



Lou Ann Teixeira
 Executive Officer

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May 10, 2017
 Agenda Item 12

May 10, 2017

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

Legislative Report - Update and Position Letters

Dear Members of the Commission:

This year marks the first year of a two-year legislative session in Sacramento. Presently, CALAFCO is sponsoring two bills and tracking a number of bills that have direct and indirect impact on LAFCOs (Attachment 1 - CALAFCO Legislative Report).

In early April, CALAFCO issued a call for legislative action requesting that each LAFCO send letters of support for three bills, two of which are CALAFCO sponsored.

The first bill is **AB 464** (Gallagher). This bill makes the necessary corrections to LAFCO law to allow LAFCOs to continue to approve annexations of areas already receiving services via an out of area service agreement. This bill is set to be heard in the Assembly Local Government Committee (ALGC) on May 3rd.

The second bill is **AB 1725**, CALAFCO's annual Omnibus bill which makes technical, non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. Currently, this bill includes one proposed item; however, the bill will be amended later this year to add five additional items, all of which were approved by the CALAFCO Legislative Committee. This bill is also likely to be heard in the ALGC on May 3rd. Once the bill is amended, CALAFCO will ask each LAFCO to send a second letter of support, which will be later this year.

The third bill - **AB 979** (Lackey) - is co-sponsored by CALAFCO and the California Special Districts Association (CSDA). This bill streamlines the process of seating special districts on LAFCO by mirroring the existing statute for electing special district representatives in the 30 counties that already have LAFCO representation. The CALAFCO Legislative Committee has vetted the bill and all requested amendments have been included as of the April 6, 2017 amended

version. This bill is an outcome of CALAFCO's experience this past year with the Little Hoover Commission and a proactive action to help streamline existing processes.

The deadline for letters on these bills was late April.

Contra Costa LAFCO's legislative policy provides our LAFCO with flexibility to respond to urgent legislation that affects LAFCO. Specifically, the policy provides that in "*situations when proposed legislation affecting LAFCO cannot be considered by the full Commission due to timing, the Executive Officer, in consultation with the LAFCO Chair (or Vice Chair in the absence of the Chair), is authorized to provide written or email comments communicating the Commission's position if the position is consistent with the adopted legislative policies of the Commission. The Chair or Vice Chair would review the letter or email prior to it being submitted. The Executive Officer will forward the email or letter to the Commission as soon as possible. The item will be placed on the next regular LAFCO meeting agenda as either "informational" or for discussion purposes.*"

In response to CALAFCO's request, and in accordance with the Commission's policy, letters of support for AB 464, AB 1725 and AB 979 were sent in April (Attachments 2, 3 and 4).

Little Hoover Commission (LHC) Update - In addition to the legislation matters, we also want to provide an update on the Little Hoover Commission. Last year, the LHC held hearings and workshops on special districts and LAFCOs. CALAFCO and several LAFCOs attended these meetings. Subsequently, the LHC staff prepared a draft report for the Commission's consideration (not yet made public). The draft report included many of CALAFCO's recommendations identified in the August testimony. For example, the Legislature should (1) curtail a growing practice of introducing and passing bills that override existing LAFCO processes and authority; (2) streamline the process for LAFCOs to dissolve inactive districts; (3) consider fixed terms for LAFCO Commissioners (to avoid random removal); (4) update the principal act for healthcare districts (HCDs); and (5) require HCDs to create community needs assessments, annually report their progress of meeting those needs, and file all reports with LAFCO for inclusion in MSR.

However, several of the LHC Commissioners expressed concern that their staff's recommendations were too "status quo" and they desired something more extreme. One of the LHC's concerns is that LAFCOs are not doing enough in terms of oversight and management of many of the districts and therefore another oversight entity may need to be created. Ultimately there was no agreement among the Commission on how to move forward. As a result, the final report was tabled and another hearing will occur in the fall.

Since that meeting, CALAFCO met with LHC staff as well as their Chair and Vice Chair and heard directly the general concerns of the LHC. CALAFCO was afforded the opportunity to clarify facts and data, and to share CALAFCO's efforts and future opportunities. CALAFCO was encouraged to reach out directly to the LHC Commissioners, and has since convened a small working group to help shape outreach and education efforts to all LHC Commissioners, including the Legislators appointed to the Commission. CALAFCO will continue to engage with LHC staff and monitor any further developments. Individual LAFCOs and LAFCO

Commissioners are also encouraged to reach out directly to the LHC Commissioners to educate them about the important role of LAFCO (see attached roster).

RECOMMENDATION – Receive legislative update.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment 1 - CALAFCO Legislative Update – May 3, 2017

Attachment 2 - Letter of Support - AB 464

Attachment 3 – Letter of Support – AB 1725

Attachment 4 – Letter of Support – AB 979

Attachment 5 – Little Hoover Commissioner Roster

CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Wednesday, May 03, 2017

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[AB 464](#) ([Gallagher R](#)) Local government reorganization.

Current Text: Amended: 3/14/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2017

Last Amended: 3/14/2017

Status: 3/15/2017-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapted
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

5/3/2017 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 126 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, current law requires that an applicant seeking a change of organization or reorganization submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory that includes, among other requirements, an enumeration and description of the services to be extended to the affected territory and an indication of when those services can feasibly be extended. This bill would specify that the plan is required to also include specific information regarding services currently provided to the affected territory, as applicable, and make related changes.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter of Support April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: Annexation Proceedings

CALAFCO Comments: This bill makes a fix to Gov. Code Sec. 56653 based on the court finding in the case of The City of Patterson v. Turlock Irrigation District. The court found that because the services were already being provided via an out of area service agreement, the application for annexation was deemed incomplete because it was not a new service to be provided. By making the fix in statute, any pending/future annexation for a territory that is already receiving services via an out of area service agreement will not be in jeopardy.

As amended, corrections were made to: 56653(b)(3) reading "proposed" rather than "provided", and in Government Code Section 56857 an exemption added pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 9608 for territory already receiving electrical service under a service area agreement approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 9608.

[AB 979](#) ([Lackey R](#)) Local agency formation commissions: district representation.

Current Text: Amended: 4/27/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2017

Last Amended: 4/27/2017

Status: 5/1/2017-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapted
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

5/10/2017 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL

GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Current law requires a local agency formation commission, if it does not have representation from independent special districts on January 1, 2001, to initiate proceedings for representation of those districts upon the commission if requested by independent special districts, and specifies the procedures for those proceedings. This bill would revise the procedures for special district representatives to initiate those proceedings, and would authorize the commission to combine proceedings for appointing a member representing independent special districts on an oversight board pursuant to those proceedings, as specified.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Sponsor/Support Letter April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is co-sponsored by CALAFCO and CSDA. As amended, the bill amends code Sec. 56332.5 to streamline the process of seating special districts on LAFCo by mirroring current statute 56332 (the process for electing special district representatives into the special district seats). Keeping the process voluntary, it allows for voting by mail whether or not the district wants to have special districts represented on LAFCo. Further, it will allow for the consolidation of that question with the independent special district selection committee appointment to a countywide redevelopment agency oversight board pursuant to Health and Safety Code 34179 (j)(3).

[AB 1725](#) (Committee on Local Government) Local agency formation.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 3/20/2017

Last Amended: 5/2/2017

Status: 5/2/2017-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on L. GOV. Read second time and amended.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

5/10/2017 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, as specified. The act authorizes a local agency formation commission to establish a schedule of fees and a schedule of service charges for proceedings taken pursuant to the act, as specified. This bill would revise that provision to authorize a local agency formation commission to establish a schedule of fees and a schedule of service charges pursuant to the act.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter of Support April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This is the annual Omnibus bill. The bill currently has one item and will be amended soon to include five (5) additional items.

[SB 37](#) (Roth D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/5/2016 [Text](#)

Introduced: 12/5/2016

Status: 4/3/2017-April 3 hearing: Placed on APPR. suspense file.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Beginning with the 2004–05 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, existing law requires that each city, county, and city and county receive additional property tax revenues in the form of a vehicle license fee adjustment amount, as defined, from a Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund that exists in each county treasury. Current law requires that these additional allocations be funded from ad valorem property tax revenues otherwise required to be allocated to educational entities. This bill would modify these reduction and transfer provisions for a city incorporating after January 1, 2004, and on or before January 1, 2012, for the 2017–18 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, by providing for a vehicle license fee adjustment amount calculated on the basis of changes in assessed valuation.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies, Tax Allocation

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is identical to SB 817 (Roth, 2016), SB 25 (Roth, 2015) and SB 69 (Roth, 2014) with the exception of the chaptering out language included in the 2016 version (which addressed the companion bill AB 2277 (Melendez, 2016)). The bill calls for reinstatement of the VLF through ERAF for cities that incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012. There are no provisions for back payments for lost revenue, but the bill does reinstate future payments beginning in the 2017/18 year for cities that incorporated between 1-1-2004 and 1-1-2012.

SB 448 (Wieckowski D) Local government: organization: districts.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2017

Last Amended: 5/2/2017

Status: 5/2/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law requires a report of an audit of a special district's accounts and records made by a certified public accountant or public accountant to be filed with the Controller and the county auditor of the county in which the special district is located within 12 months of the end of the fiscal year or years under examination. This bill would require that those audit reports also be filed with the local agency formation commission of either the county in which the special district is located or, if the special district is located in 2 or more counties, the county containing the greatest percentage of the assessed value of taxable property of the district.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Oppose Unless Amended Letter](#)

Position: Oppose unless amended

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, this bill authorizes LAFCo to dissolve inactive districts by holding one hearing and without conducting a special study and with the waiver of protest proceedings. The bill creates an "idle" status for districts based on certain criteria, and authorizes LAFCo to dissolve idle districts under certain conditions.

The bill requires districts to conduct a biennial audit and submit to the State

Controller's Office (SCO). The SCO will create a listing of idle districts based on those audits. Idle districts are defined as either: (1) no financial transactions and no revenue in the audit period; OR (2) district failed to submit the audit. The bill also adds a definition of inactive district as outlined in the bill. Once a district has been labeled idle, they have 180 days to file a statement of purpose with the SCO (criteria for content of the statement of purpose also outlined in the bill).

CALAFCO has several concerns with the processes identified in the bill, the location (code section) being used to address these new LAFCo powers, and several other minor technical issues. CALAFCO will work with the author's office and key stakeholders on amendments.

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[AB 267](#) (Waldron R) Community services districts.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/1/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 2/2/2017-From printer. May be heard in committee March 4.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law provides for the organization and powers of community services districts, including the continuation of any community services district, improvement district of a community services district, or zone of a community services district, that was in existence on January 1, 2006. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these provisions.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office this is a spot bill.

[AB 548](#) (Steinorth R) Omnitrans Transit District.

Current Text: Amended: 4/4/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 4/4/2017

Status: 4/28/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/23/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would create the Omnitrans Transit District in the County of San Bernardino. The bill would provide that the jurisdiction of the district would initially include the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Upland, and Yucaipa, and unspecified portions of the unincorporated areas of the County of San Bernardino. The bill would authorize other cities in the County of San Bernardino to subsequently join the district.

Position: None at this time

CALAFCO Comments: This bill, as amended, appears to dissolve the Omnitrans JPA and form a new independent special district to be known as the Omnitrans Transit District. The formation process does not include LAFCo. CALAFCO is reaching out to the author's office for more details.

[AB 577](#) (Caballero D) Disadvantaged communities.

Current Text: Amended: 3/9/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 3/9/2017

Status: 4/28/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.S. & T.M. on 2/27/2017) (May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	2 year	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law defines a disadvantaged community as a community with an annual median household income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual median household income for various purposes, that include, but are not limited to, the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014, eligibility for certain entities to apply for funds from the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account, and authorization for a community revitalization and investment authority to carry out a community revitalization plan. This bill would expand the definition of a disadvantaged community to include a community with an annual per capita income that is less than 80% of the statewide annual per capita income.

Position: Watch

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities

CALAFCO Comments: Sponsored by the Environmental Justice Coalition for Water, this bill is intended to expand the definition of disadvantaged communities to include multi-family households. According to the author's office this will be a two-year bill. CALAFCO will retain a Watch position until any amendments are in print.

[AB 645](#) ([Quirk D](#)) Local government: organization: dissolution.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Status: 3/2/2017-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Under current law, if a change of organization consists of a dissolution, the commission is required to order the dissolution subject to confirmation of voters if, among other things, the proposal was not initiated by the commission and if a subject agency has not objected to the proposal, the commission has found that, for an inhabited territory protests have been signed by either 25% of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory or 25% of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the affected territory. This bill would decrease that threshold to 10% of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25% of the assessed value of land within the territory or 10% of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the affected territory.

Position: Watch

Subject: CKH General Procedures, Disincorporation/dissolution, Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office this is a spot bill pending the outcome of the Alameda LAFCo special study on Eden Healthcare District. Update: The author's office indicates they will hold off moving this bill. CALAFCO will continue to Watch.

[AB 892](#) ([Waldron R](#)) Municipal water districts: water service: Indian tribes.

Current Text: Amended: 3/23/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2017

Last Amended: 3/23/2017

Status: 3/27/2017-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law, upon the request of certain Indian tribes and the satisfaction of certain conditions, requires a district to provide service of water at substantially the same terms applicable to the customers of the district to the Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district, as prescribed. This bill would authorize, rather than require, a district to provide this service of water. The bill would apply this authorization to all Indian tribes whose lands are owned by the tribe.

Position: Watch

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office, this may very well become a two-year bill. The intent of the bill was to make it permissive for an Indian tribe to negotiate directly with a water provider to obtain water services. This would circumvent LAFCo. This bill expands on last year's bill by Gonzalez-Fletcher, AB 2470. The author's office has indicated the bill will not move forward in it's current version. They understand CALAFCO's concerns. CALAFCO will continue to monitor the bill for any amendments and will consider a position if/when amendments are in print.

AB 1728 (Committee on Local Government) Health care districts: board of directors.

Current Text: Introduced: 3/22/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 3/22/2017

Status: 4/27/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 9. Noes 0.) (April 26). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Each health care district has a board of directors with specific duties and powers respecting the creation, administration, and maintenance of the district, including purchasing, receiving, having, taking, holding, leasing, using, and enjoying property. This bill would require the board of directors to adopt an annual budget in a public meeting, on or before September 1 of each year, that conforms to generally accepted accounting and budgeting procedures for special districts, establish and maintain an Internet Web site that lists contact information for the district, and adopt annual policies for providing assistance or grant funding, if the district provides assistance or grants.

Attachments:

[AB 1728 CALAFCO Letter of Support](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Other

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill requires healthcare districts to adopt annual budgets, establish and maintain a website (and prescribes the required site content), and adopt policies for grant funding.

SB 206 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/1/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 3/23/2017-Read third time. Urgency clause adopted. Passed. (Ayes 37. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered

1st House	2nd House	Conc.
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Summary:

Would enact the First Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

[SB 207](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/1/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 3/23/2017-Read third time. Urgency clause adopted. Passed. (Ayes 37. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would enact the Second Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

[SB 208](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/1/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 3/23/2017-Read third time. Passed. (Ayes 37. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would enact the Third Validating Act of 2017, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter Feb 2017](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local agencies.

[SB 365](#) (Dodd D) Regional park and open-space districts: County of Solano.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Status: 4/3/2017-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

5/4/2017 #49 SENATE SEN THIRD READING FILE - SEN BILLS

Summary:

Current law authorizes proceedings for the formation of a regional park and open-space or regional open-space district in specified counties in the state to be initiated by resolution of the county board of supervisors adopted after a noticed hearing, and specifies the contents of the resolution. This bill, in addition, would authorize the formation of a regional district in the County of Solano to be initiated by resolution of the county board of supervisors after a noticed hearing. The bill would specify the contents of the resolution, including the calling of an election, as prescribed.

Attachments:

[SB 365 CALAFCO Letter of Oppose_03_28_17](#)

Position: Oppose

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This bill calls for the formation of a regional park and open space district which will circumvent the LAFCo formation process. CALAFCO discussed our concerns with the author's office, who has made it clear they will not be considering any potential amendments unless requested by Solano LAFCo.

[SB 435](#) (Dodd D) Williamson Act: payments to local governments.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2017

Last Amended: 5/2/2017

Status: 5/2/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Would, under the Williamson act, reduce the amount per acre paid to a city, county, or city and county under these provisions to \$2.50 for prime agricultural land, \$0.50 for all other land devoted to open-space uses of statewide significance, and, for counties that have adopted farmland security zones, \$4 for land that is within, or within 3 miles of the sphere of influence of, each incorporated city.

Position: Watch

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: According to the author's office, this bill (originally sponsored by the CA Farm Bureau but no longer) is intended to ensure ongoing subvention funding for counties and cities to enter into contracts with owners of agricultural land that commit to protecting and preserving the property as resource land and farmland. The current language is placeholder language and at present the author is working with the Dept. of Conservation and stakeholder groups to determine a reasonable path forward for the reinstatement of the Williamson Act funding.

CALAFCO will watch the bill for pending amendments.

[SB 634](#) (Wilk R) Santa Clarita Valley Water District.

Current Text: Amended: 5/2/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 5/2/2017

Status: 5/2/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law, the Castaic Lake Water Agency Law, created the Castaic Lake Water Agency and authorizes the agency to acquire water and water rights, including water from the State Water Project, and to provide, sell, and deliver water at wholesale for municipal, industrial, domestic, and other purposes. This bill would repeal the Castaic Lake Water Agency Law. This bill contains other related provisions and other current laws.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Oppose Unless Amended 03 27 17](#)

Position: Oppose unless amended

Subject: Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, this bill consolidates two independent water districts in Los Angeles. The bill was amended to include LAFCo in the process via an application for binding conditions. There are still several minor technical changes that have been requested to the sponsors and author, and CALAFCO will retain our oppose unless amended position until those changes are in print.

[SB 693](#) ([Mendoza D](#)) Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Status: 5/1/2017-Set for hearing May 8.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar:

5/8/2017 10:30 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203)

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS, LARA, Chair

Summary:

Would specifically authorize the establishment of the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District, by petition or resolution submitted to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission before January 1, 2020, subject to specified existing laws governing recreation and park districts, including their formation, except as provided. The bill would authorize specified city councils and the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to appoint the initial board of directors of the district.

Position: Watch

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This bill forms the Lower San Gabriel River Recreation and Park District while leaving the LAFCo process intact. CALAFCO will keep watching to ensure it stays that way.

Total Measures: 18

Total Tracking Forms: 18

5/3/2017 8:38:28 AM

CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor • Martinez, CA 94553-1229
 e-mail: LouAnn.Teixeira@lafco.cccounty.us
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April 10, 2017

Assembly Member James Gallagher
 California State Assembly
 State Capital Room 2158
 Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Support of AB 464 as Amended

Dear Assembly Member Gallagher:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is pleased to support your bill **AB 464**, as amended on March 14, 2017. Sponsored by the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO), the bill makes necessary technical changes to existing LAFCO law to solidify the current practice of LAFCOs when approving annexations of areas already being served by a local agency (e.g., city, special district) through an out of area service agreement (Government Code §56133).

As a result of a court decision in 2014 in the case of *City of Patterson v. Turlock Irrigation District*, all future annexations of an area receiving services through an approved out of area service agreement will not be valid. What began as a local issue has now become a critical statewide concern. This bill seeks to remedy that problem by ensuring that within certain conditions, LAFCOs can continue to evaluate applications which include the annexation of territory where services are already being provided via an out of area service agreement. Further, it allows for common sense boundary alignments and more predictable growth planning.

By allowing the annexation of these areas, **AB 464** also ensures the people paying for and receiving the services, can participate in elections and potentially serve on the governing board of the service provider.

It is important to note that this bill does not change the current rights of a city or district to oppose an annexation, nor does it change any protest provisions in current law. It simply ensures the ability for LAFCOs to continue the practice of common sense boundary oversight for service providers. As there are many pending annexations throughout the state that are associated with previously approved out of area service extensions, this legislation is critical to the successful annexation of these areas. In Contra Costa County, we have several areas (e.g., Concord, Martinez) where LAFCO

periodically approves out of area service in anticipation of annexation. AB 464 would allow for the continuation of this practice, which is common among LAFCOs.

For these reasons, Contra Costa LAFCO is pleased to support **AB 464**. Thank you for carrying this important piece of legislation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donald A. Blubaugh". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Donald A. Blubaugh, Chair
Contra Costa LAFCO

- c: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
- Misa Lennox, Assembly Local Government Committee
- William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
- Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

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April 10, 2017

Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair
 Assembly Local Government Committee
 California State Assembly
 State Capitol, Room 5144
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT of AB 1725: Local Government Committee Omnibus Bill

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is pleased to support the Assembly Local Government Committee bill **AB 1725** which makes technical, non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (the Act).

This annual bill includes technical changes to the Act which governs the work of local agency formation commissions. These changes are necessary as commissions implement the Act and small inconsistencies are found or clarifications are needed to make the law as unambiguous as possible. **AB 1725** currently makes minor technical corrections to language used in the Act. The Contra Costa LAFCO and the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) are grateful to the members of our Legislative Committee and to your Committee and staff, all of whom worked diligently on this language to ensure there are no substantive changes while creating a significant increase in the clarity of the Act for all stakeholders.

This legislation helps ensure the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act remains a vital and practical law that is consistently applied around the state. The Contra Costa LAFCO appreciates your Committee's authorship and support of this bill, and your support of the mission of LAFCOs.

Sincerely,


 Donald A. Blubaugh, Chair
 Contra Costa LAFCO

c: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
 Misa Lennox, Associate Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
 William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
 Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO

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April 13, 2017

Assemblymember Tom Lackey
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 2174
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SUPPORT of AB 979 as Amended

Dear Assemblymember Lackey:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is pleased to support your bill, **AB 979**, as amended on April 6, 2017. Co-sponsored by the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO), this bill facilitates streamlining the process of seating special district representation on Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs).

The statutory mission of LAFCOs is to discourage urban sprawl, preserve agricultural land and open space, encourage the orderly formation and development of local agencies, and ensure the efficient provision of services by those local agencies. By statute, each LAFCO is composed of representatives from the county, cities within the county, and a member of the public (with each seat having an alternate). Special districts have the ability to "opt in" to representation on LAFCOs and since 1972, special districts have chosen to obtain representation on 30 of the 58 LAFCOs. Special Districts have served on Contra Costa LAFCO since 1994.

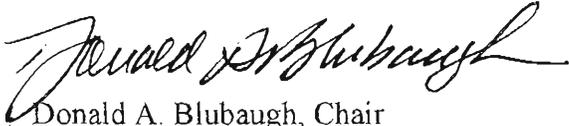
Under current law, special districts may acquire representation on a LAFCO if a majority of all special districts in the county adopt a Board resolution supporting such action, with all of them having to be adopted within a one-year period. This can be a time intensive process requiring resources and an organized effort.

AB 979 simplifies this process by mirroring the existing election process for appointment of LAFCO commissioners through the independent special districts selection committee. The change would allow special district representation on LAFCO to be achieved through a more streamlined process while still allowing for each district to vote on the matter.

Simplifying the LAFCO representation process would empower special districts in the 28 counties with no special district representation to more effectively consider their participation on LAFCO. We believe special district representation on LAFCO provides a more diverse and balanced decision-making foundation to the LAFCO process.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support *AB 979* and thank you for authoring this important piece of legislation.

Yours sincerely,



Donald A. Blubaugh, Chair
Contra Costa LAFCO

- c: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
- Misa Lennox, Associate Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
- William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
- Pamela Miller, Executive Director, California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions
- Kyle Packham, Legislative Director, California Special Districts Association

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Please direct all
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