

REQUEST TO EXAMINE LEGISLATIVE RECORDS

To: **Joint Rules Committee**

Pursuant to Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 9070) of the Government Code, I hereby request to examine the following legislative records:

- ① All contracts between the California Legislature and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. or Covington + Burling.
- ② All communications between the California Legislature and former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. or Covington + Burling about the Legislature's retention of Holder and/or Covington + Burling.

Name of person making request: Michael Bekesha

Representing: Judicial Watch, Inc.
(organization)

Address: 425 Third Street, S.W., Suite 800, Washington DC 20003

Telephone: (202) 646-5172

I was permitted to examine the committee records described above on

(date)

Return to: Joint Rules Committee
Attention: Debra Gravert, Chief Administrative Officer
State Capitol, Room 3016
Sacramento, CA 95814

(916) 319-2800
Fax (916) 319-2810

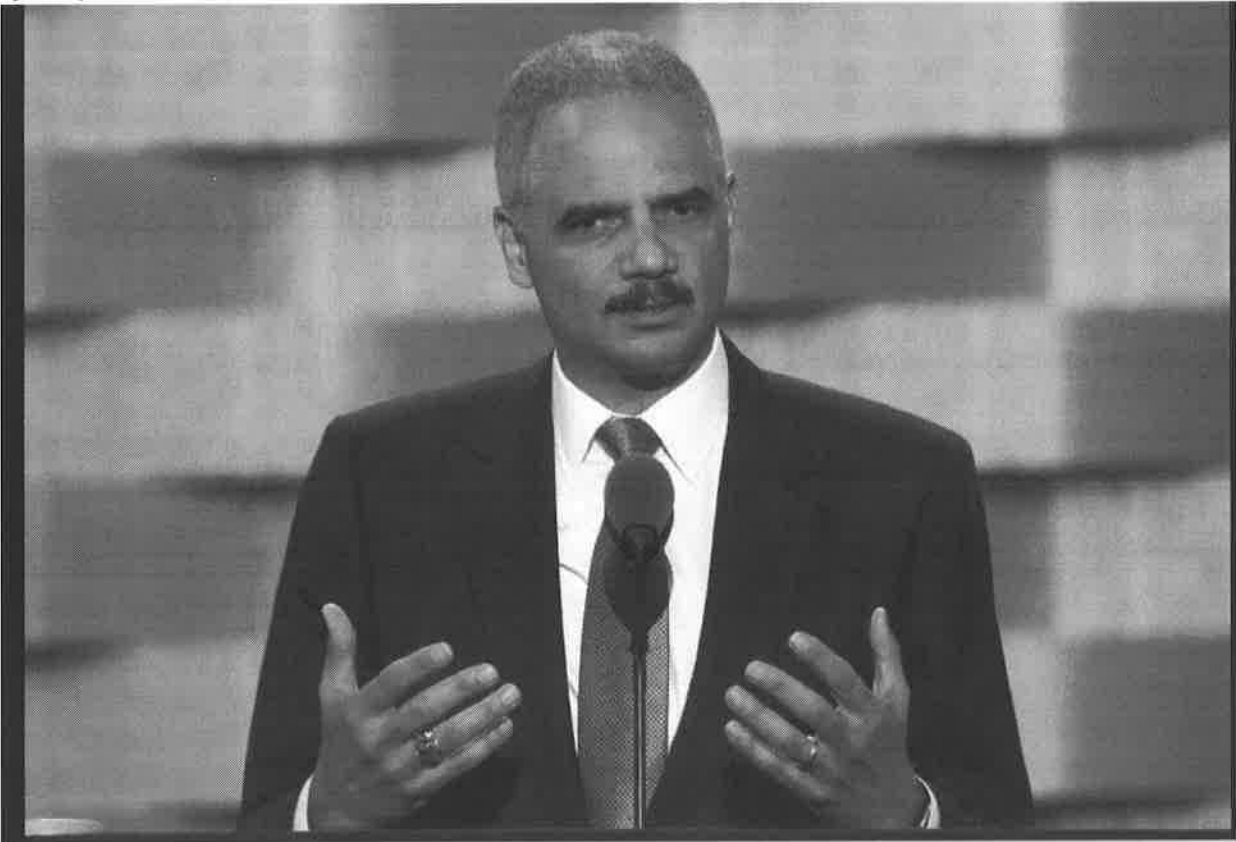
Authorized by: _____ Date: _____

Time In: _____ Time Out: _____

SFGATE <http://www.sfgate.com/politics/article/Calif-legislature-hires-Eric-Holder-to-fend-off-10834911.php>

Calif. legislature hires Eric Holder to fend off Trump

By Melody Gutierrez Updated 10:15 am, Wednesday, January 4, 2017



FILE - This July 26, 2016 file photo former Attorney General Eric Holder speaks during the second day of the Democratic National Convention in Philadelphia. Vowing to protect California's values and constitutional guarantees, the state Legislature has selected Holder to serve as outside counsel to advise the legal strategy against the incoming Trump administration.

SACRAMENTO — California legislative leaders announced Wednesday that their houses hired former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder Jr. to advise the state Legislature regarding potential conflicts with the incoming Trump administration.

Senate President Pro Tem Kevin de León, D-Los Angeles, and Assembly Speaker Anthony Rendon, D-Paramount, said Holder will serve as outside legal counsel for the state Legislature in order to preserve the state's policies on climate change, health care, civil rights and immigration.

"With the upcoming change in administrations, we expect that there will be extraordinary challenges for California in the uncertain times ahead," Rendon and de León said in a joint statement. "This is a critical moment in the history of our nation. We have an obligation to defend the people who elected us and the policies and diversity that make California an example of what truly makes a nation great."

The move comes after Gov. Jerry Brown nominated Democratic Rep. Xavier Becerra to replace Kamala Harris as Attorney General. The state Legislature is holding nomination hearings next week for Becerra's appointment, which lawmakers are expected to approve.

California's attorney general typically serves as the state's top attorney, but Rendon and de León said hiring Holder is needed to ensure the state has the "best and brightest defense" in order to "resist any attempts to roll back the progress California has made."

The cost of retaining Holder and his team from the firm Covington & Burling was not yet available because the contract has not been finalized, a spokesman for the Assembly said. A state date has also not been finalized. The cost will be split between the Assembly and Senate's operating budgets.

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