



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

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**AGENDA REPORT**  
 Consent | Information

April 6, 2026

**TO:** Chair Becker and Commissioners

**FROM:** Joelle Burila, Analyst I  
 Patrick Bouteller, LAFCO Consultant

**SUBJECT: Legislative Report**

**SUMMARY**

The San Diego County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) will receive monthly legislative updates on existing and anticipated bills as part of the second-year legislative session. This report is for information only.

**BACKGROUND**

The California Legislature reconvened for the second year of the 2025–26 Regular Session in January 2026. The deadline for introducing new legislation passed in February 2026. Following bill introduction, measures will be referred to their respective committees, with committee hearings and initial floor action expected to occur between March and April. Legislation that advances through both houses must be passed by August 31, 2026, which is the constitutional adjournment of the 2026 legislative session.

**DISCUSSION**

This item is for San Diego LAFCO to receive an update on proposals of interest, divided into two categories: introduced legislation and pending legislation. The item is presented for information with an opportunity to pull for discussion and provide general direction.

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## Introduced Legislation

Since the 2026 legislative session reconvened in January 2026, there are seven bills currently being tracked. Two bills of interest carried over from the prior session: AB 259 and AB 356. Separately, four bills have been introduced in this legislative session meriting Commission attention, involving AB 1600, AB 2083, SB 910 and SB 1291.

### Introduced Legislation | Prior Session

- **AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca)**  
**Open Meetings and Continued Access to Teleconferences**  
This bill is of statewide interest and would extend the authorization for legislative bodies of local agencies – including LAFCOs – to use modified teleconferencing procedures during declared emergencies through January 1, 2030. It preserves existing requirements related to public notice and agenda posting while allowing remote participation under defined emergency conditions. San Diego LAFCO adopted a support position on March 3, 2025. The bill passed the Assembly in 2025. It's currently under review by the Senate Local Government Committee.
- **AB 356 (Patel, Darshana)**  
**Healthcare Districts in Northern San Diego County**  
This bill is of local interest and was initially introduced to establish a state-directed working group to assess healthcare access in northern San Diego County and focusing on the Palomar Healthcare District's service area. In response to the Commission taking a support-if-amended position, the bill has been updated to include LAFCO as one of the listed stakeholders and in doing so providing connectivity to the Commission's oversight of Palomar and current municipal service review activities. LAFCO Consultant Adam Wilson provided supportive testimony for the author in conjunction with them accepting the Commission's amendments. The bill passed the Assembly in 2025. It's currently under review by the Senate Local Government Committee.

### Introduced Legislation | Current Session

- **AB 1600 (Arambula, Joaquin)**  
**Disadvantaged Communities: Farmworker Communities**  
This bill would expand that definition of “disadvantaged communities” to include qualifying farmworker communities and require the agency, in consultation with relevant state departments, to update screening tools and guidance to ensure their inclusion in eligibility determinations and benefit calculations. For LAFCOs, this change would affect Municipal Service Reviews and Sphere of Influence updates by requiring evaluation of service needs for these newly – if passed – expanded populations. Introduced in January 2026, the bill is currently moving through the Assembly.

- **AB 2083 (Jackson, Corey)**

- **Moreno Valley-Perris Childcare Special District**

- The proposed *Moreno Valley-Perris Childcare Special District Act* would create a new special district covering the Cities of Moreno Valley and Perris and their spheres of influence. The district’s purpose is to expand childcare capacity and operate universal childcare programs. It would be governed by a five-member board appointed by the two cities and other designated entities. The board would develop a service plan for LAFCO and oversee district operations, including authority to hire staff and operate or contract for childcare facilities. Introduced in February 2026, the bill is currently awaiting referral to the appropriate policy committee.

- **SB 802 (Ashby, Angelique)**

- **Sacramento Area Housing and Homelessness Agency**

- This bill proposes the joint powers authority currently operating as the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency be revamped to the Sacramento Area Housing and Homelessness Agency to orchestrate all housing and homelessness services across Sacramento County through a regional and centralized approach. This bill uniquely mandates the Sacramento LAFCO to form and appoint an independent task force to facilitate the consolidation of multiple entities into the new agency, which represents an ad hoc expansion of LAFCO duties into regional housing and homelessness governance. This bill passed the Senate in 2025 and was amended in the Assembly on January 26, 2026. It’s currently under review by the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development. San Diego LAFCO is monitoring this bill, as its provisions may provide relevant homelessness development services and governance evaluation options given its alignment with our current workplan project on homelessness services in the San Diego region.

- **SB 910 (Seyarto, Kelly)**

- **Municipal Water Districts Water Service: Indian Lands**

- The bill extends existing law that allows municipal water districts, under certain conditions, to apply to LAFCO to provide water service to eligible Indian lands located outside district boundaries. The current authorization, set to expire on January 1, 2027, would be extended to January 1, 2032. The bill creates a state-mandated local program but specifies that no state reimbursement is required. Introduced in January 2026, the bill is currently awaiting referral to the appropriate policy committee.

- **SB 1291 (Gonzalez, Lena)**

- **Drinking Water: Consolidation**

- This bill builds on the State’s efforts to address water system fragmentation in disadvantaged communities by expanding the State Water Resources Control Board’s authority to order consolidations. For LAFCOs, the measure would streamline the change of organization process for affected water districts and may allow certain actions to proceed without standard protest proceedings to support the delivery of safe and affordable water. Introduced in February 2026, the bill was amended and re-referred to the Senate Committee on Rules.

## Pending Legislation | UC Berkely Report Legislation

Developed under the Commission’s adopted workplan and informed by a University of California, Berkeley report, the proposal sought to strengthen LAFCO authority and accountability in addressing water and wastewater-related public health and safety concerns, while expanding transparency requirements for affected agencies and mobile home park community water systems.

While the bill did not move forward this session, San Diego LAFCO staff will continue refining the proposal with stakeholders for introduction in 2027. The Commission has also tentatively directed staff to continue this effort by identifying it as a medium-priority project in the recently approved draft workplan and budget (Workplan No. 17).

### **ANALYSIS**

None.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

This item is presented to the Commission for information only.

### **ALTERNATIVES FOR ACTION**

None.

### **PROCEDURES**

This item has been placed on the Commission’s agenda as part of the consent calendar. A successful motion to approve the consent calendar will include taking affirmative action on the staff recommendation unless otherwise specified by the Commission.

On behalf of the Executive Officer,



Joelle Burila  
Analyst I