

EL DORADO LAFCO

LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

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March 28, 2018

Honorable Anna Caballero
California State Assembly
State Capital Room 5158
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: SUPPORT of Assembly Bill 2258 (as amended March 15, 2018)

Dear Assemblymember Caballero,

The El Dorado Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) is pleased to join the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) in support for **Assembly Bill 2258**. Sponsored by CALAFCO, the bill establishes a funding program to provide grants to LAFCOs for conducting in-depth studies and analyses of local government agencies and services for the purposes of creating improved efficiencies in the delivery of local government services and completing the dissolution of inactive special districts. The grant program would be administered by the Strategic Growth Council and sunset on December 31, 2023.

The Legislature established LAFCOs in 1963 to encourage the orderly formation of local government agencies. Since that time, the regulatory role and responsibilities of LAFCOs has substantially increased without additional funding. Operating in all 58 California counties, LAFCOs are responsible for meeting important statutory directives to maintain orderly boundaries and seek greater efficiencies in delivering local services, and yet these directives often times cannot be met under current funding mechanisms. As a result, much needed LAFCO activities are sometimes delayed or rejected.

In August 2017, the Little Hoover Commission published a report on special districts and their oversight by LAFCOs, which contained several recommendations directly related to LAFCO. One recommendation was for the Legislature to provide one-time grant funding to pay for specified LAFCO activities, particularly to incentivize LAFCOs or smaller special districts to develop and implement dissolution or consolidation plans with timelines for expected outcomes.

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By establishing this one-time grant funding, **AB 2258** provides an additional tool for LAFCOs to conduct detailed studies and implement greater efficiencies in delivering local services based on local circumstances and conditions. For these reasons, El Dorado LAFCO is pleased to support **AB 2258**.

Thank you for authoring this important piece of legislation. Please feel free to contact me or José Henríquez, El Dorado LAFCO's Executive Officer, should you have any questions about El Dorado LAFCO's position.

Respectfully,

Shiva Frentzen, Chair
El Dorado LAFCO

Cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Debbie Michel, Chief Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO