

LEGISLATION AND GOVERNMENTAL ORGANIZATION COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 15, 2001
Summary Minutes

Members Present:

Mary Lou Holt – Committee Vice Chair/Yountville Mayor
Maria Alegria—Pinole Councilmember
Irma Anderson—Richmond Councilmember
Bill Carroll – Solano County Supervisor
Rose Jacobs Gibson – San Mateo County Supervisor
Julia Miller—Sunnyvale Councilmember
George Pettygrove—Fairfield Mayor
Dick Spees – Oakland Councilmember

Also Present:

Patricia Jones – ABAG
Kathleen Cha – ABAG
Jerry Lahr – ABAG, POWER Pool Manager
Mike Arnold, Legislative Representative

1. Introductions

Committee Vice Chair, Mayor Mary Lou Holt, opened the meeting with introductions at 3:40 p.m. with a quorum present. No public was present.

2. Approval of Minutes

The minutes for the January 18, 2001, were approved.

3. Update from L&GO Fiscal Tax Reform Sub-Committee

Fiscal Tax Reform Sub-Committee members Councilmember Dick Spees and Supervisor Rose Jacob Gibson recommended pursuing tax reform legislation that is effective and practical, given the current climate of “credit-based, short term solutions.” Their recommendations came after prior meetings with the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), in conjunction with representatives from Bay Area Alliance of Sustainable Development, and evaluation of fiscal relief strategies proposed in the past. It was also noted that the status of VLF (Vehicle License Fee) Backfill money should be watched closely. *As a result, the Committee moved to reaffirm ERAF reform principles and support legislation that advances these principles.*

4. Legislation Review

In our state legislature more than 3000 bills were proposed by the February 23 deadline. The L&GO Committee took positions on the following bills, which focused on land-use, housing, environment, energy, and fiscal tax strategies.

The Committee took a *support* position on these bills:

AB 100: Property Tax Revenue Shifts Limitation, SUPPORT

- AB 277: Joint Power Authorities/Claims and Loss Pools SUPPORT
- AB 589: Property Tax: Loans for Property Tax Administration SUPPORT
- AB 924: Land-Use—Smart Growth SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE
- AB 1355: Property Tax Revenue Shifts: Limitation SUPPORT
- SB 23: CALFED Funds, Change from Watch to SUPPORT
- SB 213 Local Planning SUPPORT
- SB 423: Property Taxation: ERAF Relief for Land-Use Transactions SUPPORT
- SB 1115: The CALFED Bay-Delta Program SUPPORT

This next group of bills were given a *watch* status. It was determined that more information was needed about certain provisions of these newly proposed bills. Committee also recommended that many of these bills offered opportunities to add more effective language and provisions regarding effective fiscal strategies to assist cities and counties. It was suggested that Staff pursue ways to pass on these recommendations to the makers of the bills.

- AB 499: Balancing Jobs with Housing WATCH
- AB 859: Property Tax Revenue Shifts Limitation WATCH
- AB 1284: Job-Center, Community Infill Housing Development Incentive Act of 2001
WATCH
- AB 1514: General Plans—Urban Growth Boundary WATCH
- SB 806: Affordable Housing WATCH

Energy Legislation:

Jerry Lahr, Manager of the Power Pool brought before the Committee critical energy legislation to support and watch. These particular bills were singled out at this time because of direct impact on ABAG Power Pool and members.

- Abx1-99: Renewable Energy SUPPORT
- SBx1-8: Electric Power—Retail Sales SUPPORT
- SBx1-27: Direct Access SUPPORT
- SBx1-23: Fair Citizen Access to Public Power Act/formation of Municipal Utility Districts
WATCH

The Committee Vice Chair reminded Committee members that prior to meetings they can download the full text of bills, history of actions and analyses by going to the official California Legislative site at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/index.html>.

5. Other Business

During the L&GO meeting the committee also had the opportunity to meet with Mike Arnold, Legislative Representative, and discuss current climate of the legislature, budget speculation and impact of energy issues on proposed legislation.

6. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5 p.m.

Next Meeting: May 17, 2001, 3:30-5pm, MetroCenter, ABAG Conference Room B

