ON HIS FLOOR ABOUT THE JUDICIARY.

26 AND AS A JUDGE FOR 21 YEARS, AS A LAWYER BEFORE
27 THAT, I AM MOST CONCERNED ABOUT THE FACTS. AND SO HE WANTED
28 TO KNOW WHAT WERE THE FALSEHOODS. AND SO I SAID, IF YOU'RE

1 REALLY CONCERNED, THANK YOU, AND I'M HAPPY TO SEND THEM TO
2 YOU. AND YOU HAVE A COPY OF THEM. YOU HAVE A COPY OF WHAT
3 WAS SAID AND WHAT THE TRUTH IS. YOU HAVE A COPY OF WHAT HE
4 WILL RECEIVE, IF HE'S NOT ALREADY RECEIVED IT, AND WHAT THE
5 SENATE PRESIDENT WILL RECEIVE AND, HOPEFULLY, WHAT 120 MEMBERS
6 OF THE LEGISLATURE WILL RECEIVE.

7 BECAUSE IT'S ONE THING TO LOSE AN ARGUMENT BASED
8 ON MERIT. IT'S ANOTHER THING WHEN THE FACTS ARE NOT
9 REPRESENTED. I ALSO TALKED TO HIM ABOUT THE FACT THAT WHEN
10 THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, NOTWITHSTANDING THE FALSE CLAIMS,
11 NOTWITHSTANDING THE HEAVY LOBBYING ON BOTH SIDES, THAT WHEN
12 THE VOTE WAS TAKEN, AND EVERY MEMBER OF THAT 80-MEMBER HOUSE
13 KNEW THAT THAT VOTE WAS UP, AND THE SPEAKER PRESIDED, THAT THE
14 VOTE WAS 33-23.

15 SO EVEN ON THE MERITS, SUCH AS THEY WERE STATED
16 ON THAT FLOOR, IT STILL WAS NOT HEADED TOWARD A SUBSTANTIVE OR
17 OVERWHELMING VICTORY. AND SO IT STOOD AT 33-23. AND BECAUSE
18 OF MY PREVIOUS CONVERSATIONS WITH THE SPEAKER, I THOUGHT THAT,
19 FOR THE MOST PART, THEN, IT WOULD GO AWAY. BECAUSE I
20 UNDERSTOOD THAT THIS BILL WOULD BE UP TO EACH MEMBER TO VOTE
21 THEIR CONSCIENCE. THAT IT WOULDN'T BE THE SUBJECT OF
22 POLITICAL MANEUVERING IN TERMS OF VOTING YOUR CONSCIENCE ON
23 THE ASSEMBLY FLOOR.

24 BUT I WAS TOLD THAT DURING THE PERIOD THAT IT
25 WAS ON CALL AT 33 TO 23, THAT THE SPEAKER ASKED PEOPLE TO VOTE
26 FOR THAT BILL. AND THAT'S HOW, AT A MINIMUM OF 41, IT LEFT
27 THE ASSEMBLY. AND THAT, OF COURSE, DISTURBS ME, BUT I KNOW
28 OUR PROCESS IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS.

1 AND I ALSO REALIZE THAT THE JUDICIARY SHOULDN'T HAVE AN
2 EXPECTATION THAT THE PROCESSES SHOULD BE SIMILAR. BUT
3 NEVERTHELESS, IT'S MY POSITION THAT THAT BILL IS TRANSFERRED
4 OUT ON ITS MERITS. IT DIDN'T GO OUT ON ITS OWN LEGS, AND IT
5 NOW SITS IN THE SENATE.

6 AND BEFORE I TALK ABOUT THE FOCUS ON THE SENATE
7 WHICH WAS THE SUBJECT OF MY QUOTATION IN RESPONSE TO THE
8 PAPERS, I WILL SAY THAT -- I'LL MAKE SEVERAL OBSERVATIONS
9 ABOUT AB 1208 AND THE PROCESS.

10 MANY OF YOU'VE HEARD -- BUT I THINK WHAT'S MOST
11 TROUBLING TO ME IS THE FACT THAT THAT LEGISLATION PITTED JUDGE
12 AGAINST JUDGE. IT ALSO PITTED PEOPLE WHO -- AND A JUDICIARY
13 THAT STANDS FOR THE SEPARATION OF POWERS. IT REALLY CALLS
14 INTO QUESTION WHAT WE REALLY THINK THAT IS AS A BRANCH.

15 AND THAT LINE HAS BEEN AND COULD VERY WELL BE
16 BLURRED BASED ON THE CONDUCT AND THE INVOLVEMENT THAT
17 OCCURRED, NOT ONLY LEADING UP TO THE BILL, BUT HOW IT SQUEAKED
18 OUT -- NOT MY WORDS, NEWSPAPER WORDS TODAY -- SQUEAKED OUT OF
19 THE ASSEMBLY. I DON'T KNOW THAT ANYONE CAN STAND TALL AFTER
20 THAT PROCESS OR CLAIM A MANDATE AFTER THAT PROCESS.

21 FURTHER, WHEN I THINK BACK AND TAKE A FEW STEPS
22 BACK FOR PERSPECTIVE ON THIS BILL, REMEMBER, THERE IS NOTHING,
23 NOTHING THAT PROHIBITS ANY JUDGE, ANY COURT EXECUTIVE OFFICER,
24 ANY ATTORNEY, ANY SELF-REPRESENTED LITIGANT FROM GOING TO THE
25 LEGISLATURE WHEN THEY HAVE A CONCERN ABOUT THE BRANCH.

26 THERE'S NOTHING THAT PREVENTS THEM FROM GETTING THE EAR OF ONE
27 TO TEN TO 20 LEGISLATORS ABOUT A PROBLEM IN THE BRANCH. THAT
28 IS FREE AND CLEAR EVERYONE'S RIGHT TO DO. STILL IS, ALWAYS

1 WILL BE, WHETHER OR NOT AB 1208 IS THE ANSWER.

2 BUT WHAT 1208 DOES IS TAKES AWAY THE DISCRETION.
3 THAT MEANS NOW THAT WILL BE THE ONLY WAY THAT STATEWIDE
4 INITIATIVES AND SOLUTIONS UNIFORMLY CAN BE BROUGHT, BY GOING
5 TO THE LEGISLATURE. I JUST DON'T SEE AS A JUDGE WHY OUR
6 OPTIONS OR DISCRETION OR AVENUES OF APPROACH SHOULD BE
7 LIMITED.

8 I ALSO DON'T SEE THAT IN LIGHT OF THE CHANGES
9 THAT WERE MADE IN 2011 AND CONTINUE TO BE MADE. 2011 AND
10 BEYOND HAS BEEN, FOR ME -- AND I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU, AND I
11 DON'T KNOW HOW MANY OF YOU ARE NEW TO BEING A PJ -- BUT I WILL
12 SAY THAT 2011 AND '12 AND BEYOND SEEMS TO ME -- IF THERE WAS A
13 MANTRA FOR THE BRANCH, IT WOULD BE TRANSITION, TRANSFORMATION
14 TO TRIUMPH.

15 AND WE'VE HAD TO MAKE THIS TRANSITION TO
16 TRANSFORMATION, NOT BECAUSE OF ANYTHING THAT WAS DONE TEN
17 YEARS AGO, BUT PRIMARILY BECAUSE OF THAT WHICH HAS BEEN DONE
18 FROM FOUR YEARS FORWARD. 653 MILLION IS A LOT OF MONEY,
19 ESPECIALLY WHEN WE WEREN'T EXACTLY THE FATTEST BRANCH TO BEGIN
20 WITH. SO WHY TAKE AWAY THE DISCRETION TO RESOLVE OUR ISSUES
21 AND MAKE THE LEGISLATURE THE ONLY WAY THAT THAT CAN BE
22 RESOLVED?

23 FURTHER, IT SEEMS TO ME THAT NOTWITHSTANDING ANY
24 ISSUES THAT PEOPLE MAY HAVE ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED IN THE PAST,
25 ALL THE FALSEHOODS AND ALL THE CLAIMS THAT WERE MADE ON THE
26 FLOOR OF THE ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY WERE ABOUT THE PAST. AND
27 THAT'S WHY IT'S IMPORTANT THAT YOU HAVE IN YOUR HANDS THE
28 FACTS, NOT ONLY ABOUT THE JUDICIARY, BUT ALSO ABOUT THE AOC

1 AND THE CUTS THEY HAVE TAKEN AND WILL CONTINUE TO TAKE; AND
2 THE NEW TRANSITION TO TRANSFORMATION TO TRIUMPH WITH THE NEW
3 ADMINISTRATIVE DIRECTOR SEARCH; WITH THE CONSOLIDATION AND THE
4 ELIMINATION OF THE REGIONAL DIRECTORS INTO ONE; WITH NOT
5 BACKFILLING DIRECTORS' POSITIONS; WITH NO ACTION BEING TAKEN
6 ON CCMS IN 2011, EXCEPT TO CONFIRM THAT IT WORKS; WITH NO
7 MONIES SPENT ON CCMS IN 2011 THAT WASN'T ALREADY AUTHORIZED BY
8 THE LEGISLATURE.

9 BUT ON MONDAY, ALL THE GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS PAST
10 HELD THE FLOOR. AND SO WHAT YOU NOW HAVE IN YOUR HANDS IS
11 WHAT WILL BE DISSEMINATED TO LEGISLATIVE LEADERSHIP AND WHAT
12 WILL THEN BE DISSEMINATED TO THE MEMBERS. IT'S A LIVING
13 DOCUMENT. AS CHANGES OCCUR, THEY WILL BE DOCUMENTED.

14 I'VE EVEN ASKED RON AND ALL TO -- BECAUSE THE
15 LEGISLATURE SEEMS TO SAY THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S HAPPENING IN
16 THE JUDICIAL BRANCH, LET'S SEND THEM ALL THE JUDICIAL COUNCIL
17 BULLETINS, LET'S SEND THEM ALL THE INFORMATION OF WHAT
18 JUDICIAL COUNCIL DID AND WHAT GREAT WORK THE TRIAL COURTS ARE
19 DOING TO SAVE MONEY. LET'S SEND THEM THAT INFORMATION.

20 I MEAN, IT'S ALREADY ACCESSIBLE, IF YOU WERE TO
21 FIND IT. I MEAN, YOU COULD EASILY GET IT. I MEAN -- BUT
22 NEVERTHELESS, IF IT'S EASIER FOR US TO SEND IT TO YOU, HAPPY
23 TO, IF THAT WILL HELP IN UNDERSTANDING WHAT WE DO AND HOW WE
24 DO IT AS PARTNERS WITH THE LEGISLATIVE BRANCH AND THE
25 EXECUTIVE BRANCH.

26 SO WE MOVE TO THE SENATE. I REALIZE THERE'S
27 BEEN PRESS ABOUT WHAT THE SENATE IS DOING AND WHAT THE SENATE
28 SAID, AND I WILL TELL YOU, I'VE HAD NOT ONE SINGLE

1 CONVERSATION WITH ANYONE IN THE SENATE. NOT ONE. SO AGAIN,
2 OF COURSE, IT'S PLAYED AS, BECAUSE I WENT TO SCHOOL WITH
3 SENATOR STEINBERG, THAT MUST BE THE REASON THAT THE SENATE HAS
4 DECIDED TO NOT MOVE THE BILL AT THE TIME OUT OF RULES.

5 WELL, I THINK THE SENATE UNDERSTANDS THAT THE
6 BRANCH NEEDS TO FOCUS ON BUDGET. I THINK THAT MOST OF THE
7 LEADERSHIP OF THE LEGISLATURE KNOWS THAT WE NEED TO FOCUS ON
8 BUDGET. AND SO AB 1208 WILL SIT FOR A WHILE, HOPEFULLY, SO WE
9 CAN FOCUS ON BUDGET.

10 AGAIN, THE SUPPORTERS OF AB 1208, IN TERMS OF
11 THOSE WHO ACTIVELY SUPPORT IT, I'VE NEVER HEARD A WORD UTTERED
12 FROM THEM ABOUT BUDGET. I HAVEN'T SEEN THEM ON THE FRONT
13 LINES ASKING FOR RESTORATION OR PART OF OPEN COURTS COALITION
14 OR WALKING THE HALLS ASKING FOR A BUDGET RESTORATION.

15 AND FOR ME, THAT'S ALL THAT WE SHOULD BE TALKING
16 ABOUT NOW. SO IF THE SENATE SEES IT THAT THAT BILL NEEDS TO
17 SIT FOR A WHILE SO WE CAN CONDUCT THE BUSINESS OF BUDGET, I'M
18 GRATEFUL FOR THAT.

19 I THINK ASSEMBLYMAN MIKE FEUER, THE CHAIR OF THE
20 JUDICIARY SAID IT BEST ON THE FLOOR. AMONG -- A NUMBER OF
21 THINGS ABOUT THE FACT THAT THE BILL THAT WAS PASSED OUT ON
22 MONDAY NEVER HAD A HEARING IN THE FORM THAT IT IS. NEVER BEEN
23 DEBATED. NEVER HAD ANYONE SPEAK TO THE FORM THAT IT'S IN.

24 MORE IMPORTANTLY IS THE FACT THAT, PEOPLE, WE
25 HAVE A BUDGET CRISIS, AND WE'RE TRYING TO FIX THAT. AND THEN
26 ONCE WE FIX OUR BUDGET CRISIS, LET'S TALK ABOUT GOVERNANCE.

27 AND SO, HOPEFULLY, WHILE THE SENATE TALKS ABOUT
28 BUDGET WITH US, WE'LL BE ABLE TO DO BOTH, AND MAYBE WE'LL BE

1 ABLE TO EDUCATE BETTER WHAT'S HAPPENING AND HOW WE ARE
2 MISUNDERSTOOD OR FALSELY REPRESENTED.

3 SO THE FOCUS IS ON THE SENATE. WE MOVE FORWARD,
4 BUT NOT ON THAT. ON BUDGET. ON WHAT MATTERS TO ALL AND WHAT
5 WILL ENSURE JUSTICE FOR ALL AND KEEP US THE VITAL PARTNER IN A
6 CO-EQUAL BRANCH OF GOVERNMENT THAT PERMITS US TO EXECUTE THE
7 CHECKS AND BALANCES THAT THIS CONSTITUTION SAYS WE HAVE A
8 RIGHT AND AUTHORITY TO DO.

9 AND MIND YOU. I DON'T QUARREL AT ALL WITH THE
10 LEGISLATIVE POWER OF THE PURSE. BUT I DO QUARREL WHEN THE
11 POWER OF THE PURSE BEGINS TO INTRUDE ON JUDICIAL AUTHORITY TO
12 ENFORCE OBEDIENCE TO THE LAWS.

13 AND SO, THAT'S MY HILL. THERE ARE FEW HILLS AS
14 A JUDGE. AS YOU KNOW, WE'RE NEUTRAL, WE'RE OBJECTIVE, WE'RE
15 FACT FINDERS. WE LEFT THAT PERSONA BEHIND A LONG TIME AGO.
16 BUT IT IS KIND OF FUNNY HOW IT COMES BACK TO YOU. PRETTY
17 QUICKLY, ACTUALLY, ABOUT WHEN YOU'RE FIGHTING FOR A VALUE OR A
18 PRINCIPLE THAT YOU THINK THREATENS WHAT YOU STAND FOR AND WHAT
19 YOU TOOK AN OATH FOR.

20 SO I WELCOME ALL OF YOUR SUPPORT, YOUR
21 UNDERSTANDING, HOW YOU MOVE US FORWARD, AND THAT WE CONTINUE
22 TO DO SO, BUT FIRST, ON THE BUDGET; SECOND, ON EVERYTHING
23 ELSE.

24 AND SO, AS YOU KNOW, OUR BUDGET PLAN CONTINUES.
25 WE CONTINUE TO WALK THE HALLS ABOUT A RESTORATION OF
26 100 MILLION, GENERAL FUND, 50 MILLION IN FEES, 50 MILLION IN
27 REDIRECTIONS, AND 100 MILLION IN USE OF YOUR OWN TRIAL COURT
28 RESERVES FOR YOUR OWN NEEDS AS ABSORBED BY YOU.

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THAT IS A PLAN WHERE EVERYONE HOLDS HANDS, AND
WE ALL JUMP TOGETHER. BECAUSE NO ONE ENTITY THAT I JUST
MENTIONED IS OBLIGATED TO OR EVER SHOULD PAY FOR JUSTICE FOR
ALL.