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April 6, 2022

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RE: Invitation to Legal Service Organizations to Provide Input on AB 2369 (Salas): Domestic Violence Prevention Act: attorney's fees and costs.

Dear Legal Aid Program Executive Directors:

Please consider this an official request for representatives from California's Legal Services Corporations (LSC) funded programs to provide information and input to the California Legislature regarding AB 2369 (Salas). This input can be provided in written and or oral form.

AB 2369 protects every person's right to be safe and free from violence and abuse by improving California's Domestic Violence Restraining Order (DVRO) process. This bill requires the court, after issuing a DVRO, to order a restrained party to pay the prevailing protected party's attorney's fees and costs. AB 2369 encourages attorneys to take survivors' cases, and removes unnecessary hurdles for survivors requesting DVROs.

Should your staff share information with my office directly, my office will share the communication with other legislative staff, committee, agencies and the executive branch as appropriate. This invitation is also to share such information orally or written with any member of the relevant committees Judiciary and Appropriations, including their staff.

My intention is that this request for information and feedback be encompassing of all legal aid programs in the state, including the LSC-funded programs. I understand that the LSC-funded programs in California are:

Bay Area Legal Aid
California Indian Legal Services California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.
Central California Legal Services Community Legal Aid SoCal
Greater Bakersfield Legal Assistance
Inland County Legal Services
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles Legal Aid Society of San Diego, Inc.
Legal Services of Northern California
Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles

Thank you for providing important information to help us shape this legislation and for your continued work to serve vulnerable Californians. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to my office at (916) 319-2032.

Sincerely,

**RUDY SALAS** 

State Assembly, District 32