



Lou Ann Texeira
 Executive Officer

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August 9, 2017
 Agenda Item 9

August 9, 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 is an update on legislative activities that have direct and indirect effects on LAFCOs (see CALAFCO Legislative Update – Attachment 1). This year, CALAFCO is sponsoring three bills as summarized below:

- **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 was signed by the Governor.
- **AB 1725**, the annual Omnibus bill which makes technical, non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000. This bill was last amended on July 20th to remove one of the five proposed changes and was ordered to a second reading.
- CALAFCO and the California Special Districts Association are co-sponsoring **AB 979** which facilitates the seating of special district members on LAFCO. This bill was last amended on July 11th and was ordered to a third reading.

The legislature will resume on August 21st following summer recess.

Last month, CALAFCO issued two urgent calls for legislative action requesting that LAFCOs send letters opposing **AB 1361** (Garcia) and letters supporting **SB 448**. **AB 1361** was recently gutted and amended to essentially allow water districts to provide service to Indian tribal lands that are not within the district boundaries and without going through the LAFCO approval process. The bill is sponsored by the Rincon tribe (Harrah’s owns the casino on their land). **AB 448** provides a streamlined process for LAFCO to dissolve inactive districts. CALAFCO staff has spent considerable time working with the authors and their staff on needed amendments. Timing of the letters was critical as the bills were set for hearings in July.

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, a letter opposing **AB 1361** was sent (Attachment 2), and a letter supporting **AB 448** was sent (Attachment 3).

The next CALAFCO Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled for August 25th. Commissioner McGill and the Commission's Executive Officer are happy to provide additional information and respond to questions at the LAFCO meeting on August 9th.

RECOMMENDATION – Receive legislative update.

Sincerely,

LOU ANN TEXEIRA
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Attachment 1 - CALAFCO Legislative Update – August 2, 2017

Attachment 2 - Letter Opposing AB 1361

Attachment 3 – Letter Supporting SB 448

CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Wednesday, August 02, 2017

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

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2017

Last Amended: 3/14/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 43, Statutes of 2017.

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

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 Requesting Governor Signature](#)

[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: 5/15/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2017

Last Amended: 5/15/2017

Status: 7/11/2017-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

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

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides for the selection of representatives of independent special districts on each local

agency formation commission by an independent special district selection committee pursuant to a nomination and election process. This bill would additionally require the executive officer to call and hold a meeting of the special district selection committee upon the adoption of a resolution of intention by the committee relating to proceedings for representation of independent special districts upon the commission pursuant to specified law.

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 1361](#) ([Garcia, Eduardo D](#)) **Municipal water districts: water service: Indian tribes.**

Current Text: Amended: 6/28/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 6/28/2017

Status: 7/19/2017-VOTE: Do pass as amended

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

Summary:

The Municipal Water District Law of 1911 provides for the formation of municipal water districts and grants to those districts specified powers. Current law permits a district to acquire, control, distribute, store, spread, sink, treat, purify, recycle, recapture, and salvage any water for the beneficial use of the district, its inhabitants, or the owners of rights to water in the district. 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 additionally authorize a district to provide this service of water to an Indian tribe's lands that are not within the district if the Indian tribe's lands are owned by the tribe.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Oppose letter_07_12_17](#)

Position: Oppose

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, this bill allows water districts to provide service to an Indian tribe's lands that are not within the district boundaries without going through the current statutory process of approval by the local agency formation commission (LAFCo). Amendments were taken by the author during the Senate Governance and Finance Committee hearing July 19 that include LAFCo's ability to apply certain terms and conditions to the application by the water agency and limits the land to be served to lands in trust. However, CALAFCO still has a number of concerns and will continue to work with the author and sponsor.

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

Current Text: Amended: 7/20/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 3/20/2017

Last Amended: 7/20/2017

Status: 7/20/2017-Read third time and amended. Ordered to second reading.

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

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 defines various terms for these purposes, including the term "contiguous," which the act defines as territory adjacent to territory within the local agency. This bill would instead define "contiguous" as territory that abuts or shares a common boundary with territory within a local agency.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter of Support April 2017](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This is the annual Omnibus bill. The bill makes only minor, non-substantive technical changes to CKH.

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: 5/26/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/25/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

Desk	Policy	2 year	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: 7/17/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2017

Last Amended: 7/17/2017

Status: 7/17/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

(Amended 7/17/2017)

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 instead require special districts defined by a specified provision to file those audit reports with the Controller and special districts defined by another specified provision to file those audit reports with the Controller and 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, with each local agency formation commission within each county in which the district is located.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter July 2017](#)

[CALAFCO Oppose Unless Amended Letter](#)

Position: Support

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: As amended on July 17, this bill authorizes LAFCo to dissolve inactive districts (after determining they meet the criteria set forth in the statute) by holding one hearing, without conducting a special study and with the waiver of protest proceedings. The State Controller is required to notify LAFCo when a district is inactive. LAFCo then has 90 days to initiate dissolution, and another 90 days in which to hold the hearing to dissolve. Should the LAFCo determine the district does not meet the criteria, no dissolution occurs and LAFCo notifies the Controller the district is not inactive. Should the LAFCo determine the district does meet the criteria then it is ordered to be dissolved. The bill also requires a district to provide LAFCo with their audits at the same time they provide them to the Controller.

All of our issues have been resolved with the current version and as a result our position has been changed from Oppose Unless Amended to Support.

AB 267 (Waldron R) Community services districts.

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

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/1/2017)(May be acted upon Jan 2018)

2 year	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	Chaptored
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	Chaptored
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: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/2/2017)(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:

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: 5/12/2017-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was L. GOV. 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:

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 1479](#) ([Bonta D](#)) Public records: custodian of records: civil penalties.

Current Text: Amended: 7/18/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/18/2017

Status: 7/18/2017-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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

Calendar:

8/21/2017 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203)

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS, LARA, Chair

Summary:

Would, until January 1, 2023, require public agencies to designate a person or persons, or office or offices to act as the agency's custodian of records who is responsible for responding to any request made pursuant to the California Public Records Act and any inquiry from the public about a decision by the agency to deny a request for records. The bill also would make other conforming changes. Because the bill would require local agencies to perform additional duties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position: Oppose

Subject: Public Records Act

CALAFCO Comments: As amended this bill requires any public agency to designate a person/office to act as the agency's custodian of records who will be responsible for responding to all public records requests and to respond to an inquiries as to why the agency denied the request for records. Further the bill adds a failure to respond for records or an improperly assessed fee can be considered a civil penalty and allows the courts to issue fines ranging from \$1000 - \$5000.

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

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

Introduced: 3/22/2017

Status: 7/12/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 12). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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

Calendar:

8/21/2017 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203)

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS, LARA, Chair

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: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 57, Statutes of 2017.

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

Summary:

This bill 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 contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature_06_26_17](#)

[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: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 58, Statutes of 2017.

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

Summary:

This bill 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 contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Requesting Governor Signature_06_26_17](#)

[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: Chaptered: 7/10/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/1/2017

Status: 7/10/2017-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 59, Statutes of 2017.

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

Summary:

This bill 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 Letter Requesting Governor Signature 06_26_17](#)
[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: Amended: 7/13/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2017

Last Amended: 7/13/2017

Status: 7/18/2017-In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

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

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.

[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: 5/25/2017-May 25 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

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.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support Letter_May 2017](#)

Position: Support
Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson
CALAFCO Comments: This bill renews partial subvention funding for the Williamson Act as a fiscal incentive to lift contract moratoria, implements solar use easements and Farmland Security Zone Contracts, and increases subvention funding for counties that adopt conservation planning strategies for agriculturally zoned property that further our state's sustainable community goals.

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

Current Text: Amended: 7/12/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/12/2017

Status: 7/12/2017-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.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter Removing Opposition_06_26_17](#)

[CALAFCO Letter Oppose Unless Amended_03_27_17](#)

Position: Neutral

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. As statute does not allow the local LAFCo to deny the application when both district boards have adopted resolutions of support, the amendments of May 26 address all of CALAFCO's concerns. As a result CALAFCO has removed our opposition and now is neutral on the bill.

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

Current Text: Amended: 7/3/2017 [Text](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2017

Last Amended: 7/3/2017

Status: 7/11/2017-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 4.) (July 11). 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 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 members to, and the executive officer of the conservancy to serve as a member on, 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 a majority of the LAFCo process intact. CALAFCO will keep watching to ensure it stays that way.

Total Measures: 20

Total Tracking Forms: 20

8/2/2017 9:03:07 AM



CONTRA COSTA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
 651 Pine Street, Sixth Floor • Martinez, CA 94553-1229
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 Executive Officer

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July 14, 2017

Assembly Member Eduardo Garcia
 California State Assembly
 California State Capitol, Room 4140
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 1361 – OPPOSE (as amended June 28, 2017)

Dear Assembly Member Garcia:

The Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) has been following your bill, **AB 1361**, which was recently gutted and amended to allow water districts to provide service to Indian tribe lands that are not within the district boundaries without going through the statutory process of approval by LAFCO. Because this bill as amended on June 28, 2017, allows for an extension of services without annexation or even an expedited out of agency service extension approval by LAFCO, Contra Costa LAFCO respectfully opposes **AB 1361**.

It seems **AB 1361** is a solution in search of a problem. As written, the bill does not address any specific service provision problem. Instead, it seeks to subvert existing law by granting a special exception for any potential extension of water service by any public agency to any tribal land in the state.

The current decades-old annexation and out of agency service extension processes are uniquely crafted by the legislature to ensure the provision of local public agency services, and are carefully regulated by another neutral public body in the form of the LAFCO in each county. LAFCOs have authority over boundaries of and service extensions by local agencies and **AB 1361** gives no consideration to this existing local authority.

We understand the bill's sponsor believes that LAFCOs have no authority over tribal lands. Further, we recognize that there is a unique relationship between the State and Indian tribes, and that Indian nations have status beyond some local control matters.

However, the fact of the matter is that LAFCOs have statutory authority over the boundaries of *public agency service providers* irrespective of the service recipient (e.g., tribe).

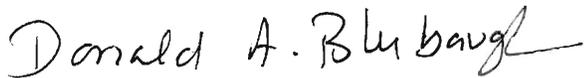
Thus, when a service extension is sought by a service provider to an area outside the existing service boundary, the LAFCO process ensures that all public agency service extensions do not cause harm to either other local agencies or their constituents, and that the matter is fully vetted at a local public hearing. This transparent process allows the public to have meaningful opportunities to comment and seek remedies at the local level. By contrast, **AB 1361** would allow for a blanket statewide loophole that removes all local control and cannot foresee local circumstances and influences that a local LAFCO process provides.

Further, allowing a water agency to serve tribal lands even if a LAFCO Municipal Service Review concludes that the local agency has existing service issues will only exacerbate service deficiencies for existing users. The existing, longstanding annexation process allows for a thorough, publicly transparent evaluation of both service needs and service capacity before allowing such a service extension to occur. This protects everyone affected by such a decision and has proven to be good public policy.

Finally, it is imperative that all Californians be treated equally under the law and specifically when creating policy that involves the provision of water service. Giving any special interest an "automatic" approval to water supplies without local review authority is bad public policy.

For these reasons, Contra Costa LAFCO opposes **AB 1361** as currently written.

Sincerely,



DONALD A. BLUBAUGH, CHAIR
CONTRA COSTA LAFCO

c: Committee Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Anton Favorini-Csorba, Consultant, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Ryan Eisberg, Senate Republican Caucus Consultant
Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CA Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

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July 25, 2017

Senator Bob Wieckowski
 California State Senate
 California State Capitol, Room 4085
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SB 448 – SUPPORT (As amended July 17, 2017)**

Dear Senator Wieckowski:

On behalf of the Contra Costa Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), we have been monitoring your bill **SB 448**. The July 17 amendments remove the remaining LAFCO concerns and as a result, we are pleased to support the bill. We thank you for working closely with CALAFCO to resolve our concerns with the bill.

The proposed authority for LAFCOs to dissolve inactive districts as defined in the bill and identified by the State Controller's Office (SCO) through the contemplated streamlined process creates great efficiencies for LAFCO.

Further, we support the idea of increased communication and enhanced transparency through LAFCO directly receiving reports from the special districts for which they have authority. Having the SCO clearly identify independent special districts on their website is also a great step in gaining efficiencies and greater transparency at the state level.

Thank you again for taking our concerns into consideration and for your work with CALAFCO on this bill. We are pleased to support **SB 448**.

Yours sincerely,

Donald A. Blubaugh, Chair
 Contra Costa LAFCO

c: Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO