

Hi, this is Chris Micheli, with the Sacramento Government Relations Firm of Aprea and Micheli and an Adjunct Professor at McGeorge School of Law. Thanks for joining this brief podcast on AB 2664, which sets forth new rules for court reporters pro tempore.

Governor Jerry Brown signed Assembly Bill 2664 by Assembly Member Chris Holden on September 18th as Chapter 497. The bill amends two government code sections. For example, it authorizes a pro tempore official reporter who is present in the courtroom providing that service to be appointed by the presiding judge of the court or the judge presiding in the department where the reporter will serve.

The bill also requires the Judicial Council to adopt rules to ensure that at the arranging party's request, the court is required to appoint the certified shorthand reporter to be present in the courtroom and serve as the official reporter pro tem, unless there's a good cause shown for the court to refuse that appointment. It also requires that the fees and charges of the certified shorthand reporter be recoverable as taxable costs by the prevailing party.

The purpose of new Assembly Bill 2664 is to end the requirement that all parties involved in litigation must agree and stipulate to the use of a specific court reporter pro tempore before the reporter can be appointed by the court. The bill also clarifies that an arranging party's shorthand reporter may be appointed the official pro tem reporter so long as that reporter is present in the courtroom and there's no good cause to reject the appointment.

Thanks for joining this brief podcast on AB 2664.