CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

Lou Ann Texeira

Executive Officer 1

651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor • Martinez, CA 94553-1229 e-mail: LTexe@lafco.cccounty.us

(925) 335-1094 • (925) 335-1031 FAX

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Federal Glover County Member

Michael R. McGill

Special District Member

Dwight Meadows Special District Member Mary N. Piepho County Member

Rob Schroder City Member

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Candace Andersen County Member **Sharon Burke** Public Member

> Tom Butt City Member

George H. Schmidt Special District Member

August 14, 2013 Agenda Item 10

August 14, 2013 (Agenda)

Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor Martinez, CA 94553

CALAFCO Legislation – Letters of Support

Dear Members of the Commission:

Each year, the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) sponsors an omnibus bill that makes non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act). In addition, CALAFCO takes positions on various legislative matters that affect LAFCos. See the CALAFCO Legislative Update for additional information.

On behalf of CALAFCO, the Assembly Committee on Local Government introduced AB 1427 which makes technical changes, clarifications and corrections to the CKH Act. In April 2013, Contra Costa LAFCO sent a letter to the Assembly Local Government Committee supporting AB 1427.

Also, CALAFCO supports AB 743 (Logue) which removes the January 1, 2014 sunset date related to the streamlined process to annex unincorporated islands into cities, and resets the island creation date thus allowing recently created islands to be annexed under these provisions. This bill is beneficial to Contra Costa LAFCO given the number of small, unincorporated island which exist in the County.

Commissioner McGill and your Executive Officer are voting members of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee and have been following these and other bills throughout the year. CALAFCO seeks additional letters of support at this time. LAFCO staff has drafted letters of support for AB 1427 and AB 743 (Attachments 1 and 2).

Recommendation - Approve the letters of support with any changes as desired.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

Attachment 1 – Draft Letter Supporting AB 1427 (CALAFCO Omnibus bill)

Attachment 2 – Draft Letter Supporting AB 743 (Island Annexation bill)



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August 14, 2013

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr. State of California State Capitol Building Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: REQUEST TO SIGN AB 1427 - Assembly Local Government Committee Omnibus Bill

Dear Governor Brown:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) respectfully requests that that you sign Assembly Bill 1427 (Assembly Local Government Committee) which now awaits your action. AB 1427 makes changes and clarifications to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act).

This annual omnibus bill includes technical changes to the CKH Act which governs the work of local agency formation commissions. These changes are necessary as LAFCos implement the CKH Act, and small inconsistencies are found or clarifications are needed to make the law as accurate and unambiguous as possible. AB 1427 clarifies several definitions, makes changes to obsolete code sections, corrects erroneous references, and updates several outdated sections. Without making any policy changes, the revised language clarifies the law and eliminates outdated and confusing language, thereby increasing the clarity of the CKH for all stakeholders.

Because this legislation helps insure that the CKH Act remains a vital and practical law that is consistently applied throughout the State, we respectfully urge you to sign AB 1427.

Sincerely,

Federal Glover, Chair Contra Costa LAFCo

Honorable Katcho Achadjian, Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee c: Camille Wagner, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary to the Governor Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO



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August 14, 2013

Assembly Member Dan Logue California State Assembly State Capitol, Room 4158 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: LETTER OF SUPPORT AB 743 – ISLAND ANNEXATIONS - SUPPORT

Dear Assembly Member Logue:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCo) is pleased to support your bill, Assembly Bill 743. This bill would remove the sunset date related to the streamlined process to annex what are known as unincorporated islands into an affected city and reset the island creation date to January 1, 2014, thus allowing recently created islands to be annexed under these provisions.

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act) provides cities and LAFCos with an expedited process to annex unincorporated islands in keeping with the Legislature's directive to create logical boundaries and promote the efficient delivery of government services. Unincorporated islands are more costly and inefficient for counties to serve, as compared to the local municipality.

A sunset date was initially established on the island annexation statute to encourage the use of this provision, and was extended to allow cities and LAFCos additional time to implement their island annexation programs. The unforeseen economic downturn over the past five years has significantly hampered island and other annexations; and with the sunset date set to expire on January 1, 2014, cities and LAFCos have yet to complete the work that the law intended them to do.

The island annexation provisions are an effective tool in creating more logical and orderly boundaries, increasing efficiencies in the delivery of municipal services, and improving services to disadvantaged and distressed neighborhoods. All of these intentions are consistent with LAFCo's legislative charge.

Here in Contra Costa County, we have 16 islands that could potentially benefit from AB 743. We thank you for authoring this important legislation.

Sincerely,

Federal Glover, Chair Contra Costa LAFCo