

April 13, 2022

8c | Commission
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Executive Officer**Scott Smith**
General Counsel**TO:** Local Agency Formation Commission
of Orange County**FROM:** Executive Officer
Policy Analyst**SUBJECT:** Legislative Quarterly Report (Third Quarter)**BACKGROUND**

As anticipated, since the second quarter legislative report in January, the Legislature has seen the introduction of over 2,000 bills. Many of those are expected to be amended to define their purpose and focus, while other bills continue to move through the legislative committees. The Legislature has adjourned to Spring Recess and will reconvene in session on April 18 with lots to get done in the coming months.

Through the participation as a member of the California Association of LAFCOs (CALAFCO) Legislative Committee, staff has identified several bills of LAFCO-interest. This report provides a review of newly proposed legislation with staff recommended positions and an update on Senate Bill 938. Additionally, staff is actively monitoring other areas of proposed legislation that include public meeting teleconference proceedings, establishing regional climate networks, and potential reinstatement of state funding for the annexation of inhabited unincorporated areas. Staff will provide updates on the progression of these bills in future legislative reports.

BILLS OF LAFCO INTEREST**ASSEMBLY BILLS****AB 2081 (Garcia) Municipal Water Districts: Water Service: Indian Lands**

Existing law delineates that some Indian tribes that are contiguous and outside of a special district's service boundary can request water services, and the special district is mandated to provide the services. The law requires the special district to apply to the respective LAFCO and that LAFCO must approve the request for the special district to provide the water services. Currently, the law has a sunset date of January 1, 2023. The intent of AB 2081, as referenced in **Attachment 1**, is to extend the sunset date from January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2025.

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act) delineates that LAFCOs have the authority to oversee the extension of service outside the jurisdiction of a public agency service provider. Therefore, when a service provider normally seeks an extension of service for an area outside its boundary, the CKH Act requires a complete analysis to ensure the efficiency of the extension of service. Additionally, the CKH Act requires that an extension of service outside an agency's service boundary must provide for the anticipation of a change of organization or reorganization (i.e., annexation). Current law and the language provided in AB 2081 circumvent the LAFCO process. Staff recommends that the Commission adopt an **Oppose** position to the proposed bill. The recommended position aligns with the Commission's legislative policy to oppose legislation that circumvents and diminishes LAFCO's proceedings and authority. On March 11, 2022, CALAFCO adopted an **Oppose** position and has notified the bill authors of the Association's position.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt **OPPOSE** position on AB 2081.

Support: Barona Band of Mission Indians (Sponsor), Rincon Band of Luiseno (Sponsor), Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, Sycuan Band of Kumeyaay Nation, Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians.

Oppose: CALAFCO.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Assembly Appropriations Committee. No hearing date scheduled.

AB 2957 (Assembly Local Government Committee): Reorganization

The Omnibus Bill is the annual vehicle used by CALAFCO to introduce technical and non-substantive amendments to the CKH Act that address minor inconsistencies and provide clarification to remove any ambiguity in the law. At the January 12, 2022, meeting, the Commission received a summary of the proposed amendments for the Omnibus Bill. Those amendments focus on changes to the CKH Act that clarify, amend, and provide consistency to the language involving clear definition and meaning of the terms "successor agency," "application and proposal," and the procedures involving the recordation of the certificate of completion for a change of organization and reorganization. Since that time, additional non-substantive amendments to the Omnibus Bill were submitted by CALAFCO to the Assembly Local Government Committee for review. The latest bill language is referenced in **Attachment 2** and the additional amendments submitted by CALAFCO include the following:

- **Public Utility Code:** Currently, Government Code Section 56133 (e)(5) references an outdated code section from the Public Utility Code. The modification proposes to correct this error.
- **Revenue and Taxation Code Section 99:** The Revenue and Taxation Code Section 99 provides for the tax exchange process for annexations involving a city and County where there is no master property tax agreement. This section of State law currently has a

sunset date of January 1, 2021. The proposed amendment would extend the provisions of this code section to January 1, 2028.

As a co-sponsor of the Omnibus Bill, CALAFCO adopted a **Support** position and has requested support letters from LAFCOs be sent to the Assembly Local Government Committee. Staff is recommending the Commission adopt a **Support** position on AB 2957. The recommended position aligns with the Commission's legislative policy to support legislation that further provides clarity and consistency to the CKH Act to further LAFCO's authority.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt **SUPPORT** position on AB 2957.

Support: CALAFCO.

Oppose: None on record.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Assembly Local Government Committee. No hearing date scheduled.

SENATE BILLS

SB 1490, SB 1491, SB 1492 (Senate Governance and Finance Committee) - Validating Acts of 2022

Annually, the Legislature adopts the Validating Acts to cure public officials' minor procedural errors or omissions. Authored by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee, the annual bills affect the state government, cities, counties, special districts, and LAFCOs. However, the Acts do not protect against fraud, corruption, or unconstitutional actions. As the Acts would apply to Commission actions, staff recommends the Commission adopt a **Support** position on SB 1490, SB 1491, and SB 1492. The bills are referenced in **Attachment 3** to this report.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt **SUPPORT** position on SB 1490, SB 1491, and SB 1492.

Support: CALAFCO, California Special Districts Association, California State Association of Counties.

Oppose: None on record.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Senate Governance and Finance Committee. No hearing date scheduled.

SB 938 (Hertzberg): The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: protest proceedings: procedural consolidation.

At the March 9, 2022, meeting, the Commission received a report on SB 938, which included proposed amendments to the protest proceedings in the CKH Act and adopted a **Support** position on the bill. At that time, the bill in print only included language of the proposed amendments

involving the consolidation and reorganization of the protest provisions to provide clarity and concise information without any substantive changes. Additionally, staff indicated that at a later time the bill would be amended to address the protest threshold for LAFCO-initiated dissolutions of special districts. On March 24, SB 938 was amended to propose changing the protest threshold from 10 percent to 25 percent for LAFCO-initiated dissolutions of special districts with the following conditions:

- Determination for the dissolution must be included in a Municipal Service Review and presented at a 21-day noticed public hearing.
- The subject special district must be granted a minimum of a 12-month remediation period and an opportunity to provide a progress report before the local LAFCO takes any action.
- A second 21-day public hearing must be held to determine if the identified issues are mitigated, resulting in the LAFCO either terminating the dissolution or moving forward under the current standard protest hearing process outlined in the CKH Act with a public notice hearing of 60 days.

Staff is recommending the Commission maintain its **Support** position on SB 938. The previously approved position aligns with the Commission's legislative policy to support legislation that is consistent with LAFCO's authority and provides good governance. The latest language of the bill is referenced in **Attachment 4**, and if the Commission maintains its support position, no additional action by the Commission is required.

OC LAFCO ADOPTED POSITION: Adopted **SUPPORT** position on March 9, 2021.

Support: CALAFCO (Sponsor), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), Alameda LAFCO, Butte LAFCO, Calaveras LAFCO, Colusa LAFCO, Contra Costa LAFCO, El Dorado LAFCO, Humboldt LAFCO, Imperial LAFCO, Lake LAFCO, Los Angeles LAFCO, Marin LAFCO, Mendocino LAFCO, Merced LAFCO, Mono LAFCO, Monterey LAFCO, Orange LAFCO, Placer LAFCO, Riverside LAFCO, Sacramento LAFCO, San Bernardino LAFCO, San Luis Obispo LAFCO, San Mateo LAFCO, Santa Barbara LAFCO, Sonoma LAFCO, Stanislaus LAFCO, Sutter LAFCO, Ventura LAFCO, Yolo LAFCO, Yuba LAFCO.

Oppose: Two individuals.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Senate Governance and Finance Committee. No hearing date scheduled.

SUMMARY

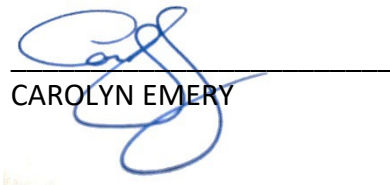
Staff will continue to monitor the bills outlined within this legislative report and other proposed legislation that is of LAFCO interest. If immediate action by the Commission is required prior to the next update scheduled for July 13, staff will provide an interim report to the Commission or coordinate the appropriate response with the OC LAFCO Chair.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS:

Staff recommends that the Commission:

1. Adopt positions on the following bills:
 - AB 2081 (**OPPOSE**)
 - AB 2957 (**SUPPORT**)
 - SB 1490, 1491, 1492 (**SUPPORT**)
2. Direct staff to send position letters to the respective bill authors.

Respectfully Submitted,



CAROLYN EMERY



LUIS TAPIA

Attachments:

1. Assembly Bill 2081 (Garcia)
2. Assembly Bill 2957 (Assembly Local Government Committee)
3. Senate Bill 1490, 1491, and 1492 (Senate Governance and Finance Committee)
4. Senate Bill 938 (Hertzberg)

Exhibits:

- A. Letter of Opposition - AB 2081
- B. Letter of Support - AB 2957
- C. Letter of Support - SB 1490, 1491, 1492

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Date Published: 02/14/2022 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL**NO. 2081**

Introduced by Assembly Members Eduardo Garcia and Waldron
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Boerner Horvath, Maienschein, Voepel, and Ward)

February 14, 2022

An act to amend Section 71611.5 of the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2081, as introduced, Eduardo Garcia. Municipal water districts: water service: Indian lands.

Existing law, the Municipal Water District Law of 1911, provides for the formation of municipal water districts and grants to those districts specified powers. Existing law permits a district to acquire, control, distribute, store, spread, sink, treat, purify, recycle, recapture, and salvage any water for the beneficial use of the district, its inhabitants, or the owners of rights to water in the district. Existing law, upon the request of certain Indian tribes and the satisfaction of certain conditions, requires a district to provide service of water at substantially the same terms applicable to the customers of the district to the Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district, as prescribed. Existing law also authorizes a district, until January 1, 2023, under specified circumstances, to apply to the applicable local agency formation commission to provide this service of water to Indian lands, as defined, that are not within the district and requires the local agency formation commission to approve such an application.

This bill would extend the above provisions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commission to January 1, 2025. By imposing new duties on local officials, the bill would create a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 71611.5 of the Water Code is amended to read:

71611.5. (a) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), upon the request of an Indian tribe and the satisfaction of the conditions stated in subdivision (b), a district shall provide service of water at substantially the same terms applicable to the customers of the district to an Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district as if the lands had been fully annexed into the district and into any other public agencies required for the provision of water service if the Indian tribe's lands meet all of the following requirements:

(A) The lands were owned by the tribe on January 1, 2016.

(B) The lands are contiguous with at least two districts.

(C) The lands lie within the special study area of at least one district.

(D) At least 70 percent of the Indian tribe's total Indian lands are currently within the boundaries of one or more districts.

(2) (A) Upon the request of an Indian tribe that does not meet the requirements of paragraph (1) and upon the satisfaction of the conditions stated in subdivision (b), a district may, until January 1, ~~2023~~, 2025, apply to the applicable local agency formation commission to extend water service at substantially the same terms applicable to customers of the district to Indian lands that are not within a district as if the lands had been fully annexed into the district and into any other public agencies required for the provision of water service. The local agency formation commission shall approve the application and may impose conditions on the district with regard to the extension of service in accordance with Section 56886 of the Government Code, as long as those terms and conditions do not impair the provision of water service to Indian lands pursuant to this section and are similar to those imposed on all agency service recipients without discrimination. A district shall provide the water extension agreement to the local agency formation commission.

(B) A local agency formation commission shall not approve an application on or after January 1, ~~2023~~, 2025. A district that received authorization to extend water service to Indian lands pursuant to subparagraph (A) may continue to do so after January 1, ~~2023~~, 2025, provided that the district continues to comply with the conditions imposed by the local agency formation commission.

(C) For purposes of this subdivision, "Indian lands" means Indian lands, as defined in Section 2703 of Title 25 of the United States Code, that were part of a reservation or held in trust as of January 1, ~~2017~~, 2022.

(b) Before a district provides service of water pursuant to this section, the Indian tribe shall satisfy all of the following conditions:

(1) The Indian tribe complies with all federal and tribal laws.

(2) The Indian tribe acquires all federal and tribal approvals necessary for the applicable district to provide water service to the tribal lands on substantially the same terms applicable to customers of the district.

(3) The Indian tribe accepts, by agreement, all terms of, and ~~payments to (including service payments);~~ *payments, including service payments, to*, the district and any public agency providing water to said district, as if the Indian tribe's lands were fully annexed into the district and into the service area of any other public agency, which terms and payments are also a condition of continued service by a district and by any public agency providing water to said district.

(c) If a district provides service of water to an Indian tribe's lands pursuant to this section, the service areas of the district and of any public agencies providing water to the district are deemed for all purposes to include the Indian tribe's lands for the longest of the following periods of time:

(1) The time service of water is provided by the district to the Indian tribe.

(2) The time moneys are owed by the Indian tribe to the district for the service of water.

(3) The term of any agreement between the district and the Indian tribe.

SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because a local agency or school district has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or

assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code.

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Date Published: 03/02/2022 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL**NO. 2957****Introduced by Committee on Local Government****March 02, 2022**

An act to amend Sections 56102, 56653, 56654, and 56658 of, and to add Section 56078.5 to, the Government Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2957, as introduced, Committee on Local Government. Local government: reorganization.

Existing law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization, reorganization, and sphere of influence changes for cities and districts, as specified. Existing law requires that an applicant seeking a change of organization or reorganization to submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory.

Existing law requires a petitioner or legislative body desiring to initiate proceedings to submit an application to the executive officer of the local agency formation commission, and requires the local agency formation commission, with regard to an application that includes an incorporation, to immediately notify all affected local agencies and any applicable state agency, as specified.

This bill would define the term "successor agency," for these purposes to mean the local agency a commission designates to wind up the affairs of a dissolved district. This bill would also make clarifying changes to the above provisions.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**SECTION 1.** Section 56078.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

56078.5. "Successor Agency" means the local agency the commission designates to wind up the affairs of a dissolved district.

SEC. 2. Section 56102 of the Government Code is amended to read:

56102. For the purpose of any action to determine or contest the validity of any change of organization or reorganization, the change of organization or reorganization shall be deemed to ~~be completed and in existence~~ *take effect* upon the date of execution of the certificate of completion.

SEC. 3. Section 56653 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 43 of the Statutes of 2017, is amended to read:

56653. (a) If ~~a proposal~~ *an application* for a change of organization or reorganization is submitted pursuant to this part, the applicant shall submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory.

(b) The plan for providing services shall include all of the following information and any additional information required by the commission or the executive officer:

(1) An enumeration and description of the services currently provided or to be extended to the affected territory.

(2) The level and range of those services.

(3) An indication of when those services can feasibly be extended to the affected territory, if new services are proposed.

(4) An indication of any improvement or upgrading of structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other conditions the local agency would impose or require within the affected territory if the change of organization or reorganization is completed.

(5) Information with respect to how those services will be financed.

(c) (1) In the case of a change of organization or reorganization initiated by a local agency that includes a disadvantaged, unincorporated community as defined in Section 56033.5, a local agency may include in its resolution of application for change of organization or reorganization an annexation development plan adopted pursuant to Section 99.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other infrastructure to serve the disadvantaged, unincorporated community through the formation of a special district or reorganization of one or more existing special districts with the consent of each special district's governing body.

(2) The annexation development plan submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall include information that demonstrates that the formation or reorganization of the special district will provide all of the following:

(A) The necessary financial resources to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer, or water facilities or other infrastructure. The annexation development plan shall also clarify the local entity that shall be responsible for the delivery and maintenance of the services identified in the application.

(B) An estimated timeframe for constructing and delivering the services identified in the application.

(C) The governance, oversight, and long-term maintenance of the services identified in the application after the initial costs are recouped and the tax increment financing terminates.

(3) If a local agency includes an annexation development plan pursuant to this subdivision, a local agency formation commission may approve the proposal for a change of organization or reorganization to include the formation of a special district or reorganization of a special district with the special district's consent, including, but not limited to, a community services district, municipal water district, or sanitary district, to provide financing to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other infrastructure to serve the disadvantaged, unincorporated community, in conformity with the requirements of the principal act of the district proposed to be formed and all required formation proceedings.

(4) Pursuant to Section 56881, the commission shall include in its resolution making determinations a description of the annexation development plan, including, but not limited to, an explanation of the proposed financing mechanism adopted pursuant to Section 99.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, including, but not limited to, any planned debt issuance associated with that annexation development plan.

(d) This section shall not preclude a local agency formation commission from considering any other options or exercising its powers under Section 56375.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 4. Section 56653 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 43 of the Statutes of 2017, is amended to read:

56653. (a) If ~~a proposal~~ *an application* for a change of organization or reorganization is submitted pursuant to this part, the applicant shall submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory.

(b) The plan for providing services shall include all of the following information and any additional information required by the commission or the executive officer:

(1) An enumeration and description of the services currently provided or to be extended to the affected territory.

(2) The level and range of those services.

(3) An indication of when those services can feasibly be extended to the affected territory, if new services are proposed.

(4) An indication of any improvement or upgrading of structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other conditions the local agency would impose or require within the affected territory if the change of organization or reorganization is completed.

(5) Information with respect to how those services will be financed.

(c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2025.

SEC. 5. Section 56654 of the Government Code is amended to read:

56654. (a) ~~A proposal~~ *An application* for a change of organization or a reorganization may be made by the adoption of a resolution of application by the legislative body of an affected local agency, except as provided in subdivision (b).

(b) Notwithstanding Section 56700, ~~a proposal~~ *an application* for a change of organization that involves the exercise of new or different functions or classes of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, shall only be initiated by the legislative body of that special district in accordance with Sections 56824.10, 56824.12, and 56824.14.

(c) At least 21 days before the adoption of the resolution, the legislative body may give mailed notice of its intention to adopt a resolution of application to the commission and to each interested agency and each subject agency. The notice shall generally describe the ~~proposal~~ *application* and the affected territory.

(d) Except for the provisions regarding signers and signatures, a resolution of application shall contain all of the matters specified for a petition in Section 56700 and shall be submitted with a plan for services prepared pursuant to Section 56653.

SEC. 6. Section 56658 of the Government Code is amended to read:

56658. (a) Any petitioner or legislative body desiring to initiate proceedings shall submit an application to the executive officer of the principal county.

(b) (1) Immediately after receiving an application and before issuing a certificate of filing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice that the application has been received to each affected local agency, the county committee on school district organization, and each school superintendent whose school district overlies the affected territory. The notice shall generally describe the ~~proposal~~ *application* and the affected territory. The executive officer shall not be required to give notice pursuant to this subdivision if a local agency has already given notice pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 56654.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that ~~a proposal~~ *an application* for incorporation or disincorporation shall be processed in a timely manner. With regard to an application that includes an incorporation or disincorporation, the executive officer shall immediately notify all affected local agencies and any applicable state agencies by mail and request the affected agencies to submit the required data to the commission within a reasonable timeframe established by the executive officer. Each affected agency shall respond to the executive officer within 15 days

acknowledging receipt of the request. Each affected local agency and the officers and departments thereof shall submit the required data to the executive officer within the timelines established by the executive officer. Each affected state agency and the officers and departments thereof shall submit the required data to the executive officer within the timelines agreed upon by the executive officer and the affected state departments.

(3) If a special district is, or as a result of a proposal will be, located in more than one county, the executive officer of the principal county shall immediately give the executive officer of each other affected county mailed notice that the application has been received. The notice shall generally describe the proposal and the affected territory.

(c) Except when a commission is the lead agency pursuant to Section 21067 of the Public Resources Code, the executive officer shall determine within 30 days of receiving an application whether the application is complete and acceptable for filing or whether the application is incomplete.

(d) The executive officer shall not accept an application for filing and issue a certificate of filing for at least 20 days after giving the mailed notice required by subdivision (b). The executive officer shall not be required to comply with this subdivision in the case of an application which meets the requirements of Section 56662 or in the case of an application for which a local agency has already given notice pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 56654.

(e) If the appropriate fees have been paid, an application shall be deemed accepted for filing if no determination has been made by the executive officer within the 30-day period. An executive officer shall accept for filing, and file, any application submitted in the form prescribed by the commission and containing all of the information and data required pursuant to Section 56652.

(f) When an application is accepted for filing, the executive officer shall immediately issue a certificate of filing to the applicant. A certificate of filing shall be in the form prescribed by the executive officer and shall specify the date upon which the proposal shall be heard by the commission. From the date of issuance of a certificate of filing, or the date upon which an application is deemed to have been accepted, whichever is earlier, an application shall be deemed filed pursuant to this division.

(g) If an application is determined not to be complete, the executive officer shall immediately transmit that determination to the applicant specifying those parts of the application which are incomplete and the manner in which they can be made complete.

(h) Following the issuance of the certificate of filing, the executive officer shall proceed to set the proposal for hearing and give published notice thereof as provided in this part. The date of the hearing shall be not more than 90 days after issuance of the certificate of filing or after the application is deemed to have been accepted, whichever is earlier. Notwithstanding Section 56106, the date for conducting the hearing, as determined pursuant to this subdivision, is mandatory.


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SB-1490 Validations. (2021-2022)

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Date Published: 02/28/2022 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1490

Introduced by Committee on Governance and Finance (Senators Caballero (Chair), Durazo, Hertzberg, Nielsen, and Wiener)

February 28, 2022

An act to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of public bodies, and to provide limitations of time in which actions may be commenced, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1490, as introduced, Committee on Governance and Finance. Validations.

This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the First Validating Act of 2022.

SEC. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Public body" means all of the following:

(1) The state and all departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities of the state. Except as provided in paragraph (2), "public body" also means all cities, counties, cities and counties, districts, authorities, agencies, boards, commissions, and other entities, whether created by a general statute or a special act, including, but not limited to, the following:

Agencies, boards, commissions, or entities constituted or provided for under or pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code).

Affordable housing authorities.

Air pollution control districts of any kind.

Air quality management districts.

Airport districts.

Assessment districts, benefit assessment districts, and special assessment districts of any public body.

Bridge and highway districts.

California water districts.

Citrus pest control districts.

City maintenance districts.

Community college districts.

Community development commissions in their capacity to act as a housing authority for other community development purposes of the jurisdiction in which the commission operates, except for any action taken with respect to the commission's authority to act as a community redevelopment agency.

Community facilities districts.

Community rehabilitation districts.

Community revitalization and investment authorities.

Community services districts.

Conservancy districts.

Cotton pest abatement districts.

County boards of education.

County drainage districts.

County flood control and water districts.

County free library systems.

County maintenance districts.

County sanitation districts.

County service areas.

County transportation commissions.

County water agencies.

County water authorities.

County water districts.

County waterworks districts.

Department of Water Resources and other agencies acting pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 6 of the Water Code.

Distribution districts of any public body.

Districts acting pursuant to Section 53395.82 of the Government Code.

Drainage districts.

Enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

Fire protection districts.

Flood control and water conservation districts.

Flood control districts.

Garbage and refuse disposal districts.

Garbage disposal districts.

Geologic hazard abatement districts.

Harbor districts.

Harbor improvement districts.

Harbor, recreation, and conservation districts.

Health care authorities.

Highway districts.

Highway interchange districts.

Highway lighting districts.

Housing authorities.

Improvement districts or improvement areas of any public body.

Industrial development authorities.

Infrastructure financing districts.

Integrated financing districts.

Irrigation districts.

Joint highway districts.

Levee districts.

Library districts.

Library districts in unincorporated towns and villages.

Local agency formation commissions.

Local health care districts.

Local health districts.

Local hospital districts.

Local transportation authorities or commissions.

Maintenance districts.

Memorial districts.

Metropolitan transportation commissions.

Metropolitan water districts.

Mosquito abatement and vector control districts.

Multifamily improvement districts.

Municipal improvement districts.

Municipal utility districts.

Municipal water districts.

Nonprofit corporations.

Nonprofit public benefit corporations.

Open-space maintenance districts.

Parking and business improvement areas.

Parking authorities.

Parking districts.

Permanent road divisions.

Pest abatement districts.

Police protection districts.

Port districts.

Property and business improvement areas.

Protection districts.

Public cemetery districts.

Public utility districts.

Rapid transit districts.

Reclamation districts.

Recreation and park districts.

Regional justice facility financing agencies.

Regional park and open-space districts.

Regional planning districts.

Regional transportation commissions.

Resort improvement districts.

Resource conservation districts.

River port districts.

Road maintenance districts.

Sanitary districts.

School districts of any kind or class.

School facilities improvement districts.

Separation of grade districts.

Service authorities for freeway emergencies.

Sewer districts.

Sewer maintenance districts.

Small craft harbor districts.

Special municipal tax districts.

Stone and pome fruit pest control districts.

Storm drain maintenance districts.

Storm drainage districts.

Storm drainage maintenance districts.

Stormwater districts.

Toll tunnel authorities.

Traffic authorities.

Transit development boards.

Transit districts.

Unified and union school districts' public libraries.

Vehicle parking districts.

Water agencies.

Water authorities.

Water conservation districts.

Water districts.

Water replenishment districts.

Water storage districts.

Watermaster districts.

Wine grape pest and disease control districts.

Zones, improvement zones, or service zones of any public body.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a "public body" does not include any of the following:

(A) A community redevelopment agency formed pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code).

(B) A community development commission, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(C) A joint powers authority that includes a community redevelopment agency or a community development commission as a member, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(3) "Public body" includes both of the following:

(A) The successor agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.7 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) A successor agency, as defined in subdivision (j) of Section 34171 of the Health and Safety Code, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) "Bonds" means all instruments evidencing an indebtedness of a public body incurred or to be incurred for any public purpose, all leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements wherein the obligor is one or more public bodies, all instruments evidencing the borrowing of money in anticipation of taxes, revenues, or other income of that body, all instruments payable from revenues or special funds of those public bodies, all certificates of participation evidencing interests in the leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements, and all instruments funding, refunding, replacing, or amending any thereof or any indebtedness.

(c) "Hereafter" means any time subsequent to the effective date of this act.

(d) "Heretofore" means any time prior to the effective date of this act.

(e) "Now" means the effective date of this act.

SEC. 3. All public bodies heretofore organized or existing under any law, or under color of any law, are hereby declared to have been legally organized and to be legally functioning as those public bodies. Every public body, heretofore described, shall have all the rights, powers, and privileges, and be subject to all the duties and obligations, of those public bodies regularly formed pursuant to law.

SEC. 4. The boundaries of every public body as heretofore established, defined, or recorded, or as heretofore actually shown on maps or plats used by the assessor, are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally established.

SEC. 5. All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by any public body or bodies under any law, or under color of any law, for the annexation or inclusion of territory into those public bodies or for the annexation of those public bodies to any other public body or for the detachment, withdrawal, or exclusion of territory from any public body or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of any public body and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the annexation or inclusion or of the withdrawal or exclusion of territory or the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of those public bodies.

SEC. 6. (a) All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by or on behalf of any public body under any law, or under color of any law, for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds of any public body for any public purpose are hereby authorized, confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of public bodies and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds.

(b) All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore issued shall be, in the form and manner issued and delivered, the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore awarded and sold to a purchaser and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with the contract of sale and other proceedings for the award and sale shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued by ordinance, resolution, order, or other action adopted or taken by or on behalf of the public body and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued at an election and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. Whenever an election has heretofore been called for the purpose of submitting to the voters of any public body the question of issuing bonds for any public purpose, those bonds, if hereafter authorized by the required vote and in accordance with the proceedings heretofore taken, and issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization, shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body.

SEC. 7. (a) This act shall operate to supply legislative authorization as may be necessary to authorize, confirm, and validate any acts and proceedings heretofore taken pursuant to authority the Legislature could have supplied or provided for in the law under which those acts or proceedings were taken.

(b) This act shall be limited to the validation of acts and proceedings to the extent that the same can be effectuated under the California Constitution and the United States Constitution.

(c) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter being legally contested or inquired into in any legal proceeding now pending and undetermined or that is pending and undetermined during the period of 30 days from and after the effective date of this act.

(d) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter that has heretofore been determined in any legal proceeding to be illegal, void, or ineffective.

(e) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize a contract between any public body and the United States.

SEC. 8. Any action or proceeding contesting the validity of any action or proceeding heretofore taken under any law, or under color of any law, for the formation, organization, or incorporation of any public body, or for any annexation thereto, detachment or exclusion therefrom, or other change of boundaries thereof, or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies, or for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds thereof upon any ground involving any alleged defect

or illegality not effectively validated by the prior provisions of this act and not otherwise barred by any statute of limitations or by laches shall be commenced within six months of the effective date of this act, otherwise each and all of those matters shall be held to be valid and in every respect legal and incontestable. This act shall not extend the period allowed for legal action beyond the period that it would be barred by any presently existing valid statute of limitations.

SEC. 9. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to render the creation of any public body, or any change in the boundaries of any public body, effective for purposes of assessment or taxation unless the statement, together with the map or plat, required to be filed pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 54900) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code, is filed within the time and substantially in the manner required by those sections.

SEC. 10. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of public bodies as soon as possible, it is necessary that this act take immediate effect.

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Date Published: 02/28/2022 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL**NO. 1491**

Introduced by Committee on Governance and Finance (Senators Caballero (Chair), Durazo, Hertzberg, Nielsen, and Wiener)

February 28, 2022

An act relating to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of public bodies, and to provide limitations of time in which actions may be commenced, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1491, as introduced, Committee on Governance and Finance. Validations.

This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

Vote: 2/3 Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the Second Validating Act of 2022.

SEC. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Public body" means all of the following:

(1) The state and all departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities of the state. Except as provided in paragraph (2), "public body" also means all cities, counties, cities and counties, districts, authorities, agencies, boards, commissions, and other entities, whether created by a general statute or a special act, including, but not limited to, the following:

Agencies, boards, commissions, or entities constituted or provided for under or pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code).

Affordable housing authorities.

Air pollution control districts of any kind.

Air quality management districts.

Airport districts.

Assessment districts, benefit assessment districts, and special assessment districts of any public body.

Bridge and highway districts.

California water districts.

Citrus pest control districts.

City maintenance districts.

Community college districts.

Community development commissions in their capacity to act as a housing authority for other community development purposes of the jurisdiction in which the commission operates, except for any action taken with respect to the commission's authority to act as a community redevelopment agency.

Community facilities districts.

Community rehabilitation districts.

Community revitalization and investment authorities.

Community services districts.

Conservancy districts.

Cotton pest abatement districts.

County boards of education.

County drainage districts.

County flood control and water districts.

County free library systems.

County maintenance districts.

County sanitation districts.

County service areas.

County transportation commissions.

County water agencies.

County water authorities.

County water districts.

County waterworks districts.

Department of Water Resources and other agencies acting pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 6 of the Water Code.

Distribution districts of any public body.

Districts acting pursuant to Section 53395.82 of the Government Code.

Drainage districts.

Enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

Fire protection districts.

Flood control and water conservation districts.

Flood control districts.

Garbage and refuse disposal districts.

Garbage disposal districts.

Geologic hazard abatement districts.

Harbor districts.

Harbor improvement districts.

Harbor, recreation, and conservation districts.

Health care authorities.

Highway districts.

Highway interchange districts.

Highway lighting districts.

Housing authorities.

Improvement districts or improvement areas of any public body.

Industrial development authorities.

Infrastructure financing districts.

Integrated financing districts.

Irrigation districts.

Joint highway districts.

Levee districts.

Library districts.

Library districts in unincorporated towns and villages.

Local agency formation commissions.

Local health care districts.

Local health districts.

Local hospital districts.

Local transportation authorities or commissions.

Maintenance districts.

Memorial districts.

Metropolitan transportation commissions.

Metropolitan water districts.

Mosquito abatement and vector control districts.

Multifamily improvement districts.

Municipal improvement districts.

Municipal utility districts.

Municipal water districts.

Nonprofit corporations.

Nonprofit public benefit corporations.

Open-space maintenance districts.

Parking and business improvement areas.

Parking authorities.

Parking districts.

Permanent road divisions.

Pest abatement districts.

Police protection districts.

Port districts.

Property and business improvement areas.

Protection districts.

Public cemetery districts.

Public utility districts.

Rapid transit districts.

Reclamation districts.

Recreation and park districts.

Regional justice facility financing agencies.

Regional park and open-space districts.

Regional planning districts.

Regional transportation commissions.

Resort improvement districts.

Resource conservation districts.

River port districts.

Road maintenance districts.

Sanitary districts.

School districts of any kind or class.

School facilities improvement districts.

Separation of grade districts.

Service authorities for freeway emergencies.

Sewer districts.

Sewer maintenance districts.

Small craft harbor districts.

Special municipal tax districts.

Stone and pome fruit pest control districts.

Storm drain maintenance districts.

Storm drainage districts.

Storm drainage maintenance districts.

Storm water districts.

Toll tunnel authorities.

Traffic authorities.

Transit development boards.

Transit districts.

Unified and union school districts' public libraries.

Vehicle parking districts.

Water agencies.

Water authorities.

Water conservation districts.

Water districts.

Water replenishment districts.

Water storage districts.

Watermaster districts.

Wine grape pest and disease control districts.

Zones, improvement zones, or service zones of any public body.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a "public body" does not include any of the following:

(A) A community redevelopment agency formed pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code).

(B) A community development commission, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(C) A joint powers authority that includes a community redevelopment agency or a community development commission as a member, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(3) "Public body" includes both of the following:

(A) The successor agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.7 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) A successor agency, as defined in subdivision (j) of Section 34171 of the Health and Safety Code, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) "Bonds" means all instruments evidencing an indebtedness of a public body incurred or to be incurred for any public purpose, all leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements wherein the obligor is one or more public bodies, all instruments evidencing the borrowing of money in anticipation of taxes, revenues, or other income of that body, all instruments payable from revenues or special funds of those public bodies, all certificates of participation evidencing interests in the leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements, and all instruments funding, refunding, replacing, or amending any thereof or any indebtedness.

(c) "Hereafter" means any time subsequent to the effective date of this act.

(d) "Heretofore" means any time prior to the effective date of this act.

(e) "Now" means the effective date of this act.

SEC. 3. All public bodies heretofore organized or existing under any law, or under color of any law, are hereby declared to have been legally organized and to be legally functioning as those public bodies. Every public body, heretofore described, shall have all the rights, powers, and privileges, and be subject to all the duties and obligations, of those public bodies regularly formed pursuant to law.

SEC. 4. The boundaries of every public body as heretofore established, defined, or recorded, or as heretofore actually shown on maps or plats used by the assessor, are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally established.

SEC. 5. All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by any public body or bodies under any law, or under color of any law, for the annexation or inclusion of territory into those public bodies or for the annexation of those public bodies to any other public body or for the detachment, withdrawal, or exclusion of territory from any public body or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of any public body and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the annexation or inclusion or of the withdrawal or exclusion of territory or the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of those public bodies.

SEC. 6. (a) All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by or on behalf of any public body under any law, or under color of any law, for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds of any public body for any public purpose are hereby authorized, confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of public bodies and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds.

(b) All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore issued shall be, in the form and manner issued and delivered, the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore awarded and sold to a purchaser and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with the contract of sale and other proceedings for the award and sale shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued by ordinance, resolution, order, or other action adopted or taken by or on behalf of the public body and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued at an election and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. Whenever an election has heretofore been called for the purpose of submitting to the voters of any public body the question of issuing bonds for any public purpose, those bonds, if hereafter authorized by the required vote and in accordance with the proceedings heretofore taken, and issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization, shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body.

SEC. 7. (a) This act shall operate to supply legislative authorization as may be necessary to authorize, confirm, and validate any acts and proceedings heretofore taken pursuant to authority the Legislature could have supplied or provided for in the law under which those acts or proceedings were taken.

(b) This act shall be limited to the validation of acts and proceedings to the extent that the same can be effectuated under the California Constitution and the United States Constitution.

(c) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter being legally contested or inquired into in any legal proceeding now pending and undetermined or that is pending and undetermined during the period of 30 days from and after the effective date of this act.

(d) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter that has heretofore been determined in any legal proceeding to be illegal, void, or ineffective.

(e) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize a contract between any public body and the United States.

SEC. 8. Any action or proceeding contesting the validity of any action or proceeding heretofore taken under any law, or under color of any law, for the formation, organization, or incorporation of any public body, or for any annexation thereto, detachment or exclusion therefrom, or other change of boundaries thereof, or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies, or for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds thereof upon any ground involving any alleged defect

or illegality not effectively validated by the prior provisions of this act and not otherwise barred by any statute of limitations or by laches shall be commenced within six months of the effective date of this act, otherwise each and all of those matters shall be held to be valid and in every respect legal and incontestable. This act shall not extend the period allowed for legal action beyond the period that it would be barred by any presently existing valid statute of limitations.

SEC. 9. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to render the creation of any public body, or any change in the boundaries of any public body, effective for purposes of assessment or taxation unless the statement, together with the map or plat, required to be filed pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 54900) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code, is filed within the time and substantially in the manner required by those sections.

SEC. 10. This act shall become operative on September 1, 2022.

SEC. 11. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of public bodies as soon as possible, it is necessary that this act take immediate effect.

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SB-1492 Validations. (2021-2022)

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Date Published: 02/28/2022 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1492

Introduced by Committee on Governance and Finance (Senators Caballero (Chair), Durazo, Hertzberg, Nielsen, and Wiener)

February 28, 2022

An act to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of public bodies, and to provide limitations of time in which actions may be commenced.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1492, as introduced, Committee on Governance and Finance. Validations.

This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2022, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. This act shall be known, and may be cited, as the Third Validating Act of 2022.

SEC. 2. As used in this act:

(a) "Public body" means all of the following:

(1) The state and all departments, agencies, boards, commissions, and authorities of the state. Except as provided in paragraph (2), "public body" also means all cities, counties, cities and counties, districts, authorities, agencies, boards, commissions, and other entities, whether created by a general statute or a special act, including, but not limited to, the following:

Agencies, boards, commissions, or entities constituted or provided for under or pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 6500) of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code).

Affordable housing authorities.

Air pollution control districts of any kind.

Air quality management districts.

Airport districts.

Assessment districts, benefit assessment districts, and special assessment districts of any public body.

Bridge and highway districts.

California water districts.

Citrus pest control districts.

City maintenance districts.

Community college districts.

Community development commissions in their capacity to act as a housing authority for other community development purposes of the jurisdiction in which the commission operates, except for any action taken with respect to the commission's authority to act as a community redevelopment agency.

Community facilities districts.

Community rehabilitation districts.

Community revitalization and investment authorities.

Community services districts.

Conservancy districts.

Cotton pest abatement districts.

County boards of education.

County drainage districts.

County flood control and water districts.

County free library systems.

County maintenance districts.

County sanitation districts.

County service areas.

County transportation commissions.

County water agencies.

County water authorities.

County water districts.

County waterworks districts.

Department of Water Resources and other agencies acting pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 11100) of Division 6 of the Water Code.

Distribution districts of any public body.

Districts acting pursuant to Section 53395.82 of the Government Code.

Drainage districts.

Enhanced infrastructure financing districts.

Fire protection districts.

Flood control and water conservation districts.

Flood control districts.

Garbage and refuse disposal districts.

Garbage disposal districts.

Geologic hazard abatement districts.

Harbor districts.

Harbor improvement districts.

Harbor, recreation, and conservation districts.

Health care authorities.

Highway districts.

Highway interchange districts.

Highway lighting districts.

Housing authorities.

Improvement districts or improvement areas of any public body.

Industrial development authorities.

Infrastructure financing districts.

Integrated financing districts.

Irrigation districts.

Joint highway districts.

Levee districts.

Library districts.

Library districts in unincorporated towns and villages.

Local agency formation commissions.

Local health care districts.

Local health districts.

Local hospital districts.

Local transportation authorities or commissions.

Maintenance districts.

Memorial districts.

Metropolitan transportation commissions.

Metropolitan water districts.

Mosquito abatement and vector control districts.

Multifamily improvement districts.

Municipal improvement districts.

Municipal utility districts.

Municipal water districts.

Nonprofit corporations.

Nonprofit public benefit corporations.

Open-space maintenance districts.

Parking and business improvement areas.

Parking authorities.

Parking districts.

Permanent road divisions.

Pest abatement districts.

Police protection districts.

Port districts.

Property and business improvement areas.

Protection districts.

Public cemetery districts.

Public utility districts.

Rapid transit districts.

Reclamation districts.

Recreation and park districts.

Regional justice facility financing agencies.

Regional park and open-space districts.

Regional planning districts.

Regional transportation commissions.

Resort improvement districts.

Resource conservation districts.

River port districts.

Road maintenance districts.

Sanitary districts.

School districts of any kind or class.

School facilities improvement districts.

Separation of grade districts.

Service authorities for freeway emergencies.

Sewer districts.

Sewer maintenance districts.

Small craft harbor districts.

Special municipal tax districts.

Stone and pome fruit pest control districts.

Storm drain maintenance districts.

Storm drainage districts.

Storm drainage maintenance districts.

Storm water districts.

Toll tunnel authorities.

Traffic authorities.

Transit development boards.

Transit districts.

Unified and union school districts' public libraries.

Vehicle parking districts.

Water agencies.

Water authorities.

Water conservation districts.

Water districts.

Water replenishment districts.

Water storage districts.

Watermaster districts.

Wine grape pest and disease control districts.

Zones, improvement zones, or service zones of any public body.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), a "public body" does not include any of the following:

(A) A community redevelopment agency formed pursuant to the Community Redevelopment Law (Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code).

(B) A community development commission, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(C) A joint powers authority that includes a community redevelopment agency or a community development commission as a member, with respect to its exercise of the powers of a community redevelopment agency.

(3) "Public body" includes both of the following:

(A) The successor agency to the Redevelopment Agency of the City and County of San Francisco, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.7 of the Health and Safety Code.

(B) A successor agency, as defined in subdivision (j) of Section 34171 of the Health and Safety Code, solely for the purpose of issuing bonds or incurring other indebtedness pursuant to the provisions of Section 34177.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) "Bonds" means all instruments evidencing an indebtedness of a public body incurred or to be incurred for any public purpose, all leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements wherein the obligor is one or more public bodies, all instruments evidencing the borrowing of money in anticipation of taxes, revenues, or other income of that body, all instruments payable from revenues or special funds of those public bodies, all certificates of participation evidencing interests in the leases, installment purchase agreements, or similar agreements, and all instruments funding, refunding, replacing, or amending any thereof or any indebtedness.

(c) "Hereafter" means any time subsequent to the effective date of this act.

(d) "Heretofore" means any time prior to the effective date of this act.

(e) "Now" means the effective date of this act.

SEC. 3. All public bodies heretofore organized or existing under any law, or under color of any law, are hereby declared to have been legally organized and to be legally functioning as those public bodies. Every public body, heretofore described, shall have all the rights, powers, and privileges, and be subject to all the duties and obligations, of those public bodies regularly formed pursuant to law.

SEC. 4. The boundaries of every public body as heretofore established, defined, or recorded, or as heretofore actually shown on maps or plats used by the assessor, are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally established.

SEC. 5. All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by any public body or bodies under any law, or under color of any law, for the annexation or inclusion of territory into those public bodies or for the annexation of those public bodies to any other public body or for the detachment, withdrawal, or exclusion of territory from any public body or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies are hereby confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of any public body and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the annexation or inclusion or of the withdrawal or exclusion of territory or the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of those public bodies.

SEC. 6. (a) All acts and proceedings heretofore taken by or on behalf of any public body under any law, or under color of any law, for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds of any public body for any public purpose are hereby authorized, confirmed, validated, and declared legally effective. This shall include all acts and proceedings of the governing board of public bodies and of any person, public officer, board, or agency heretofore done or taken upon the question of the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds.

(b) All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore issued shall be, in the form and manner issued and delivered, the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore awarded and sold to a purchaser and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with the contract of sale and other proceedings for the award and sale shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued by ordinance, resolution, order, or other action adopted or taken by or on behalf of the public body and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. All bonds of, or relating to, any public body heretofore authorized to be issued at an election and hereafter issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body. Whenever an election has heretofore been called for the purpose of submitting to the voters of any public body the question of issuing bonds for any public purpose, those bonds, if hereafter authorized by the required vote and in accordance with the proceedings heretofore taken, and issued and delivered in accordance with that authorization, shall be the legal, valid, and binding obligations of the public body.

SEC. 7. (a) This act shall operate to supply legislative authorization as may be necessary to authorize, confirm, and validate any acts and proceedings heretofore taken pursuant to authority the Legislature could have supplied or provided for in the law under which those acts or proceedings were taken.

(b) This act shall be limited to the validation of acts and proceedings to the extent that the same can be effectuated under the California Constitution and the United States Constitution.

(c) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter being legally contested or inquired into in any legal proceeding now pending and undetermined or that is pending and undetermined during the period of 30 days from and after the effective date of this act.

(d) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize any act, proceeding, or other matter that has heretofore been determined in any legal proceeding to be illegal, void, or ineffective.

(e) This act shall not operate to authorize, confirm, validate, or legalize a contract between any public body and the United States.

SEC. 8. Any action or proceeding contesting the validity of any action or proceeding heretofore taken under any law, or under color of any law, for the formation, organization, or incorporation of any public body, or for any annexation thereto, detachment or exclusion therefrom, or other change of boundaries thereof, or for the consolidation, merger, or dissolution of any public bodies, or for, or in connection with, the authorization, issuance, sale, execution, delivery, or exchange of bonds thereof upon any ground involving any alleged defect or illegality not effectively validated by the prior provisions of this act and not otherwise barred by any statute of limitations or by laches shall be commenced within six months of the effective date of this act, otherwise each

and all of those matters shall be held to be valid and in every respect legal and incontestable. This act shall not extend the period allowed for legal action beyond the period that it would be barred by any presently existing valid statute of limitations.

SEC. 9. Nothing contained in this act shall be construed to render the creation of any public body, or any change in the boundaries of any public body, effective for purposes of assessment or taxation unless the statement, together with the map or plat, required to be filed pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 54900) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code, is filed within the time and substantially in the manner required by those sections.

**SB-938 The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: protest proceedings: procedural consolidation.**

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Date Published: 04/04/2022 09:00 PM

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 04, 2022

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 24, 2022

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2021–2022 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL**NO. 938**

Introduced by Senator Hertzberg
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Mayes)

February 08, 2022

An act to amend Sections 56375, 56824.14, 57002, 57075, 57077.1, 57077.2, 57077.3, 57077.4, and 57090 of, to add Sections 56375.1, 57077.5, and 57077.6 to, to add Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 57091) to Part 4 of Division 3 of Title 5 of, and to repeal Sections 57076, 57107, and 57113 of, the Government Code, and to amend Section 116687 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 938, as amended, Hertzberg. The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000: protest proceedings: procedural consolidation.

Existing law, 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. Under existing law, in each county there is a local agency formation commission (commission) that oversees these changes of organization and reorganization. Existing law authorizes a commission to dissolve an inactive district if specified conditions are satisfied.

This bill would also authorize a commission to initiate a proposal for the dissolution of a ~~district~~ *district, as described*, if the commission approves, adopts, or accepts a specified study that includes a finding, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that, among other things, the district has one or more documented chronic service provision deficiencies, the district spent public funds in an unlawful or reckless manner, or the district has shown willful neglect by failing to consistently adhere to the California Public Records Act. The bill would require the commission to adopt a resolution of intent to initiate a dissolution based on these provisions and to provide a remediation period of at least 12 months, during which the district may take steps to remedy the stated deficiencies. The bill would authorize the commission, at the conclusion of the remediation period, to find that the district has failed to remedy the deficiencies and adopt a resolution to dissolve the district.

With a specified exception, existing law provides for protest proceedings for a change of organization or reorganization following adoption of a resolution making certain determinations by the commission, as provided. Existing law sets forth required procedures for the commission following a protest hearing depending on the nature of the conducting authority, as defined, the type of change of organization or reorganization, and the results of the protest proceeding.

The bill would reorganize and consolidate the above-described procedures. The bill would make conforming changes and remove obsolete provisions.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: no Local Program: no

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:**SECTION 1.** Section 56375 of the Government Code is amended to read:

56375. The commission shall have all of the following powers and duties subject to any limitations upon its jurisdiction set forth in this part:

(a) (1) To review and approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals for changes of organization or reorganization, consistent with written policies, procedures, and guidelines adopted by the commission.

(2) The commission may initiate proposals by resolution of application for any of the following:

(A) The consolidation of a district, as defined in Section 56036.

(B) The dissolution of a district.

(C) A merger.

(D) The establishment of a subsidiary district.

(E) The formation of a new district or districts.

(F) A reorganization that includes any of the changes specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E).

(G) The dissolution of an inactive district pursuant to Section 56879.

(H) The dissolution of a district pursuant to Section 56375.1.

(3) A commission may initiate a proposal described in paragraph (2) only if that change of organization or reorganization is consistent with a recommendation or conclusion of a study prepared pursuant to Section 56378, 56425, or 56430, and the commission makes the determinations specified in subdivision (b) of Section 56881.

(4) A commission shall not disapprove an annexation to a city, initiated by resolution, of contiguous territory that the commission finds is any of the following:

(A) Surrounded or substantially surrounded by the city to which the annexation is proposed or by that city and a county boundary or the Pacific Ocean if the territory to be annexed is substantially developed or developing, is not prime agricultural land as defined in Section 56064, is designated for urban growth by the general plan of the annexing city, and is not within the sphere of influence of another city.

(B) Located within an urban service area that has been delineated and adopted by a commission, which is not prime agricultural land, as defined by Section 56064, and is designated for urban growth by the general plan of the annexing city.

(C) An annexation or reorganization of unincorporated islands meeting the requirements of Section 56375.3.

(5) As a condition to the annexation of an area that is surrounded, or substantially surrounded, by the city to which the annexation is proposed, the commission may require, where consistent with the purposes of this division, that the annexation include the entire island of surrounded, or substantially surrounded, territory.

(6) A commission shall not impose any conditions that would directly regulate land use density or intensity, property development, or subdivision requirements.

(7) The decision of the commission with regard to a proposal to annex territory to a city shall be based upon the general plan and rezoning of the city. When the development purposes are not made known to the annexing city, the annexation shall be reviewed on the basis of the adopted plans and policies of the annexing city or county. A commission shall require, as a condition to annexation, that a city prezone the territory to be annexed or present evidence satisfactory to the commission that the existing development entitlements on the territory are vested or are already at build-out, and are consistent with the city's general plan. However, the commission shall not specify how, or in what manner, the territory shall be zoned.

(8) (A) Except for those changes of organization or reorganization authorized under Section 56375.3, and except as provided by subparagraph (B), a commission shall not approve an annexation to a city of any territory greater than 10 acres, or smaller as determined by commission policy, where there exists a disadvantaged unincorporated community that is contiguous to the area of proposed annexation, unless an application to annex the disadvantaged unincorporated community to the subject city has been filed with the executive officer.

(B) An application to annex a contiguous disadvantaged unincorporated community shall not be required if either of the following apply:

(i) A prior application for annexation of the same disadvantaged unincorporated community has been made in the preceding five years.

(ii) The commission finds, based upon written evidence, that a majority of the registered voters within the affected territory are opposed to annexation.

(C) This paragraph shall also apply to the annexation of two or more contiguous areas that take place within five years of each other and that are individually less than 10 acres but cumulatively more than 10 acres.

(b) With regard to a proposal for annexation or detachment of territory to, or from, a city or district or with regard to a proposal for reorganization that includes annexation or detachment, to determine whether territory proposed for annexation or detachment, as described in its resolution approving the annexation, detachment, or reorganization, is inhabited or uninhabited.

(c) With regard to a proposal for consolidation of two or more cities or districts, to determine which city or district shall be the consolidated successor city or district.

(d) To approve the annexation of unincorporated, noncontiguous territory, subject to the limitations of Section 56742, located in the same county as that in which the city is located, and that is owned by a city and used for municipal purposes and to authorize the annexation of the territory without notice and hearing.

(e) To approve the annexation of unincorporated territory consistent with the planned and probable use of the property based upon the review of general plan and rezoning designations. No subsequent change may be made to the general plan for the annexed territory or zoning that is not in conformance to the rezoning designations for a period of two years after the completion of the annexation, unless the legislative body for the city makes a finding at a public hearing with written notice provided no less than 21 days to the commission that a substantial change has occurred in circumstances that necessitate a departure from the rezoning in the application to the commission.

(f) With respect to the incorporation of a new city or the formation of a new special district, to determine the number of registered voters residing within the proposed city or special district or, for a landowner-voter special district, the number of owners of land and the assessed value of their land within the territory proposed to be included in the new special district. The number of registered voters shall be calculated as of the time of the last report of voter registration by the county elections official to the Secretary of State prior to the date the first signature was affixed to the petition. The executive officer shall notify the petitioners of the number of registered voters resulting from this calculation. The assessed value of the land within the territory proposed to be included in a new landowner-voter special district shall be calculated as shown on the last equalized assessment roll.

(g) To adopt written procedures for the evaluation of proposals, including written definitions consistent with existing state law. The commission may adopt standards for any of the factors enumerated in Section 56668. Any standards adopted by the commission shall be written.

(h) To adopt standards and procedures for the evaluation of service plans submitted pursuant to Section 56653 and the initiation of a change of organization or reorganization pursuant to subdivision (a).

(i) To make and enforce regulations for the orderly and fair conduct of hearings by the commission.

(j) To incur usual and necessary expenses for the accomplishment of its functions.

(k) To appoint and assign staff personnel and to employ or contract for professional or consulting services to carry out and effect the functions of the commission.

(l) To review the boundaries of the territory involved in any proposal with respect to the definiteness and certainty of those boundaries, the nonconformance of proposed boundaries with lines of assessment or ownership, and other similar matters affecting the proposed boundaries.

(m) To waive the restrictions of Section 56744 if it finds that the application of the restrictions would be detrimental to the orderly development of the community and that the area that would be enclosed by the annexation or incorporation is so located that it cannot reasonably be annexed to another city or incorporated as a new city.

(n) To waive the application of Section 22613 of the Streets and Highways Code if it finds the application would deprive an area of a service needed to ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the area and if it finds that the waiver would not affect the ability of a city to provide any service. However, within 60 days of the inclusion of the territory within the city, the legislative body may adopt a resolution nullifying the waiver.

(o) If the proposal includes the incorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56043, or the formation of a district, as defined in Section 2215 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the commission shall determine the property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agencies pursuant to Section 56810. If the proposal includes the disincorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56034, the commission shall determine the property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agencies pursuant to Section 56813.

(p) To authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to Section 56133.

(q) To enter into an agreement with the commission for an adjoining county for the purpose of determining procedures for the consideration of proposals that may affect the adjoining county or where the jurisdiction of an affected agency crosses the boundary of the adjoining county.

(r) To approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove pursuant to this section the annexation of territory served by a mutual water company formed pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 14300) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code that operates a public water system to a city or special district. Any annexation approved in accordance with this subdivision shall be subject to the state and federal constitutional prohibitions against the taking of private property without the payment of just compensation. This subdivision shall not impair the authority of a public agency or public utility to exercise eminent domain authority.

SEC. 2. Section 56375.1 is added to the Government Code, to read:

56375.1. (a) A commission may initiate a proposal for the dissolution of a district *that is eligible for the protest threshold under Section 57093* if both of the following conditions are satisfied:

(1) At a public hearing for which notice has been published and posted, the commission approves, adopts, or accepts a study prepared pursuant to Section 56430 that includes a finding, based on a preponderance of the evidence, that one or more of the following conditions is met:

(A) The district has one or more documented chronic service provision deficiencies that substantially deviate from industry or trade association standards or other government regulations and its board or management is not actively engaged in efforts to remediate the documented service deficiencies.

(B) The district spent public funds in an unlawful or reckless manner inconsistent with the principal act or other statute governing the district and has not taken any action to prevent similar future spending.

(C) The district has shown willful neglect by failing to consistently adhere to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1) and other public disclosure laws to which the agency is subject.

(D) The district has failed to meet the minimum number of times required in its principal act in the prior calendar year and has taken no action to remediate the failures to ensure future meetings are conducted on a timely basis.

(E) The district has consistently failed to perform timely audits in the prior three years, or failed to meet minimum financial requirements under Section 26909 over the prior five years as an alternative to performing an audit.

(F) The district's recent annual audits show chronic issues with the district's fiscal controls and the district has taken no action to remediate the issues.

(2) (A) At a public hearing for which notice has been published and posted, the commission adopts a resolution of intent to initiate dissolution based on one or more of the required findings in paragraph (1). The resolution shall provide a remediation period of not less than 12 months during which the district may take steps to remedy the specified deficiencies and also specify a date upon which the district shall provide the commission a mid-point report on such remediation efforts at a regularly scheduled commission meeting.

(B) At the conclusion of the remediation period, at a public hearing for which notice has been published and posted, the commission shall take one of the following actions:

(i) If the commission finds the district has adequately remedied the deficiencies, the commission shall rescind the notice of ~~intents~~ *intent* to initiate dissolution and no further action is required.

(ii) If the ~~commissions~~ *commission* finds that the district has failed to remedy the deficiencies, the commission may adopt a resolution to dissolve the district making the determinations in paragraph (1) and in subdivision (b) of Section 56881.

(b) (1) Any public notice required pursuant to this section shall be published and posted pursuant to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 56150) of Part 1.

(2) The public hearings required under subdivision (a) may be combined into a single public hearing for which notice has been published and posted.

(c) The commission's power to initiate dissolution of a district pursuant to this section is separate from and in addition to the commission's power to initiate dissolution pursuant to subparagraphs (B) and (G) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 56375.

SEC. 3. Section 56824.14 of the Government Code is amended to read:

56824.14. (a) The commission shall review and approve with or without amendments, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals 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, after a public hearing called and held for that purpose. The commission shall not approve a proposal for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services within the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district unless the commission determines that the special district will have sufficient revenues to carry out the proposed new or different functions or class of services except as specified in paragraph (1).

(1) The commission may approve a proposal for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services within the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district where the commission has determined that the special district will not have sufficient revenue to provide the proposed new or different functions or class of services, if the commission conditions its approval on the concurrent approval of sufficient revenue sources pursuant to Section 56886. In approving a proposal, the commission shall provide that if the revenue sources pursuant to Section 56886 are not approved, the authority of the special district to provide new or different functions or class of services shall not be established.

(2) Unless otherwise required by the principal act of the subject special district, or unless otherwise required by Section 57075, the approval by the commission for establishment of new or different functions or class of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services, shall not be subject to an election.

(b) At least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice of the hearing to each affected local agency or affected county, and to any interested party who has filed a written request for notice with the executive officer. In addition, at least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall cause notice of the hearing to be published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation that is circulated within the territory affected by the proposal proposed to be adopted.

(c) The commission may continue from time to time any hearing called pursuant to this section. The commission shall hear and consider oral or written testimony presented by any affected local agency, affected county, or any interested person who appears at any hearing called and held pursuant to this section.

SEC. 4. Section 57002 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57002. (a) Within 35 days following the adoption of the commission's resolution making determinations, the executive officer of the commission shall set the proposal for hearing and give notice of that hearing by mailing, publication, and posting, as provided in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 56150) of Part 1. The hearing shall not be held prior to the expiration of the reconsideration period specified in subdivision (b) of Section 56895. The date of that hearing shall not be less than 21 days, or more than 60 days, after the date the notice is given.

(b) Where the proceeding is for the establishment of a district as a subsidiary district of a city, upon the request of the affected district, the date of the hearing shall be at least 90 days, but no more than 135 days, from the date the notice is given.

(c) Where the proceeding is for the dissolution of a district initiated by the commission pursuant to Section 56375.1, the date of the hearing shall be at least 60 days, but no more than 90 days, from the date the notice is given.

(d) If authorized by the commission pursuant to Section 56662 or 56663, a change of organization or reorganization may be approved without notice, hearing, and election.

SEC. 5. Section 57075 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57075. Where a change of organization or reorganization consists solely of annexations, detachments, the exercise 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, or any combination of those proposals, the commission, not more than 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, shall make a finding regarding the value of written protests filed and not withdrawn, and take the action set forth in either subdivision (a) of Section 57091, in the case of registered voter districts or cities, or subdivision (b) of Section 57091, in the case of landowner-voter districts.

SEC. 6. Section 57076 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 7. Section 57077.1 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57077.1. (a) If a change of organization consists of a dissolution, the commission shall order the dissolution without confirmation of the voters, except if the proposal meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the dissolution subject to confirmation of the voters.

(b) The commission shall order the dissolution subject to the confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, the commission has found that protests meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(2) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

(3) Except as provided in paragraph (4), if the proposal was initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57094.

(4) If the proposal was initiated by the commission pursuant to Section 56375.1, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57093.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b) and Sections 57102 and 57103, if a change of organization consists of a district that is consistent with a prior action of the commission pursuant to Section 56378, 56425, or 56430, the commission may do either of the following:

(1) If the dissolution is initiated by the district board, immediately approve and order the dissolution without an election or protest proceedings pursuant to this part.

(2) If the dissolution is initiated by an affected local agency, by the commission pursuant to Section 56375, or by petition pursuant to Section 56650, order the dissolution after holding at least one noticed public hearing, and after conducting protest proceedings in accordance with this part. Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078. If a majority protest is not found, the commission shall order the dissolution without an election.

SEC. 8. Section 57077.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57077.2. (a) If the change of organization consists of a consolidation of two or more districts, the commission shall order the consolidation without confirmation by the voters, except that if the proposal meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the consolidation subject to confirmation of the voters.

(b) The commission shall order the consolidation subject to the confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the commission has approved a proposal submitted by resolution of a majority of the members of the legislative bodies of two or more local agencies pursuant to Section 56853, and the commission has found that protests meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(2) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(3) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet one of the protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

(4) If the commission has approved a proposal initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57077.6.

SEC. 9. Section 57077.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57077.3. (a) If a proposal consists of a reorganization not described in Section 57075, 57077, 57077.4, or 57111, the commission shall order the reorganization without confirmation by the voters except that if the reorganization meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation of the voters.

(b) The commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the commission has approved a proposal submitted by resolution of a majority of the members of the legislative bodies of two or more local agencies pursuant to Section 56853, and the commission has found that protests meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(2) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, a written protest has been submitted that meets the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(3) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet one of the protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

(4) If the commission has approved a proposal initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57077.6.

SEC. 10. Section 57077.4 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57077.4. (a) If a reorganization consists of the dissolution of one or more districts and the annexation of all or substantially all the territory to another district not initiated pursuant to Section 56853 or by the commission pursuant to Section 56375, the commission shall order the reorganization without confirmation by the voters except that if the reorganization meets the requirements of subdivision (b) or (c), the commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation by the voters.

(b) The commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation by the voters, if written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

(c) The commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation by the voters if the reorganization has been initiated by the commission pursuant to Section 56375 and protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57077.6.

SEC. 11. Section 57077.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

57077.5. (a) In any resolution ordering a merger or establishment of a subsidiary district, the commission shall approve the change of organization without an election except that if the change of organization meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the change of organization subject to confirmation of the voters.

(b) The commission shall order the change of organization subject to confirmation of the voters within any subject agency as follows:

(1) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, the commission has found that protests meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57093.

(2) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

(3) If the proposal was initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57077.6.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) or (b), the commission shall not order the merger or establishment of a subsidiary district without the consent of the subject city.

SEC. 12. Section 57077.6 is added to the Government Code, to read:

57077.6. Notwithstanding Section 57102, 57108, or 57111, both of the following shall apply:

(a) For any proposal that was initiated by the commission pursuant to Section 56375.1, the commission shall forward the change of organization or reorganization for confirmation by the voters if the commission finds written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section ~~57094~~ **57093**.

(b) For any proposal that was initiated by the commission pursuant to subparagraphs (A) through (G), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 56375, the commission shall forward the change of organization or reorganization for confirmation by the voters if the commission finds written protests have been submitted that meet the applicable protest thresholds set forth in Section 57094.

SEC. 13. Section 57090 of the Government Code is amended to read:

57090. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), if proceedings are terminated, either by majority protest as provided in Sections 57075 and 57077, or if a majority of voters do not confirm the change of organization or reorganization as provided in Section 57179, no substantially similar proposal for a change of organization or reorganization of the same or substantially the same territory may be filed with the commission within two years after the date of the certificate of termination if the proposal included an incorporation or city consolidation and within one year for any other change of organization or reorganization.

(b) The commission may waive the requirements of subdivision (a) if it finds these requirements are detrimental to the public interest.

SEC. 14. Chapter 4.5 (commencing with Section 57091) is added to Part 4 of Division 3 of Title 5 of the Government Code, to read:

CHAPTER 4.5. Protest Thresholds

57091. (a) For purposes of Section 57075, relating to annexations, detachments, and latent powers, in the case of registered voter districts or cities:

(1) For inhabited territory, the commission shall take one of the following actions:

(A) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.

(B) Order the change of organization or reorganization subject to confirmation by the registered voters residing within the affected territory if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent, but less than 50 percent, of the registered voters residing in the affected territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the number of owners of land who also own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(C) Order the change of organization or reorganization without an election if subparagraphs (A) and (B) of this paragraph do not apply.

(2) For uninhabited territory, the commission shall take either of the following actions:

(A) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.

(B) Order the change of organization or reorganization if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by owners of land who own less than 50 percent of the total assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(b) For purposes of Section 57075, in the case of landowner-voter districts, the commission shall take one of the following actions:

(1) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.

(2) Order the change of organization or reorganization subject to an election within the affected territory if written protests that have been filed and not withdrawn represent either of the following:

(A) Twenty-five percent or more of the number of owners of land who also own 25 percent or more of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(B) Twenty-five percent or more of the voting power of landowner voters entitled to vote as a result of owning property within the affected territory.

(3) Order the change of organization or reorganization without an election if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by less than 25 percent of the number of owners of land who own less than 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

57092. For purposes of Sections 57077.1, relating to dissolution, 57077.2, relating to consolidation, 57077.3, relating to reorganization, 57077.4, relating to dissolution and annexation, and 57077.5, relating to merger or establishment of a subsidiary district, the following protest thresholds shall apply:

(a) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(1) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(2) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the affected territory.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and that protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

57093. For proposals not initiated by the commission and where a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, for purposes of Sections 57077.1, relating to dissolution, 57077.2, relating to consolidation, 57077.3, relating to reorganization, 57077.4, relating to dissolution and annexation, and 57077.5, relating to merger or establishment of a subsidiary district, the following protest thresholds shall apply:

(a) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(1) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(2) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

57094. For purposes of Section 57077.6, relating to proposals initiated by the commission, the following protest thresholds shall apply:

(a) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(1) At least 10 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory. However, if the number of landowners within a subject agency is less than 300, the protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the landowners who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory of the subject agency.

(2) At least 10 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory. However, if the number of voters entitled to vote within a subject agency is less than 300, the protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 10 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, who own at least 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory. However, if the number of landowners entitled to vote within a subject agency is less than 300, protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the landowners entitled to vote.

SEC. 15. Section 57107 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 16. Section 57113 of the Government Code is repealed.

SEC. 17. Section 116687 of the Health and Safety Code is amended to read:

116687. (a) For purposes of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

(1) "District" means the Sativa-Los Angeles County Water District.

(2) "Commission" means the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles.

(b) To provide affordable, safe drinking water to disadvantaged communities, the state board shall order the district to accept administrative and managerial services, including full management and control, from an administrator selected by the state board, as prescribed in Section 116686, except that the state board is not required to conduct a public meeting as described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 116686.

(c) (1) Upon the appointment of an administrator, all of the following apply:

(A) Notwithstanding Article 1 (commencing with Section 30500) of Chapter 1 of Part 3 of Division 12 of the Water Code, the district's board of directors shall surrender all control to the appointed administrator and shall thereafter cease to exist.

(B) The members of the board of directors of the district shall have no standing to represent the district's ratepayers, and a member of the board of directors shall have no claim for benefits other than those the member actually received while a member of the board of directors.

(C) Any action by the board of directors to divest the district of its assets shall be deemed tampering with a public water system pursuant to Section 116750 and is subject to the criminal penalties provided for in that section.

(2) Within 90 days of the appointment of an administrator, the Controller shall perform a desk audit or financial review of the district. The state board shall exercise its legal authority to facilitate the desk audit or financial review, including, but not limited to, its authority to take possession of the district's financial records.

(3) Any decision by the commission about the dissolution or consolidation of the district is not subject to the provisions of Section 57077.6 of the Government Code, nor to any other requirement for a protest proceeding or election. The commission shall not impose any condition on the successor agency that requires a protest proceeding or an election, as described in Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) and Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300) of Division 3 of Title 5 of the Government Code, respectively.

(4) If the commission approves a dissolution of the district initiated by the commission, a successor agency designated in the dissolution by the commission, in consultation with the commission, may solicit proposals, evaluate submittals, and select any public water system to be the receiving water system and subsume all assets, liabilities, adjudicated water rights, responsibilities, and service obligations to provide retail water service to existing and future ratepayers within the former territory of the district. The successor agency shall represent the interests of the public and the ratepayers in the former territory of the district.

(d) The state board may provide additional funding to the administrator or the Water Replenishment District of Southern California or the successor agency designated by the commission for urgent infrastructure repairs to the public water system of the district without regard to the future ownership of any facilities affected by this funding. For purposes of this section, "urgent infrastructure repairs" are those that are immediately necessary to protect the public health, safety, and welfare of those served by the district.

(e) If the district is consolidated with a receiving water system as prescribed in Sections 116682 and 116684, the subsumed territory of the district may include both unincorporated territory of the County of Los Angeles and incorporated territory of the City of Compton.

(f) (1) Any administrator appointed pursuant to subdivision (b), any successor agency to the district designated by the commission to take over the district, any receiving operator of a public water system that provides service to the territory of the district, any water corporation that acquires the district, and the commission shall not be held liable for claims by past or existing district ratepayers or those who consumed water provided through the district concerning the operation and supply of water from the district during the interim operation period specified in subdivision (g) for any good faith, reasonable effort using ordinary care to assume possession of the territory of, to operate, or to supply water to the ratepayers within the territory of, the district.

(2) Any administrator appointed pursuant to subdivision (b), any successor agency to the district designated by the commission to take over the district, any receiving operator of a public water system that provides service to the territory of the district, any water corporation that acquires the district, and the commission shall not be held liable for claims by past or existing district ratepayers or those who consumed water provided through the district for any injury that occurred prior to the commencement of the interim operation period specified in subdivision (g).

(g) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (d) of Section 116684, for any successor agency to the district designated by the commission to take over the district, any receiving operator of a public water system that provides service to the territory of the district, or any water corporation that acquires the district, the interim operation period shall commence upon the execution of an agreement or designation by the commission to provide water services to the district and shall end one year later. Upon the showing of good cause, the interim operation period shall be extended by the commission for up to three successive one-year periods at the request of an entity described in this paragraph.

(2) For the administrator appointed pursuant to subdivision (b), the interim operation period commences upon being appointed by the state board and ends when a successor agency has been designated by the commission to provide water service to ratepayers of the district, when a receiving water agency is consolidated with or

extends service to ratepayers of the district, when a water corporation acquires the district with the approval of the Public Utilities Commission, or when the administrator's obligation to provide interim administrative and managerial services has otherwise ended.

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Public Member**STAFF****Carolyn Emery**
Executive Officer**Scott Smith**
General Counsel

April 13, 2022

Assemblymember Eduardo Garcia
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Ste. 8120
Sacramento, CA 95814RE: **Oppose - AB 2081 (Garcia):** Municipal Water Districts:
Water Service: Indian Lands

Dear Assemblymember Garcia:

The Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) respectfully opposes AB 2081, which seeks to extend the sunset date to provisions added to the Water Code by AB 1361 (2017). That bill required water districts to provide service of water to the lands of certain Indian tribes upon request and further stripped local control by requiring the LAFCO receiving the application to approve the extension of service.

While it must be acknowledged that there does exist a unique relationship between the State and Indian Tribes, it is also important to remember that the policy of the State has been enumerated in Government Code Section 56001 as being not only to encourage orderly growth and development which are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the state but also to do so in a logical fashion that discourages urban sprawl, preserves open-space and prime agricultural lands, and efficiently extends government services. This is the legislative charter given to LAFCOs and one that is maintained by our Commission through the adherence of state regulations in an open and public process. Extending the sunset date on provisions that mandate LAFCO approval of applications profoundly conflicts with that intent. Additionally, while we concede that the proposed sunset date extension would apply only to those provisions regarding the extension of water district infrastructure upon tribal lands, that does not negate the fact that forced approvals under this provision may impact or overload the existing infrastructure and other users within the respective water district.

To clarify, it is important to distinguish that LAFCO authority extends to the boundaries of the public agency service provider, not the service recipient (tribe). Therefore, when a service provider normally seeks an extension of service for an area outside the existing boundaries, the existing LAFCO process requires that an analysis is conducted to ensure that any public agency service extensions will not cause harm to either

other local agencies or their constituents. This transparent process allows for meaningful discussions, opportunities to comment at the local level, and an evaluation of both service needs and capability before allowing such a service extension to occur. This extensive process is especially important given that LAFCO decisions are quasi-legislative in nature and are not appealable except to the courts. By having a thorough and public process, all needs and concerns can be factored into the final outcome. This protects everyone affected by such a decision and has proven to be good public policy that is applied equally to all. Thus, the mandated approval of the LAFCO application required under AB 1361 introduced procedural inequities which are the antithesis to the logic and data driven analysis normally conducted by LAFCOs when considering district boundary questions. Extending the sunset date through AB 2081 allows those problematic provisions to remain in effect rather than sunset as originally codified.

As we continue to face significant issues relative to the water resources in our state that include the continued drought and a decline in resources, in-depth studies are paramount to good and logical decision making where water supplies and services are concerned. To that end, it is even more critical that each LAFCO be afforded the ability to render the best decision relative to its local conditions and circumstances that is informed by a complete analysis of a proposed extension of water service. Only in this way can the public be assured that the services being rendered meet the highest levels of efficiency and equity.

As OC LAFCO opposes legislation that diminishes LAFCO authority and circumvents the existing LAFCO process, and for all the reasons noted within this letter, OC LAFCO must oppose AB 2081. We appreciate your consideration of the Commission's concerns, and you may contact our Executive Officer, Carolyn Emery at (714) 640-5100 if you have any questions about our position.

Respectfully,

Douglass Davert
Chair

cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Jimmy MacDonald, Principal Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Republican Caucus, Assembly Local Government Committee

April 13, 2022

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Scott Smith
General Counsel

Honorable Cecilia Aguiar-Curry, Chair
Assembly Local Government Committee
California State Assembly
1021 O Street, Room Suite 6350
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Support** - Committee on Local Government Omnibus Bill
(AB 2957)

Dear Chair Aguiar-Curry:

The Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) is pleased to support the Assembly Local Government Committee Omnibus Bill (AB 2957), sponsored by the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO).

AB 2957 proposes technical, non-substantive changes to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (the Act), which governs the work of LAFCOs. These changes allow for greater clarity of language within the Act for all stakeholders and further support OC LAFCO's ability to fulfill its role in encouraging the efficient delivery of municipal services by our respective local governments.

This legislation ensures that the Act remains a vital and practical law that is consistently applied throughout the State. The Commission appreciates the effort of CALAFCO and your Committee's authorship of this bill and support of the mission of LAFCOs.

Respectfully,

Douglass Davert
Chair

cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Jimmy MacDonald, Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly, Republican Caucus
René LaRoche, Executive Director, CALAFCO

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Scott Smith

General Counsel

April 13, 2022

Honorable Anna Caballero, Chair
Senate Governance and Finance Committee
State Capitol, Room 408
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Support** - SB 1490, SB 1491, and SB 1492: Validating Acts
of 2022

Dear Chair Caballero:

The Orange County Local Agency Formation Commission (OC LAFCO) is pleased to support Senate Bills 1490, 1491, and 1492, authored by the Senate Governance and Finance Committee.

Also known as the Validating Acts of 2022, these measures help all public agencies because they protect investors from minor errors that might otherwise threaten boundary changes, bonds, and other official acts. As in the past years, the passage of these bills will ensure that municipal bonds receive the highest possible rating, resulting in the lowest possible borrowing costs for California residents.

OC LAFCO appreciates the Committee's effort in authoring these important bills.

Respectfully,

Douglass Davert
Chair

cc: René LaRoche, Executive Director, CALAFCO