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August 11, 2022

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor, State of California  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 928 (Wieckowski) – Public Administrators: Compensation  
REQUEST FOR SIGNATURE**

Dear Governor Newsom:

On behalf of the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), I write to respectfully request your signature on Senate Bill 928 by Senator Bob Wieckowski. This measure would increase the fee a county Public Administrator may charge for managing estates and making final arrangements for residents who die without known or willing relatives.

The current \$1,000 fee authority for these duties and services was set in 2004. Senator Wieckowski’s SB 928 would raise the allowable fee to \$3,000, which often represents only a fraction of the actual costs incurred by the Public Administrator on behalf of the decedent.

Additionally, these fees may only be collected after all debts, taxes, and miscellaneous liabilities are dispensed with. In many cases, the estate is too small or other debts are too large for the Public Administrator to levy a fee at all. SB 928, while modest, would help Public Administrators recover some costs, where appropriate, associated with managing the estates and probate process for decedents.

It is for these reasons that CSAC supports SB 928 and respectfully requests your signature on this measure. Should you have any questions about our position on SB 928, please don’t hesitate to contact me at [jonodera@counties.org](mailto:jonodera@counties.org). Thank you for your consideration.

Jolie Onodera  
Senior Legislative Representative  
California State Association of Counties©

cc: The Honorable Bob Wieckowski, Senator  
Jessica Devencenzi, Deputy Legislative Secretary & Deputy Cabinet Secretary  
Tam Ma, Deputy Legislative Secretary