



**ABOTA URGE'S CONGRESS TO RESOLVE JUDICIAL CRISIS IN U.S. DISTRICT COURT FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA BY ESTABLISHING FIVE ADDITIONAL PERMANENT JUDGESHIPS**

WHEREAS the American Board of Trial Advocates is an organization of more than 7,300 trial lawyers from the plaintiff and defense bar throughout the United States and is dedicated to safeguarding the right to trial by jury in civil cases as guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment, the rule of law, civility in trial practice and the independence of the judiciary; and

WHEREAS the Seventh Amendment to the United States Constitution guarantees the right to trial by jury in civil cases as an integral and essential component of the justice system; and

WHEREAS an efficient and effective judicial branch of government is fundamental to the success and perpetuation of the American form of government; and

WHEREAS the judiciary, as an equal and independent branch of government, must have adequate and sufficient resources to ensure the proper operation of the courts at all levels; and

WHEREAS since 1978 the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California has had only six permanent judgeships despite a population growth of 3.14 million in 1970 to nearly 8.3 million in 2022; and

WHEREAS the Eastern District of California covers 34 counties stretching from Redding to Bakersfield; and

WHEREAS in 2021, it was estimated that in the Eastern District there was only one judge for every 1,362,560 residents; and

WHEREAS it is estimated that each Eastern District judge has 1,298 pending cases, which caseload size is not sustainable, equates to a judicial crisis and impedes the people's rights to justice and trial by jury as guaranteed by the Seventh Amendment to the United States Constitution; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the American Board of Trial Advocates urges Congress to expeditiously establish five additional permanent judgeships for the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of California so that the rights and access to justice guaranteed by the Constitution are preserved, and be it further

RESOLVED that the officers and representatives of the American Board of Trial Advocates be and they are hereby authorized and directed to take any and all necessary action to effectuate the purposes of this resolution.