CONFERENCE OF CHIEF JUSTICES
CONFERENCE OF STATE COURT ADMINISTRATORS

Resolution 2
In Support of Efforts to Increase Access to Justice

WHEREAS, the Conference of Chief Justices (CCJ) and the Conference of State Court
Administrators (COSCA) have long been committed to the fundamental principle of fair
access to justice for all in civil matters; and

WHEREAS, ensuring access to justice in adversarial proceedings involving basic human
needs, such as shelter, sustenance, safety, health or child custody, remains one of the
Conferences' highest priorities; and

WHEREAS, CCJ and COSCA have previously adopted joint resolutions recognizing that a
fundamental requirement of access to justice is access to the courts, and that this access
extends to both lawyer-represented and self-represented litigants; and

WHEREAS, such resolutions include (1) Joint Resolution 31, adopted on August 1, 2002,
supporting expansion of self-help services to litigants; encouraging discrete task
representation by counsel, increasing pro bono assistance, and encouraging the
development of other mechanisms that expand the provision of counsel in those cases in
which other efforts to assist litigants are inadequate to overcome barriers and (2) Joint
Resolution 25, adopted on July 29, 2004, accepting the proposal of the ABA's Standing
Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants to work jointly
with the Conferences to enhance efforts to increase access to justice through
education programs and assistance to individual states;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Conferences encourage their members in each
state and territory to continue to take steps to ensure that no citizen is denied access to the
justice system by reason of lack of resources, or any other such barrier, and that the
Conferences urge their members to take a leadership role in their respective jurisdictions to
prevent denials of access to justice.

Adopted as proposed by the Access to and Fairness in the Courts Committee on
July 30, 2008.