TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

LAFCO MEETING AGENDA

August 7, 2019 @ 2:00 P.M. BOARD OF SUPERVISORS CHAMBERS COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING 2800 West Burrel Avenue Visalia CA 93291

COMMISSIONERS: Pete Vander Poel V-Chair Julie Allen Martha Flores Dennis Townsend Pamela Kimball

ALTERNATES Eddie Valero Carlton Jones Manny Gomes

EXECUTIVE OFFICER Ben Giuliani

(Pages 1-2)

Call to Order Ι.

II. Approval of Minutes from June 5, 2019

III. **Public Comment Period**

At this time, members of the public may comment on any item not appearing on the agenda and that is within the scope of matters considered by the Commission. Under state law, matters presented under this item cannot be discussed or acted upon by the LAFCO Commission at this time. So that all interested parties have an opportunity to speak, any person addressing the Commission may be limited at the discretion of the chair. At all times, please use the microphone and state your name and address for the record.

IV. **New Action Items**

1. Election of Officers (Page 3) [Not a Public Hearing]......Recommended Action: Elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman

The Commission will select a new Commission Chair and potentially a new Vice-Chair. The new officers' terms will commence on August 7, 2019 and end on December 31, 2019 or December 31, 2020.

2. <u>Fee for Petition Signature Verification</u> (Pages 4-5)

A new fee of 75 cents per signature is proposed for the verification of land owner petitions.

3. Detachment from the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District (DEID) Case 1543 (Pages 6-14) [Public Hearing]Recommended Action: Approval

The Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District (DEID) has submitted a request for a detachment of 2 areas comprising approximately 7,555 acres of land. Area A is approximately 6914 acres and is bound to the west by State Route 43, to the north by Avenue 56, to the east by Road 128, and to the south by the Avenue 40 and 36 alignments. Area B is approximately 641 acres and is bounded to the west by Road 120 alignment, north by Avenue 16, west by Road 128 and south by Avenue 8 alignment. A Notice of Exemption has been prepared in compliance with CEQA by the DEID.

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste, B Visalia CA 93291

V. Executive Officer's Report

	1.	Legislative Update	(Pages 15-23)
		Enclosed is the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CAL legislative report.	AFCO)
	2.	Upcoming Projects	(No Page)
		The Executive Officer will provide a summary and tentative schedule of upcoming LA	FCO projects.
VI.	<u>Co</u>	rrespondence	
	1.	None	
VII.	Other Business		
	1.	Commissioner Report	(No Page)
	2.	Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas	(No Page)

VIII. Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting

1. September 4, 2019 @ 2:00 P.M in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the County Administration Building.

IX. Adjournment

NOTE: Persons wishing to speak on any of the agenda items who have made a political contribution of more than \$250 to any commissioner in the last twelve months must indicate this when speaking. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting please contact LAFCO Staff at 559-623-0450. Documents related to the items on this Agenda submitted to the Board after distribution of the Agenda packet are available for public inspection at 210 N Church Ste. B Visalia CA 93291

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church Street, Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291

Tulare County Association of Governments

June 5, 2019 – Meeting Minutes

Members Present:	Vander Poel, Allen		
Members Absent:	Mendoza, Townsend		
Alternates Present:	Valero, Gomes		
Alternates Absent:	Jones		
Staff Present:	Giuliani, Ingoldsby, & Kane recording		
Counsel Present:	Erickson		

I. <u>Call to Order:</u> Vice-Chair Vander Poel called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

II. Approval of the May 1, 2019 Meeting Minutes:

Upon motion by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Valero, the Commission unanimously approved the LAFCO minutes.

III. Public Comment Period:

Vice-Chair Vander Poel opened/closed the Public Comment Period at 2:02 p.m. No public comments received.

IV. <u>New Action Items:</u>

1. 2019/2020 Final Budget and Work Program

Staff Analyst Ingoldsby presented the 2019/2020 fiscal year budget and work program. The only change to the draft was to use \$50,000 of reserve funds to offset city and county contributions to the budget.

EO Giuliani stated that additionally a list of preliminary MSR reviews had been added to the strategic work program.

Vice-Chair Vander Poel opened/closed the public hearing at 2:06 p.m. No public comments received.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valero and seconded by Commissioner Vander Poel, the Commission unanimously approved the 2019/20 budget and work program as recommended.

2. Update to the County Counsel Retainer Agreement

Mr. Kuhn outlined that the updated retainer agreement added language that would allow County Counsel, with advance written approval from LAFCO, to retain outside counsel to assist them when necessary.

Upon motion by Commissioner Allen and seconded by Commissioner Valero, the Commission unanimously approved the updated retainer agreement with County Counsel as recommended.

3. Cancellation of the July 10th 2019 Meeting

There were no action items scheduled for the July meeting, therefore staff recommended cancellation.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valero and seconded by Commissioner Allen, the Commission unanimously agreed to cancel the July meeting.

4. LAFCO Executive Officer Compensation

Vice-Chair Vander Poel reported that the Ad-Hoc Committee reviewed and recommended an increase of 1%, from \$118,304 to \$119,487 annually, for the EO's salary to begin the first pay period of the 19/20 Fiscal Year.

Upon motion by Commissioner Valero and seconded by Commissioner Allen, the Commission unanimously approved the changes to the Executive Officers compensation as recommended.

V. Executive Officer's Report

1. Proposed Fee Schedule Amendment

EO Giuliani explained that currently LAFCO does not have a listed fee for land owner petition signature verifications, and that a land owner formation petition to LAFCO is expected before the end of the year. After some discussion and comparison of the fees throughout the region, Commissioner Vander Poel proposed that the verification fee should be .75 cents per signature. EO Giuliani stated that the issue would be brought back to the Commission at the August meeting for public hearing and action.

2. Legislative Update:

EO Giuliani reviewed the CALAFCO Legislative Report

3. Upcoming Projects:

EO Giuliani stated that City of Visalia would be submitting the K Street Island annexation, and various MSRs are continuing to be updated.

VI. <u>Correspondence:</u>

None

VII. Other Business:

1. Commissioner Report:

Commissioner Allen reported that she had been asked to speak at a small conference in September and would highlight SGMA groundwater management.

2. <u>Request from LAFCO for items to be set for future agendas:</u> None

None

VIII. <u>Closed Session</u>

1. Personnel (Gov. Code Section 54957

Vice Chair Vander Poel announced that closed session was not needed and therefore would not be held.

IX. Setting Time and Place of Next Meeting:

The next Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) meeting scheduled for **August 7**, **2019 at 2:00 p.m**. in the Board of Supervisors Chambers in the County Administration Building

X. <u>Adjournment:</u> The Tulare County LAFCO meeting adjourned at 2:31 p.m.

LAFCO

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 (559) 623-054

(559) 623-0540 FAX (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS: Pete Vander Poel, V-Chair Julie Allen Martha Flores Dennis Townsend Pam Kimball

August 7, 2019

TO: All LAFCO Commission Members and Alternates

FROM: Ben Giuliani

SUBJECT: Election of Officers

ALTERNATES: Eddie Valero Carlton Jones Manny Gomes

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Ben Giuliani

On July 17th, the City Selection Committee chose Martha Flores (City of Porterville) the fill the remainder of the term for the position formerly held by Cam Hamilton (City of Porterville) and chose Pam Kimball (City of Lindsay) for a new 4-year term for the position formerly held by Rudy Mendoza (City of Woodlake). A new Chair needs to be selected to replace former Chair Rudy Mendoza.

Commission Policy A-4 requires that the LAFCO Chair and Vice-Chair be annually chosen on a rotating basis so that all members will have an equal opportunity to serve as an officer. This has typically been rotated between City-County-Public members. Using the typical rotation, if Vice-Chair Vander Poel becomes the Chair, Julie Allen would be the new Vice-Chair. The Commission could elect the new officers to serve out just the remainder of the year or elect to extend the new officers through 2020.

2019 Member Roster

<u>Member</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>
Pete Vander Poel (County Commissioner)	May 2023
Dennis Townsend (County Commissioner)	May 2020
Julie Allen (Public Commissioner)	May 2022
Martha Flores (City Commissioner)	May 2020
Pam Kimball (City Commissioner)	May 2023
Eddie Valero (County Alternate)	May 2021
Carlton Jones (City Alternate)	May 2021
Manny Gomes (Public Alternate)	May 2020

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TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

210 N. Church St., Suite B, Visalia, CA 93291 Phone: (559) 623-0450 FAX: (559) 733-6720

COMMISSIONERS: Pete Vander Poel, V. Chair Julie Allen Martha Flores Dennis Townsend Pam Kimball

August 7, 2019

TO: LAFCO Commissioners, Alternates FROM: Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

SUBJECT: Fee for Petition Signature Verification ALTERNATES: Eddie Valero Carlton Jones Manny Gomes

EXECUTIVE OFFICER: Ben Giuliani

Background

F C

Tulare County LAFCO currently does not have a listed fee for petition signature verification. Registered voter petitions would be forwarded to County Elections for verification with costs associated with verification charged by County Elections to the applicant. Land owner petitions can be verified by LAFCO.

Discussion

A formation by petition land owner district is currently planned to be submitted to LAFCO by the end of the calendar year. The fee schedule needs to be updated to reflect the cost of verification of a land owner petition. At the June 5th LAFCO meeting, the following petition verification fees for other San Joaquin Valley LAFCOs were reviewed by the Commission:

Fresno – A \$40 flat fee plus 65 cents per signature Kern – Actual cost of verification (time*rate of verifier) Kings – Actual cost of verification (time*rate of verifier) Madera - \$1 per signature Merced – No fee listed (Merced is in the same situation as our LAFCO.) San Joaquin – 50 cents per signature Stanislaus – Actual cost of verification (time*rate of verifier)

At the June 5th meeting, the Commission recommended that the verification fee be 75 cents per signature.

Recommendation

Approve the addition of a 75 cent per signature fee for the verification of land owner petitions to the LAFCO fee schedule (Policy B-2, Processing Fees).

Attachment: Resolution

BEFORE THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

OF THE

COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Amendment of) Policy and Procedure B-2, Processing Fees) **RESOLUTION NO. 19-###**

Upon motion of Commissioner xx, seconded by Commissioner xx, Tulare County LAFCO Policy B-2 (Processing Fees) is hereby amended to include a new fee of 75 cents per signature for land owner petition verification, at a regular meeting held on this 7th day of August, 2019, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSTAIN:

PRESENT:

ABSENT:

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

TULARE COUNTY LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

August 7, 2019

LAFCO Case Number 1543 Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District No 19-02

- **PROPOSAL:** Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District (DEID) Detachment
- **PROPONENT:** DEID by Resolution of its Board of Directors

SIZE: 2 areas comprising approximately 7,555 acres.

- LOCATION: Area A is approximately 6914 acres and is bound to the west by State Route 43, to the north by Ave 56, to the east by Rd 128, and to the south by the Ave 40 and 36 alignments. Area B is approximately 641 acres and is bounded to the west by Rd 120 alignment, north by Ave 16, west by Road 128 and south by Ave 8 alignment. (*Figure 1*)
- **NOTICE:** Notice for this public hearing was provided in accordance with Government Code Sections 56660 & 56661.
- **SUMMARY:** This detachment would reverse an annexation approved in 2016 that allowed the area to be included in the DEID's Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA). The 2016 annexation was for GSA purposes only. The DEID does not provide irrigation water to the project site. The area would remain in DEID's GSA after detachment.

ANALYSIS

1. Conformity with Plans:

A. Site Information

	Existing	Proposed
Zoning	AE – 40 (Exclusive Agricultural Zone, 40	No Change
Designation	acre minimum)	
General Plan	Rural Valley Lands Plan	No Change
Designation		
Uses	Agriculture, agricultural outbuildings, water	No Change
	tanks, rural residences, habitat management	

Surrounding land uses are mostly agricultural and habitat management. This proposal does not conflict with the Tulare County General Plan.

2. Impact on Prime Agricultural Land, Agriculture and Open Space:

The approval of this detachment is not inconsistent with continued Williamson Act coverage. Cancellation of Williamson Act Contracts is not contemplated in this application.

3. Population:

According to Tulare County Election Division there are 3 registered voters within the affected area. Therefore, pursuant to GC Section 56046, the detachment area is uninhabited.

4. Services and Controls - Need, Cost, Adequacy and Availability:

The private property owners had requested the DEID to provide groundwater sustainability management services and were annexed into the DIED in 2016. The irrigation services from the DEID were never provided to the project site.

In conjunction with the proposed detachment, the property owners are organizing a private mutual water company that will provide funding for sustainability management pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

5. Boundaries and Lines of Assessment:

The boundaries of the proposal area are definite and certain and conform to the lines of assessment and ownership. The applicant is finalizing the map and legal description which is included as a condition of approval.

6. Environmental Impacts:

The Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District is the lead agency for this proposal. The District has determined the project is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act under Sections 15320 Class 20 and 15307 Class 7. A copy of the document is included in the application materials.

7. Landowner Consent:

Consent has not been received from all of the private property owners within the proposed detachment. Notice was mailed to all landowners and registered voters within the detachment area. If no protests are received by the end of the public hearing, the Commission may waive the protest hearing. If protests are received by the end of the public hearing, a protest hearing will be held following the 30 day reconsideration period if the reorganization is approved.

8. Discussion:

Government Services

The proposal area falls within a critically overdrafted high-priority basin per the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA requires that all basins that are designated as critically overdrafted high-priority basins adopt a Groundwater Sustainability Plan by January 31, 2020. The area would remain in the DEID GSA but will be better served with a mutual water company outside of District boundaries.

The land is used agriculturally and does not presently require a great deal of governmental services and controls. The detachment does not change land use or services required.

DEID does not provide irrigation water to the proposed detachment area. Prior to the annexation of the area in 2016, all of the private property owners signed a Pre-Annexation Agreement specifying that the annexation into the DEID was for GSA purposes exclusively.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

It is recommended that this proposal be approved and that the Commission take the following actions:

- 1. Certify that the Commission has reviewed and considered the Notice of Exemption prepared by the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District for this project and find that the project is categorically exempt from CEQA review.
- 2. Find that the proposed reorganization of the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District complies with the policies and priorities of the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act, Section §56001.
- 3. Pursuant to LAFCO Policy and Procedure Section C-1, find or determine that:
 - a. The proposed detachment represents a logical and reasonable change of organization of the district.
 - b. The proposed detachment is compatible with the County's General Plan.
 - c. The proposed boundaries are definite and certain and conform to lines of assessment.
- 4. Find that the territory proposed for this detachment from the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District is uninhabited.

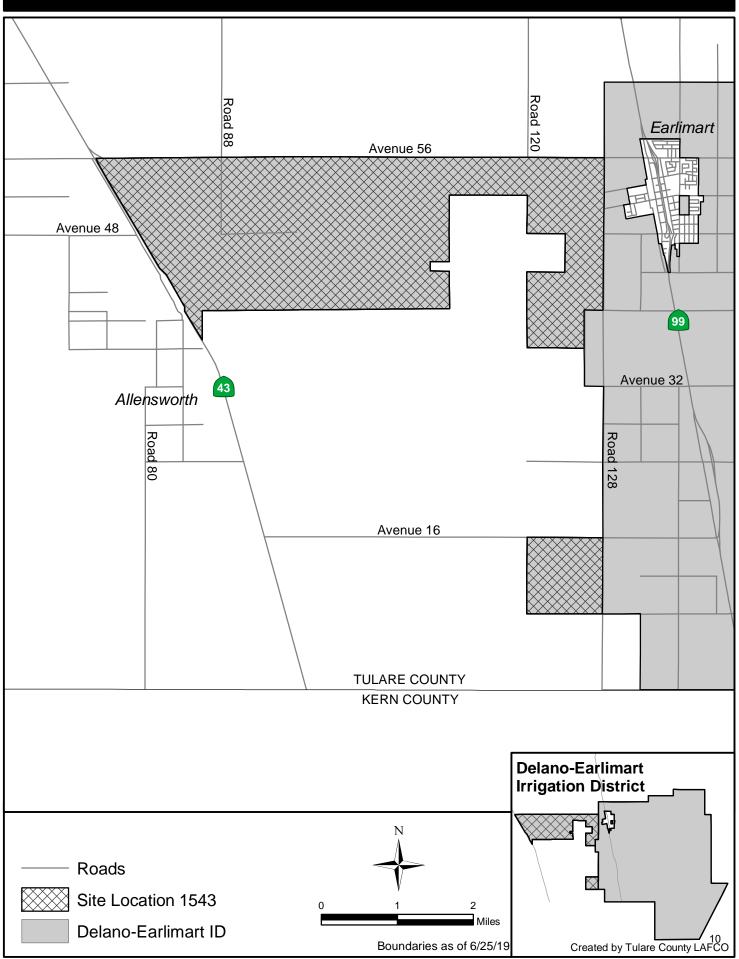
- 5. Approve the detachment as proposed by the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, to be known as LAFCO Case Number 1543, DEID Detachment 19-02 with the following condition:
 - a. The Certificate of Completion shall not be recorded until the County Surveyor has verified the accuracy of the map and legal description and any needed corrections are completed.
- 6. Waive the protest hearing for this proposal in accordance with subsection (c) of Government Code §56663 and order the detachment without an election or if written protests are received prior to the conclusion of the public hearing, conduct the protest hearing pursuant to GC §57000.

Figures:

Figure 1	Site Location Map
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Figure 2 Resolution

LAFCO Case 1543



BEFORE THE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

OF THE

COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Proposed Detachment)	
From the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District)	RESOLUTION NO. XX-XXX
LAFCO Case No. 1543, DEID Detachment 19-02)	

WHEREAS, application has been made to this Commission pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Government Code Sections 56000 et seq.) for approval of a proposal from the Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District to detach certain territories described in attached Exhibit "A" made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, this Commission has read and considered the Resolution of Application and application materials and the report and recommendations of the Executive Officer, all of which documents and materials are incorporated by reference herein; and

WHEREAS, on August 7, 2019 this Commission heard, received, and considered testimony, comments, recommendations and reports from all persons present and desiring to be heard concerning this matter.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED as follows:

1. The information, material and facts set forth in the application and the report of the Executive Officer (including any corrections), have been received and considered in accordance with GC §56668. All of said information, materials, facts, reports and other evidence are incorporated by reference herein.

2. The Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, as Lead Agency, filed a Notice of Exemption in compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). And finds that

under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Sections 15320, Class 20 and 15307, Class 7, the proposal is considered exempt from CEQA review.

3. The Commission has reviewed and considered, in accordance with GC §56668, the information, materials and facts presented by the following persons who appeared at the public hearing and commented on the proposal:

XXXXXXXXXXX XXXXXXXXXXX

4. All notices required by law have been given and all proceedings heretofore and now taken in this matter have been and now are in all respects as required by law.

5. Based upon the evidence and information on the record before it, the Commission makes the following findings of fact:

- a. The boundaries of the proposed detachment are definite and certain and conform to lines of assessment.
- b. Fewer than 12 registered voters reside in the affected territory and 100% landowner consent was not received.

6. Based upon the evidence and information on the record before it and the findings

of fact made above, the Commission makes the following determinations:

- a. The proposed detachment is compatible with the County's General Plan.
- b. The proposed detachment represents a logical and reasonable change of organization of the district.
- c. The proposal is consistent with the findings and declarations of GC §56001.

7. The Commission hereby waives the protest hearing for this proposal in accordance with GC §56663 and orders the change of organization without an election *{if protests are not submitted by the close of the public hearing}* or Authorizes the Executive Officer to conduct a protest hearing subsequent to these proceedings and to report to the Commission the results of

that hearing for action in accordance with GC §§57000-57120 {*if protests are submitted by the close of the public hearing*}.

8. The Commission hereby approves the detachment as proposed by Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District, to be known as LAFCO Case Number 1543, DEID Detachment 19-02, with the following condition:

- a. The Certificate of Completion shall not be recorded until the County Surveyor has verified the accuracy of the map and legal description and any needed corrections are completed.
- The following short form designation shall be used throughout these proceedings: LAFCO Case No. 1543, DEID Detachment 19-02.

10. The Commission determines, in accordance with CEQA, as a Responsible Agency, that it has considered the Notice of Exemption prepared by Delano-Earlimart Irrigation District:

LAFCO RESOLUTION NO. **19-XXX** Page 4

The foregoing resolution was adopted upon motion of Commissioner ____, seconded by Commissioner ____, at a regular meeting held on this 7th day of August, 2019 by the following vote: AYES: NOES: ABSTAIN: PRESENT: ABSENT:

Ben Giuliani, Executive Officer

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CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of Wednesday, July 31, 2019

<u>AB 315</u> (Garcia, Cristina D) Local government: lobbying associations: expenditure of public funds.

Current Text: Amended: 7/5/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 1/30/2019

Last Amended: 7/5/2019

Status: 7/12/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 7/5/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Current law authorizes the legislative body of a local agency, defined as a county, city, or city and county, or a district, defined broadly to include other political subdivisions or public corporations in the state other than the state or a county, city and county, or city, to attend the Legislature and the Congress of the United States, and any committees thereof, and to present information regarding legislation that the legislative body or the district deems to be beneficial or detrimental to the local agency or the district. Current law also authorizes the legislative body of a local agency or a district to enter into an association for these purposes and specifies that the cost and expense incident to the legislative body's or district's membership in the association and the activities of the association are proper charges against the local agencies or districts comprising the association. This bill, with respect to moneys paid to or otherwise received by an association from a local agency or district member of the association, would prohibit an association of local agencies or districts from expending those moneys for any purpose other than the above-described activities and educational activities.

CALAFCO Comments: As gut and amended, this bill appears to have significant impact to CALAFCO in the uses of member LAFCO and certain Associate Member dues being limited to only direct educational activities. CALAFCO will engage with stakeholders and the author's office as the bill moves forward in the next legislative year.

<u>AB 508</u> (Chu D) Drinking water: consolidation and extension of service: domestic wells. Current Text: Amended: 7/5/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/13/2019

Last Amended: 7/5/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 0.) (July 10). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar: 8/12/2019 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE APPR, PORTANTINO, Chair **Summary:**

The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the state board, before ordering consolidation or extension of service, to, among other things, make a finding that consolidation of the receiving water system and subsumed water system or extension of service to the subsumed water system is appropriate and technically and economically feasible. The act defines "subsumed water system" for these purposes as the public water system, state small water system, or affected residences consolidated into or receiving service from the receiving water system. This bill would modify the provision that authorizes consolidation or extension of service if a disadvantaged community is reliant on a domestic well described above to instead authorize consolidation or extension of service if a disadvantaged community, in whole or in part, is reliant on domestic wells that consistently fail to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water.

Position: Watch

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities, Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill allows the SWRCB to order an extension of service in the case a disadvantaged community has at least one residence that are reliant on a domestic well that fails to provide safe drinking water. It allows members of the disadvantaged community to petition the SWRCB to initiate the process. It allows the owner of the property to opt out of the extension. The bill also places limitations on fees, charges and terms and conditions imposed as a result of the extension of service. Finally, the extension of service does not require annexation in the cases where that would be appropriate.

<u>AB 600</u> (Chu D) Local government: organization: disadvantaged unincorporated communities.

Current Text: Amended: 4/29/2019 <u>html</u> <u>pdf</u> Introduced: 2/14/2019 Last Amended: 4/29/2019 Status: 6/24/2019-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary:

Under current law, an application to annex a contiguous disadvantaged community is not required if, among other things, a local agency formation commission finds that a majority of the registered voters within the disadvantaged unincorporated community are opposed to the annexation, as specified. This bill would additionally provide that an application to annex a contiguous disadvantaged community is not required if the commission finds that a majority of the registered voters within the affected disadvantaged unincorporated community would prefer to address the service deficiencies through an extraterritorial service extension. **Position:** Oppose

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities, Water

CALAFCO Comments: As amended on April 29, the bill still has a number of issues. The bill still allows for an extension of service in lieu of annexation. The bill adds (8)(C) to Government Code Section 56375. As written, this section creates confusion and contradicts §56375(8)(A). It appears the intention is to prohibit LAFCo from approving the annexation of two or more contiguous disadvantaged communities within five years that are individually less than ten acres but cumulatively more than ten acres. If so, then this language conflicts with §56375(8)(A), which allows for commission policies to guide the commission in determining the size of the area to be annexed. Further, the term "paragraph" as used in this section creates uncertainty as to what section or subsection is actually being addressed. The bill does nothing to address the engineering and financial issues that must be solved in order to ensure sustainable service. Further it does not allow for local circumstances and conditions to be considered by offering a "one size fits all" approach.

AB 1253 (Rivas, Robert D) Local agency formation commissions: grant program.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/21/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/21/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 6/6/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

This bill would require the Strategic Growth Council, until July 31, 2025, to establish and administer a local agency formation commissions grant program for the payment of costs associated with initiating and completing the dissolution of districts listed as inactive, the payment of costs associated with a study of the services provided within a county by a public agency to a disadvantaged community, as defined, and for other specified purposes, including the initiation of an action, as defined, that is limited to service providers serving a disadvantaged community and is based on determinations found in the study, as approved by the commission. The bill would specify application submission, reimbursement, and reporting requirements for a local agency formation commission to receive grants pursuant to the bill. The bill would require the council, after consulting with the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions, to develop and adopt guidelines, timelines, and application and reporting criteria for development and implementation of the program, as specified, and would exempt these guidelines, timelines, and criteria from the rulemaking provisions of the Administrative Procedure Act. The bill would make the grant program subject to an appropriation for the program in the annual Budget Act, and would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2026. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position: Sponsor

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities, LAFCo Administration, Municipal Services, Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: This is a CALAFCO sponsored bill following up on the recommendation of the Little Hoover Commission report of 2017 for the Legislature to provide LAFCos one-time grant funding for in-depth studies of potential reorganization of local service providers. Last year, the Governor vetoed AB 2258 - this is the same bill. The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) will administer the grant program. Grant funds will be used specifically for conducting special studies to identify and support opportunities to create greater efficiencies in the provision of municipal services; to potentially initiate actions based on those studies that remove or reduce local costs thus incentivizing local agencies to work with the LAFCo in developing and implementing reorganization plans; and the dissolution of inactive districts (pursuant to SB 448, Wieckowksi, 2017). The grant program would sunset on July 31, 2024.

The bill also changes the protest threshold for LAFCo initiated actions, solely for the purposes of actions funded pursuant to this new section. It allows LAFCo to order the dissolution of a district (outside of the ones identified by the SCO) pursuant to Section 11221 of the Elections code, which is a tiered approach based on registered voters int he affected territory (from 30% down to 10% depending).

The focus is on service providers serving disadvantaged communities. The bill also requires LAFCo pay back grant funds in their entirety if the study is not completed within two years and requires the SGC to give preference to LAFCOs whose decisions have been aligned with the goals of sustainable communities strategies. We were unsuccessful in getting the \$1.5 M into the budget so the author has decided to make this a 2-year bill and try again in the next budget. As this is a new Governor we are unsure about his willingness to make General Fund appropriations for items not in the budget.

AB 1389 (Eggman D) Special districts: change of organization: mitigation of revenue loss.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/22/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Status: 5/3/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/14/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Would authorize the commission to propose, as part of the review and approval of a proposal for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, that the special district, to mitigate any loss of property taxes, franchise fees, and other revenues to any other affected local agency, provide payments to the affected local agency from the revenue derived from the proposed exercise of new or different functions or classes of service.

Position: Watch

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: This bill allows LAFCo, when approving a proposal for new or different functions or class of service for a special district, to propose the district provide payments to any affected local agency for taxes, fees or any other revenue that may have been lost as a result of the new service being provided.

<u>AB 1628</u> (<u>Rivas, Robert</u> D) Environmental justice.

Current Text: Amended: 6/14/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Last Amended: 6/14/2019

Status: 7/9/2019-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary:

Current law requires the Secretary for Environmental Protection, on or before January 1, 2002, to convene a Working Group on Environmental Justice composed of various representatives, as specified, to assist the California Environmental Protection Agency in developing by July 1, 2002, an agencywide environmental justice strategy. Current law requires the Office of Planning and Research to be the coordinating agency in state government for environmental justice programs. Current law requires the Director of State Planning and Research to consult with specified entities, including the Secretary for Environmental Protection. Current law defines "environmental justice" for these purposes. This bill would require the director to additionally consult with the Attorney General and the Bureau of Environmental Justice in the Environment Section of the Department of Justice.

Position: Watch With Concerns

Subject: Environmental Justice

CALAFCO Comments: Recently amended, this bill changes one of the factors considered by LAFCo in the review of an application pertaining to environmental justice. Specifically it changes the definition of "environmental justice" to: "(A) The availability of a healthy environment for all people.(B) The prevention, reduction, and elimination of pollution burdens for populations and communities experiencing the adverse effects of that pollution, so that the effects of the pollution are not disproportionately borne by those populations and communities. (C) Government entities conducting direct outreach and providing capacity-building assistance and technical assistance to populations and communities most impacted by pollution. (D) Including populations and communities most impacted by pollution as active partners in the decisions or activities that affect their environment or health, and incorporating recommendations from those populations and communities into environmental and land use decisions."

It is unclear how LAFCo is to actually consider several of these definition factors. CALAFCO continues to work with the author and sponsors on amendments.

<u>AB 1751</u> (Chiu D) Water and sewer system corporations: consolidation of service.

Current Text: Amended: 7/5/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Last Amended: 7/5/2019

Status: 7/5/2019-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Calendar: 8/12/2019 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE APPROP, PORTANTINO, Chair **Summary:**

The California Safe Drinking Water Act provides for the operation of public water systems and imposes on the State Water Resources Control Board related responsibilities and duties. Current law authorizes the state board to order consolidation of public water systems where a public water system or state small water system serving a disadvantaged community consistently fails to provide an adequate supply of safe drinking water, as provided. This bill, the Consolidation for Safe Drinking Water Act of 2019, would authorize a water or sewer system corporation to file an application and obtain approval from the commission through an order authorizing the water or sewer system corporation to consolidate with a public water system or state small water system that has fewer than 3,300 service connections and serves a disadvantaged community, or to implement rates for the subsumed water system.

Position: Watch

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill allows for water (public or state small) or sewer systems corps to file an application for consolidation with the SWRCB.

AB 1822 (Committee on Local Government) Local Government: omnibus.

Current Text: Chaptered: 6/26/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 3/11/2019

Last Amended: 4/8/2019

Status: 6/26/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 20, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

Currrent law requires a commission to develop and determine the sphere of influence of each city and each special district within the county and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within each sphere. Current law requires the commission, in order to prepare and update spheres of influence in accordance with this requirement, to conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission, as specified. Current law defines "sphere of influence" to mean a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency. Current law defines the term "service" for purposes of the act to mean a specific governmental activity established within, and as a part of, a general function of the special district, as specified. This bill would revise the definition of the term "service" for these purposes to mean a specific governmental activity established within, and as a part of, a function of the local agency.

Position: Sponsor

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This is the annual Omnibus bill.

<u>SB 272</u> (Morrell R) Fire Protection District Law of 1987.

Current Text: Amended: 4/4/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/13/2019

Last Amended: 4/4/2019

Status: 5/3/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 2/21/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

The Fire Protection District Law of 1987 provides that whenever a district board determines that it is in the public interest to provide different services, to provide different levels of service, or to raise additional revenues within specific areas of the district, it may form one or more service zones by adopting a resolution that includes specified information, fixing the date, time, and place for public hearing on the formation of the zone, publishing notice, as specified, hearing and considering any protests to the formation of the zone at the hearing, and, at the conclusion of the hearing, adopting a resolution ordering the formation of the zone. If a resolution adopted after the public hearing would substantially expand the provision of services outside of an existing service zone and the extension of service would result in those persons in the expanded area paying charges for the expansion of

services, this bill would provide that the resolution does not become effective unless approved by a majority of the voters within the expanded service area.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: As amended, the bill amends the Health & Safety code regarding the formation of zones within a fire protection district by requiring the district hold an election, regardless of the protest level, if the district wants to substantially expand (as defined in the bill) services outside the zone. This is unrelated to 56133. CALAFCO will retain a Watch position.

<u>SB 414</u> (<u>Caballero</u> D) Small System Water Authority Act of 2019.

Current Text: Amended: 6/25/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Last Amended: 6/25/2019

Status: 7/11/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 7. Noes 1.) (July 10). Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (Received at desk July 10 pursuant to JR 61(a)(10)).

Summary:

Would create the Small System Water Authority Act of 2019 and state legislative findings and declarations relating to authorizing the creation of small system water authorities that will have powers to absorb, improve, and competently operate noncompliant public water systems. The bill, no later than March 1, 2020, would require the state board to provide written notice to cure to all public agencies, private water companies, or mutual water companies that operate a public water system that has either less than 3,000 service connections or that serves less than 10,000 people, and are not in compliance, for the period from July 1, 2018, through December 31, 2019, with one or more state or federal primary drinking water standard maximum contaminant levels, as specified.

Position: Support

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill is very similar to AB 2050 (Caballero) from 2018. Several changes have been made. This bill is sponsored by Eastern Municipal Water District and the CA Municipal Utilities Assoc. The intent is to give the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) authority to mandate the dissolution of existing drinking water systems (public, mutual and private) and authorize the formation of a new public water authority. The focus is on non contiguous systems. The SWRCB already has the authority to mandate consolidation of these systems, this will add the authority to mandate dissolution and formation of a new public agency.

LAFCo will be responsible for dissolving any state mandated public agency dissolution, and the formation of the new water authority. The SWRCB's appointed Administrator will act as the applicant on behalf of the state. LAFCo will have ability to approve with modifications the application, and the new agency will have to report to the LAFCo annually for the first 3 years.

<u>SB 646</u> (Morrell R) Local agency utility services: extension of utility services.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Last Amended: 5/7/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 78, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

The Mitigation Fee Act, among other things, requires fees for water or sewer connections, or capacity charges imposed by a local agency to not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee or charge is imposed, unless a question regarding the amount of the fee or charge imposed in excess of the reasonable cost of providing the service or materials is submitted to and approved by 2/3 of the electors voting on the issue. The Mitigation Fee Act defines the term "fee" for these purposes. This bill would revise the definition of "fee" to mean a fee for the physical facilities necessary to make a water connection or sewer connection, and that the estimated reasonable cost of labor and materials for installation of those facilities bears a fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received from, the water connection or sewer connection.

Position: Neutral

Subject: CKH General Procedures

CALAFCO Comments: UPDATE AS OF THE 4/11/19 AMENDMENTS: These amendments address all of our concerns and the bill now only addresses fees.

<u>AB 213</u> (<u>Reyes</u> D) Local government finance: property tax revenue allocations: vehicle license fee adjustments.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/15/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 1/15/2019

Status: 7/8/2019-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary:

Would, for the 2019–20 fiscal year, require the vehicle license fee adjustment amount to be the sum of the vehicle license fee adjustment amount in the 2018–19 fiscal year, the product of that sum and the percentage change in gross taxable assessed valuation within the jurisdiction of that entity between the 2018–19 fiscal year to the 2018–19 fiscal year, and the product of the amount of specified motor vehicle license fee revenues that the Controller allocated to the applicable city in July 2010 and 1.17.

Position: Support

Subject: Tax Allocation

CALAFCO Comments: Sponsored by the League, this bill will reinstate ERAF funding for inhabited annexations. This bill is the same as AB 2268 (Reyes) from last year.

AB 818 (Cooley D) Local government finance: vehicle license fee adjustment amounts.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/20/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Status: 5/17/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/3/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Current property tax law, for the 2006–07 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter, requires the vehicle license fee adjustment amount to be the sum of the vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the prior fiscal year, if specified provisions did not apply, and the product of the amount as so described and the percentage change from the prior fiscal year in the gross taxable valuation within the jurisdiction of the entity. Current law establishes a separate vehicle license fee adjustment amount for a city that was incorporated after January 1, 2004, and on or before January 1, 2012. This bill would establish a separate vehicle license fee adjustment amount for a city incorporating after January 1, 2012, including an additional separate vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the first fiscal year of incorporation and for the next 4 fiscal years thereafter. **Position:** Support

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Sponsored by the League, this bill will reinstate ERAF funding for cities incorporating after 2018. This is the same bill as AB 2491 from 2018.

<u>AB 1304</u> (Waldron R) Water supply contract: Native American tribes.

Current Text: Amended: 5/6/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Last Amended: 5/6/2019

Status: 7/12/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 5/29/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Current law provides for the establishment and operations of various water districts. This bill would specifically authorize a water district, as defined, to enter into a contract with a Native American tribe to receive water deliveries from an infrastructure project on tribal lands. The bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2025. **Position:** Watch

Subject: Municipal Services, Water

CALAFCO Comments: This bill amends the water code to allow a Native American tribe to sell/deliver water to a water district (as defined in the water code section 20200). The bill sunsets on January 1, 2025.

<u>SB 379</u> (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 74, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2019, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. **Position:** Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This is one of three annual validating acts.

<u>SB 380</u> (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 75, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2019, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. **Position:** Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This is one of three annual validating acts.

<u>SB 381</u> (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 76, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2019, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. **Position:** Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: This is one of three annual validating acts.

<u>AB 134</u> (<u>Bloom</u> D) Safe Drinking Water Restoration.

Current Text: Amended: 5/20/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 12/5/2018

Last Amended: 5/20/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/12/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Would require the State Water Resources Control Board to report to the Legislature by July 1, 2025, on its progress in restoring safe drinking water to all California communities and to create an internet website that provides data transparency for all of the board's activities described in this measure. The bill would require the board to develop metrics to measure the efficacy of the fund in ensuring safe and affordable drinking water for all Californians.

Position: Watch Subject: Water

<u>AB 530</u> (<u>Aguiar-Curry</u> D) The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District.

Current Text: Chaptered: 7/10/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/13/2019

Last Amended: 4/22/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 69, Statutes of 2019. **Summary:**

The Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District Act creates the Fairfield-Suisun Sewer District and grants to the district various powers relating to the treatment and disposal of sewage. The current act provides for the election of a board of directors for the district and administrative procedures for the operation of the district. Violation of regulations adopted by the board is a misdemeanor. This bill would make various administrative changes to the act, including removing the requirement that the district appoint a clerk and changing the posting requirements for regulations.

Position: Watch

Subject: Special District Powers, Special Districts Governance

CALAFCO Comments: This bill makes administrative changes to this special act district. It also allows for an extension of service pursuant to 56133 (keeping that LAFCo process intact).

<u>AB 948</u> (Kalra D) Coyote Valley Conservation Program.

Current Text: Amended: 6/18/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/20/2019

Last Amended: 6/18/2019

Status: 7/3/2019-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

Calendar: 8/12/2019 10 a.m. - John L. Burton Hearing Room (4203) SENATE APPROP, PORTANTINO, Chair Summary:

Would authorize the Santa Clara Valley Open-Space Authority to establish and administer the Coyote Valley Conservation Program to address resource and recreational goals of the Coyote Valley, as defined. The bill would authorize the authority to collaborate with state, regional, and local partners to help achieve specified goals of the program. The bill would authorize the authority to, among other things, acquire and dispose of interests and options in real property.

Position: Support

AB 1053 (Dahle R) Fallen Leaf Lake Community Service District.

Current Text: Amended: 3/25/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/21/2019

Last Amended: 3/25/2019

Status: 7/12/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 5/22/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Would prohibit, on and after January 1, 2020, the Fallen Leaf Lake Community Services District from providing any services or facilities except fire protection, including medical response and emergency services, and parks and recreation services or facilities.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: CALAFCO will watch this bill to determine if the outcome of the State Audit on this district will have an impact on all CSDs.

<u>AB 1457</u> (Reyes D) Omnitrans Transit District.

Current Text: Amended: 5/24/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Last Amended: 5/24/2019

Status: 7/10/2019-Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was GOV. & F. on 6/25/2019)(May be acted upon Jan 2020)

Summary:

Would create the Omnitrans Transit District in the County of San Bernardino. The bill would provide that the jurisdiction of the district would initially include the Cities of Chino, Chino Hills, Colton, Fontana, Grand Terrace, Highland, Loma Linda, Montclair, Ontario, Rancho Cucamonga, Redlands, Rialto, San Bernardino, Upland, and Yucaipa, and specified portions of the unincorporated areas of the County of San Bernardino. The bill would authorize other cities in the County of San Bernardino to subsequently join the district.

Position: Neutral

CALAFCO Comments: This is a special act district formation. The bill takes what is currently a JPA and transforms it into a special district. CALAFCO has been working with the author and sponsor on amendments and the May 24 version addresses the vast majority of concerns. CALAFCO continues to work with the author and sponsor on minor technical amendments.

<u>SB 654</u> (Moorlach R) Local government: planning.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/22/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/22/2019

Status: 3/14/2019-Referred to Com. on RLS.

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 the logical formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, as specified. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these findings and declarations. **Position:** Watch

CALAFCO Comments: This is a spot bill. The author indicates he has no plans to use this for LAFCo law.

<u>SB 780</u> (Committee on Governance and Finance) Local Government Omnibus Act of 2019.

Current Text: Amended: 7/1/2019 html pdf

Introduced: 2/28/2019

Last Amended: 7/1/2019

Status: 7/11/2019-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To consent calendar. (Ayes 8. Noes 0.) (July 10). Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (Received at desk July 10 pursuant to JR 61(a)(10)).

Summary:

Current law requires the governing body of a public agency, within 70 days after the commencement of the agency's legal existence, to file with the Secretary of State, on a form prescribed by the secretary, and also with the county clerk of each county in which the public agency maintains an office, a specified statement of facts about the agency. Current law requires this information to be updated within 10 days of a change in it. Current law requires the Secretary of State and each county clerk to establish and maintain an indexed Roster of Public Agencies that contains this information. This bill would instead require the Secretary of State and each county clerk to establish and maintain an indexed Roster of Public Agencies containing the above-described information.

Position: Watch

CALAFCO Comments: This is the Senate Governance & Finance Committee's annual Omnibus bill.