

CALIFORNIA STATE ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
***Special Meeting***

October 8, 2003  
CSAC Videoconference Center, Sacramento, CA

M I N U T E S

Presiding: Tim Smith, President

I. Roll Call

Alameda	Absent	Orange	Chris Norby
Alpine	Absent	Placer	Absent
Amador	Mario Biagi	Plumas	Bill Dennison
Butte	Curt Josiassen	Riverside	John Tavaglione
Calaveras	Paul Stein	Sacramento	Johnson/Dickinson
Colusa	Absent	San Benito	Ruth Kesler
Contra Costa	Gayle Uilkema	San Bernardino	Jerry Eaves
Del Norte	Absent	San Diego	Cox/Horn
El Dorado	Absent	San Francisco	Absent
Fresno	Judy Case	San Joaquin	Absent
Glenn	Denny Bungarz	San Luis Obispo	Harry Ovitt
Humboldt	Roger Rodini	San Mateo	Rich Gordon
Imperial	Absent	Santa Barbara	Naomi Schwartz
Inyo	Absent	Santa Clara	James Beall
Kern	Absent	Santa Cruz	Jan Beautz
Kings	Tony Oliveira	Shasta	Absent
Lake	Absent	Sierra	Absent
Lassen	Absent	Siskiyou	Joan Smith
Los Angeles	Absent	Solano	Barbara Kondylis
Madera	Vern Moss	Sonoma	Tim Smith
Marin	Absent	Stanislaus	Ray Simon
Mariposa	Absent	Sutter	Absent
Mendocino	Richard Shoemaker	Tehama	Barbara McIver
Merced	Absent	Trinity	Absent
Modoc	Absent	Tulare	Connie Conway
Mono	Absent	Tuolumne	Absent
Monterey	Absent	Ventura	Absent
Napa	Absent	Yolo	Mike McGowan
Nevada	Absent	Yuba	Bill Simmons

The presence of a quorum in person, via videoconference and audioconference was noted.

II. Consideration of Local Government Constitutional Amendment Initiative Protecting Against State Revenue and Cost Shifts

Steve Szalay outlined the five components of the proposed local government initiative which are: 1) guarantees reimbursement for mandates; 2) prohibits the state from taking local share of sales and property taxes without going to the voters first; 3) allows the state to eliminate the vehicle license fee if local governments receive replacement funds from another dedicated revenue source; 4) constitutionally guarantees repayment of vehicle license fee gap as a loan; and 5) protects from revenue reductions and cost shifts.

Cathy Christian, special counsel for the Initiative, reviewed the October 1 draft initiative language and noted that the most recent draft contains no specific reference to VLF, but does retain language to ensure that local governments will still receive revenues.

Political consultant Paul Mandabach discussed polling results that indicate an excellent opportunity for voter approval of the measure with support in the 70% to 72% range.

Steve Merksamer, legal and political consultant, expressed his opinion that the proposed initiative will give counties leverage in the legislative process and that the timing is right because public discontent with the Legislature is at an all-time high. He also stated that this type of initiative will lay a foundation for substantive reform to take place.

Supervisor Bill Horn, San Diego County, presented an amendment to the language related to state deferrals of mandated payments. The amendment would give boards of supervisors the authority to either continue performing a mandate and receive reimbursement in the future or suspend performance of a mandate during the period that the mandate is unfunded, in the event the Legislature does not adequately fund mandated programs.

Supervisor Chris Norby, Orange County, reported that the Orange County Board of Supervisors voted to oppose the proposed initiative at their September 23 meeting because they believe the measure will lock in current fiscal inequities, specifically situs sales tax allocations.

Motion and second to approve the proposed initiative in concept as amended to include the San Diego County provision, and move forward with next steps. Motion carried.

Staff was directed to develop a fact sheet that addresses concerns raised by various Board of Directors members and distribute to all members prior to the November Board of Directors meeting. Updated language will be distributed prior to the November meeting where status and strategy for the initiative will be discussed.

Meeting adjourned.