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Introduction

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Introduction

It is with great pleasure that we present the *Pacific Law Journal Review of Selected 1981 Legislation*. This portion of the Journal is dedicated to providing analyses of the most important legislation passed in 1981. In selecting legislation to be included in this review, the editors have utilized three basic criteria: (1) whether the bill will affect the work of the practicing bar and bench; (2) whether the bill will affect the work of the legal specialist; and (3) whether the bill will interest the attorney as a community leader. Among the new laws discussed in the following pages are measures revising the law of limited partnerships and foreign banks, establishing harsher penalties for drunk drivers and sexual offenders, increasing the statute of limitations for sex related crimes, and providing for sentence enhancement for habitual criminal offenders.

The heading of each bill analysis includes a description of the subject area, a listing of code sections affected by the bill, the bill and chapter numbers, the author of the bill, major organizational support of and opposition to the bill in its chaptered form, and the operative date of laws that became operative other than on January 1, 1982. When constitutional issues, points of practical interest, or problem areas merit further discussion, a comment is included to provide a broader insight into the legislation. In addition, to facilitate access to specific code sections of interest, a table of code sections affected by the bills analyzed in this Review is provided at the end of this issue.

The preparation and publication of the Review requires the joint effort of many individuals interested in the legislative process, but is most significantly a product of the dedication, competence, and expertise of the members of the Legislative Review Staff. We are especially proud of these twenty-eight individuals because they endured the frustrations of reapportionment and floor fights which stalled or defeated the enact-

Introduction

ment of numerous bills that they followed through the legislative and editorial process. We gratefully acknowledge their devoted and indispensable service. The editors would also like to thank the Select Committee of Advisors; John DeMouly, Executive Secretary of the California Law Revision Commission; and Professor Jerome J. Curtis, Faculty Advisor to the Pacific Law Journal for their continued support and special assistance. A very special thanks must also be extended to Mr. George Murphy, Retired Legislative Counsel for the State of California, for his insights and advice in his first of hopefully many years as Legislative Review Advisor. We would also like to acknowledge the many committee consultants, legislative aides, and legislators who have given their time and advice throughout the session. Finally, we wish to thank Sherryl Dursteler, our Administrative Assistant, for her support and assistance during the entire year.

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