

SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
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March 5, 2014

TO: Sacramento Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM: Peter Brundage, Executive Officer

RE: Legislative Update

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RECOMMENDATION

Information only, no action is recommended.

BACKGROUND

This memo is part of the ongoing effort to keep your Commission informed regarding various LAFCo related legislative matters.

Friday, February 21, was the deadline for introducing new legislation for 2014, the second year of the two-year session. The exception is Committee bills which can be introduced through March. However, bills can be amended or "gut and amended" throughout the session until August.

An ad-hoc legislative committee appointed by the CALAFCO Board of Directors has identified several bills of interest. CALAFCO has not yet taken a formal position on these bills.

DISCUSSION

Below are listed the proposed legislation that may be of interest to your Commission.

AB 1521(Fox D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee (VLF) adjustments.

Introduced: 1/16/2014

Status: 2/6/2014-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Location: 2/6/2014-A. L. GOV.

Summary: Beginning with the 2004-05 fiscal year, current law requires that each city, county, and city and county receive additional property tax revenues in the form of a vehicle license fee adjustment amount, as defined, from a vehicle license fee property tax compensation

fund that exists in each county treasury. Current law requires that these additional allocations be funded from ad valorem property tax revenues otherwise required to be allocated to educational entities. This bill would modify these reduction and transfer provisions, for the 2014-15 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, by providing for a vehicle license fee adjustment amount calculated on the basis of changes in assessed valuation.

AB 1527(Perea D) Public water systems: drinking water.

Introduced: 1/17/2014

Status: 2/6/2014-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.

Location: 2/6/2014-A. E.S. & T.M.

Summary: Would require the State Department of Public Health, in administering programs to fund improvements and expansions of small community water systems, and other water systems, as specified, to promote service delivery alternatives that improve efficiency and affordability of infrastructure and service delivery, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

CALAFCO Comments: This bill requires funding for construction project feasibility studies to include studies of service delivery alternatives if at least 1 service agency services a disadvantaged community; also requires the DPH to make a determination to include the viability of these service delivery alternatives and to consider LAFCo studies and determinations from the previous 5 years, to consult with LAFCo Executive Officer and consider other applicable local/regional studies related to the delivery of drinking water.

AB 1729 (Logue R) Local government: agricultural land.

Introduced: 2/14/2014

Status: 2/18/2014-From printer. May be heard in committee March 20.

Location: 2/14/2014-A. PRINT

Summary: Current law establishes the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, otherwise known as the Williamson Act, for purposes of preserving agricultural land within the state. Current law authorizes a city or a county, for this purpose, to contract with a landowner to limit the use of agricultural land located in an agricultural preserve designated by the city or county. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to the authorization provisions.

AB 1961(Eggman D) Land use: planning: Sustainable Farmland Strategy.

Introduced: 2/19/2014

Status: 2/20/2014-From printer. May be heard in committee March 22.

Location: 2/19/2014-A. PRINT

Summary: Would require each county with significant agricultural land resources, as defined, to develop, on or before January 2, 2018, a sustainable farmland strategy. The bill would require the Sustainable Farmland Strategy to include, among other things, a map and inventory of all agriculturally zoned land within the county, a description of the goals, strategies, and related policies and ordinances, to retain agriculturally zoned land where practical and mitigate the loss of agriculturally zoned land to nonagricultural uses or zones, and a page on the county's Internet Web site with the relevant documentation for the goals, strategies, and related policies and ordinances, as specified.

AB 2156 (Achadjian R) Local agency formation commissions: studies.

Introduced: 2/20/2014

Status: 2/21/2014-From printer. May be heard in committee March 23.

Location: 2/20/2014-A. PRINT

Summary: Would include joint powers agencies and joint powers authorities among the entities from which a local agency formation commission is authorized to request land use information, studies, and plans, for purposes of conducting specified studies. The bill would specifically define "joint powers agency" and "joint powers authority" for purposes of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

SB 1001 (Knight R) Local government.

Introduced: 2/13/2014

Status: 2/14/2014-From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 16.

Location: 2/13/2014-S. PRINT

Summary: Current law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, makes certain findings and declarations relating to local government organizations, including, among other things, the encouragement of orderly growth and development, and logical formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, as specified. This bill would make non-substantive changes to these findings and declarations.