

(date)

Assembly Member Mike Gatto
State Capitol Room 4140
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1875 (GATTO) SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Gatto:

(Organization or individual) supports AB 1875, which helps protect consumers, people who are severely injured and dying, including those who are dying as a result of exposure to toxic substances, and seniors from abusive legal discovery procedures. This bill limits the time allowed for depositions to one day of 7 hours in duration or two days or a total of 14 hours in complex cases where the deponent is dying as set forth in a physician's declaration. There is an exception when longer sessions are agreed to or ordered by the court, and this bill does not cover deponents in employment cases. This bill moves towards a goal of bringing California's deposition time limits into conformity with limits already in place in federal courts.

Under the current law, it is becoming more and more common for the consumer to be subjected to aggressive deposition sessions that needlessly delay litigation. For seniors and the sick, it is very difficult to be subjected to days and days of depositions. Additionally, if the plaintiff dies during that time and the defense argues that the deposition is incomplete, all testimony given on the plaintiff's behalf may be disregarded and not admissible in court. We have heard horror stories, particularly about those affected with asbestos-related diseases, where depositions were extended for so many days that the asbestos victim died before the deposition could be completed.

Under AB 1875, individuals deposed in a California state case will be protected from unnecessarily drawn-out deposition sessions. This bill will assist all parties and save court resources.

Sincerely,

(Organization or Individual Name)
(Address)
(City, State, Zip)
(Phone)
(Email)