

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

**Thursday, December 4, 2014
Summary Minutes**

Members Present:

Supervisor Scott Haggerty, County of Alameda, *Chair*
Supervisor David Cortese, County of Santa Clara
Mayor Bill Harrison, City of Fremont
Supervisor Mark Luce, County of Napa, ABAG Immediate Past President
Councilmember Julie Pierce, City of Clayton, ABAG President
Mayor Harry Price, City of Fairfield
Supervisor David Rabbitt, County of Sonoma, ABAG Vice President
Supervisor Linda Seifert, County of Solano

Staff Present:

Ezra Rapport – ABAG
Brad Paul—ABAG
Kathleen Cha – ABAG
Gillian Adams—ABAG
Halimah Anderson—ABAG

Public: Ken Buchowski/Filming
Stephen Hicken, Catholic Charities

1. **INTRODUCTIONS:** ABAG president Julie Pierce called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.
2. **MINUTES:** September 18, 2014, minutes were approved. (8-0)
3. **BRIEFING ON 2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

A Report Card summary of bills chaptered and vetoed this past 2014 Legislative Session was reviewed. There was discussion about strategies and continual improvement of our legislative outreach to affect support and opposition of bills that meet our regional and local government needs.

4. **DISCUSSION OF LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR 2015-2016**

The Committee made suggestions for 2015 priorities to include more specific types of funding bills related to housing, infrastructure, as well as specific housing element reforms that would give housing credits for assisted living, acquisition/rehabilitation, and workforce housing investment/housing trust funds.

The 2015 priorities will be reviewed and finalized at the next L&GO meeting on January 15, 2015, and presented to the Executive Board for approval.

5. **DISCUSSION ON PROPOSITION 30 REAUTHORIZATION**

Ezra Rapport discussed possible legislative action to extend Proposition 30 tax increases.

The L&GO Committee and Executive Board voted to pursue the reauthorization of Proposition 30 in 2015-2016 with a request that a percentage of future revenue be set aside for funding senior affordable housing. Currently, Proposition 30 is set to expire in 2018.

Motion: The Committee moved to approve that ABAG pursue funding for senior low income affordable housing in the reauthorization process of Proposition 30, and actively work toward getting it in the reauthorization legislation. (8-0)

6. BRIEFING ON UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN (UAC) AND/OR REFUGEE CHILDREN PROGRAM—IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Steve Hicken, Director of Economic Development Services, Catholic Charities of Santa Clara County, presented a PowerPoint report on Unaccompanied Children at the Border, noting the trends the past few years, issues related to how the children are handled, and how they are impacting our Bay Area Counties. He noted the lack of resources and legal aid services available. It was duly noted how Santa Clara County, Oakland/Alameda County, and San Francisco have stepped up with services and legal aid. Nevertheless, efforts by agencies, county and city services need to be better coordinated to create connections between the collaborating groups and agencies across the region. Many other issues and challenges are involved and need consideration.

The Committee suggested the following:

- ABAG hold a workshop for members about undocumented minors.
- ABAG develop a clearing house for information on unaccompanied minors and share best practices on how to manage issues related to migrated minors.
- A suggestion was made that ABAG engage the Bay Area Council Economic Institute to do a study on the economic impacts of undocumented minors.
- It was suggested that we find out what other states are doing and what the federal government is doing.
- A Committee member asked, at what point are we increasing or designing a system that further encourages undocumented minors to come here.

Motion: The committee moved to have staff research a framework for how existing collaborative efforts could be connected and define a role that ABAG could play. The Committee asked ABAG to bring a presentation to the Executive Board for a broader discussion.

7. UNDER OPEN AGENDA

- It was noted that an affordable housing bill was just introduced by Assemblymember David Chiu and this bill would be brought to the committee for review and analysis at the January meeting.
- There was a brief discussion of when to conduct the ABAG Legislative Workshop and Reception in Sacramento for 2015. Mid February thru first of March is the time frame being considered. Legislative Committee Chairs would be invited to brief ABAG elected officials and agency leaders on legislation.