

SACRAMENTO LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION
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August 6, 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.

An ad-hoc legislative committee appointed by the CALAFCO Board of Directors has identified several bills of interest. CALAFCO has taken a formal position on these bills, as noted.

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: Sen Appropriations Committee Hearing Date: 08/04/14

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.

CALAFCO: SUPPORT

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.

03/17/14 From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on E.S. & T.M. Read second time and amended.

03/18/14 Re-referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.

03/20/14 Re-referred to Com. on RLS. pursuant to Assembly Rule 96.

Sen Appropriations Committee Hearing Date: 08/04/14

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: **WATCH:** 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

03/20/14 Referred to Com. on APPR.

03/20/14 From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on APPR. Read second time and amended.

03/24/14 Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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

03/03/14 Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and AGRI

03/25/14 From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on L. GOV. Read second time and amended.

03/26/14 Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

05/23/2014-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(b)(8). (Last location was A. APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/23/2014)

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

03/06/14 Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

03/24/14 From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on L. GOV. Read second time and amended.

03/25/14 Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

5/23/2014-In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling. Enrolled.

06/02/14 Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

06/04/14 Approved by the Governor.

06/04/14 Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 21, Statutes of 2014.

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.

AB 1739 (Dickinson) Groundwater basin management: sustainability.

Current Text: Amended: 4/22/2014 pdf html

Introduced: 2/14/2014

Location Sen Appropriations Committee Hearing Date: 08/11/14

Summary: Would require a sustainable groundwater management plan to be adopted, except as provided, for each high or medium priority groundwater basin by any groundwater management agency, defined as a special district authorized to provide water for beneficial uses or with specific authority to conduct groundwater management, a city, a county, a city and county, or certain joint powers authorities. This bill would require a sustainable groundwater management plan to meet certain requirements.

As of 08/01/2014: There is a proposed set of amendments to combine with SB 1168, As proposed LAFCo involvement would be removed. Any new agencies formed would not be done as independent special districts and would not engage LAFCo involvement. The Board of Supervisors could initiate the formation of a groundwater maintenance district, or a combination of local agencies could form an agency through an MOU, JPA or other legal agreement. The process would require public notices and a public hearing.