



CALAFCO Legislative Summary

May 23, 2024, LAFCo Meeting

The CALAFCO Legislative Committee is currently tracking 9 pieces of proposed legislation. Two of these items are bills sponsored by CALAFCO, our omnibus bill (AB 3277) and another important one (SB 1209) which explicitly allows LAFCos to require indemnification agreements for proposal applications.

Additional bills of potential Yolo LAFCo interest include:

- AB 805 (Arambula D) This bill may be potentially valuable for Yolo LAFCo if small community systems fail to maintain adequate service. This bill would authorize the state board to require a sewer service provider to contract with an administrator designated or approved by the state board for the provision of adequate sewer service. Also, the state board could order a designated sewer system to accept those services. CALAFCO has requested including language requiring the state board to consult with the local LAFCo and has taken a “support if amended” position.
- AB 2302 (Addis D) This bill would enact changes to Brown Act provisions that allow members of legislative bodies to teleconference for meetings. Currently, the law limits teleconferencing to no more than 3 consecutive months, 20% of the regular meetings in a calendar year, or 2 meetings for bodies that meet less than 10 times in a calendar year. This bill redefines those limits as 2 meetings per year for bodies meeting monthly or less; 5 meetings per year for those meeting twice per month; or 7 meetings per year if the body meetings three times or more per month. CALAFCO has taken a “watch” position.

Please see the attached CALAFCO List of Current Bills dated 5/15/2024.

CALAFCO List of Current Bills 5/15/2024

AB 805 **(Arambula D) Sewer service: disadvantaged communities.**

Current Text: Amended: 1/22/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amend: 1/22/2024

Status: 5/1/2024-Referred to Com. on E.Q.

Location: 5/1/2024-S. E.Q.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

Calendar: 6/5/2024 9 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1200 SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY, ALLEN, BENJAMIN, Chair

Summary: Under current law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act. Current law authorizes a regional board to order the provision of sewer service by a receiving sewer system, as defined, to a disadvantaged community served by an inadequate onsite sewage treatment system, as defined. This bill would authorize the state board to require a sewer service provider to contract with an administrator designated or approved by the state board for administrative, technical, operational, legal, or managerial services to assist a designated sewer system with the provision of adequate sewer service, as defined. The bill would also authorize the state board to order a designated sewer system to accept those services, including full management and control of all aspects of the designated sewer system, from an administrator. The bill would define “designated sewer system” for these purposes as a sewer system that serves a disadvantaged community and that the state board finds to be either an inadequate sewage treatment system or a sewer system that has demonstrated difficulty in maintaining technical, managerial, and financial capacity to prevent fraud and mismanagement, or a sewer system that voluntarily accepts financial assistance for the provision of adequate sewer service.

Position

Support if Amended

Subject

Disadvantaged Communities, Waste Water

CALAFCO Comments: 5/1/2024: Assigned to Senate Environmental Quality committee. No hearing date yet scheduled.

1/26/2024: Support, if amended, approved. Amendment requested is the inclusion of language requiring the state board to consult with the local LAFCO.

1/22/2024: Gutted and amended. No longer addresses consolidation of waste water systems but, rather, would set up a program in which the state would provide technical, managerial, administrative, and financial assistance, where applicable, to disadvantaged communities. Position changed to support if amended to include a provision requiring the state board to consult with the local LAFCO regarding the system.

As introduced, this bill would have authorized the state board, if sufficient funds are available, to order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water systems when both of the receiving and subsumed water systems provide sewer service and after the state board engages in certain activities. It failed to meet 2023 deadlines and became a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 817 **(Pacheco D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.**

Current Text: Amended: 1/17/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amend: 1/17/2024

Status: 5/1/2024-Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD.

Location: 5/1/2024-S. L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, each legislative body of a local agency to provide notice of the time and place for its regular meetings and an agenda containing a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted. The act also requires that all meetings of a legislative body be open and public, and that all persons be permitted to attend unless a closed session is authorized. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. Current law authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternate teleconferencing provisions during a proclaimed state of emergency (emergency provisions) and, until January 1, 2026, in certain circumstances related to the particular member if at least a quorum of its members participate from a singular physical location that is open to the public and situated within the agency’s jurisdiction and other requirements are met (nonemergency provisions). This bill, until January 1, 2026, would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use similar alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this act, the bill would require the legislative body that established the subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action to make specified findings by majority vote, before the subsidiary body uses teleconferencing for the first time and every 12 months thereafter.

Position

Watch

Subject

Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: 5/3/2024: Current location is the Senate Local Government Committee, waiting on hearing date.

1/25/2024: Moved out of the Assembly and was assigned to Senate Local Government Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee.

1/17/2024: Amended to add a Sunset date of January 1, 2026.

3/16/2023: The bill was amended to speak specifically to teleconferenced meetings of subsidiary bodies, defined as a body that serves exclusively in an advisory capacity, and is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements. For qualifying bodies, this bill would remove the requirement to post an agenda at the location of the subsidiary body member who was participating from off site- providing that the legislative body that formed the subsidiary body has previously made findings noting that teleconferenced meetings of the subsidiary body would enhance public access, and would promote the attractions, retention and diversity of the subsidiary body. The superior legislative body would need to revisit the matter and repeat those finding every 12 months thereafter. This bill also reaffirms that other provisions of the Brown Act are applicable to subsidiary bodies.

Failed to meet deadlines and now a 2 year bill that cannot be acted upon until January, 2024.

AB 828

(Connolly D) Sustainable groundwater management: managed wetlands.

Current Text: Amended: 1/11/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amend: 1/11/2024

Status: 5/1/2024-Referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

Location: 5/1/2024-S. N.R. & W.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

Summary: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. Current law defines various terms for purposes of the act. This bill would add various defined terms for purposes of the act, including the terms “managed wetland” and “small community water system.”

Position

None at this time

Subject

Water

CALAFCO Comments: 5/1/24: Referred to Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water; waiting on hearing date.

1/29/24: Passed Assembly Floor and moved to Senate to be scheduled for policy hearing.
 1/18/24: Passed out of Assembly Appropriations Committee.
 1/11/24: Amended to strike provisions regarding small community water systems serving disadvantaged communities and pivots to groundwater sustainability agencies. New provisions were added to the bill that would have the effect of carving out of the existing law, until January 1, 2028, small community water systems serving disadvantaged communities from permitted public water supply wells. After January 1, 2028, that provision sunsets and the law would revert back to its current state without the carve out.
 1/9/24: Passed Assembly Water, Parks and Recreation Committee.
 4/17/2023: Amended to define agencies and entities required or excluded from existing 10726.4 (a) (4). Amends Water Code section 10730.2 to add language regarding fees, and amends Water Code section 10733 to address groundwater sustainability plans.
 Failed to make April policy committee deadline and now cannot be acted upon until January 2024.

As introduced, would add definitions for Managed Wetlands, and Small community water system to Water Code Section 10721.

AB 2302 (Addis D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/12/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/12/2024

Status: 5/9/2024-Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. (Ayes 63. Noes 0.) In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

Location: 5/9/2024-S. RLS.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House				Conc.			

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. The act provides an exemption to the jurisdictional requirement for health authorities, as defined. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing in specified circumstances if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Current law imposes prescribed restrictions on remote participation by a member under these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including establishing limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location, prohibiting such participation for a period of more than 3 consecutive months or 20% of the regular meetings for the local agency within a calendar year, or more than 2 meetings if the legislative body regularly meets fewer than 10 times per calendar year. This bill would revise those limits, instead prohibiting such participation for more than a specified number of meetings per year, based on how frequently the legislative body regularly meets.

Position

Watch

Subject

Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: 5/6/2024: Scheduled for Assembly Third Reading.

4/10/24 passed Assembly Local Government Committee and sent to Assembly Floor.
 Introduced on 2/12/2024, this bill would enact changes to Brown Act provisions that allow members of legislative bodies to teleconference for meetings. Currently, the law limits teleconferencing to no more than 3 consecutive months, 20% of the regular meetings in a calendar year, or 2 meetings for bodies that meet less than 10 times in a calendar year. This bill redefines those limits as 2 meetings per year for bodies meeting monthly or less; 5 meetings per year for those meeting twice per month; or 7 meetings per year if the body meetings three times or more per month.

AB 2715 (Boerner D) Ralph M. Brown Act: closed sessions.

Current Text: Amended: 4/24/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2024

Last Amend: 4/24/2024

Status: 5/2/2024-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 5/2/2024-A. THIRD READING

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar: 5/16/2024 #48 ASSEMBLY THIRD READING FILE - ASSEMBLY BILLS

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires that all meetings of a legislative body of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Current law authorizes a legislative body to hold a closed session with specified individuals on, among other things, matters posing a threat to the security of essential public services, as specified. This bill would additionally authorize a legislative body to hold a closed session with other law enforcement or security personnel and to hold a closed session on a threat to critical infrastructure controls or critical infrastructure information, as defined, relating to cybersecurity.

Position

None at this time

Subject

Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: 5/1/2024: Passed Assembly Local Government Committee; awaiting Assembly Floor date.

4/24/2024: Amended to include cybersecurity threats among the things that can be discussed in closed session. Provides a definition of "critical infrastructure controls" to include I.T. networks.

As introduced on 2/14/2024, would make minor changes in the Brown Act. Monitoring.

AB 2986 (Carrillo, Wendy D) Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles: East Los Angeles Task Force.

Current Text: Amended: 4/29/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/16/2024

Last Amend: 4/29/2024

Status: 4/30/2024-Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Location: 4/25/2024-A. APPR.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar: 5/15/2024 9:30 a.m. - 1021 O Street, Room 1100
ASSEMBLY APPROPRIATIONS, WICKS, BUFFY, Chair

Summary: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified. The act continues in existence in each county a local agency formation commission (LAFCO) that consists of members appointed, as specified, and that oversees those changes of organization and reorganization. The act authorizes a LAFCO to, among other things, review and approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals for changes of organization or reorganization, including incorporation of a city or formation of a district, as specified. This bill would require the Local Agency Formation Commission for the County of Los Angeles (LALAFCO) to establish the East Los Angeles Task Force for the purposes of identifying and evaluating the potential impacts of incorporation of, or the establishment of special districts within, East Los Angeles, as defined. The bill would require the task force to be composed of 11 members appointed by LALAFCO in consultation with the County of Los Angeles. The bill would require the task force to meet quarterly, incorporating robust community engagement, to discuss the potential impacts of incorporation or the establishment of special districts in East Los Angeles, as specified. The bill would require the task force to complete and submit a report to the Legislature on the potential impacts of city and special district incorporation in East Los Angeles, including an analysis of advantages, disadvantages, and recommendations for future actions, as specified.

Position

None at this time

Subject

Special District Consolidations

CALAFCO Comments: 4/29/2024, Amended version in print. Makes the bill contingent on appropriation of funds to reimburse LA LAFCO for the costs of the Task Force.

4/24/2024, Passed Assembly Local Government Committee hearing with amendments and re-referred to Appropriations.

3/21/2024, the bill was gutted and amended and now requires the LA LAFCO to develop an East Los Angeles Formation Task Force. Not a statewide issue.

AB 3277 (Committee on Local Government) Local agency formation commission: districts: property tax.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/27/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/27/2024

Status: 5/8/2024-Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Location: 5/8/2024-S. L. GOV.

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	
1st House				2nd House				Conc.				

Summary: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 establishes the sole and exclusive authority and procedures for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts. Current law requires proceedings for the formation of a district to be conducted as authorized by the principal act of the proposed district, and authorizes the local agency formation commission in each county to serve as the conducting authority, as specified. Current law requires a commission to determine the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by an affected local agency, as specified, if the proposal includes the formation of a district, as defined. This bill would, instead, require a commission to determine the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by an affected local agency if the proposal includes the formation of a district and the applicant is seeking a share of the 1% ad valorem property taxes.

Position

Sponsor

Subject

Incorporation
Proceedings

CALAFCO Comments: CALAFCO's 2024 Omnibus bill.

4/29/2024, Removed from Appropriations and sent to Assembly floor where it passed. Now sits in Senate Rules waiting for committee assignment.

4/10/2024, Passed Assembly Local Government Committee and was referred to Appropriations.

[SB 537](#)

(Becker D) Open meetings: multijurisdictional, cross-county agencies: teleconferences.

Current Text: Amended: 9/5/2023 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/14/2023

Last Amend: 9/5/2023

Status: 9/14/2023-Ordered to inactive file on request of Assembly Member Bryan.

Location: 9/14/2023-A. INACTIVE FILE

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered	
1st House				2nd House				Conc.				

Summary: Current law, until January 1, 2024, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternate teleconferencing provisions during a proclaimed state of emergency or in other situations related to public health that exempt a legislative body from the general requirements (emergency provisions) and impose different requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The emergency provisions specify that they do not require a legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing in certain circumstances related to the particular member if at least a quorum of its members participate from a singular physical location that is open to the public and situated within the agency's jurisdiction and other requirements are met, including restrictions on remote participation by a member of the legislative body. These circumstances include if a member shows "just cause," including for a childcare or caregiving need of a relative that requires the member to participate remotely. This bill would expand the circumstances of "just cause" to apply to the situation in which an immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, or other specified relative requires the member to participate remotely. The bill would authorize the legislative body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, as specified, to use alternate teleconferencing provisions if the eligible legislative body has adopted an authorizing resolution, as specified. The bill would also require the legislative body to provide a record of attendance of the members of the legislative body, the number of community members in attendance in the teleconference meeting, and the number of public comments on its internet website within 10 days after a teleconference meeting, as specified. The bill would require at least a quorum of members of the legislative body to participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

Position

Watch

Subject

Brown Act

CALAFCO Comments: This is a spotholder bill that states an intent to expand local government's access to hold public meetings through teleconferencing and remote access.

3/22/2023: was amended and fleshed out to add teleconferencing provisions to allow legislative bodies of multijurisdictional agencies to meet remotely. Multijurisdictional agencies are defined as boards, commissions, or advisory bodies of a multijurisdictional, cross county agency, which is composed of appointed representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, special district, or a joint powers entity.

The bill is sponsored by Peninsula Clean Energy, a community choice aggregator with a board comprised of local elected officials from the County of San Mateo and its 20 cities, as well as the City of Los Banos.

4/24/2023: The bill was amended to further clarify definitions and the requirements needed for members of an eligible legislative body to meet remotely.

The bill passed Senate Judiciary on 5/2/23, and had its third reading in the Senate on 5/30/2023. 7/12/23: The bill passed the Assembly Local Government Committee.

Amended on August 14, 2023, to require eligible legislative bodies that receive compensation to participate from a physical location that is open to the public.

9/14/2023, the bill was moved into the inactive file.

SB 1209 (Cortese D) Local agency formation commission: indemnification.

Current Text: Introduced: 2/15/2024 [html](#) [pdf](#)

Introduced: 2/15/2024

Status: 3/21/2024-Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Location: 2/29/2024-S. THIRD READING

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Calendar: 5/16/2024 #11 SENATE SENATE BILLS -THIRD READING FILE

Summary: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 continues in existence in each county a local agency formation commission (LAFCO) that consists of members appointed, as specified, and oversees those changes of organization and reorganization. The act authorizes a LAFCO to, among other things, review and approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals for changes of organization or reorganization, as specified. This bill would authorize a LAFCO to require, as a condition for, among other things, processing a change of organization or reorganization, that the applicant agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the LAFCO, its agents, officers, and employees from and against any claim, action, or proceeding, as specified, arising from or relating to the action or determination by the LAFCO.

Position
Sponsor

Subject
LAFCo
Administration

CALAFCO Comments: 03/20/2024, Passed Senate Local Government Committee hearing. Now proceeds to Senate floor vote, then will move to Assembly.

CALAFCO sponsored bill in response to a 2022 appellate decision out of San Luis Obispo that held that LAFCOs could not use indemnification provisions in applications because indemnifications are a form of agreement that LAFCOs are currently not authorized to enter into. As introduced, the bill would allow LAFCOs to use provisions similar to counties and cities.

Total Measures: 9

Total Tracking Forms: 9

5/15/2024 9:35:45 AM