



Government Finance & Administration Policy Committee Meeting
CSAC 127th Annual Meeting
Thursday, December 2, 2021 | 9:45 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.
San Carlos IV, Monterey Marriott
Monterey County, California

Supervisor Bruce Gibson, San Luis Obispo County, Chair
Supervisor Luis Alejo, Monterey County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, San Bernardino County, Vice Chair

- 9:45 a.m. I. Welcome and Introductions**
Supervisor Bruce Gibson, San Luis Obispo County, Chair
Supervisor Luis Alejo, Monterey County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, San Bernardino County, Vice Chair
- 9:50 a.m. II. Broadband: Celebrating Success and Preparing for Future Advocacy – ACTION ITEM**
Geoff Neill, CSAC Legislative Representative
Joe Krahn, Paragon Government Relations
- 10:05 a.m. III. Open Meetings Information Exchange – INFORMATIONAL ITEM**
Supervisor Bruce Gibson, San Luis Obispo County, Chair
Supervisor Luis Alejo, Monterey County, Vice Chair
Supervisor Janice Rutherford, San Bernardino County, Vice Chair
- 10:35 a.m. IV. Principles for Open Meeting Advocacy – ACTION ITEM**
Geoff Neill, CSAC Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, CSAC Legislative Analyst
- 11:00 a.m. V. 2022 GFA Priorities – ACTION ITEM**
Geoff Neill, CSAC Legislative Representative
Ryan Souza, CSAC Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, CSAC Legislative Analyst
- 11:10 a.m. VI. GFA 2021 Year in Review – INFORMATIONAL ITEM**
Geoff Neill, CSAC Legislative Representative
Ryan Souza, CSAC Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, CSAC Legislative Analyst
- 11:15 a.m. VII. Adjourn**

Attachment One

CSAC Memo: Broadband: Celebrating Success and Preparing for Future Advocacy



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December 2, 2021

To: CSAC Government Finance and Administration Policy Committee

From: Geoff Neill, Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, Legislative Analyst

Re: **Broadband: Celebrating Success and Preparing for Future Advocacy – ACTION ITEM**

Recommendation: Staff recommends the committee approve principles to direct the association’s advocacy on legislation related to broadband.

Background: 2021 was a banner year for broadband. The groundwork was laid in 2020 by the Governor, who ordered the California Broadband Council to report on state actions that could aid broadband expansion, by the CPUC, who commissioned an accounting of the costs for achieving ubiquitous broadband infrastructure, and most importantly by the teachers, doctors, small businesses owners, government officials, and millions of others around the state pointing out that in a world gone remote those on the wrong side of the Digital Divide were not just falling behind, but were unable to participate in modern life.

CSAC formed and led a coalition initially consisting of schools, hospitals, California Forward, and our local government allies—including UCC, RCRC, and Cal Cities—and later growing to include dozens of organizations from every sector and every part of the state. The coalition, informed by CSAC’s Broadband Working Group, urged the Governor to include \$8 billion for broadband in his May budget proposal, consisting of \$6.8 billion for broadband access and infrastructure and \$1.2 billion for broadband adoption and digital literacy.

Fast forward to late June and the coalition’s success, as the Legislature passed SB 156 and AB 164, which together made a historic \$6 billion investment in the state’s broadband infrastructure, reformed broadband programs to put counties on a level playing field for grant funds, and made millions of dollars available to local agencies for technical support.

AB 14 by Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry and SB 4 by Senator Lena Gonzalez furthered those reforms and increased annual funding for broadband grant programs to \$150 million per year and extended the funding for another 10 years.

The federal government also passed significant funding for broadband. The American Rescue Plan Act included flexible recovery funds for the California (\$26 billion) and its counties (\$8 billion) and specifically listed broadband infrastructure as an allowed use. In fact, the state’s broadband infrastructure investments are largely funded from these dollars.

More recently, Congress passed and President Biden signed the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, which includes \$65 billion for a combination of access and affordability programs. The largest program, called Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD), provides \$42.45 billion to states and territories to connect unserved areas, underserved areas, and community anchor institutions, in that order of priority. The federal infrastructure funds are unlikely to begin flowing until 2022 or later.

The federal infrastructure bill also includes \$14.2 billion to continue direct subsidies to qualifying households for the purchase of broadband service (\$30 per household) and \$2.75 billion for the Digital Equity Act Programs to promote digital inclusion and equity, among other smaller provisions.

But work remains. Before the ink was dry on SB 156, those who opposed some of its provisions had already pivoted to urging the CPUC and the Legislature to redirect funding from the statewide middle mile network to other purposes and to backtrack on some of the important reforms.

And while the CSAC-led coalition and the Governor both proposed addressing broadband affordability and digital literacy and inclusion, the state did not ultimately pass any significant legislation to that effect. The federal infrastructure bill provides fairly substantial funding for affordability, though more can be done. And the federal funds for digital literacy and inclusion are a good start, but on their own are unlikely to be sufficient to the task.

Staff recommendation. Staff recommends the committee discuss and adopt the principles below to guide the association's advocacy in the coming year to protect and expand on the gains of 2021.

Principles for Advocacy

1. Ensure broadband service is affordable for all California residents, through regulation, incentives, direct federal and state funding, or a combination of the three.
2. Advocate for long-term state and federal funding, as well as coordination with the nonprofit and private sectors, to create and expand programs that effectively and efficiently increase digital literacy and inclusion so that all Californians can meaningfully use broadband services.
3. Maintain and ensure sufficient funding to complete a statewide open-access middle mile network.
4. Support county applications for last-mile network infrastructure grants and county input into last-mile locations.
5. Disseminate information to counties to help maximize joint use of state and federal funds.

Attachment Two

LAO Broadband Budget Overview

2021-22 Budget Agreement

As reflected in the budget act and the accompanying changes in state law in SB 156, the administration and the Legislature agreed to spend \$6 billion over three fiscal years, starting in 2021-22, on three of the four broadband infrastructure projects and programs for which funding was proposed in the Governor’s May Revision. Of the \$6 billion total, \$4.372 billion is appropriated in 2021-22—\$3.772 billion in federal funds from the state’s ARP fiscal relief allocation, all \$550 million in federal funds from the state’s ARP CCPF allocation, and \$50 million General Fund. The remaining \$1.628 billion is General Fund that, while intended by the administration and Legislature to be committed to broadband infrastructure, would need to be appropriated by the Legislature in 2022-23 and 2023-24. Figure 1 breaks down the three-year spending agreement between the administration and the Legislature by fiscal year, fund source, and infrastructure expenditure.

Figure 1

2021-22 Broadband Infrastructure Three-Year Spending Plan^a

(In Millions)

Project or Program	2021-22			2022-23 Total Funds ^b	2023-24 Total Funds ^b	All Fiscal Years		
	Total Funds	General Fund	Federal Funds			Total Funds	General Fund	Federal Funds
Middle-mile network	\$3,250	—	\$3,250 ^c	—	—	\$3,250	—	\$3,250
Last-mile projects	1,072	—	1,072 ^d	\$125	\$803	2,000	\$928	1,072
Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Account	50	\$50	—	125	575	750	750	—
Totals	\$4,372	\$50	\$4,322	\$250	\$1,378	\$6,000	\$1,678	\$4,322

^aThis spending plan is pursuant to the 2021-22 budget agreement between the administration and the Legislature.

^bAll funding in 2022-23 and 2023-24 is General Fund.

^cThe \$3.250 billion in federal funds for the middle-mile network in 2021-22 is appropriated to the California Department of Technology out of the state’s American Rescue Plan (ARP) fiscal relief allocation.

^dOf the \$1.072 billion in federal funds for last-mile projects in 2021-22, \$550 million is the state’s allocation from the ARP’s Coronavirus Capital Projects Fund and \$522 million is some of the state’s ARP fiscal relief allocation.

The three broadband infrastructure projects or programs funded by the agreement are described below:

- **\$3.25 Billion for Middle-Mile Network.** The spending plan provides \$3.25 billion from the state’s ARP fiscal relief allocation in 2021-22 to CDT to implement the middle-mile

network through the department's Office of Broadband and Digital Literacy (OBBDL). As discussed below, state law requires CDT's OBBDL to work with a third-party administrator to implement the middle-mile network. Consistent with federal administrative guidance and deadlines in the ARP Act, this funding is available for allocation until December 31, 2024 and for encumbrance and liquidation until December 31, 2026.

- ***\$2 Billion for Last-Mile Projects.*** The spending plan provides \$1.072 billion in 2021-22 (with the intent to commit \$125 million General Fund in 2022-23 and \$803 million General Fund in 2023-24) to the CPUC from the state's ARP allocations. Of the \$1.072 billion, \$550 million is from the state's ARP CCPF allocation and \$522 million is from the state's allocation from the ARP's fiscal relief funds. These funds are to be deposited into a new Federal Funding Account within CPUC's CASF program to provide last-mile broadband infrastructure project grants. A small amount of the appropriation (\$22 million in ARP fiscal relief funding) is set aside for CPUC support and technical assistance with broadband infrastructure projects and programs. As with the middle-mile network, funding from this appropriation may be allocated by CPUC until December 31, 2024 and encumbered and liquidated until December 31, 2026. (As we mention later in the post, allocations from and encumbrance of this funding might be required sooner pursuant to SB 156.)
- ***\$750 Million for Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund.*** In 2021-22, the spending plan includes \$50 million General Fund to be deposited into a new Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund within CPUC's CASF program, with the intent to commit an additional \$125 million General Fund in 2022-23 and \$575 million General Fund in 2023-24.

2021-22 Implementing Legislation

To implement the broadband infrastructure projects and programs that are funded by the 2021-22 budget agreement, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed SB 156. We summarize some key sections of SB 156 below.

Middle-Mile Network

Establishes CDT's OBBDL in State Law to Oversee Acquisition and Management of Middle-Mile Network. Senate Bill 156 codifies the establishment of CDT's OBBDL in state law. The role of the office, led by a Deputy Director of Broadband, is to oversee the acquisition and management of contracts to develop and construct, and maintain and operate, the middle-mile network. Senate Bill 156 requires OBBDL to create a nine-member middle-mile advisory

committee to monitor the construction and establishment of the middle-mile network. Five of the nine members are from the administration: one representative each from CDT, CPUC, Caltrans, Department of Finance (DOF), and Government Operations Agency. The other four members are Members of the Legislature (and/or their appointees), two from the Assembly and two from the Senate. The advisory committee is required to meet at least monthly during the first year, and then quarterly thereafter.

Requires Retention of a Third-Party Administrator to Manage Development, Acquisition, Construction, and Maintenance of Middle-Mile Network. Senate Bill 156 also requires CDT's OBBDL to retain a California-based nonprofit entity to manage the development, acquisition, construction, maintenance, and operation of the middle-mile network. The entity must have experience with serving public libraries, elementary and secondary schools, and institutions of higher education with broadband connectivity. On September 2, 2021, CDT announced that the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California—specifically its California Middle-Mile Broadband Initiative, Limited Liability Company—would be retained by the department as the state's third-party administrator for the middle-mile network.

Requires CPUC, in Collaboration With Third Party-Administrator, to Identify and Prioritize Locations for Middle-Mile Network. State law requires CPUC, in collaboration with the third-party administrator, to provide CDT's OBBDL with locations for the middle-mile network. Senate Bill 156 specifies priority locations for the middle-mile network as those locations that would enable last-mile projects to connect residences unserved by an internet download speed of 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of 3 megabits per second. (These internet speeds are benchmark download and upload speeds for broadband internet as defined by the Federal Communications Commission.) State law also identifies a number of other entities that might lack sufficient high-bandwidth connections as possible locations for the middle-mile network including (but not limited to) government entities, healthcare institutions, institutions of higher education, schools, and tribal lands.

Last-Mile Projects

CPUC's CASF Program's Federal Funding Account of \$2 Billion Split Between Rural and Urban Counties for Last-Mile Project Grants. The spending plan provides a total of \$2 billion over three fiscal years (\$1.072 billion appropriated in 2021-22, with an intent to commit \$928 million across 2022-23 and 2023-24) to be deposited into a new Federal Funding Account within the CPUC's CASF program to provide last-mile broadband infrastructure project grants. State law directs CPUC to allocate at least half of the \$2 billion for last-mile projects in rural counties, with the remainder allocated to urban counties. Each county, whether rural or urban, will receive an initial allocation of \$5 million in funding. The remainder of the funding will be allocated based on the rural or urban county's proportionate share of households without access to internet service that provides at least a 100 megabits per second download speed. Any funding that is allocated but not encumbered on or before June 30, 2023 must be made available to CPUC for additional last-mile project grants.

Last-Mile Projects Must Meet Certain Eligibility Requirements. Last-mile projects funded through CPUC’s CASF program must either provide the current benchmark broadband internet speed set by the Federal Communications Commission or an internet download speed of at least 100 megabits per second and an upload speed of 20 megabits per second. Senate Bill 156 also redefines unserved areas as those without at least one internet service offering with a download speed of 25 megabits per second and an upload speed of 2 megabits per second.

Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund

CPUC Establishes Allocation Criteria, Eligibility Requirements, and Financing Terms and Conditions for Broadband Infrastructure Projects Financed by Loan Loss Reserve Fund. Any broadband infrastructure projects supported in part or in whole by financing obtained using funds from the Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund will be, by state law, subject to requirements set by CPUC. These requirements might include, for example, specific allocation criteria, set eligibility criteria, and certain financing terms and conditions.

Oversight Mechanisms

Annual Reports to the Legislature on the Middle-Mile Network and Last-Mile Projects. Senate Bill 156 requires CDT, in consultation with DOF, to produce a report starting on or before March 1, 2022 (and annually thereafter) for both legislative budget committees with updates on the implementation of the middle-mile network and last-mile projects. Specifically, the report must include the length of the middle-mile network, the number of internet service providers that are using the network, the number of households expected to connect to the network, and the total expenditure for each project.

Biennial Fiscal and Performance Audits of CPUC’s CASF Program. Starting April 1, 2023, CPUC will be required to conduct a biennial fiscal and performance audit of the effectiveness and implementation of its CASF program.

Monthly Last-Mile Project Expenditure Reporting to CPUC. Entities that receive last-mile project grants through CPUC’s CASF program must report to the commission on a monthly basis any expenditure made using project grant funds for a contract or subcontract exceeding \$25,000.

Attachment Three

**Fact Sheet: Department of Commerce's Use of Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Funding
to Help Close the Digital Divide**

Fact Sheet: Department of Commerce's Use of Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Funding to Help Close the Digital Divide

Infrastructure

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, November 10, 2021

Office of Public Affairs

The Biden-Harris Administration has set an ambitious goal of connecting all Americans to reliable, affordable, high-speed internet. The historic passage of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal (Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act) will help us reach that goal. The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal allocates \$65 billion to expand broadband in communities across the U.S., create more low-cost broadband service options, subsidize the cost of service for low-income households, and provides funding to address the digital equity and inclusion needs in our communities.

This funding could not come at a more critical time. According to the Pew Research Center, 90% of Americans say that the Internet has been essential or important to them during the pandemic. Yet, we know that access to broadband and the internet is not created equal. Tens of millions of Americans lack access to affordable, reliable high-speed internet services, and the problem is worse in minority and rural communities and on tribal lands.

The Department of Commerce will play a pivotal role in rolling out the broadband resources included in this legislation. About \$48 billion of that funding is being allocated to the Commerce Department's National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA). We stand ready, in coordination with other federal agencies, including the Departments of Agriculture and Treasury and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), to implement once-in-a-generation broadband funding programs aimed at firmly closing the digital divide by bringing broadband resources directly to the communities that need them most.

The Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal gives NTIA responsibility for the following broadband programs:

\$42.45 billion in grants to states (including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico), and territories focused on funding high-speed broadband deployment to households and businesses that currently lack access to such services. Each state will receive a minimum of \$100 million, and each territory will receive a minimum of \$20 million, for broadband expansion and/or affordability. The remaining money will be allocated by need, primarily based on the number of household and business locations in that state or territory that are unserved by highspeed broadband. States will be required to work with broadband providers to ensure that each broadband provider that receives funding offers at least one affordable service plan. The Department of Commerce will work closely with the FCC to determine exactly where the unserved locations are, and with states and territories to fund projects that will help us reach universal broadband access.

\$2 billion for Tribal broadband grants, which is more than double the funding for NTIA's existing Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program. The Commerce Department's current \$980 million Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program has received over \$5 billion dollars in funding requests for broadband deployment and affordability projects, demonstrating the significant need for funding to expand access to and adoption of broadband service on Tribal lands. Although, other broadband funds provided by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal can be used on tribal lands, by providing tribal governments with access to \$2 billion in dedicated broadband funds, the Act gives tribes the opportunity to determine how best to meet the broadband needs of their own communities.

\$2.75 billion to fund Digital Equity. Digital exclusion carries a high societal and economic cost; reduces economic opportunity, educational achievement, positive health outcomes, social inclusion, and civic engagement; and exacerbates existing wealth and income gaps. The Digital Equity Act, which was included as a part of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal provides NTIA with funding for three grant programs to promote digital inclusion and equity for communities that lack the skills, technologies and support needed to take advantage of broadband connections. NTIA will provide states with digital equity planning grants. NTIA will also implement a formula-based state grant program and a competitive grant program with funds available to accelerate the adoption of broadband through digital literacy training, workforce development, devices access programs, and other digital inclusion measures.

\$1 billion for middle-mile connections to build a high-speed backbone for communities, businesses, and anchor institutions. Through this new program, NTIA will make grants on a technology-neutral, competitive basis to eligible entities for the construction, improvement, or acquisition of middle mile infrastructure.

The Commerce Department and NTIA are uniquely positioned to implement these programs. Through the State Broadband Leaders Network, NTIA has built relationships with all 50 states, five territories, Puerto Rico, and the District of Columbia. Through its work on

the Tribal Broadband Connectivity program, NTIA has engaged almost all of the federally recognized tribes directly or through national, regional, and local Tribal organizations. NTIA has also led the way in implementing other broadband infrastructure, adoption, and digital equity programs, including the existing State and Local Broadband Infrastructure Program and the Connecting Minority Communities Pilot Program.

With this level of expertise at its disposal, the Commerce Department and NTIA, along with our partners at the FCC, the Department of Agriculture, the Department of the Treasury, and other federal agencies, the states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. territories, will continue to work to close the digital divide and bring affordable, reliable, high-speed broadband to all Americans.

Attachment Four

**NTIA's Role in Implementing the Broadband Provisions of the 2021 Infrastructure
Investment and Jobs Act**

NTIA's Role in Implementing the Broadband Provisions of the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

With the passage of the [Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act \(IIJA\)](#), Congress has taken a significant step forward in achieving the Administration's goal of providing broadband access to the entire country. The IIJA sets forth a \$65 billion investment into broadband, for which \$48.2 billion will be administered by NTIA's newly established [Office of Internet Connectivity and Growth](#).

This investment will leverage NTIA's experience in promoting broadband infrastructure development and digital inclusion efforts through its [BroadbandUSA](#) initiative as well as current grant programs, including the [Broadband Infrastructure Program](#), the [Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program \(TBCP\)](#), and the [Connecting Minority Communities \(CMC\) Pilot Program](#). Additionally, this investment will enhance other, established Federal broadband initiatives offered through the U.S. Treasury, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC).

NTIA is excited to play a major role in the endeavor to connect every American to high-speed, affordable broadband. We intend to work closely with all stakeholders, including State and local governments, Tribal governments, industry, and community leaders, as well as across the Federal government to ensure that this bold investment is targeted to those who need it most. In the coming months, we will begin to convene virtual listening sessions and other outreach activities to discuss the key broadband program provisions in the IIJA. We intend to use these webinars as an opportunity for the public and other stakeholders to provide input into the implementation of these new programs.

NTIA's coming role in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

NTIA will establish [six broadband programs](#) as directed by the IIJA. The largest of these new NTIA programs is the **Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) Program**. The BEAD Program provides \$42.45 billion, to be distributed

among states, territories, D.C., and Puerto Rico, for projects that support broadband infrastructure deployment and adoption. Eligible entities will receive initial funds to support broadband planning and related capacity efforts, from mapping, staffing state/territory broadband offices, to outreach and coordination with local communities. After a preliminary planning phase and once the FCC releases location-based mapping of broadband availability, the remaining funding will be allocated based on a formula that considers the number of unserved and high-cost locations in the state. States and territories will then propose projects that meet the statutory priorities, the first priority being funding to provide broadband to unserved areas (those below 25/3 Mbps), followed by underserved areas (those below 100/20 Mbps), and then serving community anchor institutions (1/1 Gbps).

Also, \$1 billion will be appropriated to NTIA for the creation of the **Enabling Middle Mile Broadband Infrastructure Program**. The purpose of this grant program is to expand and extend middle mile infrastructure to reduce the cost of connecting unserved and underserved areas to the internet backbone.

An additional \$2 billion will be provided to the existing **Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program**, an NTIA program previously implemented under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021. TBCP directs funding to tribal governments to be used for broadband deployment on tribal lands, as well as for telehealth, distance learning, broadband affordability, and digital inclusion.

\$2.75 billion will be distributed through the **Digital Equity Act Programs** to promote digital inclusion and equity to ensure that all individuals and communities have the opportunity to acquire the same skills, technology, and capacity needed to engage in the Nation's digital economy. These programs include the **State Digital Equity Planning Grant Program**, a \$60 million formula grant program for states and territories to develop digital equity plans; the **State Digital Equity Capacity Grant Program**, a \$1.44 billion formula grant program for states and territories to implement digital equity projects and support the implementation of digital equity plans; and the **Digital Equity Competitive Grant Program**, a \$1.25 billion discretionary grant program for specific types of political subdivisions to implement digital equity projects.

Additional Funding for Broadband in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Additionally, the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act allocates funding for programs run by the FCC and the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

\$2 billion will be appropriated for the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Rural Utilities Service—**Distance Learning, Telemedicine, and Broadband Program**, under which recipients are obligated to utilize \$5 million of their award for the establishment and growth of cooperatives to offer broadband.

In an extension of an FCC program to provide direct subsidies to qualifying households for the purchase of broadband service, the FCC's **Affordable Connectivity Fund** will receive an appropriation of \$14.2 billion.

NTIA will continue to provide updates on the details of these programs as more information becomes available. Be sure to [subscribe to BroadbandUSA updates](#) to be notified about grant program guidance, updates, and webinars.

Attachment Five

CSAC Memo: Open Meetings Information Exchange



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December 2, 2021

To: CSAC Government Finance and Administration Policy Committee

From: Geoff Neill, Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, Legislative Analyst

Re: **Open Meetings Information Exchange – INFORMATIONAL ITEM**

Recommendation: Staff recommends the committee discuss best practices, norms, and learned experiences for conducting safe and open meetings. During this discussion, the committee may wish to draft a vision statement for the future of public meetings in the 21st Century.

Background:

Nearly 70 years ago, the California State Legislature passed the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act), which governs how local agencies must conduct public meetings, including requirements for meeting notifications and agendas. The Brown Act has been amended many times since its passage, but the core objective is to establish and preserve the right of the public to attend and participate when local legislative bodies discuss and decide items of public importance.

While the world has changed drastically since the passage of the Brown Act in 1953, the COVID-19 pandemic highlighted many ways in which open meeting laws fail to account for the both the advancements and challenges of the modern day. Technological advancements have made it easier than ever for the public to stay up to date and involved with their governing bodies, but that same technology does not come without challenges, including cyberattacks and internet outages. Additionally, vitriolic public comment is on the rise, bringing public meetings to a halt and interfering with local agencies' abilities to deliberate and act on agendized items.

Recent action by the State Legislature demonstrates a desire to modernize the laws that govern open meetings for local governments. Specifically, AB 339 by Assemblymember Lee would have required Boards of Supervisors and City Councils in jurisdictions with 250,000 residents or more to offer a two-way telephonic or internet-based service for the public to view and participate in meetings. The bill, which was significantly narrowed down after originally applying to all state and local government meetings subject to open meeting laws, was ultimately vetoed by Governor Newsom due to uneven application, lack of flexibility, and increased costs to local governments. However, Governor Newsom left the door open to open meeting reform in his veto message when he stated, "I remain open to revisions to the Brown Act to modernize and increase public access, while protecting public health and safety."

It is critical for counties to be actively involved in all discussions related to Brown Act modernization. During this time, the committee will share experiences and lessons learned through public meetings in their counties.

Attachment 6

Mariposa County: Dealing with Disruptions to Public Meetings

DEALING WITH DISRUPTIONS TO PUBLIC MEETINGS

The County should use extreme discretion and caution before directing someone to leave the board meeting. It must be clear that the person has been warned adequately (almost always more than once) before ultimately directing them to leave the meeting or clearing the room.

The presiding officer has an obligation to maintain order and prevent disruption of the meeting.

1. If a member of the public becomes disruptive, warn the person as follows:

“Your behavior in [shouting, interrupting, making undue noise, etc.] is having the effect of disrupting this meeting. You must stop this behavior, so that we may continue the business before us.”

2. If the behavior continues warn the person again as follows:

“Your behavior is having the effect of disrupting the meeting. You have been asked to stop [shouting, interrupting, making undue noise, etc.] If you do not stop this behavior you will be asked to leave the meeting so that we may continue the business before us.”

3. If the behavior still continues, make the following statement:

“Your behavior in [shouting, interrupting, making undue noise, etc.] is having the effect of disrupting the meeting. You have been asked to stop this behavior twice. I would like a motion to find that this member of the public is violating County Policy, Penal Code section 403, and that his/her activity is intentional and has substantially impaired the conduct of the meeting and that he/she be required to leave the meeting, pursuant to Government Code section 54957.9. The meeting will continue only after you have left the meeting room.”

4. Then wait for a motion and second. Take the vote. If the motion succeeds, the members of the legislative body should leave the meeting room. If the person does not leave the room voluntarily, contact law enforcement. If the person does not leave after law enforcement asks him or her to leave, then briefly reconvene the meeting and state the following:

“Since the person(s) disrupting this meeting have not left the room, I would like a motion to adjourn this meeting to [alternate location

address] at [time] to continue this meeting with only members of the press or other news media present. At that time the Board will consider readmitting persons not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting. Members of the media shall contact me during the recess.”

5. Then wait for a motion and second. Take the vote. If the motion succeeds, the members of the legislative body should leave the meeting room. Everyone else should leave the meeting room as well.

Reconvene the meeting at the alternate location, have law enforcement assistance to admit only the new media and, in the discretion of the Board, members of the public not responsible for disrupting the meeting.

References:

Government Coder § 54957.9. Disorderly conduct of general public during meeting; clearing of room

In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of such meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

Penal Code § 403. Disturbance of public assembly or meeting

Every person who, without authority of law, willfully disturbs or breaks up any assembly or meeting that is not unlawful in its character, other than an assembly or meeting referred to in Section 302 of the Penal Code or Section 18340 of the Elections Code, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Attachment Seven

San Diego County: Board Meeting Disruption Protocols

BOARD MEETING SECURITY PROTOCOLS

PRIOR TO THE MEETING:

- Prior to public admittance, Sheriff Deputies conduct a security sweep of the Chamber.
- Chamber is open to the public 30 minutes prior to meetings.
- All members of the public are screened at the entrances to the building and may not enter the Chamber with objects that could be used as weapons, such as sticks affixed to signs.
- Sheriff Deputies monitor capacity of Chamber and direct overflow to balcony, Rm. 302 or Rm. 358.
- Ten minutes prior to the meeting, the Clerk announces that the meeting will not be conducted unless the aisle and doorways are clear and remain clear during the proceedings. Additionally, the Sheriff Deputies are authorized to remove anyone who willfully disrupts the proceedings.
- Sheriff Deputies are present in the Chamber throughout the proceedings.

DURING THE MEETING:



Disruptive Public Speaker:

Announcements by the Chair (In escalating order):

1. You are off topic; please confine your comments to the agenda item.
2. You are again being warned that you are off topic; if you continue off topic, your time will be forfeited.
3. You have been warned three times to remain on topic. You have forfeited your time. Please leave the podium.



Disruptive Group/Audience:

Announcements by the Chair (In escalating order):

1. Your [*describe conduct*] is disrupting the meeting; please stop.
 - a. "Your presence at the podium is not allowing us to continue the meeting, please step away."
 - b. "You are preventing the orderly conduct of this meeting."
2. Your [*describe conduct*] is disrupting the meeting; please stop or you will be ordered to be removed.
3. You are continuing to disrupt this meeting by [*describe conduct*]. You are ordered to leave this meeting. Will the Sheriff Deputies please remove the speaker/disrupter.



Clearing the Chamber:

Clearing the Chamber is a potential remedy to a disruption, but should only be used if the above methods are ineffective in continuing the meeting. If a meeting is: (1) Willfully interrupted by a group or group of persons; (2) which renders the orderly conduct of the meeting infeasible; (3) and order cannot be restored by removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, then the legislative body (chair) may order the room cleared, and continue with the meeting. However, any news media who are not participating in the disturbance shall be readmitted and allowed to attend. GC 54957.9. It is advisable, if possible, for the Chair to state facts on the record supporting the above elements before the clearance occurs.

Recess – May Use If Feasible Before Clearing Chamber:

Potential Announcements by the Chair for Recess (as appropriate):

1. This meeting is in recess until order can be restored. We will reconvene at: [*State time or duration*]
2. If order cannot be restored, this meeting will be recessed and the Chamber will be cleared.
3. This meeting is in recess. I direct the Sheriff Deputies to clear the Chamber.

EMERGENCY

In the event that an individual or individuals threaten the safety of others in the Chamber, the Supervisors will exit through the rear of the Chamber and await Sheriff instructions. Once they have exited, there is a switch just inside the rear door that locks the rear door, allowing access only to those with an active badge. Similarly, there is a switch at the BGO reception desk that locks the door to the hallway to the Annex offices, creating a secure passage to the northwest emergency exit.

Attachment Eight

CSAC Memo: Principles for Open Meeting Advocacy



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December 2, 2021

To: CSAC Government Finance and Administration Policy Committee

From: Geoff Neill, Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, Legislative Analyst

Re: **Principles for Open Meeting Advocacy – ACTION ITEM**

Recommendation: Staff recommends the committee approve principles to direct the association’s advocacy on legislation related to open meetings.

Principles

1. The people must retain “the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people’s business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny,” as granted by the state constitution.
2. State law should allow counties to design local rules regarding the safe and efficient use of remote meeting options by elected and appointed officials and members of the public in order to promote greater participation, reduce travel barriers, and increase equity and inclusion. Remote participation might require different rules or limitations than in-person participation.
3. Local legislative bodies should be able under the law to effectively manage meetings so that they can constructively accomplish the people’s business while meeting the intent of the state’s open meeting laws.
4. Public meetings should be safe, accessible, and welcoming environments where residents can peaceably assemble and attend the people’s business without being threatened, harassed, or subjected to unacceptably disruptive behavior.
5. The rights, privileges, and requirements of the Brown Act and the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act should be consistent to ensure access to information about the people’s business does not depend on which level of government is conducting it.

Attachment Nine

CSAC Memo: GFA 2022 Priorities - DRAFT

ATTACHMENTS

Broadband: Celebrating Success and Preparing for Future Advocacy – ACTION ITEM

- Attachment One CSAC Memo: Broadband: Celebrating Success and Preparing for Future Advocacy
- Attachment Two LAO Broadband Budget Overview
- Attachment Three Fact Sheet: Department of Commerce’s Use of Bipartisan Infrastructure Deal Funding to Help Close the Digital Divide
- Attachment Four NTIA’s Role in Implementing the Broadband Provisions of the 2021 Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act

Open Meetings Information Exchange – INFORMATIONAL ITEM

- Attachment Five CSAC Memo: Open Meetings Information Exchange
- Attachment Six Mariposa County: Dealing with Disruptions to Public Meetings
- Attachment Seven San Diego County: Board Meeting Disruption Protocols

Principles for Open Meeting Advocacy – ACTION ITEM

- Attachment Eight..... CSAC Memo: Principles for Open Meeting Advocacy

2022 GFA Priorities – ACTION ITEM

- Attachment Nine CSAC Memo: GFA 2022 Priorities - DRAFT

GFA 2021 Year in Review – INFORMATIONAL ITEM

- Attachment Ten..... CSAC Memo: GFA 2021 Year in Review



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December 2, 2021

To: CSAC Government Finance and Administration Policy Committee

From: Geoff Neill, Legislative Representative
Ryan Souza, Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, Legislative Analyst

Re: **ACTION ITEM: 2022 GFA Priorities**

Recommendation: Staff recommends the committee approve the priorities so staff can address anticipated priority issues in the GFA policy area.

Proposed 2022 Government Finance and Administration Legislative Priorities

Broadband – Protect Infrastructure Funding and Expand Affordability

In addition to protecting last year’s historic investments in last-mile and middle-mile broadband infrastructure, counties will lead the charge for affordability, digital literacy, and other efforts to ensure Californians can access, adopt, and meaningfully use broadband service.

Modernize the Brown Act and Promote Safe, Welcoming Public Meetings

The Brown Act ensures that public decisions are deliberated on and made in public at noticed meetings in which the public can participate, but some of its out-of-date provisions make it difficult for members of boards, commissions, and advisory bodies to participate, especially those with young children, medical issues, or disabilities. And without safe harbor limits on subject matter or participation, the same statutes that guarantee the right of public be heard lead to public meetings that are hours-long airings of vitriol, racism, and direct threats of violence directed at public officials and other members of the public. CSAC will develop proposals to modernize the Brown Act and to foster public meetings that are safe and welcoming for all members of the community.

Resist Further Expansion of Workers’ Compensation Presumptions and Changes to Individual Elements of the Overall System

Continued legislative efforts in expanding injuries or conditions for which a connection with employment is presumed but not proven threaten the equilibrium of the workers’ compensation system. Additionally, efforts have recently included substantially modifying certain workers’ compensation system segments that will unfairly penalize employers and counties while detrimentally impacting the overall quality of care delivered. Instead, counties should champion data-driven decisions or reform to the entirety of the system to find the appropriate balance between employers and employees. This legislative interest continues to be heightened in an era of the COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires, and police reform. By granting superfluous, costly benefits to workers for injuries that may not be job-related, the financial solvency of the system will be detrimentally impacted. For the system to function correctly, it

relies on the contributions of employers and employees to roughly equal the amount paid out for injuries suffered on the job. To protect county employers, CSAC will:

- Oppose efforts to create new presumptions and to expand existing presumptions without data-driven evidence that the current system is unjust; and
- Educate policy-makers about how the workers' compensation system operates and that the system currently covers employee injuries and conditions that are job-related.

Educate and Engage on County Authority for Contracting-Out Services

Counties are currently in the middle of policy differences between labor unions and community-based organizations. On one end of the spectrum are community-based organizations directly receiving state-level funding that bypass the county providing little to no accountability or oversight. The other end of that spectrum is where counties are severely limited in their ability to contract out for critical services when necessary because of overly restrictive limitations on contracting out for services sought by labor unions. Therefore, counties must find ways to balance those differing approaches, maintaining their ability to receive and distribute funding with oversight and accountability while not impeding their ability to be fiscally responsible and operationalize funding most appropriately for the county.

Attachment Ten

CSAC Memo: GFA 2021 Year in Review



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December 2, 2021

To: CSAC Government Finance and Administration Policy Committee

From: Geoff Neill, Legislative Representative
Ryan Souza, Legislative Representative
Danielle Bradley, Legislative Analyst

Re: **INFORMATIONAL ITEM: 2021 GFA Year in Review**

Broadband

Signed

[AB 14 \(Aguiar-Curry\) \(Chapter 658, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

AB 14 extends the sunset on the California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) surcharge from the end of 2022 to the end of 2032 and closes a loophole that allows VoIP providers to avoid the charge, ensuring the burden is not unfairly shifted to other telecom customers. CSAC supported AB 14, which provides a stable source of funding to meet the state's broadband deployment goals even after the 2026 federal funding deadline allocated earlier in the year. The measure contained an urgency clause and took effect immediately following the Governor's approval.

[SB 4 \(Gonzalez\) \(Chapter 671, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

SB 4 increases the annual limit on funds CASF can collect from \$66 million to \$150 million and removes the cumulative cap of the Fund. It also includes language addressing speed and local government eligibility and to improve permit streamlining. Both AB 14 and SB 4 provide for long-term reforms needed to maximize this year's \$6 billion investment to close the Digital Divide. CSAC supported the measure, which contained an urgency clause and took effect immediately following the Governor's approval.

[SB 28 \(Caballero\) \(Chapter 673, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This measure expands the authority of the CPUC to collect granular data about digital video and broadband networks in the state and authorizes the CPUC to set customer services requirements for cable providers. DIVCA, which was established 15 years ago, shifted the cable franchise process from local governments to the CPUC. Since its enactment, DIVCA has had little evaluation or reform. CSAC supported SB 28, as it takes a step in the right direction by ensuring the CPUC has the data it needs to enforce its oversight powers.

Elections

Signed

[AB 37 \(Berman\) \(Chapter 312, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This measure requires county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for every election taking place in 2022 and beyond. AB 37 builds off [previous legislation](#), which required universal mailed ballots for elections that occurred in 2020 and 2021. The measure, approved by Governor Newsom on September 27, 2021, also includes provisions related to vote by mail (VBM) procedures from previous legislation, including extending the deadline for VBM ballots received to be counted from the 3rd day to the 7th day after Election Day. Additionally, each county must provide at least one VBM drop-off location per 30,000 registered voters. Counties with fewer than 30,000 registered voters are required to provide at least one VBM drop-off location.

[SB 594 \(Glazer\) \(Chapter 320, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

SB 594 aligns the elections calendar for the 2022 primary to account for a later state redistricting timeline. The measure reduces the time and number of signatures required for candidates to collect signatures-in-lieu of a filing fee and it adjusts the timing of the start of the nomination process. At the time of the measure's approval of the Legislature, it was unclear if the California Supreme Court would grant the 2020 California Citizens Redistricting Commission's petition to extend the deadline to submit the final maps to the Secretary of State until January 14, 2021. However, the Supreme Court denied the request on September 22 and the deadline for the final maps remains December 27, 2021. Of particular importance to counties, SB 594 was amended before passage to clarify that the requirement for counties to "adopt" supervisorial district boundaries can be satisfied by either ordinance or resolution. This clarification ensures that counties can maximize the amount of time dedicated to the map-drawing process. CSAC supported SB 594, which contained an urgency clause and took effect immediately following the Governor's approval.

General Government

Signed

[AB 428 \(Mayes\) \(Chapter 462, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

AB 428 establishes a minimum of two terms for any future changes to supervisorial term limits. Importantly, it also clarifies the constitutional provision that Boards of Supervisors are responsible for prescribing compensation for all County officers, including the board members themselves. CSAC supported AB 428, which recognizes that limiting elected County Supervisors to single term limits severely hinders the development of expertise necessary for meaningful and informed policymaking.

[AB 473](#) and [AB 474 \(Chau\)](#) (Chapters 614 and 615, Statutes of 2021)

These bills together completely recast and renumber the provisions of the California Public Records Act, implementing a report from the California Law Revision Commission. The goal of the change is to make the law clearer and simpler to follow, while making no substantive changes to its application.

Labor Relations

Signed

[AB 237 \(Gray\) \(Chapter 740, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

AB 237 requires public agencies to continue to provide medical insurance coverage for workers out on extended strikes. The measure was brought forward in response to a University of California policy that identifies a strike as a form of unapproved leave that may result in the termination of health care coverage.

[SB 270 \(Durazo\) \(Chapter 330, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

SB 270 allows public employee unions to file an unfair labor practice charge before the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) against public employers that fail to fully or accurately disclose employee information to public employee unions. Of particular importance to counties, SB 270 limits the number of times a public employer can cure violations to three times in a 12-month period.

[SB 657 \(Ochoa Bogh\) \(Chapter 109, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

Existing law requires California employers to post various notices in the workplace. For the most part, these notices are designed to alert employees of their rights under federal and state law. For example, employers are required to post various notices about employee rights, information about minimum wage, health and safety rules, and more. SB 657 permits an employer to provide these notices to employees electronically but still requires employers to physically post notices in the workplace.

Open Meetings

Signed

[AB 361 \(R. Rivas\) \(Chapter 165, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This bill provides, for a limited time, exemptions to teleconferenced public meeting requirements for local legislative bodies and certain state bodies during states of emergency that make it unsafe to meet in person. CSAC strongly supported this measure, as it provides counties with the opportunity to continue holding public meetings remotely as the COVID-19 pandemic continues to impact local agencies' ability to meet safely in person. AB 361 was signed by Governor Newsom on September 16 and took effect immediately. However, Governor Newsom quickly issued an Executive Order suspending the application of AB 361 until October 1, 2021, when a previous Brown Act Executive Order expired.

Vetoed

[AB 339 \(Lee\)](#)

This bill requires Boards of Supervisors and City Councils in jurisdictions with 250,000 residents or more to offer a two-way telephonic or internet-based service for the public to view and participate in meetings. CSAC successfully advocated for the removal of overly burdensome translation and other requirements. However, CSAC remains opposed to the measure, which lacks flexibility for local governments to conduct Brown Act-compliant meetings in the event of technological failure or public disruption, or to manage comments in a way that allows officials to come to a decision on the matters being considered in a reasonable time. It also explicitly requires an in-person location for the public, even during states of emergency, requiring employees to staff that location even in unsafe circumstances. Governor Newsom vetoed AB 339, citing increased costs and lack of local flexibility.

Property Taxes

Signed

[SB 219 \(McGuire\) \(Chapter 131, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

SB 219 provides county tax collectors the explicit authority to cancel penalties and fees resulting in delinquent property tax payments for taxpayers who have experienced financial hardship due to a shelter-in-place order. Prior to [Executive Order N-61-20](#), it was unclear whether the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic qualified as a legal cause for a property tax penalty waiver. SB 219 builds off the previous order by providing county tax collectors narrowly tailored flexibility to assist those who need it most during a crisis without jeopardizing county revenue support. CSAC supported this measure, which took effect immediately following the Governor's approval.

[SB 539 \(Hertzberg\) \(Chapter 427, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This measure provides clarity and clean-up necessary for county assessors and the Board of Equalization to implement provisions of Proposition 19, which was approved by the voters in November 2020. Importantly, SB 539 clarifies that that, when a property is transferred between parents (or grandparents) and children (or grandchildren), the transferee must continue using that property as their principal residence in order to continue receiving the tax benefit of the inherited family home. CSAC supported this measure, which took effect immediately following Governor Newsom's signature.

Retirement

Signed

[SB 278 \(Leyva\) \(Chapter 331, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This measure requires public employers to reimburse CalPERS and pay a penalty when CalPERS deems part of a pension to be unlawful after a member has retired. Specifically, public agencies will be required to pay 20 percent of the current actuarial value of benefits deemed unlawful by CalPERS as a penalty, even when CalPERS has previously deemed the benefits lawful when reviewing the MOU. Most of the penalty funds would go to the affected retirees, though a small portion would go to CalPERS.

Risk Management

Signed

[AB 654 \(Reyes\) \(Chapter 522, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

AB 654 clarifies provisions and provides beneficial clean-up to last year's AB 685 (Reyes), which established reporting requirements related to workplace COVID-19 exposures. CSAC successfully advocated for amendments that removed the initial requirement for CDPH to publish worksite-specific (i.e., exposure address) information about COVID-19 outbreaks. CSAC supported the final version of the bill, which was signed by Governor Newsom on October 5, 2021, and took effect immediately.

[SB 296 \(Limón\) \(Chapter 296, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

SB 296 requires each local jurisdiction that employs code enforcement officers to develop safety standards for their code enforcement officers. The measure allows for broad flexibility and allows local employing agencies to develop guidelines suited to their own jurisdictions.

[SB 606 \(Gonzalez\) \(Chapter 336, Statutes of 2021\)](#)

This bill broadens Cal/OSHA's enforcement authority by establishing a rebuttable presumption that an employer's written policy that violates specified health and safety regulations exists at all an employer's worksites if certain conditions are met. Additionally, the bill adds the definition of an "egregious violation" that, if met, carries specified additional penalties for employees. CSAC championed many amendments over the legislative session to reduce the harmful impacts of the measure. Counties should take time to review the details of this legislation to mitigate the potential for enforcement penalties.

2 Year Bills

Although the first year of the 2021-22 Legislative Session has concluded, bills that failed to pass pursuant to the 2021 legislative deadlines are still eligible for action in 2022. These bills are generally categorized into two different categories. First, measures that remain in the same chamber they originated are subject to a truncated timeline often referred to as the "House of Origin" deadline. These bills must be moved out of their assigned policy committees January 14th and must be passed out of their house of origin by January 31st. However, measures that have already been approved in their house of origin and are pending in the second chamber are subject to the same deadlines as newly introduced legislation. The following measures are 2 year bills that CSAC's GFA team will be monitoring over the next year.

[AB 119 \(Salas\) County auditor: direct levies](#)

This bill would require counties to publish on their website a range of possible charges for every direct levy charged by all taxing entities in the county. The information could be added to an existing publication, such as the one that currently lists contact information for all direct levies. The information required to be published would include special assessments, special taxes, parcel taxes, and Mello-Roos districts, among others. This bill is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 217 \(Valladares\) Sales and use taxes: exemption: tax holiday: school supplies](#)

This measure would exempt school supplies purchased from July 30, 2022 through August 1, 2022 from sales and use tax. CSAC opposes this bill unless amended to exclude local portions from the proposed exemption. This bill is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 365 \(O'Donnell\) Sales and use taxes: exclusion: zero-emission and near-zero-emission drayage trucks](#)

This bill would exempt from sales and use tax the purchase of a new or used drayage trucks that are zero, or near-zero, emission. CSAC opposes this bill unless amended to exclude local portions. This bill is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 386 \(Cooper\) Public Employees' Retirement Fund: investments: confidentiality](#)

This measure would create a limited disclosure exemption under the California Public Records that would enable direct private lending by CalPERS. CSAC supports this measure, as it will improve the ability of CalPERS and other public pension systems to access private-debt investment opportunities to achieve targeted rates of return. The measure failed passage in Senate Judiciary Committee but was granted reconsideration and has until July 1st to pass out of committee.

[AB 415 \(R. Rivas\) Employment: workers' compensation](#)

This bill would expand workers' compensation cancer presumptions to any employee who is regularly exposed to active fires or health hazards resulting from firefighting operations. CSAC opposes this bill, as it could have significant downstream impacts on a variety of employees or classifications that would have significantly expanded workers' compensation system and costs, while further eroding the workers' compensation no-fault system. This measure is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 607 \(Arambula\) Sales and use taxes: exemptions: blood screening testing](#)

This measure would exempt products used by blood banks to perform tests on blood donations from sales and use tax. CSAC opposes this bill unless amended to exclude local portions. This measure is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 833 \(Quirk-Silva\) State government: grants: administrative costs](#)

This bill would require all state grants to local governments to include a 5% cap on funding for administrative costs. CSAC opposes this bill. AB 833 is currently pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 1041 \(Wicks\) Employment: leave](#)

This measure would expand the list of individuals for whom an employee may take leave to care for under the California Family Rights Act and the Healthy Workplaces, Healthy Families Act of 2014. CSAC is a member of a large coalition that opposes this bill. AB 1041 is currently on the Senate Floor and has until August 31st to be taken up for a vote.

[AB 1121 \(Rodriguez\) Sales and use taxes: exemption: emergency preparation items](#)

AB 1121 would exempt emergency preparation items sold during a designated three-day period in June from sales and use tax. CSAC opposes this bill unless amended to exclude local portions. The bill is pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 1179 \(Carrillo\) Employer provided benefit: backup childcare](#)

AB 1179 would require employers to provide all employees on payroll for more than 30 days in a year, up to 60 hours of paid backup childcare benefits. CSAC opposes this bill, which is currently in Assembly Appropriations Committee and subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 1181 \(Nguyen\) Fees: business licenses: alcoholic beverages: health permits](#)

This measure would prohibit cities and counties from imposing or collecting license fees from restaurants from January 1, 2020, to December 31, 2021, as well as refund any restaurant license fees collected during that period. CSAC opposes this measure, as food safety programs rely exclusively on permit fees. This bill is pending a policy committee hearing in the Assembly and is subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[AB 1465 \(Reyes\) Workers' compensation: medical provider networks study](#)

AB 1465 would have created a California Medical Provider Network for workers' compensation entirely separate from the current system, which could have potentially eroded the entirety of the current medical provider network, increased costs, and ultimately reduced standard of care. The bill was amended to only require a study on the current Medical Provider Network system and compare treatment for those who were treated within versus outside of the current system. CSAC opposed AB 1465, but dropped opposition and changed to a neutral position based on amendments. The bill is currently pending in Senate Labor, Public Employment, and Retirement Committee where it has until July 1st to be heard.

[SB 213 \(Cortese\) Workers' compensation: hospital employees](#)

SB 213 would expand workers' compensation presumptions for employees who provide direct patient care in an acute care hospital to include to include infectious diseases, cancer, musculoskeletal injuries, post-traumatic stress disorder, and respiratory diseases. CSAC opposed SB 213, which failed passage on the Senate Floor. The bill was granted reconsideration and is now subject to the January 31st House of Origin deadline.

[SB 284 \(Stern\) Workers' compensation: firefighters and peace officers: post-traumatic stress](#)

This bill would expand the definition of "injury" to include post-traumatic stress for public safety dispatchers, public safety telecommunicators, and emergency response communication employees. The provision currently applies to certain state and local firefighters and peace officers. This bill is currently pending on the Assembly Floor and is subject to the August 31st end of session deadline.