



CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

Seeking Justice for All

CAOC-backed guardian rights bill goes to Newsom

AB 2445 expands guardian legal rights when a child dies of wrongful actions by another.

Also going to the governor is AB 2723 to streamline the civil settlement process.

SACRAMENTO (August 30, 2020) – A measure that would expand the rights of legal guardians to seek justice in civil court when a child dies because of the wrongful actions of another won final approval today in the Assembly and is headed to the governor’s desk.

Assembly Bill 2445 by Asm. Eloise Reyes (D-San Bernardino) and backed by Consumer Attorneys of California would close a loophole in the law that currently prohibits legal guardians from exercising such a right in the aftermath of a tragedy involving a child they raised.

Reyes was inspired to author the bill after learning of a case in her own district involving a 13-year old boy, Diego, who was killed as a result of bullying and physical assault at a middle school in 2019. Moreno Valley Unified School District administrators had allegedly ignored complaints from the child’s family.

His aunt and uncle, who had raised Diego as the boy’s legal guardians since his parents died when he was just a year old, did not have standing to bring a wrongful death action on his behalf.

Meanwhile, another CAOC-backed bill won final approval and is headed to the governor.

AB 2723 by Asm. David Chiu (D-San Francisco), would streamline the settlement process in civil cases by giving attorneys for parties in civil litigation the ability to sign a stipulated settlement on a litigant’s behalf.

Consumer Attorneys of California is a professional organization of plaintiffs’ attorneys representing consumers seeking accountability against wrongdoers in cases involving personal injury, product liability, environmental degradation and other causes.

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