



LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
SACRAMENTO LEGISLATIVE OFFICE

GEORGE GASCÓN • District Attorney
SHARON L. WOO • Chief Deputy District Attorney
JOSEPH F. INIGUEZ • Chief of Staff

DANIEL FELIZZATTO • Legislative Advocate
TAMAR TOKAT • Legislative Advocate

July 3, 2023
Senator Tom Umberg
1021 O Street, Suite 6530
Sacramento, CA 95814

Senate Bill 99
SUPPORT

Dear Senator Umberg:

The Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office is pleased to support Senate Bill 99 (Umberg).

SB 99 extends the sunset date for existing remote proceedings in criminal cases to 2028. Currently, those provisions are set to sunset January 1, 2024.

There are many benefits to giving people the option to participate remotely in criminal proceedings. The remote option helps preserve access to justice for many vulnerable people by reducing time and expense for them when they must appear at short hearings. It also preserves equal access to justice and increases the efficiency of court services by continuing to allow courts the flexibility to require in-person court proceedings when it is more appropriate. Moreover, the remote option is helpful for witness testimony in criminal proceedings, making appearances more affordable and efficient for court participants when the defendant consents.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Tamar Tokat in our Legislative Office at 916-442-0668.

Very Truly Yours,

GEORGE GASCÓN
District Attorney