



Local Agency Formation Commission of Napa County
Subdivision of the State of California

1754 Second Street, Suite C
Napa, California 94559
Phone: (707) 259-8645
www.napa.lafco.ca.gov

We Manage Local Government Boundaries, Evaluate Municipal Services, and Protect Agriculture

Agenda Item 5j (Consent/Information)

TO: Local Agency Formation Commission

PREPARED BY: Brendon Freeman, Executive Officer *BF*

MEETING DATE: June 6, 2022

SUBJECT: Legislative Report

SUMMARY

This is a consent item for information purposes only. Accordingly, if interested, the Commission is invited to pull this item for additional discussion with the concurrence of the Chair. No formal action will be taken as part of this item.

On April 4, 2022, following discussion of the Legislative Committee's (Dillon, Painter, and Freeman) recommendations, the Commission directed staff to submit letters to the Legislature in support of Assembly Bill (AB) 1773, AB 2957, and Senate Bill (SB) 938. The support letters are included as Attachments One, Two, and Three, respectively.

In addition, the California Association of LAFCOs (CALAFCO) continues to track proposed legislation affecting LAFCOs. CALAFCO's legislative report dated May 31, 2022 is included as Attachment Four.

Staff does not recommend the Commission take a new or different formal position on any bills at this time. The Commission will continue to have a support position for AB 1773, AB 2957, and SB 938.

ATTACHMENTS

- 1) AB 1773 Support Letter
- 2) AB 2957 Support Letter
- 3) SB 938 Support Letter
- 4) CALAFCO Legislative Report (Dated May 31, 2022)

Margie Mohler, Chair
Councilmember, Town of Yountville

Mariam Aboudamous, Commissioner
Councilmember, City of American Canyon

Beth Painter, Alternate Commissioner
Councilmember, City of Napa

Brad Wagenknecht, Vice Chair
County of Napa Supervisor, 1st District

Diane Dillon, Commissioner
County of Napa Supervisor, 3rd District

Ryan Gregory, Alternate Commissioner
County of Napa Supervisor, 2nd District

Kenneth Leary, Commissioner
Representative of the General Public

Eve Kahn, Alternate Commissioner
Representative of the General Public

Brendon Freeman
Executive Officer



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April 6, 2022

Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair
Assembly Local Government Committee
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

**SUBJECT: Support for Assembly Bill 1773: Williamson Act: Subvention Payments:
Appropriation**

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry:

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Napa County is pleased to support AB 1773 (Patterson).

The Williamson Act was created to preserve open space and conserve agricultural land. For many years, the state funded the Williamson Act at around \$35 million to \$40 million per year. This funding ceased during the recession, and has not been reinstated since. AB 1773 would allocate \$40 million from the General Fund to the Williamson Act for the purpose of subvention payments.

While the Williamson Act has been effective at protecting over 16.5 million acres of land in California, these conservation efforts are at risk the longer the state goes without funding subvention payments. Without funding, the state’s goal of preserving agricultural and open space lands from development is at risk.

This legislation helps protect agricultural and open space lands throughout Napa County that are subject to Williamson Act contracts.

Yours sincerely,

Brendon Freeman
Executive Officer

cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Jimmy MacDonald, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
René LaRoche, Executive Director, California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

Margie Mohler, Vice Chair
Councilmember, Town of Yountville

Diane Dillon, Chair
County of Napa Supervisor, 3rd District

Kenneth Leary, Commissioner
Representative of the General Public

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April 6, 2022

Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair
Assembly Local Government Committee
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support for Assembly Bill 2957: Local Government Committee Omnibus Bill

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry:

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Napa County is pleased to support the Assembly Local Government Committee Bill AB 2957, sponsored by the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO), 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 LAFCOs. 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 2957 makes minor technical corrections to language used in the Act. Napa LAFCO is grateful to your Committee members and staff, and CALAFCO, 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 insure the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act remains a vital and practical law that is consistently applied around the state. We appreciate your Committee’s authorship and support of this bill, and your support of the mission of LAFCOs.

Yours sincerely,

Brendon Freeman
Executive Officer

cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Jimmy MacDonald, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
René LaRoche, Executive Director, California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

Margie Mohler, Vice Chair
Councilmember, Town of Yountville

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Brendon Freeman
Executive Officer



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April 6, 2022

Honorable Robert Hertzberg
 California State Senate
 1021 O Street, Room 8610
 Sacramento, CA 95814

SUBJECT: Support for Senate Bill 938: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: Protest Proceedings: Procedural Consolidation

Dear Senator Hertzberg:

The Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) of Napa County is pleased to join the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) in support of your bill, SB 938, which makes changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (The Act). SB 938 represents a collaborative three-year effort led by CALAFCO to clean up, consolidate, and clarify existing statutory provisions associated with consolidations and dissolutions, as well as codify the conditions under which LAFCO may initiate dissolution of a district at the 25% protest threshold.

The statutes related to protest provisions and the disparate protest thresholds established for LAFCO-initiated actions (10%) and all other initiated actions (25%) make addressing necessary and appropriate special district consolidations and dissolutions considerably more difficult when initiated by a LAFCO. Further, they serve as a deterrent for LAFCO to initiate action, even if meaningful efficiencies in the provision of public services could be achieved or if a district is failing to meet its statutory requirements.

As introduced, the bill represents the redraft of existing protest statutes with some minor technical clarifications added. The pending proposed amendments from CALAFCO allow LAFCOs to initiate dissolution of a district at the 25% protest threshold under specific circumstances. All of this work is in response to a recommendation made in the 2017 Little Hoover Commission report after a year-long study (Special Districts: Improving Oversight and Transparency) and the formation of a working group by CALAFCO of stakeholders in early 2019. The intent was to examine the protest process for consolidations and dissolutions of special districts, and after three years of work (delayed due to the pandemic), the working group came to consensus on the redraft of existing protest statutes (representative of SB 938 as introduced) and a new process that allows LAFCOs to initiate dissolution of a district at the 25% protest threshold under specific circumstances (pending amendment into SB 938).

Margie Mohler, Vice Chair
 Councilmember, Town of Yountville

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 Councilmember, City of American Canyon

Beth Painter, Alternate Commissioner
 Councilmember, City of Napa

Diane Dillon, Chair
 County of Napa Supervisor, 3rd District

Brad Wagenknecht, Commissioner
 County of Napa Supervisor, 1st District

Ryan Gregory, Alternate Commissioner
 County of Napa Supervisor, 2nd District

Kenneth Leary, Commissioner
 Representative of the General Public

Eve Kahn, Alternate Commissioner
 Representative of the General Public

Brendon Freeman
 Executive Officer

Support for Senate Bill 938 from Napa LAFCO

April 6, 2022

Page 2 of 2

The overarching goal of these changes is to ensure that LAFCOs have the tools we need to carry out our statutory obligations to ensure orderly and functioning local government services and to create greater consistency in the statute. The specific circumstances under which a dissolution may be initiated are more than reasonable and the subsequent process includes three noticed public hearings, a minimum 12-month remediation period, and a 60-day protest period, all of which are extremely practical. Additionally, the proposed process for LAFCO-initiated actions at the 25% protest threshold applies only to dissolutions, making the scope of use exceptionally narrow.

SB 938 makes much needed and long-awaited improvements to The Act through the restructure and clarification of existing protest provisions, and addition of a fair and appropriate process that offers LAFCOs additional tools necessary to effectively fulfill their statutory obligations.

We thank you for your authorship of this critical legislation and for continuing your long support of the work of LAFCOs. For all these reasons, we are pleased to support your bill SB 938.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Brendon Freeman". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brendon Freeman
Executive Officer

cc: Members, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Anton Favorini-Csorba, Consultant, Senate Governance and Finance Committee
Ryan Eisberg, Consultant, Senate Republican Caucus
René LaRoche, Executive Director, California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions

CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Tuesday, May 31, 2022

1

[AB 2957](#) (Committee on Local Government) Local government: reorganization.

Current Text: Amended: 4/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 3/2/2022

Last Amended: 4/18/2022

Status: 5/25/2022-Referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

Calendar:

6/1/2022 9:30 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, CABALLERO, Chair

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization, reorganization, and sphere of influence changes for cities and districts, as specified. Current law requires that an applicant seeking a change of organization or reorganization to submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory. Current law requires a petitioner or legislative body desiring to initiate proceedings to submit an application to the executive officer of the local agency formation commission, and requires the local agency formation commission, with regard to an application that includes an incorporation, to immediately notify all affected local agencies and any applicable state agency, as specified. This bill would define the term "successor agency," for these purposes to mean the local agency a commission designates to wind up the affairs of a dissolved district.

Attachments:

[LAFCo Support letter template](#)

[CALAFCO Support letter](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This is the annual Omnibus bill sponsored by CALAFCO. As introduced it makes 3 minor, technical non-substantive changes in CKH: (1) Replaces "to be completed and in existence" with "take effect" under GCS 56102; (2) Adds GCS 56078.5: "Successor Agency" means the local agency the Commission designates to wind up the affairs of a dissolved district; and (3) Replaces "proposals" with "applications" within GCS 56653(a), 56654(a), (b), and (c), and 56658(b)(1) and (b)(2).

CALAFCO support letter and LAFCo support letter template are in the attachments section.

April 18, 2022 bill amended with additional changes requested by CALAFCO. Amendments include grammatical changes, the correction of a PUC citation in GC Sec 56133(e)(5) from 9604 to 224.3, the extension of the sunset date within R&T Section 99(b)(8)(B) to January 1, 2028, and it renumbers remaining provisions as needed due to the above changes.

[SB 938](#) (Hertzberg D) The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: protest proceedings: procedural consolidation.

Current Text: Amended: 4/4/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/8/2022

Last Amended: 4/4/2022

Status: 5/5/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Calendar:

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 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, except as specified. Under current law, in each county there is a local agency formation commission (commission) that oversees these changes of organization and reorganization. Current law authorizes a commission to dissolve an inactive district if specified conditions are satisfied. This bill would also authorize a commission to initiate a proposal for the dissolution of a district, as described, if the commission approves, adopts, or accepts a specified study that includes a finding, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that, among other things, the district has one or more documented chronic service provision deficiencies, the district spent public funds in an unlawful or reckless manner, or the district has shown willful neglect by failing to consistently adhere to the California Public Records Act.

Attachments:

[SB 938 CALAFCO Support Letter dated 5-25-2022](#)

[SB 938 LAFCo support letter template](#)

[SB 938 CALAFCO Support letter](#)

[SB 938 CALAFCO Fact Sheet](#)

[SB 938 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Sponsor

Subject: CKH General Procedures, Other

CALAFCO Comments: CALAFCO is the sponsor of this bill. SB 839 represents a collaborative three-year effort (by an 18-member working group) to clean up, consolidate, and clarify existing statutory provisions associated with consolidations and dissolutions, as well as codify the conditions under which a LAFCo may initiate dissolution of a district at the 25 percent protest threshold. In response to a recommendation made in the 2017 Little Hoover Commission report (Special Districts: Improving Oversight and Transparency), CALAFCO initiated a working

group of stakeholders in early 2019 to discuss the protest process for dissolutions of special districts.

The bill's current format (dated 2/8/22) represents the restructuring of existing protest provisions scattered throughout CKH. There have been some minor technical language added for clarifications. These changes are all minor in nature (by legislative standards).

The bill will be amended to reflect the newly designed process that codifies the ability for LAFCo to initiate a district dissolution at 25% protest threshold. The conditions under which this can occur include one or more of the following, any/all of which must be documented via determinations in a Municipal Service Review (MSR):

1. The agency has one or more documented chronic service provision deficiencies that substantially deviate from industry or trade association standards or other government regulations and its board or management is not actively engaged in efforts to remediate the documented service deficiencies;
2. The agency spent public funds in an unlawful or reckless manner inconsistent with the principal act or other statute governing the agency and has not taken any action to prevent similar future spending;
3. The agency has consistently shown willful neglect by failing to consistently adhere to the California Public Records Act and other public disclosure laws the agency is subject to;
4. The agency has failed to meet the minimum number of times required in its governing act in the prior calendar year and has taken no action to remediate the failures to meet to ensure future meetings are conducted on a timely basis;
5. The agency has consistently failed to perform timely audits in the prior three years, or failed to meet minimum financial requirements under Government Code section 26909 over the prior five years as an alternative to performing an audit, or the agency's recent annual audits show chronic issues with the agency's fiscal controls and the agency has taken no action to remediate the issues.

The proposed process is:

1. LAFCo to present the MSR in a 21-day noticed public hearing. At that time the LAFCo may choose to adopt a resolution of intent to dissolve the district. The resolution shall contain a minimum 12-month remediation period.
2. The district will have a minimum of 12 months to remediate the deficiencies.
3. Half-way through the remediation period, the district shall provide LAFCo a written report on the progress of their remediation efforts. The report is to be placed on a LAFCo meeting agenda and presented at that LAFCo meeting.
4. At the conclusion of the remediation period, LAFCo conducts another 21-day noticed public hearing to determine if district has remedied deficiencies. If the district has resolved issues, commission rescinds the resolution of intent to dissolve the district and the matter is dropped. If not, commission adopts a resolution making determinations to dissolve the district.
5. Standard 30-day reconsideration period.
6. Protest proceedings at 25% threshold can be noticed with a required 60-day protest period.
7. Protest hearing is held and amount of qualified protests determined based on 25% threshold. LAFCo either orders dissolution, election, or termination.

As this bill - when amended - adds requirements for LAFCOs and districts, it will likely be keyed fiscal (for now it is not). An author fact sheet and CALAFCO fact sheet are posted in our attachments section as well as the CALAFCO Support letter and LAFCo support letter template.

SB 1490 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/28/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/28/2022**Status:** 4/28/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Calendar:

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Would enact the First Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:[SB 1490-1491-1492, CALAFCO Letter of Support - March 2022](#)**Position:** Support**Subject:** LAFCo Administration**CALAFCO Comments:** This is the first of three annual validating acts. The CALAFCO Support letter is posted in our attachments.**SB 1491 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.****Current Text:** Introduced: 2/28/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/28/2022**Status:** 4/28/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Calendar:

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Would enact the Second Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:[SB 1490-1491-1492, CALAFCO Letter of Support - March 2022](#)**Position:** Support**Subject:** LAFCo Administration**CALAFCO Comments:** This is the second of three annual validating acts. The CALAFCO Support letter is posted in our attachments.**SB 1492 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.****Current Text:** Introduced: 2/28/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/28/2022**Status:** 4/28/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Calendar:

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Would enact the Third Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:

[SB 1490-1491-1492, CALAFCO Letter of Support - March 2022](#)

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This is the third of three annual validating acts. The CALAFCO Support letter is posted in our attachments.

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[AB 1640](#) (Ward D) Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans.

Current Text: Amended: 5/19/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/12/2022

Last Amended: 5/19/2022

Status: 5/27/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program to be administered by the Office of Planning and Research to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as prescribed. This bill would authorize eligible entities, as defined, to establish and participate in a regional climate network, as defined. The bill would require the office, through the program, to encourage the inclusion of eligible entities with land use planning and hazard mitigation planning authority into regional climate networks. The bill would authorize a regional climate network to engage in activities to address climate change, as specified.

Attachments:

[AB 1640, CALAFCO Letter of Support - March 2022](#)

[AB 1640 Author Fact](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Climate Change

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is a follow up and very similar to AB 897 (2021). The bill would authorize eligible entities, as defined (including LAFCo), to establish and participate in a regional climate network, as defined. The bill would authorize a regional climate network to engage in activities to address climate change, as specified. Further, it requires a regional climate network to develop a regional climate adaptation and resilience action plan and to submit the plan to OPR for review, comments, and certification. The bill would require OPR to: (1) encourage the inclusion of eligible entities with land use planning and hazard mitigation planning authority into regional climate networks; (2) develop and publish guidelines on how eligible entities may establish regional climate networks and how governing boards may be established within regional climate networks by 7-1-23; and (3) provide technical assistance to regions seeking to establish a regional climate network, facilitate coordination between regions, and encourage regions to incorporate as many eligible entities into one network as feasible.

The difference between this bill and AB 897 is this bill removes requirements for OPR to develop guidelines and establish standards and required content for a regional climate adaptation and resilience action plan (to be produced by the network), and removes some specified technical support requirements by OPR. Those requirements were covered in SB 170, a budget trailer bill from 2021.

The bill is author-sponsored and keyed fiscal. An author fact sheet is included in our attachments area, as well as the CALAFCO Support letter.

Amended 3/23/2022 to provide that regional climate networks MAY be developed rather than the former requirement. Minor clean ups of other superfluous language.

Amended 5/19/2022 to remove the deadline for OPR to develop and publish guidelines for eligible entities to establish regional climate networks, removed an exemption to cover multiple counties when population was greater than 2 million people, removed requirements for membership and biennial reports to OPR.

AB 1773 (Patterson R) Williamson Act: subvention payments: appropriation.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/3/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/3/2022

Status: 5/19/2022-In committee: Held under submission.

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

Summary:

The Williamson Act, also known as the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, authorizes a city or county to enter into contracts with owners of land devoted to agricultural use, whereby the owners agree to continue using the property for that purpose, and the city or county agrees to value the land accordingly for purposes of property taxation. Current law sets forth procedures for reimbursing cities and counties for property tax revenues not received as a result of these contracts and continuously appropriates General Fund moneys for that purpose. This bill, for the 2022–23 fiscal year, would appropriate an additional \$40,000,000 from the

General Fund to the Controller to make subvention payments to counties, as provided, in proportion to the losses incurred by those counties by reason of the reduction of assessed property taxes.

Attachments:

[AB 1773 CALAFCO Letter of Support - March 2022](#)

[AB 1773 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: AB 1773 resurrects funding the Williamson Act for the 2022-2023 budget year. The Williamson Act was created to preserve open space and conserve agricultural land. For many years, the state funded the Act at around \$35-\$40 million per year. This funding ceased during the recession, and has not been reinstated since. AB 1773 would allocate \$40 million from the General Fund to the Williamson Act for the purpose of subvention payments.

The bill is author-sponsored, has a general-fund appropriation, and is keyed fiscal. An author fact sheet is posted in our attachments section, along with the CALAFCO Support letter.

[AB 1944](#) (Lee D) Local government: open and public meetings.

Current Text: Amended: 5/25/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/10/2022

Last Amended: 5/25/2022

Status: 5/27/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act contains specified provisions regarding the timelines for posting an agenda and providing for the ability of the public to observe and provide comment. The act allows for meetings to occur via teleconferencing subject to certain requirements, particularly that the legislative body notice each teleconference location of each member that will be participating in the public meeting, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that members of the public be allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, that the legislative body post an agenda at each teleconference location, and that at least a quorum of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. This bill would require the agenda to identify any member of the legislative body that will participate in the meeting remotely.

Attachments:

[AB 1944 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would delete the requirement that an individual participating in a Brown Act meeting remotely from a non-public location must disclose the address of the location. If the governing body chooses to allow for remote participation, it must also provide video streaming and offer public comment via video or phone.

The bill is author sponsored and keyed fiscal. The author's fact sheet is posted in our attachments area.

AB 2081 (Garcia, Eduardo D) Municipal water districts: water service: Indian lands.

Current Text: Amended: 5/12/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2022

Last Amended: 5/12/2022

Status: 5/12/2022-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

Calendar:

6/1/2022 9:30 a.m. - State Capitol, Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, CABALLERO, Chair

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. Current law also authorizes a district, until January 1, 2023, under specified circumstances, to apply to the applicable local agency formation commission to provide this service of water to Indian lands, as defined, that are not within the district and requires the local agency formation commission to approve such an application. This bill, among other things, would extend the above provisions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commission to January 1, 2027.

Attachments:

[AB 2081 CALAFCO Oppose Letter, dated 5-26-2022](#)

[AB 2081 CALAFCO Oppose 03-16-2022](#)

[AB 2081 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Oppose

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill extends the sunset date created in AB 1361 (2017). 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. Current law also authorizes a district, under specified circumstances, to apply to the applicable LAFCo to provide this service of water to Indian lands, as defined, that are not within the district

and requires the LAFCo to approve such an application. This bill extends the sunset date from January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2025.

CALAFCO opposed AB 1361 in 2017 as the process requires LAFCo to approve the extension of service, requires the district to extend the service, and does not require annexation upon extension of service. CALAFCO reached out to the author's office requesting information as to the reason for the extension and we have not been given a reason.

The bill is keyed fiscal. An author fact sheet is included in the attachments area, as well as the CALAFCO letter in opposition.

AB 2449 (Rubio, Blanca D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Amended: 5/23/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2022

Last Amended: 5/23/2022

Status: 5/27/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act contains specified provisions regarding the timelines for posting an agenda and providing for the ability of the public to observe and provide comment. The act allows for meetings to occur via teleconferencing subject to certain requirements, particularly that the legislative body notice each teleconference location of each member that will be participating in the public meeting, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that members of the public be allowed to address the legislative body at each teleconference location, that the legislative body post an agenda at each teleconference location, and that at least a quorum of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the local agency's jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. This bill would revise and recast those teleconferencing provisions and, until January 1, 2028, would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with the teleconferencing requirements that each teleconference location be identified in the notice and agenda and that each teleconference location be accessible to the public if at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the local agency's jurisdiction.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill authorizes the use of teleconferencing without noticing and making available to the public teleconferencing locations if a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate in person from a singular location that is noticed and open to the public and require the legislative body to offer public comment via video or phone.

CALAFCO reached out to the author's office for information and we've not yet heard back. The bill is not keyed fiscal.

[AB 2647](#) (Levine D) Local government: open meetings.

Current Text: Amended: 4/19/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2022

Last Amended: 4/19/2022

Status: 5/25/2022-Referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

Summary:

Current law makes agendas of public meetings and other writings distributed to the members of the governing board disclosable public records, with certain exceptions. Current law requires a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board less than 72 hours before a meeting available for public inspection, as specified, at a public office or location that the agency designates. Current law also requires the local agency to list the address of the office or location on the agenda for all meetings of the legislative body of the agency. Current law authorizes a local agency to post the writings on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting. This bill would instead require a local agency to make those writings distributed to the members of the governing board available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency designates and list the address of the office or location on the agenda for all meetings of the legislative body of the agency unless the local agency meets certain requirements, including the local agency immediately posts the writings on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting.

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill seeks to amend the law to make clear that writings that have been distributed to a majority of a local legislative body less than 72 hours before a meeting can be posted online in order to satisfy the law.

The bill is sponsored by the League of Cities and is not keyed fiscal.

[SB 852](#) (Dodd D) Climate resilience districts: formation: funding mechanisms.

Current Text: Amended: 5/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 1/18/2022

Last Amended: 5/18/2022

Status: 5/27/2022-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and NAT. RES.

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

Summary:

Current law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county to establish an enhanced infrastructure financing district to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance, including projects that enable communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Current law also requires

the legislative body to establish a public financing authority, defined as the governing board of the enhanced infrastructure financing district, prior to the adoption of a resolution to form an enhanced infrastructure district and adopt an infrastructure financing plan. This bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, special district, or a combination of any of those entities to form a climate resilience district, as defined, for the purposes of raising and allocating funding for eligible projects and the operating expenses of eligible projects. The bill would deem each district to be an enhanced infrastructure financing district and would require each district to comply with existing law concerning enhanced infrastructure financing districts, unless the district is specified as otherwise. The bill would require a district to finance only specified projects that meet the definition of an eligible project. The bill would define "eligible project" to mean projects that address sea level rise, extreme heat, extreme cold, the risk of wildfire, drought, and the risk of flooding, as specified.

Attachments:

[SB 852 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Watch

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: This bill creates the Climate Resilience Districts Act. The bill completely bypasses LAFCo in the formation and oversight of these new districts because the districts are primarily being created as a funding mechanism for local climate resilience projects (as a TIF or tax increment finance district - for which LAFCOs also have no involvement).

The bill authorizes a city, county, city and county, special district, or a combination of any of those entities to form a climate resilience district for the purposes of raising and allocating funding for eligible projects and the operating expenses of eligible projects. The bill defines "eligible project" to mean projects that address sea level rise, extreme heat, extreme cold, the risk of wildfire, drought, and the risk of flooding, as specified. The bill authorizes a district created pursuant to these provisions to have boundaries that are identical to the boundaries of the participating entities or within the boundaries of the participating entities. The bill also authorizes specified local entities to adopt a resolution to provide property tax increment revenues to the district. The bill would also authorize specified local entities to adopt a resolution allocating other tax revenues to the district, subject to certain requirements. The bill would provide for the financing of the activities of the district by, among other things, levying a benefit assessment, special tax, property-related fee, or other service charge or fee consistent with the requirements of the California Constitution. It requires 95% of monies collected to fund eligible projects, and 5% for district administration. The bill would require each district to prepare an annual expenditure plan and an operating budget and capital improvement budget, which must be adopted by the governing body of the district and subject to review and revision at least annually.

Section 62304 details the formation process, Section 62305 addresses the district's governance structure, and 62307 outlines the powers of the district.

This bill is sponsored by the Local Government Commission and is keyed fiscal. A fact sheet is included in our attachments section.

Amended 5/18/2022 to impose requirements on projects undertaken or financed by a district, including requiring a district

to obtain an enforceable commitment from the developer that contractors and subcontractors performing the work use a skilled and trained workforce, and would expand the crime of perjury to these certifications.

SB 1100 (Cortese D) Open meetings: orderly conduct.

Current Text: Amended: 4/21/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2022

Last Amended: 4/21/2022

Status: 5/26/2022-June 8 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.

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

Summary:

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency, as those terms are defined, be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Current law requires every agenda for regular meetings of a local agency to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Current law authorizes the legislative body to adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of the provisions relating to this public comment requirement is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker. Current law authorizes the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting to order the meeting room cleared and continue in session, as prescribed, if a group or groups have willfully interrupted the orderly conduct of a meeting and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting. This bill would authorize the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting to remove an individual for disrupting the meeting.

Attachments:

[SB 1100 Author Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Watch

Subject: Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would authorize the removal of an individual from a public meeting who is "willfully interrupting" the meeting after a warning and a request to stop their behavior. "Willfull interrupting" is defined as intentionally engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that substantially impairs or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting in accordance with law.

The bill is author-sponsored and keyed fiscal. An author fact sheet is posted in our attachments section.

SB 1449 (Caballero D) Office of Planning and Research: grant program: annexation of unincorporated areas.

Current Text: Amended: 4/19/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2022

Last Amended: 4/19/2022

Status: 5/26/2022-In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

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

Summary:

Would require the Office of Planning and Research to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, establish the Unincorporated Area Annexation Incentive Program, authorizing the office to issue a grant to a city for the purpose of funding infrastructure projects related to the proposed or completed annexation of a substantially surrounded unincorporated area, as defined, subject to approval by the Director of State Planning after the city submits an application containing specified information. The bill would require the office to match, on a dollar-for-dollar basis, any dollar contribution a city makes toward a project funded by the program, subject to a maximum funding threshold as determined by the director. The bill would, by September 1, 2023, require the office to develop guidelines, and consult with various local representatives to prepare those guidelines, for purposes of implementing the program, and would provide that the guidelines are not subject to the rulemaking requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act.

Position: Watch

Subject: Annexation Proceedings

CALAFCO Comments: This is currently a spot bill. According to the author's office, they are working on state funding to incentivize annexation of inhabited territory (when the VLF was taken away, so too was any financial incentive to annex inhabited territory). For many years bills have been run to reinstate funding, none of which have ever successfully passed. There is no other information available on this bill at this time. CALAFCO will continue conversations with the author's office as this is an important topic for LAFcos. (The bill will remain a P-3 until amended.)

Amended 3/16/2022 to remove spot holder language, add definitions and other language tying to CKH, and add language more specific to a grant program.

3

[AB 897](#) (Mullin D) Office of Planning and Research: regional climate networks: regional climate adaptation and resilience action plans.

Current Text: Amended: 7/14/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2021

Last Amended: 7/14/2021

Status: 8/27/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(12). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/16/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

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

Current law requires, by July 1, 2017, and every 3 years thereafter, the Natural Resources Agency to update, as prescribed, the state's climate adaptation strategy, known as the Safeguarding California Plan. Current law establishes the Office of Planning and Research in state government in the Governor's office. Current law establishes the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program to be administered by the office to coordinate regional and local efforts with state climate adaptation strategies to adapt to the impacts of climate change, as prescribed. This bill would authorize eligible entities, as defined, to establish and participate in a regional climate network, as defined. The bill would require the office, through the program, to encourage the inclusion of eligible entities with land use planning and hazard mitigation planning authority into regional climate networks. The bill would authorize a regional climate network to engage in activities to address climate change, as specified.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Support July 2021](#)

[AB 897 Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Support

Subject: Climate Change

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, the bill builds on existing programs through OPR by promoting regional collaboration in climate adaptation planning and providing guidance for regions to identify and prioritize projects necessary to respond to the climate vulnerabilities of their region.

As amended, the bill requires OPR to develop guidelines (the scope of which are outlined in the bill) for Regional Climate Adaptation Action Plans (RCAAPs) by 1-1-23 through their normal public process. Further the bill requires OPR to make recommendations to the Legislature on potential sources of financial assistance for the creation & implementation of RCAAPs, and ways the state can support the creation and ongoing work of regional climate networks. The bill outlines the authority of a regional climate network, and defines eligible entities. Prior versions of the bill kept the definition as rather generic and with each amended version gets more specific. As a result, CALAFCO has requested the author add LAFCOs explicitly to the list of entities eligible to participate in these regional climate networks.

As amended on 4/7, AB 11 (Ward) was joined with this bill - specifically found in 71136 in the Public Resources Code as noted in the amended bill. Other amendments include requiring OPR to, before 7-1-22, establish geographic boundaries for regional climate networks and prescribes requirements in doing so.

This is an author-sponsored bill. The bill necessitates additional resources from the state to carry out the additional work required of OPR (there is no current budget appropriation). A fact sheet is posted in the tracking section of the bill.

As amended 4/19/21: There is no longer a requirement for OPR to include in their guidelines how a regional climate network may develop their plan: it does require ("may" to "shall") a regional climate network to develop a regional climate adaptation plan and submit it to OPR for approval; adds requirements of what OPR

shall publish on their website; and makes several other minor technical changes.

As amended 7/1/21, the bill now explicitly names LAFCo as an eligible entity. It also adjusts several timelines for OPR's requirements including establishing boundaries for the regional climate networks, develop guidelines and establish standards for the networks, and to make recommendations to the Legislature related to regional adaptation. Give the addition of LAFCo as an eligible entity, CALAFCO is now in support of the bill.

Amendments of 7/14/21, as requested by the Senate Natural Resources & Water Committee, mostly do the following: (1) Include "resilience" to climate adaptation; (2) Prioritize the most vulnerable communities; (3) Add definitions for "under-resourced" and "vulnerable" communities; (4) Remove the requirement for OPR to establish geographic boundaries for the regional climate networks; (5) Include agencies with hazard mitigation authority and in doing so also include the Office of Emergency Services to work with OPR to establish guidelines and standards required for the climate adaptation and resilience plan; and (6) Add several regional and local planning documents to be used in the creation of guidelines.

2/24/22 UPDATE: It appears this bill is being replaced with AB 1640 (Ward, Mullin, etc.). CALAFCO will keep this bill on Watch and follow the new bill.

AB 903 (Frazier D) Los Medanos Community Healthcare District.

Current Text: Amended: 4/19/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2021

Last Amended: 4/19/2021

Status: 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 5/19/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

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

Summary:

Would require the dissolution of the Los Medanos Community Healthcare District, as specified. The bill would require the County of Contra Costa to be successor of all rights and responsibilities of the district, and require the county to develop and conduct the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program focused on comprehensive health-related services in the district's territory. The bill would require the county to complete a property tax transfer process to ensure the transfer of the district's health-related ad valorem property tax revenues to the county for the sole purpose of funding the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program. By requiring a higher level of service from the County of Contra Costa as specified, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: This bill mandates the dissolution of the Los Medanos Community Healthcare District with the County as the successor agency, effective 2-1-22. The bill requires the County to perform certain acts prior to the dissolution. The LAFCo is not involved in the dissolution as the bill is written. Currently, the district is suing both the Contra Costa LAFCo and the County of Contra Costa after the LAFCo approved the dissolution of the district upon application by the County and the district failed to get enough signatures in the protest process to go to an election.

The amendment on 4/5/21 was just to correct a typo in the bill.

As amended on 4/19/21, the bill specifies monies received by the county as part of the property tax transfer shall be used specifically to fund the Los Medanos Area Health Plan Grant Program within the district's territory. It further adds a clause that any new or existing profits shall be used solely for the purpose of the grant program within the district's territory.

The bill did not pass out of Senate Governance & Finance Committee and will not move forward this year. It may be acted on in 2022.

2022 UPDATE: Given Member Frazier is no longer in the Assembly and the appellate court overturned the lower court's decision, it is likely the bill will not move forward. CALAFCO will retain WACTH on the bill.

AB 975 (Rivas, Luz D) Political Reform Act of 1974: filing requirements and gifts.

Current Text: Amended: 5/5/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2021

Last Amended: 5/5/2022

Status: 5/5/2022-From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on E. & C.A.

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

Summary:

The Political Reform Act of 1974 generally requires elected officials, candidates for elective offices, and committees formed primarily to support or oppose a candidate for public office or a ballot measure, along with other persons and entities, to file periodic campaign statements and certain reports concerning campaign finances and related matters. Current law permits a report or statement that has been on file for at least two years to be retained by a filing officer as a copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials and, after the Secretary of State certifies an online filing and disclosure system, as an electronic copy. This bill would permit a filing officer to retain a report or statement filed in a paper format as a copy on microfilm or other space-saving materials or as an electronic copy, as specified, without a two-year waiting period.

Position: Watch

Subject: FPPC

CALAFCO Comments: As introduced, this bill makes two notable changes to the current requirements of gift notification and reporting: (1) It increases the period for public officials to reimburse, in full or part, the value of attending an invitation-only event, for purposes of the gift rules, from 30 days from receipt to 30 days following the calendar quarter in which the gift was received; and (2) It reduces the gift notification period for lobbyist employers from 30 days after the end of the calendar quarter in which the gift was provided to 15 days after the calendar quarter. Further it requires the FPPC to have an online filing system and to redact contact information of filers before posting.

The amendment on 4/21/21 just corrects wording (technical, non-substantive

change).

The amendments on 5/18/21 clarify who is to file a statement of economic interest to include candidates (prior text was office holders).

UPDATE AS OF 2/24/22 - The author's office indicates they are moving forward with the bill this year and are planning amendments. They are not clear what those amendments will be so CALAFCO will retain a WATCH position on the bill.

AB 1195 (Garcia, Cristina D) Limited Eligibility and Appointment Program: lists.

Current Text: Amended: 5/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2021

Last Amended: 5/18/2022

Status: 5/25/2022-Re-referred to Com. on L., P.E. & R.

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

Summary:

Current law specifically grants the Department of Human Resources the powers, duties, and authority necessary to operate the state civil service system in accordance with Article VII of the California Constitution, the Government Code, the merit principle, and applicable rules duly adopted by the State Personnel Board. Current law creates the Limited Examination and Appointment Program (LEAP), which the Department of Human Resources administers, to provide an alternative to the traditional civil service examination and appointment process to facilitate the hiring of persons with disabilities. Current law requires the Department of Human Resources, when an appointing power seeks to fill a vacant position by using an employment list, to provide the appointing power with a certified list of the names and addresses of all eligible candidates, as specified. Current law requires the department to provide a single certified list of eligible candidates if more than one employment list or LEAP referral list exists, and the department is required to combine the names and addresses of all eligible candidates. This bill would, notwithstanding those provisions, require the department to, upon request of the appointing power, provide the appointing power a LEAP referral list without combining that list with a parallel list and would authorize the appointing power to select and hire any individual from that a referral list to fill any vacancy.

Attachments:

[CALAFCO Letter of Concern - April 2021](#)

[AB 1195 Fact Sheet](#)

Position: Watch

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: As amended on 4-6-21, the bill was gut and amended and now creates the So LA County Human Rights to Water Collaboration Act. It requires the Water Board to appoint a commissioner to implement the Safe & Affordable Funding for Equity & Resilience Program and gives the commissioner certain authorities (although they are not clearly spelled out). It requires the commissioner by 12-31-24 to submit to the Water Board a plan for the long-term sustainability of public water systems in southern LA County and prescribes what shall be included in the plan. The bill also creates a technical advisory board and requires the commissioner to oversee the Central Basin Municipal Water District.

In its current form the bill creates numerous concerns. CALAFCO's letter of concern is posted in the tracking section of the bill, and includes: (1) Focus of the bill is very broad as is the focus of the commissioner; (2) In an attempt to prevent privatization of water systems there is language regarding severing water rights. That language could be problematic should a consolidation be ordered; (3) Diminishing local control that is being invested in the state (an ongoing concern since SB 88); (4) A clear distinction needs to be made between an Administrator and Commissioner; (5) The poorly written section on the technical advisory board; and (6) The lack of LAFCo involvement in any consolidation process.

As amended on 5-24-21, the bill changes the water rights provision now requiring approval by the water Board; uses the definitions of "at risk system" and "at risk domestic well" found in SB 403 (Gonzalez) as well as the 3,300 connect cap; requires the commissioner appointed by the board to be from the local area; requires the commissioner to do certain things prior to completing the regional plan; and requires the commissioner to apply to LA LAFCo for extension of service, consolidation or dissolution as appropriate. The bill also creates a pilot program for LA LAFCo giving them the authority to take action rather than the water board, providing it is within 120 days of receipt of a completed application. If the LAFCo fails to take action within that time, the matter goes to the water board for their action.

The pilot program also gives LA LAFCo the authority to approve, approve with conditions or deny the application; further giving LAFCo authority to consider consolidation or extension of service with a local publicly owned utility that provides retail water, a private water company or mutual; the bill also waives protest proceedings, gives the LAFCo authority to address governance structure and CEQA is waived, provides full LAFCo indemnification and funding.

There are still issues with the proposed technical advisory board section of the bill, and questions about timing of some of the processes. CALAFCO continues to work with the author and speakers' offices as well as other stakeholders on ongoing amendments.

The bill is author-sponsored and we understand there is currently no funding source. A fact sheet is posted in the tracking section of the bill. CALAFCO's letter of concern is also posted there.

THIS IS NOW A 2-YEAR BILL.

UPDATE AS OF 2/10/22 - According to the author's office, the author is not intending to move the bill forward at this time. CALAFCO will continue to WATCH and monitor the bill. As a result, the bill was downgraded from a P-1 to a P-3.

GUTTED AND AMENDED on 5/18/2022 to remove previous verbiage regarding water. The bill now addresses the State Department of Human Resources and the Limited Eligibility and Appointment Program (LEAP), which the Department of Human Resources administers, to provide an alternative to the traditional civil service examination and appointment process to facilitate the hiring of persons with disabilities. Downgraded to Watch, from Watch with Concerns.

AB 1757 (Haney D) Groundwater sustainability agency.

Current Text: Amended: 5/10/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/2/2022

Last Amended: 5/10/2022

Status: 5/19/2022-Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. (Ayes 72. Noes 0.) In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources that are designated as basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2020, and requires all other groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2022, except as specified. The act authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin. Current law governs the formation of a groundwater sustainability agency. This bill would authorize a conservation district overlying a groundwater basin in this state to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin and would make the law governing the formation of a groundwater sustainability agency applicable to that district.

Position: Watch

Subject: Water

[AB 2041](#) ([Garcia, Eduardo D](#)) **California Safe Drinking Water Act: primary drinking water standards: compliance.**

Current Text: Amended: 4/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2022

Last Amended: 4/18/2022

Status: 5/20/2022-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/11/2022)

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

Summary:

Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to take specified actions if the state board adopts a primary drinking water standard with a compliance period for which public water systems are given a designated period of time to comply with the primary drinking water standard without being held in violation of the primary drinking water standard. Specifically, the bill would require the state board to determine which public water system may not be able to comply with the primary drinking water standard without receiving financial assistance and develop a compliance plan, including a financial plan to assist that public water system in complying with the primary drinking water standard. The bill would also require the state board, if a public water system is in violation of the primary drinking water standard after the compliance period, to take into consideration whether or not the public water system implemented the compliance plan.

Attachments:[AB 2041 Author Fact Sheet](#)**Position:** Watch**Subject:** Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill would require the SWRCB to take specified actions if the SWRCB adopts a primary drinking water standard with a compliance period for which public water systems are given a designated period of time to install necessary measures, including, but not limited to, installation of water treatment systems, to comply with the primary drinking water standard without being held in violation of the primary drinking water standard. Those actions would include, among other actions, developing a financial plan to assist public water systems that will require financial assistance in procuring and installing the necessary measures.

CALAFCO reached out to the author's office for information on the bill and has not heard back. The bill is keyed fiscal. An author fact sheet is attached.

[AB 2201](#) (Bennett D) Groundwater sustainability agency: groundwater extraction permit: verification.

Current Text: Amended: 4/27/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)**Introduced:** 2/15/2022**Last Amended:** 4/27/2022**Status:** 5/24/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources that are designated as basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2020, and requires all other groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2022, except as specified. Current law authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin and imposes specified duties upon that agency or combination of agencies, as provided. Current law also authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to designate a high- or medium-priority basin as a probationary basin under certain conditions for specified purposes. This bill would prohibit a local agency, as defined, from approving a permit for a new groundwater well or for an alteration to an existing well in a basin subject to the act and classified as medium- or high-priority until it obtains a written verification, from the groundwater sustainability agency that manages the basin or area of the basin where the well is proposed to be located, determining that certain factors are present.

Position: Watch**Subject:** Water

CALAFCO Comments: 2/15/2022: As introduced, a spot holder.

3/17/2022: As amended, this bill now seeks to add a new section into the Water Code that would require, after July 1, 2023, designated extraction facilities to procure permits from the Department of Water Resources (DWR.) Extraction facilities are defined as those located in a basin that has already been designated by DWR as subject to critical overdraft conditions. It would also define times when permits are not needed, including for “de minimis extractors” (as defined by Section 10721), for replacement extractors, when drinking water is needed by a water system for public health purposes, for habitat and wetlands conservation, for photovoltaic or wind energy generation when less than 75 acre feet of groundwater is needed annually, when required by an approved CEQA document, and for facilities constructed to ensure a sustain water supply to consolidated public water systems. This bill would also require groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) to develop a process for the issuance of groundwater extraction permits which considers demonstrations of need, adherence to a groundwater sustainability plan, a showing that the extraction will not contribute to an undesirable result, and other procedural requirements. Additionally, the bill would require notification to all groundwater users within one mile of the proposed groundwater extraction facility, and to the DWR when the proposed extraction is within one mile of a disadvantaged community or a domestic well user, and other procedural steps. Also allows those GSAs in a basin not designated as subject to critical conditions of overdraft to adopt an ordinance that establishes their own process, in accordance with this section, for the issuance of groundwater extraction permits, and allows imposition of fees as long as they do not exceed reasonable agency costs. DWR shall provide technical assistance to assist GSA implement this section. This bill would further amend Water Code Section 10728 to require annual reports by GSA to include information regarding the number, location, and volume of water encompassed by permits issued under this section.

Unfunded mandate, now reimbursements provided. Keyed: fiscal.

Amended 4/27/2022 to removes all provisions regarding groundwater extraction facilities, adds in provisions regarding local agencies, which are defined as cities, counties, districts, agencies, or other entities with the authority to issue a permit for a a new groundwater well or for an alteration to an existing well.

AB 2442 (Rivas, Robert D) Climate change.

Current Text: Amended: 4/5/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/17/2022

Last Amended: 4/5/2022

Status: 5/26/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

Summary:

The California Disaster Assistance Act requires the Director of Emergency Services to authorize the replacement of a damaged or destroyed facility, whenever a local agency and the director determine that the general public and state interest will be better served by replacing a damaged or destroyed facility with a facility that will more adequately serve the present and future public needs than would be accomplished merely by repairing or restoring the damaged or destroyed facility. Current law also authorizes the director to implement mitigation measures when the director determines that the measures are cost effective and substantially

reduce the risk of future damage, hardship, loss, or suffering in any area where a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor. This bill would specify that mitigation measures for climate change and disasters related to climate, may include, but are not limited to, measures that reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, the preservation of open space, improved forest management and wildfire risk reduction measures, and other investments in natural infrastructure, as defined.

Position: Watch

Subject: Ag/Open Space Protection

CALAFCO Comments: Seeks to add climate change to California Disaster Assistance Act and adds, as noted cost effective mitigation measures, the preservation of open space, improved forest management and wildfire risk reduction measures, and other investments in natural infrastructure (in line with definition of a "natural infrastructure" in GC Section 65302(g)(4)(C)(v).) Also would amend GC Sec 65302 to require General Plans to include "a set of measures designed to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases resulting in climate change, and natural features and ecosystem processes in or near identified at-risk areas threatened by the impacts attributable."

SB 12 (McGuire D) Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.

Current Text: Amended: 5/24/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 12/7/2020

Last Amended: 5/24/2022

Status: 5/24/2022-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on H. & C.D.

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

Summary:

Current law requires the housing element to be revised according to a specific schedule. Current law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element. This bill would require the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element or the hazard mitigation plan, on or after July 1, 2024, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to reduce the risk of property loss and damage during wildfires, as specified, and would require the planning agency to submit the adopted strategy to the Office of Planning and Research for inclusion into the above-described clearinghouse. The bill would also require the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years, to identify new information relating to retrofit updates applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element.

Position: Watch

Subject: Growth Management, Planning

CALAFCO Comments: UPDATE 2/24/22: According to the author's office, they do plan to move this bill forward in 2022 and no other details are available at this time.

SB 418 (Laird D) Pajaro Valley Health Care District.

Current Text: Chaptered: 2/4/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/12/2021

Last Amended: 1/24/2022

Status: 2/4/2022-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 1, Statutes of 2022.

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

Summary:

Would create the Pajaro Valley Health Care District, as specified, except that the bill would authorize the Pajaro Valley Health Care District to be organized, incorporated, and managed, only if the relevant county board of supervisors chooses to appoint an initial board of directors.

Position: Watch

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: Gut and amended on 1/14/22, this bill forms the Pajaro Valley Health Care District within Santa Cruz and Monterey counties. The formation, done by special legislation, bypasses the LAFCo process, with language explicitly stating upon formation, LAFCo shall have authority. The bill requires that within 5 years of the date of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the district, the board of directors shall divide the district into zones. The bill would require the district to notify Santa Cruz LAFCo when the district, or any other entity, acquires the Watsonville Community Hospital. The bill requires the LAFCo to order the dissolution of the district if the hospital has not been acquired by January 1, 2024 through a streamlined process, and requires the district to notify LAFCo if the district sells the Watsonville Community Hospital to another entity or stops providing health care services at the facility, requiring the LAFCo to dissolve the district under those circumstances in a streamlined process.

Given the hospital has filed bankruptcy and this is the only hospital in the area and serves disadvantaged communities and employs a large number of people in the area, the bill has an urgency clause.

Several amendments were added on 1/24/22 by the ALGC and SGFC all contained within Section 32498.7.

CALAFCO worked closely with the author's office, Santa Cruz County lobbyist and the Santa Cruz and Monterey LAFCos on this bill. We have requested further amendments which the Senator has agreed to take in a follow-up bill this year. Those amendments include requiring Santa Cruz LAFCo to adopt a sphere of influence for the district within 1 year of formation; the district filing annual progress reports to Santa Cruz LAFCo for the first 3 years, Santa Cruz LAFCo conducting a special study on the district after 3 years, and representation from both counties on the governing board.

The bill is sponsored by the Pajaro Valley Healthcare District Project and is not keyed fiscal.

SB 969 (Laird D) Pajaro Valley Health Care District.

Current Text: Amended: 3/2/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/10/2022

Last Amended: 3/2/2022

Status: 5/5/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Calendar:

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Current law creates the Pajaro Valley Health Care District, as specified, and authorizes the Pajaro Valley Health Care District to be organized, incorporated, and managed, only if the relevant county board of supervisors chooses to appoint an initial board of directors. Current law requires, within 5 years of the date of the first meeting of the Board of Directors of the Pajaro Valley Health Care District, the board of directors to divide the district into zones and number the zones consecutively. Current law requires the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 to govern any organizational changes for the district after formation. Current law requires the district to notify the County of Santa Cruz local agency formation commission (LAFCO) when the district, or any other entity, acquires the Watsonville Community Hospital. Existing law requires the LAFCO to dissolve the district under certain circumstances. This bill would require the LAFCO to develop and determine a sphere of influence for the district within one year of the district's date of formation, and to conduct a municipal service review regarding health care provision in the district by December 31, 2025, and by December 31 every 5 years thereafter.

Position: Watch

Subject: Other

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is a follow up to SB 418 (Laird) and contains some of the amendments requested by CALAFCO and Monterey and Santa Cruz LAFcos. As introduced the bill requires Santa Cruz LAFco to adopt a sphere of influence for the district within 1 year of formation; the district filing annual progress reports to Santa Cruz LAFco for the first 2 years, Santa Cruz LAFco conducting a Municipal Service Review on the district every 5 years with the first being conducted by 12-31-25. Our final requested amendment, ensuring representation from both counties on the governing board, is still being worked on and not reflected in the introduced version of the bill.

SB 1405 (Ochoa Bogh R) Community service districts: Lake Arrowhead Community Service District: covenants, conditions, and restrictions: enforcement.

Current Text: Amended: 4/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2022

Last Amended: 4/18/2022

Status: 5/19/2022-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD.

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

6/8/2022 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 127 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AGUIAR-CURRY, Chair

Summary:

Would authorize the Lake Arrowhead Community Services District to enforce all or part of the covenants, conditions, and restrictions for tracts within that district, and to assume the duties of the Arrowhead Woods Architectural Committee for those tracts, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position: Watch

Subject: Other

SB 1425 (Stern D) Open-space element: updates.

Current Text: Amended: 4/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/18/2022

Last Amended: 4/18/2022

Status: 5/27/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

Summary:

Would require every city and county to review and update its local open-space plan by January 1, 2026. The bill would require the local open-space plan update to include plans and an action program that address specified issues, including climate resilience and other cobenefits of open space, correlated with the safety element. By imposing additional duties on local officials, the bill would create a state-mandated local program.

Position: Watch

Subject: Other