Date

Honorable Gavin Newsom

Governor, State of California

Office of the Governor

State Capitol Building, Suite 1173

Sacramento, Ca. 95814

Governor Newsom,

I am a student studying to become a certified shorthand reporter. I am proud to be a part of the future of the court reporting profession. The transcript compensation structure for court reporters is unique in California. As a result, court reporters who work in court are not paid for any overtime transcript work done in the evenings or weekends. Instead, they receive a statutorily set transcript fee pursuant to GC69950. This fee amount has not been changed since 1990.

**(Some talking points you can highlight are:**

30 years without a rate increase

Female-dominated profession

Independent contractors working per diem for the courts do not receive the benefits of being employed by the court. However, by statute, they are bound by the statutory fees set 29 years ago

Transcript money will be used to put my children through private school/college

I am a professional woman looking supporting my family and I cannot do that on rates not changed for 30 years

Reporters personally pay scopists and proofreaders whose pay has increased

Court Reporters fund their own technology and equipment

Costs of supplies for producing transcripts have gone up: updated software for electronic production of secure transcripts, as well as paper, toner, covers – all statutorily required

Current rate not commensurate with the cost of living increases for the past 30 years

Nights, weekends, holidays spent after regular working hours producing transcripts)

 It is time to update this fee. Please support me and the thousands of court reporters in the state close this pay equity gap. Support and fund AB 1385 authored by Assemblyman Santiago for the transcript rate increase!

Sincerely,

[INSERT YOUR ELECTRONIC SIGNATURE AND/OR NAME]