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MEETING DATE: May 13, 2026

TO: Local Agency Formation Commission
of Orange County

FROM: Executive Officer
Policy Analyst I

SUBJECT: Legislative Report (May 2026)

BACKGROUND

Following the Legislature's return from spring recess on April 6th, policy committees took up pending legislation ahead of key deadlines. April 24th was the deadline for bills with fiscal impact to be reviewed and reported out of policy committees to fiscal committees, while May 1st was the deadline for non-fiscal bills to advance out of policy committees. Now that the deadlines have passed, only bills that have been referred to fiscal committees or advanced to the Senate or Assembly floors remain active.

OC LAFCO staff, through its participation with the Alliance of Local Agency Formation Commissions (Alliance) Legislative Committee, has reviewed legislation of LAFCO interest and legislative activity for Commission discussion. During the most recent committee meeting in April, staff discussed Assembly Bill 1821, Validating Acts of 2026, and recent activity related to the amicus brief filing for *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District v. Monterey LAFCO*.

LEGISLATION OF LAFCO INTEREST

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 1821 (Pacheco) - California Public Records Act: Agency Response Time

Under the California Public Records Act, local agencies, including LAFCOs, must provide prompt access to identifiable public records upon a public records request. The Act requires a public agency to respond within 10 calendar days of receiving a request, and in specified unusual circumstances, extend the response period by up to 14 additional calendar days.

Authored by Assembly Member Pacheco, AB 1821 proposes to change the existing timelines for public agencies to respond to public records requests, requiring agencies to respond within 10 business days instead of calendar days and allowing extensions of up to 14 business days. The proposed change aligns the timeframe for responding to a records request with the operational schedules of public agencies. If enacted, the bill would allow agencies to increase the efficiency of responding to records requests within the allotted time, considering the operational schedules of public agencies, which are typically closed on weekends and major holidays. For LAFCOs, which typically have 3 to 8-member staff, the proposed change would further assist in responding to public requests within the required timeframe. Staff recommends the Commission adopt a **Support** position on AB 1821, as the bill is consistent with OC LAFCO's legislative policy of supporting measures that reflect good governance principles and responsible public policy.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt a **Support** position on AB 1821.

Support: Alameda County Office of Education, Association of California School Administrators, California Association of School Business Officials (CASBO), California Municipal Clerks Association (CMCA), California Special Districts Association, California State Association of Counties, California State Sheriffs' Association, City of Buena Park, City of La Verne, League of California Cities, City of Newport Beach, Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), City of Upland, and Urban Counties of California (UCC).

Oppose: ACLU California Action, Buen Vecino, California Common Cause, California News Publishers Association, Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice, Construction Industry Force Account Council, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Disability Rights California, First Amendment Coalition, Justice in Aging, Justice2jobs Coalition, LA Defensa, Western Center on Law & Poverty, INC., and two individuals.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Assembly. No hearing date has been scheduled at the time of agenda distribution.

SENATE BILLS

SB 1440, SB 1441, SB 1442 (Local Government Committee) – Validating Acts of 2026

During each legislative session, the Legislature adopts the annual Validating Acts (Acts) to cure public officials' minor procedural errors or omissions. Authored by the Senate Local Government Committee, the annual bills affect the state government, cities, counties, special districts, and LAFCOs and are enacted to retroactively fix typographical, grammatical, and procedural errors that might invalidate boundary changes or bond issues. The Acts are not meant to protect against fraud, corruption, or unconstitutional acts. Support of the Validating Acts is consistent with the Commission's legislative policies, including those that promote LAFCO's authority, orderly boundary formations, and the effective and reliable conduct of public agency actions. As the Acts would apply to related Commission actions, staff recommends the Commission adopt a **Support** position on SB 1440, SB 1441, and SB 1442.

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Adopt a **Support** position on SB 1440, SB 1441, and SB 1442.

Support: None on record.

Oppose: None on record.

BILL LOCATION/STATUS: Assembly. No hearing date has been scheduled at the time of agenda distribution.

AMICUS BRIEF

On September 17, 2025, the Commission approved OC LAFCO's participation as a party to an amicus brief in *Monterey Peninsula Water Management District v. Monterey LAFCO*, involving the denial of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's (MPWMD) request to activate latent powers to provide retail water service to a portion of Monterey County. The court ruled in favor of MPWMD, finding that Monterey LAFCO applied an incorrect "substantial evidentiary" standard to deny MPWMD's proposal. Monterey LAFCO appealed the court's decision, stating the court applied the incorrect "rational connection" instead of the substantial evidence standard required under the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (CKH Act). In response, the amicus brief is intended to provide additional information on the statutory substantial evidence requirement under the CKH Act and to highlight the broader policy and precedent implications of the court's decision. Staff then provided the Commission with an update during the February 2026 regular meeting, summarizing the anticipated appellate schedule and the planned submission of the amicus brief, including the expected filing of MPWMD's cross-appeal reply brief and the timeline for participating LAFCOs to submit the amicus brief.

Since the last update provided to the Commission, Monterey LAFCO requested and was granted an extension to file its reply brief, moving the deadline from March 6, 2026 to April 7, 2026. Subsequently, MPWMD requested and was granted an extension to file its reply brief, extending the deadline to June 26, 2026. As a result of this extension, the amicus brief is now due on July 10, 2026. Bill Pellman of Nossaman LLP is expected to submit the amicus brief on behalf of OC LAFCO and the other participating LAFCOs. The following table summarizes the anticipated timeline for the remaining appellate filings, assuming no further extensions are requested or granted.

Filing	Responsible Party	Due Date
Monterey LAFCO Reply Brief (Response to MPWMD Cross-Appeal)	Monterey LAFCO	April 7, 2026
MPWMD Reply Brief (Response to Monterey LAFCO Reply Brief)	MPWMD	June 26, 2026
Bill Pellman - Amicus Brief	Participating LAFCOs	July 10, 2026

Staff will continue to monitor the appellate proceedings and will provide updates at future Commission meetings.

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

Staff recommends the Commission:

1. Adopt a **Support** position on Assembly Bill 1821, and Senate Bills 1440, 1441, 1442.
2. Direct staff to send letters of support to Assembly Member Pacheco and the Senate Local Government Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,



LUIS TAPIA



AIMEE DIAZ

Attachments:

1. Assembly Bill 1821 (Pacheco)
2. Senate Bills 1440, 1441, 1442 (Senate Local Government Committee)

Exhibits:

- A. Letter of Support – AB 1821
- B. Letter of Support – SB 1440, 1441, 1442


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AB-1821 California Public Records Act: agency response time. (2025-2026)

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 06, 2026

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 16, 2026

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

NO. 1821

Introduced by Assembly Member Pacheco

February 11, 2026

An act to amend ~~Sections 7922.530 and~~ [Section](#) 7922.535 of the Government Code, relating to public records.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1821, as amended, Pacheco. California Public Records Act: ~~fees and~~ agency response time.

Existing law, the California Public Records Act, requires each state or local agency, upon a request for a copy of records that reasonably describes an identifiable record or records, to make the records promptly available to any person upon payment of fees covering direct costs of duplication, or a statutory fee if applicable, except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of law.

~~This bill would require, if a single request exceeds 2 hours of search time, or if the total requests by a requestor exceed 10 hours of search time in one month, the requestor to also submit to the agency a payment of fees in an amount determined by the agency as reasonable to compensate the agency for the administrative time of completing the requests. The bill would exempt from that requirement a journalist, a newspaper, and an educational or noncommercial scientific institution, as specified. The bill would define "search" for purposes of that requirement to mean to review, either manually or by automated means, agency records for the purpose of locating those records that are responsive to a request.~~

Existing law requires each agency, within 10 days of a request for a copy of records, to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person of the determination and the reasons therefor. Existing law authorizes that time limit to be extended by no more than 14 days under unusual circumstances, as defined.

This bill would instead require each agency to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person as described above within 10 business days of a request for a copy of records. The bill would instead authorize the time period for each agency to respond to be extended by no more than 14 business days.

The California Constitution requires local agencies, for the purpose of ensuring public access to the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies, to comply with a statutory enactment that amends or enacts laws relating to public records or open meetings and contains findings demonstrating that the enactment furthers the constitutional requirements relating to this purpose.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

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

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

~~SECTION 1.~~ ~~Section 7922.530 of the Government Code is amended to read:~~

~~7922.530.(a)(1) Except with respect to public records exempt from disclosure by express provisions of law, each state or local agency, upon a request for a copy of records that reasonably describes an identifiable record or records, shall make the records promptly available to any person upon payment of fees covering direct costs of duplication, or a statutory fee if applicable. Upon request, an exact copy shall be provided unless impracticable to do so.~~

~~(2)(A) If a single request exceeds 2 hours of search time, or if the total requests by a requestor exceed 10 hours of search time in one month, the requestor shall submit to the agency a payment of fees in an amount determined by the agency as reasonable to compensate the agency for the administrative time of completing the requests.~~

~~(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply to any of the following:~~

~~(i) A journalist.~~

~~(ii) A newspaper.~~

~~(iii) An educational or noncommercial scientific institution whose purpose is scholarly or scientific research.~~

~~(C) For purposes of subparagraph (A), "search" means to review, either manually or by automated means, agency records for the purpose of locating those records that are responsive to a request.~~

~~(b) A requester who inspects a disclosable record on the premises of the agency has the right to use the requester's equipment on those premises, without being charged any fees or costs, to photograph or otherwise copy or reproduce the record in a manner that does not require the equipment to make physical contact with the record, unless the means of copy or reproduction would result in either of the following:~~

~~(1) Damage to the record.~~

~~(2) Unauthorized access to the agency's computer systems or secured networks by using software, equipment, or any other technology capable of accessing, altering, or compromising the agency's electronic records.~~

~~(c) The agency may impose any reasonable limits on the use of the requester's equipment that are necessary to protect the safety of the records or to prevent the copying of records from being an unreasonable burden to the orderly function of the agency and its employees. In addition, the agency may impose any limit that is necessary to maintain the integrity of, or ensure the long-term preservation of, historic or high-value records.~~

~~SEC. 2.~~ **SECTION 1.** Section 7922.535 of the Government Code is amended to read:

7922.535. (a) Each agency, upon a request for a copy of records, shall, within 10 business days from receipt of the request, determine whether the request, in whole or in part, seeks copies of disclosable public records in the

possession of the agency and shall promptly notify the person making the request of the determination and the reasons therefor. If the agency determines that the request seeks disclosable public records, the agency shall also state the estimated date and time when the records will be made available.

(b) In unusual circumstances, the time limit prescribed in this article and Article 1 (commencing with Section 7922.500) may be extended by written notice from the head of the agency or a designee to the person making the request, setting forth the reasons for the extension and the date on which a determination is expected to be dispatched. The notice shall not specify a date that would result in an extension for more than 14 business days.

(c) As used in this section, "unusual circumstances" means the following, but only to the extent reasonably necessary to the proper processing of the particular request:

(1) The need to search for and collect the requested records from field facilities or other establishments that are separate from the office processing the request.

(2) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records that are demanded in a single request.

(3) The need for consultation, which shall be conducted with all practicable speed, with another agency having substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject matter interest therein.

(4) The need to compile data, to write programming language or a computer program, or to construct a computer report to extract data.

(5) The inability of the agency, because of a cyberattack, to access its electronic servers or systems in order to search for and obtain a record that the agency believes is responsive to a request and is maintained on the servers or systems in an electronic format.

(A) This paragraph does not relieve the agency of its obligation to comply with subdivision (a) when the requested record is maintained in a location other than on the electronic server or system affected by the cyberattack, or maintained in a nonelectronic format.

(B) This paragraph applies only until the agency regains its ability to access its electronic servers or systems and search for and obtain electronic records that may be responsive to a request.

(6) The need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine records during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor in the jurisdiction where the agency is located when the state of emergency currently and directly affects, due to the state of emergency, the agency's ability to timely respond to requests due to staffing shortages or closure of facilities where the requested records are located.

(A) This paragraph shall not apply to a request for records created during and related to the state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, "state of emergency" means a state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2).

~~SEC. 3.~~ **SEC. 2.** The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 ~~of this act, which amends Section 7922.530 of the Government Code, and Section 2~~ of this act, which amends Section 7922.535 of the Government Code, ~~further, furthers~~, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

This act balances the right of the public to access public records in a timely manner while ~~providing public agencies proper compensation and protection from convoluted requests.~~ *acknowledging that state and local agencies provide a variety of public services and may need additional time to properly respond to requests.*

~~SEC. 4.~~ **SEC. 3.** The Legislature finds and declares that Section 1 ~~of this act, which amends Section 7922.530 of the Government Code, and Section 2~~ of this act, which amends Section 7922.535 of the Government Code, ~~impose~~ *imposes* a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to

that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

This act balances the right of the public to access public records in a timely manner while ~~providing public agencies proper compensation and protection from convoluted requests.~~ *acknowledging that state and local agencies provide a variety of public services and may need additional time to properly respond to requests.*


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SB-1440 Validations. (2025-2026)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1440

Introduced by Committee on Local Government (Senators Durazo (Chair), Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Choi, Laird, and Seyarto)

March 11, 2026

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 1440, as introduced, Committee on Local Government. Validations.

This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2026, 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 2026.

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.

Climate resilience 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 housing finance authorities.

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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SB-1441 Validations. (2025-2026)

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Date Published: 03/11/2026 09:00 PM

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1441

Introduced by Committee on Local Government (Senators Durazo (Chair), Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Choi, Laird, and Seyarto)

March 11, 2026

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 1441, as introduced, Committee on Local Government. Validations.

This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2026, 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 2026.

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.

Climate resilience 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 housing finance authorities.

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, 2026.

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-1442 Validations. (2025-2026)

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CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 1442

Introduced by Committee on Local Government (Senators Durazo (Chair), Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Choi, Laird, and Seyarto)

March 11, 2026

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 1442, as introduced, Committee on Local Government. Validations.

This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2026, 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 2026.

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.

Climate resilience 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 housing finance authorities.

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.

REGULAR MEMBERS

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City Member

VICE CHAIR

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Special District Member

IMMEDIATE PAST CHAIR

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ALTERNATES

Kathryn Freshley

Special District Member

Carol Moore

City Member

Lou Penrose

Public Member

VACANT

County Member

STAFF

Luis Tapia

Executive Officer

Scott Smith

General Counsel

May 13, 2026

Honorable Blanca Pacheco

California State Assembly

1021 O Street, Suite 4510

Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Support** – AB 1821: California Public Records Act: Agency Response Time

Dear Assembly Member Pacheco:

The Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (OC LAFCO) is pleased to support Assembly Bill 1821. AB 1821 proposes to amend the California Public Records Act (CPRA) by specifying that the timeframes for an agency's determination of whether a request seeks disclosable records should be based on business days, rather than calendar days.

Under existing law, agencies are currently required to determine if a CPRA request seeks disclosable records within 10 calendar days, with a possible 14-day extension in unusual circumstances. For small agencies such as LAFCOs, which operate with limited staff and resources and do not maintain seven-day workweeks, these timelines can be difficult to meet, particularly when requests require coordination with legal counsel.

Consequently, AB 1821 would provide a practical update by converting these timeframes to business days, ensuring agencies have the full number of working days intended under the law. This change better reflects the operational realities of LAFCOs and supports timely, accurate, and complete responses to CPRA requests while maintaining public access to records.

OC LAFCO supports the effort of AB 1821 and appreciates your authorship of this important legislation.

Respectfully Submitted,

Wendy Bucknum

Chair

CC: Orange County Legislators

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County Member

STAFF

Luis Tapia

Executive Officer

Scott Smith

General Counsel

May 13, 2026

Honorable Maria Elena Durazo, Chair
Senate Local Government Committee
State Capitol, Room 407
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **Support** – SB 1440, SB 1441, SB 1442: Validating Acts of 2026

Dear Chair Durazo:

The Local Agency Formation Commission of Orange County (OC LAFCO) is pleased to support Senate Bills 1440, 1441, and 1442, authored by the Senate Local Government Committee.

Also known as the Validating Acts of 2026, these measures serve an important role in protecting public agencies and investors by curing minor procedural errors that could otherwise invalidate boundary changes, bonds, and other official acts. As in prior 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 Submitted,

Wendy Bucknum
Chair

CC: Orange County Legislators