

March 4, 2013

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TO: Local Agency Formation Commission
FROM: Executive Officer
Director, Legislative Research
SUBJECT: March 2013 Legislative Status Report

This is the monthly Legislative Report for March 2013, the first of the year designed to keep the Commission informed concerning proposed state legislation in the first year of the 2013-14 Legislative Session. As of this early date, only a few new bills have been introduced that directly impact Local Agency Formation Commissions. The Legislature convened in January 2013 with forty (40) new members in the Assembly and Senate. This large number of new members is presenting an interesting challenge for the start up of the session and introduction of bills for the year.

An initial bill summary matrix on bills being tracked by staff is provided for commission review, discussion, and possible action. LAFCO staff will be prepared to give an update on each of the bills and any new bills affecting the commission by the March 2013 meeting, or as may be requested by the Commission.

It is noted that since the deadline for introduction of new bills is February 22, 2013, there will be many additional bills introduced after this report is prepared. Additionally, CALAFCO is also working on several legislative proposals that may be introduced by that date. LAFCO staff will be monitoring that activity as part of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee process as the Committee met last on January 25, 2013 and the CALAFCO Board met on February 8, 2013 to provide input on possible proposals. The undersigned (Harry Ehrlich) is serving as Co-Chair of the CALAFCO Legislative Committee for 2013.

Therefore, it is:

RECOMMENDED: That your Commission

Receive, discuss, and provide direction, as necessary, on the March 2013 Legislative Report.

Respectfully submitted,

MICHAEL D. OTT
Executive Officer

HARRY EHRLICH
Director, Legislative Research

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Attachment – Legislative Tracking Report

Legislative Tracking Report

February 12, 2013

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Attachment

AB 115 (Perea D) Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund; Grants to Small Water Systems

Introduced: 1/14/2013

Status: 1/18/2013-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.

Summary:

Would authorize the State Department of Public Health to fund projects, by grant, loan, or a combination of the two, where multiple water systems apply for funding as a single applicant for the purpose of consolidating water systems or extending services to households relying on private wells, as specified. The bill would authorize funding of a project to benefit a disadvantaged community that is not the applying agency. By authorizing the use of a continuously appropriated fund for new purposes, this bill would make an appropriation. This bill contains other existing laws. Appears to address a problem of encouraging small agencies to develop water improvement projects together and consolidate agencies.

Position: Watch

AB 168 (Wilk R) Local government finance: vehicle license fee revenues: allocations.

Introduced: 1/24/2013

Status: 1/25/2013-From printer. May be heard in committee February 24.

Summary:

Under existing law, the Controller is required to allocate vehicle license fee revenues in the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account according to a specified order, with moneys allocated on or after July 1, 2004, but before July 1, 2011, first to the County of Orange, next to each city and county meeting specified criteria, and on or after July 1, 2011, to the Local Law Enforcement Services Account in the Local Revenue Fund, for allocation to cities, counties, and cities and counties. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions. This bill appears to be a spot bill to be amended at a later time.

Position: Watch

AB 194 (Campos D) Open Meetings: protections for public criticism

Introduced: 1/28/2013

Status: 2/7/2013-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary:

Would make it a misdemeanor for a member of a legislative body, while acting as the chairperson of a legislative body of a local agency, to prohibit public criticism protected under the Ralph M. Brown Act. This bill would authorize a district attorney or any interested person to commence an action for the

purpose of obtaining a judicial determination that an action taken by a legislative body of a local agency in violation of the protection for public criticism is null and void, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: Watch

AB 262 (Waldron R) Local government: organization.

Introduced: 2/7/2013

Status: 2/8/2013-From printer. May be heard in committee March 10.

Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 makes certain findings and declarations relating to local government organization, including, among other things, that it is the policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development, and recognition that the logical formation and determination of the boundaries of local agencies is an important factor in promoting orderly development, as specified. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions. This appears to be a spot bill to be amended at a later time.

Position: Watch

SB 56 (Roth D) Local government finance, cities .

Introduced: 1/7/2013

Status: 1/17/2013-Referred to Com. on RLS.

Summary:

Would state the Legislature's intent to enact legislation that would restore funding to cities that either were incorporated or annexed territory after 2004. This appears to be a spot bill to be amended at a later time.

Position: Watch

Bills tracked – 5

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