



**San Diego County**  
**Local Agency Formation Commission**  
 Regional Service Planning | Subdivision of the State of California

**7b**

**AGENDA REPORT**  
 Business | Action

April 4, 2022

**TO:** Commissioners

**FROM:** Keene Simonds, Executive Officer  
 Priscilla Allen, Analyst I

**SUBJECT: Legislative Report |  
 Support for Senate Bill 938 to Amend Protest Provisions**

**SUMMARY**

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive a report on items of interest to the Commission and its regulatory and planning responsibilities under State law as part of the current Legislative session. This includes a recommendation to approve a support position on Senate Bill (SB) 938 - sponsored by CALAFCO - and would streamline protest proceedings involving LAFCO initiated dissolution proposals for special districts under certain conditions. Other items of interest are highlighted for discussion and the Commission may consider taking additional positions as appropriate.

**BACKGROUND**

**Legislative Directives and Oversight**

LAFCOs’ regulatory and planning powers are delegated by the California Legislature under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 or CKH and codified in Government Code Sections 56000 through 57550. Direct oversight of LAFCOs is provided by the Assembly Committee on Local Government.

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## Legislative Resources

San Diego LAFCO works with the California Association of LAFCOs (CALAFCO) in proposing, sponsoring, and/or reviewing legislative matters of interest to the Commission. CALAFCO's Legislative Committee comprises 16 voting members consisting of four appointees from one of four regions (northern, coastal, central, and southern). Commissioner MacKenzie is one of the four appointees representing the southern region. The Legislative Committee must achieve a majority vote with at least one affirmative vote from each region to take formal positions.

## DISCUSSION

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to review items of interest generated in the second year of the 2021-2022 legislative session with a recommendation to formally support SB 938. The Commission may also choose to take positions – support, support with amendments, oppose unless amended, or oppose – on other bills and/or legislative proposals as it deems appropriate. Additional discussion follows with respect to detailing SB 938 and other bills of interest under consideration as part of the current session.

## SB 938 (Hertzberg)

SB 938 is authored by Senator Robert Hertzberg (Los Angeles) and sponsored by CALAFCO. The bill is the biproduct of a multi-year CALAFCO effort to simplify existing statutory protest provisions with added clarification involving LAFCO initiated proposals to dissolve special districts. The aim of the bill – with anticipated amendments – is to simplify the process for LAFCO initiated dissolutions of special districts and specific to raising the protest threshold to require voter elections from 10% to 25%. Markedly, raising the protest threshold for LAFCO initiated proposals to dissolve special districts to 25% would match the existing protest threshold for proposals initiated by petitions or other agencies. CALAFCO's Fact Sheet on SB 938 is provided as Attachment One.

## Other Bills of Interests

CALAFCO is currently tracking 25 other bills this session. One of these other bills merits local attention by the Commission and involves Assembly Bill 2081, which is authored by Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia (Coachella) and sponsored by the Barona Band. This bill would extend the sunset date established in 2017 by AB 1361 allowing municipal water districts to provide outside water services to tribal lands through a ministerial LAFCO process and through January 1, 2022. The sunset date would be extended to January 1, 2025. The original provisions of AB 1361 have not been utilized to date, but there are several potential projects in North County that would notionally benefit from the extension. CALAFCO is opposing AB 2081 consistent with its earlier opposition to AB 1361. CALAFCO's complete legislative report as of the agenda publishing date is provided as Attachment Two.

## ANALYSIS

The second year of the 2021-2022 legislative session is generally proceeding modestly with respect to proposals affecting LAFCOs with two notable exceptions as detailed in the preceding section involving SB 938 and AB 2081. Support by San Diego LAFCO for SB 938 appears merited and – among other key benefits – would remove an existing impediment to all LAFCOs to invest their own resources in initiating the dissolution of special districts by raising the protest threshold from 10% to 25%. AB 2081 and its provisions to extend the sunset date for municipal water districts to request and receive – otherwise ministerial – LAFCO approvals to provide outside water service to tribal lands separately merits attention given presumed application in San Diego County. However, and in contrast to CALAFCO, staff does not believe opposing the bill is merited given there have been no known hardships associated with the original legislation.

## RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended San Diego LAFCO proceed with a support position for SB 938 and consider other positions on legislation as the membership deems appropriate. This recommendation is identified as Alternative Action One in the proceeding section.

## ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION

The following alternatives are available to San Diego LAFCO:

Alternative One (recommended):

Approve a support position for SB 938 and authorize the Executive Officer to provide a letter to the author on behalf of the Commission.

Alternative Two:

Continue consideration of the item to a future meeting and provide direction as needed.

Alternative Three:

Take no action.

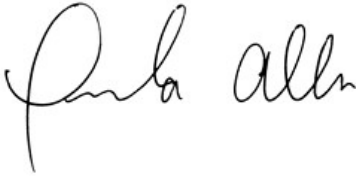
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## PROCEDURES

This item has been placed on the agenda for action as part of San Diego LAFCO's business calendar. The following procedures, accordingly, are recommended.

- 1) Receive verbal report from staff unless waived.
- 2) Commission discussion.
- 3) Consider the staff recommendation.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Priscilla Allen". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Priscilla Allen  
Analyst I

Attachments:

- 1) CALAFCO Fact Sheet on SB 938
- 2) CALAFCO Legislative Report



# The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: Protest Proceedings

**FACT SHEET:  
SB 938 (HERTZBERG)**

## **BACKGROUND**

LAFCoS are independent regulatory commissions created by the Legislature to control the boundaries of cities, county service areas, and most special districts. The purpose of LAFCoS includes the discouragement of urban sprawl, the preservation of agricultural and open space lands, and the encouragement of the orderly formation and development of local agencies. In an effort to better meet these obligations, the duties and authority of LAFCoS were significantly modified by the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (AB 2838, Hertzberg). Chief among the act's provisions is the authority for LAFCoS to conduct Municipal Service Reviews, which, among other things, provide information to guide districts in performance improvement. These reviews can serve as a catalyst for LAFCoS to initiate district consolidations or dissolutions.



In response to a recommendation made in the 2017 Little Hoover Commission report (Special Districts: Improving Oversight and Transparency), the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) initiated a working group of stakeholders in early 2019 to discuss the protest process for consolidations and dissolutions of special districts.

The statutes related to protest provisions and the disparate protest thresholds established for LAFCo-initiated actions (10 percent) and all other initiated actions (25 percent) 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.

## **The working group agreed on three main deliverables:**



**First was to review the protest provisions** within the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (The Act) for relevance and to delete any obsolete provisions, which was accomplished through AB 1581 (2021).



**The second deliverable was to redraft existing scattered protest code sections** within The Act into a single code section to simplify the reading of the code section.



**The final—and most challenging—deliverable was to examine the differing protest thresholds** relating to LAFCo-initiated actions and all other initiated actions.



## **AFTER CONSIDERABLE NEGOTIATION, THE WORKING GROUP GAVE CONSENSUS ON THE FOLLOWING CHANGES TO CKH:**



The redrafting of existing protest code sections into one main section to simplify the reading of the section, and to add minor, non-substantive clarifications;



Create specific circumstances under which a LAFCo may initiate dissolution of a district with a 25% protest threshold, with determinations documented in a Municipal Service Review and presented at a 21-day noticed public hearing;



Allow for a minimum 12-month remediation period for the district with a progress report provided by the district to the LAFCo halfway through the remediation period; and



A second 21-day noticed public hearing to determine if the identified issues have been mitigated, which would result in the LAFCo either terminating the dissolution or moving forward with the dissolution using 25% protest threshold under the standard protest hearing process already in statute, with a public notice period of 60 days.



The overarching goal of these changes is to ensure that LAFCOs have the tools they need to carry out their statutory obligations to ensure orderly and functioning local government services and to create greater consistency in the statute.

### **SUMMARY**

SB 938 represents a collaborative three-year effort 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.

### **CONTACT:**

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## CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Sunday, March 27, 2022

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

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

**Introduced:** 3/2/2022

**Status:** 3/17/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

**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.

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

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/24/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/8/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/24/2022

**Status:** 3/24/2022-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

**Calendar:**

3/31/2022 Upon adjournment of Session - 1021 O Street, Room 2200 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, CABALLERO, Chair

**Summary:**

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 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. The bill would require the commission to adopt a resolution of intent

to initiate a dissolution based on these provisions and to provide a remediation period of at least 12 months, during which the district may take steps to remedy the stated deficiencies. The bill would authorize the commission, at the conclusion of the remediation period, to find that the district has failed to remedy the deficiencies and adopt a resolution to dissolve the district.

**Attachments:**

[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:** 3/24/2022-Read third time. Urgency clause adopted. Passed. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

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

**Summary:**

Would enact the 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:** 3/24/2022-Read third time. Urgency clause adopted. Passed. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

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

**Summary:**

Would enact the Second Validating Act of 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:** 3/24/2022-Read third time. Passed. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to the Assembly. In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk.

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

**Summary:**

Would enact the Third Validating Act of 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.

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

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/23/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 1/12/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/23/2022

**Status:** 3/24/2022-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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

**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.

**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.

**[AB 1773](#) (Patterson R) Williamson Act: subvention payments: appropriation.**

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

**Introduced:** 2/3/2022

**Status:** 2/10/2022-Referred to Coms. on AGRI. and L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
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. Existing 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. The bill would make various findings in this regard.

**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:** Introduced: 2/10/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/10/2022

**Status:** 2/18/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

**Summary:**

Current law, 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, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with those specified teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. This bill would specify that if a member of a legislative body elects to teleconference from a location that is not public, the address does not need to be identified in the notice and agenda or be accessible to the public when the legislative body has elected to allow members to participate via teleconferencing.

**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:** Introduced: 2/14/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2022

**Status:** 3/23/2022-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 8. Noes 0.) (March 23). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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

**Summary:**

Te 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 would extend the above provisions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commission to January 1, 2025.

**Attachments:**

[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:** Introduced: 2/17/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/17/2022

**Status:** 3/3/2022-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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

**Summary:**

Current law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with specified teleconferencing requirements in specified circumstances when a declared state of emergency is in effect, or in other situations related to public health. This bill would authorize a local agency to use teleconferencing without complying with those specified teleconferencing requirements if at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the local agency's jurisdiction. The bill would impose prescribed requirements for this exception relating to notice, agendas, the means and manner of access, and procedures for disruptions. The bill would require the legislative body to implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with federal law.

**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:** Introduced: 2/18/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2022

**Status:** 3/10/2022-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD.

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

**Summary:**

The Ralph M. Brown Act requires the meetings of the legislative body of a local agency to be conducted openly and publicly, with specified exceptions. 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 available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency designates. 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 or 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.

**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: 3/9/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 1/18/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/9/2022

**Status:** 3/22/2022-Set for hearing March 31. March 31 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.

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

**Summary:**

Current law authorizes certain local agencies to form a community revitalization authority (authority) within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined, to carry out provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law in that area for purposes related to, among other things, infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization. Current law provides for the financing of these activities by, among other things, the issuance of bonds serviced by property tax increment revenues, and requires the authority to adopt a community revitalization and investment plan for the community revitalization and investment area that includes elements describing and governing revitalization activities. 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 for the purposes of raising and allocating funding for eligible projects and the operating expenses of eligible projects. 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.

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

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/21/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/16/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/21/2022

**Status:** 3/22/2022-Set for hearing April 5.

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

**Calendar:**

4/5/2022 1:30 p.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 SENATE JUDICIARY, UMBERG, Chair

**Summary:**

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 willfully interrupting the meeting. The bill, except as provided, would require removal to be preceded by a warning by the presiding member of the legislative body that the individual is disrupting the proceedings, a request that the individual curtail their disruptive behavior or be subject to removal, and a reasonable opportunity to cease the disruptive behavior. The bill would similarly require a warning, a request that the individual curtail their disruptive behavior or be subject to removal, and a reasonable opportunity to cease the disruptive behavior before clearing a meeting room for willful interruptions by a group or groups. The bill would define "willfully interrupting" to mean 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 and applicable rules, as specified.

**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.

**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	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chapters
1st House				2nd House							

**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	Chaptered
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: statement of economic interests and gifts.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 5/18/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2021

**Last Amended:** 5/18/2021

**Status:** 2/1/2022-In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

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

**Summary:**

The Political Reform Act of 1974 regulates conflicts of interests of public officials and requires that public officials file, with specified filing officers, periodic statements of economic interests disclosing certain information regarding income, investments, and other financial data. The Fair Political

Practices Commission is the filing officer for statewide elected officers and candidates and other specified public officials. If the Commission is the filing officer, the public official generally files with their agency or another person or entity, who then makes a copy and files the original with the Commission. This bill would revise and recast these filing requirements to make various changes, including requiring public officials and candidates for whom the Commission is the filing officer to file their original statements of economic interests electronically with the Commission.

**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) Drinking water.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 5/24/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2021

**Last Amended:** 5/24/2021

**Status:** 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/9/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

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

**Summary:**

Current law establishes the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund in the State Treasury to help water systems provide an adequate and affordable supply of safe drinking water in both the near and long terms. Current law authorizes the state board to provide for the deposit into the fund of certain moneys and continuously appropriates the moneys in the fund to the state board for grants, loans, contracts, or services to assist eligible recipients. This bill would prohibit a public water system from transferring or abandoning a water right held by the public water system except upon approval of the state board, as prescribed.

**Attachments:**

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

[AB 1195 Fact Sheet](#)

**Position:** Watch With Concerns

**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.

#### **AB 1757 (Ward D) Groundwater sustainability agency.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/10/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/2/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/10/2022

**Status:** 3/14/2022-Re-referred to Com. on W.,P., & W.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
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. Existing law governs the formation of a groundwater sustainability agency. This bill would authorize a conservation district formed pursuant to federal law and 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:** Introduced: 2/14/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/14/2022

**Status:** 3/23/2022-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

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

**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.

**[SB 12](#) (McGuire D) Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.**

**Current Text:** Amended: 7/1/2021 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 12/7/2020

**Last Amended:** 7/1/2021

**Status:** 7/14/2021-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 6/24/2021)(May be acted upon Jan 2022)

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

**Summary:**

Current law requires that the Office of Planning and Research, among other things, coordinate with appropriate entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided. 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.

**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	Chaptered
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:** 3/22/2022-Set for hearing March 31.

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

**Calendar:**

3/31/2022 Upon adjournment of Session - 1021 O Street, Room 2200 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, CABALLERO, 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: 3/15/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/15/2022

**Status:** 3/23/2022-Re-referred to Coms. on GOV. & F. and JUD.

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

**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.

**Position:** Watch

**Subject:** Other

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

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/16/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/16/2022

**Status:** 3/23/2022-Re-referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

**Summary:**

Current law requires cities and counties to prepare, adopt, and amend general plans and elements of those plans, as specified. Current law requires the general plan to include a housing element and an open-space element, which is also called an open-space plan. Current law sets forth various deadlines for updates to the housing element. This bill would require every city and county to review and update, as specified, its local open-space plan by January 1, 2026, and every time it updates its housing element.

**Position:** Watch

**Subject:** Other

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

**Current Text:** Amended: 3/16/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/18/2022

**Last Amended:** 3/16/2022

**Status:** 3/23/2022-Re-referred to Com. on GOV. & F.

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

**Summary:**

Current law requires the Office of Planning and Research to, among other things, accept and allocate or expend grants and gifts from any source, public or private, for the purpose of state planning and undertake other planning and coordinating activities, as specified, and encourage the formation and proper functioning of, and provide planning assistance to, city, county, district, and regional planning agencies. 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 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 require the office 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 after the city submits an application containing specified information.

**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.)

**SB 1489 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Local Government Omnibus Act of 2022.**

**Current Text:** Introduced: 2/28/2022 [html](#) [pdf](#)

**Introduced:** 2/28/2022

**Status:** 3/9/2022-Referred to Coms. on GOV. & F. and HOUSING.

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

**Summary:**

Current law sets forth requirements for the passage of city ordinances. Current law requires ordinances to be read in full either at the time of introduction or passage except when, after reading the title, further reading is waived by regular motion adopted by majority vote of the legislative body. This bill would provide that a reading of the title or ordinance is not required if the title is included on the published agenda and a copy of the full ordinance is made available to the public online and in print at the meeting prior to the introduction or passage.

**Position:** Watch

**CALAFCO Comments:** This is the Senate Governance & Finance Committee annual omnibus bill.

Total Measures: 26

Total Tracking Forms: 26

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