

California Office of Supervised Visitation Oversight (COSVO)

Legislative Proposal & White Paper

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Introduction

The California Office of Supervised Visitation Oversight (COSVO) is a proposed state-run agency dedicated to ensuring the safety, integrity, and accountability of supervised visitation services across California. This legislative proposal outlines the need for COSVO, the regulatory framework, enforcement mechanisms, and the anticipated benefits to children, families, and the justice system.

Mission Statement

To ensure the safety and integrity of supervised visitation services in California by licensing providers, enforcing compliance, and protecting children and families from unqualified or unethical supervision.

The Problem

California currently lacks a centralized authority to regulate supervised visitation providers. This creates inconsistencies in service quality, risks to child safety, and a lack of accountability. Unscrupulous or untrained providers may operate unchecked, leading to cases of neglect, bias, and even harm.

Proposed Solution

COSVO will be established under state law to license, monitor, and regulate all supervised visitation providers. The agency will set strict training and conduct standards, maintain a public registry of licensed providers, and investigate complaints with full enforcement authority.

Licensing & Fee Structure

- Annual Licensing Fee: \$1,200 per provider.
- Reduced Fee for Low-Income Providers: \$600 with proof of financial hardship.
- All fees contribute to COSVO operations, oversight, and enforcement activities.

Enforcement & Penalties

- Operating without a license: Fine of \$5,000 per violation and cease operations order.
- Repeated violations: Permanent ban from offering supervised visitation services in California.
- Criminal referral for egregious misconduct or child endangerment.

Benefits of COSVO

- Protects children from unsafe supervision environments.
- Ensures statewide consistency and fairness.
- Provides judges, attorneys, and families with a trusted registry of qualified providers.
- Removes unqualified and unethical providers from the system.

Implementation Plan

1. Draft and pass enabling legislation. 2. Establish COSVO leadership and hire qualified staff. 3. Develop provider licensing portal and compliance monitoring system. 4. Launch public awareness campaign. 5. Begin licensing and enforcement operations within 12 months of bill passage.

For more information, please contact:

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