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April 4, 2011 Agenda Item No. 8a (Action)

March 28, 2011

TO:

Local Agency Formation Commission

FROM:

Keene Simonds, Executive Officer

SUBJECT:

Legislative Report

The Commission will receive a report on the first year of the 2011-2012 session of the California Legislature as it relates to bills directly or indirectly effecting Local Agency Formation Commissions. Commission will also receive an update on efforts to amend California Government Code Section 56133 to provide more flexibility to LAFCOs in authorizing new or extended services outside spheres of influence.

The Executive Officer and Commissioner Inman are appointed members of the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions' (CALAFCO) Legislative Committee. The Committee meets on a regular basis to review, discuss, and offer recommendations to the CALAFCO Board of Directors relating to new legislation that have either a direct impact on LAFCO law or the laws LAFCO helps to administer. Committee actions are guided by the Board's adopted policies, which are annually reviewed and amended to reflect current year priorities.

A. Discussion and Analysis

Current Bills

The Committee is currently tracking 35 bills with direct or indirect impacts on LAFCOs as part of the first year of the 2011-2012 session. Several of the bills introduced are placeholders at this time and will be amended over the next several months to clarify their specific purpose. A complete list of the bills under review is attached. Two bills of specific interest of the Committee are discussed and analyzed below.

Senate Bill 244 (Lois Wolk): Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities

This legislation is sponsored by the California Rural Legal Assistance and would require LAFCOs to consider disadvantaged unincorporated communities as part of the municipal service review and sphere of influence update process. LAFCOs' consideration would begin in July 2012 and includes making determinative statements on the infrastructure needs of the affected communities along with the feasibility of annexing the lands to local governmental agencies as needed. The bill defines disadvantaged unincorporated communities as "fringe, island, or legacy

Joan Bennett, Alternate Commissioner

Councilmember, City of American Canyon

communities in which the median household income is 80% or less than the statewide median household income." The intent of the bill is for LAFCOs to proactively address the service needs of predominately poor minority communities by facilitating annexations to nearby cities. Concurrent changes to planning law are also proposed to require cities and counties to identify and provide specific information regarding disadvantaged unincorporated communities inside or near their jurisdictions in their housing elements beginning in January 2014.

This bill, if approved, would further direct LAFCOs to focus on environmental justice issues; a focus that began in January 2008 with the requirement that LAFCOs consider the effect of boundary changes in promoting environmental justice. It is unclear at this time whether the bill would measurably impact municipal service reviews and sphere of influence updates in Napa County given the referenced definition of disadvantaged unincorporated communities. This comment appears applicable statewide as several LAFCOs have expressed concern regarding the unknown consequences tied to the bill. Accordingly, the Committee has recommended a "watch" position with the goal of CALAFCO working with the author in further defining the scope of proposed activities. The Board will consider this recommendation at its April 29, 2011 meeting.

Assembly Bill 54 (Jose Solorio): Mutual Water Companies

This legislation as currently proposed would require mutual water companies to comply with information requests from LAFCOs. A number of amendments, however, are under consideration by the author to significantly expand the scope of the legislation. Most notably, this includes requiring mutual water companies to file boundary maps with LAFCOs and receiving LAFCO approval for all boundary changes beginning in January 2014.

The author's stated objective is to make mutual water companies more accountable to the public. Locally, there is little information presently available regarding the extent of mutual water companies operating in Napa County. With this in mind, requiring mutual water companies to file boundary maps with LAFCOs and having to respond to information requests would be extremely beneficial. The benefits of mandating LAFCO approval for boundary changes for mutual water companies is less certain given it would – arguably – result in mission creep; i.e., expanding LAFCOs' powers and duties beyond public agencies. The Committee, accordingly, has recommended a "support" position for the information and map requirements of the bill while advocating the removal of LAFCO oversight for boundary changes. The Board will consider this recommendation at its April 29, 2011 meeting.

Amending Government Code Section 56133

The Executive Officer has worked with CALAFCO since 2008 in developing interest and consensus on amending Government Code (G.C.) Section 56133 to expand LAFCOs existing authority in approving new and extended outside services beyond agencies' spheres of influence. Markedly, LAFCOs are currently allowed to approve outside services beyond the affected agencies' spheres of influence *only* to respond to existing or impending public health or safety threats based on documentation provided by the agency (emphasis added). This existing threshold has proven problematic given LAFCOs and agencies may disagree on the constitution of a public health and safety threat. Staff also believes this existing threshold is also misplaced given it does not recognize there are instances when it is logical for local agencies to provide new or extended services beyond their spheres of influence simply based on local conditions, such as proximity to existing service lines coupled with appropriate land use restrictions.

At the March 25, 2011 meeting, after three plus years of discussion and rewrites, the Committee approved a proposal from a working group chaired by the Executive Officer to establish a new division -2 – to G.C. Section 56133. This new division would authorize LAFCOs to approve new or extended services beyond agencies' spheres of influence without making a public health or safety threat finding so long as LAFCO determines at a noticed public hearing the extension was:

- (A) considered in a municipal service review;
- (B) will not result in adverse impacts on agricultural and open-space lands or growth inducement; and
- (C) a later change of organization is not expected based on local policies.

A copy of the approved proposal to amend G.C. Section 56133 – which includes other clarifying revisions – is attached. The Board will consider the recommendation at its April 29, 2011 meeting. If approved, staff will work with Senator Noreen Evans' office to hopefully secure the Senator as the author with the goal of introducing the legislation for the second year of the 2011-2012 session.

B. Commission Review

The Commission is invited to discuss any of the legislation outlined in this report or in the attached report prepared by CALAFCO. The Commission may also provide direction to staff with respect to returning with comment letters on any current or future legislation.

Attachments:

- 1) CALAFCO Legislative Policies
- 2) CALAFCO Status Report on Current Legislation
- 3) Committee Approved Revisions to G.C. Section 56133

CALAFCO 2011 Legislative Policies

Adopted by Board of Directors on 18 February 2011

1. LAFCo Purpose and Authority

- 1.1. Support legislation which enhances LAFCo authority and powers to carry out the legislative findings and authority in Government Code §56000 et. seq.
- 1.2. Support authority for each LAFCo to establish local policies to apply Government Code §56000 et. seq. based on local needs and conditions, and oppose any limitations to that authority.
- 1.3. Oppose additional LAFCo responsibilities which require expansion of current local funding sources. Oppose unrelated responsibilities which dilute LAFCo ability to meet its primary mission.
- 1.4. Support alignment of responsibilities and authority of LAFCo and regional agencies which may have overlapping responsibilities in orderly growth, preservation, and service delivery, and oppose legislation or policies which create conflicts or hamper those responsibilities.
- 1.5. Oppose grants of special status to any individual agency or proposal to circumvent the LAFCo process.
- 1.6. Support individual commissioner responsibility that allows each commissioner to independently vote his or her conscience on issues affecting his or her own jurisdiction.

2. LAFCo Organization

- 2.1. Support the independence of LAFCo from local agencies.
- 2.2. Oppose the re-composition of any or all LAFCos without respect to the existing balance of powers that has evolved within each commission or the creation of special seats on a LAFCo.



- 2.3. Support representation of special districts on all LAFCos in counties with independent districts and oppose removal of special districts from any LAFCo.
- 2.4. Support communication and collaborative decision-making among neighboring LAFCos when growth pressures and multicounty agencies extend beyond a LAFCo's boundaries.

3. Agricultural and Open Space Protection

- 3.1. Support legislation which clarifies LAFCo authority to identify, encourage and insure the preservation of agricultural and open space lands.
- 3.2. Encourage a consistent definition of agricultural and open space lands.
- 3.3. Support policies which encourage cities, counties and special districts to direct development away from prime agricultural lands.
- 3.4. Support policies and tools which protect prime agricultural and open space lands.

4. Orderly Growth

- 4.1. Support the recognition and use of spheres of influence as the management tool to provide better planning of growth and development, and to preserve agricultural, and open space lands.
- 4.2. Support adoption of LAFCo spheres of influence by other agencies involved in determining and developing long-term growth and infrastructure plans.
- 4.3. Support orderly boundaries of local agencies and the elimination of islands within the boundaries of agencies.
- 4.4. Support communication between cities, counties, and special districts

through a collaborative process that resolves service, housing, land use, and fiscal issues prior to application to LAFCo.

4.5. Support cooperation between counties and cities on decisions related to development within the city's designated sphere of influence.

5. Service Delivery and Local Agency **Effectiveness**

- 5.1. Support the use of LAFCo resources to prepare and review Regional Transportation Plans and other growth plans to ensure reliable services, orderly growth. sustainable communities, and conformity with LAFCo's legislative mandates.
- 5.2. Support LAFCo authority and tools which provide communities with local governance and efficient service deliverv options. including authority to impose conditions that assure a proposal's conformity with LAFCo's legislative mandates.
- 5.3. Support the creation or reorganization of local governments in a deliberative, open process which will fairly evaluate the proposed agency's long-term financial viability, governance structure and ability to efficiently deliver proposed services.
- 5.4. Support the availability of tools for LAFCo to insure equitable distribution of revenues to local government agencies consistent with their service delivery responsibilities.

2011 Legislative Priorities

Primary Issues

Viability of Local Governments

Support legislation that maintains or enhances LAFCo's ability to review and act to assure the efficient and sustainable delivery of local services and the financial viability of agencies providing those services to meet current and future needs. Support legislation which provides LAFCo and local communities with options for local governance and service delivery, including incorporation as a city or formation as a special district. Support efforts which provide tools to local agencies to address fiscal challenges and maintain services.

Authority of **LAFCo**

Support legislation that maintains or enhances LAFCo's authority to condition proposals to address any or all financial, growth, service delivery, and agricultural and open space preservation issues.

Open Space Protection

Agriculture and Preservation of prime agriculture and open space lands that maintain the quality of life in California. Support policies that recognize LAFCo's ability to protect and mitigate the loss of prime agricultural and open space lands, and that encourage other agencies to coordinate with local LAFCos on land preservation and orderly growth.

Water Availability

Promote adequate water supplies and infrastructure planning for current and planned growth. Support policies that assist LAFCo in obtaining accurate and reliable supply information water evaluate current and cumulative demands for service water expansions and boundary changes including impacts of expanding private and mutual water company service areas on orderly growth.

Issues of Interest

Housing

Provision of territory and services to support affordable housing and the consistency of regional land use plans with local LAFCo policies.

Transportation Effects of Regional Transportation Plans and expansion of transportation systems on future urban growth and service delivery needs, and the ability of local agencies to provide those services.

Flood Control

The ability and effectiveness of local agencies to maintain and improve levees and the public safety of uninhabited territory proposed for annexation to urban areas which is at risk for flooding. Support legislation that includes assessment of agency viability in decisions involving new funds for levee repair.

Adequate Municipal Services in Inhabited Territory

Expedited processes for inhabited annexations should be consistent with LAFCo law and be fiscally viable. Funding sources should be identified for extension of municipal services to underserved inhabited communities, including option for annexation of contiguous disadvantaged unincorporated communities.

CALAFCO Daily Legislative Report as of 3/23/2011

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AB 54 (Solorio D) Drinking water.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/6/2010 pdf html

Introduced: 12/6/2010

Status: 3/22/2011-In committee: Hearing postponed by committee. (Refers to 3/22/2011 hearing)

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Calendar:

4/6/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH,

Chair Summary:

Would allow the department to issue a letter of no prejudice, as defined, to a public water system that is a lead applicant for a project that may be funded by the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Fund and would make expenditures related to the project reimbursable in specified circumstances. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Water

CALAFCO Comments: Adds authority to LAFCo for reorganization of mutual water companies, and include in MSRs whether drinking water sources comply with safe drinking water standards.

AB 912 (Gordon D) Local government: organization.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/17/2011

Status: 3/14/2011-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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Summary:

Would authorize the commission, where the commission is considering a change of organization that consists of the dissolution of a district with zero sphere of influence, to immediately order the dissolution if the dissolution was initiated by the district board, or to, within 30 days following the approval of the application by the commission, hold at least one noticed public hearing on the proposal, and order the dissolution without an election, unless a majority protest exists, as specified.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Special District Consolidations, Special District Powers

CALAFCO Comments: Allows a commission to immediately dissolve a special district with a zero

SOI or to dissolve a districts after a public hearing and the lack of a majority protest.

SB 244 (Wolk D) Land use: general plan: disadvantaged unincorporated communities.

Current Text: Amended: 3/15/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/10/2011 Last Amended: 3/15/2011

Status: 3/15/2011-From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended.

Re-referred to Com. on Gov. & F.

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Calendar:

4/6/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary:

Would require, prior to January 1, 2014, and thereafter upon each revision of its housing element, a city or county to review and update one or more elements of its general plan, as necessary to address the presence of island, fringe, or legacy unincorporated communities, as defined, inside or near its boundaries, and would require the updated general plan to include specified information. This bill would also require the city or county planning agency, after the initial revision and update of the general plan, to review, and if necessary amend, the general plan to update the information, goals, and program of action relating to these communities therein. By adding to the duties of city and county officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Disadvantaged Communities

CALAFCO Comments: Amended to require LAFCo review of disadvantaged unincorporated communities. It adds a definition for disadvantaged unincorporated communities, requires LAFCo to review water, sewer and fore services to the communities in the next SOI update, places more emphasis on LAFCo recommendations on reorganizations for efficient and effective services, requires LAFCo to identify service deficiencies to these communities in MSRs, and specifically requires LAFCo to assess alternatives for efficient and affordable infrastructure and services, including consolidations, in MSRs. Bill requires LAFCo to look at communities "in or adjacent to the sphere of influence."

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AB 46 (John A. Pérez D) Local government: cities.

Current Text: Amended: 2/28/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 12/6/2010 Last Amended: 2/28/2011

Status: 3/1/2011-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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Summary:

Would provide that every city with a population of less than 150 people as of January 1, 2010, would be disincorporated into those cities' respective counties as of 90 days after the effective date of the bill, unless a county board of supervisors determines, by majority vote within that 90-day period, that continuing such a city within that county's boundaries would serve a public purpose because the location of the city, in a rural or isolated location, makes it impractical for the residents of the community to organize in another forum of local governance.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Disincorporation/dissolution

CALAFCO Comments: As written this bill applies only to Vernon, California. It bypasses much of the C-K-H disincorporation process, leaving LAFCo only the responsibility of assigning assets and liabilities following disincorporation.

AB 187 (Lara D) State Auditor: audits: high-risk local government agency audit program.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/25/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 1/25/2011

Status: 1/26/2011-From printer. May be heard in committee February 25.

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Summary:

Would authorize the State Auditor to establish a high-risk local government agency audit program to identify, audit, and issue reports on any local government agency, including any city, county, or special district, or any publicly created entity that the State Auditor identifies as being at high risk for the potential of waste, fraud, abuse, or mismanagement or that has major challenges associated with its economy, efficiency, or effectiveness. The bill would also authorize the State Auditor to consult with the State Controller, Attorney General, and other state agencies in identifying local government agencies that are at high risk.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies, Service Reviews/Spheres

CALAFCO Comments: Would allow the State Auditor to audit and issue reports on any local

agency it identifies at being at high risk for waste, fraud, abuse or mismanagement.

AB 555 (Norby R) Local agency formation.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/16/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/16/2011

Status: 2/17/2011-From printer. May be heard in committee March 19

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Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 governs the procedures for the formation, change of organization, and reorganization of cities and special districts. This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to the act.

Position: None at this time

Subject:

CALAFCO Comments: Placeholder bill, currently targeted to C-K-H.

AB 781 (John A. Pérez D) Agricultural preserve.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/17/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/17/2011

Status: 3/10/2011-Referred to Com. on AGRI.

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Calendar:

4/6/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 126 ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE, GALGIANI, Chair

Summary:

Would authorize a county or city having a general plan, after a public hearing, to establish an agricultural preserve.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag/Open Space Protection

CALAFCO Comments: Allows a city or county with a general plan to establish an agricultural

preserve following a public hearing.

AB 1266 (Nielsen R) Local government: Williamson Act: agricultural preserves: advisory board.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/21/2011-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and AGRI.

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Summary:

Would specify matters on which the advisory board may advise the legislative body of a county or city. This bill would also state that the advisory board is not the exclusive mechanism through which the legislative body can receive advice on or address matters regarding agricultural preserves.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: Specifies additional responsibilities for the county or city Williamson Act advisory board. May also be a placeholder for more significant modifications to the Williamson Act.

ACA 17 (Logue R) State-mandated local programs.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/15/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/15/2011

Status: 2/16/2011-From printer. May be heard in committee March 18.

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Summary:

br> ACA 17, as introduced, Logue.

Position: None at this time **Subject:** LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: Changes state mandate law in a proposed constitutional amendment. Included is specific language that releases mandate responsibility if the local agency can change an individual or applicant for the cost of providing the mandated service. Would likely exempt some mandates to LAFCo from state funding.

SB 46 (Correa D) Local government: compensation disclosure.

Current Text: Amended: 3/7/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 12/9/2010 Last Amended: 3/7/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Set for hearing April 6.

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Calendar:

4/6/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary:

Would until January 1, 2019, require each public official, defined to mean a public official required to file a statement of economic interest pursuant to the Political Reform Act of 1974, to annually file a compensation disclosure form that provides compensation information for the preceding calendar year, as specified. The bill would specify that compensation disclosure forms are open to public inspection, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time **Subject:** LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: Similar to a 2010 bill, this would require all those who file a Form 700 to

also file a compensation disclosure report.

SB 160 (Huff R) Local government: reorganization.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/2/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/2/2011

Status: 2/10/2011-Referred to Com. on RLS.

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Summary:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified. This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to that act.

Position: None at this time

Subject:

CALAFCO Comments: Appears to be a placeholder bill. Typically the senior republican on the Senate Finance & Committee introduces this bill as a placeholder. Usually used for some other purpose than LAFCo.

SB 191 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/8/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/8/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.

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Calendar:

3/23/2011 #44 SENATE CONSENT CALENDAR-SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY

Summary:

This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2011, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

CALAFCO Support Letter

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local

agencies.

SB 192 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/8/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/8/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.

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Calendar:

3/23/2011 #45 SENATE CONSENT CALENDAR-SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY

Summary:

This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2011, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. This bill contains other related provisions.

Attachments:

CALAFCO Support Letter

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local

agencies.

SB 193 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/8/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/8/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.

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Calendar:

3/23/2011 #46 SENATE CONSENT CALENDAR-SECOND LEGISLATIVE DAY

Summary:

This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2011, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Attachments:

CALAFCO Support Letter

Position: Support

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: One of three annual acts which validate the boundaries of all local

agencies.

SB 194 (Committee on Governance and Finance) Local government: omnibus bill.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/8/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/8/2011

Status: 2/19/2011-Set for hearing April 27.

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Calendar:

4/27/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary:

Would increase the maximum amount from \$1,000 to \$5,000. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject:

CALAFCO Comments: This is the Senate local government Omnibus Bill. At this point CALAFCO does not have any items in the bill nor has any objections to any of the items currently in the bill.

SB 618 (Wolk D) Local government: Williamson Act: compatible uses.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/9/2011-Set for hearing April 27.

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Calendar:

4/27/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary

Would additionally provide that the erection, construction, alteration, operation, or maintenance of renewable energy, and the operation of gas, electric, water, communication, or agricultural laborer housing are considered compatible uses within any agricultural preserve.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: Allows renewable energy generation (wind, solar farms) as an acceptable

use for Williamson Act lands.

SB 648 (Berryhill R) Local government: Williamson Act.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/3/2011-Referred to Coms. on Gov. & F. and APPR.

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Summary:

Would provide an alternative method of cancellation of a contract by a landowner for contracts that are 10 or more years old, and where the landowner has not received a lowered assessment value on the land during the previous 10 consecutive years based on the existence of a residence, including agricultural laborer housing, on the land being valued. The bill would require the board or council, upon petition by the landowner and a showing that these conditions exist, and would prohibit the board or council from charging a cancellation fee.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: Provides an alternative method for immediate cancellation of a Williamson

Act contract under certain circumstances.

SB 668 (Evans D) Local government: Williamson Act.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/3/2011-Referred to Com. on RLS.

| | Desk Policy | Fiscal Flo | or Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Summary:

Would express the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would authorize local governments to accept donations from private entities to offset any reduced amount the local government receives in subvention payments for Williamson Act contracts.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: Would allow cities and counties to accept private donations to offset loss

of Williamson Act subventions.

3

AB 83 (Jeffries R) Environment: CEQA exemption: recycled water pipeline.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/5/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 1/5/2011

Status: 3/21/2011-In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

| | Desk Policy Fiscal Floo | r Desk Policy Fiscal Floor | Conf. Enrolled | Vetoed Chaptered |
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Calendar:

4/4/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY NATURAL RESOURCES, CHESBRO, Chair

Summary:

Would additionally exempt a project for the installation of a new pipeline, not exceeding a specified length, for the distribution of recycled water within an improved public street, highway, or right-of-way. Because a lead agency, which may include a local agency, is required to determine whether a project qualifies for those exemptions, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: CEQA

CALAFCO Comments: Exempts recycled water pipelines from CEQA in certain circumstances.

AB 148 (Smyth R) Local government: ethics training: disclosure.

Current Text: Amended: 3/16/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 1/14/2011 Last Amended: 3/16/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

| 2Year | Desk Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered | |
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Calendar:

4/27/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH,

Chair **Summary:**

Would additionally define the term ethics laws to include compensation setting guidelines as established by specified organizations or the local agency. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Disclosure Requirements, LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: Would add compensation setting guidelines to the ethics training

requirements for officials.

AB 162 (Smyth R) Local government: financial reports.

Current Text: Introduced: 1/19/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 1/19/2011

Status: 2/18/2011-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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4/27/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH, Chair

Summary:

Would additionally require that, if an audit of a local agency reveals certain financial irregularities, the findings be sent separately to the Controller immediately after the audit has been concluded. By increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Requires disclosure to the State Controller of a variety of irregularities

discovered in a local agency annual audit. May have some application for MSR updates.

AB 253 (Smyth R) Local agencies: accounting.

Current Text: Amended: 3/15/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/3/2011 Last Amended: 3/15/2011

Status: 3/16/2011-Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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Calendar:

4/27/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH, Chair

Summary:

Would instead require the Controller to prescribe uniform accounting procedures that are applicable only to specified types of special districts, subject to these provisions. The bill would require the Controller to prescribe uniform accounting procedures for cities, subject to specified criteria, in collaboration with the Committee on City Accounting Procedures, which would be created by the bill.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Establishes uniform accounting practices for special districts and cities.

(Nestande R) Joint powers agreements: public agency: federally recognized Indian tribe. AB 307

Current Text: Introduced: 2/9/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/9/2011

Status: 2/24/2011-Referred to Com. on L. GOV

| 2Year | Desk Policy | Fiscal Floo | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered | |
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Calendar:

4/6/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH,

Chair Summary:

Would include a federally recognized Indian tribe as a public agency that may enter into a joint powers agreement. This bill would also make conforming changes by repealing now redundant code sections. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position: None at this time Subject: Municipal Services

CALAFCO Comments: Would allow any federally recognized Indian tribe to act as a public agency

to participate in any Joint Powers Authority. Significantly expands current law on Indian tribe

participation in a JPA.

(Alejo D) Ralph M. Brown Act: posting agendas. AB 392

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/14/2011

Status: 3/3/2011-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and G.O.

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Calendar:

4/6/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH,

Chair

Summary:

Would additionally require the legislative body of the local agency, at least 72 hours before a regular meeting of that body, to post the writings that relate to an agenda item for the open session of that regular meeting. This bill would require the legislative body to post the agenda and the writings on its Internet Web site, if any, as specified. The bill would repeal the procedure for the disclosure of any writings that are distributed less than 72 hours prior to the meeting and would instead prohibit the legislative body from acting on or discussing an item on the agenda for which a related writing was not properly disclosed at least 72 hours prior to the meeting, except as provided. By expanding the duties of local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time **Subject:** LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: Adds additional posting requirements to Brown Act.

AB 582 (Pan D) Open meetings: local agencies.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/16/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/16/2011

Status: 3/7/2011-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

| | Desk Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Calendar:

4/27/2011 1:30 p.m. - State Capitol, Room 447 ASSEMBLY LOCAL GOVERNMENT, SMYTH,

Chair Summary:

Would require that proposed compensation increases for unrepresented employees be publicly noticed, as prescribed. By adding to the duties of local officials, this bill would impose a statemandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Disclosure Requirements

CALAFCO Comments: Requires public disclosure of compensation increases for unrepresented

employees.

AB 1198 (Norby R) Land use: housing element: regional housing need assessment.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf htm

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/21/2011-Referred to Coms. on H. & C.D. and L. GOV.

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Calendar:

4/27/2011 Anticipated Hearing ASSEMBLY H. & C.D., Not in daily file.

Summary:

Would repeal the requirement that the department determine the existing and projected need for housing for each region, as specified, and other specified provisions relating to the assessment or allocation of regional housing need.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Housing

CALAFCO Comments: Would repeal the entire RHNA process and Housing and Community

Development authority over housing.

AB 1265 (Nielsen R) Local government: Williamson Act.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/21/2011-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and AGRI.

| | Desk Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Summary:

Would specify that payments under the contracts that are authorized until January 1, 2015, may be collected after January 1, 2015.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag Preservation - Williamson

CALAFCO Comments: Defers payments until 2015.

AB 1287 (Buchanan D) Local government: audits.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/18/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/18/2011

Status: 3/21/2011-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

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Summary:

Would require local agencies, defined to include cities, counties, a city and county, special districts, authorities, or public agencies, to comply with General Accounting Office standards for financial and compliance audits and would prohibit an independent auditor from engaging in financial compliance audits unless, within 3 years of commencing the first of the audits, and every 3 years thereafter, the auditor completes a quality control review in accordance with General Accounting Office standards.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Would require regular audits of all local agencies.

SB 27 (Simitian D) Public retirement: final compensation: computation: retirees.

Current Text: Amended: 3/3/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 12/6/2010 Last Amended: 3/3/2011

Status: 3/22/2011-From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 0.)

(March 21). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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Summary:

Would revise the definition of creditable compensation for these purposes and would identify certain payments, reimbursements, and compensation that are creditable compensation to be applied to the Defined Benefit Supplement Program. The bill would prohibit one employee from being considered a class. The bill would revise the definition of compensation with respect to the Defined Benefit Supplemental Program to include remuneration earnable within a 5-year period, which includes the last year in which the member's final compensation is determined, when it is in excess of 125% of that member's compensation earnable in the year prior to that 5-year period, as specified. The bill would prohibit a member who retires on or after January 1, 2013, who elects to receive his or her retirement benefit under the Defined Benefit Supplemental Program as a lump-sum payment from receiving that sum until 180 days have elapsed following the effective date of the member's retirement. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time **Subject:** LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments:

SB 31 (Correa D) Local government: lobbyist registration.

Current Text: Introduced: 12/6/2010 pdf html

Introduced: 12/6/2010

Status: 1/20/2011-Referred to Com. on RLS.

| 2Year | Desk Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Summary:

Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that will require each local government to create a lobbyist registration program as a condition of the local government being eligible to apply for any discretionary grant from any state agency or department.

Position: Watch

Subject: LAFCo Administration

CALAFCO Comments: Likely not to affect LAFCos as they rarely apply for state grants, but

watching anyway.

SB 186 (Kehoe D) The Controller.

Current Text: Amended: 3/22/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/7/2011 Last Amended: 3/22/2011

Status: 3/22/2011-Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

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Summary:

Would authorize the Controller to exercise discretionary authority to perform an audit or investigation

of any county, city, special district, joint powers authority, or redevelopment agency, if the Controller possesses documentation that results in reason to believe that the local agency is not complying with the financial requirements in state law, grant agreements, local charters, or local ordinances. This bill would require the Controller to prepare a report of the results of the audit or investigation and to file a copy with the local legislative body.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Allows Controller to audit local agencies and determine fiscal viability.

SB 235 (Negrete McLeod D) Water conservation districts: reduction in number of directors.

Current Text: Amended: 3/14/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/9/2011 Last Amended: 3/14/2011

Status: 3/17/2011-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

| 2Year | Desk Policy Fiscal Floor | Desk Policy Fiscal F | Floor Conf. Enrolled Vetoed Chaptered | Π |
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Calendar:

3/23/2011 #16 SENATE SENATE BILLS-THIRD READING FILE

Summary:

Would authorize a water conservation district, except districts within the County of Ventura, whose board of directors consists of 7 directors, to reduce the number of directors to 5, consistent with specified requirements.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: Allows specified water districts to reorganize their board of directors to

reduce the number of directors, by action of the Board.

SB 288 (Negrete McLeod D) Local government: independent special districts.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/14/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/14/2011

Status: 3/1/2011-Set for hearing April 6.

| 2Year | Desk Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Calendar:

4/6/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary:

Would additionally authorize the governing board of an independent special district, as defined, to provide, by resolution, for the establishment of a revolving fund in an amount not to exceed 110% of 1/12 of the independent special district's adopted budget for that fiscal year, and would require the resolution establishing the fund to make specified designations relating to the purposes for which the fund may be expended, the district officer with authority and responsibility over the fund, the necessity for the fund, and the maximum amount of the fund. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Special District Powers, Special District Principle Acts

CALAFCO Comments: Allows special districts as defined by C-K-H to set up special revolving

funds.

SB 436 (Kehoe D) Land use: mitigation lands: nonprofit organizations.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/16/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/16/2011

Status: 2/24/2011-Referred to Com. on RLS.

| 2Year | Desk Policy | Fiscal Floo | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Summary:

Would state the findings and declarations of the Legislature with respect to the preservation of natural resources through such mitigation, and would state that it is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to allow state and local public agencies and nonprofit organizations to utilize the tools and strategies they need for improving the effectiveness, cost-efficiency, and durability of mitigation for California's natural resources.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Ag/Open Space Protection

CALAFCO Comments: Placeholder bill that indicates it relates to additional tools for the

preservation and mitigation of ag and open space lands.

SB 449 (Pavley D) Controller: local agency financial review.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/16/2011 pdf html

Introduced: 2/16/2011

Status: 3/1/2011-Set for hearing April 6.

| | Desk Policy | Fiscal Floor | Desk | Policy | Fiscal | Floor | Conf. | Enrolled | Vetoed | Chaptered |
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Calendar:

4/6/2011 9:30 a.m. - Room 112 SENATE GOVERNANCE AND FINANCE, WOLK, Chair

Summary:

Would additionally authorize the Controller to conduct a preliminary review to determine the existence of a local agency financial problem, and perform an audit upon completion of that review, subject to specified criteria. This bill contains other related provisions.

Position: None at this time

Subject: Financial Viability of Agencies

CALAFCO Comments: Allows state controller to audit local agencies.

Total Measures: 35 Total Tracking Forms: 35

Proposed Amendments to G.C. Section 56133 (Updated on March 25, 2011)

- (a) A city or district may provide new or extended services by contract or agreement outside its jurisdictional boundaries boundary only if it first requests and receives written approval from the commission in the affected county. The commission may delegate approval of requests made pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c)(1) below to the Executive Officer.
- (b) The commission may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundaries boundary but within its sphere of influence in anticipation of a later change of organization.
- (c) If consistent with adopted policy, tThe commission may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundaries boundary and outside its sphere of influence under any of the following circumstances:
- (1) to To respond to an existing or impending threat to the public health or safety of the residents of the affected territory if both of the following requirements are met:
- (4.1) The entity applying for the contract approval has provided the commission with documentation of a threat to the health and safety of the public or the affected residents.
- (2B) The commission has notified any alternate service provider, including any water corporation as defined in Section 241 of the Public Utilities Code, or sewer system corporation as defined in Section 230.6 of the Public Utilities Code, that has filed a map and a statement of its service capabilities with the commission.
- (2) To support existing or planned uses involving public or private properties subject to approval at a noticed public hearing that includes all of the following determinations:
- (A) The extension of service or service deficiency was identified and evaluated in a municipal service review prepared by the commission pursuant to section 56430.
- (B) The effect of the extension of service would not result in adverse impacts on open space or agricultural lands or result in adverse growth inducing impacts.
- (C) A later change of organization involving the subject property and the affected agency is not feasible or desirable based on the adopted policies of the commission.
- (d) The executive officer, within 30 days of receipt of a request for approval by a city or district of a contract to extend services outside its jurisdictional boundary, shall determine whether the request is complete and acceptable for filing or whether the request is incomplete. If a request is determined not to be complete, the executive officer shall immediately transmit that determination to the requester, specifying those parts of the request that are incomplete and the manner in which they can be made complete. When the request is deemed complete, the executive officer shall place the request on the agenda of the next commission meeting for which adequate notice can be given but not more than 90 days from the date that the request is deemed complete, unless the commission has delegated approval of those-requests made under this section to the executive officer. The commission or executive officer shall approve, disapprove, or approve with conditions the contract for extended services. If the contract is disapproved or approved with conditions, the applicant may request reconsideration, citing the reasons for reconsideration.
- (e) This section does not apply to contracts or agreements solely involving two or more public agencies where the commission determines the public service to be provided is an alternative to, or substitute for, public services already being provided by an existing public service provider and where the level of service to be provided is consistent with the level of service contemplated by the existing service provider.
- This section does not apply to contracts for the transfer of nonpotable or nontreated water.
- (g) This section does not apply to contracts or agreements solely involving the provision of surplus water to agricultural lands and facilities, including, but not limited to, incidental residential structures, for projects that serve conservation purposes or that directly support agricultural industries. However, prior to extending surplus water service to any project that will support or induce development, the city or district shall first request and receive written approval from the commission in the affected county.
- (h) This section does not apply to an extended service that a city or district was providing on or before January 1, 2001.
- (i) This section does not apply to a local publicly owned electric utility, as defined by Section 9604 of the Public Utilities Code, providing electric services that do not involve the acquisition, construction, or installation of electric distribution facilities by the local publicly owned electric utility, outside of the utility's jurisdictional boundaries.
- (j) The application of this section rests solely within the jurisdiction of the commission in the county in which the extension of service is proposed.