

"I want to make an announcement so you know how we are proceeding. As you know, we as a council have been working to improve pretrial outcomes for many years. And in 2014, many of you may remember, we allocated funding from the Recidivism Reduction Fund to twelve trial courts. And those twelve trial courts were tasked with piloting pretrial decision-making including risk assessment tools, and that was four years ago. Two years ago in 2016, as a social justice issue, I called for review of our pretrial system in my State of the Judiciary Address. And in October of that same year, as you know, I appointed a workgroup to provide analysis and recommendations for areas in which courts can better identify ways to make pretrial release decisions that would promote fairness and protect the public and ensure court appearances. That workgroup's recommendations came back to council in 2017. They were groundbreaking, they drew on many experiences in other states, and they offered a different future for so many people, and families and provided a framework for the three branches of government to find resolution and solution to a different system. And so you know, those proposed changes to the pretrial system in 2018 resulted in change in the law.

Governor Newsom recently recognized the potential of pretrial projects in his state budget proposal to enhance public safety, to ensure the rights of defendants and victims and support the consistent and fair administration of justice. As you know the Governor proposed \$75 million to be allocated over a two-year period by the Judicial Council to fund the implementation, operation or evaluation of pretrial decisionmaking programs or efforts in eight to ten courts.

So today, in continuing those efforts that were started some five years ago, four years ago in 2014 with the pilots, I am announcing a new 12 person, names of these folks, pretrial reform and operations group, is going to be chaired by Justice Marcia Slough and it is to review progress and the reforms in California system of pretrial detention and also to identify next steps to continue work on this important issue, including developing recommendations for funding allocations of those pilots, and examining risk assessment tools. Across California and the nation, pretrial release and detention primarily based on cash bail are slowly being replaced with safer and fairer hybrids and alternatives. In California, you know we're leading and experiencing reforms driven by best practices but also pilot projects, also court decisions, and legislation. So this workgroup will help continue that momentum toward reform that educates the branch and the public, enhances public safety, and promotes equitable treatment for all who come into our criminal justice system."