

**LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
ASSOCIATION OF BAY AREA GOVERNMENTS**

Thursday, September 19, 2002

Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Councilmember Carole Dillon-Knutson, Novato
Supervisor Scott Haggerty, Alameda County
Mayor Mary Lou Holt, Yountville, L&GO Chair
Supervisor Rose Jacobs Gibson, L&GO Vice Chair
Supervisor Peter McHugh, Santa Clara County
Vice Mayor Julia Miller, Sunnyvale
Mayor Pro Tem Gwen Regalia, Walnut Creek
Councilmember Dick Spees, Oakland
Mayor Shelia Young, San Leandro

Also Present:

Patricia Jones – ABAG
Kathleen Cha—ABAG
Eugene Leong—ABAG
Gerry Raycraft—ABAG
Alex Amoroso—ABAG
Kathleen Van Velsor—ABAG
Adrienne Bousian—Representative Senator Barbara Boxer
Supervisor Mark De Saulnier, Contra Costa County

1. Introductions: Committee Chair, Mayor Mary Lou Holt, opened the meeting at 3:35 with quorum present.

3. Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2002, minutes were approved.

3. Report On SB 864 (Formerly SB 1243) Torlakson

Summary of legislative efforts regarding proposed merger of ABAG/MTC was presented: Senator Torlakson withdrew the bill from the Local Government committee when it was evident that the bill was not supported. General consensus is that ABAG and MTC should meet together to define a better, more inclusive merger proposal, before meeting with Senator Torlakson and/or identify an Assemblymember to craft and carry new legislation on this topic for the next legislative session. An executive summary of San Diego's Regional Planning Agency (SANDAG) legislation—SB 1703 (Peace) and news stories on their regional agency proposal was distributed to provide another perspective on the merger discussion.

Next Steps Discussed: The ABAG Administrative Committee will be meeting to discuss future proposals. There are also meetings being proposed by the Mayors' Conferences and Congestion Management Authorities (CMA) to discuss and propose how to integrate land-use and transportation planning. ABAG's Executive Director has been invited to meet with the CMA's to discuss this issue.

4. California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act Of 2002 (Boxer) S.2535

Adrienne Bousian, representing Senator Barbara Boxer, provided background analysis of the proposed federal legislation that will be heard in Congress in October. The bill would protect 2.5 million acres of public lands in 81 different areas across the state, as well as the free flowing portions of 22 rivers and stream. The bill has been introduced in the House as two bills: the Northern California wilderness bill sponsored by Congressman Mike Thompson and the Southern California wilderness bill sponsored by Congresswoman Hilda Solis. It is the result of years of meetings with local communities, elected officials, and environmental, special interest groups with much fine tuning of areas included and excluded.

Action: After much discussion the Committee recommended support of the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act of 2002 by a narrow margin.

5. Legislation Relating to Calfed and Water-Related Issues

Kathleen Van Velsor, ABAG Senior Environmental Planner, provided a brief update on water management and other water related legislation affecting local jurisdictions. Breaking news she shared from Senator Feinstein's office was that the CALFED Bay Delta Authorization Act is not likely to go to the Senate Floor for consideration because Congress is preoccupied with homeland security, budget, and Iraq war resolution. It is hoped and likely that it will be incorporated into the Daschle Omnibus Bill.

Regarding Proposition 50: Kathleen Van Velsor also provided an overview of Proposition 50 on the November ballot. Proposition 50 is the Water Bonds issue about Water Quality, Supply and Safe Drinking Water Projects, Coastal Wetlands Purchase and Protection.

Action: After expressing concern over many competing financial priorities and implications of the all the bonds and propositions, Committee recommended support of the Proposition 50 because of the importance of water to the region.

6. Review of Legislation

A brief status update of legislation tracked and recommended during this past session was given. New legislative business before the Committee included the following:

Regarding Ordinances on Consumer Financial Privacy: Supervisor Mark De Saulnier of Contra Costa County presented information about a County Model Ordinance Regulating Disclosure of Confidential Consumer Information by Financial Institutions. This county model ordinance on consumer privacy is a local solution to the failure of SB 773 (Speier) which would have addressed this issue and the state legislature's failure in general to resolve the issue of confidential consumer information.

A copy of the model ordinance passed by San Mateo County was distributed. It was noted that this past week Contra Costa County had just passed the ordinance, that Alameda County would soon be taking up the issue, and that Marin County is setting up public hearings on the issue. Other cities are being encouraged to propose an ordinance, as well. It was agreed that this issue should be handled at the state level, but since it was not, it is believed that a groundswell of local government support and ordinances would and will collectively send a message to the state to deal with the privacy issue accordingly.

Under Public Comment: Kim Cousins, Governmental Relations/Wells Fargo spoke about Wells Fargo's concern over the potential of inconsistencies within multiple ordinances and stressed their commitment to providing consumer financial privacy.

Action: The Committee moved unanimously to recommend to the Executive Board to support local jurisdictions' enactment of ordinances on consumer privacy. It was also recommended that a model ordinance consistent with county and city formatting requirements be developed by ABAG for distribution to all jurisdictions in the region for their use, as appropriate.

Proposition 46: Housing and Emergency Shelter Trust Fund Act

Action: The Committee moved to recommend support of Proposition 46. This is a continuation of support for SB 1227, Senator Burton's bill which enacts this proposition. Proposition 46 will allow the state to sell \$2.1 billion dollars of general bond obligations to fund 21 housing programs.

SB 905 (Perata) and AB 1243 (Wiggins) Prohibition of Payroll Deductions. Information on this bill, which was introduced in the legislature at the last minute, was presented including a sample letter from the City of San Carlos urging the Governor to veto the bills was distributed.

Action: Because these companion bills would prohibit cities and other agencies from adopting voluntary payroll deduction programs for employees, when those programs are not specifically named, the Committee recommended unanimously to oppose the bills and urge Governor Davis to veto them.

Other New Business:

A Legislative Reform Plan from Assemblymember Joseph Canciamilla was presented for review by President Gwen Regalia. Canciamilla proposes a change in legislative operations, in how legislature does its legislative and budget business. He suggests that the first 10 months of each two-year legislative session be devoted solely to the development of a two-year budget and to oversight. No members would be permitted to introduce individual bills during this period. Focus would be on review, study and analysis of existing programs, how they perform

and how they fit into the budget. Time would be spent on understanding how and if programs are working, not on developing more without first evaluating and considering their impacts. As a result, local city councils and civic organizations are being asked for their support and comments as this proposal begins to move through the process. Postcards for showing support and for being kept informed of efforts to reform California's current budget process were distributed to members.

Action: The Committee unanimously supported this effort and moved to recommend support from the Executive Board.

7. **Adjourn:** The meeting adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 21, 2002, 3:30-5 p.m., MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B