

TO: Supreme Court Rules Committee

FROM: Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA

DATE: April 21, 2022

RE: Proposed changes to the Code of Judicial Conduct, Comment to Rule 2.3

Dear Supreme Court Rule Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the SCJA to express our sincere and strong support for the proposed amendment to the comment to Rule 2.3. The proposal would add “gender identity” and “gender expression” as areas included as protected from judicial bias.

Our committee believes litigants have the right to be absolutely free of bias or discrimination from the court; Washington State law makes this clear, and it is vital that our Code of Judicial Conduct accurately reflects the law. We thank Commissioner Lack for raising this issue, and we are happy to offer our steadfast support.

We ask that these proposed amendments pass.

Sincerely,

/s

Commissioner Jennie Laird, co-Chair
Family and Juvenile Law Committee, SCJA

From: [OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK](#)
To: [Linford, Tera](#)
Subject: FW: SCJA FJLC - support for proposed rules
Date: Thursday, April 21, 2022 1:03:43 PM
Attachments: [FJLC - Ltr Support re Consortium proposals, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)
[FJLC - Support Rules 2.2 and 2.6, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)
[FJLC - Support Comment to Rule 2.3, 4.21.2022.pdf](#)

From: Laird, Jennie [mailto:Jennie.Laird@kingcounty.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 21, 2022 12:40 PM
To: OFFICE RECEPTIONIST, CLERK <SUPREME@COURTS.WA.GOV>
Subject: SCJA FJLC - support for proposed rules

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Dear Supreme Court Rules Committee:

Attached please find letters in support from the Family and Juvenile Law Committee of the Superior Court Judges Association for the following proposed rule and/or comment edits:

- The changes to rules as proposed by the Consortium (changing references from “he/she” to “they”)
- Changes to rules/comments to 2.2 & 2.6
- Changes to rule/comment 2.3

Please let me know if you have any issue opening the attachments, or if you prefer that I submit each letter separately. Thank you for your work on these issues.

Thank you,
Commissioner Laird
Co-Chair, FJLC

Commissioner Jennie Laird

(Pronouns she/her/hers)

MRJC – Courtroom 1F

Family Law