



Joseph B Brown

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TN State Trial Judge (retired)

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In Favor of

“Court Remote Public Access Act” to certain Judicial/Administrative Proceedings

HB133 cross over bill SBO43

To: President of the Senate Bill Ferguson, Chairman Will Smith, Vice Chair Senator Jim Rosapepe, Speaker of the House Delegate Adrienne A. Jones, Chairman Luke Clippinger, Vice Chair Delegate David Moon and Delegate Nicole Willaims,

Please be advised that in my experience with external media coverage* of both trial and hearing matters; administrative and formal; I have had generally positive outcomes associated with the use of non-traditional media being present during proceedings. There are certain considerations associated with such matters that might be of concern:

These would include but are not limited to the following:

1-Such non-classical media coverage facilitates a Modern return to ‘public’ proceedings in the matters in question. This is a particularly timely consideration in this Covid 19 era; wherein the actual physical presence of assemblages in closed hearing rooms is fraught with hazard. This is in line with our expectations and protections as a society operating under the aegis of the U.S. Constitution.

2-The proposal would arguably tend to Promote both Public Confidence & Transparency in Public institutions and proceedings. This is in line with classical objectives in our system.

3-There is a need for carefully Controlled and Monitored access under strict Court Supervision.

4-There are a number of Possible Feed Camera protocols (where all those desiring to participate use a

singular set of appropriate instruments off of which all concerned are able to get video & auditory feed).

5-The anticipated process would assist in dispelling myths and misinformation about such proceedings as are in question.

6-The entire landscape of proposals would certainly be in line with the on-going obligation of the Courts to assist, promote and further the Education of the Public as to Law, Principle and Procedure.

I am in support of SBo43 and HB133. Please vote favorably.

Thank You

Joseph B Brown

Ambassador

- **This experience embraces a sojourn through two (2) elected eight (8) year terms as Judge of Div IX of the Criminal Courts of Tennessee sitting at Memphis;**
- **fifteen (15) years as a qualified Arbitrator for the State of California doing televised arbitration with the Judge Joe Brown TV Show.**
- **My education: BA, Political Science UCLA; JD, School of Law UCLA**