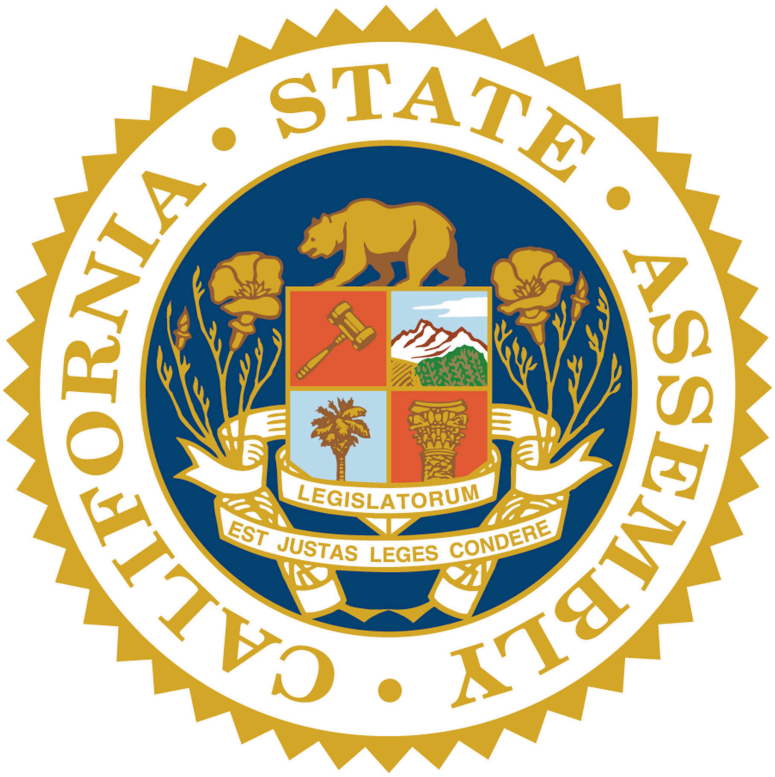
*Guide to the*

# Cortese–Knox–Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000




*Prepared by*

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December 2017

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To Interested Parties:

The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Act) establishes procedures for local government changes of organization, including city incorporations, annexations to a city or special district, and city and special district consolidations.

Local agency formation commissions (LAFCOs) have numerous powers under the Act, but those of primary concern are the power to act on local agency boundary changes and to adopt spheres of influence for local agencies. Among the purposes of LAFCOs are the discouragement of urban sprawl and the encouragement of the orderly formation and development of local agencies.

Staff to the Assembly Local Government Committee regularly updates the *Guide to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000*. This version reflects the 2017 legislative changes to the Act. I hope that you find it to be a useful and helpful document.

Respectfully,

Cecilia M. Aguiar-Curry

Chair



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# SUMMARY OF LAFCO-RELATED LEGISLATION

## Chaptered Bills:

**AB 464 (Gallagher), Chapter 43:** Makes changes to LAFCO statutes which govern changes of organization and reorganization, including annexation proceedings.

**AB 979 (Lackey), Chapter 203:** Makes changes to the statutes which govern the independent special district selection committee and representation of special districts on LAFCOs.

**AB 1725 (Assembly Committee on Local Government), Chapter 353:** Makes minor, technical changes to LAFCO statutes.

**SB 130 (Committee of Budget and Fiscal Review), Chapter 9:** Expands existing Vehicle License Fee (VLF) adjustment to include cities that incorporated between January 1, 2004 and January 1, 2012.

**SB 448 (Wieckowski), Chapter 334**: Requires the State Controller to publish a list of inactive special districts and establishes a process for LAFCOs to dissolve inactive special districts.

## Code Sections Affected:

**Government Code sections amended**: 56031, 56073.1, 56131.5, 56375, 56383, 56653, 56332, 56332.5, 56658, 56857

**Government Code sections added:** 56042, 56879, 56880

**Revenue and Taxation Code sections amended**: 97.70

## Additional Chaptered Bills:*

**AB 1361 (E. Garcia), Chapter 449:** Authorizes a municipal water district, until January 1, 2023, to apply to a LAFCO to extend water service to Indian lands and prohibits the LAFCO from denying the application.

**Please note that the changes made by additional chaptered bills amend code sections outside of the Government Code or the Revenue and Taxation Code sections and are not listed in the text of this Guide.*

## OUTLINE OF THE ACT

### PART 1. GENERAL


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| 56000 | Chapter 1 | Legislative Findings and Declarations |
| 56010 | Chapter 2 | Definitions |
| 56100 | Chapter 3 | Introductory and General Provisions |
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| 57375 | Chapter 4 | Effect of Incorporation |
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| 57450 | Chapter 6 | Effect of Dissolution |
| 57475 | Chapter 7 | Effect of Consolidation of Cities |
| 57500 | Chapter 8 | Effect of Consolidation of Districts |
| 57525 | Chapter 9 | Mergers and the Establishment of Subsidiary Districts |
| 57550 | Chapter 10 | Effect of Reorganization |

# DIVISION 3. CORTESE-KNOX-HERTZBERG LOCAL GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2000

## PART 1. GENERAL

### CHAPTER 1. LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS AND DECLARATIONS

**Title**

**56000**. This division shall be known and may be cited as the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000.

**Legislative findings and declarations; state interests**

**56001**. The Legislature finds and declares that it is the policy of the state to encourage orderly growth and development which are essential to the social, fiscal, and economic well-being of the state. The Legislature recognizes that the logical formation and determination of local agency boundaries is an important factor in promoting orderly development and in balancing that development with sometimes competing state interests of discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime agricultural lands, and efficiently extending government services. The Legislature also recognizes that providing housing for persons and families of all incomes is an important factor in promoting orderly development. Therefore, the Legislature further finds and declares that this policy should be effected by the logical formation and modification of the boundaries of local agencies, with a preference granted to accommodating additional growth within, or through the expansion of, the boundaries of those local agencies which can best accommodate and provide necessary governmental services and housing for persons and families of all incomes in the most efficient manner feasible.

**Priorities**

The Legislature recognizes that urban population densities and intensive residential, commercial, and industrial development necessitate a broad spectrum and high level of community services and controls. The Legislature also recognizes that when areas become urbanized to the extent that they need the full range of community services, priorities are required to be established regarding the type and levels of services that the residents of an urban community need and desire; that community service priorities be established by weighing the total community service needs against the total financial resources available for securing community services; and that those community service priorities are required to reflect local circumstances, conditions and limited financial resources. The Legislature finds and declares that a single multipurpose governmental agency is accountable for community service needs and financial resources and, therefore, may be the best mechanism for establishing community service

priorities especially in urban areas. Nonetheless, the Legislature recognizes the critical role of many limited purpose agencies, especially in rural communities. The Legislature also finds that, whether governmental services are proposed to be provided by a single-purpose agency, several agencies, or a multipurpose agency, responsibility should be given to the agency or agencies that can best provide government services.

## CHAPTER 2. DEFINITIONS

**Definitions**

**56010**. Unless the provision or context otherwise requires, the definitions contained in this chapter govern the construction of this division. The definition of a word applies to any of that word's variants.

**"Affected city"**

**56011**. "Affected city" means any city that contains or would contain, or whose sphere of influence contains or would contain territory for which a change of organization is proposed or ordered, either singularly or as part of a reorganization.

**"Affected county"**

**56012**. "Affected county" means any county that contains, or would contain, any territory for which a change of organization is proposed or ordered either singularly or as part of a reorganization or that contains all or any part of a district for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed with respect to territory outside that county.

**"Affected district"**

**56013**. "Affected district" means any special district, as defined by Section 56036, that contains or would contain, or whose sphere of influence contains or would contain, any territory for which a change of organization is proposed or ordered either singularly or as part of a reorganization.

**"Affected local agency"**

**56014**. "Affected local agency" means any local agency that contains, or would contain, or whose sphere of influence contains or would contain, any territory for which a change of organization is proposed or ordered, either singularly or as part of a reorganization or for which a study is to be reviewed by the commission.

**"Affected territory"**

**56015**. "Affected territory" means any territory for which a change of organization or reorganization, or sphere of influence change is proposed or ordered.

**"Agricultural lands"**

**56016**. "Agricultural lands" means land currently used for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity for commercial purposes, land left fallow under a crop rotational program, or land enrolled in an agricultural subsidy or set-aside program.

**"Annexation"**

**56017**. "Annexation" means the inclusion, attachment, or addition of territory to a city or district.

**"Applicant"**

**56017.1**. "Applicant" means a local agency or person or persons that submits an application, as defined by Section 56017.2.

**"Application"**

**56017.2**. "Application" means any of the following:
(a) A resolution of application or petition initiating a change of organization or reorganization with supporting documentation as required by the commission or executive officer.
(b) A request for a sphere of influence amendment or update pursuant to Section 56425.
(c) A request by a city or district for commission approval of an extension of services outside the agency's jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to Section 56133.
(d) A request by a public agency for commission approval of an extension of services outside the agency's jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to Section 56134.

**56018.** [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Board of directors"**

**56019**. "Board of directors" means the legislative body or governing board of a district.

**"Board of supervisors"**

**56020**. "Board of supervisors" means the legislative body or governing board of a county.

**"Certificate of completion"**

**56020.5**. "Certificate of completion" means the document prepared by the executive officer and recorded with the county recorder that confirms the final successful completion of a change of organization or reorganization.

**"Certificate of filing"**

**56020.6**. "Certificate of filing" means the document issued by the executive officer that confirms an application for a change of organization or reorganization has met submission requirements and is accepted for filing.

**"Certificate of termination of proceedings"**

**56020.7**. "Certificate of termination" or "certificate of termination of proceedings" means the document prepared by the executive officer and retained by the commission that indicates that a proposal for a change of organization or reorganization was

terminated because of a majority written protest, rejection by voters in an election, or the expiration of time prior to completion of proceedings pursuant to Section 57001 or a court order.

**"Change of organization"**

**56021**. "Change of organization" means any of the following:

(a) A city incorporation.

(b) A district formation.

(c) An annexation to a city.

(d) An annexation to a district.

(e) A detachment from a city.

(f) A detachment from a district.

(g) A disincorporation of a city.

(h) A district dissolution.

(i) A consolidation of cities.

(j) A consolidation of special districts.

(k) A merger of a city and a district.

(l) Establishment of a subsidiary district.

(m) The exercise of new or different functions or classes of services, or divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district as provided in Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 56824.10) of Chapter 5 of Part 3 of this division).

**"City"**

**56023**. "City" means any incorporated chartered or general law city, including any city the name of which includes the word "town."

**"City council"**

**56024**. "City council" means the legislative body or governing board of a city.

**"City officer"**

**56025**. "City officer" means the mayor or a member of the city council.

**"Clerk"**

**56026**. "Clerk" means the clerk or secretary of a commission, county, city, or district, or the clerk or secretary of the legislative body of a county, city, or district. Where the office of county clerk is separate from the office of the clerk of the board of supervisors, "clerk" means the clerk of the board of supervisors. Where the office of county clerk is separate from the office of the registrar of voters, "clerk" means the registrar of voters with respect to all duties pertaining to the conduct of elections and the county clerk with respect to all other duties.

| | |
|---|---|
| **"Commission"** | **56027**. "Commission" means a local agency formation commission. |
| **"Commission proceedings"** | **56028**. "Commission proceedings" means proceedings which are taken by a commission pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 56650). |
| **"Conducting authority"** | **56029**. "Conducting authority" means the commission of the principal county, or the commission's executive officer when authorized by the commission, when exercising its responsibility to conduct protest proceedings following approval by the commission of a change of organization or reorganization. |
| **"Consolidation"** | **56030**. "Consolidation" means the uniting or joining of two or more cities located in the same county into a single new successor city or two or more districts into a single new successor district. |
| **"Contiguous"** | **56031**. (a) "Contiguous" means territory *** **that abuts or shares a common boundary with territory within a** local agency:<br>(b) Territory is not contiguous if the only contiguity is based upon a strip of land more than 300 feet long and less than 200 feet wide at its narrowest width, that width to be exclusive of highways.<br>**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 353)** |
| **"County officer"** | **56032**. "County officer" means a member of the board of supervisors. |
| **"Dependent special district" or "dependent district"** | **56032.5**. "Dependent special district" or "dependent district" includes any special district that has a legislative body that consists, in whole or part, of ex officio members who are officers of a county or another local agency, or who are appointees of those officers, and who are not appointed to fixed terms. "Dependent special district" or "dependent district" does not include any district excluded from the definition of district contained in Section 56036 and 56036.6. |
| **"Detachment"** | **56033**. "Detachment" means the exclusion, deletion, or removal from a city or district of any portion of the territory of that city or district. |
| **"Disadvantaged unincorporated community"** | **56033.5**. "Disadvantaged unincorporated community" means inhabited territory, as defined by Section 56046, or as determined by commission policy, that constitutes all or a portion of a "disadvantaged community" as defined by Section 79505.5 of the Water Code. |

**"Disincorporation"**

**56034**. "Disincorporation" means the dissolution, extinguishment, or termination of the existence of a city and the cessation of its corporate powers, except for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the city.

**"Dissolution"**

**56035**. "Dissolution" means the disincorporation, extinguishment, or termination of the existence of a district and the cessation of all its corporate powers, except as the commission may otherwise provide pursuant to Section 56886 or for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the district.

**"District" or "special district"**

**56036**. (a) "District" or "special district" are synonymous and mean an agency of the state, formed pursuant to general law or special act, for the local performance of governmental or proprietary functions within limited boundaries and in areas outside district boundaries when authorized by the commission pursuant to Section 56133.

(b) "District" or "special district" includes a county service area, but excludes all of the following:

(1) The state.

(2) A county.

(3) A city.

(4) A school district or a community college district.

(5) An assessment district or special assessment district.

(6) An improvement district.

(7) A community facilities district formed pursuant to the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, (Chapter 2.5 (commencing with Section 53311) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5).

(8) A permanent road division formed pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 1160) of Chapter 4 of Division 2 of the Streets and Highways Code.

(9) An air pollution control district or an air quality maintenance district.

(10) A zone of any special district.

**Change of organization; principal act**

**56036.5**. (a) For the purposes of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 57000) to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 57176), inclusive, of Part 4 or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), for each of the following entities proceedings for a change of organization shall be conducted pursuant to the principal act authorizing the establishment of that district:

(1) A unified or union high school library district.

(2) A bridge and highway district.

(3) A joint highway district.

(4) A transit or rapid transit district.

(5) A metropolitan water district.
(6) A separation of grade district.
(7) For other districts, where the principal act provides, the procedures in the principal act shall supersede the procedures set forth in this division.

**Non-districts**

**56036.6**. (a) For the purposes of Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 57000) to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 57176), inclusive, of Part 4 or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), none of the following entities is a "district" or "special district" if the commission of the principal county determines, in accordance with Section 56127 and 56128, that the entity is not a "district" or "special district":
(1) A flood control district.
(2) A flood control and floodwater conservation district.
(3) A flood control and water conservation district.
(4) A conservation district.
(5) A water conservation district.
(6) A water replenishment district.
(7) The Orange County Water District.
(8) A California water storage district.
(9) A water agency.
(10) A county water authority or a water authority.
(b) If the commission determines that an entity described in this section is not a "district" or "special district," any proceedings pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) for a change of organization involving the entity shall be conducted pursuant to the principal act authorizing the establishment of that entity.

**56037**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Divestiture of power"**

**56037.2**. "Divestiture of power" means the termination of the power and authority to provide particular functions or classes of services within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district.

**"Elections official"**

**56037.5**. "Elections official" shall have the same meaning as in Section 320 of the Elections Code.

**"Executive officer"**

**56038**. "Executive officer" means the person appointed by a commission pursuant to Section 56384.

**"Feasible"**

**56038.5**. "Feasible" means capable of being accomplished in a successful manner within a reasonable period of time, taking into account economic, legal, social, and technological factors.

**"Formation"**

**56039**. "Formation" means the creation of a district.

**"Function"**

**56040**. "Function" means any power granted by law to a local agency to provide designated governmental or proprietary services or facilities for the use, benefit, or protection of persons or property.

**"Improvement district"**

**56041**. "Improvement district" means an area or zone formed for the sole purpose of designating an area which is to bear a special tax or assessment for an improvement benefiting that area.

**56042**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Inactive district"**

**56042. "Inactive district" means a special district that meets all of the following:**

**(a) The special district is as defined in Section 56036.**

**(b) The special district has had no financial transactions in the previous fiscal year.**

**(c) The special district has no assets and liabilities.**

**(d) The special district has no outstanding debts, judgements, litigation, contracts, liens, or claims.**

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 334)**

**"Incorporation"**

**56043**. "Incorporation" means the creation or establishment of a city. Any area proposed for incorporation as a city shall have at least 500 registered voters residing within the affected territory at the time the proposal is initiated.

**"Independent district" or "independent special district"**

**56044**. "Independent district" or "independent special district" includes any special district having a legislative body all of whose members are elected by registered voters or landowners within the district, or whose members are appointed to fixed terms, and excludes any special district having a legislative body consisting, in whole or in part, of ex officio members who are officers of a county or another local agency or who are appointees of those officers other than those who are appointed to fixed terms. "Independent special district" does not include any district excluded from the definition of district contained in Sections 56036 and 56036.6.

**"Independent special district officer"**

**56045**. "Independent special district officer" means the presiding officer or a member of the legislative body of an independent special district.

**"Indirect cost"**

**56045.5.** "Indirect cost" has the same meaning as used in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 33338 of the Education Code.

**"Inhabited territory"**

**56046**. "Inhabited territory" means territory within which there reside 12 or more registered voters. The number of registered voters as determined by the elections officer, shall be established as of the date a certificate of filing is issued by the executive officer. All other territory shall be deemed "uninhabited."

**"Initiate or "initiation"**

**56047**. "Initiate" or "initiation" means the issuance of a certificate of filing by the executive officer.

**"Interested agency"**

**56047.5**. "Interested agency" means each local agency which provides facilities or services in the affected territory.

**"Joint powers agency" or "joint powers authority"**

**56047.7**. "Joint powers agency" or "joint powers authority" means an agency or entity formed pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act (Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1) that is formed for the local performance of governmental functions that includes the provision of municipal services.

**"Landowner" or "owner of land"**

**56048**. "Landowner" or "owner of land" means any of the following:

(a) A person or persons shown as the owner of land on the last equalized assessment roll prepared by the county at the time the determination is required to be made pursuant to the requirements of this division. Where that person or persons are no longer the owner, the landowner or owner of land is any person or persons entitled to be shown as the owner of land on the next equalized assessment roll.

(b) Where land is subject to a recorded written agreement of sale, any person shown in the agreement as the purchaser.

(c) Any public agency owning land other than highways, rights-of-way, easements, waterways, or canals.

**"Landowner-voter"**

**56049**. "Landowner-voter" means any person entitled to vote in a landowner-voter district, or the legal representative of that person or, in the case of an election, the proxy of that person if authorized by the principal act.

**"Landowner-voter district"**

**56050**. "Landowner-voter district" means a district whose principal act provides that owners of land within the district are entitled to vote upon the election of district officers, the incurring of bonded indebtedness, or any other district matter.

**"Latent service or power"**

**56050.5** "Latent service or power" means those services, facilities, functions, or powers authorized by the principal act under which the district is formed, but that are not being exercised, as determined by the commission pursuant to subdivision (i) of Section 56425.

**"Last equalized assessment roll"**

**56051**. "Last equalized assessment roll" means the listing in use by a county, city, or district for the purpose of the annual levy and collection of any taxes or assessments.

This section does not require the use of the supplemental roll prepared pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 75) of Part 0.5 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

**"Legal representative"**

**56052**. "Legal representative" means an officer of a corporation, partnership, or limited liability company duly authorized to sign for, and on behalf of, the entity. Legal representative also includes a guardian, conservator, executor, administrator, trustee or other person holding property in a trust capacity under appointment of a court, when authorized by an order of the court.

**"Legislative body"**

**56053**. "Legislative body" means the governing board of a city, county, or district.

**"Local agency"**

**56054**. "Local agency" means a city, county, or district.

**"Member district"**

**56055**. "Member district" means any district which is included, in whole or in part, within another district, a metropolitan water district, or any of the entities enumerated in Section 56036.6, all or any part of the first-mentioned district being entitled, under the provisions of the principal act of the second-mentioned district or entity, to receive or be furnished with any governmental or proprietary service or commodity by the second-mentioned district or entity.

**"Merger"**

**56056**. "Merger" means the termination of the existence of a district when the responsibility for the functions, services, assets, and liabilities of that district are assumed by a city as a result of proceedings taken pursuant to this division.

**"Next equalized assessment roll"**

**56057**. "Next equalized assessment roll" means the listing to be equalized and used by a city, county, or district for the purpose of the annual levy and collection of any taxes or assessments imposed by the city, county, or district.

**56058**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Open space"**

**56059**. "Open space" means any parcel or area of land or water which is substantially unimproved and devoted to an open-space use, as defined in Section 65560.

**"Open-space use"**

**56060**. "Open-space use" means any use as defined in Section 65560.

**"Overlap" or "overlapping territory"**

**56061**. "Overlap" or "overlapping territory" means territory which is included within the boundaries of two or more districts or within one or more districts and a city or cities.

**"Parent district"**

**56062**. "Parent district" means any district, a metropolitan water district, or any of the entities enumerated in Section 56036.6, which includes all or any part of another district, the first-mentioned district or entity being obligated, under the provisions of the principal act of the first-mentioned district or entity, to provide and furnish any governmental or proprietary service or commodity to the second-mentioned district.

**56063**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Prime agricultural land"**

**56064**. "Prime agricultural land" means an area of land, whether a single parcel or contiguous parcels, that has not been developed for a use other than an agricultural use and that meets any of the following qualifications:

(a) Land that qualifies, if irrigated, for rating as class I or class II in the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service land use capability classification, whether or not land is actually irrigated, provided that irrigation is feasible.

(b) Land that qualifies for rating 80 through 100 Storie Index Rating.

(c) Land that supports livestock used for the production of food and fiber and that has an annual carrying capacity equivalent to at least one animal unit per acre as defined by the United States Department of Agriculture in the National Range and Pasture Handbook, Revision 1, December 2003.

(d) Land planted with fruit or nut-bearing trees, vines, bushes, or crops that have a nonbearing period of less than five years and that will return during the commercial bearing period on an annual basis from the production of unprocessed agricultural plant production not less than four hundred dollars ($400) per acre.

(e) Land that has returned from the production of unprocessed agricultural plant products an annual gross value of not less than four hundred dollars ($400) per acre for three of the previous five calendar years.

**"Principal act"**

**56065**. "Principal act" means, in the case of a district, the law under which the district was formed and, in the case of a city, the general laws or the city charter.

**"Principal county"**

**56066**. "Principal county" means the county having the greater portion of the entire assessed value, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll of the county or counties, of all taxable property within a district or districts for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed.

**"Proceeding" or "proceeding for a change of organization" or "proceeding for a reorganization"**

**56067**. "Proceeding," "proceeding for a change of organization," or "proceeding for a reorganization" means proceedings taken by the commission for a proposed change of organization or reorganization pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000).

**56068**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Proposal"**

**56069**. "Proposal" means a desired change of organization or reorganization initiated by a petition or by resolution of application of a legislative body or school district for which a certificate of filing has been issued.

**"Protest proceedings"**

**56069.5** "Protest proceedings" means proceedings taken by a commission, or its executive officer when authorized by the commission, as the conducting authority pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 57000), Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 57025), Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 57050), or Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 57075) of Part 4 of this division.

**"Public agency"**

**56070**. "Public agency" means the state or any state agency, board, or commission, any city, county, city and county, special district, or any agency, board, or commission of the city, county, city and county, special district, joint powers authority, or other political subdivision.

**"Registered voter"**

**56071**. "Registered voter" means any elector registered under, and pursuant to, the Elections Code.

**"Registered-voter district"**

**56072**. "Registered-voter district" means a district whose principal act provides that registered voters residing within the district are entitled to vote for the election of district officers, incurring of bonded indebtedness, or any other district matter.

**"Reorganization"**

**56073**. "Reorganization" means two or more changes of organization contained within a single proposal.

**"Resolution of application"**

**56073.1**. "Resolution of application" means the document adopted by a local agency or school district initiating a change of organization or reorganization pursuant to Section 56654 **or the document adopted by a commission pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 56375 or by subdivision (c) of Section 56879.**

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 334)**

**"Service"**

**56074**. "Service" means a specific governmental activity established within, and as a part of, a general function of the special district as provided by regulations adopted by the commission pursuant to Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 56821) of Part 3.

**"Special assessment district" or "assessment district"**

**56075**. "Special assessment district" or "assessment district" means an area fixed, established, and formed by a city, county, district, or the state, pursuant to general law, special act, or charter, that is specially benefited by, and assessed, or to be assessed, to pay the costs and expenses of, acquiring any lands or rights-of-way, acquiring or constructing any public improvements, maintaining or operating any public improvement, or lighting any public street, highway, or place.

**"Special reorganization"**

**56075.5**. "Special reorganization" means a reorganization that includes the detachment of territory from a city or city and county and the incorporation of that entire detached territory as a city.

**"Sphere of influence"**

**56076**. "Sphere of influence" means a plan for the probable physical boundaries and service area of a local agency, as determined by the commission.

**"Subject agency"**

**56077**. "Subject agency" means each district or city for which a change of organization or reorganization is proposed or provided in a plan of reorganization.

**"Subsidiary district"**

**56078**. "Subsidiary district" means a district in which a city council is designated as, and empowered to act as, the ex officio board of directors of the district.

**56079**. [Repealed by Stats. 2011, Ch. 300]

**"Urban service area"**

**56080**. "Urban service area" means developed, undeveloped, or agricultural land, either incorporated or unincorporated, within the sphere of influence of a city, which is served by urban facilities, utilities, and services or which are proposed to be served by urban facilities, utilities, and services during the first five years of an adopted capital improvement program of the city if the city adopts that type of program for those facilities, utilities, and services. The boundary around an urban area shall be called the "urban service area boundary" and shall be developed in cooperation with a city and adopted by a commission pursuant to policies adopted by the commission in accordance with Sections 56300, 56301, and 56425.

**"Voter"**

**56081**. "Voter" means a landowner-voter or a registered voter.

## CHAPTER 3. INTRODUCTORY AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

**Exclusive authority and procedure**

**56100**. (a) Except as otherwise provided in Section 56036.5 and subdivision (b) of Section 56036.6, this division provides the sole and exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts. All changes of organization and reorganizations shall be initiated, conducted, and completed in accordance with, and as provided in, this division.

**Conflict with principal act**

(b) Notwithstanding any other *** law, proceedings for the formation of a district shall be conducted as authorized by the principal act of the district proposed to be formed, except that the commission shall serve as the conducting authority and the procedural requirements of this division shall apply and shall prevail in the event of conflict with the procedural requirements of the principal act of the district. In the event of such a conflict, the commission shall specify the procedural requirements that apply, consistent with the requirements of this section.

**Disclosure of contributions, expenditures, and independent expenditures**

**56100.1**. (a) Contributions and expenditures for political purposes related to a proposal or proceeding shall be disclosed and reported pursuant to Article 2.5 (commencing with Section 84250) of Chapter 4 of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000)).

(b) A commission may require, through the adoption of written policies and procedures, additional disclosure of contributions in support of or opposition to a proposal, which shall be made either to the commission's executive officer, in which case it shall be posted on the commission's Web site, if applicable, or to the board of supervisors of the county in which the commission is located, which may designate a county officer to receive the disclosure.

Disclosure pursuant to a requirement under the authority provided in this section shall be in addition to any disclosure otherwise required by Section 56700.1, 57009, or local ordinance.

**56101**. (Repealed by Stats. 2014, Ch. 112)

**Change deemed complete by certificate of completion**

**56102**. For the purpose of any action to determine or contest the validity of any change of organization or reorganization, the change of organization or reorganization shall be deemed to be completed and in existence upon the date of execution of the certificate of completion.

**Action to determine validity of any change**

**56103**. An action to determine the validity of any change of organization, reorganization, or sphere of influence determination completed pursuant to this division shall be brought pursuant to Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 860) of Title 10 of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

**Mediation proceeding**

**56103.5.** Any action brought in the superior court relating to this division may be subject to a mediation proceeding conducted pursuant to Chapter 9.3 (commencing with Section 66030) of Division 1 of Title 7.

**Severability**

**56104**. If any provision of this division or the application of any provision of this division in any circumstance or to any person, city, county, district, the state, or any agency or subdivision of the state is held invalid, that invalidity shall not affect other provisions or applications of this division which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application of the invalid provision, and to this end the provisions of this division are severable.

**Protest to regularity of proceedings**

**56105**. Any protest or objection pertaining to the regularity or sufficiency of any proceedings or commission proceedings shall be in writing, clearly specify the defect, error, irregularity, or omission to which protest or objection is made and shall be filed within the time and in the manner provided by this division. Any protest or objection pertaining to any of these matters which is not so made and filed is deemed voluntarily waived.

**Time for action directory rather than mandatory**

**56106**. Any provisions in this division governing the time within which an official or the commission is to act shall in all instances, except for notice requirements and the requirements of subdivision (h) of Section 56658, and subdivision (b) of Section 56895, be deemed directory, rather than mandatory.

**Construction; harmless irregularities**

**56107**. (a) This division shall be liberally construed to effectuate its purposes. No change of organization or reorganization ordered under this division and no resolution adopted by the commission making determinations upon a proposal shall be invalidated because of any defect, error, irregularity, or omission in any act, determination, or procedure which does not adversely and substantially affect the rights of any person, city, county, district, the state, or any agency or subdivision of the state.

**Commission determinations final in absence of fraud or abuse of discretion**

(b) All determinations made by a commission under, and pursuant to, this division shall be final and conclusive in the absence of fraud or prejudicial abuse of discretion.

**Standard of legal review**

(c) In any action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul a determination by a commission on grounds of noncompliance with this division, any inquiry shall extend only to whether there was fraud or a prejudicial abuse of discretion. Prejudicial abuse of discretion is established if the court finds that the determination or decision is not supported by substantial evidence in light of the whole record.

**Substantial evidence test**

**Automatic merger doctrine**

**56116**. The Legislature declares that the doctrine of automatic merger of a district with a city or the merger by operation of law of a district with a city has no further force or effect. The existence of a district shall not be extinguished or terminated as a result of the entire territory of that district being heretofore or hereafter included within a city unless that district is merged with the city as a result of proceedings taken pursuant to this division.

**Mergers and subsidiary districts; mutual service agreements**

**56117**. A district may be either merged with, or established as, a subsidiary district of a city in the manner provided in this division. A mutual service agreement between a city and a district may provide that the city shall not, while that agreement is in effect, or during any portion of the agreement's effective duration as the city and the district may stipulate in the agreement, initiate a proposal to establish the district as a subsidiary district of the city.

**Mergers and subsidiary districts; proposal in alternative**

**56118**. Except for a proposal for the merger of a then existing subsidiary district, any proposal for a merger or establishment of a subsidiary district authorized by this division shall contain a request in the alternative, requesting either a merger or the establishment of a subsidiary district, as may be determined during the course of the proceedings. Any proposal requesting only merger shall be deemed to also include a request for the establishment of a subsidiary district and any proposal requesting only the establishment of a subsidiary district shall be deemed to also include a request for merger.

**Consistency with district principal acts**

**56119**. It is not necessary for the principal act of any district to adopt or incorporate this division by reference and any change of organization or reorganization provided for by this division may be made by, or with respect to, any district. Except as otherwise provided in this division, in any change of organization or reorganization the principal act shall govern as to any provisions in the principal act pertaining to boundaries, to contiguity or noncontiguity of territory, to the incorporated or unincorporated status of territory, and to the overlapping of territory of a district with the territory of another district or city. Unless otherwise provided by the principal act, any territory annexed to a district shall be contiguous to the district and shall not be a part of another district formed under the same principal act without the consent of the other district.

**Contiguity requirements**

**Parent and member districts; automatic boundary change**

**56120**. Where the principal act of any parent district provides that the boundaries of the parent district shall be automatically changed in the event of a change in the boundaries of a member district, or that the boundaries of the parent district may be concurrently changed with a change in the boundaries of a member district, the boundaries of the parent district shall be deemed to be automatically, or may be concurrently, changed as the case may be, when proceedings are in accordance with the provisions of the principal acts of any parent district, upon completion of a change of organization or a reorganization changing the boundaries of the member district. The commission of the principal county of the member district shall have exclusive jurisdiction over such a change in boundaries of the member district and also of any parent district subject to this division.

**Rights of bondholders; enforcement**

**56121**. No change of organization or reorganization, or any term or condition of a change of organization or reorganization, shall impair the rights of any bondholder or other creditor of any county, city, or district. Nor shall any change of organization or reorganization, or any term or condition of a change of organization or reorganization, impair the contract rights, or contracts entered into by a public entity created by a joint exercise of powers agreement established pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 of the Government Code. Notwithstanding any provision of this division, or of any change of organization or reorganization, or any term or condition of a change of organization or reorganization, each and every bondholder or other creditor may enforce all of his or her rights in the same manner, and to the same extent, as if the change of organization, reorganization, term, or condition had not been made. Those rights may also be enforced against agencies, and their respective officers, as follows:

(a) Annexation or detachment: against the city or district to, or from, which territory is annexed or detached.

(b) Incorporation: against the newly incorporated city.

(c) Formation: against the newly formed district.

(d) Disincorporation: against the successor county receiving distribution of the remaining assets of the disincorporated city.

(e) Dissolution: against the local agency receiving distribution of all or any part of the remaining assets of a dissolved district.

(f) Consolidation: against the consolidated successor city or district.

(g) Reorganization: against the affected city or district, successor county or newly incorporated city or newly formed district, as the case may be, for any of the above enumerated changes of organization or city incorporations which may be included in the particular reorganization.

**Enforceability of Section 56886; effect on bondholders or other creditors**

**56122**. Section 56886 and any term and condition provided by, or made pursuant to, that section shall be enforceable by, between, among, and against any public agency or agencies designated in the term and condition, but shall not constitute, or be given effect as, a limitation upon the power of any bondholder or other creditor to enforce his or her rights, particularly any rights provided for by Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), as if Section 56886 had not been enacted or the term and condition had not been made or provided pursuant to that section.

**Multi-county districts; principal county**

**56123**. Except as otherwise provided in Section 56124, if a proposed change of organization or a reorganization applies to two or more affected counties, for the purpose of this division, exclusive jurisdiction shall be vested in the commission of the principal county. Any notices, proceedings, orders, or any other acts authorized or required to be given, taken, or made by the commission, board of supervisors, clerk of a county, or any other county official, shall be given, taken, or made by the persons holding those offices in the principal county. The commission of the principal county shall provide notice to the legislative body and the executive officer of all affected agencies of any proceedings, actions, or reports on the proposed change of organization or reorganization. Any officer of a county other than the principal county shall cooperate with the commission of the principal county and shall furnish the commission of the principal county with any certificates, records, or certified copies of records as may be necessary to enable the commission of the principal county to comply with this division.

**Jurisdiction other than principal county; requirements**

**56124**. If a proposed change of organization or a reorganization applies to two or more affected counties, for purposes of this division, exclusive jurisdiction may be vested in the commission of an affected county other than the commission of the principal county if all of the following occur:

(a) The commission of the principal county approves of having exclusive jurisdiction vested in another affected county.

(b) The commission of the principal county designates the affected county which shall assume exclusive jurisdiction

(c) The commission of the affected county so designated agrees to assume exclusive jurisdiction.

If exclusive jurisdiction is vested in the commission of an affected county other than the principal county pursuant to this section, any notices, proceedings, orders, or any other acts authorized or required to be given, taken, or made by the commission, board of supervisors, clerk of a county, or any other officer of a county, shall be given, taken, or made by the persons holding those offices in the affected county. Any officer of a county other than the affected county shall cooperate with the commission of the affected county and shall furnish the commission of the affected county with any certificates, records, or certified copies of records as may be necessary to enable the commission of the affected county to comply with this division.

**District formation as part of reorganization**

**56125**. If any reorganization provides for the formation of any new district or districts, the district or districts shall be deemed to have been formed upon compliance with the procedure and provisions of this division relating to reorganization. If the terms and conditions of any change of organization or reorganization provide for the formation of an improvement district or for the annexation of territory to, or detachment of territory from, an existing improvement district, that formation, annexation, or detachment shall be deemed to have been completed upon compliance with the procedure and provisions of this division relating to a change of organization or a reorganization. In any proceeding for a change of organization or a reorganization providing for territory to be formed into, or annexed to, or detached from, an improvement district, the clerk of the county or of the district, as the case may be, shall give mailed notice of hearing on the proposed change of organization or reorganization to all landowners owning land within the territory. No further or separate proceedings need be taken for the formation of any improvement district or for the annexation of territory to, or detachment of territory from, the existing improvement district. To that extent only, this division shall govern and provide the exclusive procedure for the formation of any such improvement district or for the annexation of territory to, or detachment of territory from, an existing improvement district and the provisions

**Improvement district as term of condition of change**

**Mailed notice to landowners**

**No separate proceedings**

of the principal act relating to the formation of an improvement district or for the annexation of territory to, or detachment of territory from, an existing improvement district shall have no application.

**Assessor to furnish estimated assessed valuations**

**56126**. Upon request by the executive officer or the clerk of any county or district, the assessor of any city, county, or district shall furnish estimated assessed valuations, determined by the same methods and valuations used in preparing the last equalized assessment roll, in both of the following cases:

**Public agency ownership**

(a) Where real property is owned by a public agency and no assessed value for that real property is shown on the roll.

(b) Where a single assessment parcel shown on the last equalized assessment roll either:

(1) Has been split into two or more parcels by reason of the sale or conveyance of any portion of the original assessment parcel.

(2) Overlaps two or more counties, cities, districts, or election precincts, or any combination of those entities or precincts.

Any of these estimates shall be conclusively presumed to be assessed values for the purpose of this division, but shall be given no force or effect for other purposes.

**Determination that a district is not a district**

**56127**. If the legislative body of any of the districts, agencies, or authorities enumerated in subdivision (a) of Section 56036.6 desires a determination by the commission that the district, agency, or authority is not a district or a special district, for purposes of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), the legislative body, prior to the adoption of any ordinance, resolution, or order proposing, declaring an intention, or initiating proceedings to make a change of organization, shall make application to the commission of the principal county describing the proposed change of organization and requesting that determination. If a proposal is initiated by other than the legislative body of a district or special district, the district or special district may, within 10 days of notification by the commission of the initiation of the proposal, request a determination by the commission that it is not a district or special district for purposes of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300). That application shall be filed with the executive officer and shall be presented to the commission not later than its next regular meeting. The executive officer shall give the legislative body filing the application mailed notice of the time and place at which the application shall be presented to the commission. No other notice is required to be given. However, the commission may, prior to making its findings and determinations, order the executive officer to give notice of the filing and presentation of the application by

publication or by mailing to other affected counties, cities, and districts, or by both publication and mailing.

**Application for determination; commission findings**

**56128**. (a) Upon presentation of any application filed pursuant to Section 56127, the commission shall determine that the applicant district, agency, or authority is not a district or special district for purposes of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), if the commission finds that the applicant is not engaged in any of the following:

(1) The distribution and sale for any purpose, other than for the purpose of resale, of water or of gas or electricity for light, heat, or power.

(2) Furnishing sanitary sewer service or garbage and refuse collection service to the ultimate users, as defined in subdivision (b), of those services.

(3) Providing fire or police protection.

(4) The acquisition, construction, maintenance, lighting, or operation of streets and highways, street and highway improvements, or park and recreation facilities, except as an incident to the exercise of other lawful powers of the applicant.

**"Ultimate user"**

(b) "Ultimate user" means any user or consumer other than the state, the United States, a city, a county, or a district, or any agency, department, or office of any of those entities or a public utility.

If the commission determines that any applicant district, agency, or authority enumerated in subdivision (a) of Section 56036.6 is not a district or special district, for purposes of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), then those provisions shall not apply to the change of organization or reorganization described in the application and proceedings for the change of organization or reorganization shall be taken under and pursuant to the principal act. If no application is made to the commission, or if the commission in passing upon an application does not determine that the applicant is not a district or special district for the purposes of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) or Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300), then this division shall provide the sole and exclusive authority for the initiation, conduct, and completion for a change of organization or reorganization by that district, agency, or authority and, to the extent of any inconsistency between this division and the principal act of the applicant, this division shall control.

**Public utility; certificate of public convenience and necessity; gas or electric service**

**56129**. (a) If a public utility has been granted a certificate of public convenience and necessity authorizing and requiring it to furnish gas or electric service within a certain service area and, as a result of a change of organization or a reorganization, territory consisting of all, or any part, of that service area becomes a part

of, or is formed into, a district authorized by its principal act to furnish gas or electric service, the district shall not furnish that service within the territory except upon approval by both of the following:

**Report of the Public Utilities Commission**

(1) The commission after receipt and consideration of the report of the Public Utilities Commission made as provided in Section 56131.

**Voter approval**

(2) The voters within the territory, given at an election as provided in Section 56130.

(b) If both of those approvals are given, upon assumption of service by the district the public utility may at any time thereafter withdraw service within the territory, unless otherwise ordered by the Public Utilities Commission.

(c) "Gas or electric service," as used in this section and in Sections 56130, 56131, and 56875, means the distribution and sale for any purpose, other than for the purpose of resale, of gas or electricity for light, heat, or power.

**Election requirements**

**56130**. Voter approval within the territory, as required by Section 56129, shall be given at an election. The question submitted at the election shall identify the district, designate the kind of service to be furnished, identify the territory within which the service is proposed to be furnished, and state the name of the public utility presently authorized to furnish the gas or electric service within the territory.

The district shall not furnish the gas or electric service, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 56129, within the territory unless the question of furnishing the gas or electric service has been submitted to the voters at an election called, held, and conducted within the territory and a majority of the votes cast upon the question are in favor of the service. The board of supervisors or the legislative body of the conducting district may submit the question at the election called upon the question of confirmation of an order of change of organization or reorganization, or the board of directors of the district may submit the question of the gas or electric service at a special election called after completion of the proceedings for a change of organization or a reorganization. The question of the service shall be submitted as a separate proposition at any election within the territory and shall be voted upon only by qualified voters within the territory. If the question is defeated at the election, for one year thereafter no petition requesting the gas or electric service may be filed and no new election called upon the question.

**Proposals filed with the Public Utilities Commission**

**56131**. The executive officer shall file with the Public Utilities Commission a certified copy of any proposal for a change of organization or a reorganization which provides, as a part of the

change of organization or reorganization, that gas or electric service, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 56129, be furnished by a district within any of the territory affected by the change of organization or reorganization. The certified copy need not contain any signatures if the proposal is by petition. After that change of organization or reorganization has been ordered, the clerk of the district shall file with the Public Utilities Commission a certified copy of any ordinance, resolution, or order made by the board of directors of a district proposing to furnish gas or electric service, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 56129, within the territory.

**Public Utilities Commission**

After that filing, the Public Utilities Commission shall cause an investigation to be made and may conduct any hearings in connection with the proposal. Upon completion of the investigation and not later than 90 days after the date of the filing, the Public Utilities Commission shall make a report to the commission stating whether, in the opinion of the Public Utilities Commission, the proposed service by the district within the territory will substantially impair the ability of the public utility to provide adequate service at reasonable rates within the remainder of the service area of the public utility. The secretary of the Public Utilities Commission shall immediately file a certified copy of that report with the executive officer.

**Investigation and report**

**Health care districts; notification of state agencies**

**56131.5**. (a) Upon the filing of an application for the formation of, annexation to, **detachment from,** consolidation of, or dissolution of a local health care district created pursuant to Division 23 (commencing with Section 32000) of the Health and Safety Code or of an application for a reorganization including any of those changes of organization or the initiation by the commission of any of those changes of organization or any reorganization including any of those changes of organization, the commission shall notify all state agencies that have oversight or regulatory responsibility over, or a contractual relationship with, the local health care district that is the subject of the proposed change of organization or reorganization, of its receipt of the application or the initiation by the commission of the proposed change of organization or reorganization and the proposal, including, but not limited to, the following:

(1) The State Department of Health Care Services, including, but not limited to, the Medi-Cal Division.

(2) The Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, including, but not limited to, the Cal-Mortgage Loan Insurance Division.

(3) The California Health Facilities Financing Authority.

(4) The State Department of Public Health, including, but not limited to, the Licensing and Certification Division.

(b) A state agency shall have 60 days from the date of receipt of notification by the commission to comment on the proposal. The commission shall consider all comments received from any state agency in making its decision.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 353)**

**Recreation and park districts; notification of state agency**

**56131.7**. Upon the filing of an application for the formation of, consolidation of, or dissolution of a recreation and park district formed pursuant to the Recreation and Park District Law, Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 5780) of Division 5 of the Public Resources Code, or of an application for a reorganization that includes any of those changes of organization, or the initiation by the commission of any of those changes or organization or any reorganization that includes any of those changes of organization, the executive officer shall notify the Director of the State Department of Parks and Recreation. The director shall have 60 days from the date of receipt of notification by the executive officer to comment on the proposal.

The commission shall consider all comments received from the director in making its decision.

**Services by contract outside city and district boundaries**

**56133**. (a) A city or district may provide new or extended services by contract or agreement outside its jurisdictional boundary only if it first requests and receives written approval from the commission.

(b) The commission may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundary but within its sphere of influence in anticipation of a later change of organization.

**Threat to health and safety**

(c) If consistent with adopted policy, the commission may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundary and outside its sphere of influence to respond to an existing or impending threat to the health or safety of the public or the residents of the affected territory, if both of the following requirements are met:

(1) The entity applying for approval has provided the commission with documentation of a threat to the health and safety of the public or the affected residents.

**Notice for alternate service provider**

(2) The commission has notified any alternate service provider, including any water corporation as defined in Section 241 of the Public Utilities Code, that has filed a map and a statement of its service capabilities with the commission.

**Proceedings for review**

(d) The executive officer, within 30 days of receipt of a request for approval by a city or district to extend services outside its jurisdictional boundary, shall determine whether the request is complete and acceptable for filing or whether the request is incomplete. If a request is determined not to be complete, the

executive officer shall immediately transmit that determination to the requester, specifying those parts of the request that are incomplete and the manner in which they can be made complete. When the request is deemed complete, the executive officer shall place the request on the agenda of the next commission meeting for which adequate notice can be given but not more than 90 days from the date that the request is deemed complete, unless the commission has delegated approval of requests made pursuant to this section to the executive officer. The commission or executive officer shall approve, disapprove, or approve with conditions the extended services. If the new or extended services are disapproved or approved with conditions, the applicant may request reconsideration, citing the reasons for reconsideration.

**Exemptions**

(e) This section does not apply to any of the following:

(1) Two or more public agencies where the public service to be provided is an alternative to, or substitute for, public services already being provided by an existing public service provider and where the level of service to be provided is consistent with the level of service contemplated by the existing service provider.

(2) This section does not apply to the transfer of nonpotable or nontreated water.

(3) The provision of surplus water to agricultural lands and facilities, including, but not limited to, incidental residential structures, for projects that serve conservation purposes or that directly support agricultural industries. However, prior to extending surplus water service to any project that will support or induce development, the city or district shall first request and receive written approval from the commission in the affected county.

(4) An extended service that a city or district was providing on or before January 1, 2001.

(5) A local publicly owned electric utility, as defined by Section 9604 of the Public Utilities Code, providing electric services that do not involve the acquisition, construction, or installation of electric distribution facilities by the local publicly owned electric utility, outside of the utility's jurisdictional boundary.

(6) A fire protection contract, as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 56134.

(f) This section applies only to the commission of the county in which the extension of service is proposed.

**Pilot Program for Napa and San Bernardino commissions**

**56133.5.** (a) A pilot program is hereby established for the Napa and San Bernardino commissions. If consistent with adopted policy, the Napa and San Bernardino commissions may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundary and outside its sphere of influence to support existing or planned uses involving public or private

properties, subject to approval at a noticed public hearing in which the commission makes all of the following determinations:

(1) The extension of service or services deficiency was identified and evaluated in a review of municipal services prepared pursuant to Section 56430.

(2) The extension of service will not result in either (1) adverse impacts on open space or agricultural lands or (2) growth inducing impacts.

(3) A sphere of influence change involving the subject territory and its affected agency is not feasible under this division or desirable based on the adopted policies of the commission.

(b) Subdivision (d) of Section 56133 shall apply to any request for new or extended services pursuant to this section.

(c) For purposes of this section, "planned use" means any project that is included in an approved specific plan as of July 1, 2015.

(d) The Napa and San Bernardino commissions shall submit a report before January 1, 2020, to the Legislature on their participation in the pilot program, including how many requests for extension of services were received pursuant to this section and the action by the commission to approve, disapprove, or approve with conditions. The report required to be submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall be submitted in compliance with Section 9795 of the Government Code.

(e) The pilot program established pursuant to this section shall be consistent with Chapter 8.5 (commencing with Section 1501) of the Public Utilities Code.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2021, and as of that date is repealed.

**Fire protection services by contract outside a public agency's jurisdictional boundaries**

**56134.** (a) (1) For the purpose of this section, "fire protection contract" means a contract or agreement for the exercise of new or extended fire protection services outside a public agency's jurisdictional boundaries, as authorized by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 55600) of Part 2 of Division 2 of Title 5 of this code or by Article 44 (commencing with Section 4141) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, except those contracts entered into pursuant to Sections 4143 and 4144 of the Public Resources Code, that does either of the following:

**"Fire protection contract"**

(A) Transfers responsibility for providing services in more than 25 percent of the area within the jurisdictional boundaries of any public agency affected by the contract or agreement.

(B) Changes the employment status of more than 25 percent of the employees of any public agency affected by the contract or agreement.

(2) A contract or agreement for the exercise of new or extended fire protection services outside a public agency's jurisdictional boundaries, as authorized by Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 55600) of Part 2 of Division 2 of Title 5 of this code or Article 4 (commencing with Section 4141) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, except those contracts entered into pursuant to Section 4143 and 4144 of the Public Resources Code, that, in combination with other contracts or agreements, would produce the results described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) shall be deemed a fire protection contract for the purposes of this section.

(3) For the purposes of this section, "jurisdictional boundaries" shall include the territory or lands protected pursuant to a fire protection contract entered into on or before December 31, 2015. An extension of a fire protection contract entered into on or before December 31, 2015, that would produce the results described in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) shall be deemed a fire protection contract for the purposes of this section.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 56133, a public agency may provide new or extended services pursuant to a fire protection contract only if it first requests and receives written approval from the commission in the affected county pursuant to the requirements of this section.

**Resolution of application**

(c) A request by a public agency for commission approval of new or extended services provided pursuant to a fire protection contract shall be made by the adoption of a resolution of application as follows:

(1) In the case of a public agency that is not a state agency, the application shall be initiated by the adoption of a resolution of application by the legislative body of the public agency proposing to provide new or extended services outside the public agency's current jurisdictional boundaries.

(2) In the case of a public agency that is a state agency, the application shall be initiated by the director of the state agency proposing to provide new or extended services outside the agency's current jurisdictional boundaries and be approved by the Director of Finance.

(3) In the case of a public agency that is a local agency currently under contract with a state agency for the provision of fire protection services and proposing to provide new or extended services by the expansion of the existing contract or agreement, the application shall be initiated by the public agency that is a local agency and be approved by the Director of Finance.

**Resolution of application requirements**

(d) The legislative body of a public agency or the director of a state agency shall not submit a resolution of application pursuant to this section unless both of the following occur:

(1) The public agency does either of the following:

(A) Obtains and submits with the resolution a written agreement validated and executed by each affected public agency and recognized employee organization that represents firefighters of the existing and proposed service providers consenting to the proposed fire protection contract.

(B) Provides, at least 30 days prior to the hearing held pursuant to paragraph (2), written notice to each affected public agency and recognized employee organization that represents firefighters of the existing and proposed service providers of the proposed fire protection contract and submits a copy of each written notice with the resolution of application. The notice shall, at a minimum, include a full copy of the proposed contract.

(2) The public agency conducts an open and public hearing on the resolution, conducted pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act (Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5) or the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2), as applicable.

**Resolution contents**

(e) A resolution of application submitted pursuant to this section shall be submitted with a plan which shall include all of the following information:

(1) The total estimated cost to provide the new or extended fire protection services in the affected territory.

(2) The estimated cost of the new or extended fire protection services to customers in the affected territory.

(3) An identification of existing service providers, if any, of the new or extended services proposed to be provided and the potential fiscal impact to the customers of those existing providers.

(4) A plan for financing the exercise of the new or extended fire protection services in the affected territory.

(5) Alternatives for the exercises of the new or extended fire protection services in the affected territory.

(6) An enumeration and description of the new or extended fire protection services proposed to be extended to the affected territory.

(7) The level and range of new or extended fire protection services.

(8) An indication of when the new or extended fire protection services can feasibly be extended to the affected territory.

(9) An indication of any improvements or upgrades to structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other conditions the public agency would impose or require within the affected territory if the fire protection contract is completed.

(10) A determination, supported by documentation, that the proposed fire protection contract meets the criteria established pursuant to subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1) or paragraph

(2), as applicable, of subdivision (a).

(f) The applicant shall cause to be prepared by contract an independent *** fiscal analysis to be submitted with the application pursuant to this section. The analysis shall review and document all of the following:

(1) A thorough review of the plan for services submitted by the public agency pursuant to subdivision (e).

(2) How the costs of the existing service provider compare to the costs of service provided in service areas with similar populations and of similar geographic size that provide a similar level and range of services and make a reasonable determination of the costs expected to be borne by the public agency providing new or extended fire protection services.

(3) Any other information and analysis needed to support the findings required by subdivision (j).

(g) The clerk of the legislative body of a public agency or the director of a state agency adopting a resolution of application pursuant to this section shall file a certified copy of the resolution with the executive officer.

**Commission determination of complete or incomplete request**

(h) (1) The executive officer, within 30 days of the receipt of a public agency's request for approval of a fire protection contract, shall determine whether the request is complete and acceptable for filing or whether the request is incomplete. If a request does not comply with the requirements of subdivision (d), the executive officer shall determine that the request is incomplete. If a request is determined incomplete, the executive officer shall immediately transmit that determination to the requester, specifying those parts of the request that are incomplete and the manner in which they can be made complete. When the request is deemed complete, the executive officer shall place the request on the agenda of the next commission meeting for which adequate notice can be given but not more than 90 days from the date that the request is deemed complete.

**Commission hearing**

(2) The commission shall approve, disapprove, or approve with conditions the contract for new or extended services following the hearing at the commission meeting, as provided in paragraph (1). If the contract is disapproved or approved with conditions, the applicant may request reconsideration, citing the reasons or reconsideration.

(i) (1) The commission shall not approve an application for approval of a fire protection contract unless the commission determines that the public agency will have sufficient revenues to carry out the exercise of the new or extended fire protection services outside its jurisdictional boundaries, except as specified in paragraph (2).

(2) The commission may approve an application for approval of a fire protection contract where the commission has determined that the public agency will not have sufficient revenue to provide the proposed new or different functions or class of services, if the commission conditions its approval on the concurrent approval of sufficient revenue sources pursuant to Section 56886. In approving a proposal, the commission shall provide that, if the revenues sources pursuant to Section 56886 are not approved, the authority of the public agency to provide new or extended fire protection services shall not be exercised.

(j) The commission shall not approve an application for approval of a fire protection district unless the commission determines, based on the entire record, all of the following:

(1) The proposed exercise of new or extended fire protection services outside a public agency's jurisdictional boundaries is consistent with the intent of this division, including, but not limited to, the policies of Sections 56001 and 56300.

(2) The commission has reviewed the fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to subdivision (f).

(3) The commission has reviewed any testimony presented at the public hearing.

(4) The proposed affected territory is expected to receive revenues sufficient to provide public services and facilities and a reasonable reserve during the three fiscal years following the effective date of the contract or agreement between the public agencies to provide the new or extended fire protection services.

**Electronic and mailed notice**

(k) At least 21 days prior to the date of the hearing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice of that hearing to each affected local agency or affected county, and to any interested party who has filed a written request for notice with the executive officer. In addition, at least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall cause notice of the hearing to be published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation that is circulated within the territory affected by the proposal proposed to be adopted and shall post the notice of the hearing on the commission's Internet Web site.

(l) The commission may continue from time to time any hearing called pursuant to this section. The commission shall hear and consider oral or written testimony presented by any affected local agency, affected county, or any interested person who appears at any hearing called and held pursuant to this section.

(m) This section shall not be construed to abrogate a public agency's obligations under the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title1).

## CHAPTER 4. NOTICE

**Means of notice**

**56150**. Unless the provision or context otherwise requires, whenever this division requires notice to be published, posted, or mailed, the notice shall be published, posted, or mailed as provided in this chapter. Unless the provision or context otherwise requires, whenever this division requires notice to be given that notice shall also be given in electronic format on a website provided by the commission, to the extent that the commission maintains a website.

**Notice given by clerk; contents**

**56151**. Notice authorized or required to be given by publication, posting, or mailing shall be given by the clerk or executive officer and shall contain all matters required by any particular provision of this division.

**Resolution or ordinance sufficient**

If any ordinance, resolution, or order of any legislative body or the commission gives notice and contains all matters required to be contained in any notice, the clerk or executive officer may cause a copy of that ordinance, resolution, or order to be published, posted, or mailed, in which case no other notice need be given by the clerk or executive officer.

**Notice given by clerk or executive officer if not specified**

**56152**. Whenever any notice is required to be given and the duty of giving that notice is not specifically enjoined upon some officer, agency, or person, the clerk or executive officer, as the case may be, shall give notice or cause that notice to be given.

**Publication in newspaper(s) of general circulation**

**56153**. Notice required to be published shall be published pursuant to Section 6061 in one or more newspapers of general circulation within each affected county, affected city, or affected district. If any newspaper is a newspaper of general circulation in two or more affected cities or affected districts, publication in that newspaper shall be sufficient publication for all those affected cities or affected districts.

**Publication in two or more counties**

If there are two or more affected counties, publication shall be made in at least one newspaper of general circulation in each of the affected counties.

**Publication; 21 days prior**

**56154**. If the published notice is a notice of a hearing, publication of the notice shall be commenced at least 21 days prior to the date specified in the notice for the hearing.

**Notice by first-class mail**

**56155**. Except as otherwise provided in this division, mailed notice shall be sent first class and deposited, postage prepaid, in the United States mails and shall be deemed to have been given when so deposited.

**Mailing; 21 days prior**

**56156**. If the mailed notice is notice of a hearing, the notice shall be mailed at least 21 days prior to the date specified in the notice for hearing.

**Mailing; addresses**

**56157**. When mailed notice is required to be given to:

(a) A county, city, or district, it shall be addressed to the clerk of the county, city, or district.

(b) A commission, it shall be addressed to the executive officer.

(c) Proponents, it shall be addressed to the persons so designated in the petition at the address specified in the petition.

(d) Landowners, it shall be addressed to each person to whom land is assessed, as shown upon the most recent assessment roll being prepared by the county at the time the proponent adopts a resolution of application pursuant to Section 56654 or files a notice of intention to circulate a petition with the executive officer pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56700.4, at the address shown upon the assessment roll and to all landowners within 300 feet of the exterior boundary of the property that is the subject of the hearing at least 21 days prior to the hearing. This requirement may be waived if proof satisfactory to the commission is presented that shows that individual notices to landowners have already been provided by the initiating agency. Notice also shall be either posted or published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation that is circulated within the affected territory 21 days prior to the hearing.

(e) Persons requesting special notice, it shall be addressed to each person who has filed a written request for special notice with the executive officer or clerk at the mailing address specified in the request.

(f) To all registered voters within the affected territory, to the address as shown on the most recent index of affidavits prepared by the county elections official at the time the proponent adopts a resolution of application pursuant to Section 56654 or files a notice of intention to circulate a petition with the executive officer pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56700.4 and to all registered voters within 300 feet of the exterior boundary of the property that is the subject of the hearing at least 21 days prior to the hearing. This requirement may be waived if proof satisfactory to the commission is presented that shows that individual notices to registered voters have already been provided by the initiating agency. Notice shall also either be posted or published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation that is circulated within the affected territory 21 days prior to the hearing.

(g) Pursuant to subdivisions (d) and (f), if a landowner or landowners and registered voter or voters are the same individual or individuals, only one notice is required to be mailed.

(h) If the total number of notices required to be mailed in accordance with subdivisions (d) and (f) exceeds 1,000, then notice may instead be provided by publishing a display advertisement of at least one-eighth page in a newspaper, as specified in Section 56153, at least 21 days prior to the hearing.

**Posted notice; place**

**56158**. Notice required to be posted shall be posted on or near the doors of the meeting room of the legislative body or commission or upon any official bulletin board used for the purpose of posting public notices by, or pertaining to, the legislative body or commission.

**Posted notice; time**

**56159**. Posted notice shall remain posted for not less than five days. If the posted notice is notice of a hearing, posting shall be commenced at least 21 days prior to the date specified in the notice for hearing and shall continue to the time of the hearing.

**Failure to receive notice; validity of action**

**56160**. The failure of any person or entity to receive notice given pursuant to this division shall not constitute grounds for any court to invalidate any action taken for which the notice was given.

## PART 2. LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION

### CHAPTER 1. GENERAL

**Written policies and procedures**

**56300**. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that each commission, not later than January 1, 2002, shall establish written policies and procedures and exercise its powers pursuant to this part in a manner consistent with those policies and procedures and that encourages and provides planned, well-ordered, efficient urban development patterns with appropriate consideration of preserving open-space and agricultural lands within those patterns.

**Legislative intent**

**Disclosure hearing**

(b) Each commission with a proposal pending on January 1, 2001, shall, by March 31, 2001, hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of policies and procedures to require the disclosure of contributions, expenditures, and independent expenditures authorized by Section 56100.1. Reporting requirements adopted pursuant to this section shall be effective upon the date of adoption or a later date specified in the resolution. Any commission that does not have a proposal pending on January 1, 2001, shall hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of those policies and procedures within 90 days of submission of a proposal or at any time prior to submission of a proposal. Once a hearing has taken place under this subdivision, no subsequent hearing shall be required except by petition of 100 or more registered voters residing in the county in which the commission is located.

**Lobbying disclosure policies**

(c) A commission may require, through the adoption of written policies and procedures, lobbying disclosure and reporting requirements for persons who attempt to influence pending decisions by commission members, staff, or consultants. Disclosure shall be made either to the commission's executive officer, in which case it shall be posted on the commission Web site, if applicable, or to the recorder, registrar of voters, or clerk of the board of supervisors of the county in which the commission is located. Each commission that on January 1, 2001, has a pending proposal, as defined in Section 56069 shall, by March 31, 2001, hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of policies and procedures governing lobbying disclosure authorized by this subdivision. Reporting requirements adopted pursuant to this section shall be effective upon the date of adoption or on a later date specified in the resolution. Any commission that does not have a proposal pending on January 1, 2001, shall hold a public hearing to discuss the adoption of those policies and procedures within 90 days of submission of a proposal, or at any time prior to submission of a proposal.

(d) Any public hearings required by this section may be held concurrently.

**Forms for submittals required**

(e) The written policies and procedures adopted by the commission shall include forms to be used for various submittals to the commission including at a minimum a form for any protests to be filed with the commission concerning any proposed organization change.

**Internet website required**

(f) (1) On or before January 1, 2002, the commission shall establish and maintain, or otherwise provide access to notices and other commission information for the public through an Internet Website.

**Electronic notice required**

(2) The written policies and procedures adopted by the commission shall require that, to the extent that the commission maintains an Internet Web site, notice of all public hearings and commission meetings shall be made available in electronic format on that site.

**Purposes of commission**

**56301**. Among the purposes of a commission are discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open-space and prime agricultural lands, encouraging the efficient provision of government services, and encouraging the orderly formation and development of local agencies based upon local conditions and circumstances. One of the objects of the commission is to make studies and to obtain and furnish information which will contribute to the logical and reasonable development of local agencies in each county and to shape the development of local agencies so as to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of each county and its communities. When the formation of a new government entity is

**Determination for new agencies**

proposed, a commission shall make a determination as to whether existing agencies can feasibly provide the needed service or services in a more efficient and accountable manner. If a new single-purpose agency is deemed necessary, the commission shall consider reorganization with other single-purpose agencies that provide related services.

## CHAPTER 2. FORMATION OF COMMISSION AND SELECTION OF COMMISSIONERS

**Creation; composition**

**56325**. There is hereby continued in existence in each county local agency formation commission. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the commission shall consist of members appointed as follows:

(a) Two appointed by the board of supervisors from their own membership. The board of supervisors shall appoint a third supervisor who shall be an alternate member of the commission. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of any supervisor on the commission who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission.

If the office of a regular county member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular county member until the appointment and qualification of a regular county member to fill the vacancy.

**City members**

(b) Two appointed by the cities in the county, each of whom shall be a mayor or council member, appointed by the city selection committee. The city selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall also be a mayor or council member and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56335. The city selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the cities in the county, with respect to population and geography.

**District members**

(c) Two presiding officers or members of legislative bodies of independent special districts appointed by the independent special district selection committee pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee shall also appoint a presiding officer or member of the legislative body of an independent special district as an alternate member who shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee is encouraged to make appointments that fairly represent the diversity of the independent special districts in the county, with respect to population and geography.

**Public member**

(d) One representing the general public appointed by the other members of the commission. The other members of the commission may also appoint one alternate member who shall

serve pursuant to Section 56331. Appointment of the public member and alternate public member shall be subject to the affirmative vote of at least one of the members appointed by each of the other appointing authorities. Whenever a vacancy occurs in the public member or alternate public member position, the commission shall cause a notice of vacancy to be posted as provided in Section 56158. A copy of this notice shall be sent to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body of each local agency within the county. Final appointment to fill the vacancy may not be made for at least 21 days after the posting of the notice.

**Independent judgment of members**

**56325.1**. While serving on the commission, all commission members shall exercise their independent judgment on behalf of the interests of residents, property owners, and the public as a whole in furthering the purposes of this division. Any member appointed on behalf of local governments shall represent the interests of the public as a whole and not solely the interests of the appointing authority. This section does not require the abstention of any member on any matter, nor does it create a right of action in any person.

**Composition; Los Angeles County**

**56326**. In Los Angeles County, the commission shall consist of nine members, appointed as follows:

(a) Two appointed by the board of supervisors from its own membership. The board of supervisors shall also appoint a third supervisor who shall be an alternate member of the commission. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of any supervisor on the commission who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission.

If the office of the regular county member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular county member until the appointment and qualification of a regular county member to fill the vacancy.

(b) One appointed by the board of supervisors, who shall not be a member of the board of supervisors but who shall be a resident of the San Fernando Valley Statistical Area, as defined in subdivision (c) of Section 11093. The board of supervisors shall also appoint an alternate member who shall not be a member of the board of supervisors but who is a resident of the San Fernando Valley Statistical Area. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of the member appointed pursuant to this subdivision if that member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission.

If the office of the regular member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular member until the appointment and qualification of a

regular member to fill the vacancy.

(c) Two appointed by the cities in the county, each of whom shall be a mayor or council member, appointed by the city selection committee. The city selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall also by a mayor or council member and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56335. The city selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the cities in the county, with respect to population and geography.

(d) One appointed by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a city in the county having a population in excess of 30 percent of the total population of the county who is a member of the legislative body of the city. The presiding officer of the legislative body shall also appoint an alternate member who is a member of the legislative body. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of the member appointed pursuant to this subdivision if the member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission.

If the office of the regular member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular member until the appointment and qualification of a regular member to fill the vacancy.

(e) Two presiding officers or members of legislative bodies of independent special districts appointed by the independent special district selection committee pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall be a presiding officer or member of the legislative body of an independent special district and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the independent special districts in the county, with respect to population and geography.

(f) One representing the general public appointed by the other members of the commission. The other members of the commission may also appoint one alternate member who shall serve pursuant to Section 56331.

**Composition; Sacramento County**

**56326.5.** In Sacramento County, the commission shall consist of seven members, appointed as follows:

(a) Two appointed by the board of supervisors from their own membership. The board of supervisors shall appoint a third supervisor who shall serve as an alternate member of the commission. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of any supervisor on the commission who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular county member

becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular county member until the appointment and qualification of a regular county member to fill the vacancy.

(b) One appointed by the City of Sacramento who is a member of the city council, appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the city council. The mayor shall also appoint, subject to confirmation by the council, an alternate member who is a member of the city council. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of the regular city member if the city member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular city member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular city member until the appointment and qualification of a regular city member to fill the vacancy.

(c) One appointed by the cities in the county, who is a mayor or council member appointed by the city selection committee. The city selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall also be a mayor or council member and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56335. The city selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the cities in the county, with respect to population and geography.

(d) Two presiding officers or members of legislative bodies of independent special districts appointed by the independent special district selection committee pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall be a presiding officer or member of the legislative body of an independent special district and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56332. The independent special district selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the independent special districts in the county, with respect to population and geography.

(e) One representing the general public, appointed by the other six members of the commission. The commission may also appoint an alternate public member who may serve and vote in the place of the regular public member if the regular public member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular public member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular public member until the appointment and qualification of a regular public member to fill the vacancy.

**Composition; Santa Clara County**

**56327**. In Santa Clara County, the commission shall consist of five members, appointed as follows:

(a) Two appointed by the board of supervisors from their own membership. The board of supervisors shall appoint a third

supervisor who shall serve as an alternate member of the commission. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of any supervisor on the commission who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular county member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular county member until the appointment and qualification of a regular county member to fill the vacancy.

(b) One appointed by the city in the county having the largest population, who is a member of the legislative body of the city, appointed by the city council. The city council shall also appoint an alternate member who is a member of the legislative body of the city. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of the regular city member if the city member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular city member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular city member until the appointment and qualification of a regular city member to fill the vacancy.

(c) One appointed by the cities in the county, who is a mayor or council member appointed by the city selection committee. The city selection committee shall also appoint one alternate member who shall also be a mayor of council member and shall be appointed and serve pursuant to Section 56335. The city selection committee is encouraged to appoint members to fairly represent the diversity of the cities in the county, with respect to population and geography.

(d) One representing the general public, appointed by the other four, or, if the commission is enlarged pursuant to Section 56327.3, the other six, members of the commission. This member shall not be a resident of a city which is already represented on the commission. The commission may also appoint an alternate public member, who shall not be a resident of a city represented on the commission, and who may serve and vote in the place of the regular public member if the regular public member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular public member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular public member until the appointment and qualification of a regular public member to fill the vacancy.

**Representation of special districts; Santa Clara County**

**56327.3**. In Santa Clara County, the commission shall be enlarged by two members if, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 56821), the commission orders representation of special districts upon the commission.

**Composition; San Diego County**

**56328**. (a) In San Diego County, the commission, which consists of seven members, augmented pursuant to Section 56332, shall be additionally augmented by the appointment of an eighth member and that member shall, notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 56325, be a member of the legislative body of the city in the county having the largest population, appointed by the legislative body of that city.

(b) The legislative body of the city shall appoint an alternate member at the same time and in the same manner as it appoints the regular member appointed pursuant to subdivision (a). If the regular city member is absent from a commission meeting, or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the regular city member for that meeting. If the office of the regular city member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular city member until the appointment and qualification of a regular city member to fill the vacancy.

**Composition; Kern County**

**56328.5**. (a) In Kern County, the commission, which consists of seven members, augmented pursuant to Section 56332, shall be additionally augmented by the appointment of an eighth member and a ninth member.

(b) The eighth member shall, notwithstanding subdivision (b) of Section 56325, be a member of the legislative body of the city in the county having the largest population, appointed by the legislative body of that city.

The legislative body of the city shall appoint an alternate member at the same time and in the same manner as it appoints the eighth regular member. If the regular city member is absent from a commission meeting, or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the regular city member for that meeting. If the office of the regular city member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular city member until the appointment and qualification of a regular city member to fill the vacancy.

(c) The ninth member shall represent the general public, but shall not be a member of the governing body of any local agency. The ninth member shall be appointed by the four members of the commission appointed by the county supervisors and the independent special district selection committee. Those commission members may also appoint an alternate public member, who is not a member of the governing body of any local agency, who may serve and vote in the place of the regular public member appointed pursuant to this subdivision if that regular public member is absent or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of the regular public member appointed pursuant to this subdivision

becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of that former regular public member until the appointment and qualification of a regular public member pursuant to this subdivision to fill the vacancy.

**Composition; counties with no cities**

**56329**. If there is no city in the county, the commission shall consist of five members, appointed as follows which may be further augmented pursuant to Sections 56332 and 56332.5:

(a) Three appointed by the board of supervisors from their own membership. The board of supervisors shall appoint a fourth supervisor who is an alternate member of the commission. The alternate member may serve and vote in place of any supervisor on the commission who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. If the office of a regular county member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular county member until the appointment and qualification of a regular county member to fill the vacancy.

(b) Two representing the general public appointed by the other three members of the commission. Appointment of the public member and alternate public member shall be subject to the affirmative vote of at least one of the members selected by each of the other appointing authorities.

**Alternate public members; appointment, duties**

**56331**. When appointing a public member pursuant to Sections 56325, 56326, 56326.5, 56327, 56328, 56328.5, and 56329, the commission may also appoint one alternate public member who may serve and vote in place of a regular public member who is absent or who disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting of the commission. The public member and the alternate public member shall be residents of the county of the appointing commission.

If the office of a regular public member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular public member until the appointment and qualification of a regular public member to fill the vacancy.

**Public member restrictions**

No person appointed as a public member or alternate public member pursuant to this chapter shall be an officer or employee of the county or any city or district with territory in the county, provided, however, that any officer or employee serving on January 1, 1994, may complete the term for which he or she was appointed.

**Alternative member; one vote**

**56331.3**. If two or more members are absent or disqualify themselves from participating in a meeting of the commission, any alternate member who is authorized to serve and vote in the place of a member shall only have one vote.

**Independent special district selection committee**

**56332**. (a) The independent special district selection committee shall consist of the presiding officer of the legislative body of each independent special district. However, if the presiding officer of an independent special district is unable to participate in a meeting or election of the independent special district selection committee, the legislative body of the district may appoint one of its members as an alternate to participate in the selection committee in the presiding officer's place. Those districts shall include districts located wholly within the county and those containing territory within the county representing 50 percent or more of the assessed value of taxable property of the district, as shown on the last equalized county assessment roll. Each member of the committee shall be entitled to one vote for each independent special district of which he or she is the presiding officer or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body. Members representing a majority of the eligible districts shall constitute a quorum.

**Meetings**

(b) The executive officer shall call and give written notice of all meetings of the members of the selection committee. A meeting shall be called and held under one of the following circumstances:

**Anticipated vacancy**

(1) Whenever the executive officer anticipates that a vacancy will occur within the next 90 days among the members or alternate member representing independent special districts on the commission.

(2) Whenever a vacancy exists among the members or alternate member representing independent special districts upon the commission.

(3) Upon receipt of a written request by one or more members of the selection committee representing districts having 10 percent or more of the assessed value of taxable property within the county, as shown on the last equalized county assessment roll.

**(4) Upon the adoption of a resolution of intention pursuant to Section 56332.5.**

**(5) Upon receipt of a written request by one or more members of the selection committee notifying the executive officer of the need to appoint a member representing independent special districts on an oversight board pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (j) of Section 34179 of the Health and Safety Code.**

**Appointment of special district members**

(c) The selection committee shall appoint two regular members and one alternate member to the commission. The members so appointed shall be elected or appointed members of the legislative body of an independent special district residing within the county but shall not be members of the legislative body of a city or county. If one of the regular district members is absent from a commission meeting or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting, the alternate district member may serve and vote in place of the regular district member for that meeting. Service on the commission by a regular district member shall not

**District member disqualification**

disqualify, or be cause for disqualification of, the member from acting on proposals affecting the special district on whose legislative body the member serves. The special district selection committee may, at the time it appoints a member or alternate, provide that the member or alternate is disqualified from voting on proposals affecting the district on whose legislative body the member serves.

(d) If the office of a regular district member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular district member until the appointment and qualification of a regular district member to fill the vacancy.

**Elections by mailed ballot**

(e) A majority of the independent special district selection committee may determine to conduct the committee's business by mail, including holding all elections by mailed ballot, pursuant to subdivision (f).

(f) If the independent special district selection committee has determined to conduct the committee's business by mail or if the executive officer determines that a meeting of the special district selection committee *** is not feasible, the executive officer shall conduct the business of the committee by mail. Elections by mail shall be conducted as provided in this subdivision.

**Call for nominations**

(1) The executive officer shall prepare and deliver a call for nominations to each eligible district. The presiding officer, or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body, may respond in writing by the date specified in the call for nominations, which date shall be at least 30 days from the date on which the executive officer mailed the call for nominations to the eligible district.

(2) At the end of the nominating period, if only one candidate is nominated for a vacant seat, that candidate shall be deemed appointed. If two or more candidates are nominated, the executive officer shall prepare and deliver one ballot and voting instructions to each eligible district. The ballot shall include the names of all nominees and the office for which each was nominated. Each presiding officer, or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body, shall return the ballot to the executive officer by the date specified in the voting instructions, which date shall be at least 30 days from the date on which the executive officer mailed the ballot to the eligible district.

**Ballot and voting instructions**

(3) The call for nominations, ballots, and voting instructions shall be delivered by certified mail to each eligible district. As an alternative to the delivery by certified mail, the executive officer, with prior concurrence of the presiding officer or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body, may transmit materials by electronic mail.

(4) If the executive officer has transmitted the call for nominations or ballots by electronic mail, the presiding officer, or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body, may respond to the executive officer by electronic mail.

(5) Each returned nomination and ballot shall be signed by the presiding officer or his or her alternate as designated by the governing body of the eligible district.

**Quorum**

(6) For an election to be valid, at least a quorum of the special districts must submit valid ballots. The candidate receiving the most votes shall be elected, unless another procedure has been adopted by the selection committee. Any nomination and ballot received by the executive officer after the date specified is invalid, provided, however, that if a quorum of ballots is not received by that date, the executive officer shall extend the date to submit ballots by 60 days and notify all districts of the extension. The executive officer shall announce the results of the election within seven days of the date specified.

**(7) For a vote on special district representation to be valid, at least a quorum of the special districts must submit valid ballots. By a majority vote of those district representatives voting on the issue, the selection committee shall either accept or deny representation.**

***(8)** All election materials shall be retained by the executive officer for a period of at least six months after the announcement of the election results.

**"Executive officer"**

(g) For purposes of this section, "executive officer" means the executive officer or designee as authorized by the commission.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 203)**

**Representation of independent special districts**

**56332.5**. **(a) If the commission does not have representation from independent special districts on or before January 1, 2001, the commission shall initiate proceedings for representation of independent special districts upon the commission if either of the following occur:**

**(1) Upon receipt of a written request by one or more members of the selection commission representing districts having 10 percent or more of the assessed values of taxable property within the county, as shown on the last equalized county assessment roll.**

**Proceedings**

**(2) Upon adoption of a resolution by the commission proposing representation of special districts upon the commission.** ***

**Meeting**

**(b)** *** **The commission**, at its next regular meeting, shall adopt a resolution of intention. The resolution of intention shall state whether the proceedings are initiated by the commission or by an independent special district or districts, in which case, the names of those districts shall be set forth. The commission shall order the executive officer to call and give notice of a meeting of the independent special district selection committee to be held within 15 days after the adoption of the resolution in order to *** **determine whether** independent special *** **districts shall**

**accept** representation on the commission **and appoint independent special district representation** pursuant to Section 56332.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 203)**

**Appointment of public member when commission includes special district representation**

**56333**. When a commission is enlarged to seven members as provided in Section 56332, the public members appointed pursuant to Sections 56325 and 56329 shall thereafter be appointed by members of the commission representing cities, counties, and special districts. Those appointments shall be made at the times and in the manner provided in Section 56334.

**Terms of commissioners**

**56334**. The term of office of each member shall be four years and until the appointment and qualification of his or her successor. Upon enlargement of the commission by two members, as provided in Section 56332, the new members first appointed to represent independent special districts shall classify themselves by lot so that the expiration date of the term of office of one new member coincides with the existing member who holds the office represented by the original two-year term on the commission and the term of office of the other new member coincides with the existing member who holds the office represented by the original four-year term on the commission. The body which originally appointed a member whose term has expired shall appoint his or her successor for a full term of four years. Any member may be removed at any time and without cause by the body appointing that member. The expiration date of the term of office of each member shall be the first Monday in May in the year in which the term of the member expires, unless procedures adopted by the commission specify an alternate date to apply uniformly to all members. However, the length of a term of office shall not be extended more than once. Any vacancy in the membership of the commission shall be filled for the unexpired term by appointment by the body which originally appointed the member whose office has become vacant.

**Removal from commission**

**Vacancies**

**Chairperson**

The chairperson of the commission shall be selected by the members of the commission.

**Reimbursement of expenses; per diem**

Commission members and alternates shall be reimbursed for the actual amount of their reasonable and necessary expenses incurred in attending meetings and in performing the duties of their office. The commission may authorize payment of a per diem to commission members and alternates for each day while they are in attendance at meetings of the commission.

**City selection committee**

**56335**. In each county containing two or more cities, regular and alternate city members to the commission shall be appointed by the city selection committee organized in the county pursuant to

and in the manner provided in Article 11 (commencing with Section 50270) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 1. Regular members of the commission shall be appointed by the city selection committee pursuant to Sections 56325, 56326, and 56327.

The city selection committee shall appoint one alternate member to the commission in the same manner as it appoints a regular member. If one of the regular city members is absent from a commission meeting, or disqualifies himself or herself from participating in a meeting, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of that regular city member for that meeting.

Except in the case of a member appointed pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 56326 or subdivision (b) of Section 56327, a city selection committee, may, at the time it appoints a member or alternate, provide that the member or alternate is disqualified from voting on proposals affecting the city which the member or alternate represents.

If the office of a regular city member becomes vacant, the alternate member may serve and vote in place of the former regular city member until the appointment and qualification of a regular city member to fill the vacancy.

**Disqualification of members**

**56336**. Each commission may adopt regulations with respect to disqualification of members or alternates from participating in the review of a proposal. In the absence, however, of those regulations, Section 56332 or 56335 shall apply. The representation by a member or alternate of a city or district shall not disqualify, or be cause for disqualification of, the member or alternate from acting on a proposal affecting the city or the district, and any regulation providing for the disqualification of a city or district representative for that reason is null and void.

**City, county, and special district members may serve while holding office**

**56337**. A city, county, or district officer may serve as a member of the commission while holding office as a city, county, or district officer. If a member who is a city, county, or district officer ceases to be an officer of a city, county, or district during his or her term, his or her membership on the commission shall be considered vacant.

## CHAPTER 3. POWERS

**LAFCO powers and duties**

**56375**. The commission shall have all of the following powers and duties subject to any limitations upon its jurisdiction set forth in this part:

**To review and approve, conditionally approve, modify, or disapprove proposals**

(a)(1) To review and approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals for changes of organization or reorganization, consistent with written

policies, procedures, and guidelines adopted by the commission.

**To initiate certain proceedings**

(2) The commission may initiate proposals by resolution of application for any of the following:

(A) The consolidation of a district, as defined in Section 56036.

(B) The dissolution of a district.

(C) A merger.

(D) The establishment of a subsidiary district.

(E) The formation of a new district or districts.

(F) A reorganization that includes any of the changes specified in subparagraph (A), (B), (C), (D), or (E).

**(G) The dissolution of an inactive district pursuant to Section 56879.**

(3) A commission may initiate a proposal described in paragraph (2) only if that change of organization or reorganization is consistent with a recommendation or conclusion of a study prepared pursuant to Section 56378, 56425, or 56430 and the commission makes the determinations specified in subdivision (b) of Section 56881.

**Disapproval limitation**

(4) A commission shall not disapprove an annexation to a city, initiated by resolution, of contiguous territory that the commission finds is any of the following:

(A) Surrounded or substantially surrounded by the city to which the annexation is proposed or by that city and a county boundary or the Pacific Ocean if the territory to be annexed is substantially developed or developing, is not prime agricultural land as defined in Section 56064, is designated for urban growth by the general plan of the annexing city, and is not within the sphere of influence of another city.

(B) Located within an urban service area that has been delineated and adopted by a commission, which is not prime agricultural land, as defined by Section 56064, and is designated for urban growth by the general plan of the annexing city.

(C) An annexation or reorganization of unincorporated islands meeting the requirements of Section 56375.3.

(5) As a condition to the annexation of an area that is surrounded, or substantially surrounded, by the city to which the annexation is proposed, the commission may require, where consistent with the purposes of this division, that the annexation include the entire island of surrounded, or substantially surrounded, territory.

**Conditions regulating land use prohibited**

(6) A commission shall not impose any conditions that would directly regulate land use density or intensity, property development, or subdivision requirements.

**Prezoning requirement**

(7)The decision of the commission with regard to a proposal to annex territory to a city shall be based upon the general plan and prezoning of the city. When the development purposes are not made known to the annexing city, the annexation shall be reviewed on the basis of the adopted plans and policies of the

annexing city or county. A commission shall require, as a condition to annexation, that a city prezone the territory to be annexed or present evidence satisfactory to the commission that the existing development entitlements on the territory are vested or are already at build-out, and are consistent with the city's general plan. However, the commission shall not specify how, or in what manner, the territory shall be prezoned.

**Annexation greater than 10 acres; contiguous disadvantaged unincorporated community**

(8)(A) Except for those changes of organization or reorganization authorized under Section 56375.3, and except as provided by subparagraph (B), a commission shall not approve an annexation to a city of any territory greater than 10 acres, or as determined by commission policy, where there exists a disadvantaged unincorporated community that is contiguous to the area of proposed annexation, unless an application to annex the disadvantaged unincorporated community to the subject city has been filed with the executive officer.

**No application required**

(B) An application to annex a contiguous disadvantaged community shall not be required if either of the following apply:

(i) A prior application for annexation of the same disadvantaged community has been made in the preceding five years.

(ii) The commission finds, based upon written evidence, that a majority of the registered voters within the affected territory are opposed to annexation.

**To determine whether territory is inhabited or uninhabited**

(b) With regard to a proposal for annexation or detachment of territory to, or from, a city or district or with regard to a proposal for reorganization that includes annexation or detachment, to determine whether territory proposed for annexation or detachment, as described in its resolution approving the annexation, detachment, or reorganization, is inhabited or uninhabited.

**To determine successor city or district**

(c) With regard to a proposal for consolidation of two or more cities or districts, to determine which city or district shall be the consolidated, successor city or district.

**To approve annexation of noncontiguous city-owned land**

(d) To approve the annexation of unincorporated, noncontiguous territory, subject to the limitations of Section 56742, located in the same county as that in which the city is located, and that is owned by a city and used for municipal purposes and to authorize the annexation of the territory without notice and hearing.

**Change of pre-zoning; two-year limitation**

(e) To approve the annexation of unincorporated territory consistent with the planned and probable use of the property based upon the review of general plan and prezoning designations. No subsequent change may be made to the general plan for the annexed territory or zoning that is not in conformance to the prezoning designations for a period of two years after the completion of the annexation, unless the legislative body for the city makes a finding at a public hearing that a substantial change has occurred in circumstances that necessitate a departure from the prezoning in the application to the commission.

| | |
|---|---|
| **Number of registered voters for incorporation or district formation** | (f) With respect to the incorporation of a new city or the formation of a new special district, to determine the number of registered voters residing within the proposed city or special district or, for a landowner-voter special district, the number of owners of land and the assessed value of their land within the territory proposed to be included in the new special district. The number of registered voters shall be calculated as of the time of the last report of voter registration by the county elections official to the Secretary of State prior to the date the first signature was affixed to the petition. The executive officer shall notify the petitioners of the number of registered voters resulting from this calculation. The assessed value of the land within the territory proposed to be included in a new landowner-voter special district shall be calculated as shown on the last equalized assessment roll. |
| **To adopt standards for evaluating proposals** | (g) To adopt written procedures for the evaluation of proposals, including written definitions consistent with existing state law. The commission may adopt standards for any of the factors enumerated in Section 56668. Any standards adopted by the commission shall be written. |
| **To adopt standards for evaluation service plans** | (h) To adopt standards and procedures for the evaluation of service plans submitted pursuant to Section 56653 and the initiation of a change of organization or reorganization pursuant to subdivision (a). |
| **To make hearing regulations** | (i) To make and enforce regulations for the orderly and fair conduct of hearings by the commission. |
| **To incur expenses** | (j) To incur usual and necessary expenses for the accomplishment of its functions. |
| **To appoint or contract for staff** | (k) To appoint and assign staff personnel and to employ or contract for professional or consulting services to carry out and effect the functions of the commission. |
| **To review boundaries** | (l) To review the boundaries of the territory involved in any proposal with respect to the definiteness and certainty of those boundaries, the nonconformance of proposed boundaries with lines of assessment or ownership, and other similar matters affecting the proposed boundaries. |
| **To waive island restrictions; findings required** | (m) To waive the restrictions of Section 56744 if it finds that the application of the restrictions would be detrimental to the orderly development of the community and that the area that would be enclosed by the annexation or incorporation is so located that it cannot reasonably be annexed to another city or incorporated as a new city. |
| **Waive application; detachment from an assessment district; specific findings required** | (n) To waive the application of Section 22613 of the Streets and Highways Code if it finds the application would deprive an area of a service needed to ensure the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the area and if it finds that the waiver would not affect the ability of a city to provide any service. However, within 60 days of the inclusion of the territory within the city, the legislative body may adopt a resolution nullifying the waiver. |

**To determine exchange of property tax revenue for formation or incorporation**

(o) If the proposal includes the incorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56043, or the formation of a district, as defined in Section 2215 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the commission shall determine the property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agencies pursuant to Section 56810.

**To authorize service outside boundaries**

(p) To authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside its jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to Section 56133.

**To make agreements with adjoining commissions**

(q) To enter into an agreement with the commission for an adjoining county for the purpose of determining procedures for the consideration of proposals that may affect the adjoining county or where the jurisdiction of an affected agency crosses the boundary of the adjoining county.

**Annexation of territory served by a mutual water company**

(r)To approve with or without amendments, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove pursuant to this section the annexation of territory served by a mutual water company formed pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 14300) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code that operated a public water system to a city or special district. Any annexation approved in accordance with this subdivision shall be subject to the state and federal constitutional prohibitions against the taking of private property without the payment of just compensation. This subdivision shall not impair the authority of a public agency or public utility to exercise eminent domain authority.
**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 334)**

**Reorganization or consolidation of the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin**

**56375.2.** (a) In addition to those powers enumerated in Section 56375, the Marin Local Agency Formation Commission may initiate and approve, after notice and hearing, a reorganization or consolidation of the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin and its members districts, without protest hearings.

(b) If the commission initiates and approves the reorganization or consolidation pursuant to subdivision (a), the commission may impose terms and conditions on the reorganization or consolidation that would require the Sewerage Agency of Southern Marin and its member agencies to be responsible for payment of the commission's costs incurred in association with the reorganization or consolidation.

(c) This section shall become effective on January 1, 2011.

**Island annexations without protest proceedings**

**56375.3**. (a) In addition to those powers enumerated in Section 56375, a commission shall approve, after notice and hearing, the change of organization or reorganization of a city, and waive protest proceedings pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) entirely, if all of the following are true:

(1) The change of organization or reorganization is initiated on or after January 1, 2000.

(2) The change of organization or reorganization is proposed by resolution adopted by the affected city.

(3) The commission finds that the territory contained in the change of organization or reorganization proposal meets all of the requirements set forth in subdivision (b).

(b) Subdivision (a) applies to territory that meets all of the following requirements:

**Size restriction**

(1) It does not exceed 150 acres in area, and that area constitutes the entire island.

(2) The territory constitutes an entire unincorporated island located within the limits of a city, or constitutes a reorganization containing a number of individual unincorporated islands.

**"Surrounded"**

(3) It is surrounded in either of the following ways:

(A) Surrounded, or substantially surrounded, by the city to which annexation is proposed or by the city and a county boundary or the Pacific Ocean.

(B) Surrounded by the city to which annexation is proposed and adjacent cities.

**Developed or developing**

(4) It is substantially developed or developing. The finding required by this paragraph shall be based upon one or more factors, including, but not limited to, any of the following factors:

(A) The availability of public utility services.

(B) The presence of public improvements.

(C) The presence of physical improvements upon the parcel or parcels within the area.

**Non-prime**

(5) It is not prime agricultural land, as defined by Section 56064.

(6) It will benefit from the change of organization or reorganization or is receiving benefits from the annexing city.

(7) This subdivision does not apply to any unincorporated island within a city that is a gated community where services are currently provided by a community services district.

**Separate property tax agreement**

(8) Notwithstanding any other law, at the option of either the city or the county, a separate property tax transfer agreement may be agreed to between a city and a county pursuant to Section 99 of the Revenue and Taxation Code regarding an annexation subject to this subdivision without affecting any existing master tax sharing agreement between the city and county.

**Exclusion**

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this subdivision, this subdivision shall not apply to all or any part of that portion of the development project area referenced in subdivision (e) of Section 33492.41 of the Health and Safety Code that as of January 1, 2000, meets all of the following requirements:

(1) Is unincorporated territory.

(2) Contains at least 100 acres.

(3) Is surrounded or substantially surrounded by incorporated territory.

(4) Contains at least 100 acres zoned for commercial or industrial uses or is designated on the applicable county general plan for commercial or industrial uses.

(d) The Legislature finds and declares that the powers set forth in subdivision (a) for territory that meets all the specifications in subdivision (b) are consistent with the intent of promoting orderly growth and development pursuant to Section 56001 and facilitate the annexation of disadvantaged unincorporated communities, as defined in Section 56033.5.

***NOTE: Stats. 2004, Ch. 805, created the following uncodified provisions pertaining to county island annexations:***

SECTION 1: Notwithstanding any other provision of law, on or before December 31, 2014, the local agency formation commission in the County of Ventura shall not impose a condition that requires the City of Simi Valley to initiate proceedings on a proposal for a change of organization or reorganization pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 56375 of the Government Code or pursuant to Section 56375.3 of the Government Code unless the territory that would be affected is contiguous and physically related to the affected territory.

**Island annexations; special provisions for Simi Valley**

SECTION 2. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique circumstances of the City of Simi Valley. The facts constituting the special circumstances are:

There are seven areas of unincorporated territory that are surrounded or substantially surrounded by the City of Simi Valley. The city intends to explore the possibility of annexing those unincorporated territories. The Legislature wants to allow city officials, property owners, and residents to discuss those possible annexations without undue influence.

**Limitation on island proceedings**

**56375.4**. The authority to initiate, conduct, and complete any proceeding pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56375.3 does not apply to any territory that, after January 1, 2014, became surrounded or substantially surrounded by the city to which annexation is proposed, except for islands that were created after January 1, 2014, as a result of boundary adjustments between two counties.

**Spheres; consistency**

**56375.5**. Every determination made by a commission regarding the matters provided for by subdivisions (a), (m), and (n) of Section 56375 and by subdivision (a) of Section 56375.3 shall be consistent with the spheres of influence of the local agencies affected by those determinations.

**Open-space land conversion; policies and priorities**

**56377**. In reviewing and approving or disapproving proposals which could reasonably be expected to induce, facilitate, or lead to the conversion of existing open-space lands to uses other than open-space uses, the commission shall consider all of the following policies and priorities:

(a) Development or use of land for other than open-space uses shall be guided away from existing prime agricultural lands in open-space use toward areas containing nonprime agricultural lands, unless that action would not promote the planned, orderly, efficient development of an area.

**Development within jurisdiction**

(b) Development of existing vacant or nonprime agricultural lands for urban uses within the existing jurisdiction of a local agency or within the sphere of influence of a local agency should be encouraged before any proposal is approved which would allow for or lead to the development of existing open-space lands for non-open-space uses which are outside of the existing jurisdiction of the local agency or outside of the existing sphere of influence of the local agency.

**Authorization to initiate studies and request information from other governmental agencies**

**56378**. (a) In addition to its other powers, the commission shall initiate and make studies of existing governmental agencies. Those studies shall include, but shall not be limited to, inventorying those agencies and determining their maximum service area and service capacities. In conducting those studies, the commission may request land use information, studies, joint powers agreements, and plans of cities, counties, districts, including school districts, community college districts, joint powers agencies and joint powers authorities, regional agencies and state agencies and departments. Cities, counties, districts, including school districts, community college districts, joint powers agencies and joint powers authorities, regional agencies, and state agencies and departments, shall comply with the request of the commission for that information and the commission shall make its studies available to public agencies and any interested person. In making these studies, the commission may cooperate with the county planning commissions.

**Grants-in-aid**

(b) The commission, or the board of supervisors on behalf of the commission, may apply for or accept, or both, any financial assistance and grants-in-aid from public or private agencies or from the state or federal government or from a local government.

**Request for transcript of commission meetings**

**56379**. Any person may, prior to any meeting, request the commission to cause a stenographic or electromagnetic record to be made of a meeting. If the cost of making that record is borne by that person, the commission shall cause the record to be made. The commission may require any person requesting the record to be made to deposit the estimated cost of making the record with the commission prior to the hearing.

**Personnel and facilities**

**56380**. The commission shall make its own provision for necessary quarters, equipment, and supplies as well as personnel. The commission may choose to contract with any public agency or private party for personnel and facilities.

**Annual budget**

**56381**. (a) The commission shall adopt annually, following noticed public hearings, a proposed budget by May 1 and final budget by June 15. At a minimum, the proposed and final budget shall be equal to the budget adopted for the previous fiscal year unless the commission finds that reduced staffing or program costs will nevertheless allow the commission to fulfill the purposes and programs of this chapter. The commission shall transmit its proposed and final budgets to the board of supervisors, to each city, and to each independent special district.

**Apportionment by auditor**

(b) After public hearings, consideration of comments, and adoption of a final budget by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a), the auditor shall apportion the net operating expenses of a commission in the following manner:

**Commissions with city and district representation**

(1) (A) In counties in which there is city and independent special district representation on the commission, the county, cities, and independent special districts shall each provide a one-third share of the commission's operational costs.

(B) The cities' share shall be apportioned in proportion to each city's total revenues, as reported in the most recent edition of the Cities Annual Report published by the Controller, as a percentage of the combined city revenues within a county, or by an alternative method approved by a majority of cities representing the majority of the combined cities' populations.

**Intergovernmental revenue**

(C) The independent special districts' share shall be apportioned in proportion to each district's total revenues as a percentage of the combined total district revenues within a county. Except as provided in subparagraph (D), an independent special district's total revenue shall be calculated for nonenterprise activities as total revenues for general purpose transactions less intergovernmental revenue and for enterprise activities as total operating and nonoperating revenues less intergovernmental revenue,, as reported in the most recent edition of the "Special Districts Annual Report" published by the Controller, or by an alternative method approved by a majority of the agencies, representing a majority of their combined populations. For the purposes of fulfilling the requirement of this section, a multicounty independent special district shall be required to pay its apportionment in its principal county. It is the intent of the Legislature that no single district or class or type of district shall bear a disproportionate amount of the district share of costs.

(D) (i) For purposes of apportioning costs to a health care district formed pursuant to Division 23 (commencing with Section 32000) of the Health and Safety Code that operates a hospital, a health care district's share, except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii), shall be apportioned in proportion to each district's net from operations as reported in the most recent edition of the hospital financial disclosure report form published by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, as a percentage of the combined independent special districts' net operating revenues within a county.

(ii) A health care district for which net from operations is a negative number may not be apportioned any share of the commission's operational costs until the fiscal year following positive net from operations, as reported in the most recent edition of the hospital financial disclosure report form published by the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development.

(iii) A health care district that has filed and is operating under public entity bankruptcy pursuant to federal bankruptcy law, shall not be apportioned any share of the commission's operational costs until the fiscal year following its discharge from bankruptcy.

(iv) As used in this subparagraph "net from operations" means total operating revenue less total operating expenses.

(E) Notwithstanding the requirements of subparagraph (C), the independent special districts' share may be apportioned by an alternative method approved by a majority of the districts, representing a majority of the combined populations. However, in no event shall an individual district's apportionment exceed the amount that would be calculated pursuant to subparagraphs (C) and (D), or in excess of 50 percent of the total independent special districts' share, without the consent of that district.

**Commissions without district representation**

(F) Notwithstanding the requirements of subparagraph (C), no independent special district shall be apportioned a share of more than 50 percent of the total independent special districts' share of the commission's operational costs, without the consent of the district as otherwise provided in this section. In those counties in which a district's share is limited to 50 percent of the total independent special districts' share of the commission's operational costs, the share of the remaining districts shall be increased on a proportional basis so that the total amount for all districts equals the share apportioned by the auditor to independent special districts.

(2) In counties in which there is no independent special district representation on the commission, the county and its cities shall each provide a one-half share of the commission's operational costs. The cities' share shall be apportioned in the manner described in paragraph (1).

**Counties with no cities**

(3) In counties in which there are no cities, the county and its special districts shall each provide a one-half share of the commission's operational costs. The independent special districts' share shall be apportioned in the manner described for cities' apportionment in paragraph (1). If there is no independent special district representation on the commission, the county shall pay all of the commission's operational costs.

**Alternative apportionment**

(4) Instead of determining apportionment pursuant to paragraph (1), (2), or (3), any alternative method of apportionment of the net operating expenses of the commission may be used if approved by a majority vote of each of the following: the board of supervisors; a majority of the cities representing a majority of the total population of cities in the county; and the independent special districts representing a majority of the combined total population of independent special districts in the county. However, in no event shall an individual district's apportionment exceed the amount that would be calculated pursuant to subparagraphs (C) and (D) of paragraph (1), or in excess of 50 percent of the total independent special districts' share, without the consent of that district.

**Auditor requests payment by July 1**

(c) After apportioning the costs as required in subdivision (b), the auditor shall request payment from the board of supervisors and from each city and each independent special district no later than July 1 of each year for the amount that entity owes and the actual administrative costs incurred by the auditor in apportioning costs and requesting payment from each entity. If the county, a city, or an independent special district does not remit its required payment within 60 days, the commission may determine an appropriate method of collecting the required payment, including a request to the auditor to collect an equivalent amount from the property tax, or any fee or eligible revenue owed to the county, city, or district. The auditor shall provide written notice to the county, city, or district prior to appropriating a share of the property tax or other revenue to the commission for the payment due the commission pursuant to this section. Any expenses incurred by the commission or the auditor in collecting late payments or successfully challenging nonpayment shall be added to the payment owed to the commission. Between the beginning of the fiscal year and the time the auditor receives payment from each affected city and district, the board of supervisors shall transmit funds to the commission sufficient to cover the first two months of the commission's operating expenses as specified by the commission. When the city and district payments are received by the commission, the county's portion of the commission's annual operating expenses shall be credited with funds already received from the county. If, at the end of the fiscal year, the commission has funds in excess of what it needs, the commission may retain those funds and calculate them into the following fiscal year's

**Commission determines collection method**

**Costs of collections**

**Board of supervisors transmits funds**

**Provision for loan to commission**

budget. If, during the fiscal year, the commission is without adequate funds to operate, the board of supervisors may loan the commission funds. The commission shall appropriate sufficient funds in its budget for the subsequent fiscal year to repay the loan.

**Apportionment for special membership commissions**

**56381.6**. (a) Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 56381, for counties whose membership on the commission is established pursuant to Sections 56326, 56326.5, 56327, or 56328, the commission's annual operational costs shall be apportioned among the classes of public agencies that appoint members to the commission in proportion to the number of members appointed by each class. The classes of public agencies that may be represented on the commission are the county, the cities, and independent special districts. Any alternative cost apportionment procedure may be adopted by the commission, subject to a majority affirmative vote of the commission that includes the affirmative vote of at least one of the members appointed by the county, one of the members appointed by the cities, and one of the members appointed by districts, if special districts are represented on the commission.

(b) Allocation of costs among individual cities and independent special districts and remittance of payments shall be in accordance with the procedures of Section 56381. Notwithstanding Section 56381, any city that has permanent membership on the commission pursuant to Sections 56326, 56326.5, 56327, or 56328 shall be apportioned the same percentage of the commission's annual operational costs as its permanent member bears to the total membership of the commission, excluding any public members selected by all the members. The balance of the cities' portion of the commission's annual operational costs shall be apportioned to the remaining cities in the county in accordance with the procedures of Section 56381.

**Destruction of records**

**56382**. The commission may authorize the destruction of any duplicate record, paper, or other document if the original or a photographic or electronic copy of the record, paper, or other document is retained in the files of the commission, and the commission may authorize the destruction of original records more than two years old if a photographic or electronic copy of the original record is made and preserved, provided that the following conditions are met:

**Requirement for records**

(a) The record is reproduced on a medium that does not permit additions, deletions, or changes to the original document, or reproduced in compliance with the minimum standards or guidelines, or both, as recommended by the American National Standards Institute or the Association for Information and Image Management for recording of permanent records or nonpermanent

records, whichever applies.

(b) The device used to reproduce the record is one that accurately and legibly reproduces the original thereof in all details and that does not permit additions, deletions, or changes to the original document images.

(c) The reproductions are made as accessible for public reference as the original records were.

(d) A true copy of archival quality of the reproductions shall be kept in a safe and separate place for security purposes.

**Processing fees**

**56383**. (a) The commission may establish a schedule of fees and a schedule of service charges *** pursuant to this division, including, but not limited to, all of the following:

(1) Filing and processing applications filed with the commission.

(2) Proceedings undertaken by the commission and any reorganization committee.

(3) Amending or updating a sphere of influence.

(4) Reconsidering a resolution making determinations.

**Reasonable cost**

(b) The fees shall not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service for which the fee is charged and shall be imposed pursuant to Section 66016. The service charges shall not exceed the cost of providing service for which the service charge is charged and shall be imposed pursuant to Section 66016.

**Deposit**

(c) The commission may require that an applicant deposit some or all of the required amount that will be owed with the executive officer before any further action is taken. The deposit shall be made within the time period specified by the commission. No application shall be deemed filed until the applicant deposits the required amount with the executive officer. The executive officer shall provide the applicant with an accounting of all costs charged against the deposited amount. If the costs are less than the deposited amount, the executive officer shall refund the balance to the applicant after the executive officer verifies the completion of all proceedings. If the costs exceed the deposited amount, the applicant shall pay the difference prior to the completion of all proceedings.

**Fee waiver**

(d) The commission may reduce or waive a fee, service charge, or deposit if it finds that payment would be detrimental to the public interest. The reduction or waiver of any fee, service charge, or deposit is limited to the costs incurred by the commission in the proceedings of an application.

**Mandatory time limits**

(e) Any mandatory time limits for commission action may be deferred until the applicant pays the required fee, service charge, or deposit.

**Fees for signature verification**

(f) The signatures on a petition submitted to the commission by registered voters shall be verified by the elections official of the county and the costs of verification shall be provided for in the same manner and by the same agencies which bear the costs of verifying signatures for an initiative petition in the same county.

**Incorporation fees; loan from general fund**

(g) For incorporation proceedings that have been initiated by the filing of a sufficient number of voter signatures on petitions that have been verified by the county registrar of voters, the commission may, upon the receipt of a certification by the proponents that they are unable to raise sufficient funds to reimburse fees, service charges, or deposits for the proceedings, take no action on the proposal and request a loan from the General Fund of an amount sufficient to cover those expenses subject to availability of an appropriation for those purposes and in accordance with any provisions of the appropriation. Repayment of the loan shall be made a condition of approval of the incorporation, if successful, and shall become an obligation of the newly formed city. Repayment shall be made within two years of the effective date of incorporation. If the proposal is denied by the commission or defeated at an election, the loan shall be forgiven.

**Repayment provisions**

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 353)**

***NOTE: Stats. 2010, Ch. 24, created the following uncodified provisions pertaining to a loan from the General Fund to the East Los Angeles Residents Association to cover the costs of incorporation-related proceedings.***

Section 1. The sum of forty-five thousand dollars ($45,000) is hereby transferred from the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Fund to the General Fund, and is hereby appropriated from the General Fund to the Controller for allocation to the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission for a loan to the East Los Angeles Residents Association, pursuant to subdivision (g) of Section 56383 of the Government Code.

Sec. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that this act is a special law that is necessary because a general law cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique circumstances of the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission and the East Los Angeles Residents Association. In that respect, the Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission and the East Los Angeles Residents Association require this loan to complete incorporation proceedings.

Sec. 3. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into

immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order for Los Angeles County Local Agency Formation Commission to grant a loan to the East Los Angeles Residents Association to complete incorporation proceedings and to meet a contractual deadline to pay for and start an economic impact study, it is necessary that this act go into immediate effect.

**Executive officer; alternate appointment**

**56384**. (a) The commission shall appoint an executive officer who shall conduct and perform the day-to-day business of the commission. If the executive officer is subject to a conflict of interest on a matter before the commission, the commission shall appoint an alternate executive officer. The commission may recover its costs by charging fees pursuant to Section 56383.

**Appointment of legal counsel**

(b) The commission shall appoint legal counsel to advise it. If the commission's counsel is subject to a conflict of interest on a matter before the commission, the commission shall appoint alternate legal counsel to advise it. The commission may recover its costs by charging fees pursuant to Section 56383.

**Appointment of staff**

(c) The commission may appoint staff as it deems appropriate. If staff for the commission is subject to a conflict of interest on a matter before the commission, the commission shall appoint alternate staff to assist it. The commission may recover its costs by charging fees pursuant to Section 56383.

**"Conflict of interest"**

(d) (1) For purposes of this section, the term "conflict of interest" shall be defined as it is for the purpose of the Political Reform Act of 1974 (Title 9 (commencing with Section 81000)) and shall also include matters proscribed by Article 4 (commencing with Section 1090) of Chapter 1 of Division 4 of Title 1.

(2) For the purposes of subdivision (b), the term "conflict of interest" shall also include matters addressed by Rule 3-310 of the Rules of Professional Conduct promulgated by the State Bar of California, pertaining to representation of adverse interests.

**Employee benefits**

**56385**. The commission may contract for retirement benefits for the executive officer or staff personnel pursuant to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937, Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 31450) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 3 or the Public Employees' Retirement Law, Part 3 (commencing with Section 20000) of Division 5 of Title 2. It may also provide for health and medical benefits.

The commission shall preserve accrued vacation, sick leave, compensatory time, and retirement benefits of persons hired from within the employment of their respective county.

**Local, regional, and state officers to furnish information to executive officer**

**56386**. (a) The officers and employees of a city, county, or special district, including any local agency, school district, community college district, and any regional agency, or state agency or

department, as may be necessary, or any other public agency shall furnish the executive officer with any records or information in their possession which may be necessary to assist the commission and the executive officer in their duties, including, but not limited to, the preparation of reports pursuant to Sections 56665 and 56800.

(b) Upon request by the commission or the executive officer, the county surveyor, or any other county officer, county official, or employee as the board of supervisors may designate, shall examine and report to the commission or the executive officer upon any application or other document involving any of the matters specified in subdivision (l) of Section 56375.

**Exclusive jurisdiction**

**56387**. Except as otherwise provided in Section 56388, if any district is, or as a result of a proposed change of organization or reorganization would be, located in more than one county, the commission of the principal county shall have exclusive jurisdiction over the matters authorized and required by this part.

**Commission of principal county may vest jurisdiction in county in which territory located; requirements**

**56388**. If any proposal involves a district which is, or as a result of a proposed change of organization or reorganization would be, located in more than one county, exclusive jurisdiction for that proposal over the matters authorized and required by this part may be vested in the commission of a county, other than the principal county, in which territory of the district is located or is proposed to be located if all of the following occur:

(a) The commission of the principal county agrees to having the exclusive jurisdiction vested in the commission of another county.

(b) The commission of the principal county designates the commission of another county which shall assume exclusive jurisdiction.

(c) The commission of the county so designated agrees to assume exclusive jurisdiction.

## CHAPTER 4. SPHERES OF INFLUENCE

**Purpose and policies**

**56425**. (a) In order to carry out its purposes and responsibilities for planning and shaping the logical and orderly development and coordination of local governmental agencies subject to the jurisdiction of the commission to advantageously provide for the present and future needs of the county and its communities, the commission shall develop and determine the sphere of influence of each city and each special district, as defined by Section 56036, within the county and enact policies designed to promote the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere.

**City-county meeting and agreement**

(b) Prior to a city submitting an application to the commission to update its sphere of influence, representatives from the city and representatives from the county shall meet to discuss the proposed new boundaries of the sphere and explore methods to reach agreement on development standards and planning and zoning requirements within the sphere to ensure that development within the sphere occurs in a manner that reflects the concerns of the affected city and is accomplished in a manner that promotes the logical and orderly development of areas within the sphere. If an agreement is reached between the city and county, the city shall forward the agreement in writing to the commission, along with the application to update the sphere of influence. The commission shall consider and adopt a sphere of influence for the city consistent with the policies adopted by the commission pursuant to this section, and the commission shall give great weight to the agreement to the extent that it is consistent with commission policies in its final determination of the city sphere.

**Consistency with agreement**

(c) If the commission's final determination is consistent with the agreement reached between the city and county pursuant to subdivision (b), the agreement shall be adopted by both the city and county after a noticed public hearing. Once the agreement has been adopted by the affected local agencies and their respective general plans reflect that agreement, then any development approved by the county within the sphere shall be consistent with the terms of that agreement.

**Commission review if no agreement reached**

(d) If no agreement is reached pursuant to subdivision (b), the application may be submitted to the commission and the commission shall consider a sphere of influence for the city consistent with the policies adopted by the commission pursuant to this section.

(e) In determining the sphere of influence of each local agency, the commission shall consider and prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

(1) The present and planned land uses in the area, including agricultural and open-space lands.

(2) The present and probable need for public facilities and services in the area.

(3) The present capacity of public facilities and adequacy of public services that the agency provides or is authorized to provide.

(4) The existence of any social or economic communities of interest in the area if the commission determines that they are relevant to the agency.

(5) For an update of a sphere of influence of a city or special district that provides public facilities or services related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, or structural fire protection, that occurs pursuant to subdivision (g) on or after July 1, 2012, the present and probable need for those public facilities and services

of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within the existing sphere of influence.

(f) Upon determination of a sphere of influence, the commission shall adopt that sphere.

**Review and update sphere of influence**

(g) On or before January 1, 2008, and every five years thereafter, the commission shall, as necessary, review and update each sphere of influence.

**Feasibility of governmental reorganization**

(h) In determining a sphere of influence, the commission may assess the feasibility of governmental reorganization of particular agencies and recommend reorganization of those agencies when reorganization is found to be feasible and if reorganization will further the goals of orderly development and efficient and affordable service delivery. The commission shall make all reasonable efforts to ensure wide public dissemination of the recommendations.

(i) When adopting, amending, or updating a sphere of influence for a special district, the commission shall establish the nature, location, and extent of any functions or classes of services provided by existing districts.

**Districts; written statements**

(j) When adopting, amending, or updating a sphere of influence for a special district, the commission may require existing districts to file written statements with the commission specifying the functions or classes of services provided by those districts.

**Application to redevelopment project area**

**56425.5**. (a) A determination of a city's sphere of influence, in any case where that sphere of influence includes any portion of the redevelopment project area referenced in subdivision (e) of Section 33492.41 of the Health and Safety Code, shall not preclude any other local agency, as defined in Section 54951, including the redevelopment agency referenced in Section 33492.41 of the Health and Safety Code, in addition to that city, from providing facilities or services related to development, to or in that portion of the redevelopment project area that, as of January 1, 2000, meets all of the following requirements:

(1) Is unincorporated territory.

(2) Contains at least 100 acres.

(3) Is surrounded or substantially surrounded by incorporated territory.

(4) Contains at least 100 acres zoned for commercial or industrial uses or is designated on the applicable county general plan for commercial or industrial uses.

(b) Facilities or services related to development may be provided by other local agencies to all or any portion of the area defined in paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, of subdivision (a). Subdivision (a) shall apply regardless of whether the determination of the sphere of influence is made before or after January 1, 2000.

**Spheres of influence; farmland security zones**

**56426**. The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve a change to the sphere of influence of a local government agency of territory that is subject to a farmland security zone contract pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of Division 1, if that local government agency provides or would provide facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or streets and roads to the territory, unless these facilities or services benefit land uses that are allowed under the contract and the landowner consents to the change to the sphere of influence.

**Sphere of influence of proposed or newly incorporated city**

**56426.5**. (a) Beginning January 1, 1990, at the time a commission approves a proposal for an incorporation or a reorganization which includes an incorporation, the commission may determine the sphere of influence for the proposed new city. The commission shall determine the sphere of influence for any newly incorporated city within one year of the effective date of incorporation.

(b) Beginning January 1, 2010, at the time when a commission approves a formation or reorganization that includes the formation of a district, the commission may determine the sphere of influence for the proposed new district. The commission shall determine the sphere of influence for any newly formed district within one year of the effective date of formation.

**Change to sphere of influence; land under Williamson Act**

**56426.6**. (a) The commission shall not approve a change to the sphere of influence of a local government agency of territory that is subject to a contract entered into pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Part 1 of Division 1) if that local government agency provides, or would provide, facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or streets and roads to the territory, unless these facilities or services benefit land uses that are allowed under the contract and the landowner consents to the change to the sphere of influence.

(b)(1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the commission may nevertheless approve a change for that territory if it finds either of the following:

(A) That the change would facilitate planned, orderly, and efficient patterns of land use or provision of services, and the public interest in the change substantially outweighs the public interest in the current continuation of the contract beyond its current expiration date.

(B) That the change is not likely to adversely affect the continuation of the contract beyond its current expiration date.

(A) That the change would facilitate planned, orderly, and efficient patterns of land use or provision of services, and the public interest in the change substantially outweighs the public interest in the current continuation of the contract beyond its current expiration date.

(B) That the change is not likely to adversely affect the continuation of the contract beyond its current expiration date.

(2) In making a determination pursuant to this subdivision, the commission shall consider all of the following:

(A) The policies and implementation measures adopted by the city or county that would administer the contract both before and after any ultimate annexation, relative to the continuation of agriculture or other uses allowable under the contract.

(B) The infrastructure plans of the annexing agency.

(C) Other factors that the commission deems relevant.

(c) This section shall not apply to any of the following:

(1) Territory that is subject to a contract for which a notice of nonrenewal has been served pursuant to Section 51245.

(2) Territory that is subject to a contract for which a tentative cancellation has been approved pursuant to Section 51282.

(3) Territory for which the governing body of the county or city administering the contract has given its written approval to the change and the landowner consents to the change.

**Spheres of influence adoption and amendments; notice, hearing and continuance**

**56427**. The commission shall adopt, amend, or revise spheres of influence after a public hearing called and held for that purpose. At least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice of the hearing to each affected local agency or affected county, and to any interested party who has filed a written request for notice with the executive officer. In addition, at least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall cause notice of the hearing to be published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation which is circulated within the territory affected by the sphere of influence proposed to be adopted. The commission may continue from time to time any hearing called pursuant to this section.

At any hearing called and held pursuant to this section, the commission shall hear and consider oral or written testimony presented by any affected local agency or affected county or any interested person who wishes to appear.

This section shall only apply to spheres of influence adopted by the commission after January 1, 1975.

**Request for amendments of sphere of influence**

**56428**. (a) Any person or local agency may file a written request with the executive officer requesting amendments to a sphere of influence or urban service area adopted by the commission. The

request shall state the nature of the proposed amendment, state the reasons for the request, include a map of the proposed amendment, and contain any additional data and information as may be required by the executive officer.

**CEQA; notice**

(b) After complying with the California Environmental Quality Act, Division 13 (commencing with Section 21000) of the Public Resources Code, the executive officer shall place the request on the agenda of the next meeting of the commission for which notice can be given. The executive officer shall give notice in the manner provided by Section 56427. On the date and time provided in the notice, the commission may do either of the following:

(1) Without further notice, consider the amendments to a sphere of influence.

(2) Set a future date for the hearing on the request.

**Report and recommendation**

(c) The executive officer shall review each requested amendment and prepare a report and recommendation. The report shall be completed not less than five days before the date specified in the notice of hearing. The executive officer shall send copies of the report to the person or agency making the request, each affected local agency, and each person who has filed a request for a report.

(d) At its meeting, the commission shall consider the request and receive any oral or written testimony. The consideration may be continued from time to time, but not to exceed 70 days from the date specified in the original notice. The person or agency which filed the request may withdraw it at any time prior to the conclusion of the consideration by the commission.

**Hearing**

(e) At the conclusion of its consideration, the commission may approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove the request. The commission shall follow the procedures in Section 56425.

**Determination and decision**

(f) The commission may require the person or agency making a request pursuant to this section to pay a fee to cover the commission's costs. The fee shall not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing the service and shall be set pursuant to Section 56383. The commission may waive the fee if it finds that the request can be considered and studied as part of the periodic review of spheres of influence required by Section 56425. In addition, the commission may waive the fee if it finds that payment would be detrimental to the public interest.

**Fee**

(g) The commission and executive officer may review and act on any request to amend a sphere of influence or urban service area concurrently with their review and determination on any related change of organization or reorganization. In case of a conflict between the provisions of this section and any other provisions of this part, the other provisions shall prevail.

**Petition for removal from city sphere; hearing; fees**

**56429**. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 56425, 56427, and 56428, a petition for removal of territory from a sphere of influence determination may be brought pursuant to this section by landowners within the redevelopment project area referenced in subdivision (e) of Section 33492.41 of the Health and Safety Code, if, at the time the petition is submitted, the area for which the petition is being requested meets all of the following requirements:

**Requirements**

(1) Is unincorporated territory.

(2) Contains at least 100 acres.

(3) Is surrounded or substantially surrounded by incorporated territory.

(4) Contains at least 100 acres zoned for commercial or industrial uses or is designated on the applicable county general plan for commercial or industrial uses.

(b) On receipt of a petition signed by landowners owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of the land within the affected territory, the commission shall hear and consider oral or written testimony.

(c) The petition shall be placed on the agenda of the commission in accordance with subdivision (b) of Section 56428.

**Notice and hearing**

(d) The executive officer shall give notice of the hearing in accordance with Section 56427.

(e) From the date of filing of the petition to the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall accept written positions from any owner of land in the unincorporated territory that is seeking removal from a city's sphere of influence.

(f) The petition to remove territory from a city's sphere of influence shall be granted and given immediate effect if the commission finds that written positions filed in favor of the petition and not withdrawn prior to the conclusion of the hearing represent landowners owning 50 percent or more of the assessed value of the land within the affected territory.

(g) No removal of territory from a city's sphere of influence that is proposed by petition and adopted pursuant to this section shall be repealed or amended except by the petition and adoption procedure provided in subdivisions (a) to (f), inclusive. In all other respects, a removal of territory from a city's sphere of influence proposed by petition and adopted pursuant to this section shall have the same force and effect as any amendment to or removal of territory from a city's sphere of influence approved by the commission. No territory removed from a city's sphere of influence pursuant to this section shall be annexed to that city, unless the territory is subsequently added to the sphere of influence of the city pursuant to the petition and adoption procedure provided in this section.

**Fee schedule**

(h) Pursuant to Section 56383, the commission may establish a schedule of fees for the costs of carrying out this section.

**Proponents pay expenses**

(i) All proper expenses incurred in connection with removal of territory from a city's sphere of influence pursuant to this section shall be paid by the proponents.

**Service reviews**

**56430**. (a) In order to prepare and to update spheres of influence in accordance with Section 56425, the commission shall conduct a service review of the municipal services provided in the county or other appropriate area designated by the commission. The commission shall include in the area designated for service review the county, the region, the subregion, or any other geographic area as is appropriate for an analysis of the service or services to be reviewed, and shall prepare a written statement of its determinations with respect to each of the following:

**Written determinations**

(1) Growth and population projections for the affected area.

**Disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to sphere**

(2) The location and characteristics of any disadvantaged unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.

(3) Present and planned capacity of public facilities, adequacy of public services, and infrastructure needs or deficiencies including needs or deficiencies related to sewers, municipal and industrial water, and structural fire protection in any disadvantaged, unincorporated communities within or contiguous to the sphere of influence.

**Needs or deficiencies**

(4) Financial ability of agencies to provide services.

(5) Status of, and opportunities for, shared facilities.

(6) Accountability for community service needs, including governmental structure and operational efficiencies.

(7) Any other matter related to effective or efficient service delivery, as required by commission policy.

**Comprehensive service review**

(b) In conducting a service review, the commission shall comprehensively review all of the agencies that provide the identified service or services within the designated geographic area. The commission may assess various alternatives for improving efficiency and affordability of infrastructure and service delivery within and contiguous to the sphere of influence, including, but not limited to, the consolidation of governmental agencies.

**Alternatives**

(c) In conducting a service review, the commission may include a review of whether the agencies under review, including any public water system as defined in Section 116275, are in compliance with the California Safe Drinking Water Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 116270) of Part 12 of Division 104 of the Health and Safety Code). A public water system may satisfy any request for information as to compliance with that act by submission of the consumer confidence of water quality report prepared by the

**Compliance with California Safe Drinking Water Act**

public water system as provided by Section 116470 of the Health and Safety Code.

**Information request**

(d) The commission may request information, as part of a service review under this section, from identified public or private entities that provide wholesale or retail supply of drinking water, including mutual water companies formed pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 14300) of Division 3 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code, and private utilities, as defined in Section 1502 of the Public Utilities Code.

**Service review with sphere update**

(e) The commission shall conduct a service review before, or in conjunction with, but no later than the time it is considering an action to establish a sphere of influence in accordance with Section 56425 or 56426.5 or to update a sphere of influence pursuant to Section 56425.

**Service to previously unserved territory**

**56434**. (a) The commission may review and comment upon both of the following:

(1) The extension of services into previously unserved territory within unincorporated areas.

(2) The creation of new service providers to extend urban type development into previously unserved territory within unincorporated areas.

**Purpose of the review**

(b) The purpose of the review authorized by this section shall ensure that the proposed extension of services or creation of new service providers is consistent with the policies of Sections 56001, 56300, and 56301, and with the adopted policies of the commission implementing these sections, including promoting orderly development, discouraging urban sprawl, preserving open space and prime agricultural lands, providing housing for persons and families of all incomes, and the efficient extension of governmental services.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2019, and as of that date is repealed.

## PART 3. COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS FOR A CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION OR REORGANIZATION

### CHAPTER 1. GENERAL

**LAFCO proceedings initiated by petition or resolution of application**

**56650**. Commission proceedings for a change of organization or a reorganization may be initiated by petition or by resolution of application in accordance with this chapter.

**56650.5**. [Repealed by Ch. 68. Stats. 2008 ]

**LAFCO proceedings initiated on date certificate of filing issued**

**56651**. Commission proceedings shall be deemed initiated on the date a petition or resolution of application is accepted for filing and a certificate of filing is issued by the executive officer of the commission of the county in which the affected territory is located.

**Form of application; contents**

**56652**. Each application shall be in the form as the commission may prescribe and shall contain all of the following information:
(a) A petition or resolution of application initiating the proposal.
(b) A statement of the nature of each proposal.
(c) A map and description, acceptable to the executive officer, of the boundaries of the subject territory for each proposed change of organization or reorganization.
(d) Any data and information as may be required by any regulation of the commission.
(e) Any additional data and information, as may be required by the executive officer, pertaining to any of the matters or factors which may be considered by the commission.
(f) The names of the officers or persons, not to exceed three in number, who are to be furnished with copies of the report by the executive officer and who are to be given mailed notice of the hearing.

**Plan for providing services submitted with application**

**56653**. (a) If a proposal for a change of organization or reorganization is submitted pursuant to this part, the applicant shall submit a plan for providing services within the affected territory.
(b) The plan for providing services shall include all of the following information and any additional information required by the commission or the executive officer:
(1) An enumeration and description of the services **currently provided or** to be extended to the affected territory.
(2) The level and range of those services.
(3) An indication of when those services can feasibly be extended to the affected territory, **if new services are proposed**.
(4) An indication of any improvement or upgrading of structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other conditions the local agency would impose or require within the affected territory if the change of organization or reorganization is completed.
(5) Information with respect to how those services will be financed.

**Annexation development plan**

(c) (1) In the case of a change of organization or reorganization initiated by a local agency that includes a disadvantaged, unincorporated community as defined in Section 56033.5, a local agency may include in its resolution of application for change of organization or reorganization an annexation development plan adopted pursuant to Section 99.3 of the Revenue and Taxation

Code to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other infrastructure to serve the disadvantaged, unincorporated community through the formation of a special district or reorganization of one or more existing special districts with the consent of each special district's governing body.

(2) The annexation development plan submitted pursuant to this subdivision shall include information that demonstrates that the formation or reorganization of the special district will provide the following:

(A) The necessary financial resources to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer, or water facilities or other infrastructure. The annexation development plan shall also clarify the local entity that shall be responsible for the delivery and maintenance of the services identified in the application.

(B) An estimated timeframe for constructing and delivering the services identified in the application.

(C) The governance, oversight, and long-term maintenance of the services identified in the application after the initial costs are recouped and the tax increment financing terminates.

(3) If a local agency includes an annexation development plan pursuant to this subdivision, a local agency formation commission may approve the proposal for a change of organization or reorganization to include the formation of a special district or reorganization of a special district with the special district's consent, including, but not limited to, a community services district, municipal water district, or sanitary district, to provide financing to improve or upgrade structures, roads, sewer or water facilities, or other infrastructure to serve the disadvantaged, unincorporated community, in conformity with the requirements of the principal act of the district proposed to be formed and all required formation proceedings.

(4) Pursuant to Section 56881, the commission shall include in its resolution making determinations a description of the annexation development plan, including, but not limited to, an explanation of the proposed financing mechanism adopted pursuant to Section 99.3 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, including, but not limited to, any planned debt issuance associated with that annexation development plan.

(d) This section shall not preclude a local agency formation commission from considering any other options or exercising its powers under Section 56375.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 43)**

**Disincorporation, plan for services**

**56653.1.** In the case of a disincorporation or reorganization that includes a disincorporation, the plan for services required by subdivision (a) of Section 56653 shall include the following:

(a) An enumeration and description of the services currently provided by the city proposed for disincorporation and an identification, where applicable, of the entity or entities proposed to assume responsibility for the services following completion of disincorporation.

(b) An enumeration and description of each service proposed to be discontinued or transferred, the current financing of the service or services, and any method of financing proposed by the successor.

(c) A delineation of any existing financing of services currently provided to include, but not be limited to, bonds, assessments, community facility district governance, general taxes, special taxes, other charges, and joint powers authorities or agreements.

(d) An indication of any current bankruptcy proceeding, including, but not limited to, status and exit plan.

(e) An indication of any current order relating to services provided by the city proposed for disincorporation by any agency, department, office, or other division of the state, including, but not limited to, a cease and desist order or water prohibition order.

(f) A written statement from each entity identified pursuant to subdivision (a) that is has received a copy of the plan for services submitted pursuant to this section.

(g) Any other information that the executive officer may deem necessary to evaluate the plan for services submitted.

**Resolution of application**

**56654**. (a) A proposal for a change of organization or a reorganization may be made by the adoption of a resolution of application by the legislative body of an affected local agency, except as provided in subdivision (b).

**Notice of intention**

(b) Notwithstanding Section 56700, a proposal for a change of organization that involves the exercise of new or different functions or classes of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, shall only be initiated by the legislative body of that special district in accordance with Sections 56824.10, 56824.12, and 56824.14.

**Resolution contents**

(c) At least 21 days before the adoption of the resolution, the legislative body may give mailed notice of its intention to adopt a resolution of application to the commission and to each interested agency and each subject agency. The notice shall generally describe the proposal and the affected territory.

(d) Except for the provisions regarding signers and signatures, a resolution of application shall contain all of the matters specified for a petition in Section 56700 and shall be submitted with a plan

for services prepared pursuant to Section 56653.

**Priority of conflicting proposals**

**56655**. If two or more proposals pending before the commission conflict or in any way are inconsistent with each other, as determined by the commission, the commission may determine the relative priority for conducting any further proceedings based on any of those proposals. That determination shall be included in the terms and conditions imposed by the commission. In the absence of that determination, priority is given to that proceeding which shall be based upon the proposal first filed with the executive officer.

**Proposals affecting same or overlapping area**

**56657**. Notwithstanding Section 56655, the commission shall not approve a proposal for incorporation, consolidation of districts, dissolution, merger, or establishment of a subsidiary district, or a reorganization that includes any of these changes of organization until it has considered any other change of organization which conflicts with the subject proposal and which was submitted to the commission within 60 days of the submission of the subject proposal.

**Application to initiate proceedings**

**56658**. (a) Any petitioner or legislative body desiring to initiate proceedings shall submit an application to the executive officer of the principal county.

**Mailed notice to each affected local agency**

(b) (1) Immediately after receiving an application and before issuing a certificate of filing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice that the application has been received to each affected **local** agency, the county committee on school district organization, and each school superintendent whose school district overlies the affected territory. The notice shall generally describe the proposal and the affected territory. The executive officer shall not be required to give notice pursuant to this subdivision if a local agency has already given notice pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 56654.

(2) It is the intent of the Legislature that a proposal for incorporation or disincorporation shall be processed in a timely manner. With regard to an application that includes an *** incorporation or disincorporation, the executive officer shall immediately notify all affected local agencies and any applicable state agencies by mail and request the affected agencies to submit the required data to the commission within a reasonable timeframe established by the executive officer. Each affected agency shall respond to the executive officer within 15 days acknowledging receipt of the request. Each affected local agency and the officers and departments thereof shall submit the required data to the executive officer within the timelines established by the executive officer. Each affected state agency and the officers and departments thereof shall submit the required data to the executive

officer within the timelines agreed upon by the executive officer and the affected state departments.

**Multi-county district**

(3) If a special district is, or as a result of a proposal will be, located in more than one county, the executive officer of the principal county shall immediately give the executive officer of each other affected county mailed notice that the application has been received. The notice shall generally describe the proposal and the affected territory.

**Application deemed complete or incomplete**

(c) Except when a commission is the lead agency pursuant to Section 21067 of the Public Resources Code, the executive officer shall determine within 30 days of receiving an application whether the application is complete and acceptable for filing or whether the application is incomplete.

(d) The executive officer shall not accept an application for filing and issue a certificate of filing for at least 20 days after giving the mailed notice required by subdivision (b). The executive officer shall not be required to comply with this subdivision in the case of an application which meets the requirements of Section 56662 or in the case of an application for which a local agency has already given notice pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 56654.

(e) If the appropriate fees have been paid, an application shall be deemed accepted for filing if no determination has been made by the executive officer within the 30-day period. An executive officer shall accept for filing, and file, any application submitted in the form prescribed by the commission and containing all of the information and data required pursuant to Section 56652.

**Certificate of filing**

(f) When an application is accepted for filing, the executive officer shall immediately issue a certificate of filing to the applicant. A certificate of filing shall be in the form prescribed by the executive officer and shall specify the date upon which the proposal shall be heard by the commission. From the date of issuance of a certificate of filing, or the date upon which an application is deemed to have been accepted, whichever is earlier, an application shall be deemed filed pursuant to this division.

**Notification of incomplete filing**

(g) If an application is determined not to be complete, the executive officer shall immediately transmit that determination to the applicant specifying those parts of the application which are incomplete and the manner in which they can be made complete.

**Hearing with 90 days**

(h) Following the issuance of the certificate of filing, the executive officer shall proceed to set the proposal for hearing and give published notice thereof as provided in this part. The date of the hearing shall be not more than 90 days after issuance of the certificate of filing or after the application is deemed to have been accepted, whichever is earlier. Notwithstanding Section 56106, the date for conducting the hearing, as determined pursuant to this subdivision, is mandatory.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 353)**

**Notice of hearing; publication and posting**

**56660**. The executive officer shall give notice of any hearing by the commission by publication, as provided in Sections 56153 and 56154, and by posting, as provided in Sections 56158 and 56159.

**Electronic and mailed notice**

**56661**. To the extent that the commission maintains an Internet Web site, notice of all public hearings shall be made available in electronic format on that site. The executive officer shall also give mailed notice of any hearing by the commission, as provided in Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive, by mailing notice of the hearing or transmitting by electronic mail, if available to the recipient, to all of the following persons and entities:

**To whom given**

(a) To each affected local agency by giving notice to the legislative body and the executive officer of the agency.

(b) To the proponents, if any.

(c) To each person who has filed a written request for special notice with the executive officer.

(d) If the proposal is for any annexation or detachment, or for a reorganization providing for the formation of a new district, to each city within three miles of the exterior boundaries of the territory proposed to be annexed, detached, or formed into a new district.

(e) If the proposal is to incorporate a new city or for the formation of a district, to the affected county.

(f) If the proposal includes a change of organization or reorganization of a city or special district that provides or would provide structural fire protection services and all or part of the affected territory is a state responsibility area, as determined pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 4125) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Public Resources Code, to the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection.

(g) If the proposal would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), to the Director of Conservation.

(h) To all landowners within the affected territory pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (d) of Section 56157.

(i) To all registered voters within the affected territory pursuant to the provisions of subdivision (f) of Section 56157.

**Determinations without notice and hearing**

**56662**. (a) If a proposal for an annexation, a detachment, or a reorganization consisting solely of annexations or detachments, or both, or formation of a county service area meets all of the following criteria, the commission may make determinations upon the proposal without notice and hearing and may waive protest proceedings entirely pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000):

(1) The territory is uninhabited.

(2) An affected local agency has not submitted a written demand for notice and hearing during the 10-day period as described in subdivision (c).

(3) The proposal meets either of the following criteria:

(A) The petition accompanying the proposal is signed by all of the owners of land within the affected territory.

(B) The proposal is accompanied by proof, satisfactory to the commission, that all the owners of land within the affected territory have given their written consent to the proposal.

(b) Except for the determinations authorized to be made by subdivision (a), the commission shall not make any determinations upon any proposal, plan of reorganization, or report and recommendation of a reorganization committee until after public hearing by the commission on that proposal, plan of reorganization, or report and recommendation of a reorganization committee.

(c) The commission shall not take any action on the petition or resolution of application for 10 days following the mailed notice required under subdivision (b) of Section 56658. Upon written demand by an affected local agency, filed with the executive officer during that 10-day period, the commission shall make determinations upon the petition or resolution of application only after notice and hearing on the petition or resolution of application.

(d) If a proposal for an annexation, a detachment, or a reorganization consisting solely of annexations or detachments, or both, or formation of a county service area meets all of the following criteria, the commission may make determinations upon the proposal and waive protest proceedings entirely pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000):

(1) The territory is uninhabited.

(2) The proposal is accompanied by proof, satisfactory to the commission, that all the owners of land within the affected territory, exclusive of land owned by a private railroad company, have given their written consent to the proposal and a private railroad company that is an owner of land within the affected territory has not submitted written opposition to the waiver of protest proceedings prior to the conclusion of the commission hearing.

(3) A subject agency has not submitted written opposition to a waiver of protest proceedings.

**56663**. [Repealed by Stats. 2012, Ch. 62]

**Waiver of protest proceedings**

**56663**. For a change of organization consisting of an annexation or a detachment, or a reorganization consisting solely of annexations or detachments, or both, or the formation of a county service area that would otherwise require the conduct of protest proceedings, the commission may waive protest proceedings pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) if all of the following have occurred:

(a) The mailed notice pursuant to Section 56157 has been given to landowners and registered voters within the affected territory.

(b) The mailed notice discloses to the registered voters and landowners that unless written opposition to the proposal is received before the conclusion of the commission proceedings on the proposal, the commission intends to waive protest proceedings. The notice shall disclose that there is potential for the extension or continuation of any previously authorized charge, fee, assessment, or tax by the local agency in the affected territory.

(c) Written opposition to the proposal from landowners or registered voters within the affected territory is not received before the conclusion of the commission proceedings on the proposal.

**Voluntary notice and hearing**

**56664**. Where the commission desires to provide for notice and hearing prior to making a determination on a matter which the commission is authorized, but not required, to determine without notice and hearing, the commission shall order a public hearing on that matter and set a date, time, and place for the hearing. The date of hearing shall not be more than 90 days after the date of the order.

**Executive officer's report; to whom furnished**

**56665**. The executive officer shall review each application which is filed with the executive officer and shall prepare a report, including his or her recommendations, on the application. The report shall be completed not less than five days prior to the date specified in the notice of hearing. Upon completion, the executive officer shall furnish copies of the report to each of the following:

(a) The officers or persons designated in the application.

(b) Each local agency whose boundaries or sphere of influence would be changed by the proposal or recommendation.

(c) Each affected local agency which has filed a request for a report with the executive officer.

(d) The executive officer of another affected county when a district is or will be located in that other county.

(e) Each affected city.

**Commission hearing**

**56666**. (a) The hearing shall be held by the commission upon the date and at the time and place specified. The hearing may be continued from time to time but not to exceed 70 days from the date specified in the original notice.

(b) At the hearing, the commission shall hear and receive any oral or written protests, objections, or evidence that shall be made, presented, or filed, and consider the report of the executive officer and the plan for providing services to the territory prepared pursuant to Section 56653.

(c) Prior to any continuance of a hearing pursuant to this section regarding a proposal that includes an incorporation, the chief petitioners shall have an opportunity to address the commission on any potential impacts or hardships on the incorporation effort that may result from a delay. The commission shall consider the potential impacts on the incorporation proponents prior to making a decision on the duration of any continuance.

**Executive officer's report; revenue loss for land owned by city or county**

**56667**. If the report filed pursuant to Section 56665 indicates that more than 50 percent of the land proposed for incorporation is owned by or dedicated to the use of a city or county and that the proposed incorporation would result in a revenue loss to that city or county, and at the hearing held pursuant to Section 56666 the board of supervisors of the county or city council of the city presents a resolution objecting to the incorporation, no further proceedings shall be conducted by the commission and no new proposal involving incorporation of substantially the same territory shall be initiated for one year.

In the absence of a resolution of objection from a city or county, the commission may approve the proposal only if it imposes as a condition thereto that the newly incorporated city may not adopt any regulation or policy which would have a negative fiscal impact on any contract existing at the time of the incorporation which is related to the publicly owned land.

This section shall not preclude the completion of proceedings to incorporate territory which is the subject of incorporation proceedings filed with the executive officer of the commission prior to February 15, 1986.

**Factors to be considered in review of proposal**

**56668**. Factors to be considered in the review of a proposal shall include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

(a) Population and population density; land area and land use; per capita assessed valuation; topography, natural boundaries, and drainage basins; proximity to other populated areas; the likelihood of significant growth in the area, and in adjacent incorporated and unincorporated areas, during the next 10 years.

(b) The need for organized community services; the present cost and adequacy of governmental services and controls in the area; probable future needs for those services and controls; probable effect of the proposed incorporation, formation, annexation, or exclusion and of alternative courses of action on the cost and adequacy of services and controls in the area and adjacent areas.

"Services," as used in this subdivision, refers to governmental services whether or not the services are services which would be provided by local agencies subject to this division, and includes the public facilities necessary to provide those services.

(c) The effect of the proposed action and of alternative actions, on adjacent areas, on mutual social and economic interests, and on the local governmental structure of the county.

(d) The conformity of both the proposal and its anticipated effects with both the adopted commission policies on providing planned, orderly, efficient patterns of urban development, and the policies and priorities in Section 56377.

(e) The effect of the proposal on maintaining the physical and economic integrity of agricultural lands, as defined by Section 56016.

(f) The definiteness and certainty of the boundaries of the territory, the nonconformance of proposed boundaries with lines of assessment or ownership, the creation of islands or corridors of unincorporated territory, and other similar matters affecting the proposed boundaries.

(g) A regional transportation plan adopted pursuant to Section 65080

(h) The proposal's consistency with city or county general and specific plans.

(i) The sphere of influence of any local agency which may be applicable to the proposal being reviewed.

(j) The comments of any affected local agency or other public agency.

(k) The ability of the newly formed or receiving entity to provide the services which are the subject of the application to the area, including the sufficiency of revenues for those services following the proposed boundary change.

(l) Timely availability of water supplies adequate for projected needs as specified in Section 65352.5.

(m) The extent to which the proposal will affect a city or cities and the county in achieving their respective fair shares of the regional housing needs as determined by the appropriate council of governments consistent with Article 10.6 (commencing with Section 65580) of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 7.

(n) Any information or comments from the landowner or owners, voters, or residents of the affected territory.

(o) Any information relating to existing land use designations.

(p) The extent to which the proposal will promote environmental justice. As used in this subdivision, "environmental justice" means the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the location of public facilities and the provision of public services.

**District annexation; factors to consider and adoption of resolution**

**56668.3**. (a) If the proposed change of organization or reorganization includes a city detachment or district annexation, except a special reorganization, and the proceeding has not been terminated based upon receipt of a resolution requesting termination pursuant to either Section 56751 or Section 56857, factors to be considered by the commission shall include all of the following:

(1) In the case of district annexation, whether the proposed annexation will be for the interest of landowners or present or future inhabitants within the district and within the territory proposed to be annexed to the district.

(2) In the case of a city detachment, whether the proposed detachment will be for the interest of the landowners or present or future inhabitants within the city and within the territory proposed to be detached from the city.

(3) Any factors which may be considered by the commission as provided in Section 56668.

(4) Any resolution raising objections to the action that may be filed by an affected agency.

(5) Any other matters which the commission deems material.

(b) The commission shall give great weight to any resolution raising objections to the action that is filed by a city or a district. The commission's consideration shall be based only on financial or service related concerns expressed in the protest. Except for findings regarding the value of written protests, the commission is not required to make any express findings concerning any of the other factors considered by the commission.

**Consideration of regional growth goals and policies**

**56668.5**. The commission may, but is not required to, consider the regional growth goals and policies established by a collaboration of elected officials only, formally representing their local jurisdictions in an official capacity on a regional or subregional basis. This section does not grant any new powers or authority to the commission or any other body to establish regional growth goals and policies independent of the powers granted by other laws.

## CHAPTER 2. FORM, FILING, AND CERTIFICATION OF PETITION

**Proposal by petition; petition contents**

**56700**. (a) A proposal for a change of organization or a reorganization may be made by petition. The petition shall do all of the following:

(1) State that the proposal is made pursuant to this part.

(2) State the nature of the proposal and list all proposed changes of organization.

(3) Set forth a description of the boundaries of affected territory accompanied by a map showing the boundaries.

(4) Set forth any proposed terms and conditions.

(5) State the reason or reasons for the proposal.

(6) State whether the petition is signed by registered voters or owners of land.

(7) Designate up to three persons as chief petitioners, setting forth their names and mailing addresses.

(8) Request that proceedings be taken for the proposal pursuant to this part.

(9) State whether the proposal is consistent with the sphere of influence of any affected city or affected district.

**Consolidation of special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act; petition contents**

(b) A petition for a proposal for a change of organization or a reorganization that includes the consolidation of two or more special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act, in addition to the requirements set forth in subdivision (a), shall do either of the following:

(1) Designate the district that shall be the successor and specify under which principal act the successor shall conduct itself.

(2) State that the proposal requires the formation of a new district and includes a plan for services prepared pursuant to Section 56653.

**Disclosure of expenditures and contributions**

**56700.1**. Expenditures for political purposes related to a proposal for a change of organization or reorganization that will be submitted to a commission pursuant to this part, and, contributions in support of or in opposition to those proposals, shall be disclosed and reported pursuant to Section 56100.1.

**Notice of intent to circulate petition**

**56700.4**. (a) Before circulating any petition for change of organization, the proponent shall file with the executive officer a notice of intention that shall include the name and mailing address of the proponent and a written statement, not to exceed 500 words in length, setting forth the reasons for the proposal. The notice shall be signed by a representative of the proponent, and shall be in substantially the following form:

**Form of notice**

Notice of Intent to Circulate Petition

Notice is hereby given of the intention to circulate a petition proposing to ____.

The reasons for the proposal are:

(b) After the filing required pursuant to subdivision (a), the petition may be circulated for signatures.

(c) Upon receiving the notice, the executive officer shall notify affected local agencies.

(d) The notice requirements of this section shall apply in addition to any other applicable notice requirements.

(e) This section shall not apply to any petition signed by landowners if all parcels within the affected territory are vested under the same ownership.

**Petition and all counterparts filed at the same time**

**56703**. A petition may consist of a single instrument or separate counterparts. All petitions shall be filed with the executive officer. All counterparts of a petition or of any supplemental petition, shall be filed at the same time.

**Petition signature and date**

**56704**. (a) Each person signing a petition shall, at the time he or she signs the petition, affix after his or her signature the date upon which he or she signs the petition.

**Registered signature and date**

(b) If a petition is signed by registered voters, each person signing the petition shall, in addition to his or her signature, affix the date upon which he or she signs the petition and indicate on the petition his or her place of residence, giving street and number or other designation sufficient to enable the place of residence to be readily ascertained.

**Landowner petition**

(c) If a petition is signed by owners of land, each person signing the petition shall, in addition to the signature and the date on which he or she signs the petition, include a written description sufficient to identify the location of the land owned by each person signing the petition.

**Signatures; time limits**

**56705**. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), no petition shall be accepted for filing unless the signatures on the petition are secured within six months of the date on which the first signature on the petition was affixed and the petition is submitted to the executive officer for filing within 60 days after the last signature is affixed. If the elapsed time between the date on which the last signature is affixed and the date on which the petition is submitted for filing is more than 60 days, the executive officer shall file the petition in accordance with Section 56709.

**Special time limits**

(b) (1) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), in cities with a population of more than 100,000 residents that are located in a county with a population of over 4,000,000, no petition shall be accepted for filing unless the signatures thereon have been secured within 90 days of the publication of the notice required pursuant to Section 56760 and the petition is submitted to the executive officer for filing within 60 days after the last signature is affixed. If the elapsed time between the date on which the last signature is affixed and the date on which the petition is submitted for filing is more than 60 days, the executive officer shall file the petition in accordance with Section 56709.

(2) This subdivision shall not apply to a petition for a special reorganization, as defined in Section 56075.5. Subdivision (a) shall apply to a special reorganization, as defined in

Section 56075.5, regardless of the number of residents in the city or county in which signatures have been secured on the petition. This paragraph is declaratory of existing law.

**Certificate of sufficiency**

**56706**. (a) Within 30 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, after the date of receiving a petition, the executive officer shall cause the petition to be examined by, in the case of a registered voter petition, the county elections official, in accordance with Sections 9113 to 9115, inclusive, of the Elections Code, or in the case of a landowner petition, the county assessor, and shall prepare a certificate of sufficiency indicating whether the petition is signed by the requisite number of signers.

**Notice of insufficiency**

(b) (1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), if the certificate of the executive officer shows the petition to be insufficient, the executive officer shall immediately give notice by certified mail of the insufficiency to the proponents, if any. That mailed notice shall state in what amount the petition is insufficient. Within 15 days after the date of the notice of insufficiency, a supplemental petition bearing additional signatures may be filed with the executive officer.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the proponents of the petition may, at their option, collect signatures for an additional 15 days immediately following the statutory period allowed for collecting signatures without waiting for notice of insufficiency. Any proponent choosing to exercise this option may not file a supplemental petition as provided in paragraph (1).

**Supplemental petition**

(c) Within 10 days after the date of filing a supplemental petition, the executive officer shall examine the supplemental petition and certify in writing the results of his or her examination.

**Certificate of sufficiency; contents**

(d) A certificate of sufficiency shall be signed by the executive officer and dated. That certificate shall also state the minimum signature requirements for a sufficient petition and show the results of the executive officer's examination. The executive officer shall mail a copy of the certificate of sufficiency to the proponents, if any.

**Validation of signatures; registered voter petition**

**56707**. If a petition is signed by registered voters, the executive officer shall cause the names of the signers on the petition to be compared with the voters' register in the office of the county clerk or registrar of voters and ascertain both of the following:

(a) The number of registered voters in the affected territory.

(b) The number of qualified signers appearing upon the petition.

**Validation of signatures; landowner petition; most recent equalized assessment roll**

**56708**. If a petition is signed by owners of land, the executive officer shall cause the names of the signers on the petition to be compared with the names of the persons shown as owners of land on the most recent assessment roll being prepared by the county at

the time the proponent adopts a resolution of application pursuant to Section 56654 or files a notice of intention to circulate a petition with the executive officer pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56700.4 and ascertain, to the extent possible, both of the following:

(a) The total number of landowners within the territory and the total assessed valuation of all land within the affected territory.

(b) The total number of landowners represented by qualified signers and the total assessed valuation of land owned by qualified signers.

**Insufficient petition filed as public record; notice**

**56709**. If the petition, including any supplemental petition, is certified to be insufficient, it shall be filed with the executive officer as a public record, without prejudice to the filing of a new petition. The executive officer shall give mailed notice to the chief petitioners, if any, stating that the petition has been found to be insufficient.

**56710**. For purposes of evaluating the sufficiency of any petition signed by owners of land:

**Assessed value**

(a) The assessed value to be given land exempt from taxation or owned by a public agency shall be determined by the county assessor, at the request of the executive officer, in the same amount as the county assessor would assess that land, if the land were not exempt from taxation or owned by a public agency.

**Joint tenancy**

(b) The value given land held in joint tenancy or tenancy in common shall be determined in proportion to the proportionate interest of the petitioner in that land.

(c) The executive officer shall disregard the signature of any person not shown as owner on the most recent assessment roll being prepared by the county at the time the proponent adopts a resolution of application pursuant to Section 56654 or files a notice of intention to circulate a petition with the executive officer pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56700.4, unless prior to certification the executive officer is furnished with written evidence, satisfactory to the executive officer, that the signer meets any of the following requirements:

(1) Is a legal representative of the owner.

(2) Is entitled to be shown as owner of land on the next assessment roll.

(3) Is a purchaser of land under a recorded written agreement of sale.

(4) Is authorized to sign for, and on behalf of, any public agency owning land.

**Signature for federal agency land**

**56711**. Any public or federal agency owning land within the territory which is the subject of the proposed change of organization or reorganization shall be deemed a landowner for the purpose of the signing and certification of a petition for the change of organization or reorganization. That agency may authorize the petition to be signed for the agency, and on behalf of the agency, by any duly authorized officer or employee.

## CHAPTER 3. PROCEEDINGS FOR CITIES

### Article 1. Incorporation

**Necessary findings; proposed incorporation**

**56720**. The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve any proposal that includes an incorporation, unless the commission finds, based on the entire record, that:

(a) The proposed incorporation is consistent with the intent of this division, including, but not limited to, the policies of Sections 56001, 56300, 56301, and 56377.

(b) It has reviewed the spheres of influence of the affected local agencies and the incorporation is consistent with those spheres of influence.

(c) It has reviewed the comprehensive fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Section 56800 and the Controller's report prepared pursuant to Section 56801.

(d) It has reviewed the executive officer's report and recommendation prepared pursuant to Section 56665, and the testimony presented at its public hearing.

(e) The proposed city is expected to receive revenues sufficient to provide public services and facilities and a reasonable reserve during the three fiscal years following incorporation.

**Proposed name for new or consolidated city**

**56722**. If a petition is for incorporation of a new city, or consolidation of cities, the petition may propose a name for the new or consolidated city.

The proposed name for the new or consolidated city may contain the word "town."

**Petition; provision for appointment of city manager and elective city officials**

**56723**. If the petition is for incorporation, it may also include provisions for appointment of a city manager and appointment of elective city officials, except city council members.

**Election of city officers**

**56724**. (a) If the commission approves a proposal that includes the incorporation of a city, the resolution making determinations shall, upon the incorporation applicant's request, specify that the first election of city officers is to be held after voter approval of the proposal.

(b) If the applicant has submitted an application to the commission prior to the effective date of this section, the applicant may request that the election of city officers be held after the vote on the incorporation proposal.

(c) If the election of city officers is to be conducted after the vote on the incorporation proposal, the commission shall not set the effective date to be sooner than the election date of the city officers.

**Article 2. Special Reorganization**

**Special reorganization proceedings**

**56730**. Proceedings for a special reorganization shall be conducted in accordance with the procedures otherwise prescribed for incorporation of a city, including, but not limited to, the provisions specified in Sections 56720, 56800, 56810, and 56815. Notwithstanding any other provision of this division, an election, if required, shall be conducted in accordance with Sections 57119 and 57132.5.

**Special reorganization; incorporation of city with population of 1,000,000 or more**

**56732**. If the commission approves a proposal for a special reorganization that includes the incorporation of a city with a population of more than 1,000,000, the commission shall do both of the following:

(a) Specify in the resolution making determinations that, notwithstanding Section 36501, the legislative body of the city shall consist of an even number of members, with at least 12 elected by districts, as defined in Section 34871. The commission shall establish the initial boundaries of a sufficient number of districts of approximately equal populations, consistent with state and federal law, not to exceed more than 100,000 residents per district.

(b) Specify in the resolution that the mayor, who shall be a voting member of the council, shall be elected on a citywide basis.

**Special reorganization**

**56734**. (a) This section shall only apply to a special reorganization.

(b) All public employees to which Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 3500) of Division 4 of Title 1 applies shall continue to be

**Public employees**

deemed public employees of the original local agency or of the newly incorporated local agency for all the purposes of that chapter, including, but not limited to, the continuation and application of any collective bargaining agreement that applies to these employees, and all representational and collective bargaining rights under that chapter.

**Collective bargaining agreements**

(c) Any existing collective bargaining agreement shall remain in effect and be fully binding on the original local agency or on the newly incorporated local agency, and on the employee

organizations that are parties to the agreement for the balance of the term of the agreement, and until a subsequent agreement has been established.

**Retiree benefits**

(d) Any existing retiree benefits, including, but not limited to, health, dental, and vision care benefits, shall not be diminished.

(e) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an employee organization that has been recognized as the exclusive representative of local agency public employees affected by a special reorganization shall retain exclusive representation of the unit employees of the original local agency, or of the newly incorporated local agency.

## Article 3. Annexation and Other Changes of Organization

**Election may be required where assessed value of land or number of voters in annexing territory is equal to or greater than half of city's assessed value or voters**

**56737**. When a change of organization or a reorganization includes the annexation of inhabited territory to a city and the assessed value of land within the territory equals one-half or more of the assessed value of land within the city, or the number of registered voters residing within the territory equals one-half or more of the number of registered voters residing within the city, the commission may determine as a condition of the proposal that the change of organization or reorganization shall also be subject to confirmation by the voters in an election to be called, held, and conducted within the territory of the city to which annexation is proposed.

**Annexation to a city; succession to Williamson Act contracts**

**56738**. If the proposal would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), then the petition shall state whether the city shall succeed to the contract pursuant to Section 51243 or whether the city intends to exercise its option to not succeed to the contract pursuant to Section 51243.5.

**Tidelands or submerged lands owned by state; procedures**

**56740**. (a) No tidelands or submerged lands, as defined in subdivision (g), which are owned by the state or by its grantees in trust shall be incorporated into, or annexed to, a city, except lands which may be approved by the State Lands Commission.

**Filed with State Lands Commission**

(b) If those tidelands or submerged lands are included within the boundaries of any territory proposed to be incorporated into, or annexed to, a city, a description of the boundaries, together with a map showing the boundaries, shall be filed with the State Lands Commission by the proponents of the incorporation or annexation. The filing with the State Lands Commission shall be made prior to the executive officer issuing a certificate of filing for the proposal.

(c) The State Lands Commission shall approve or disapprove all portions of the boundaries located upon the tidelands or

submerged lands. In making that determination, it shall, where feasible and appropriate, require any extensions of land boundaries of the city or proposed city to be at right angles to the general direction of the shoreline at each point of intersection of the shoreline with the land boundaries of the city or proposed city. However, in the interest of ensuring an orderly and equitable pattern of offshore boundaries, the State Lands Commission may establish angles and other courses for each offshore boundary it deems necessary considering any irregularity of the shoreline, other geographical features, the effect of incorporation or annexation of the offshore or submerged lands on the uplands of the city, or proposed city, and adjoining territory, and the existing and potential boundaries of other cities and of unincorporated communities.

**State Lands Commission determination**

(d) Within 45 days after the filing of the boundary description and map with the State Lands Commission, the State Lands Commission shall make a determination of the proper offshore or submerged lands boundaries. That determination shall be final and conclusive. If the State Lands Commission does not make the determination within that time, the proposed offshore or submerged lands boundaries shall be deemed approved.

(e) The State Lands Commission shall report its determination to the executive officer and to each affected city, affected county, affected district, or person, if any, that has filed the boundary description and map. Thereafter, filings and action may be taken pursuant to this part.

(f) The local agency formation commission may review and make determinations as to all portions of the boundaries, other than those offshore or submerged lands boundaries.

(g) "Submerged lands," as used in this section, includes, but is not limited to, lands underlying navigable waters which are in sovereign ownership of the state whether or not those waters are subject to tidal influences.

**City annexations in same county and contiguous**

**56741**. Territory may not be annexed to a city unless it is located in the same county. Unless otherwise provided in this division, territory may not be annexed to a city unless it is contiguous to the city at the time the proposal is initiated pursuant to this part. Territory incorporated as a city shall be located within one county and, except as otherwise provided in Section 56742, shall be contiguous with all other territory being incorporated as a city.

**City annexations of noncontiguous territory**

**56742**. (a) Notwithstanding Section 56741, upon approval of the commission a city may annex noncontiguous territory not exceeding 300 acres if the territory meets all of the following requirements:

(1) It is located in the same county as that in which the city is situated.

**City ownership required**

(2) It is owned by the city.

(3) It is used for municipal purposes at the time commission proceedings are initiated.

(b) Territory which is used by a city for the reclamation, disposal, and storage of treated wastewater may be annexed to the city pursuant to this section without limitation as to the size of the territory.

(c) If territory is annexed pursuant to this section, the annexing city may not annex any territory not owned by the city, not used for municipal purposes, and not contiguous to the city, although the territory is contiguous to the territory annexed pursuant to this section.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, a city which annexes territory pursuant to this section may annex additional territory in the same county as that in which the city is situated which is owned by the United States government or the State of California and which is contiguous to the first annexed territory if the total acreage of the first annexed and the subsequently annexed territory together does not exceed 300 acres in area. If after the completion of the subsequent annexation, the city sells any or all of the first annexed territory, the subsequently annexed territory shall cease to be part of the city if the subsequently annexed territory is no longer contiguous to territory owned by the city.

(e) When any or all of the territory annexed to a city pursuant to this section is sold by the city, all of the territory that is no longer owned by the city shall cease to be a part of that city.

(f) A city may lease territory annexed pursuant to this section for any of the purposes authorized pursuant to Sections 37380 to 37396, inclusive, as well as enter into leases for the construction and operation of electrical generation, transmission, and distribution. If, however, a city enters into a lease on and after April 24, 2002, pursuant to Section 37395, 37396, or any other provision of law, that would authorize the development of a shopping center, hotel, motel, or lodging house on territory annexed pursuant to this section, the affected territory shall cease to be a part of the city.

(g) When territory ceases to be part of a city pursuant to this section, the legislative body of the city shall adopt a resolution confirming the detachment. The resolution shall describe the detached territory and shall be accompanied by a map indicating the territory. Immediately upon adoption of the resolution, the city clerk shall make any filing required by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 57200) of Part 4.

(h) If territory annexed to a city pursuant to this section becomes contiguous to the city, the limitations imposed by this section shall cease to apply.

**Annexation of state correctional facilities**

**56742.5**. (a) Notwithstanding Section 56741, upon approval of the commission any city may annex noncontiguous territory which constitutes a state correctional facility or a state correctional training facility. If, after the completion of the annexation, the State of California sells that territory or any part thereof, all of the territory which is no longer owned by the state shall cease to be a part of the city which annexed the territory.

(b) If territory is annexed pursuant to this section, the city may not annex any territory not owned by the State of California and not contiguous to the city although that territory is contiguous to the territory annexed pursuant to this section.

(c) When territory ceases to be part of the city pursuant to this section, the legislative body of the city shall adopt a resolution confirming the detachment of that territory from the city. The resolution shall describe the detached territory and shall be accompanied by a map indicating the territory. Immediately upon adoption of the resolution, the city clerk shall make any filing provided for by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 57200) of Part 4 of Division 3.

(d) If territory annexed pursuant to this section becomes contiguous to the city, the limitations imposed by this section shall cease to apply.

(e) A city may enter into an agreement with any other city under which the city apportions any increase in state subventions resulting from the annexation of territory pursuant to this section.

**Cities of Willits and Arcata; annexation of noncontiguous**

**56743**. (a) Notwithstanding Section 56741, upon approval of the commission a city may annex noncontiguous territory not exceeding 3,100 acres in area, which is located in the same county as that in which the city is situated, and which is owned by the city and is being used for municipal water purposes, wildlife habitat, or sustainable forestry that is subject to an adopted city forest management plan at the time preliminary proceedings are initiated pursuant to this part. If, after the completion of the annexation, the city sells that territory or any part thereof, all of that territory that is no longer owned by the city shall cease to be a part of the city.

(b) If territory is annexed pursuant to this section, the annexing city may not annex any territory not owned by it and not contiguous to it although that territory is contiguous to the territory annexed pursuant to this section.

(c) When territory ceases to be part of a city pursuant to this section, the legislative body of the city shall adopt a resolution confirming the detachment of that territory from the city. The

resolution shall describe the detached territory and shall be accompanied by a map indicating the territory. Immediately upon adoption of the resolution, the city clerk shall make any filing provided for by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 57200) of Part 4.

(d) If territory annexed to a city pursuant to this section becomes contiguous to the city, the limitations imposed by this section shall cease to apply.

(e) If territory is annexed pursuant to this section, it shall be used only for municipal water purposes, wildlife habitat, or sustainable forestry that is subject to an adopted city forest management plan. The city may, however, enter into agreements to lease the land for timber production or grazing by animals. If the territory is used by the city for any other purpose at any time, it shall cease to be a part of the city.

(f) This section applies only to the City of Willits and the City of Arcata.

**Islands not allowed from annexations or incorporations**

**56744**. Unless otherwise determined by the commission pursuant to subdivision (m) of Section 56375, territory shall not be incorporated into, or annexed to, a city pursuant to this division if, as a result of that incorporation or annexation, unincorporated territory is completely surrounded by that city or by territory of that city on one or more sides and the Pacific Ocean on the remaining sides.

**Annexations to City of Cupertino**

**56747**. (a) Notwithstanding Section 56031, unincorporated territory consisting of property abutting on a street, highway, or road, and the street, highway, or road, to the extent that it abuts that property, together with the road strip may be annexed to a city pursuant to this division under the following conditions:

(1) The annexation may be made only if the property to be annexed is within the sphere of influence of the annexing city, as adopted by the commission, and lies within an unincorporated area wholly surrounded by the annexing city or the annexing city and the county line or the annexing city and the Pacific Ocean or the annexing city and a boundary of another city.

(2) The property to be annexed shall not be annexed if the distance between the boundary of the annexing city and the point closest to the annexing city at which the road strip connects with the abutting property, as measured by the road strip, is more than one-half mile.

(b) Subsequent annexations to the road strip and abutting territory shall not be made unless both of the following conditions are met:

(1) The distance between the point at which the original road strip abuts the boundary of the annexing city and the point closest to the city at which the road strip connects with the abutting

property to be annexed, as measured by the road strip, is one-half mile or less.

(2) The annexation is contiguous to the road strip.

(c) As used in this section:

(1) "Property to be annexed" means the property abutting on a street, highway, or road, and the street, highway, or road, to the extent it abuts the property.

(2) "Road strip" means the street, highway, or road which connects the territory of the property to be annexed to the annexing city.

(d) This section applies only to the City of Cupertino.

**Farmland security zones; landowner petitions**

**56749**. (a) The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve a change of organization or reorganization that would result in the annexation to a city of territory that is within a farmland security zone created pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 if that city provides or would provide facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or streets and roads, unless the facilities or services provided by the city benefit land uses that are allowed under a farmland security zone contract and the landowner consents to the change of organization or reorganization. However, this subdivision shall not apply under any of the following circumstances:

(1) If the farmland security zone is located within a designated, delineated area that has been approved by the voters as a limit for existing and future urban facilities, utilities, and services.

(2) If annexation of a parcel or a portion of a parcel is necessary for the location of a public improvement, as defined in Section 51290.5, except as provided in subdivision (f) or (g) of Section 51296.

(3) If the landowner consents to the annexation.

(b) This section shall not apply during the three-year period preceding the termination of a farmland security zone contract under Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of Division 1.

**Farmland security zones; improper disapproval**

**56750**. Notwithstanding Sections 56300 and 56301, the commission shall not disapprove a change of organization or reorganization where the reason for disapproval is that the farmland security zone is excluded from the affected territory.

**City detachment pre-hearing**

**56751**. (a) Upon receipt by the commission of a proposed change of organization or reorganization, except a special reorganization, that includes the detachment of territory from any city, the executive officer shall place the proposal on the agenda for the next commission meeting for information purposes only and shall

transmit a copy of the proposal to any city from which the detachment of territory is requested.

(b) No later than 60 days after the date that the proposal is on the commission's meeting agenda in accordance with subdivision (a), a city from which the detachment of territory is proposed may adopt and transmit to the commission a resolution requesting termination of the proceedings.

**Termination**

(c) If the city from which the detachment of territory is proposed has adopted and transmitted to the commission a resolution requesting termination of proceedings within the time period prescribed by this section, then the commission shall terminate the proceedings upon receipt of the resolution from the city.

(d) This section shall not apply if the city from which the detachment of territory is proposed has adopted and transmitted to the commission a resolution supporting the proposed change of organization or reorganization.

**Annexation to a city; succession to Williamson Act contracts**

**56752**. If the proposal would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), then the resolution shall state whether the city shall succeed to the contract pursuant to Section 51243 or whether the city intends to exercise its option to not succeed to the contract pursuant to Section 51243.5.

**City annexation of land subject to Williamson Act; notice to Director of Conservation**

**56753**. The executive officer shall give mailed notice of any hearing by the commission, as provided in Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive, by mailing notice of the hearing to the Director of Conservation if the proposal would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1).

**City annexation of land subject to Williamson Act; notice to Director of Conservation; requirements**

**56753.5**. Within 10 days after receiving a proposal that would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), the executive officer shall notify the Director of Conservation of the proposal. The notice shall include the contract number, the date of the contract's execution, and a copy of any protest that the city had filed pursuant to Section 51243.5.

**Annexation to a city; succession of Williamson Act contracts**

**56754**. If a change of organization or reorganization would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), the commission, based on substantial evidence in the record, shall determine one of the

following:

(a) That the city shall succeed to the rights, duties, and powers of the county pursuant to Section 51243, or

(b) That the city may exercise its option to not succeed to the rights, duties, and powers of the county pursuant to Section 51243.5.

**Resolution of application; hearing; island provisions only**

**56755**. Prior to submitting a resolution of application for the annexation of territory described in Section 56375.3 to the commission, the legislative body adopting the resolution shall conduct a public hearing on the resolution. Notice of the hearing shall be published pursuant to Sections 56153 and 56154. At the hearing, any landowner shall be given an opportunity to present his or her views on the resolution.

**Resolution of application filed with executive officer**

**56756**. The clerk of the legislative body adopting a resolution of application shall file a certified copy of that resolution with the executive officer.

**Reorganization in Santa Clara County; special provisions**

**56757**. (a) The commission shall not review an annexation or a reorganization proposal that includes an annexation to any city in Santa Clara County of unincorporated territory that is within the urban service area of the city if the annexation or reorganization proposal is initiated by resolution of the legislative body of the city.

(b) The city council shall be the conducting authority for the annexation or reorganization proposal and the proceedings for the annexation or reorganization proposal shall be initiated and conducted as nearly as may be practicable in accordance with Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000).

(c) The city council, in adopting the resolution approving the annexation or reorganization proposal, shall make all of the following findings:

(1) That the unincorporated territory is within the urban service area of the city as adopted by the commission.

(2) That the county surveyor has determined the boundaries of the proposal to be definite and certain, and in compliance with the road annexation policies of the commission. The city shall reimburse the county for the actual costs incurred by the county surveyor in making this determination.

(3) That the proposal does not split lines of assessment or ownership.

(4) That the proposal does not create islands or areas in which it would be difficult to provide municipal services.

(5) That the proposal is consistent with the adopted general plan of the city.

(6) That the territory is contiguous to existing city limits.

(7) That the city has complied with all conditions imposed by the commission for inclusion of the territory in the urban service area of the city.

(d) All annexations or reorganizations which involve territory for which the land use designation in the general plan of the city has changed from the time that the urban service area of the city was last adopted by the commission, and which are processed by a city pursuant to this section shall be subject to an appeal to the commission upon submission of a petition of appeal, signed by at least 50 registered voters in the county.

(e) An appeal to the commission may also be made by submission of a resolution of appeal adopted by the legislative body of a special district solely for the purpose of determining whether some or all of the territory contained in the annexation or reorganization proposal should also be annexed or detached from that special district.

(f) Any petition submitted under subdivision (d) or resolution submitted under subdivision (e) shall be submitted to the executive officer within 15 days of the adoption by the city council of the resolution approving the annexation. The executive officer shall schedule the hearing for the next regular meeting of the commission as is practicable. The commission may set a reasonable appeal fee.

**56758**. [Repealed by Ch. 68. Stats. 2008 ]

**City annexation exceeding half of city; elections in both territory and city**

**56759**. In any order approving a proposal subject to an election for an annexation or a reorganization that includes annexation of inhabited territory to a city when the assessed value of land within that territory proposed to be annexed equals one-half, or more, of that within the city, as shown by the last equalized assessment rolls, or the number of registered voters of the territory equals one-half, or more, of the number of registered voters within the city, as shown by the county register of voters, the commission shall require that an election called upon the question of confirming the annexation or reorganization shall also be called, held, and conducted within the territory of the city to which territory is proposed to be annexed.

**Article 4. Initiation by Petition**

**Los Angeles County; notice of intent**

**56760**. (a) Before circulating any petition for change of organization for a city with a population of more than 100,000 which is located in a county with a population of over 4,000,000, the proponents shall publish a notice of intention which shall include a written statement not to exceed 500 words in length, setting forth the reasons for the proposal. The notice shall be

published pursuant to Section 56153. The notice shall be signed by at least one, but not more than three, chief petitioners and shall be in substantially the following form:

Notice of Intent to Circulate Petition

Notice is hereby given of the intention to circulate a petition proposing to ____ territory to the City of ____.

The reasons for the proposal are:

**Filing**

(b) Within five days after the date of publication, the chief petitioners shall file with the clerk of the city and the executive officer a copy of the notice together with an affidavit made by a representative of the newspaper in which the notice was published certifying to the fact of publication.

(c) After the filing required pursuant to subdivision (b), the petition may be circulated for signatures.

**Incorporation; signatures**

**56764**. A petition for the incorporation of a city shall be signed by either of the following:

(a) Not less than 25 percent of the registered voters residing in the area to be incorporated, as determined by the commission pursuant to subdivision (f) of Section 56375.

(b) Not less than 25 percent of the number of owners of land within the territory proposed to be incorporated who also own not less than 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory proposed to be incorporated, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll of the county.

**Disincorporation; signatures**

**56765**. A petition for the disincorporation of a city shall be signed by not less than 25 percent of the registered voters residing in the city proposed to be disincorporated as shown on the county register of voters.

**Consolidation of cities; signatures**

**56766**. A petition for the consolidation of two or more cities shall be signed by not less than 5 percent of the registered voters of each affected city as shown on the county register of voters.

**City annexation; signatures**

**56767**. A petition for annexation of territory to a city shall be signed by either of the following:

(a) Not less than 5 percent of the number of registered voters residing within the territory proposed to be annexed as shown on the county register of voters.

(b) Not less than 5 percent of the number of owners of land within the territory proposed to be annexed who also own 5 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory as shown on the last equalized assessment roll.

**City detachment; signatures**

**56768**. A petition for detachment of territory from a city shall be signed by either of the following:
(a) Not less than 25 percent of the registered voters residing within the territory proposed to be detached, as shown on the county register of voters.
(b) Not less than 25 percent of the number of owners of land within the territory proposed to be detached who also own 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll.

**Necessary findings; proposed disincorporation**

**56770.** The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve any proposal that includes a disincorporation, unless, based on the entire record, the commission makes all of the following determinations:
(a) The proposed disincorporation is consistent with the intent of this division to provide for a sustainable system for the delivery of services.
(b) The commission has considered the service reviews of municipal services and spheres of influence of the affected local agencies, and the disincorporation will address the necessary changes to those spheres of influence, if any.
(c) It has reviewed the comprehensive fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Section 56804.
(d) It has reviewed the executive officer's report and recommendation prepared pursuant to Section 56665, and the oral or written testimony presented at its public hearing.
(e) The services responsibilities of the city proposed for disincorporation have been assigned through terms and conditions authorized by Sections 56885.5, 56886, and 57302, and Chapter 5 (commencing with Section 57400) of Part 5.

## CHAPTER 4. FISCAL PROVISIONS

### Article 1. Comprehensive Fiscal Analysis

**Comprehensive fiscal analysis; incorporation**

**56800**. For any proposal that includes an incorporation, the executive officer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared by contract, a comprehensive fiscal analysis. This analysis shall become part of the report required pursuant to Section 56665. Data used for the analysis shall be from the most recent fiscal year for which data are available, preceding the issuances of the certificate of filing. When data requested by the executive officer in the notice to affected agencies are unavailable, the analysis shall document the source and methodology of the data used. The analysis shall review and document each of the following:

(a) The costs to the proposed city of providing public services and facilities during the three fiscal years following incorporation in accordance with the following criteria:

(1) When determining costs, the executive officer shall include all direct and indirect costs associated with the current provision of existing services in the affected territory. These costs shall reflect the actual or estimated costs at which the existing level of service could be contracted by the proposed city following an incorporation, if the city elects to do so, and shall include any general fund expenditures used to support or subsidize a fee-supported service where the full costs of providing the service are not fully recovered through fees. The executive officer shall also identify which of these costs shall be transferred to the new city that result in an administrative cost reduction to other agencies. In the analysis, the executive officer shall also review how the costs of any existing services compare to the costs of services provided in cities with similar populations and similar geographic size that provide a similar level and range of services and shall make a reasonable determination of the costs expected to be borne by the newly incorporated city.

(2) When determining costs, the executive officer shall also include all direct and indirect costs of any public services that are proposed to be assumed by the new city and that are provided by state agencies in the area proposed to be incorporated.

(b) The revenues of the proposed city during the three fiscal years following incorporation.

(c) The effects on the costs and revenues of any affected local agency during the three fiscal years of incorporation.

(d) Any other information and analysis needed to make the findings required by Section 56720.

**Review of comprehensive fiscal analysis by Controller; requests**

**56801**. (a) For any proposal that includes an incorporation, the executive officer shall, at the request of an interested party, which request is submitted pursuant to subdivision (b), and prior to issuing his or her report and recommendation pursuant to Section 56665, request the Controller to review the comprehensive fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Section 56800. The request by an interested party shall specify in writing any element of the comprehensive fiscal analysis that the Controller is requested to review and the reasons the Controller is requested to review each element.

(b) The commission may adopt written procedures for the acceptance, referral, and payment for a request for the Controller's review, which shall include setting a time period during which an interested party is permitted to submit a request pursuant to subdivision (a). The time period for accepting a request shall not be less than 30 days following notice given in the same manner as

specified in Section 56153.

(c) Within 45 days of receiving the analysis, the Controller shall issue a report to the executive officer regarding the accuracy and reliability of the information, methodologies, and documentation used in the analysis. The times within which the executive officer or commission is required to act pursuant to this chapter shall be tolled for the time required by the Controller for completion of the report. The executive officer shall include the results of the Controller's report into his or her own report and recommendation issued pursuant to Section 56665.

**Cost of Controller's review**

(d) Notwithstanding Sections 56378 and 56386, the Controller may charge the commission for the actual costs incurred pursuant to this section. The commission may recover these costs by charging the person who requested the Controller's review.

**Funds for incorporation within Mountain House Community Services District**

**56802**. (a) For any proposal for incorporation of the territory within the Mountain House Community Services District, San Joaquin County shall provide the required funds to those petitioners filing the incorporation application for all costs involved in filing the application for incorporation pursuant to this division, including the preparation of the comprehensive fiscal analysis pursuant to Section 56800.

(b) The funds provided by the county pursuant to this section shall not be construed to be a gift of public funds and may only be granted to a quasi-public or nonprofit organization formed for the purpose of pursuing incorporation of the Mountain House area.

(c) San Joaquin County shall provide the funds required in subdivision (a) only one time, upon the first filing of application for incorporation.

**Acceptance or rejection of incorporation findings; executive officer report; fiscal analysis**

**56803**. If the commission approves a proposal which includes the incorporation of a city, the resolution making determinations shall accept or reject each of the findings and recommendations made in the executive officer's report prepared pursuant to Section 56665, and the fiscal analysis prepared pursuant to Section 56800. If the commission rejects a finding or recommendation, the resolution making determinations shall include findings by the commission which present the basis for any rejection.

**Comprehensive fiscal analysis, disincorporation**

**56804.** For any proposal that includes a disincorporation, the executive officer shall prepare, or cause to be prepared by contract, a comprehensive fiscal analysis. This analysis shall become part of the report required pursuant to Section 56665. Data used for the analysis shall be from the most recent fiscal year for which data is available, preceding the issuances of the certificate of filing. When data requested by the executive officer in the notice to affected agencies, pursuant to paragraph (2) of

subdivision (b) of Section 56658, is unavailable, the analysis shall document the source and methodology of the data used. The analysis shall review and document each of the following:

**Contents**

(a) The direct and indirect costs incurred by the city proposed for disincorporation for providing public services during the three fiscal years immediately preceding the submittal of the proposal for disincorporation.

(b) The direct and indirect costs incurred by the city proposed for disincorporation for current and proposed capital improvements, facilities, assets, and infrastructure.

(c) The sources of funding, if any, available to the entities proposed to assume the obligations of the city proposed for disincorporation.

(d) The anticipated costs, including all direct and indirect costs, to the entities proposed to assume the obligations of the city proposed for disincorporation in the provision of services to the area proposed for disincorporation.

(e) When determining costs, the executive officer shall also include all direct and indirect costs of any public services that are proposed to be transferred to state agencies for delivery.

(f) The revenues of the city proposed for disincorporation during the three fiscal years immediately preceding the initiation of the disincorporation proposal.

(g) All current and long-term liabilities, including, but not limited to, debt obligations, of the city proposed for disincorporation, including the balance of the restricted and unrestricted funds available to extinguish the obligations and liabilities.

(h) The potential financing mechanism or mechanisms to address any shortfalls and obligations for those responsibilities identified in this section, including, but not limited to, taxes or assessments.

(i) Any other information and analysis needed to make the findings required by Section 56770.

## Article 2. Property Tax Exchange

**Property tax exchange for incorporation or formation**

**56810**. (a) (1) If the proposal includes the incorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56043, the commission shall determine the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agency pursuant to this section and Section 56815.

**Commission determination**

(2) If the proposal includes the formation of a district, as defined in Section 2215 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, the commission shall determine the amount of property tax to be exchanged by the affected local agency pursuant to this section.

(c) If the proposal would not transfer all of an affected agency's service responsibilities to the proposed city or district, the commission and the county auditor shall do all of the following:

**Auditor's determination**

(1) The county auditor shall determine the proportion that the amount of property tax revenue derived by each affected local agency pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 93 of the Revenue and Taxation Code bears to the total amount of revenue from all sources, available for general purposes, received by each affected local agency in the prior fiscal year. For purposes of making this determination and the determination required by paragraph (3), "total amount of revenue from all sources available for general purposes" means the total amount of revenue which an affected local agency may use on a discretionary basis for any purpose and does not include any of the following:

(A) Revenue which, by statute, is required to be used for a specific purpose.

(B) Revenue from fees, charges, or assessments which are levied to specifically offset the cost of particular services and do not exceed the cost reasonably borne in providing these services.

(C) Revenue received from the federal government which is required to be used for a specific purpose.

**Commission determination of total net cost; definition**

(2) The commission shall determine, based on information submitted by each affected local agency, an amount equal to the total net cost to each affected local agency during the prior fiscal year of providing those services which the new jurisdiction will assume within the area subject to the proposal. For purposes of this paragraph, "total net cost" means the total direct and indirect costs that were funded by general purpose revenues of the affected local agency and excludes any portion of the total cost that was funded by any revenues of that agency that are specified in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1).

**Calculation**

(3) The commission shall multiply the amount determined pursuant to paragraph (2) for each affected local agency by the corresponding proportion determined pursuant to paragraph (1) to derive the amount of property tax revenue used to provide services by each affected local agency during the prior fiscal year within the area subject to the proposal. The county auditor shall adjust the amount described in the previous sentence by the annual tax increment according to the procedures set forth in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 95) of Part 0.5 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to the fiscal year in which the new city or district receives its initial allocation of property taxes.

**Separate county fund(s)**

(4) For purposes of this subdivision, in any county in which, prior to the adoption of Article XIIIA of the California Constitution, and continuing thereafter, a separate fund or funds were established consisting of revenues derived from the unincorporated area of the county and from which fund or funds services rendered in the unincorporated area have been paid, the amount of property tax revenues derived pursuant to paragraph (3), may, at the discretion of the commission, be transferred to the proposed city over a period not to exceed 12 fiscal years following

its incorporation. In determining whether the transfer of the amount of property tax revenues determined pursuant to paragraph (3) shall occur entirely within the fiscal year immediately following the incorporation of the proposed city or shall be phased in over a period not to exceed 12 full fiscal years following the incorporation, the commission shall consider each of the following:

(A) The total amount of revenue from all sources available to the proposed city.

(B) The fiscal impact of the proposed transfer on the transferring agency.

(C) Any other relevant facts which interested parties to the exchange may present to the commission in written form.

The decision of the commission shall be supported by written findings setting forth the basis for its decision.

**Auditor's determination**

(d) If the proposal would transfer all of an affected agency's service responsibilities to the proposed city or district, the commission shall request the auditor to determine the property tax revenue generated for the affected service providers by tax rate area, or portion thereof, and transmit that information to the commission.

(e) The executive officer shall notify the auditor of the amount determined pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (c) or subdivision (d), as the case may be, and, where applicable, the period of time within which and the procedure by which the transfer of property tax revenues will be effected pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (c), at the time the executive officer records a certificate of completion pursuant to Section 57203 for any proposal described in subdivision (a), and the auditor shall transfer that amount to the new jurisdiction.

(f) The amendments to this section enacted during the 1985-86 Regular Session of the Legislature shall apply to any proposal described in subdivision (a) for which a certificate of completion is recorded with the county recorder on or after January 1, 1987.

**Prior fiscal year defined**

(g) For purposes of this section, "prior fiscal year" means the most recent fiscal year for which data on actual direct and indirect costs and revenues needed to perform the calculations required by this section are available preceding the issuance of the certificate of filing.

**Action to contest**

(h) An action brought by a city or district to contest any determinations of the county auditor or the commission with regard to the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agency pursuant to this section shall be commenced within three years of the effective date of the city's incorporation or the district's formation. These actions may be brought by any city that incorporated or by any district that formed on or after January 1, 1986.

(i) This section applies to any city that incorporated or district that formed on or after January 1, 1986.

(j) The calculations and procedures specified in this section shall be made prior to and shall be incorporated into the calculations specified in Section 56815.

**Determination of appropriations limit**

**56811**. (a) If a proposal includes the formation of a new special district, the commission shall determine the appropriations limit of the district in accordance with Section 7902.7 and Article XIIIB of the California Constitution. The commission shall determine the provisional appropriations limit of the district in the following manner:

(1) Estimate the amount of revenue anticipated to be received by the district from the proceeds of taxes for the first full fiscal year of operation.

(2) Adjust the amount determined in paragraph (1) for the estimated change in the cost of living and population in the next full fiscal year of operation and any other changes that may be required or permitted by Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

(b) The governing body of the district shall determine the proposed permanent appropriations limit of the district to be submitted to the voters in the following manner:

(2) Adjust the amount determined in paragraph (1) for the estimated change in the cost of living and population in the next full fiscal year of operation and any other changes that may be required or permitted by Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

(c) The permanent appropriations limit of the district shall be set at the first district election that is held following the first full fiscal year of operation and shall not be considered to be a change in the appropriations limit of the district pursuant to Section 4 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

**Incorporation of city; determination of provision and permanent appropriations limit**

**56812**. (a) If a proposal includes the incorporation of a city, the commission shall determine the provisional appropriations limit of the city in accordance with Section 7902.7 and Article XIIIB of the California Constitution. The commission shall determine the provisional appropriations limit of the city in the following manner:

(1) Estimate the amount of revenue anticipated to be received by the city from the proceeds of taxes for the first full fiscal year of operation.

(2) Adjust the amount determined in paragraph (1) for the estimated change in the cost of living and population in the next full fiscal year of operation and such other changes as may be required or permitted by Article XIIIB of the California

Constitution.

(b) The governing body of the city shall determine the proposed permanent appropriations limit of the city to be submitted to the voters in the following manner

(1) Determine the amount of revenue actually received by the city from the proceeds of taxes for the first full fiscal year of operation.

(2) Adjust the amount determined in paragraph (1) for the estimated change in the cost of living and population in the next full fiscal year of operation and such other changes as may be required or permitted by Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

**Permanent appropriations limit**

(c) The permanent appropriations limit of the city shall be set at the first municipal election which is held following the first full fiscal year of operation and shall not be considered to be a change in the appropriations limit of the city pursuant to Section 4 of Article XIIIB of the California Constitution.

**Property tax exchange for disincorporation**

**56813.** (a) If the proposal includes the disincorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56034, the commission shall determine the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected city and successor or affected local agency pursuant to this section.

**Notice to auditor**

(b) The commission shall notify the county auditor of the proposal, the affected local agencies to be extinguished, and the services proposed to be transferred to new jurisdictions, and identify for the auditor the changes to occur.

(c) If the proposal would not transfer all of the service responsibilities of the disincorporating city to the affected county or to a single affected agency, the commission and the county auditor shall do all of the following:

**Auditor's determination**

(1) The county auditor shall determine the proportion that the amount of property tax revenue derived by the city being disincorporated pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 93 of the Revenue and Taxation Code bears to the total amount of revenue from all sources, available for general purposes, received by the city being disincorporated in the prior fiscal year and provide his or her response within 15 days of receiving notification from the commission pursuant to subdivision (b). For purposes of making this determination and the determination required by paragraph (3), "total amount of revenue from all sources available for general purposes" mean the total amount of revenue which the city being disincorporated may use on a discretionary basis for any purposes and does not include any of the following:

(A) Revenue that, by statute or ordinance, is required to be used for a specific purpose.

(B) Revenue from fees, charges, or assessments that are levied to specifically offset the cost of particular services and that do not exceed the cost reasonably borne in providing these services.

(C) Revenue received from the federal government that is required to be used for a specific purpose.

**Commission determination of total net cost; definition**

(2) The commission shall determine, based on information submitted by the city being disincorporated, an amount equal to the total net cost to that city during the prior fiscal year of providing those services that an affected agency will assume within the area subject to the proposal. For purposes of this paragraph, "total net cost" means the total direct and indirect costs that were funded by general purpose revenues of the city being disincorporated and excludes any portion of the total cost that was funded by any revenues of that agency that are specified in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (C) of paragraph (1).

**Calculation**

(3) For the services to be transferred to each affected local agency, the commission shall multiply the amount determined pursuant to paragraph (2) by the proportion determined pursuant to paragraph (1) to derive the amount of property tax revenue used to provide services by the city being disincorporated during the prior fiscal year within the area subject to the proposal. The county auditor shall adjust the amount so determined by the annual tax increment pursuant to the procedures set forth in Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 95) of Part 0.5 of Division 1 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, to the fiscal year in which the affected agency receives its next allocation of property taxes.

(d) If the proposal for disincorporation would transfer all of the service responsibilities of the city proposed for disincorporation, other than those that are proposed to be discontinued, to a single successor, the commission shall request that auditor to determine the property tax revenue allocated to the city being disincorporated by tax rate area, or portion thereof, and transmit that information to the commission.

(e) The executive officer shall notify the auditor of the amount determined pursuant to subdivision (c) or (d), as the case may be, and, where applicable, the period of time within which and the procedure by which the transfer of property tax revenues will be effected pursuant to this section, at the time the executive officer records a certificate of completion pursuant to Section 57203 for any proposal described in subdivision (a), and the auditor shall transfer that amount to the affected agency or agencies that will assume the services as determined by the commission. Any property tax not transferred to an affected agency pursuant to subdivision (c) shall be transferred to the affected county.

**"Prior fiscal year"**

(f) For the purposes of this section, "prior fiscal year" means the most recent fiscal year preceding the issuance of the certificate of filing for which data is available on actual direct and indirect costs and revenues needed to perform the calculations required by this

section.

**Action to contest**

(g) Any action brought by a city, county, or district to contest any of the determinations of the county auditor or the commission with regard to the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged by the affected local agencies pursuant to this section shall be commenced within three years of the effective date of the disincorporation.

**Commission determination of appropriations limit**

**56814.** If the proposal includes the disincorporation of a city, as defined in Section 56034, with the assignment of property tax revenues to a successor the commission shall make the following determinations, as appropriate:

(a) The increase of the appropriations limit for the successor if the successor is an existing entity.

(b) The appropriations limit for a new special district through a formation process as defined by Section 56810.

## Article 3. Revenue Neutrality

**Incorporation, legislative intent**

**56815**. (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that any proposal that includes an incorporation should result in a similar exchange of both revenue and responsibility for service delivery among the county, the proposed city, and other subject agencies. It is the further intent of the Legislature that an incorporation should not occur primarily for financial reasons.

**Findings for an incorporation**

(b) The commission shall not approve a proposal that includes an incorporation unless it finds that the following two quantities are substantially equal:

(1) Revenues currently received by the local agency transferring the affected territory that, but for the operation of this section, would accrue to the local agency receiving the affected territory.

(2) Expenditures, including direct and indirect expenditures, currently made by the local agency transferring the affected territory for those services that will be assumed by the local agency receiving the affected territory.

**Alternative findings**

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (b), the commission may approve a proposal that includes an incorporation if it finds either of the following:

(1) The county and all of the subject agencies agree to the proposed transfer.

(2) The negative fiscal effect has been adequately mitigated by tax sharing agreements, lump-sum payments, payments over a fixed period of time, or any other terms and conditions pursuant to Section 56886.

(d) Nothing in this section is intended to change the distribution of growth on the revenues within the affected territory unless otherwise provided in the agreement or agreements specified in

paragraph (2) of subdivision (c).

**Resolution; fiscal terms and conditions**

(e) Any terms and conditions that mitigate the negative fiscal effect of a proposal that contains an incorporation shall be included in the commission resolution making determinations adopted pursuant to Section 56880 and the terms and conditions specified in the questions pursuant to Section 57134.

**Task Force; state guidelines**

**56815.2**. By July 1, 2001, the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, in consultation with the Controller, shall convene a task force composed of representatives of cities, counties, special districts, and local agency formation commissions, as nominated by their statewide organizations and associations, with expertise in local government fiscal issues for the purpose of creating statewide guidelines for the incorporation process. The guidelines shall be completed by January 1, 2002, by the Office of Planning and Research and shall serve as minimum statewide guidelines for the incorporation process. The guidelines shall include, but not be limited to, information to assist incorporation proponents to understand the incorporation process, its timelines, and likely costs. They shall also provide direction to affected agencies regarding the type of information that should be included in the comprehensive fiscal analysis of an incorporation, as well as suggestions for alternative ways to achieve fiscally neutral incorporations. The guidelines shall be advisory to the commissions in the review of incorporation proposals.

**Disincorporation; legislative intent**

**56816.** (a) It is the intent of the Legislature that any proposal that includes the disincorporation of a city result in a determination that the debt or contractual obligations and responsibilities of the city being disincorporated shall be the responsibility of that same territory for repayment. To ascertain this information, the city shall provide a written statement that determines and certifies all of the following to the commission prior to the issuance of a certificate of filing for a disincorporation proposal, pursuant to Section 56651 and 56658:

**Written statement requirement**

**Information to be included**

(1) The indebtedness of the city.

(2) The amount of money in the city's treasury.

(3) The amount of any tax levy, assessment, or other obligation due to the city that is unpaid or has not been collected.

(4) The amount of current and future liabilities, both internal debt owed to other special or restricted funds or enterprise funds within the agency and external debt owed to other public agencies or outside lenders or that results from contractual obligations, which may include contracts for goods or services, retirement obligations, actuarially determined unfunded pension liability of all classes in a public retirement system, including any documentation related to the termination of public retirement

contract provisions, and the liability for other postemployment benefits. The information required by this paragraph shall include any associated revenue stream for financing that may be or has been committed to that liability, including employee contributions.
(b) The city shall provide a written statement identifying the successor agency to the city's former redevelopment agency, if any, pursuant to Section 34173 of the Health and Safety Code.

## CHAPTER 5. PROCEEDINGS FOR SPECIAL DISTRICTS

### Article 1. Representation and Functions

**Resolution initiating representation; regulations**

**56821**. Either the commission or the legislative body of any independent special district within a county may adopt a resolution initiating proceedings as follows:
(a) It may propose representation of special districts upon the commission.
(b) It may propose the repeal of regulations affecting the functions and services of special districts.

**Consideration of commission's resolution by independent special district selection committee; procedures following approval or disapproval**

**56821.1**. If the commission adopts a resolution pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56821, the executive officer shall immediately call a meeting of the independent special district selection committee referred to in Section 56332. The meeting shall be held not less than 15, or more than 35, days from the adoption of the resolution by the commission. The independent special district selection committee shall meet at the time and place designated by the executive officer and shall consider the resolution adopted by the commission. By majority vote of those district representatives voting on the issue, the selection committee shall either approve or disapprove the resolution adopted by the commission. If the selection committee approves the resolution adopted by the commission, it shall immediately inform the executive officer of that action, and the commission at its next meeting shall adopt a resolution of intention pursuant to Section 56822. If the selection committee disapproves the resolution adopted by the commission, it shall immediately inform the executive officer of this action and all further proceedings under this chapter shall cease.

**Resolution adopted by independent special districts**

**56821.3**. If an independent special district adopts a resolution pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56821, it shall immediately forward a copy of the resolution to the executive officer. Upon receipt of those resolutions from a majority of independent special districts within a county, adopted by the districts within one year from the date that the first resolution was adopted, the commission, at its next regular meeting, shall adopt a resolution of

intention pursuant to Section 56822.

**Certified copy of resolution**

**56821.5**. A certified copy of any resolution which has been adopted by an independent special district pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56821 shall be filed with the executive officer. If a resolution, or substantially identical resolution, has been filed by a majority of independent special districts within the county, then, not later than 35 days after the filing, the commission shall adopt a resolution of intention in accordance with the filed resolution or resolutions.

**Resolution of intention; contents**

**56822**. Whenever the commission, or the independent special districts, as the case may be, have complied with the applicable provisions of Sections 56821, 56821.1, 56821.3, and 56821.5, the commission shall adopt a resolution of intention pursuant to this section. The resolution of intention shall do all of the following:

(a) State whether the proceedings are initiated by the commission or by an independent special district or districts, in which case, the names of those districts shall be set forth.

(b) If the resolution of intention proposes only the repeal of regulations affecting the functions and services of special districts, it shall state that the commission proposes either of the following:

(1) To consider the proposal without reference to a special district advisory committee, in which case the resolution shall contain the text of the regulations proposed to be repealed.

(2) To refer the proposal to a special district advisory committee for study, report, and recommendation, in which case the resolution shall include the regulations proposed to be repealed.

In addition, the resolution of intention adopted pursuant to this subdivision shall also fix a time, not less than 15 or more than 35 days after the adoption of the resolution of intention, and the place of hearing by the commission on the question of whether the proposal made by the resolution should be disapproved, approved, and ordered without reference to a special district advisory committee, or referred to a special district advisory committee for study, report, and recommendation to the commission.

(c) If the resolution of intention proposes representation of special districts on the commission, it shall state that the commission proposes to refer the proposal to a special district advisory committee and the commission shall immediately order the proposal referred to that committee pursuant to Section 56823.

**Hearing on resolution of intention; notice**

**56822.3**. If a hearing is called pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56822, the executive officer shall give notice of the hearing by publication, as provided in Sections 56153 and 56154, by posting, as provided in Sections 56158 and 56159, and by mailing to the clerk of the county and each local agency within the

county, as provided in Sections 56155, 56156, and 56157.

**Hearing on resolution of intention; time and place; approval or disapproval**

**56822.5**. The hearing referred to in Section 56822.3 shall be held by the commission at the time and place specified or to which the hearing may be continued. After the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall adopt a resolution disapproving the proposal made by the resolution of intention, approving and ordering the proposal without reference to a special district advisory committee, or ordering the proposal referred to a special district advisory committee for study, report, and recommendation.

**Advisory committee; appointment; proceedings; definition**

**56823**. If the commission orders a proposal referred to a special district advisory committee for study, report, and recommendation, the appointment of, and proceedings by, the advisory committee shall be made and taken substantially in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 56826), pertaining to reorganization committees, except that the advisory committee shall not be terminated until after the commission acts upon the report and recommendation of the advisory committee. When applied to proceedings taken pursuant to this chapter:

(a) "Plan of reorganization" means a plan containing the text of regulations affecting the functions and services of special districts.

(b) "Proposal of reorganization," "reorganization," or "change of organization" means a proposal made pursuant to this chapter.

(c) "Reorganization committee" means the special district advisory committee.

(d) "Subject district" means an independent special district affected by a proposal made pursuant to this chapter.

If the commission is of the opinion that special districts, other than independent special districts, may be affected by the proposal, then, in addition to the appointment of voting members to the advisory committee to represent independent special districts, the commission may authorize the legislative bodies of special districts, other than independent special districts, to appoint nonvoting members to the advisory committee. Any nonvoting member shall have all of the rights of a voting member except the right to vote.

**Advisory committee; executive committee; membership; duties and powers**

**56824**. Where a special district advisory committee consists of voting members representing more than five independent special districts, the advisory committee may appoint an executive committee to undertake all or part of the study and may authorize the executive committee to prepare a tentative report and recommendation for submission to and approval by the full advisory committee. The executive committee shall consist of the number of voting members as the advisory committee may determine. If the commission authorizes the appointment of

nonvoting members to the advisory committee, those nonvoting members may appoint members to the executive committee in numbers not exceeding those appointed by the voting members and any nonvoting member appointed to the executive committee shall have all of the rights of a voting member on the committee, except the right to vote.

Upon completion of the studies of the executive committee, the executive committee shall report to the full advisory committee and submit any tentative report and recommendation prepared by the executive committee. Thereafter, the advisory committee may reject any tentative report and recommendation submitted, may adopt any tentative report and recommendation submitted, either as submitted by the executive committee or as changed by the full advisory committee, or the advisory committee may prepare its own report and recommendation.

**Action of commission on report and recommendation of advisory committee**

**56824.1**. Not later than 35 days after the filing with the executive officer of the report and recommendation of a special district advisory committee, the commission shall take one of the following actions:

(a) If the report concerns only the repeal of regulations affecting the functions and services of special districts, the commission may do either of the following:

(1) Disapprove the report without further notice and hearing.

(2) Adopt a resolution of intention to hold a hearing on the report pursuant to subdivision (c).

(b) If the report concerns a request for special district representation on the commission, the commission shall adopt a resolution declaring its intention to approve the report and recommendation.

(c) A resolution of intention shall do all of the following:

(1) Refer to the report and recommendation of the special district advisory committee, generally describe the nature and contents of the report and recommendation, and refer to the report and recommendation on file with the executive officer for a detailed description report and recommendation.

(2) Declare the intention of the commission to approve the recommendation and report, as filed.

(3) Fix a time, not less than 15 days, or more than 35 days, after the adoption of the resolution of intention, and the place of hearing by the commission, on the question of whether the report and recommendation filed by the special district advisory committee should be approved, either as filed or as ordered changed by the commission after notice and hearing.

**Hearing on approval of report and recommendation of advisory committee; notice**

**56824.3**. The executive officer shall give notice of the hearing by publication, as provided in Sections 56153 and 56154, by posting, as provided in Sections 56158 and 56159, and by mailing to the clerk of the county and each local agency within the county, as provided in Sections 56155, 56156, and 56157.

**Hearing on approval of report and recommendation of advisory committee; time and place; proposal for changes**

**56824.5**. The hearing shall be held by the commission at the time and place specified or to which the hearing may be continued. During the course of the hearing, the commission may propose changes in the report and recommendations. Any proposed changes shall be referred, for review, to the special district advisory committee, or if the advisory committee has appointed an executive committee, to that executive committee. The advisory committee, or the executive committee, shall have 60 days to report back to the commission. If no report is received by the commission within 60 days, the advisory committee shall be deemed to have approved the proposed changes in the report and recommendation.

Within 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall adopt a resolution approving the report and recommendation, either as filed or as those regulations may be changed by the commission.

**Resolution approving report and recommendation of advisory committee; orders**

**56824.7**. Any resolution approving the report and recommendation of a special district advisory committee, either as filed or as changed by the commission, shall order both of the following:

(a) The repeal of regulations, in accordance with the recommendations of the approved report.

(b) The chairperson of the commission to call and give notice of a meeting of the independent special district selection committee to be held within 15 days after the adoption of the resolution if special district representatives on the commission are to be selected pursuant to Section 56332.

**Article 1.5. New or Different Services**

**New or different services; resolution of application**

**56824.10**. Commission proceedings for the exercise of new or different functions or classes of services or divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56654, may be initiated by a resolution of application in accordance with this article.

**District's proposal to provide new or different services**

**56824.12**. (a) A proposal by a special district to provide a new or different function or class of services or divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or

part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56654, shall be made by the adoption of a resolution of application by the legislative body of the special district and shall include all of the matters specified for a petition in Section 56700, except paragraph (6) of subdivision (a) of Section 56700, and be submitted with a plan for services prepared pursuant to Section 56653. The plan for services for purposes of this article shall also include all of the following information:

**Plan for services**

(1) The total estimated cost to provide the new or different function or class of services within the special district's jurisdictional boundaries.

(2) The estimated cost of the new or different function or class of services to customers within the special district's jurisdictional boundaries. The estimated costs may be identified by customer class.

(3) An identification of existing providers, if any, of the new or different function or class of services proposed to be provided and the potential fiscal impact to the customers of those existing providers.

(4) A written summary of whether the new or different function or class of services or divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or classes of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56654, will involve the activation or divestiture of the power to provide a particular service or services, service function or functions, or class of service or services.

(5) A plan for financing the establishment of the new or different function or class of services within the special district's jurisdictional boundaries.

(6) Alternatives for the establishment of the new or different functions or class of services within the special district's jurisdictional boundaries.

(b) The clerk of the legislative body adopting a resolution of application shall file a certified copy of that resolution with the executive officer. Except as provided in subdivision (c), the commission shall process resolutions of application adopted pursuant to this article in accordance with Section 56824.14.

**Noticed public hearing on district's application**

(c) (1) Prior to submitting a resolution of application pursuant to this article to the commission, the legislative body of the special district shall conduct a public hearing on the resolution. Notice of the hearing shall be published pursuant to Sections 56153 and 56154.

(2) Any affected local agency, affected county, or any interested person who wishes to appear at the hearing shall be given an opportunity to provide oral or written testimony on the resolution.

**Commission review and approval**

**56824.14**. (a) The commission shall review and approve with or without amendments, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove proposals for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services, within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, after a public hearing called and held for that purpose. The commission shall not approve a proposal for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services within the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district unless the commission determines that the special district will have sufficient revenues to carry out the proposed new or different functions of class of services except as specified in paragraph (1).

(1) The commission may approve a proposal for the establishment of new or different functions or class of services within the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district where the commission has determined that the special district will not have sufficient revenue to provide the proposed new or different functions or class of services, if the commission conditions its approval on the concurrent approval of sufficient revenue sources pursuant to Section 56886. In approving a proposal, the commission shall provide that if the revenue sources pursuant to Section 56886 are not approved, the authority of the special district to provide new or different functions or class of services shall not be established.

(2) Unless otherwise required by the principal act of the subject special district, or unless otherwise required by Section 57075 or 57076, the approval by the commission for establishment of new or different functions or class of services, or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services, shall not be subject to an election.

(b) At least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall give mailed notice of the hearing to each affected local agency or affected county, and to any interested party who has filed a written request for notice with the executive officer. In addition, at least 21 days prior to the date of that hearing, the executive officer shall cause notice of the hearing to be published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation that is circulated within the territory affected by the proposal proposed to be adopted.

(c) The commission may continue from time to time any hearing called pursuant to this section. The commission shall hear and consider oral or written testimony presented by any affected local agency, affected county, or any interested person who appears at any hearing called and held pursuant to this section.

**56825**. The commission shall have the powers and duties set forth in Part 2 (commencing with Section 56300) and the additional powers and duties specified in this chapter.

**Provisions; one or more changes**

**56826**. A reorganization or a plan of reorganization shall provide for one or more changes of organization of any type for each of the subject districts and may provide for the formation of one or more new districts pursuant to the principal act or acts designated in the reorganization or plan of reorganization and Section 56100.

**Consolidation of special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act; conditions for approval**

**56826.5**. (a) A proposal for reorganization that includes the consolidation of two or more special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act shall only be approved by the commission if both the following conditions are met:

(1) The commission is able to designate a successor or successors, or form a new district or districts, authorized by their respective principal acts to deliver all of the services provided by the consolidating districts at the time of consolidation.

(2) The commission makes the determinations specified in subdivision (b) of Section 56881.

(b) If a proposal for reorganization that includes the consolidation of two or more special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act is initiated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56375, it shall only be approved if the commission has prepared a study pursuant to Section 56378 or the written statement of determinations specified in subdivision (a) of Section 56430, and all of the following conditions are met:

(1) Each of the services provided by the districts subject to the proposal will be provided by a successor or successors, or by the formation of a new district authorized under a principal act to deliver the services. The commission may designate a successor other than the districts subject to the proposal only if the successor is currently providing the same service provided by one or more of the districts subject to the proposal. The commission shall not designate a city as a successor unless the city contains 70 percent or more of the area of land within one of the districts subject to the proposal, or the combined territory of two or more of the districts subject to the proposal, within its boundaries, and 70 percent or more of the number of registered voters of the district or the combined districts who reside within the boundaries of the city.

(2) The public services costs of the proposal that the commission is authorizing are likely to be less than or substantially similar to the costs of alternative means of providing the service.

(3) The proposal that the commission is approving promotes public access and accountability for community services needs and financial resources.

**With or without reorganization committee**

**56827**. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), upon the presentation of any petition or applications making a proposal for a reorganization, the commission may take proceedings pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 56650) without referring the proposal to a reorganization committee, as provided in this part.

(b) The commission may refer to a reorganization committee any incorporation proposal that includes, or may be modified to include, any of the following changes of organization affecting an independent special district: consolidation, dissolution, formation, merger, or establishment of a subsidiary district.

(c) If the commission has initiated a change of organization or reorganization that affects more than one special district, the commission may, and is encouraged to, utilize a reorganization committee to review the proposal.

**Hearing on disapproval or referral to committee**

**56828**. Before any proposal for reorganization is referred to any reorganization committee, the commission may provide for a public hearing on the question of whether the proposal should be disapproved or referred to a reorganization committee and set a time and place for that hearing.

**Notice of hearing on disapproval or referral; publication and posting**

**56829**. The executive officer shall give notice of that hearing by publication, as provided in Sections 56153 and 56154, and by posting, as provided in Sections 56158 and 56159.

**Notice of hearing on disapproval or referral; mailed notice**

**56830**. The executive officer shall also give mailed notice of any hearing, as provided in Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive, by mailing notice of hearing to all of the following persons and entities:

(a) Each affected city and affected district.

(b) The chief petitioners, if any.

(c) Each person who has filed a written request for special notice with the executive officer.

**Hearing; time and place; disapproval or referral to committee**

**56831**. The hearing shall be held by the commission on the date and at the time and place specified in the notice. After the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall adopt a resolution doing either of the following:

(a) Disapproving the proposal of reorganization.

(b) Ordering the proposal referred to a reorganization committee for study, report, and recommendation.

**Contributions; facilities for use of committee**

**56832**. The commission may accept contributions from any source for the purpose of paying the expenses of a reorganization committee in the conduct of its study, report, and recommendation. Any affected county, affected city, or affected district may make contributions for that purpose. The commission and any affected county, affected city, or affected district may make any of its facilities available for the use of a reorganization committee and may authorize any of its officers and employees to furnish advice, assistance, or services to the committee.

**Resolution contents; proposal referred to committee**

**56833**. Any resolution adopted by the commission ordering a proposal of reorganization referred to a reorganization committee shall do all of the following:

(a) Describe the proposed reorganization and designate the subject districts (the description and designation may be by reference to the proposal).

(b) Specify the maximum number of members, not to exceed three, to represent each subject district on the committee.

(c) Fix a time and place for the first meeting of the reorganization committee.

(d) Designate a date, not less than 60 days from the date of the first meeting of the committee, for the completion and submission to the commission of the report and recommendation of the committee.

**Commission's powers during study by reorganization committee**

**56834**. From time to time during the course of study upon a proposed plan of reorganization, the commission may do any of the following:

(a) Extend the time for completion and submission of the report and recommendation of a reorganization committee.

(b) Change the scope of the study by the addition or deletion of territory or subject districts, except that the authority granted to a commission under this subdivision shall not apply to a change of organization or reorganization as described in subdivision (a) of Section 56853.

(c) Authorize the committee to develop, study, report, and make recommendations upon alternative plans of reorganization.

**Mailing copies of commission's resolution; time**

**56835**. At least 15 days before the date of the first meeting of a reorganization committee, the executive officer shall mail a copy of the resolution adopted by the commission to each subject district designated in the resolution.

**Reorganization committee; eligibility for membership**

**56836**. Any person, including, but not limited to, a member of the legislative body of a subject district and an officer or employee of the district, may be appointed as a member to represent the district upon a reorganization committee.

**Reorganization committee; appointment removals; vacancies**

**56837**. (a) The legislative body of each affected district shall appoint one or more members, not to exceed the maximum number specified by the commission, to represent the district on the reorganization committee. That legislative body may remove and replace any member previously appointed by it, and may fill any vacancy in its membership upon the committee.

(b) In the case of a reorganization committee created pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56827, the county board of supervisors shall appoint one or more members, not to exceed the maximum number specified by the commission, to represent the county on the reorganization committee. The county board of supervisors may appoint any person, including, but not limited to, an officer or employee of the county to represent the county on the reorganization committee. The county board of supervisors may remove and replace any member previously appointed by it, and may fill any vacancy in its membership on the committee.

(c) In the case of a reorganization committee created pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56827, the commission shall appoint one or more members to represent the general public on the reorganization committee. The number of members appointed to represent the general public shall not exceed the maximum number specified by the commission to represent the county or each subject district. A member appointed pursuant to this subdivision shall not be an officer or employee of any local agency. The commission may remove and replace any member previously appointed by it, and may fill any vacancy in its membership on the committee.

**Reorganization committee; notice of appointments and removals**

**56838**. The clerk of a subject district shall give immediate notice to the executive officer of all appointments and removals made by the legislative body to a reorganization committee.

**Reorganization committee; appointments by commission**

**56839**. At any time after the date fixed for the first meeting of a reorganization committee or during the course of the study by the committee, if the legislative body of any subject district, after written request by the executive officer, does not appoint any members to the committee, those members may be appointed by the commission.

**Reorganization committee; change in scope of study; change in personnel**

**56840**. If, during the course of study upon a proposed plan of reorganization, the commission authorizes a change in the scope of the study, the membership of the reorganization committee shall be immediately changed to exclude representatives of each district or city for which a change of organization is no longer proposed and to include representatives of each district or city for which a new change of organization is proposed.

**Reorganization committee; officers; standards and procedures; meetings**

**56841**. Subject to any standards and procedures adopted by regulation by the commission, a reorganization committee shall provide for the selection of a presiding officer and secretary either of whom may but are not required to be members of the committee, adopt the standards and procedures which it deems advisable, fix the time and place for meetings of the committee, and determine the manner and method to be followed by the committee in its study, report, and recommendation.

**Reorganization committee; quorum; voting rights**

**56842**. A quorum shall be deemed to be present at a meeting of a reorganization committee if members representing one-half or more of the subject districts are present. Each subject district shall be entitled to one vote at any reorganization committee meeting, which vote shall be determined by a majority of the members of the district present at the meeting.

**Reorganization committee; disagreement or failure to report; discharge or appointment of public members**

**56843**. If a reorganization committee does not complete and submit its report and recommendation before the date specified by the commission or, prior to that date, if members of the committee representing one-half or more of the subject districts report to the commission that the committee is unable to agree upon the report and recommendation, the commission may either order the discharge of the committee, or appoint additional members to the committee, not to exceed the maximum number authorized for a single subject district, to represent the public and order the committee, as so enlarged, to continue its study.

**Commission's study, report, and recommendation in place of that of discharged reorganization committee**

**56844**. If the commission orders the discharge of a reorganization committee, the commission may make a study, report, and recommendation upon a plan of reorganization in the place of the reorganization committee.

**Reorganization committee; rights of additional public members**

**56845**. If the commission appoints additional members to the reorganization committee to represent the public and orders the reorganization committee, as so enlarged, to continue its study, the additional members shall have all of the rights and powers of members representing a single subject district, including participation in all studies, reports, and recommendations, attendance at all meetings, and the casting of a single vote on behalf of all of the additional members on any matter before the committee.

**Reorganization committee; cooperation of officers of affected county, city, or district**

**56846**. Every officer of any affected county, affected city, or affected district shall make available to a reorganization committee any records, reports, maps, data, or other documents which in any way affect or pertain to the committee's study, report, and recommendation and shall confer with the committee

concerning the problems and affairs of that county, city, or district.

**Reorganization committee; report and recommendation**

**56847**. Upon completion of the study of a reorganization committee, the committee shall prepare and submit to the commission a report and recommendation containing all of the following:

(a) A brief summary of the nature and extent of the study of the committee.

(b) A full and complete description of the plan of reorganization and any alternative plans of reorganization which were studied by the committee.

(c) The recommendation of the committee for the approval or disapproval of all or any part of the plan of reorganization and of any alternative plans of reorganization.

**Reorganization committee; approval of report and recommendation; vote required**

**56848**. Approval by a reorganization committee of the report and recommendation shall require the affirmative vote of more than one-half of the subject districts represented on the reorganization committee.

**Reorganization committee; filing report and recommendation; termination; reconvening committee; purposes**

**56849**. The reorganization committee shall file the original of its report and recommendation with the executive officer and a copy of the report and recommendation with the clerk of each subject district. Upon filing that report and recommendation with the executive officer, the reorganization committee shall be terminated. However, the commission may cause the committee to be reconvened at any time for the sole purpose of correcting or clarifying any error, omission, or uncertainty appearing in the report and recommendation, as determined by the commission.

**Consolidation or reorganization; similar resolutions**

**56853**. (a) If a majority of the members of each of the legislative bodies of two or more local agencies adopt substantially similar resolutions of application making proposals either for the consolidation of districts or for the reorganization of all or any part of the districts into a single local agency, the commission shall approve, or conditionally approve, the proposal.

(b) Except as provided in subdivision (c), a commission may order any material change in the provisions or the terms and conditions of the consolidation or reorganization, as set forth in the proposals of the local agencies. The commission shall direct the executive officer to give each subject agency mailed notice of any change prior to ordering a change. The commission shall not, without the written consent of all subject agencies, take any further action on the consolidation or reorganization for 30 days following that mailing. Upon written demand by any subject agency, filed with the executive officer during that 30-day period, the commission shall make determinations upon the proposals

only after notice and hearing on the proposals. If no written demand is filed, the commission may make those determinations without notice and hearing. The application of any provision of this subdivision may be waived by consent of all of the subject agencies.

(c) The commission shall not order a material change in the provisions of a consolidation or reorganization, as set forth in the proposals of the local agencies pursuant to subdivision (a), that would add or delete districts without the written consent of the applicant local agencies.

**Expedited reorganization; commission approval**

**56853.5** (a) In the case of an expedited reorganization, notwithstanding any provision of this division or the Community Services District Law (Division 3 (commencing with Section 61000) of Title 6), unless the governing body of the subject agency files a resolution of objection with the commission before the close of the hearing held pursuant to Section 56666, the commission may approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve, the expedited reorganization. If the commission approves or conditionally approves the expedited reorganization, the commission shall order the expedited reorganization without an election.

**Subject agency; resolution of objection**

(b) If the governing body of the subject agency files a resolution of objection with the commission before the close of the hearing held pursuant to Section 56666, the commission shall disapprove the proposed expedited reorganization.

(c) The commission may order any material change to the terms and conditions of the expedited reorganization set forth in the proposal. The commission shall direct the executive officer to give the subject agency mailed notice of any change prior to ordering a change. The commission shall not, without the written consent of the subject agency, take any further action on the expedited reorganization for 30 days following that mailing.

**Proposal contents; expedited reorganization**

(d) A proposal for an expedited reorganization shall include proposed terms and conditions that shall include at least all of the following:

(1) The proposed community services district is declared to be, and shall be deemed a community services district as if the district had been formed pursuant to the Community Services District Law (Division 3 (commencing with Section 61000) of Title 6). The exterior boundary and sphere of influence of the proposed community services district shall be the exterior boundary and sphere of influence of the district proposed to be dissolved.

(2) The proposed community services district succeeds to, and is vested with, the same powers, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of the district proposed to be dissolved.

(3) The status, position, and rights of any officer or employee of the district proposed to be dissolved shall not be affected by the transfer and shall be retained by the person as an officer or employee of the proposed community services district.

(4) The proposed community services district shall have ownership, possession, and control of all books, records, papers, offices, equipment, supplies, moneys, funds, appropriations, licenses, permits, entitlements, agreements, contracts, claims, judgments, land, and other assets and property, real or personal, owned or leased by, connected with the administration of, or held for the benefit or use of, the district proposed to be dissolved.

(5) The unexpended balance as of the effective date of the expedited reorganization of any funds available for use by the district proposed to be dissolved shall be available for use by the proposed community services district.

(6) No payment for the use, or right of use, of any property, real or personal, acquired or constructed by the district proposed to be dissolved shall be required by reason of the succession pursuant to the expedited reorganization, nor shall any payment for the proposed community services district's acquisition of the powers, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction be required by reason of that succession.

(7) All ordinances, rules, and regulations adopted by the district proposed to be dissolved in effect immediately preceding the effective date of the expedited reorganization, shall remain in effect and shall be fully enforceable unless amended or repealed by the proposed community services district, or until they expire by their own terms. Any statute, law, rule, or regulation in force as of the effective date of the expedited reorganization, or that may be enacted or adopted with reference to the district proposed to be dissolved shall mean the proposed community services district.

(8) All allocations of shares of property tax revenue pursuant to Part 0.5 (commencing with Section 50) of the Revenue and Taxation Code, special taxes, benefit assessments, fees, charges, or any other impositions of the district proposed to be dissolved shall remain in effect unless amended or repealed by the proposed community services district, or they expire by their own terms.

(9) The appropriations limit established pursuant to Division 9 (commencing with Section 7900) of Title 1 of the district proposed to be dissolved shall be the appropriations limit of the proposed community services district.

(10) Any action by or against the district proposed to be dissolved shall not abate, but shall continue in the name of the proposed community services district, and the proposed community services district shall be substituted for the district proposed to be dissolved by the court in which the action is pending. The substitution shall not in any way affect the rights of the parties to the action.

(11) No contract, lease, license, permit, entitlement, bond, or any other agreement to which the district proposed to be dissolved is a party shall be void or voidable by reason of the enactment of the expedited reorganization, but shall continue in effect, with the proposed community services district assuming all of the rights, obligations, liabilities, and duties of the district proposed to be dissolved.

(12) Any obligations, including, but not limited to, bonds and other indebtedness, of the district proposed to be dissolved shall be the obligations of the proposed community services district. Any continuing obligations or responsibilities of the district proposed to be dissolved for managing and maintaining bond issuances shall be transferred to the proposed community services district without impairment to any security contained in the bond instrument.

(e) If a board of supervisors is the governing body of a resort improvement district pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 13000) of Division 11 of the Public Resources Code, then, notwithstanding paragraph (3) of subdivision (d), the proposed terms and conditions may provide for the election of an initial board of directors of a community services district pursuant to Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 61020) of Part 2 of Division 3 of Title 6.

(f) As used in this section, "expedited reorganization" means a reorganization that consists solely of the formation of a community services district and the dissolution of any of the following:

(1) A resort improvement district formed pursuant to the Resort Improvement District Law, Division 11 (commencing with Section 13000) of the Public Resources Code.

(2) The Montalvo Municipal Improvement District formed pursuant to Chapter 549 of the Statutes of 1955.

(3) The Bethel Island Municipal Improvement District formed pursuant to Chapter 22 of the Statutes of 1960.

(4) The Embarcadero Municipal Improvement District formed pursuant to Chapter 81 of the Statutes of 1960.

(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2018, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later statute which is enacted before January 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date.

**Accelerated reorganization; Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District**

**56853.6** (a) In the case of an accelerated reorganization, notwithstanding any provision of this division or the Recreation and Park District Law (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 5780) of Division 5 of the Public Resources Code), unless the governing body of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District files a resolution of objection with the El Dorado County Local Agency Formation Commission before the close of the hearing held pursuant to Section 56666, the commission may

approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve, the accelerated reorganization. If the commission approves or conditionally approves the accelerated reorganization, the commission shall order the accelerated reorganization without an election.

**Resolution of objection**

(b) If the governing body of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District files a resolution of objection with the commission before the close of the hearing held pursuant to Section 56666, the commission shall disapprove the proposed accelerated reorganization.

(c) The commission may order any material change to the terms and conditions of the accelerated reorganization set forth in the proposal. The commission shall direct the executive officer to give the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District mailed notice of any change prior to ordering a change. The commission shall not, without the written consent of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District, take any further action on the accelerated reorganization for 30 days following that mailing.

**Proposal contents; accelerated reorganization**

(d) A proposal for an accelerated reorganization shall include proposed terms and conditions that shall include, but are not limited to, all of the following:

(1) The proposed recreation and park district is declared to be, and shall be deemed, a recreation and park district as if the district had been formed pursuant to the Recreation and Park District Law (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 5780) of Division 5 of the Public Resources Code). The exterior boundary and sphere of influence of the proposed recreation and park district shall be the exterior boundary and sphere of influence of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District.

(2) The proposed recreation and park district succeeds to, and is vested with, the same powers, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District.

(3) The status, position, and rights of any officer or employee of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall not be affected by the transfer and shall be retained by the person as an officer or employee of the proposed recreation and park district.

(4) The proposed recreation and park district shall have ownership, possession, and control of all books, records, papers, offices, equipment, supplies, moneys, funds, appropriations, licenses, permits, entitlements, agreements, contracts, claims, judgments, land, and other assets and property, real or personal, owned or leased by, connected with the administration of, or held for the benefit or use of, the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District.

(5) The unexpended balance as of the effective date of the accelerated reorganization of any funds available for use by the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall be available for use by the proposed recreation and park district.

(6) No payment for the use, or right of use, of any property, real or personal, acquired or constructed by the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall be required by reason of the succession pursuant to the accelerated reorganization, nor shall any payment for the proposed recreation and park district's acquisition of the powers, duties, responsibilities, obligations, liabilities, and jurisdiction be required by reason of that succession.

(7) All ordinances, rules, and regulations adopted by the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District in effect immediately preceding the effective date of the accelerated reorganization shall remain in effect and shall be fully enforceable unless amended or repealed by the proposed recreation and park district, or until they expire by their own terms. Any statute, law, rule, or regulation in force as of the effective date of the accelerated reorganization, or that may be enacted or adopted with reference to the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall mean the proposed recreation and park district.

(8) All allocations of shares of property tax revenue pursuant to Part 0.5 (commencing with Section 50) of the Revenue and Taxation Code, special taxes, benefit assessments, fees, charges, or any other impositions of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall remain in effect unless amended or repealed by the proposed recreation and park district, or they expire by their own terms.

(9) The appropriations limit established pursuant to Division 9 (commencing with Section 7900) of Title 1 for the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall be the appropriations limit of the proposed recreation and park district.

(10) Any action by or against the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall not abate, but shall continue in the name of the proposed recreation and park district, and the proposed recreation and park district shall be substituted for the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District by the court in which the action is pending. The substitution shall not in any way affect the rights of the parties to the action.

(11) No contract, lease, license, permit, entitlement, bond, or any other agreement to which the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District is a party shall be void or voidable by reason of the enactment of the accelerated reorganization, but shall continue in effect, with the proposed recreation and park district assuming all of the rights, obligations, liabilities, and duties of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District.

(12) Any obligations, including, but not limited to, bonds and other indebtedness, of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District shall be the obligations of the proposed recreation and park district. Any continuing obligations or responsibilities of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District for managing and maintaining bond issuances shall be transferred to the proposed

recreation and park district without impairment to any security contained in the bond instrument.

(e) As used in this section, "accelerated reorganization" means a reorganization that consists solely of the dissolution of the Tahoe Paradise Resort Improvement District and the formation of a recreation and park district.

(f) This section shall remain in effect only until January 2, 2018, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2018, deletes or extends that date.

**56854.** [Repealed by Stats. 2012, Ch. 62]

**Annexation to fire protection district; contracts with city**

**56855**. (a) This section shall apply to any proposal which contains the annexation of territory to a fire protection district which is organized pursuant to the Fire Protection District Law of 1987, Part 3 (commencing with Section 13800) of Division 12 of the Health and Safety Code, and the affected territory is or is proposed to be all or part of a city which is within the fire protection district.

(b) Prior to the adoption by the local agency formation commission of a resolution making determinations, the district may request and the commission shall impose, as a term and condition, a requirement that the legislative body of the city shall enter into a contract with the district. The contract shall require:

(1) That the affected territory shall remain part of the district for a period of at least 10 years.

(2) That the city shall pay the cost of services provided by the district. This payment shall be in amounts and on terms specified in the contract.

(3) Any other conditions to which the city and the district mutually agree.

**Farmland security zones; restrictions for district annexations**

**56856**. (a) The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve a change of organization or reorganization that would result in the annexation to a special district of territory that is within a farmland security zone created pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Division 1 if that special district provides or would provide facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or streets and roads, unless the facilities or services benefit land uses that are allowed under the farmland security zone contract and the landowner consents to the change of organization or reorganization.

**Exclusion**

(b) This section shall not apply during the three-year period preceding the termination of a farmland security zone contract under Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Division 1.

**Change of organization or reorganization; land subject to Williamson Act**

**56856.5**. (a) The commission shall not approve or conditionally approve a change of organization or reorganization that would result in the annexation to a city or special district of territory that is subject to a contract entered into pursuant to the California Land Conservation Act of 1965 (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Part 1 of Division 1), other than a contract entered into pursuant to Article 7 (commencing with Section 51296) of Chapter 7 of Part 1 of Division 1, if that city or special district provides or would provide facilities or services related to sewers, nonagricultural water, or streets and roads to the territory, unless these facilities or services benefit land uses that are allowed under the contract.

(b) This section shall not be construed to preclude the annexation of territory for the purpose of using other facilities or services provided by the agency that benefit land uses allowable under the contract.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the commission may nevertheless approve a change of organization or reorganization if it finds any of the following:

(1) The city or county that would administer the contract after annexation has adopted policies and feasible implementation measures applicable to the subject territory ensuring the continuation of agricultural use and other uses allowable under the contract on a long-term basis.

(2) The change of organization or reorganization encourages and provides planned, well-ordered, and efficient urban development patterns that include appropriate consideration of the preservation of open-space lands within those urban development patterns.

(3) The change of organization or reorganization is necessary to provide services to planned, well-ordered, and efficient urban development patterns that include appropriate consideration of the preservation of open-space lands within those urban development patterns.

(d) This section shall not apply to territory subject to a contract for which either of the following applies:

(1) A notice of nonrenewal has been served pursuant to Section 51245, if the annexing agency agrees that no services will actually be provided by it for use during the remaining life of the contract for land uses or activities not allowed under the contract.

(2) A tentative cancellation has been approved pursuant to Section 51282.

**District annexation**

**56857**. (a) Upon receipt by the commission of a proposed change of organization or reorganization that includes the annexation of territory to any district, if the proposal is not filed by the district to which annexation of territory is proposed, the executive officer shall place the proposal on the agenda for the next commission

meeting for information purposes only and shall transmit a copy of the proposal to any district to which an annexation of territory is requested.

**Termination**

(b) No later than 60 days after the date that the proposal is on the commission's meeting agenda in accordance with subdivision (a), any district to which annexation of territory is proposed may adopt and transmit to the commission a resolution requesting termination of the proceedings. The resolution requesting termination of the proceedings shall be based upon written findings supported by substantial evidence in the record that the request is justified by a financial or service related concern **or because the territory is already receiving electrical service under a service area agreement approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 9608 of the Public Utilities Code**. Prior to the commission's termination of proceedings pursuant to subdivision (c), the resolution is subject to judicial review.

(c) If any district to which annexation of territory is proposed has adopted and transmitted to the commission a resolution requesting termination of proceedings within the time period prescribed by, and in accordance with, subdivision (b), and if the commission has not been served with notice that judicial review of that resolution is being sought pursuant to subdivision (b), then the commission shall terminate the proceedings no sooner than 30 days from receipt of the resolution from the district.

(d) For purposes of an annexation to a district pursuant to this section or Section 56668.3:

**Financial concerns**

(1) "Financial concerns" means that the proposed uses within the territory proposed to be annexed do not have the capacity to provide sufficient taxes, fees, and charges, including connection fees, if any, to pay for the full cost of providing services, including capital costs. Cost allocation shall be based on generally accepted accounting principles and shall be subject to all constitutional and statutory limitations on the amount of the tax, fee, or charge.

**Service concerns**

(2) "Service concerns" means that a district will not have the ability to provide the services that are the subject of the application to the territory proposed to be annexed without imposing level of service reductions on existing and planned future uses in the district's current service area. "Service concerns" does not include a situation when a district has the ability to provide the services or the services will be available prior to the time that services will be required.

**Territory already receiving electrical service under a service area agreement approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 9608 of the Public Utilities Code**

**(3) "Territory already receiving electrical service under a service area agreement approved by the Public Utilities Commission pursuant to Section 9608 of the Public Utilities Code" means territory that is outside the boundaries of an irrigation district but is currently receiving electrical services from the irrigation district pursuant to a service area agreement between the district and a public utility approved**

**by the Public Utilities Commission as authorized by Sections 8101 to 8108, inclusive, and 9608 of the Public Utilities Code.**

***__(4)__ A district may make findings regarding financial or service concerns based on information provided in the application and any additional information provided to the district by the commission or the applicant that is relevant to determining the adequacy of existing and planned future services to meet the probable future needs of the territory. Findings related to service or financial concerns may be based on an urban water management plan, capital improvement plan, financial statement, comprehensive annual financial report, integrated resource management plan, or other information related to the ability of a district to provide services. **Findings related to existing provision of electrical service by an irrigation district pursuant to a service area agreement approved under Section 9608 of the Public Utilities Code shall be based on the records of the district and the Public Utilities Commission evidencing approval of such a service area agreement by the Public Utilities Commission.**

***__(5)__ Nothing in this section shall be construed to create a right or entitlement to water service or any specific level of water service.

***__(6)__ Nothing in this section is intended to change existing law concerning a district's obligation to provide water service to its existing customers or to any potential future customers.

(e) This section shall not apply if all districts to which annexation of territory is proposed have adopted and transmitted to the commission a resolution supporting the proposed change of organization or reorganization.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 43)**

**Article 3. Formation**

**Formation proceedings per principal act**

**56859**. Proceedings for the formation of a district shall be conducted as authorized in the principal act of the district proposed to be formed and Section 56100.

**By petition**

**56860**. If a proposal for formation of a new district is made by petition, the petition shall comply with the signature requirements and content of a petition for formation of the district as set forth in the principal act under which the new district is proposed to be formed.

**Proposed name for new or consolidated district**

**56860.5**. If a petition is for consolidation of districts or formation of a new district, the petition may propose a name for the new or consolidated district.

**Proposal to form subsidiary district; notice**

**56861**. (a) Within 10 days after receiving a proposal to form a subsidiary district, the executive officer shall notify by certified mail the district or districts which are the subject of the proposal.

(b) Within 35 days after receiving the notice from the executive officer, the board of directors of the subject district or districts may do either of the following:

(1) Adopt a resolution consenting to the subsidiary district proposal, with or without requesting additional terms and conditions.

**Alternative proposal**

(2) Adopt a resolution of intention to file an alternative proposal to the subsidiary district proposal.

(c) Any resolution adopted under paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b) shall immediately be filed with the executive officer.

**Resolution of intention to file alternative proposal**

**56862**. (a) If a district files a resolution of intention to file an alternative proposal pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 56861, the executive officer shall take no further action on the original proposal to form a subsidiary district for a period of 70 days. During this period, the district which has filed a resolution of intention shall prepare and submit a completed application for the alternative proposal in a form similar to the original proposal, as prescribed by the commission.

(b) A district which has filed a resolution of intention to file an alternative proposal but which does not file a completed application within the prescribed time period, shall be deemed to have consented to the original proposal to form a subsidiary district.

(c) After receiving an alternative proposal, the executive officer shall analyze and report on both the original proposal and the alternative proposal concurrently and set both for hearing by the commission in order that both proposals may be considered simultaneously at a single hearing.

(d) "Alternative proposal," as used in this section, means an alternative proposal to a subsidiary district proposal as provided for in Section 56861.

**Determination on proposal and alternative**

**56863**. (a) Within 35 days following the conclusion of a hearing on an original and an alternative proposal to form a subsidiary district, the commission shall adopt its resolution of determination, which shall do one of the following:

(1) Deny both the original proposal and the alternative proposal.

(2) Approve one proposal and deny the other.

(b) "Alternative proposal," as used in this section, means an alternative proposal to a subsidiary district proposal as provided for in Section 56861.

## Article 4. Initiation by Petition

**Annexation or detachment from district; signatures**

**56864**. Petitions for the annexation of territory to, or detachment of territory from, a district shall be signed as follows:

(a) For a registered voter district, by any of the following:

(1) Not less than 25 percent of the registered voters within the affected territory.

(2) Not less than 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory who also own not less than 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(b) For a landowner-voter district, by not less than 25 percent of the number of landowners owning land within the affected territory who also own not less than 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

**Reorganization; signatures**

**56864.1**. (a) A petition for reorganization shall be signed so as to comply with the applicable signature requirements of this article with respect to each of the various changes proposed in the petition.

(b) If a proposal for reorganization includes a proposal for the formation of a new district, the petition shall comply with the signature requirements, if any, of a petition for formation of the district, as set forth in the principal act designated in the petition for formation, and if there are no such requirements, then the requirements of this part pertaining to dissolution.

(c) If a proposal for reorganization includes incorporation, the petition shall comply with the signature requirements for incorporation.

**Two or more changes proposed; signatures**

**56864.3**. If a person is qualified to sign for two or more of the changes of organization proposed by the petition, that person need sign the petition only once and his or her signature shall be counted as if that person had signed and requested each change of organization.

**Consolidation of districts; signatures**

**56865**. Petitions for the consolidation of two or more districts shall be signed as follows:

(a) For registered voter districts, by not less than 5 percent of the registered voters within each of the several districts.

(b) For landowner-voter districts, by landowner-voters within each of the several districts constituting not less than 5 percent of the number of landowner-voters owning land within each of the several districts and who also own not less than 5 percent of the assessed value of land within each of the several districts.

**Merger or subsidiary district of a city; signatures**

**56866**. Petitions for a merger of a district which overlaps a city, or for the establishment of the district as a subsidiary district of the city, shall be signed as follows:

(a) For a registered voter district, by either of the following:

(1) Five percent of the registered voters of the district.

(2) Five percent of the registered voters residing within the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district.

(b) For a landowner-voter district, by either of the following:

(1) Five percent of the number of landowner-voters within the district who also own not less than 5 percent of assessed value of land within the district.

(2) Five percent of the registered voters residing within the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district.

**Dissolution of a district; signatures**

**56870**. Except as otherwise provided in Section 56871, petitions for the dissolution of a district shall be signed as follows:

(a) For registered voter districts, by either of the following:

(1) Not less than 10 percent of the registered voters within the district.

(2) Not less than 10 percent of the number of landowners within the district who also own not less than 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the district.

(b) For landowner-voter districts, by not less than 10 percent of the number of landowner-voters within the district who also own not less than 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the district.

**Dissolution of registered voter or landowner-voter district; signature requirements**

**56871**. A petition for the dissolution of a registered voter district, signed by three or more registered voters within the district or by three or more landowners within a landowner-voter district, shall be deemed to be a sufficient petition, if, in addition to the matters required by Section 56700, the petition recites that the district has been in existence for at least three years and states, on information and belief, that the corporate powers of the district have not been used and that one or more of the following conditions have existed or now exist:

(a) That during the three-year period preceding the date of the first signature upon the petition any of the following events have not occurred:

(1) There has not been a duly selected and acting quorum of the board of directors of the district.

(2) The board of directors has not furnished or provided services or facilities of substantial benefit to residents, landowners, or property within the district.

(3) The board of directors has not levied or fixed and collected any taxes, assessments, service charges, rentals, or rates or expended the proceeds of those levies or collections for district

purposes.

(b) That during the one-year period preceding the date of the first signature upon the petition a quorum of the duly selected and acting board of directors has not met for the purpose of transacting district business.

(c) That, upon the date of the first signature upon the petition, the district had no assets, other than money in the form of cash, investments, or deposits.

**Article 5. Miscellaneous**

**Report of Public Utilities Commission; gas or electric service**

**56875**. If any sufficient petition or resolution of application shall propose, as a part of the petition or resolution of application, that the district shall furnish gas or electric service, as provided in Sections 56129 to 56131, inclusive, a certified copy of the report of the Public Utilities Commission shall be on file with the executive officer prior to setting that petition or resolution for public hearing by the commission.

**Annexation or detachment; election locations; conditions**

**56876**. In any order approving a proposal for an annexation to, or detachment from, a district, the commission may determine that any election called upon the question of confirming an order for the annexation or detachment shall be called, held, and conducted upon that question under either of the following conditions:

(a) Only within the territory ordered to be annexed or detached.

(b) Both within the territory ordered to be annexed or detached and within all or any part of the district which is outside of the territory.

**District annexation**

**56877**. When a change of organization or a reorganization includes the annexation of inhabited territory to a district and the assessed value of land within the territory equals one-half or more of the assessed value of land within the district, or the number of registered voters residing within the territory equals one-half or more of the number of registered voters residing within the district, the commission may determine as a condition of the proposal that the change of organization or reorganization shall also be subject to confirmation by the voters in an election to be called, held, and conducted within the territory of the district to which annexation is proposed.

**Inactive special district list**

**56879. (a) On or before November 1, 2018, and every year thereafter, the Controller shall create a list of special districts that are inactive, as defined in Section 56042, based upon the financial reports received by the Controller pursuant to Section 53891. The Controller shall publish the list of inactive**

**districts on the Controller's Internet Web site. The Controller shall also notify the commission in the county or counties in which the district is located if the Controller has included the district in this list.**

**Inactive special district: dissolution**

**(b) The commission shall initiate dissolution of inactive districts by resolution within 90 days of receiving notification from the Controller pursuant to subdivision (a), unless the commission determines that the district does not meet the criteria set forth in Section 56042. The commission shall notify the Controller if the commission determines that a district does not meet the criteria set forth in Section 56042.**

**(c) The commission shall dissolve inactive districts. The commission shall hold one public hearing on the dissolution of an inactive district pursuant to this section no more than 90 days following the adoption of the resolution initiating dissolution. The dissolution of an inactive district shall not be subject to any of the following:**

**(1) Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 57000) to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 57176), inclusive, of Part 4.**

**(2) Determinations pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 56881.**

**(3) Requirements for commission-initiated changes of organization described in paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 56375.**

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 334)**

**56880. This article shall not apply to a special district formed by special legislation that is required by its enabling statute to obtain funding within a specified period of time or be dissolved. That district shall not be subject to this article during that specified period of time.**

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 334)**

## CHAPTER 6. COMMISSION DECISION

### Article 1. Determinations

**Adoption of resolution**

**56880**. At any time not later than 35 days after the conclusion of the hearing, the commission shall adopt a resolution making determinations approving or disapproving the proposal, with or without conditions, the plan of reorganization, or any alternative plan of reorganization as set forth in the report and recommendation of a reorganization committee. If the commission disapproves the proposal, plan of reorganization, or any alternative plan of reorganization, no further proceedings shall be taken on those proposals or plans.

**Resolution making determinations**

**56881**. The resolution making determinations shall also do all of the following:

**Requirements**

(a) Make any of the findings or determinations authorized or required pursuant to Section 56375.

(b) For any proposal initiated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56375, make both of the following determinations:

(1) Public service costs of a proposal that the commission is authorizing are likely to be less than or substantially similar to the costs of alternative means of providing the service.

(2) A change of organization or reorganization that is authorized by the commission promotes public access and accountability for community services needs and financial resources.

**Short-form designation**

(c) If applicable, assign a distinctive short-term designation to the affected territory and a description of the territory.

**Protest proceedings**

(d) Initiate protest proceedings pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) in compliance with the resolution.

**Mailed copy of resolution making determinations; recipients**

**56882**. The executive officer shall mail a copy of the resolution adopted by the commission making determinations addressed to each of the following persons or entities:

(a) The proponents, if any, where the proceedings for change of organization were initiated by petition.

(b) Each affected local agency whose boundaries would be changed by the proposal.

**Correction of clerical errors or mistakes before completion**

**56883**. The executive officer may, before the completion of a proceeding, on good cause being shown, correct clerical errors or mistakes made through inadvertence, surprise, or excusable neglect that may be contained in the resolution adopted by the commission making determinations, upon written request by any member of the commission, by the executive officer, or by any affected agency. A correction made pursuant to this section shall not be cause for filing a request pursuant to Section 56895.

**Corrections and reconsideration**

**Disapproval of proposals by commission**

**56884**. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), if the commission wholly disapproves any proposal:

(1) No further proceedings shall be taken on that proposal.

**Waiting time for new proposal**

(2) No similar proposal involving the same or substantially the same territory shall be initiated for one year after the date of adoption of the resolution terminating proceedings.

(b) The commission may waive the requirements of subdivision (a) if it finds those requirements are detrimental to the public interest.

## Article 2. Terms and Conditions

**Approval conditions**

**56885**. The commission may, at any time, authorize any legislative body holding a hearing pursuant to this division, to continue the hearing to a date or dates extending beyond the dates specified in this division.

**Conditional approval of change of organization or reorganization**

**56885.5**. (a) In any commission order giving approval to any change of organization or reorganization, the commission may make that approval conditional upon any of the following factors:

(1) Any of the conditions set forth in Section 56886.

(2) The initiation, conduct, or completion of proceedings for another change of organization or a reorganization.

(3) The approval or disapproval, with or without election, as may be provided by this division, of any resolution or ordinance ordering that change of organization or reorganization.

(4) With respect to any commission determination to approve the disincorporation of a city, the dissolution of a district, or the reorganization or consolidation of agencies that results in the dissolution of one or more districts or the disincorporation of one or more cities, a condition that prohibits a district that is being dissolved or a city that is being disincorporated from taking any of the following actions, unless it first finds that either an emergency situation exists as defined in Section 54956.5, or the legislative body of the successor, as designated by the commission has taken action approving one or more of the following actions:

**Prohibition for a district being dissolved or a city being disincorporated**

(A) Approving any increase in compensation or benefits for members of the governing board, its officers, or the executive officer of the agency.

(B) Appropriating, encumbering, expending, or otherwise obligating, any revenue of the agency beyond that provided in the current budget at the time the commission approves the dissolution or disincorporation.

(b) If the commission so conditions its approval, the commission may order that any further action pursuant to this division be continued and held in abeyance for the period of time designated by the commission, not to exceed six months from the date of that conditional approval.

(c) The commission order may also provide that any election called upon any change of organization or reorganization shall be called, held, and conducted before, upon the same date as, or after the date of any election to be called, held, and conducted upon any other change of organization or reorganization.

(d) The commission order may also provide that in any election at which the questions of annexation and district reorganization, or incorporation and district reorganization or, incorporation and district reorganization, or disincorporation and district

reorganization are to be considered at the same time, there shall be a single question appearing on the ballot upon the issues of annexation and district reorganization or incorporation and district reorganization.

**No direct land use regulation**

**56886**. Any change of organization or reorganization may provide for, or be made subject to one or more of, the following terms and conditions. If a change of organization or reorganization is made subject to one or more of the following terms and conditions in the commission's resolution making determinations, the terms and conditions imposed shall prevail in the event of a conflict between a specific term and condition authorized pursuant to this section and any of the general provisions of Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300). However, none of the following terms and conditions shall directly regulate land use, property development, or subdivision requirements:

**Payments**

(a) The payment of a fixed or determinable amount of money, either as a lump sum or in installments, for the acquisition, transfer, use, or right of use of all or any part of the existing property, real or personal, of any city, county, or district.

**Taxes, charges, and assessments**

(b) The levying or fixing and the collection of any of the following, for the purpose of providing for any payment required pursuant to subdivision (a):

(1) Special, extraordinary, or additional taxes or assessments.

(2) Special, extraordinary, or additional service charges, rentals, or rates.

(3) Both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates.

**Bonds, contracts, and other obligations**

(c) The imposition, exemption, transfer, division, or apportionment, as among any affected cities, affected counties, affected districts, and affected territory of liability for payment of all or any part of principal, interest, and any other amounts which shall become due on account of all or any part of any outstanding or then authorized but thereafter issued bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts or obligations of any city, county, district, or any improvement district within a local agency, and the levying or fixing and the collection of any (1) taxes or assessments, or (2) service charges, rentals, or rates, or (3) both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates, in the same manner as provided in the original authorization of the bonds and in the amount necessary to provide for that payment.

(d) If, as a result of any term or condition made pursuant to subdivision (c), the liability of any affected city, affected county, or affected district for payment of the principal of any bonded indebtedness is increased or decreased, the term and condition may specify the amount, if any, of that increase or decrease which shall be included in, or excluded from, the outstanding bonded

indebtedness of that entity for the purpose of the application of any statute or charter provision imposing a limitation upon the principal amount of outstanding bonded indebtedness of the entity.

**Improvement districts** (e) The formation of a new improvement district or districts or the annexation or detachment of territory to, or from, any existing improvement district or districts.

**New indebtedness** (f) The incurring of new indebtedness or liability by, or on behalf of, all or any part of any local agency, including territory being annexed to any local agency, or of any existing or proposed new improvement district within that local agency. The new indebtedness may be the obligation solely of territory to be annexed if the local agency has the authority to establish zones for incurring indebtedness. The indebtedness or liability shall be incurred substantially in accordance with the laws otherwise applicable to the local agency.

**Bonds** (g) The issuance and sale of any bonds, including authorized but unissued bonds of a local agency, either by that local agency or by a local agency designated as the successor to any local agency which is extinguished as a result of any change of organization or reorganization.

**Property** (h) The acquisition, improvement, disposition, sale, transfer, or division of any property, real or personal.

**Funds** (i) The disposition, transfer, or division of any moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected, and any other obligations.

**Water** (j) The fixing and establishment of priorities of use, or right of use, of water, or capacity rights in any public improvements or facilities or any other property, real or personal. However, none of the terms and conditions ordered pursuant to this subdivision shall modify priorities of use, or right of use, to water, or capacity rights in any public improvements or facilities that have been fixed and established by a court or an order of the State Water Resources Control Board.

**Offices, departments, and boards** (k) The establishment, continuation, or termination of any office, department, or board, or the transfer, combining, consolidation, or separation of any offices, departments, or boards, or any of the functions of those offices, departments, or boards, if, and to the extent that, any of those matters is authorized by the principal act.

**Employee benefits and rights** (l) The employment, transfer, or discharge of employees, the continuation, modification, or termination of existing employment contracts, civil service rights, seniority rights, retirement rights, and other employee benefits and rights.

**Successor** (m) The designation of a city, county, or district, as the successor to any local agency that is extinguished as a result of any change of organization or reorganization, for the purpose of succeeding to all of the rights, duties, and obligations of the extinguished local agency with respect to enforcement, performance, or payment of any outstanding bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts

and obligations of the extinguished local agency.

**Designation of legislative body** (n) The designation of (1) the method for the selection of members of the legislative body of a district or (2) the number of those members, or (3) both, where the proceedings are for a consolidation, or a reorganization providing for a consolidation or formation of a new district and the principal act provides for alternative methods of that selection or for varying numbers of those members, or both.

**Other proposals** (o) The initiation, conduct, or completion of proceedings on a proposal made under, and pursuant to, this division.

**Effective date** (p) The fixing of the effective date or dates of any change of organization, subject to the limitations of Section 57202.

**Principal act conditions** (q) Any terms and conditions authorized or required by the principal act with respect to any change of organization.

**Service continuation** (r) The continuation or provision of any service provided at that time, or previously authorized to be provided by an official act of the local agency.

(s) The levying of either of the following:

**Levying charges** (1) Assessments or fees, including the imposition of a fee pursuant to Section 50029 or 66484.3. For the purposes of this section, imposition of a fee as a condition of the issuance of a building permit does not constitute direct regulation of land use, property development, or subdivision requirements.

(2) General or special taxes subject to approval by the voters.

**Continuation of charges** (t) The extension or continuation of any previously authorized charge, fee, assessment, or tax by the local agency or a successor local agency in the affected territory.

**Transfer of authority for charges (Mello-Roos, etc.)** (u) The transfer of authority and responsibility among any affected cities, affected counties, and affected districts for the administration of special tax and special assessment districts, including, but not limited to, the levying and collecting of special taxes and special assessments, including the determination of the annual special tax rate within authorized limits; the management of redemption, reserve, special reserve, and construction funds; the issuance of bonds which are authorized but not yet issued at the time of the transfer, including not yet issued portions or phases of bonds which are authorized; supervision of construction paid for with bond or special tax or assessment proceeds; administration of agreements to acquire public facilities and reimburse advances made to the district; and all other rights and responsibilities with respect to the levies, bonds, funds, and use of proceeds that would have applied to the local agency that created the special tax or special assessment district.

**Any other matter** (v) Any other matters necessary or incidental to any of the terms and conditions specified in this section. If a change of organization, reorganization, or special reorganization provides for, or is made subject to one or more of, the terms and conditions

specified in this section, those terms and conditions shall be deemed to be the exclusive terms and conditions for the change of organization, reorganization, or special reorganization, and shall control over any general provisions of Part 5 (commencing with Section 57300).

**Public utilities**

**56886.1**. When applicable, the terms and conditions of any change of organization or reorganization shall provide public utilities, as defined in Section 216 of the Public Utilities Code, 90 days following the recording of the certificate of completion to make the necessary changes to impacted utility customer accounts.

**Improvement districts; exclusion of land**

**56886.3**. If the terms and conditions of any change of organization provide for the formation of a new improvement district, or the annexation or detachment of territory to, or from, an existing improvement district, the commission shall do all of the following:

(a) Exclude any lands proposed to be formed into, or to be annexed to, the improvement district which the commission finds will not be benefited by becoming a part of the improvement district.

(b) Exclude any lands proposed to be detached from an improvement district which the commission finds will be benefited by remaining a part of the improvement district.

**Formation of new government; alternative existing agencies**

**56886.5**. (a) If a proposal includes the formation of a district or the incorporation of a city, the commission shall determine whether existing agencies can feasibly provide the needed service or services in a more efficient and accountable manner. If a new single-purpose local agency is deemed necessary, the commission shall consider reorganization with other single-purpose local agencies that provide related services.

(b) If a proposal includes the consolidation of two or more special districts not formed pursuant to the same principal act, the commission shall determine whether any service provided at that time could be discontinued due to a lack of authority under the principal act of the successor. If a new single-purpose local agency is deemed necessary to provide the needed service or services, the commission shall consider the formation of a new district that is authorized to provide the service or services.

**Limitation on conditions requiring service outside of sphere of influence**

**56886.6**. The commission shall not impose a condition for the provision of services by the annexing city to an area which has not been placed within that city's adopted sphere of influence, as defined in Section 56076, unless that condition would mitigate effects which are a direct result of the annexation.

In the case of any annexation proposal for which a certificate of completion was not recorded prior to January 1, 1985, a condition imposed thereon which does not comply with the requirements of this section is null and void and shall not affect the validity of or terminate the annexation proceedings.

**Limitations on conditions for road maintenance or public facility improvements**

**56886.7**. (a) The commission shall not impose any condition on an annexing local agency with respect to the standards or frequency of maintenance of any existing street or road within the annexed territory.

(b) The commission shall not impose a condition which requires a local agency to improve an existing public facility which is not owned by the agency.

(c) This section shall not be construed as authorizing a commission to impose any conditions which it is not otherwise authorized to impose.

**Local coastal program; amendments**

**56887**. Any change of organization or reorganization may be conditionally approved by a local agency formation commission subject to the certification by the California Coastal Commission of an amendment to the local coastal program of a city or a county.

**Application of terms and conditions to city or county; exception for indebtedness or liability**

**56887.5**. If any change of organization or reorganization pertains to city or district territory which is located, in whole or in part, within the boundaries of any city or county, any terms and conditions authorized by Section 56886 may be made applicable to that city or county. However, no indebtedness or liability which is subject to the requirement of an election, under the provisions of Section 18 of Article XVI of the California Constitution, shall be incurred or assumed by any city or county, except as provided in Section 18 of Article XVI of the California Constitution.

**Application of terms and conditions to districts within local agency**

**56890**. Any of the terms and conditions authorized by Section 56886 may be made applicable to all or any part of any city or district or any improvement district within that local agency or any territory annexed to, or detached from, any city or district or improvement district within that local agency.

### Article 3. Reconsideration

**Written requests for amendment or reconsideration of resolutions**

**56895**. (a) When a commission has adopted a resolution making determinations, any person or affected agency may file a written request with the executive officer requesting amendments to or reconsideration of the resolution. The request shall state the specific modification to the resolution being requested and shall state what new or different facts that could not have been presented previously are claimed to warrant the reconsideration. If

the request is filed by a school district that received notification pursuant to Section 56658, the commission shall consider that request at a public hearing.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 56106, the deadlines set by this section are mandatory. The person or agency shall file the written request within 30 days of the adoption of the initial or superseding resolution by the commission making determinations. If no person or agency files a timely request, the commission shall not take any action pursuant to this section.

(c) Upon receipt of a timely request, the executive officer shall not take any further action until the commission acts on the request.

**Time tolled**

(d) Upon receipt of a timely request by the executive officer, the time to file any action, including, but not limited to, an action pursuant to Section 21167 of the Public Resources Code and any provisions of Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000) governing the time within which the commission is to act shall be tolled for the time that the commission takes to act on the request.

**Next agenda**

(e) The executive officer shall place the request on the agenda of the next meeting of the commission for which notice can be given pursuant to this subdivision. The executive officer shall give notice of the consideration of the request by the commission in the same manner as for the original proposal. The executive officer may give notice in any other manner as he or she deems necessary or desirable.

**Withdrawal**

(f) At that meeting, the commission shall consider the request and receive any oral or written testimony. The consideration may be continued from time to time but not to exceed 35 days from the date specified in the notice. The person or agency that filed the request may withdraw it at any time prior to the conclusion of the consideration by the commission.

(g) At the conclusion of its consideration, the commission may approve with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, or disapprove the request. If the commission disapproves the request, it shall not adopt a new resolution making determinations. If the commission approves the request, with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, the commission shall adopt a resolution making determinations that shall supersede the resolution previously issued.

**Final action**

(h) The determinations of the commission shall be final and conclusive. No person or agency shall make any further request for the same change or a substantially similar change, as determined by the commission.

**Changes to resolution; further proceedings**

(i) Notwithstanding subdivision (h), clerical errors or mistakes may be corrected pursuant to Section 56883.

### Article 4. Amendment

**56897**. If pursuant to Section 56895, the commission approves any addition, deletion, amendment, or revision of its resolution making determinations, further proceedings for the change of organization or reorganization shall be taken in compliance with that addition, deletion, amendment, or revision. Any provision of this division requiring compliance with the resolution adopted by the commission making determinations shall be deemed to include any addition, deletion, amendment, or revision made to that resolution.

**Commission review of impartial analysis of ballot proposition; approval procedure**

**56898**. Whenever the executive officer is required by law to prepare an impartial analysis of a ballot proposition for approval by the commission, the commission may, by regulation, provide a procedure for approval or modification of the executive officer's analysis.

In any event, the analysis shall be prepared and submitted to the commission in sufficient time for the commission to consider and approve or modify the analysis, and submit the analysis to the officials conducting the election not later than the last day for submission of rebuttal arguments. The impartial analysis submitted by the commission shall not exceed 500 words in length and shall include a general description of the affected territory.

## PART 4. CONDUCTING AUTHORITY PROCEEDINGS FOR CHANGES OF ORGANIZATION OR REORGANIZATION

### CHAPTER 1. GENERAL

**Protest proceedings**

**57000**. (a) After adoption of a resolution making determinations by the commission pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 56650), protest proceedings for a change of organization or reorganization not described in Section 57077 shall be taken pursuant to this part.

**By commission**

(b) If a proposal is approved by the commission, with or without amendment, wholly, partially, or conditionally, the commission shall conduct proceedings in accordance with this part. The proceedings shall be conducted and completed pursuant to those provisions that are applicable to the proposal and the territory contained in the proposal as it is approved by the commission. If the commission approves the proposal with modifications or conditions, proceedings shall be conducted and completed in compliance with those modifications or conditions.

**Delegation of executive officer**

(c) Any reference in this part to the commission also means the executive officer for any function that the executive officer will perform pursuant to a delegation of authority from the commission.

**Election by city or county**

(d) When the commission makes a determination pursuant to this division that will require an election to be conducted, it shall inform the board of supervisors and the elections official of the affected county, or the city council and the elections official of the affected city of that determination and request the board or the city council to direct the elections official to conduct the necessary election.

**45 days**

**Requirements**

(e)(1) When a board of supervisors or a city council is informed by the commission that a determination has been made that requires an election, it shall, within 45 days of receipt of the notification, direct the elections official to conduct the necessary election. The board or council shall do all of the following:

(A) Call, provide for, and give notice of a special election or elections upon that question.

(B) Fix a date of election.

(C) Direct the elections official to designate precincts and polling places and to take any other action necessary to call, provide for, and give notice of the special election or elections and to provide for the conduct and the canvass of returns of the election, as determined by the commission.

**Failure to direct elections official; next established election**

(2) If, within 45 days of receipt of the notification, the board of supervisors or the city council fails to direct the elections official to conduct the election pursuant to paragraph (1), the elections official shall place the item on the ballot at the next established election date occurring at least 88 days after the date of the notification to the elections official

(3) The 45-day requirements established by this subdivision shall not apply to any application filed with a commission prior to January 1, 2011.

(f) Any provision in this part that requires that an election be called, held, provided for, or conducted shall mean that the procedures specified in subdivisions (d) and (e) shall be followed.

**Failure to complete proceedings; extension**

**57001**. If a certificate of completion for a change of organization or reorganization has not been filed within one year after the commission approves a proposal for that proceeding, the proceeding shall be deemed terminated unless prior to the expiration of that year the commission authorizes an extension of time for that completion. The extension may be for any period deemed reasonable to the commission for completion of necessary prerequisite actions by any party. If a proceeding has not been completed because of the order or decree of a court of competent jurisdiction temporarily enjoining or restraining the proceedings,

this shall not be deemed a failure of completion and the one-year period shall be tolled for the time that order or decree is in effect.

**Santa Cruz County exception**

**57001.1**. In the case of a reorganization requested by a city in Santa Cruz County that has adopted a voter approved urban limit line, the time limits specified in Section 57001 shall not apply if the commission's resolution making determinations includes terms and conditions that allow for the completion of the reorganization in two or more segments. The commission may not use the provisions of this section for any reorganization approved or conditionally approved after January 1, 2009.

**Notice and date of hearing**

**57002**. (a) Within 35 days following the adoption of the commission' s resolution making determinations, the executive officer of the commission shall set the proposal for hearing and give notice of that hearing by mailing, publication, and posting, as provided in Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 56150) of Part 1. The hearing shall not be held prior to the expiration of the reconsideration period specified in subdivision (b) of Section 56895. The date of that hearing shall not be less than 21 days, or more than 60 days, after the date the notice is given.

(b) Where the proceeding is for the establishment of a district as a subsidiary district of a city, upon the request of the affected district, the date of the hearing shall be at least 90 days, but no more than 135 days, from the date the notice is given.

**Waiver of protest proceedings**

(c) If authorized by the commission pursuant to Section 56662 or 56663, a change of organization or reorganization may be approved without notice, hearing, and election.

**Conflicting petitions and applications**

**57003**. Once notice is given by the executive officer of the commission pursuant to this chapter, and until proceedings are completed or terminated pursuant to this part, no conflicting petition or resolution of application seeking the change of organization or reorganization of all or part of the territory described by the notice given by the executive officer shall be filed with, or acted on, by the commission.

**Formation proceedings; principal act**

**57007**. Protest proceedings for a district formation shall be conducted by the commission as the conducting authority, and the procedural requirements of this division shall apply and shall prevail in the event of a conflict with the procedural requirements of the principal act of the district proposed to be formed. In the event of a conflict, the commission shall specify the procedural requirements that apply, consistent with the requirements of Section 56100.

**Hearings; location**

**57008**. For any proposal initiated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56375, the commission shall hold a public protest hearing in the affected territory.

**Disclosure of expenditures and contributions**

**57009**. Expenditures for political purposes related to proceedings for a change of organization or reorganization that will be conducted pursuant to this part, and contributions in support of or in opposition to those proceedings, shall be disclosed and reported pursuant to Section 56100.1.

## CHAPTER 2. NOTICE OF HEARING

**Notice of hearing on proposal by publication; posting**

**57025**. (a) The executive officer of the commission shall give notice of the protest hearing to be held on the proposal by publication pursuant to Sections 56153 and 56154 and by posting pursuant to Sections 56158 and 56159.

**Mailed notice**

(b) The executive officer shall give mailed notice to all landowners owning land within any affected territory, consistent with Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive.

(c) If the subject territory is inhabited, the executive officer shall also give mailed notice to all registered voters residing within any affected territory, consistent with Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive.

(d) The executive officer shall also give mailed notice to each affected city, affected district, or affected county, the proponents, if any, and to persons requesting special notice, consistent with Sections 56155 to 56157, inclusive.

(e) In the case of a proposed change of organization or reorganization that would result in the extension of any previously authorized special tax or benefit assessment to the affected territory, the executive officer of the commission shall give mailed notice to each landowner within the affected territory.

**Notice; required contents**

**57026**. The notice required to be given by Section 57025 shall contain all of the following information:

(a) A statement of the distinctive short form designation assigned by the commission to the proposal.

(b) A statement of the manner in which, and by whom, proceedings were initiated. However, a reference to the proponents, if any, shall be sufficient where proceedings were initiated by a petition.

(c) A description of the exterior boundaries of the subject territory.

(d) A description of the particular change or changes of organization proposed for each of the subject districts or cities and new districts or new cities proposed to be formed, and any terms and conditions to be applicable. The description may include a

reference to the commission's resolution making determinations for a full and complete description of the change of organization or reorganization, and the terms and conditions.

(e) A statement of the reason or reasons for the change of organization or reorganization as set forth in the proposal submitted to the commission.

(f) A statement of the time, date, and place of the protest hearing on the proposed change of organization or reorganization.

(g) If the subject territory is inhabited and the change of organization or reorganization provides for the submission of written protests, a statement that any owner of land within the territory, or any registered voter residing within the territory, may file a written protest against the proposal with the executive officer of the commission at any time prior to the conclusion of the hearing by the commission on the proposal.

(h) If the subject territory is uninhabited and the change of organization or reorganization provides for submission of written protests, a statement that any owner of land within the territory may file a written protest against the proposal with the executive officer of the commission at any time prior to the conclusion of the hearing by the commission on the proposal.

## CHAPTER 3. CONDUCT OF HEARING

**Date and time of hearing**

**57050**. (a) The protest hearing on the proposal shall be held by the commission on the date and at the time specified in the notice given by the executive officer. The hearing may be continued from time to time but not to exceed 60 days from the date specified for the hearing in the notice.

**Continuance**

**Summary of resolution; protests, objections and evidence**

(b) At the protest hearing, prior to consideration of protests, the commission's resolution making determinations shall be summarized. At that hearing, the commission shall hear and receive any oral or written protests, objections, or evidence that is made, presented, or filed. Any person who has filed a written protest may withdraw that protest at any time prior to the conclusion of the hearing.

**Written protests; requirements**

**57051**. At any time prior to the conclusion of the protest hearing in the notice given by the executive officer, but not thereafter, any owner of land or any registered voter within inhabited territory that is the subject of a proposed change of organization or reorganization, or any owner of land within uninhabited territory that is the subject of a proposed change of organization or reorganization, may file a written protest against the change of organization or reorganization. Each written protest shall state whether it is made by a landowner or registered voter and shall include the same information that is required in a petition for a

change of organization or reorganization, as specified in Section 56704. Protests may be made on behalf of an owner of land by an agent authorized in writing by the owner to act as agent with respect to that land. Protests may be made on behalf of a private corporation which is an owner of land by any officer or employee of the corporation without written authorization by the corporation to act as agent in making that protest.

Each written protest shall show the date that each signature was affixed to the protest. All signatures without a date or bearing a date prior to the date of publication of the notice shall be disregarded for purposes of ascertaining the value of any written protests.

**Conclusion of hearing; value of written protests filed and not withdrawn**

**57052**. Upon conclusion of the protest hearing, the commission shall determine the value of written protests filed and not withdrawn. The value of written protests shall be determined in the same manner prescribed in Sections 56704, 56707, 56708, and 56710 for determining the sufficiency of petitions filed with the commission.

## CHAPTER 4. RESOLUTION OF CONDUCTING AUTHORITY

**Findings and actions by conducting authority**

**57075**. In the case of registered voter districts or cities, where a change of organization or reorganization consists solely of annexations, detachments, the exercise of new or different functions or class of services or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, or any combination of those proposals, the commission, not more than 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, shall make a finding regarding the value of written protests filed and not withdrawn, and take one of the following actions, except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 57002.

(a) In the case of inhabited territory, take one of the following actions:

(1) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.

(2) Order the change of organization or reorganization subject to confirmation by the registered voters residing within the affected territory if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by either of the following:

(A) At least 25 percent, but less than 50 percent, of the registered voters residing in the affected territory.

(B) At least 25 percent of the number of owners of land who also own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

(3) Order the change of organization or reorganization without an election if paragraphs (1) and (2) of this subdivision do not apply.
(b) In the case of uninhabited territory, take either of the following actions:
(1) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.
(2) Order the change of organization or reorganization if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by owners of land who own less than 50 percent of the total assessed value of land within the affected territory.

**Los Angeles County; written protests; adoption of resolution**

**57075.5**. Notwithstanding Section 57075, if territory proposed to be annexed to a city with more than 100,000 residents is inhabited and is located in a county with a population of over 4,000,000, the commission, not more than 30 days after conclusion of the hearing, shall make a finding regarding the value of written protests filed and not withdrawn and shall take one of the following actions:
(a) Terminate proceedings if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by 50 percent or more of the registered voters residing within the affected territory.
(b) Order the change of organization or regorganization subject to confirmation by the registered voters residing within the affected territory, and request the city council to call a special election and submit to the voters residing within the affected territory the question of whether it shall be annexed to the city, if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by either of the following:.
(1) At least 15 percent of the registered voters residing within the affected territory.
(2) At least 15 percent of the number of owners of land who also own not less than 15 percent of the total assessed value of land within the affected territory.
(c) Order the territory annexed without an election if subdivisions (a) and (b) do not apply. .

**Landowner-voter districts; findings and actions by conducting authority**

**57076**. In the case of landowner-voter districts, where a change of organization or reorganization consists solely of annexations or detachments, the exercise of new or different functions or class of services or the divestiture of the power to provide particular functions or class of services within all or part of the jurisdictional boundaries of a special district, or any combination of those proposals, the commission, not more than 30 days after the conclusion of the hearing, shall make a finding regarding the value of written protests filed and not withdrawn, and take one of the following actions, except as provided in subdivision (b) of Section 57002:

(a) Terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078.

(b) Order the change of organization or reorganization subject to an election within the affected territory if written protests that have been filed and not withdrawn represent either of the following:

(1) Twenty-five percent or more of the number of owners of land who also own 25 percent or more of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(2) Twenty-five percent or more of the voting power of landowner voters entitled to vote as a result of owning property within the territory.

(c) Order the change of organization or reorganization without an election if written protests have been filed and not withdrawn by less than 25 percent of the number of owners of land who own less than 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the affected territory.

**Change of organization – disincorporation or incorporation**

**57077**. If a change of organization consists of an incorporation or disincorporation, or if a reorganization includes an incorporation or disincorporation, the commission shall order the change of organization or reorganization subject to confirmation of the voters. A protest proceeding shall not be conducted.

**Change of organization - dissolution**

**57077.1** (a) If a change of organization consists of a dissolution, the commission shall order the dissolution without confirmation of the voters, except if the proposal meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the dissolution subject to confirmation of the voters.

**Voter approval requirements**

(b) The commission shall order the dissolution subject to the confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, the commission has found that protests meet one of the following protest thresholds:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and that protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(2) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted as follows:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i)At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

(3) If a proposal was initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57113.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivisions (a) and (b) and Sections 57102 and 57103, if a change of organization consists of the dissolution of a district that is consistent with a prior action of the commission pursuant to Section 56378, 56425, or 56430, the commission may do either of the following:

(1) If the dissolution is initiated by the district board, immediately approve and order the dissolution without an election or protest proceedings pursuant to this part.

(2) If the dissolution is initiated by an affected local agency, by the commission pursuant to Section 56375, or by petition pursuant to Section 56650, order the dissolution after holding at least one noticed public hearing, and after conducting protest proceedings in accordance with this part. Notwithstanding any other law, the commission shall terminate proceedings if a majority protest exists in accordance with Section 57078. If a majority protest is not found, the commission shall order the dissolution without an election.

**Change of organization - consolidation**

**57077.2** (a) If the change of organization consists of a consolidation of two or more districts, the commission shall order the consolidation without confirmation by the voters, except that if the proposal meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the consolidation subject to confirmation of the voters.

**Voter approval requirements**

(b) The commission shall order the consolidation subject to the confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the commission has approved a proposal submitted by resolution of a majority of the members of the legislative bodies of two or more local agencies pursuant to section 56853, and the commission has found that protests meet one of the following protest thresholds:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the territory subject to the consolidation who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the territory subject to the consolidation, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(2) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1).

(3) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted as follows:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited, and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

(4) If the commission has approved a proposal initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57113.

**Reorganization**

**57077.3** (a) If a proposal consists of a reorganization not described in Section 57075, 57076, 57077, 57077.4, or 57111, the commission shall order the reorganization without confirmation by the voters except that if the reorganization meets the requirements

of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation of the voters.

**Voter approval requirements**

(b) The commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation of the voters as follows:

(1) If the commission has approved a proposal submitted by resolution of a majority of the members of the legislative bodies of two or more local agencies pursuant to Section 56853, and the commission has found that protests meet one of the following protest thresholds:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited, and that protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(2) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, a written protest has been submitted that meets the requirements specified in subparagraph (A) or (B) of paragraph (1).

(3) If the commission has approved a proposal not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted as follows:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited, and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

(4) If the commission has approved a proposal initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57113.

(c) This section shall not apply to reorganizations governed by Sections 56853.5 and 56853.6.

**Change of organization – dissolution and annexation**

**57077.4** (a) If a reorganization consists of the dissolution of one or more districts and the annexation of all or substantially all the territory to another district not initiated pursuant to Section 56853 or by the commission pursuant to Section 56375, the commission shall order the reorganization without confirmation by the voters except that if the reorganization meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation by the voters.

**Voter approval requirements**

(b) The commission shall order the reorganization subject to confirmation by the voters as follows:

(1) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(A) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(B) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(2) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited, and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

(3) If the reorganization has been initiated by the commission pursuant to Section 56375, protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57113.

**Majority protest; abandonment of proposed changes**

**57078**. In the case of any reorganization or change of organization, a majority protest shall be deemed to exist and the proposed change of organization or reorganization shall be terminated if the commission finds that written protests filed and not withdrawn prior to the conclusion of the hearing represent any of the following:

(a) In the case of uninhabited territory, landowners owning 50 percent or more of the assessed value of the land within the territory.

(b) In the case of inhabited territory, 50 percent or more of the voters residing in the territory.

(c) In the case of a landowner-voter district, 50 percent or more of the voting power of the voters entitled to vote as a result of owning land within the district.

**Annexation of distinct communities**

**57078.5**. If the affected territory with respect to a proposed annexation to a city consists of (a) territories that are not contiguous to one another and (b) two or more distinct communities, as defined in the county general plan, the census unincorporated places listing, or other commonly recognized

community designation, as determined by the commission, and any one community has more than 250 registered voters, any protest filed pursuant to Section 57078 shall be accounted separately for that community, unless the annexation is proposed pursuant to Section 56375.3.

**57080**. [Repealed by Stats. 2013, Ch. 138]

**57081**. [Repealed by Stats. 2012, Ch. 62]

**Merger of subsidiary districts; exemption from Revenue and Taxation Code sections 99 and 99.01**

**57087.3**. The merger of a subsidiary district with a city, of which the city council is also the governing board of that subsidiary district, shall not be subject to Sections 99 and 99.01 of the Revenue and Taxation Code if the city council adopts a resolution that states that the city shall do all of the following:

(a) Continue providing the services of the subsidiary district at the same level to those areas outside the city's boundaries, but within the territory of the subsidiary district, as the services provided for territory within the city limits.

(b) Assume all assets of the subsidiary district.

(c) Assume all liabilities of the subsidiary district.

(d) Assume all ad valorem taxes, other accounts receivable, and other revenues of the subsidiary district.

**Termination of proceedings; new proposal, waiting period**

**57090**. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), if proceedings are terminated, either by majority protest as provided in Sections 57075, 57076, and 57077, or if a majority of voters do not confirm the change of organization or reorganization as provided in Section 57179, no substantially similar proposal for a change of organization or reorganization of the same or substantially the same territory may be filed with the commission within two years after the date of the certificate of termination if the proposal included an incorporation or city consolidation and within one year for any other change of organization or reorganization.

**Waiver of requirements**

(b) The commission may waive the requirements of subdivision (a) if it finds these requirements are detrimental to the public interest.

## CHAPTER 5. RESOLUTION FOR ORDER SUBJECT TO ELECTION

**Contents of resolution**

**57100**. Any commission resolution ordering a change of organization or a reorganization shall contain all of the following:

(a) A statement that the action is being taken pursuant to this division.

**Type**

(b) A statement of the type of change of organization or reorganization being acted on.

**Description**

(c) A description of the exterior boundaries of the territory for each change of organization or reorganization approved by the commission.

**Names**

(d) The name or names of any new or consolidated city or district.

(e) All of the terms and conditions upon the change of organization or reorganization approved by the commission.

**Reasons**

(f) The reasons for the change of organization or reorganization.

**Roll utilized**

(g) A statement as to whether the regular county assessment roll or another assessment roll will be utilized.

**Bond indebtedness**

(h) A statement that the affected territory will or will not be taxed for existing general bonded indebtedness of any agency whose boundaries are changed.

(i) Any other matters that the commission deems material.

**City annexation of Williamson Act land; finding regarding succession**

**57101**. With respect to any proceeding that would result in the annexation to a city of land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), for which the commission has determined pursuant to Section 56754 that the city may exercise its option to not succeed to the contract, the commission shall include within its resolution ordering the annexation of the territory a finding regarding whether the city intends to not succeed to the contract.

**Resolution ordering dissolution; findings**

**57102**. (a) In any resolution ordering a dissolution, the commission shall make findings upon one or more of the following matters:

(1) That the corporate powers have not been used, as specified in Section 56871, and that there is a reasonable probability that those powers will not be used in the future.

(2) That the district is a registered-voter district and is uninhabited.

(3) That the board of directors of the district has, by unanimous resolution, consented to the dissolution of the district.

(4) That the commission has authorized, pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 57077.1, the dissolution of the district without an election.

**Without election**

(b) If the commission makes any of the findings specified in subdivision (a), the commission may, except as otherwise provided in Section 57103, order the dissolution of the district without election.

**Resolution ordering dissolution; hospital districts**

**57103**. Any order in any resolution adopted by the commission on or after January 1, 1986, ordering the dissolution of a local hospital district, organized pursuant to Division 23 (commencing

with Section 32000) of the Health and Safety Code, is subject to confirmation by the voters.

**Merger; all territory within city**

**57104**. Any order of merger may be adopted for a district including any district previously established as a subsidiary district, if the entire territory of the district is included within the boundaries of a city upon the date of the order.

**Subsidiary district; 70% land area and voters within city**

**57105**. An order establishing a district as a subsidiary district may be adopted if upon the date of that order the commission determines that either of the following situations exists:

(a) The entire territory of the district is included within the boundaries of a city.

(b) A portion or portions of the territory of the district are included within the boundaries of a city and that portion or portions meet both of the following requirements:

(1) Represent 70 percent or more of the area of land within the district, as determined by reference to the statements and the maps or plats filed pursuant to Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 54900) of Division 2 of Title 5 for the current fiscal year.

(2) Contain 70 percent or more of the number of registered voters who reside within the district as shown on the voters' register in the office of the county clerk or registrar of voters.

**Date to determine boundaries for merger or subsidiary district**

**57106**. For the purposes of Sections 57104 and 57105, the boundaries shall be determined as of the date of adoption of the order of the commission. Any then pending but uncompleted proceedings for changes in the boundaries of the city or district shall be disregarded.

**Resolution ordering merger or subsidiary district**

**57107**. (a) In any resolution ordering a merger or establishment of a subsidiary district, the commission shall approve the change of organization without an election except that if the change of organization meets the requirements of subdivision (b), the commission shall order the change of organization subject to confirmation of the voters.

**Voter approval requirements**

(b) The commission shall order the change of organization subject to confirmation of the voters within any subject agency as follows:

(1) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has not objected by resolution to the proposal, the commission has found that protests meet one of the following protest thresholds:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and that protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within the affected territory owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory.

(2) If the proposal was not initiated by the commission, and if a subject agency has objected by resolution to the proposal, written protests have been submitted as follows:

(A) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(i) At least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within a territory.

(ii) At least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory.

(B) In the case of a landowner-voter district, that the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 25 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, owning at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the subject agency.

(3) If the proposal was initiated by the commission, and regardless of whether a subject agency has objected to the proposal by resolution, written protests have been submitted that meet the requirements of Section 57113.

(c) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) or (b), the commission shall not order the merger or establishment of a subsidiary district without the consent of the subject city.

**Petition requesting election on merger or subsidiary district**

**57108**. At any time prior to the conclusion of the protest hearing by the commission ordering the district to be merged with or established as a subsidiary district of a city, a petition may be filed with the executive officer referring, by date of adoption, to the commission's resolution making determinations and requesting that any election upon that question be called, held, and conducted only within that district. Any petition so filed shall be immediately examined and certified by the executive officer by the same method and in the same manner as provided in Sections 56707 to 56711, inclusive, for the examination of petitions by the executive officer.

The commission shall forward the proposal to the affected city, and the affected city shall call, hold, and conduct any election upon the question of a merger or the establishment of a subsidiary district only within the district to be merged or established as a subsidiary district, if the executive officer certifies that any

petition so filed was signed by either of the following:

**Signatures**

(a) In the case of a registered voter district, by not less than 10 percent of the registered voters of the district.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, by not less than 10 percent of the number of landowner-voters within the district who also own not less than 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the district.

**Election on establishment of subsidiary district or merger; petition**

**57109**. At any time prior to the completion of the protest hearing by the commission and the adoption of a resolution ordering a reorganization that includes an incorporation and the establishment of a subsidiary district or a merger, a petition may be filed with the executive officer referring, by date of adoption, to the commission's resolution making determinations and requesting that a separate election be called, held, and conducted only within that district on the establishment of the subsidiary district or the merger. That election shall be conducted at the same time as the election on the incorporation. Any petition so filed shall be immediately examined and certified by the executive officer by the same method and in the same manner as provided in Sections 56707 to 56711, inclusive, for the examination of petitions by the executive officer. The commission shall forward the proposal to the principal county and the principal county shall call, hold, and conduct any election upon the question of a merger or the establishment of a subsidiary district only within the district to be merged or established as a subsidiary district, if the executive officer certifies that any petition so filed was signed by either of the following:

**Signatures**

(a) In the case of a registered voter district, by not less than 10 percent of the registered voters of the district.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, by not less than 10 percent of the number of landowner-voters within the district who also own not less than 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the district.

**Resolution ordering election on subsidiary district; ballot questions**

**57110**. In any resolution approving, subject to the confirmation of the voters, both an original and an alternative proposal as determined by the commission pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 56863, the ballot at the election shall enable those voting to do one of the following:

(a) Disapprove both proposals.

(b) Approve either the original proposal or the alternative proposal.

**Resolution confirming election on subsidiary district**

The board of supervisors shall adopt a resolution confirming the proposal which was favored by a majority of votes cast at the election. Where both proposals were favored by a majority of the votes cast, the board of supervisors shall adopt a resolution

confirming the proposal which received the greater number of votes.

**Confirmation election**

**57111**. In any reorganization proceeding where the component changes of organization would not individually require a confirmation election, no confirmation election shall be required to approve the reorganization.

**Termination by election; new proposal waiting period**

**57112**. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), if proceedings are terminated by failure of a majority of voters to confirm a resolution ordering merger or establishment of a subsidiary district, no new proposal for a merger or establishment of a subsidiary district involving the same district may be filed with the commission within two years of the date of the certification adopted by the commission, pursuant to Section 57179.

(b) The commission may waive the requirements of subdivision (a) if it finds these requirements are detrimental to the public interest.

**Proposals initiated by commission**

**57113**. Notwithstanding Section 57102, 57108, or 57111, for any proposal that was initiated by the commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56375, the commission shall forward the change of organization or reorganization for confirmation by the voters if the commission finds either of the following:

**Voter approval requirements**

(a) In the case of inhabited territory, protests have been signed by either of the following:

(1) At least 10 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory who own at least 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory. However, if the number of landowners within a subject agency is less than 300, the protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the landowners who own at least 25 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory of the subject agency.

(2) At least 10 percent of the voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within, or owning land within, any subject agency within the affected territory. However, if the number of voters entitled to vote within a subject agency is less than 300, the protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the voters entitled to vote.

(b) In the case of a landowner-voter district, the territory is uninhabited and protests have been signed by at least 10 percent of the number of landowners within any subject agency within the affected territory, who own at least 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the territory. However, if the number of landowners entitled to vote within a subject agency is less than 300, protests shall be signed by at least 25 percent of the landowners entitled to vote.

**57114**. [Repealed by Stats. 2012, Ch. 62]

**Dissolution of Newhall County Water District**

**57114.5**. (a) Notwithstanding subdivision (a) of Section 57077.1 and Sections 57077.4 and 57111, for any proposal involving the dissolution of the Newhall County Water District, the commission shall forward the change of organization or reorganization for confirmation by the voters if the commission finds that a petition requesting that the proposal be submitted to confirmation by the voters has been signed by either:

(1) At least 10 percent of the number of voters entitled to vote as a result of residing within the district.

(2) At least 10 percent of the number of landowners within the district who own at least 10 percent of the assessed value of land within the district.

(b) If a petition that meets the requirements of this section has been submitted, the commission shall approve the proposal subject to confirmation by the voters of the district.

**Resolution referred to election; requirements**

**57115**. Any resolution of the commission forwarding a change of organization or a reorganization for confirmation by the voters shall, in addition to any applicable requirements contained in Sections 57100 to 57111, inclusive, do all of the following:

(a) Designate the affected territory within which the special election or elections shall be held.

(b) Provide for the question or questions to be submitted to the voters.

(c) Specify any terms or conditions provided for in the change of organization or reorganization.

(d) State the vote required for confirmation of the change of organization or reorganization.

**Resolution calling for election on incorporation; contents**

**57116**. In addition to any other requirements, any resolution of the commission ordering an incorporation subject to an election shall do all of the following:

**Officers**

(a) Provide for the election of the officers of the proposed city required to be elected, except as provided in Section 56724 and except as to officers designated as appointive, pursuant to Section 56723.

**By district, from district, or at large**

(b) Provide for the election on the question of whether members of the city council in future elections are to be elected by district, from district, or at large.

**Form of government**

(c) If the petition so requests, state that the voters may express a preference as to whether or not the city shall operate under the city manager form of government, the ballot question being for or against the city manager form of government.

**Names**

(d) If the petition so requests, state that the voters may express their preference between names for the new city.

**Resolution calling for election on city consolidation; contents**

**57117**. In addition to any other requirements, any resolution of the commission ordering a consolidation of cities subject to an election shall do all of the following:

(a) Provide for the election of officers of the successor city required to be elected.

(b) State that the voters may express their preference as to the name of the successor city.

**Resolution calling for election; where held**

**57118**. In any resolution ordering a change of organization or reorganization subject to the confirmation of the voters, the commission shall determine that an election will be held:

(a) Within the territory of each city or district ordered to be incorporated, formed, disincorporated, dissolved or consolidated.

(b) Within the entire territory of each district ordered to be merged with or established as a subsidiary district of a city, or both within the district and within the entire territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district.

(c) If the executive officer certifies a petition pursuant to Section 57108 or 57109, within the territory of the district ordered to be merged with or established as a subsidiary district of a city.

(d) Within the territory ordered to be annexed or detached.

(e) If ordered by the commission pursuant to Section 56876 or 56759, both within the territory ordered to be annexed or detached and within all or the part of the city or district which is outside of the territory.

(f) If the election is required by Section subdivision (b) of Section 57077.4, separately within the territory of each affected district that has filed a petition meeting the requirements of subdivision (b) of Section 57077.4.

**Election; where held**

**57119**. Notwithstanding Section 57118, any resolution ordering a special reorganization shall require the principal county to call an election in both of the following territories:

(a) The territory ordered to be detached from the city.

(b) The entire territory of the city from which the detachment is ordered to occur.

**Incorporation or formation; appropriations limit**

**57120**. In addition to any other requirements, any resolution of the commission ordering a change of organization or reorganization that includes a formation or an incorporation subject to an election shall provide for the establishment of the appropriations limit determined pursuant to Section 56811 or 56812.

**Special elections; subject to elections code**

**57125**. (a) Special elections called within all or any part of a city or registered-voter district shall be governed by the general election provisions and the local election provisions of the Elections Code, so far as they may be applicable, relating to the qualifications of voters, the manner of voting, the form of the ballot, the duties of precinct and election officers, the canvassing of returns, and all other particulars. If the commission determines that there is any inconsistency:

(1) Between the general elections provisions and the local elections provisions of the Elections Code, the local elections provisions shall control.

(2) Between this division and the Elections Code, this division shall control.

**Special elections; by mailed ballot**

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, special elections pursuant to this division may be conducted wholly by mailed ballot on any date other than an established election date authorized by the elections official of the county or counties affected by the use of mailed ballots.

**Special elections; landowner-voter districts; principal act**

**57126**. (a) Special elections called within all or any part of a landowner-voter district shall be governed by the general elections provisions of the principal act, so far as they may be applicable, relating to the qualifications of voters, the manner of voting, the form of the ballot, the duties of precinct and election officers, the canvassing of returns, and all other particulars. To the extent of any inconsistency between the provisions of this division and the principal act as determined by the commission, the provisions of this division shall control.

**Inconsistencies**

**Special election by mailed ballot**

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, special elections held pursuant to this division may be conducted wholly by mailed ballot on any date other than an established election date authorized by the elections official of the county or counties affected by the use of mailed ballots.

**Board of supervisors, special election**

**57127**. If the board of supervisors calls any special election within all or any part of any district, any references in the principal act to the board of directors of the district and to the clerk or secretary of the district shall be deemed to mean the board of supervisors and the elections official, respectively.

**Landowner-voter district election; exception for qualification**

**57127.5**. If special elections are called upon the same question or questions within all or any part of any landowner-voter district, and any city or registered-voter district, the provisions of Section 57125 shall apply, except that, as to the landowner-voter district,

the provisions of its principal act shall govern the qualifications of landowner-voters, the number of votes which each landowner-voter is entitled to cast, the manner of voting, and the form of the ballot.

**Election called for reorganization with overlapping cities or districts**

**57128**. Where any special election or elections are called upon the question of confirmation of an order for a reorganization and the areas within which the election or elections are called contain overlapping territory of two or more cities or districts, within all of the overlapping territory the election precincts, polling places, voting booths, and ballot boxes shall, in every case, be the same and there shall be only one precinct board or set of election officers for each precinct.

**Records or certified copies; delivery; return**

**57129**. Where any records of a city or a district are required for the purpose of calling, holding, or conducting any special election called by the board of supervisors or city council pursuant to this division, those records or certified copies of those records shall be delivered, upon request, to the elections official by the city or district officer having custody of the records or copies and shall be returned to that officer immediately after the canvass of the election returns. All other election records, documents, instruments, and election supplies, including, but not limited to, rosters, ballots, and tally sheets, shall be retained or disposed of by the elections official in the manner provided by law.

**Notice of election by elections official**

**57130**. The elections official shall cause notice of each change of organization or reorganization election to be given by publication, posting, and mailing as provided in Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 57025) of Part 4.

**Notice of election; contents**

**57131**. The notice of election required to be given by Section 57130 shall contain all of the matters specified in Section 57115.

**Election date**

**57132**. The election on the question of the change of organization or reorganization shall be called pursuant to Section 57000 and held on the next established election date pursuant to Section 1000 of the Elections Code, or Section 1500 of the Elections Code in the case of an election conducted solely by mailed ballot, occurring at least 88 days after the date upon which the resolution calling the election was adopted.

**Special reorganization elections; when held**

**57132.5**. Notwithstanding Section 57132, the election on the question of a special reorganization shall be called pursuant to Section 57000 and held at the next regular primary or general election occurring in an even-numbered year at least 88 days after the date on which the resolution calling the election was adopted.

**Form for questions to be submitted for election**

**57133**. The question or questions to be submitted at any special election or elections called pursuant to this part shall be in substantially the following form:

**Incorporation**

(a) For an incorporation: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of ____ County ordering the incorporation of the territory described in the order and designated in the order as ____ (insert the distinct short form designation previously assigned by the commission) be confirmed?"

**Annexation**

(b) For an annexation: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the ____ (insert Local Agency Formation Commission) ordering the annexation to ____ (insert city or district) of the territory described in that order and designated as ____ (insert the short form designation previously assigned by the commission) be confirmed?"

**Detachment**

(c) For a detachment: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the ____ (insert Local Agency Formation Commission) ordering the detachment from the ____ (insert city or district) of the territory described in the order and designated in the order as ____ (insert the short form designation previously assigned by the commission) be confirmed?"

**City consolidation**

(d) For a city consolidation: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the ____ (insert Local Agency Formation Commission) of the County of ____ (insert name of city) ordering the consolidation of the Cities of ____ (insert names of all cities ordered consolidated) into a single city known as the City of ____ be confirmed?"

**City disincorporation**

(e) For a disincorporation: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20__, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of ____ ordering the disincorporation of the City of ____ be confirmed?"

**Reorganization**

(f) For a reorganization: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the ____ (insert Local Agency Formation Commission) ordering a reorganization affecting the ____ (insert names of all affected cities or districts) and providing for ____ (insert list of all changes of organization or new cities proposed to be incorporated or districts to be formed) be confirmed?"

**District dissolution**

(g) For a district dissolution: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of ____ ordering the dissolution of the ____ district be confirmed?"

**District consolidation**

(h) For a district consolidation: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of ____ ordering the consolidation of ____ (insert the names of all districts ordered consolidated) into a single district known as the ____ District be confirmed?"

**Merger**

(i) For a merger: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of ____ ordering the merger of the ____ District with the City of ____ be confirmed?"

**Subsidiary district**

(j) For establishment of a subsidiary district: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of the County of ____ ordering the ____ District established as a subsidiary district of the City of ____ be confirmed?"

**District formation**

(k) For a district formation, use form of question under principal act of district being formed. If none, use substantially the following form: "Shall the order adopted on ____, 20 __, by the Local Agency Formation Commission of ____ County ordering the formation of a district in the territory described, known as ____, be approved?"

**Terms and conditions in ballot question**

**57134**. If the change of organization or reorganization has been ordered subject to any terms and conditions, there shall be added to the end of the questions set forth in Section 57133 words substantially as follows:

"Subject to the terms and conditions specified in the order."

**Effect of terms and conditions included in ballot question**

**57135**. (a) If any of the terms and conditions have the effect of imposing or increasing liability for payment of (1) taxes or assessments to be levied and collected, (2) service charges, rentals, or rates to be fixed and collected, or (3) both, upon or within all or any part of the territory affected by the proposed change of organization or reorganization, the question shall contain a very brief summary of the purpose, nature, and extent of the liability and shall refer to the order ordering the change of organization or reorganization for particulars. The legislative body may include in the question a summary of any of the other terms and conditions.

(b) No reference need be made to any liability for payment of any of the following to be imposed for the usual and ordinary support, management, and operation of any district:

(1) Annual taxes or assessments.

(2) Ordinary service charges, rentals, or rates.

(3) Both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates.

**Summary of forms**

(c) Where a summary is included in a question, there shall be added to the clause set forth in Section 57134 words substantially as follows:

"Such terms and conditions including (set forth very brief summary), all as more particularly described and set forth in the order."

**Member district; ballot question on non-receipt or termination of service**

**57136**. This section shall apply only to changes of organization and reorganizations made by, or with respect to, a member district. If a change of organization or reorganization adding territory to a member district will not result in the additional territory being entitled to receive or be furnished with any new or additional governmental or proprietary service or commodity by the parent district, the question submitted to the voters shall so indicate. If a change of organization or a reorganization removing territory from a member district will result in the termination of any existing entitlement of the territory to receive, or be furnished with, any governmental or proprietary service or commodity from the parent district, the question submitted to the voters shall so indicate.

**Voting squares; "yes" and "no"**

**57137**. On the ballot opposite each question and to its right, the words "Yes" and "No" shall be printed on separate lines with voting squares.

**Merger and establishment of subsidiary district; form of questions**

**57138**. If the commission orders both a merger and the establishment of a subsidiary district, questions on each matter shall be printed on the ballot, one above the other. Immediately preceding the first question, there shall be printed in the words "Vote on both questions."

**Consolidation and district formation election; legislative body and officers per principal act**

**57139**. If a special election or elections is called upon an order of reorganization which provides for a consolidation or the formation of a new district, or both, or upon an order of consolidation, members of the legislative body and other officers of the consolidated district or the new district, as the case may be, shall be selected in the manner provided by the principal act. If the principal act or the terms and conditions of the reorganization or consolidation provide for the election of the officers or members, they shall be nominated in the manner provided in the principal act and shall be voted upon at the special election or elections upon the question of confirming the order of reorganization or consolidation. If the order of reorganization or consolidation is confirmed at the special election or elections, the officers or members of the legislative body of the consolidated district or the new district, as the case may be, who are elected at the election or elections shall become the officers or members of the legislative body of the consolidated district or new district.

**Voter entitlements at election**

**57140**. Where a special election is called upon the question of confirming an order for a change of organization or a reorganization, each person entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the territory in which the election is called shall be entitled to ballots and votes as follows:

(a) In the case of cities or registered-voter districts, to one ballot and one vote.
(b) In the case of landowner-voter districts, to the number of ballots and votes authorized by the principal act of the district.

**Voter entitlements; merger or subsidiary district election**

**57141**. Where a special election or elections are called upon the question of confirming an order for a merger or the establishment of a subsidiary district, or both, each person entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the territory within which the election is called shall be entitled to ballots and votes as follows:

(a) Where the election is called only within the district:
(1) In the case of a registered-voter district, each registered voter shall be entitled to one ballot and one vote.
(2) In the case of a landowner-voter district, each landowner-voter shall be entitled to the number of ballots and votes authorized by the principal act of the district.
(b) Where one election is called within the district and another election is called within the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the agency:
(1) In the case of the city, each registered voter within the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district shall be entitled to one city ballot and one vote on the question.
(2) In the case of the district, each person entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the district shall be entitled to the number of district ballots and votes authorized by the principal act of the district.

Where separate elections are called within both the district and the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district, separate forms of city and district ballots, printed on different colors of paper, shall be provided. The city and district ballots shall be separately canvassed.

**Voter entitlements; reorganization election**

**57142**. Where a special election is called upon the question of confirming an order of reorganization, each person entitled to vote as a result of residing or owning land within the territory within which the election is called shall be entitled to ballots and votes as follows:

(a) Each person who qualifies only as a registered voter of any city or registered voter district, regardless of the number of registered voters, is entitled to one ballot and one vote.
(b) Each person who qualifies only as a landowner-voter of any subject district, regardless of the number of landowner voters, is entitled to the number of ballots and votes authorized by the principal act for one such district; if there is more than one such district, that person upon declaration made to the precinct or election officers shall be furnished with a ballot or ballots for the

particular district designated by that person.

(c) Each person who qualifies both as a registered voter and as a landowner-voter of any of the subject agencies, may at his or her option vote either as a registered voter or as a landowner-voter, but not both. That person, upon declaration made to the precinct or election officers, shall be furnished with a ballot or ballots for the particular city or district designated by that person.

**Computation of votes determined from election by landowner-voters and registered voters; merger, subsidiary district, or reorganization**

**57143**. In any special election or elections called upon the question of confirmation of an order for merger or the establishment of a subsidiary district or for a reorganization, where the results of the election or elections are to be determined from votes of both landowner-voters and registered voters, the votes of the landowner-voters shall be computed and equated with the votes of the registered voters in the following manner:

(a) First, the per capita assessed value of land for each registered voter within the county within which the elections are held shall be determined to the nearest even dollar by dividing the total assessed value of land within the county, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll of the county, by the total number of voters who were registered in the county at the close of registration, as provided in the Elections Code, next preceding the date of the election. If any landowner-voter district is located in more than one county, the per capita assessed value for each county shall be multiplied by a percentage, to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent, those percentages being determined by dividing the total area of the district into the area of those portions of the district located within that county; the resulting products of those multiplications shall then be added and the total, to the nearest even dollar, shall be deemed to be the per capita assessed value for all the counties.

(b) Second, if any such landowner-voter district does not use the county assessment roll for the purposes of levying and collecting district assessments or taxes, the per capita assessed value of land for each registered voter within the county shall be corrected by multiplying the per capita assessed value by a correction factor determined as follows: The total assessed valuation of all lands within the district, as shown upon the last equalized assessment roll or book of the district, shall be divided by the corresponding total assessed valuation of all lands within the district, as shown upon the last equalized assessment roll of the county, and the quotient, expressed to the nearest of two decimal places, shall represent the correction factor. If any landowner-voter district is located in more than one county, a correction factor shall be determined, in the manner above provided, for each such county covering all those portions of the district which are located within the county; the correction factor for each county shall then be

multiplied by a percentage, to the nearest one-tenth of 1 percent, that percentage being determined by dividing the total area of the district into the area of those portions of the district located within that county; the resulting products of those multiplications shall then be added and the total, to the nearest of two decimal places, shall be deemed to be the correction factor for all the counties.

(c) Third, the corrected per capita assessed value, determined to the nearest even dollar, shall then be adjusted by dividing it by the number of dollars required for a single vote by a landowner-voter, as specified in the principal act determining the landowner-voter's right to vote.

(d) Fourth, the total number of votes cast by landowner-voters for and against the question shall be divided by the corrected and adjusted per capita assessed value and the quotients, to the nearest whole figures, shall be deemed to be the number of votes of landowner-voters which shall be equated with the votes of the registered-voters of any city or registered voter district, cast for and against the question.

**Written notification of election call; transmission by certified mail; contents; analysis of proposed changes; notice of availability of copy of proposition**

**57144**. Within five days after a special election is called pursuant to this part, the executive officer shall submit to the commission, for its approval or modification, an impartial analysis of the proposed incorporation or change of organization.

The impartial analysis shall not exceed 500 words in length in addition to a general description of the boundaries of the territory affected.

The commission shall approve or modify the analysis and submit the analysis to the elections official no later than the last day for submission of rebuttal arguments.

Immediately below the impartial analysis there shall be printed in no less than 10-point bold type a legend substantially as follows:

"The above statement is an impartial analysis of Proposition ____. If you desire a copy of the proposition, please call the elections official's office at (insert telephone number) and a copy will be mailed at no cost to you."

**Written argument for or against question to be submitted to voters;**

**57145**. (a) The legislative body of any affected agency, or any member or members of the legislative body of any affected agency authorized by it, or any individual voter or association of citizens entitled to vote on the change of organization or reorganization, or any combination of those voters and association of citizens may file a written argument for, or a written argument against, the question to be submitted to the voters.

**Form**

Arguments shall not exceed 300 words in length and shall be filed with the elections official no later than the last day for submission of arguments specified by Section 57146.

(b) If more than one argument for or more than one argument against the proposal is filed with the elections official within the time prescribed in Section 57145, the elections official shall select one of the arguments for printing and distribution to the voters.

**Selection of arguments**

In selecting the arguments, the elections official shall give preference and priority in the order named to the following arguments:

(1) The legislative body of an affected agency or any authorized member or members of the legislative body.

(2) Individual voters or association of citizens or a combination of voters and associations.

**Deadline for submission or arguments for or against measure; notice; contents**

**57146**. (a) On the basis of the time reasonably necessary to prepare and print the arguments, analysis, and sample ballots for the election, the elections official shall fix and determine a reasonable date prior to the election after which no arguments for or against the measure may be submitted for printing and distribution to the voters. Notice of the date fixed shall be published in accordance with Section 56153 in a newspaper of general circulation which is circulated in the affected territory. Arguments may be changed until and including the date fixed by the elections official.

(b) The notice shall contain all of the following information:

(1) A statement of the proposition to be voted on and a general description of the boundaries of the affected territory.

(2) An invitation to any registered voter or association of citizens entitled to vote on the proposal to submit and file with the elections official for printing and distribution in the ballot pamphlet, an argument for or an argument against the proposal.

(3) The date of the election.

(4) A statement that only one argument for and one argument against will be selected and printed in the ballot pamphlet.

(5) A statement that arguments shall not exceed 300 words in length and shall be accompanied by not more than five signatures.

**Rebuttal arguments**

**57147**. Section 9167 of the Elections Code applies to the preparation and submittal of rebuttal arguments.

**Ballot pamphlet; printing and mailing to each voter**

**57148**. (a) The elections official shall cause a ballot pamphlet concerning the proposal to be printed and mailed to each voter entitled to vote on the question.

**Contents**

The ballot pamphlet shall contain all of the following information in the order prescribed:

(1) The impartial analysis of the proposition prepared by the commission.

(2) One argument for the proposal, if any.

(3) One rebuttal to the argument for the proposal, if any.

(4) One argument against the proposal, if any.

(5) One rebuttal to the argument against the proposal, if any.

A copy of the complete text of the proposition shall be made available by the elections official, to any voter upon request.

**Canvass of ballots**

**57149**. The canvass of ballots cast at any election held pursuant to this division shall be conducted pursuant to Sections 15300 to 15309, inclusive, of the Elections Code. The elections official shall immediately, upon the completion of any canvass, report the results to the executive officer of the local agency formation commission.

**Payment of expenses**

**57150**. All proper expenses incurred in conducting elections for a change of organization or reorganization pursuant to this chapter shall be paid, unless otherwise provided by agreement between the commission and the proponents, as follows:

**Annexation or detachment**

(a) In the case of annexation or detachment proceedings, by the local agency to or from which territory is annexed, or from which territory is detached, or was proposed to be annexed or detached.

**Incorporation**

(b) In the case of incorporation or formation proceedings, by the newly incorporated city or the newly formed district, if successful, or by the county within which the proposed city or district is located, if the incorporation or formation proceedings are terminated. In the case of a separate election for city officers held following the election for incorporation pursuant to Section 56825.5, by the newly incorporated city.

**Dissolution**

(c) In the case of disincorporation or dissolution proceedings, from the remaining assets of the disincorporated city or dissolved district or by the city proposed to be disincorporated or the district proposed to be dissolved if disincorporation or dissolution proceedings are terminated.

**Consolidation**

(d) In the case of consolidation proceedings, by the successor city or district or by the local agencies proposed to be consolidated, to be paid by those local agencies in proportion to their respective assessed values, if proceedings are terminated.

**Reorganization**

(e) In the case of a reorganization, by either of the following:

(1) If the reorganization is ordered, by the subject local agencies or successor local agencies, as the case may be, for any of the changes of organization specified in subdivisions (a) to (d), inclusive, that may be included in the particular reorganization, to be paid by those local agencies in proportion to their assessed value.

(2) If the reorganization proceedings are terminated or the proposal is defeated, by the county or counties within which the subject local agency is located.

**Certificate of completion confirming change**

**57176**. The commission shall execute, within 30 days of the canvass of the election, a certificate of completion confirming the order of the change of organization or reorganization if a majority of votes cast upon the question are in favor of the change of organization or reorganization in any of the following circumstances:

(a) At an election called in the territory ordered to be organized or reorganized.

(b) At an election called within the territory ordered to be organized or reorganized and within the territory of the affected agency.

(c) At both an election called within the area to be organized or reorganized and an election called within the territory of an affected city, when required by the commission pursuant to Section 56759.

**Special reorganization**

**57176.1**. Notwithstanding Section 57176, the commission shall execute, within 30 days of the canvass of the election, a certificate of completion confirming a special reorganization if a majority of votes cast upon the question are in favor of the special reorganization in both of the following circumstances:

(a) An election called in the territory ordered to be detached from the city.

(b) An election called in the entire territory of the city from which the detachment is ordered to occur.

**Merger or establishment of subsidiary district**

**57177**. The commission shall execute a certificate of completion confirming either the order of a merger or the order for the establishment of a subsidiary district in the following manner:

(a) Where the question submitted to the voters was only upon merger or only upon establishment of a subsidiary district, the commission shall execute a certificate of completion confirming the order if a majority of the votes cast on the question favored the order either:

(1) At an election called only within the district.

(2) At each election, where one election was called within the district and another election was called within the territory of the city outside the boundaries of the district.

(b) Where both the question of merger and the question of establishment of a subsidiary district were submitted to the voters within the district only and both questions were favored by a majority of the voters, the commission shall order that change of organization favored by the greater number of voters. Where the number of votes was the same on both questions, the merger shall be ordered.

(c) Where both the question of merger and the question of establishment of a subsidiary district were submitted at an election called both within the district and at an election within the territory of the city outside the district boundaries, and both questions were favored by a majority of the voters in both areas, that change of organization receiving the greater number of votes in both elections shall be completed. Where the number of votes was the same, or where the question of merger received the greater number of votes in one of the elections, a merger shall be completed.

**Consolidation of cities or districts**

**57177.5**. In the case of elections on an order of consolidation of cities or districts, the commission shall take one of the following actions:

(a) Execute a certificate of completion confirming the order of consolidation if, within the territory of each city or district ordered to be consolidated, a majority of the votes cast on the question favored the consolidation.

(b) Execute a certificate of termination of proceedings if, in one of the cities or districts ordered to be consolidated, the votes cast in favor of consolidation did not constitute a majority.

**Incorporation or consolidation of cities; additional requirements**

**57178**. In addition to any other requirements, the certificate of completion confirming an order of incorporation or consolidation of cities shall do all of the following:

(a) Give the name of the new or successor city favored by the electors.

(b) Declare the persons receiving the highest number of votes for the several offices of the new or successor city to be elected to those offices. If the incorporation applicant requested that the first election for city officers was to occur after the election on the proposal which included incorporation, the resolution shall call an election at which city officers shall be elected.

(c) In the case of an incorporation, declare which system of electing council members was favored, that is, election by district or election at large; and declare whether the city manager form of government was favored by the electors.

**Certificate of termination of proceedings**

**57179**. The commission shall execute a certificate of termination of proceedings if the votes cast in favor of the change of organization or reorganization do not constitute a majority.

## CHAPTER 8. COMPLETION AND EFFECTIVE DATE OF CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION OR REORGANIZATION

**Certificate of completion; filings; notice**

**57200**. (a) The executive officer shall prepare and execute a certificate of completion and shall make the filing required by this division upon all of the following:

(1) The completion of all commission actions pursuant to Part 3 (commencing with Section 56650), including the time period allowed to file and act upon requests for reconsideration pursuant to Section 56895.

(2) The satisfaction of any conditions contained in the commission resolution making determinations that are required to be completed prior to filing a certificate of completion.

(3) The completion of all proceedings pursuant to Part 4 (commencing with Section 57000).

(b) Whenever the commission approves the inclusion of any territory of a landscape and lighting assessment district within a city, the executive officer shall notify the clerk of the landscape and lighting assessment district or other person designated by the district to receive notification.

**Certificate of completion; contents**

**57201**. The certificate of completion prepared and executed by the executive officer shall contain all of the following information:

(a) The name of each newly incorporated city, each new district, and the name of each existing local agency for which a change of organization or reorganization was ordered and the name of the county within which any new or existing local agencies are located.

(b) A statement of each type of change of organization or reorganization ordered.

(c) A description of the boundaries of the new city ordered incorporated, the new district ordered formed or of any territory affected by the change of organization or reorganization, which description may be made by reference to a map and legal description showing the boundaries attached to the certificate.

(d) Any terms and conditions of the change of organization or reorganization.

**Effective date; restrictions**

**57202**. (a) If an effective date is fixed in the terms and conditions of the commission resolution, that date shall be the effective date.

An effective date shall not be fixed which is either of the following:

(1) Earlier than the date of execution of the certificate of completion.

(2) Later than nine months after the date of the election in which a majority voted in favor of the change of organization or reorganization.

(b) The change of organization or reorganization shall be complete from the date of execution of the certificate of completion and effective from the dates specified in the terms and conditions of the commission resolution, unless no effective date has been fixed in those terms and conditions.

**Date of recordation**

(c) If no effective date has been fixed in any of the terms and conditions, the effective date of a change of organization or a reorganization shall be the date of the recordation made with the county recorder and, if filed with the recorder of more than one county, the date of the last such recordation.

**Incorporation**

(d) The commission shall set an effective date for any incorporation. The authority of the commission to set the date of incorporation shall be exclusive, except as provided in Section 57203.

**Santa Cruz County exception**

**57202.1**. In the case of a reorganization requested by a city in Santa Cruz County that has adopted a voter approved urban limit line, the conditions of paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 57202 shall not apply and the effective date of that reorganization shall be fixed in the terms and conditions of the commission resolution. The commission may not use the provisions of this section for any reorganization approved or conditionally approved after January 1, 2009.

**Certificate of completion recorded with each county**

**57203**. The executive officer shall record, no later than 90 days after the election, a certified copy of the certificate of completion with the county recorder of each county in which all or any part of the territory included in the change of organization or reorganization is located, and shall file a certified copy of the certificate of completion, indicating the recording numbers affixed by the county recorder, with the clerk of the legislative body of each local agency subject to the change of organization or reorganization. If the executive officer is for any reason unable to comply with this section, the Secretary of State, upon confirmation

**Secretary of State may file**

by the county recorder that the certificate of completion has not been recorded within the time period provided in this section, may perform the duties of the executive officer upon receiving notice of the failure of the executive officer to so perform.

**Surveyor**

After recordation of the certificate of completion by the executive officer, the recorder shall file with the county surveyor a copy of the boundary description included in the certificate of completion as provided by subdivision (c) of Section 57201.

**Statement of boundary change filed with assessor, auditor, and Board of Equalization**

**57204**. (a) The executive officer shall file the statement of boundary change or creation with the Board of Equalization, the county assessor, and the county auditor as may be provided for by Chapter 8 (commencing with Section 54900) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5.

(b) The Board of Equalization shall distribute relevant information from the statements of boundary changes or creations to the Department of Finance, the Controller, and to the Secretary of State, as appropriate.

## PART 5. TERMS AND CONDITIONS AND EFFECT OF A CHANGE OF ORGANIZATION OR REORGANIZATION

### CHAPTER 1. GENERAL

**No effect on Assembly or Senatorial districts**

**57300**. Any proceeding completed pursuant to this division shall not alter or affect the boundaries of any Assembly or Senatorial district.

**Effect on city council districts; adjustment of boundaries**

**57301**. If at any time between each decennial federal census, a city annexes or detaches territory or consolidates with another city, the city council of the city annexing or detaching the territory or the city council of the successor city, shall reexamine the boundaries of its council districts, if any, after the first census is taken or after the population estimates are obtained, following the annexation, detachment, or consolidation.

If, upon reexamination, the city council finds that the population of any council districts have varied so that the districts no longer meet the criteria specified in Section 21601 of the Elections Code, the city council shall, within 60 days after the census is taken, or population estimate received, by ordinance or resolution, adjust the boundaries of any or all of the council districts of the city so that the districts are as nearly equal in population as may be possible.

**Application of general conditions; specific conditions control over general conditions**

**57302**. The general provisions of this part shall apply only if the commission does not impose terms and conditions on any change of organization or reorganization pursuant to Section 56886. If a change of organization or a reorganization specifically provides for, and is made subject to any of, the terms and conditions authorized by Section 56886, the specific terms and conditions shall be deemed to be the exclusive terms and conditions of the change of organization or reorganization and shall control over the general provisions of this part. Any of those terms and conditions may be provided for, and be made applicable to, any affected county, affected city, or affected district, to all or any part of the territory of the county, city, or district, to any territory proposed to be annexed to the county, city, or district and to the owner or owners of property within that territory. The general provisions of this part shall not be construed as limiting in any manner the authority of the commission to impose one or more of the terms and conditions set forth in Section 56886.

**Effect on bonded indebtedness by change of organization**

**57303**. If no determination is made pursuant to subdivision (d) of Section 56886, the principal amount of bonded indebtedness which may be incurred or assumed by any city, county, or district, under any statute or charter provision imposing a limitation on

bonded indebtedness, shall not be affected by any change of organization or reorganization.

## CHAPTER 2. EFFECT OF ANNEXATION

**Rights and duties of inhabitants of annexed area**

**57325**. On and after the effective date of an annexation, the territory annexed to a city or district, all inhabitants of that territory, and all persons entitled to vote by reason of residing or owning land within that territory shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the city or district and, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, shall have the same rights and duties as if the territory had been a part of the city or district upon its original incorporation or formation.

**Agreement to continue services to end of fiscal year by city and district**

**57326**. As an alternative to any procedure prescribed by law for the division of taxes or assessments collected in a district lying partially or wholly in territory annexed by an incorporated city, the city and the district may enter into an agreement providing that the district shall continue to perform services for the annexed territory until the close of the fiscal year for which the district has levied taxes or assessments.

**Restriction on payment for use of property**

**57327**. No payment for the use, or right of use, of the existing property, real or personal, of any district or city shall be required by reason of the annexation of territory to that district or city.

**Liability of annexed area for bonds, contracts, and obligations of city or district**

**57328**. Any territory annexed to a city or district shall be liable for payment of principal, interest, and any other amounts which shall become due on account of any outstanding or then authorized but thereafter issued bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts or obligations of the city or district, but not of any improvement district within the district. It shall be subject to the levying or fixing and collection of any of the following which may be necessary to provide for that payment:

(a) Taxes or assessments.

(b) Service charges, rentals, or rates.

(c) Both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates.

**Roads and highways**

**57329**. (a) If unincorporated territory was, or is hereafter, annexed to a city, all roads and highways or portions of a road or highway in the territory which had been accepted into the county road system pursuant to Section 941 of the Streets and Highways Code are, or shall become, as the case may be, city streets on the effective date of the annexation.

**County roads excepted**

(b) Subdivision (a) does not apply to a road or highway which had been accepted into the county road system pursuant to Section 941 of the Streets and Highways Code after the date of the first signature on a petition for annexation or incorporation, the adoption of a resolution of application by an affected local agency, or a date mutually agreed upon by the city and the county.

(c) Nothing in subdivision (a) requires a city to improve the affected road or highway to city standards.

**Previously authorized taxes, assessments, fees or charges**

**57330**. Any territory annexed to a city or district shall be subject to the levying or fixing and collection of any previously authorized taxes, benefit assessments, fees, or charges of the city or district.

**Annexation to a city; succession to Williamson Act contracts**

**57330.5**. (a) If a city annexes land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), and the city succeeds to the contract pursuant to either Section 51243 or Section 51243.5, then on and after the effective date of the annexation, the city has all of the rights, duties, and powers imposed by that contract.

(b) If a city annexes land that is subject to a contract executed pursuant to the Williamson Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 51200) of Division 1), and the city exercises its option to not succeed to the contract pursuant to Section 51243.5, then the city shall record a certificate of contract termination pursuant to that section.

## CHAPTER 3. EFFECT OF DETACHMENT

**Loss of jurisdiction of agency; rights and duties of inhabitants**

**57350**. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, on and after the effective date of a detachment, the territory detached from a city or district, all inhabitants within the territory, and all persons formerly entitled to vote by reason of residing within the territory shall cease to be subject to the jurisdiction of the city or district and shall have none of the rights or duties of the remaining territory, inhabitants, or voters of the city or district.

**Continued liability for debts contracted prior to detachment from city**

**57351**. Unless otherwise provided in the terms and conditions of the detachment, the city from which territory is detached may from time to time levy and collect from the detached territory its just proportion of liability for payment of the interest and principal of debts of the city contracted prior to detachment.

**Rights to tender amount of city liability**

**57352**. At any time, the detached territory may tender to the city council of the city or the legislative body of the district the amount for which the detached territory is liable. If tender is made, the authority of the city or district to levy taxes on the detached

territory shall cease.

**Restriction on rights and entitlements to city or district property or refund of moneys**

**57353**. No inhabitant, property owner, taxpayer, consumer, or user within territory detached from a district or city shall be entitled to either of the following:

(a) All or any part or to any payment on account of the moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected, or any property, real or personal, of the city or district.

(b) Any refund by reason of any taxes, assessments, service charges, rentals, or rates collected prior to the effective date of the detachment.

**Continued liability for payment of bonds, contracts, and obligations of agency**

**57354**. Any territory detached from a city or district shall continue to be liable for the payment of principal, interest, and any other amounts which become due on account of any bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts or obligations of the district and any improvement district within which the detached territory has been situated, as are outstanding on the effective date of detachment. It shall be subject to the levying or fixing and collection of any of the following which may be necessary to provide for that payment:

(a) Taxes or assessments.

(b) Service charges, rentals, or rates.

(c) Both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates.

## CHAPTER 4. EFFECT OF INCORPORATION

**Inhabitants of new city; jurisdiction, rights, and duties**

**57375**. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, on and after the effective date of an incorporation, the territory incorporated, all inhabitants within the territory, and all persons entitled to vote within the newly incorporated city by reason of residing in the city are subject to the jurisdiction of the city and shall have the rights and duties conferred on them as inhabitants and voters of the incorporated city.

**Continuation of county ordinances for 120 days**

**57376**. (a) If the newly incorporated city comprises territory formerly unincorporated, the city council shall, immediately following its organization and prior to performing any other official act, adopt an ordinance providing that all county ordinances previously applicable shall remain in full force and effect as city ordinances for a period of 120 days after incorporation, or until the city council has enacted ordinances superseding the county ordinances, whichever occurs first.

**Continuation of ordinances; Orange County**

However, if the Board of Supervisors of the County of Orange has adopted an ordinance or resolution, or both, pursuant to Section

50029 or 66484.3 prior to the effective date of an incorporation of a city within that county, that ordinance or resolution shall not be repealed or superseded by the city until the county ordinance or resolution has been repealed or superseded by the board of supervisors of that county. If the county ordinance or resolution is repealed or superseded, then within 30 days of the effective date of the ordinance or resolution repealing or superseding the county ordinance or resolution, the city council shall enact a new ordinance or resolution conforming in all respects to the action taken by the county. The ordinance enacted by the city council immediately following its organization also shall provide that no city ordinance enacted within that 120-day period of time be deemed to supersede any county ordinance unless the city ordinance specifically refers to the county ordinance, and states an intention to supersede it. Enforcement of the continuing county ordinances in the incorporated area shall be by the city, except insofar as enforcement services are furnished in accordance with Section 57384.

**Orange County joint powers agreements**

(b) In the event that the County of Orange and any city within that county have entered into a joint powers agreement for the purpose of constructing the bridges and major thoroughfares referred to in Sections 50029 and 66484.3, and if a newly incorporated city within that county comprises territory formerly unincorporated but within an area of benefit established pursuant to Section 66484.3, then the city shall comply in all respects with the agreement, including any subsequent modifications thereof, as if the city were a party thereto.

**Terms of office of city officers and council specified**

**57377**. Officers, except members of the city council, shall hold office until the first succeeding general municipal election held in the city and until their successors are elected and qualified. Of the five elected members of the city council, the two receiving the lowest number of votes shall hold office until the first succeeding general municipal election held in the city and until their successors are elected and qualified, and the three receiving the highest number of votes shall hold office until the second succeeding general municipal election held in the city and until their successors are elected and qualified. If two or more members of the city council are elected by the same number of votes, the terms of each shall be determined by lot. The members of the city council elected to succeed the members elected at the incorporation election shall hold office for four years from the Tuesday succeeding their election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

**City council districts; applicable code section**

**57378**. If the voters in the incorporation election determine that future city council members shall be elected "by districts," or "from districts," the provisions of Article 2 (commencing with Section 34870) of Chapter 4 of Part 1 of Division 2 shall apply to those elections.

**City council terms where general election less than one year after incorporation**

**57379**. If the first general municipal election following an incorporation election will occur less than one year after the effective date of incorporation, or occurred on or after November 1, 1987, and less than one year after the incorporation election, of the five elected members of the city council, the two receiving the lowest number of votes shall hold office until the second general municipal election following the incorporation election and until their successors are elected and qualified, and the three receiving the highest number of votes shall hold office until the third general municipal election following the incorporation election and until their successors are elected and qualified.

The first general municipal election following the incorporation election shall not be held unless either a proposition is to be voted upon or offices other than city council member offices are to be filled.

In the event that, pursuant to Section 56724, the first election for city council members was held after the election on the incorporation proposal, the term "incorporation election" in this section means the first election for city council members.

**Judicial notice of city incorporation**

**57380**. Courts shall take judicial notice of the organization and existence of cities incorporated pursuant to this division.

**Surrender of city offices upon qualification of new officers**

**57381**. Immediately upon qualification of the elected officers, all persons in possession of the offices of the city shall surrender the possession of the offices, though the terms of the offices for which they were elected or appointed have not expired.

**Conveyance of property to new city officers**

**57382**. All officers, boards, and persons holding any property in trust for any city use shall convey that property to the city or officer entitled to the property.

**Conveyance of parking lots; Los Angeles County**

**57383**. The board of supervisors of Los Angeles County may, by a two-thirds vote, convey any parking lot owned by the county and situated within the boundaries of an incorporated city to the city for public parking purposes, without consideration other than the agreement by the city to continue to use and maintain the property as a public parking lot.

This section applies only to parking lots acquired principally from revenues raised through onstreet or offstreet parking fees for the specific purpose of parking lot development, and does not

apply to lots purchased through expenditures from the general fund or other means to serve as sites for other types of facilities.

The conveyance provided for by this section shall not occur until all liens or financial obligations attached to those lots have been satisfied.

**Continuation of county services after incorporation**

**57384**. (a) Except as provided in subdivision (b), whenever a city has been incorporated from territory formerly unincorporated, the board of supervisors shall continue to furnish, without additional charge, to the area incorporated all services furnished to the area prior to the incorporation. Those services shall be furnished for the remainder of the fiscal year during which the incorporation became effective or until the city council requests discontinuance of the services, whichever occurs first.

(b) This subdivision applies only to incorporations for which the petition or resolution of application for incorporation is filed with the commission on or after January 1, 1987. Prior to the commission adopting a resolution making determinations, the board of supervisors may request that the city reimburse the county for the net cost of services provided pursuant to subdivision (a). The commission shall impose this requirement as a term and condition of its resolution. The city shall be obligated to reimburse the county within five years of the effective date of the incorporation or for a period in excess of five years, if the board of supervisors agrees to a longer period. As used in this subdivision, "net cost of services" means the total direct and indirect expense to the county of providing services, as determined pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 56810, adjusted by any subsequent change in the California Consumer Price Index, less any revenues which the county retains that were generated from the formerly unincorporated territory during the period of time the services are furnished pursuant to subdivision (a). This subdivision applies only to those services which are to be assumed by the city.

**Board of supervisors may request reimbursement**

**Time frame for reimbursement**

**"Net cost of services" defined**

**Additional time**

(c) At the request of the city council, the board of supervisors, by resolution, may determine to furnish, without charge, to the area incorporated all or a portion of services furnished to the area prior to the incorporation for an additional period of time after the end of the fiscal year during which the incorporation became effective. The additional period of time after the end of the fiscal year during which the incorporation became effective for which the board of supervisors determines to provide services, without charge, and the specific services to be provided shall be specifically stated in the resolution adopted by the board of supervisors.

**Roads and highways; county road system**

**57385**. (a) If unincorporated territory was, or hereafter becomes, incorporated, all roads and highways or portions of a road or highway in the territory which had been accepted into the county road system pursuant to Section 941 of the Streets and Highways Code are, or shall become, as the case may be, city streets on the effective date of the incorporation.

(b) Subdivision (a) does not apply to a road or highway which had been accepted into the county road system pursuant to Section 941 of the Streets and Highways Code after the date of the first signature on a petition for annexation or incorporation, the adoption of a resolution of application by an affected local agency, or a date mutually agreed upon by the city and the county.

(c) Nothing in subdivision (a) requires a city to improve the affected road or highway to city standards.

## CHAPTER 5. EFFECT OF DISINCORPORATION

**Termination of jurisdiction**

**57400**. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, on and after the effective date of a disincorporation, the territory of the disincorporated city, all inhabitants within the territory, and all persons formerly entitled to vote by reason of residing within the territory shall cease to be subject to the jurisdiction of the disincorporated city and shall have none of the rights or duties of inhabitants or voters of a city.

**Transfer of public property**

**57401**. Prior to the effective date of the disincorporation,all public property of the disincorporating city under the control of, or in the possession of, any public officer or employee of the city shall be transferred to the possession and control of the successor or successors designated by the commission.

**57402**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**Transfer of all monies to county treasurer by city council**

**57403**. Within 30 days after the disincorporation election but prior to the effective date of the disincorporation, the city council of the disincorporated city shall turn over to the county treasurer all city money in its possession.

**57404**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**Due but uncollected tax or assessment**

**57405**. If a tax or assessment has been levied by the disincorporated city and remains uncollected, the county tax collector shall collect it when due and pay it into the county treasury on behalf of the designated successor agency or county to wind up the affairs of the disincorporated city.

**Redemption of property for delinquent city taxes**

**57406**. All property upon which any tax levied by the disincorporated city has become delinquent, and all property sold for any tax levied by the disincorporated city, may be redeemed by any interested party, on payment to the county treasurer of the sum which the auditor estimates would have been necessary to redeem the property if there had been no disincorporation.

**Special funds for disincorporated city**

**57407**. All money paid into the county treasury pursuant to this chapter shall be placed to the credit of a special fund established for the purpose of settling the affairs of the disincorporated city.

**Warrants for city indebtedness**

**57408**. Warrants for city indebtedness shall be drawn by the board of supervisors on the special fund.

**57409**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**57410**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**Surplus in special fund; disposition by board of supervisors**

**57411**. Any surplus remaining in the special fund after the payment of any debts shall be, at the discretion of the board of supervisors, transferred to the school districts, community college districts, or districts included in the former city or used for the improvement of streets within the territory of the former city.

**Winding up of city affairs; county officer duties**

**57412**. The governing body of the successor shall provide for collection of debts due the city and wind up its affairs. Upon an order by the commission, the appropriate officer of the successor shall perform any act necessary for winding up the city affairs, with the same effect as if it had been performed by the proper city officer.

**County successor to city in rights of debts**

**57413**. The county succeeds to all of the rights of the city in the debts and may collect or sue for them in the name of the county.

**Expenses for winding up affairs**

**57414**. All costs and expenses incurred in winding up city affairs are part of the special fund.

**Public utilities of city; assumption of control by board of supervisors**

**57415**. By ordinance, the board of supervisors may assume control of, and continue to administer, all electric, power, lighting, or gas plants and all systems of waterworks, street lighting, or any other public utility owned by the city at the time of its disincorporation.

**57416**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**Separate fund for public utility collection**

**57417**. All sums collected shall be placed in a separate fund in the county treasury for the administration, conduct, and improvement of the public utility for which the tax is levied.

**Assumption of public property of disincorporated or newly incorporation city**

**57418**. If any city has within its boundaries, at the time of incorporation, at least two-thirds of the assessed value of an assessable property formerly contained within a disincorporated city, it becomes the owner of all public property formerly belonging to the disincorporated city and that proportion of the debts, liabilities, and credits owned by or due to the disincorporated city as the value of the assessable property of the disincorporated city lying within the boundaries of the new city bears to the value of all assessable property formerly contained within the disincorporated city. The value is that shown by the equalized assessment roll in effect in the fiscal year in which the city was disincorporated.

**Exclusion from tax on outside territory**

**57419**. No tax shall be levied upon any territory not included within the former limits of the disincorporated city for any debt or liability of the disincorporated city.

**Value of property within new city and disincorporated city; preparation of statement**

**57420**. Upon written request by the legislative body of a newly incorporated city, the board of supervisors shall cause the county auditor to prepare, without cost, a statement of the value of the assessable property in the disincorporated city and the value of that property now contained in the incorporated city. If the statement shows that at least two-thirds of the assessed value of all assessable property formerly contained within the disincorporated city is contained within the boundaries of the newly incorporated city, the board of supervisors shall fix the relative proportion by an order entered in the minutes, and the newly incorporated city is liable for that proportion of the debts and liabilities of the disincorporated city.

**Transfer of public property to new city from disincorporated city**

**57421**. The board of supervisors shall forward a certified copy of the order to the Secretary of State and the city clerk, and turn over to the city council all public property taken by the board of supervisors and the proportion of the special fund to which the city is entitled. Thereafter, ownership of, and title to, all public property formerly belonging to the disincorporated city is vested in the city as fully as if the property had been originally acquired by it.

**Special tax for bonded indebtedness of disincorporated city by new city**

**57422**. Annually, at the time other city taxes are levied and collected, the city council shall levy and collect a special tax on the territory of the disincorporated city within the limits of the city sufficient to pay its proportion of the bonded indebtedness as it

becomes due.

**57423**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**57424**. (Repealed by Stats. 2015, Ch. 304)

**Redemption of property sold for taxes by disincorporated city**

**57425**. If any property within the former limits of the disincorporated city was sold for taxes levied by that city, it may be redeemed or a tax bond issued as if the city had not disincorporated. Those proc eedings shall be had and deeds issued in the name of the city in which the land is situated.

**Disincorporated city; general plan and zoning ordinances**

**57426.** As of the effective date of the disincorporation, all of the following apply:

(a) The general plan of the disincorporated city that was in effect immediately prior to the effective date of the disincorporation shall constitute the community plan of the county for the territory of the disincorporated city until the county updates the community plan, adopts a specific plan, or amends its county general plan for the unincorporated territory.

(b) The zoning ordinances of the disincorporated city that were in effect immediately prior to the effective date of the disincorporation shall constitute the zoning ordinances of the county for that territory, and shall be so identified in any community plan, specific plan, or general plan amendment adopted by the county, until the county updates the zoning ordinances applicable to that territory.

(c) Any conditional use permit or legal nonconforming use that was in place immediately prior to the effective date of the disincorporation shall remain in force pursuant to the community plan and zoning ordinances.

(d) Any use of land that was authorized under the general plan and zoning ordinances immediately prior to the effective date of the disincorporation shall continue to be authorized, for as long as a period as may be required by the California Constitution or the United States Constitution.

## CHAPTER 6. EFFECT OF DISSOLUTION

**Corporate powers to cease on effective date**

**57450**. On and after the effective date of the dissolution of a district, the district shall be dissolved, disincorporated, and extinguished, its existence shall be terminated, and all of its corporate powers shall cease, except as the commission may otherwise provide pursuant to Section 56886 or for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the district and as otherwise provided in this chapter. The general provisions of this chapter shall not be

construed as limiting in any manner the authority of the commission to impose one or more of the terms and conditions set forth in Section 56886.

**Determination of successor district**

**57451**. For the purpose of winding up the affairs of a dissolved district, the successor of the dissolved district shall be determined as follows:

(a) If the territory of a dissolved district is located entirely within the incorporated territory of a single city, the city is the successor.

(b) If the territory of a dissolved district is located entirely within the unincorporated territory of a single county, the county is the successor.

(c) If the territory of a dissolved district is located within the incorporated territory of more than one city or the unincorporated territory of more than one county, or any combination of the incorporated or unincorporated territory of two or more such cities and counties, the successor is that city whose incorporated territory or that county whose unincorporated territory shall, upon the effective date of dissolution, contain the greater assessed value of all taxable property within the territory of the dissolved district, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll or rolls of the county or counties.

(d) If the terms and conditions provide that all of the remaining assets of a dissolved district shall be distributed to a single existing district, the single existing district is the successor.

(e) If the terms and conditions provide that all of the remaining assets of a dissolved district shall be distributed to two or more existing districts, the successor is that existing district which, upon the effective date of dissolution, contains the greater assessed value of all taxable property within the territory of the dissolved district, as shown on the last equalized assessment roll or rolls of the county or counties.

**Property or funds vested in successor**

**57452**. Upon the effective date of dissolution control over all of the moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected, and all property, real or personal, of the dissolved district is vested in the successor for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the district.

**Powers and duties of successor district**

**57453**. For the sole and exclusive purpose of winding up the affairs of the dissolved district, the successor and the officers and legislative body of the successor have the same powers and duties as the dissolved district and the officers and legislative body of the dissolved district and all of the following additional powers and duties:

(a) To exchange, sell, or otherwise dispose of all property, real and personal, of the dissolved district.

(b) To compromise and settle claims of every kind and nature.
(c) To sue or be sued in the same manner and to the same extent as the dissolved district and the officers and legislative body of the dissolved district.

These powers and duties shall commence upon the effective date of dissolution and shall continue thereafter until the time when the affairs of the dissolved district have been completely wound up.

**Inhabitants, owners, etc., not entitled**

**57454**. No inhabitant, property owner, taxpayer, consumer, or user within the territory of a dissolved district shall be entitled to either of the following:
(a) All or any part, or to any payment on account of the moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected, or any property, real or personal, of the dissolved district.
(b) Any refund by reason of any taxes, assessments, service charges, rentals, or rates collected prior to the effective date of dissolution.

**Moneys and funds used for obligations of dissolved district**

**57455**. Any moneys and funds of the dissolved district and any moneys or funds received by the successor from the sale or other disposition of any property, real or personal, of the dissolved district shall be used to the extent necessary, for the payment of principal, interest and any other amounts then or thereafter due on account of any outstanding bonds, including revenue bonds, and other contracts or obligations of the dissolved district.

**Distribution of remaining assets**

**57456**. (a) When the successor determines that payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all short-term obligations of the dissolved district, the successor shall distribute any of the remaining assets of the dissolved district in the manner provided in Section 57457.

**"Short-term obligations" defined**

(b) "Short-term obligations," as used in subdivision (a), includes all amounts which shall be due and payable, prior to the end of the fiscal year commencing next after the effective date of dissolution, upon any outstanding bonds, including revenue bonds, and other contracts or obligations of the dissolved district. All other obligations shall be long-term obligations.

**Assets; to whom distributed**

**57457**. Remaining assets of the dissolved district shall be distributed by the successor as follows:
(a) If the territory of the dissolved district is located entirely within the incorporated territory of a single city, all of the assets shall be distributed to that city.
(b) If the territory of the dissolved district is located entirely within the unincorporated territory of a single county, all the assets of the dissolved district shall be distributed to that county.

(c) If the territory of a dissolved district is located within the incorporated territory of more than one city, or the unincorporated territory of more than one county, or any combination of the incorporated or unincorporated territory of two or more such cities and counties, the assets of the dissolved district shall be apportioned between all such cities and counties and distributed as follows:

(1) All real property located within the incorporated territory of any city or within the unincorporated territory of any county, as the case may be, shall be distributed to that city or county.

(2) All moneys or funds including cash on hand and money due but uncollected and all personal property shall be divided among and distributed to each city or county in the proportion that the assessed value of the taxable property of the dissolved district within the incorporated territory of each city or within the unincorporated territory of each county shall bear to the total assessed value of all taxable property within the dissolved district, the assessed values being those shown upon the last equalized assessment roll or rolls of the county or counties upon the effective date of the dissolution.

**Special tax levy to pay outstanding indebtedness**

**57458**. Until payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of any outstanding long-term obligations, which are payable in whole or in part from taxes or assessments upon any property within all or any part of the territory of a dissolved district, the legislative body of the successor shall in each year provide for the levy and collection of taxes or assessments upon the property sufficient to pay any principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of such obligations, as they become due. Those taxes or assessments shall be levied and collected in the manner provided by the principal act of the dissolved district.

**Restriction on assets until outstanding debts paid**

**57459**. Until payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of any outstanding bonds, contracts, or other obligations which are payable in whole or in part from the revenues of a revenue-producing enterprise of the dissolved district, the successor shall not do either of the following:

(a) Sell, encumber, or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the revenue-producing enterprise or the revenues derived from that enterprise, except as expressly authorized by the ordinance, resolution, or indenture authorizing or providing for the issuance of any of the bonds, contracts, or other obligations.

(b) Distribute less than the whole of the revenue-producing enterprise to any city or county.

**Retention of revenue enterprise until indebtedness paid**

**57460**. If at the time of distribution more than one city or county or any combination of cities or counties are entitled to distribution of portions of a revenue-producing enterprise but the successor is unable to distribute the same because of Section 57459, the successor shall retain the revenue-producing enterprise and all revenues derived from that enterprise until payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of outstanding bonds, contracts, or other obligations which are payable in whole or in part from the revenues of the enterprise, at which time the successor shall distribute the enterprise and any revenues derived there from in accordance with Section 57457.

**Rights and liabilities of successor for obligations payable from revenue enterprise**

**57461**. Where any bonds, contracts, or other obligations which are payable in whole or in part from the revenues of a revenue-producing enterprise are outstanding upon the effective date of dissolution, the successor, prior to distribution, or any city or county, after distribution, shall succeed to all rights and liabilities of the dissolved district under any ordinance, resolution, or indenture authorizing the bonds, contracts, or other obligations or providing for the issuance of the bonds, contracts, or other obligations and may sue or be sued upon those rights and liability in the same manner and to the same extent as the dissolved district.

**Assets of district impressed with any public trust**

**57462**. Any funds, money, or property of a dissolved district which have been impressed with any public trust, use, or purpose shall continue to be so impressed until that public trust, use, or purpose is vacated, abandoned, or terminated, in the manner provided by law.

**Assets to be used for winding up affairs and for the benefit of area**

**57463**. Subject to the provisions of Section 57462, any funds, money, or property of a dissolved district may be used by the successor for the purpose of winding up the affairs of the district and, after distribution to any city, county, or district may be used for any lawful purpose of the city, county, or district to which the funds, money, or property have been distributed. So far as may be practicable, the funds, money, or property shall be used for the benefit of the lands, inhabitants, and taxpayers within the territory of the dissolved district.

## CHAPTER 7. EFFECT OF CONSOLIDATION OF CITIES

**Manner of governance of consolidated city; name of city; officers of new city**

**57475**. If the successor city has a freeholder's charter, the successor city shall be governed as a new city under the freeholder's charter of the successor city. If the successor city was organized under former Part 2 (commencing with Section 35000)

of Division 2 of Title 4, or its predecessors, the successor city shall be governed in the same manner as a new city. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, the successor city shall be governed in the name of the successor city. If the electors have expressed a preference for the name of the successor city, the successor city is deemed to have the name favored by the electors. The predecessor cities are dissolved and disincorporated and if any of them has a freeholder's charter, it is deemed surrendered and annulled and they are merged into the successor city. Immediately upon qualifying, the officers of the successor city who have been elected shall enter upon the duties of their offices and hold office until the next general municipal election and until their successors are elected and qualified. All persons in possession of, or occupying, the offices in each of the predecessor cities shall surrender them immediately to the proper officers of the successor city.

**Title to property of predecessor city**

**57476**. Upon consolidation, the title to any property owned or held by, or in trust for, each predecessor city or by its officers or boards in trust for public use shall be vested in the successor city or its officers or boards.

**Effect of consolidation on liabilities**

**57477**. Except as otherwise provided in this division, consolidation does not affect any debts, demands, liabilities, or obligations of any kind existing in favor of or against the cities consolidated at the time of consolidation. Consolidation does not affect any pending action or proceeding involving any such debt, demand, liability, or obligation or any action or proceedings brought by or against any city prior to consolidation. The proceedings shall be continued and concluded by final judgment or otherwise as if consolidation had not been effected. Those rights or liabilities are the rights and liabilities of the successor city.

**Repeal of ordinances of predecessor city**

**57478**. Immediately upon consolidation, all ordinances of the predecessor cities are deemed repealed. That repeal shall not discharge any person from any existing civil or criminal liability nor affect any pending prosecution for violation of any of those ordinances.

**Restriction on repeal of ordinances**

**57479**. The repeal of ordinances provided by Section 57478 shall not apply to any of the following:

(a) Ordinances under which vested rights have accrued.

(b) Ordinances relating to proceedings for street or other public improvements.

(c) Ordinances relating to zoning or land use regulation.

(d) Proceedings for opening, extending, widening, straightening, or changing the grade of streets or other public places.

These proceedings shall be continued and conducted by the successor city with the same effect as if continued and conducted by the city which commenced them.

**Effective date of ordinances of successor city**

**57480**. On and after the effective date of the consolidation, all ordinances, if any, of the successor city shall have full effect throughout the successor city.

**Restriction on liability of other city's indebtedness**

**57481**. Unless otherwise provided in the terms and conditions of the consolidation, the property in cities consolidated pursuant to this chapter shall not be taxed to pay any indebtedness or liability of any other city contracted or incurred prior to, or existing at, the time of consolidation.

**Separate levy for each city's indebtedness**

**57482**. The city council of the successor city shall separately levy and collect the taxes necessary to pay the indebtedness or liability of each predecessor city within the territory of each predecessor city.

**Charter city status**

**57483**. Where the successor city is, or becomes, a chartered city, under a freeholder's charter providing that boroughs may be established in territories or cities annexed to or consolidated with it, this division does not prevent a predecessor city, or any part of it, from becoming a borough.

## CHAPTER 8. EFFECT OF CONSOLIDATION OF DISTRICTS

**Powers and duties of consolidated district; rights of inhabitants and voters**

**57500**. On and after the effective date of a consolidation, the consolidated district succeeds to all of the powers, rights, duties, obligations, functions, and properties of all predecessor districts which have been united or joined into the consolidated district. The territory of a consolidated district, all inhabitants within that territory, and all persons entitled to vote by reason of residing or owning land within the territory are subject to the jurisdiction of the consolidated district and, except as otherwise provided in this chapter, have the same rights and duties as if the consolidated district had been originally formed under the principal act.

**No payment for use of property of predecessor district**

**57501**. No payment for the use, or right of use, of any property, real or personal, acquired or constructed by any predecessor district shall be required by reason of the consolidation of the district with other predecessor districts.

**Liability for payment of bonds and obligations of predecessor districts**

**57502**. The territory of a consolidated district shall be liable for payment of principal, interest, and any other amounts which become due on account of any outstanding or then authorized but thereafter issued bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts or obligations of all predecessor districts, and are subject to the levying or fixing and collection of any of the following which may be necessary to provide for payment:

(a) Taxes or assessments.

(b) Service charges, rentals, or rates.

(c) Both taxes or assessments and service charges, rentals, or rates.

However, only the territory within an improvement district shall be liable for any payment required on account of any bonds, including revenue bonds, or other contracts previously authorized or issued by, or on behalf of, the improvement district.

## CHAPTER 9. MERGERS AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF SUBSIDIARY DISTRICTS

**Termination of district by merger**

**57525**. On and after the effective date of a merger of a district with a city, the district is extinguished, terminated, and its existence ceases, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

**Assets vested in city**

**57526**. Upon the effective date of a merger, all of the moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected and all property, real or personal, of the merged district is vested in the city.

**Inhabitants, owners, etc., not entitled**

**57527**. No inhabitant, property owner, taxpayer, consumer, or user within the territory of a merged district shall be entitled to either of the following:

(a) All or any part, or to any payment on account of the moneys or funds, including cash on hand and moneys due but uncollected, and any property, real or personal, of the merged district.

(b) Any refund by reason of any taxes, assessments, service charges, rentals, or rates collected prior to the effective date of merger.

**Remaining moneys to pay outstanding indebtedness**

**57528**. Any moneys and funds of the merged district and any moneys or funds received by the city from the sale or other disposition of any property, real or personal, of the merged district shall be used, to the extent necessary, for the payment of principal, interest, and any other amounts then or thereafter due on account of any outstanding bonds, including revenue bonds, and other contracts and obligations of the merged district.

**Special tax to pay indebtedness of merged districts**

**57529**. Until payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of any outstanding obligations, which are payable in whole or in part from taxes or assessments upon any property within all or any part of the territory of a merged district, the city council shall in each year provide for the levy and collection of taxes and assessments upon the property sufficient to pay any principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of such obligations, as they become due. Those taxes and assessments shall be levied and collected in the manner provided by the principal act of the merged district.

**Restriction on sale of revenue enterprise until indebtedness paid**

**57530**. Until payment, or provision for payment, has been made of all principal, interest, and any other amounts owing on account of any outstanding bonds, contracts, or other obligations which are payable in whole or in part from the revenues of a revenue-producing enterprise of the merged district, the city shall not sell, encumber, or otherwise dispose of all or any part of the revenue-producing enterprise or the revenues derived from the enterprise, except as expressly authorized by the ordinance, resolution, or indenture authorizing the bonds, contracts, or other obligations or providing for the issuance of any bonds, contracts, or other obligations.

**Rights of successor city for payment of outstanding indebtedness**

**57531**. Where any bonds, including revenue bonds, contracts, or other obligations of the merged district are outstanding upon the effective date of merger, the city succeeds to all of the rights and liabilities of the merged district under any ordinance, resolution, indenture, contract, or other obligation or providing for or authorizing the issuance of any bonds, contracts, or other obligations and may sue and be sued upon those rights and liabilities in the same manner and to the same extent as the merged district.

**Funds impressed with public trust**

**57532**. Any funds, money, or property of a merged district which have been impressed with any public trust, use, or purpose shall continue to be so impressed until the public trust, use, or purpose is vacated, abandoned, or terminated, in the manner provided by law.

**Use of funds of merged district**

**57533**. Subject to Section 57532, any funds, money, or property of a merged district may be used for any lawful purpose of the city. So far as may be practicable, as determined by the city council, any of these funds, money, or property shall be used for the benefit of the lands, inhabitants, and taxpayers within the territory of the merged district.

**City council as board of directors of subsidiary district; continuation of district's existence**

**57534**. On and after the effective date of an order establishing a district as a subsidiary district of a city, the city council shall be designated as, and empowered to act as, ex officio the board of directors of the district. The district shall continue in existence with all of the powers, rights, duties, obligations, and functions provided for by the principal act, except for any provisions relating to the selection or removal of the members of the board of directors of the district.

**City council member serving on district board; conflict**

**57535**. If any court determines that any incompatibility exists by reason of the same person or persons holding office both as a member of the city council and as a member of the board of directors of a subsidiary district, the court shall order the vacation of the office of that person as a member of the board of directors, but not as a member of the city council, and shall order the membership of the board of directors to be selected in the manner provided by the principal act.

## CHAPTER 10. EFFECT OF REORGANIZATION

**Effect of change of organization after a reorganization**

**57550**. On and after the effective date of a reorganization, each change of organization ordered for any city or district shall be given the force and effect pertaining to a change of organization of that type, as provided in this part.

**Property tax rates; levy by local agencies and school entities**

**93**. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except as provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), no local agency, school district, county superintendent of schools, or community college district shall levy an ad valorem property tax, other than that amount which is equal to the amount needed to make annual payments for the interest and principal on general obligation bonds or other indebtedness approved by the voters prior to July 1, 1978 or the amount levied pursuant to Part 10 (commencing with Section 15000) of Division 1 and Sections 39308, 39311, 81338, and 81341 of the Education Code. In determining the tax rate required for the purposes specified in this subdivision, the amount of the levy shall be increased to compensate for any allocation and payment of tax revenues required pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 33670 and subdivision (d) of Section 33675 of the Health and Safety Code.

(b) A county shall levy an ad valorem property tax on taxable assessed value at a rate equal to four dollars ($4) per one hundred dollars ($100) of assessed value, and at an equivalent rate when the ratio prescribed in Section 401 is changed from 25 percent to 100 percent. The revenue from that tax shall be distributed, subject to the allocation and payment as provided in subdivision (d) of Section 33675 of the Health and Safety Code, to local agencies, school districts, county superintendents of schools, and community college districts in accordance with the provisions of the Government Code through the 1978-79 fiscal year and in accordance with applicable provisions of the Revenue and Taxation Code in each fiscal year thereafter. Revenues from property tax delinquency penalties, and accrued legal interest paid on judgments for the recovery of unpaid property taxes rendered by courts of this state, shall be distributed pursuant to Sections 4653.6, 4655.4, and 4658.4 of the Revenue and Taxation Code, or their successors.

(c) Any jurisdiction may levy an ad valorem property tax rate in the excess of the rate permitted in subdivision (b) in order to produce revenues in an amount which is equal to the amount needed to make annual payments for the interest and principal on any bonded indebtedness for the acquisition or improvement of real property which is approved by a two-thirds vote of its voters after June 4, 1986

**97.70.** Notwithstanding any other law, for the 2004-05 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, all of the following apply:

(a) (1) (A) The auditor shall reduce the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to a county's Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund by the countywide vehicle license fee adjustment amount.

(B) If, for the fiscal year, after complying with Section 97.68 there is not enough ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to a county Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund for the auditor to complete the allocation reduction required by subparagraph (A), the auditor shall additionally reduce the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to all school districts and community college districts in the county for that fiscal year by an amount equal to the difference between the countywide vehicle license fee adjustment amount and the amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to the county Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund for that fiscal year. This reduction for each school district and community college district in the county shall be the percentage share of the total reduction that is equal to the proportion that the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to the school district or community college district bears to the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue that is otherwise required to be allocated to all school districts and community college districts in a county. For purposes of this subparagraph, "school districts" and "community college districts" do not include any districts that are excess tax school entities, as defined in Section 95.

(2) The countywide vehicle license fee adjustment amount shall be allocated to the Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund that shall be established in the treasury of each county.

(b) (1) The auditor shall allocate moneys in the Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund according to the following:

(A) Each city in the county shall receive its vehicle license fee adjustment amount.

(B) Each county and city and county shall receive its vehicle license fee adjustment amount.

(2) The auditor shall allocate one-half of the amount specified in paragraph (1) on or before January 31 of each fiscal year, and the other one-half on or before May 31 of each fiscal year.

(c) For purposes of this section, all of the following apply:

(1) "Vehicle license fee adjustment amount" for a particular city, county, or a city and county means, subject to an adjustment under paragraph (2) and Section 97.71, all of the following:

(A) For the 2004-05 fiscal year, an amount equal to the difference between the following two amounts:

(i) The estimated total amount of revenue that would have been deposited to the credit of the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund, including any amounts that would have been certified to the Controller by the auditor of the County of Ventura under subdivision (j) of Section 98.02, as that section read on January 1, 2004, for the distribution under the law as it read on January 1, 2004, to the county, city and county, or city for the 2004-05

fiscal year if the fee otherwise due under the Vehicle License Fee Law *** **(Part** 5 (commencing with Section 10701) of *** **Division** 2) was 2 percent of the market value of a vehicle, as specified in *** **Sections** 10752 and 10752.1 as those sections read on January 1, 2004.

(ii) The estimated total amount of revenue that is required to be distributed from the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund to the county, city and county, and each city in the county for the 2004-05 fiscal year under Section 11005, as that section read on the operative date of the act that amended this clause.

(B) (i) Subject to an adjustment under clause (ii), for the 2005-06 fiscal year, the sum of the following two amounts:

(I) The difference between the following two amounts:

*** **(ia)** The actual total amount of revenue that would have been deposited to the credit of the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund, including any amounts that would have been certified to the Controller by the auditor of the County of Ventura under subdivision (j) of Section 98.02, as that section read on January 1, 2004, for distribution under the law as it read on January 1, 2004, to the county, city and county, or city for the 2004-05 fiscal year if the fee otherwise due under the Vehicle License Fee Law (Part 5 (commencing with Section 10701) of Division 2) was 2 percent of the market value of a vehicle, as specified in Sections 10752 and 10752.1 as those sections read on January 1, 2004.

***(ib)** The actual total amount of revenue that was distributed from the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund to the county, city and county, and each city in the county for the 2004-05 fiscal year under Section 11005, as that section read on the operative date of the act that amended this *** **subsubclause.**

(II) The product of the following two amounts:

*** **(ia)** The amount described in subclause (I).

*** **(ib)** The percentage change from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year in gross taxable assessed valuation within the jurisdiction of the entity, as reflected in the equalized assessment roll for those fiscal years. For the first fiscal year for which a change in a city's jurisdictional boundaries first applies, the percentage change in gross taxable assessed valuation from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year shall be calculated solely on the basis of the city's previous jurisdictional boundaries, without regard to the change in that city's jurisdictional boundaries. For each following fiscal year, the percentage change in gross taxable assessed valuation from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year shall be calculated on the basis of the city's current jurisdictional boundaries.

(ii) The amount described in clause (i) shall be adjusted as follows:

(I) If the amount described in subclause (I) of clause (i) for a particular city, county, or city and county is greater than the amount described in subparagraph (A) for that city, county, or city and county, the amount described in clause (i) shall be increased by an amount

equal to this difference.

(II) If the amount described in subclause (I) of clause (i) for a particular city, county, or city and county is less than the amount described in subparagraph (A) for that city, county, or city and county, the amount described in clause (i) shall be decreased by an amount equal to this difference.

(C) For the 2006-07 fiscal year and for each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of the following two amounts:

(i) The vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the prior fiscal year, if Section 97.71 and clause (ii) of subparagraph (B) did not apply for that fiscal year, for that city, county, and city and county.

(ii) The product of the following two amounts:

(I) The amount described in clause (i).

(II) The percentage change from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year in gross taxable assessed valuation within the jurisdiction of the entity, as reflected in the equalized assessment roll for those fiscal years. For the first fiscal year for which a change in a city's jurisdictional boundaries first applies, the percentage change in gross taxable assessed valuation from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year shall be calculated solely on the basis of the city's previous jurisdictional boundaries, without regard to the change in that city's jurisdictional boundaries. For each following fiscal year, the percentage change in gross taxable assessed valuation from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year shall be calculated on the basis of the city's current jurisdictional boundaries.

**(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), "vehicle license fee adjustment amount," for a city incorporating after January 1, 2004, and on or before January 1, 2012, means the following:**

**(A) For the 2017-18 fiscal year, the quotient derived from the following fraction:**

**(i) The numerator is the product of the following two amounts:**

**(I) The sum of the most recent vehicle license fee adjustment amounts determined for all cities in the county.**

**(II) The population of the incorporating city.**

**(ii) The denominator is the sum of the populations of all cities in the county.**

**(B) For the 2018-19 fiscal year, and for each fiscal year thereafter, the sum of the following two amounts:**

**(i) The vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the prior fiscal year.**

**(ii) The product of the following two amounts:**

**(I) The amount described in clause (i).**

**(II) The percentage change from the prior fiscal year to the current fiscal year in gross taxable assessed valuation within the jurisdiction of the entity, as reflected in the equalized assessment roll for those fiscal years.**

*** **(3)** For the 2013-14 fiscal year, the vehicle license fee adjustment amount that is determined under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) for the County of Orange shall be increased by fifty-three million dollar ($53,000,000). For the 2014-15 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the calculation of the vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the County of Orange under subparagraph (C) of paragraph (1) shall be based on a prior fiscal year amount that reflects the full amount of this one-time increase of fifty-three million dollars ($53,000,000).

*** **(4)** "Countywide vehicle license fee adjustment amount" means, for any fiscal year, the total sum of the amounts described in paragraphs *** **(1), (2),** and *** **(3)** for a county or city and county, and each city in the county.

*** **(5)** On or before June 30 of each fiscal year, the auditor shall report to the Controller the vehicle license fee adjustment amount for the county and each city in the county for that fiscal year.

(d) For the 2005-06 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the amounts determined under subdivision (a) of Section 96.1, or any successor to that provision, shall not reflect, for a preceding fiscal year, any portion of any allocation required by this section.

(e) For purposes of Section 15 of Article XI of the California Constitution, the allocations from a Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund constitute successor taxes that are otherwise required to be allocated to counties and cities, and as successor taxes, the obligation to make those transfers as required by this section shall not be extinguished nor disregarded in any manner that adversely affects the security of, or the ability of, a county or city to pay the principal and interest on any debts or obligations that were funded or secured by that city's or county's allocated share of motor vehicle license fee revenues.

(f) This section shall not be construed to do any of the following:

(1) Reduce any allocations of excess, additional, or remaining funds that would otherwise have been allocated to county superintendents of schools, cities, counties, and cities and counties pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Sections 97.2 and 97.3 or Article 4 (commencing with Section 98) had this section not been enacted. The allocations required by this section shall be adjusted to comply with this paragraph.

(2) Require an increased ad valorem property tax revenue allocation or increased tax increment allocation to a community redevelopment agency.

(3) Alter the manner in which ad valorem property tax revenue growth from fiscal year to fiscal year is otherwise determined or allocated in a county.

(4) Reduce ad valorem property tax revenue allocations required under Article 4 (commencing with Section 98).

(g) Tax exchange or revenue sharing agreements, entered into prior to the operative date of this section, between local agencies or between local agencies and nonlocal agencies are deemed to be modified to account for the reduced vehicle license fee revenues resulting from the act that added this section. These agreements are modified in that these reduced revenues are, in kind and in lieu thereof, replaced with ad valorem property tax revenue from a Vehicle License Fee Property Tax Compensation Fund or an Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund.

**(Amended by Stats. 2017, Ch. 9)**

**Jurisdictional changes; city Incorporation or disincorporation; district formation**

**99**. (a) For the purposes of the computations required by this chapter:

(1) In the case of a jurisdictional change, other than a city incorporation, city disincorporation, or a formation of a district as defined in Section 2215, the auditor shall adjust the allocation of property tax revenue determined pursuant to Section 96 or 96.1, or the annual tax increment determined pursuant to Section 96.5, for local agencies whose service area or service responsibility would be altered by the jurisdictional change, as determined pursuant to subdivision (b) or (c).

(2) In the case of a city incorporation or disincorporation, the auditor shall assign the allocation of property tax revenues determined pursuant to Section 56810 of the Government Code and the adjustments in tax revenues that may occur pursuant to Section 56815 of the Government Code to the newly formed city or district and shall make the adjustment as determined by Section 56810 or 56813 in the allocation of property tax revenue determined pursuant to Section 96 or 96.1 for each local agency whose service area or service responsibilities would be altered by the incorporation.

(3) In the case of a formation of a district as defined in Section 2215, the auditor shall assign the allocation of property tax revenues determined pursuant to Section 56810 of the Government Code to the district and shall make the adjustment as determined by Section 56810, or for the disincorporated city or dissolved district as determined by Section 56813, in the allocation of property tax revenue determined pursuant to Section 96 or 96.1 for each local agency whose service area or service responsibilities would be altered by the change of organization.

(b) Upon the filing of an application or a resolution pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 (Division 3 (commencing with Section 56000) of Title 5 of the Government Code), but prior to the issuance of a certificate of filing, the executive officer shall give notice of the filing to the assessor and auditor of each county within which the territory subject to the jurisdictional change is located. This notice shall specify each local agency whose service area or responsibility will be altered by the jurisdictional change.

(1) (A) The county assessor shall provide to the county auditor, within 30 days of the notice of filing, a report which identifies the assessed valuations for the territory subject to the jurisdictional change and the tax rate area or areas in which the territory exists.

(B) The auditor shall estimate the amount of property tax revenue generated within the territory that is the subject of the jurisdictional change during the current fiscal year.

(2) The auditor shall estimate what proportion of the property tax revenue determined pursuant to paragraph (1) is attributable to each local agency pursuant to Sections 96.1 and 96.5.

(3) Within 45 days of notice of the filing of an application or resolution, the auditor shall notify the governing body of each local agency whose service area or service responsibility will be altered by the jurisdictional change of the amount of, and allocation factors with respect to, property tax revenue estimated pursuant to paragraph (2) that is subject to a negotiated exchange.

(4) Upon receipt of the estimates pursuant to paragraph (3), the local agencies shall commence negotiations to determine the amount of property tax revenues to be exchanged between and among the local agencies. Except as otherwise provided, this negotiation period shall not exceed 60 days. If a local agency involved in these negotiations notifies the other local agencies, the county auditor, and the local agency formation commission in writing of its desire to extend the negotiating period, the negotiating period shall be 90 days.

The exchange may be limited to an exchange of property tax revenues from the annual tax increment generated in the area subject to the jurisdictional change and attributable to the local agencies whose service area or service responsibilities will be altered by the proposed jurisdictional change. The final exchange resolution shall specify how the annual tax increment shall be allocated in future years.

(5) In the event that a jurisdictional change would affect the service area or service responsibility of one or more special districts, the board of supervisors of the county or counties in which the districts are located shall, on behalf of the district or districts, negotiate any exchange of property tax revenues. Prior to entering into negotiation on behalf of a district for the exchange of property tax revenue, the board shall consult with the affected district. The consultation shall include, at minimum, notification to each member and executive officer of the district board of the pending consultation and provision of adequate opportunity to comment on the negotiation.

(6) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the executive officer shall not issue a certificate of filing pursuant to Section 56658 of the Government Code until the local agencies included in the property tax revenue exchange negotiation, within the negotiation period, present resolutions adopted by each such county and city whereby each county and city agrees to accept the exchange of property tax revenues.

(7) In the event that the commission modifies the proposal or its resolution of determination, any local agency whose service area or service responsibility would be altered by the proposed jurisdictional change may request, and the executive officer shall grant, 30 days for the affected agencies, pursuant to paragraph (4), to renegotiate an exchange of property tax revenues. Notwithstanding the time period specified in paragraph (4), if the resolutions required pursuant to paragraph (6) are not presented to the executive officer within the 30-day period, all proceedings of the jurisdictional change shall automatically be terminated.

(8) In the case of a jurisdictional change that consists of a city's qualified annexation of unincorporated territory, an exchange of property tax revenues between the city and the county shall be determined in accordance with subdivision (e) if that exchange of revenues is not otherwise determined pursuant to either of the following:

(A) Negotiations completed within the applicable period or periods as prescribed by this subdivision.

(B) A master property tax exchange agreement among those local agencies, as described in subdivision (d).

For purposes of this paragraph, a qualified annexation of unincorporated territory means an annexation, as so described, for which an application or a resolution was filed on or after January 1, 1998, and on or before January 1, 2021.

(9) No later than the date on which the certificate of completion of the jurisdictional change is recorded with the county recorder, the executive officer shall notify the auditor or auditors of the exchange of property tax revenues and the auditor or auditors shall make the appropriate adjustments as provided in subdivision (a).

(c) Whenever a jurisdictional change is not required to be reviewed and approved by a local agency formation commission, the local agencies whose service area or service responsibilities would be altered by the proposed change, shall give notice to the State Board of Equalization and the assessor and auditor of each county within which the territory subject to the jurisdictional change is located. This notice shall specify each local agency whose service area or responsibility will be altered by the jurisdictional change and request the auditor and assessor to make the determinations required pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (b). Upon notification by the auditor of the amount of, and allocation factors with respect to, property tax subject to exchange, the local agencies, pursuant to the provisions of paragraphs (4) and (6) of subdivision (b), shall determine the amount of property tax revenues to be exchanged between and among the local agencies. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, no such jurisdictional change shall become effective until each county and city included in these negotiations agrees, by resolution, to accept the negotiated exchange of property tax revenues. The exchange may be limited to an exchange of property tax revenue from the annual tax

increment generated in the area subject to the jurisdictional change and attributable to the local agencies whose service area or service responsibilities will be altered by the proposed jurisdictional change. The final exchange resolution shall specify how the annual tax increment shall be allocated in future years. Upon the adoption of the resolutions required pursuant to this section, the adopting agencies shall notify the auditor who shall make the appropriate adjustments as provided in subdivision (a). Adjustments in property tax allocations made as the result of a city or library district withdrawing from a county free library system pursuant to Section 19116 of the Education Code shall be made pursuant to Section 19116 of the Education Code, and this subdivision shall not apply.

(d) With respect to adjustments in the allocation of property taxes pursuant to this section, a county and any local agency or agencies within the county may develop and adopt a master property tax transfer agreement. The agreement may be revised from time to time by the parties subject to the agreement.

(e) (1) An exchange of property tax revenues that is required by paragraph (8) of subdivision (b) to be determined pursuant to this subdivision shall be determined in accordance with all of the following:

(A) The city and the county shall mutually select a third-party consultant to perform a comprehensive, independent fiscal analysis, funded in equal portions by the city and the county, that specifies estimates of all tax revenues that will be derived from the annexed territory and the costs of city and county services with respect to the annexed territory. The analysis shall be completed within a period not to exceed 30 days, and shall be based upon the general plan or adopted plans and policies of the annexing city and the intended uses for the annexed territory. If, upon the completion of the analysis period, no exchange of property tax revenues is agreed upon by the city and the county, subparagraph (B) shall apply.

(B) The city and the county shall mutually select a mediator, funded in equal portions by those agencies, to perform mediation for a period of not to exceed 30 days. If, upon the completion of the mediation period, no exchange of property tax revenues is agreed upon by the city and the county, subparagraph (C) shall apply.

(C) The city and the county shall mutually select an arbitrator, funded in equal portions by those agencies, to conduct an advisory arbitration with the city and the county for a period of not to exceed 30 days. At the conclusion of this arbitration period, the city and the county shall each present to the arbitrator its last and best offer with respect to the exchange of property tax revenues. The arbitrator shall select one of the offers and recommend that offer to the governing bodies of the city and the county. If the governing body of the city or the county rejects the recommended offer, it shall do so during a public hearing, and shall, at the conclusion of that hearing, make written findings of fact as to why the recommended offer was not

accepted.

(2) Proceedings under this subdivision shall be concluded no more than 150 days after the auditor provides the notification pursuant to paragraph (3) of subdivision (b), unless one of the periods specified in this subdivision is extended by the mutual agreement of the city and the county. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, except for those conditions that are necessary to implement an exchange of property tax revenues determined pursuant to this subdivision, the local agency formation commission shall not impose any fiscal conditions upon a city's qualified annexation of unincorporated territory that is subject to this subdivision.

(f) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (g), for the purpose of determining the amount of property tax to be allocated in the 1979-80 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter for those local agencies that were affected by a jurisdictional change which was filed with the State Board of Equalization after January 1, 1978, but on or before January 1, 1979. The local agencies shall determine by resolution the amount of property tax revenues to be exchanged between and among the affected agencies and notify the auditor of the determination.

(g) For the purpose of determining the amount of property tax to be allocated in the 1979-80 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, for a city incorporation that was filed pursuant to Sections 54900 to 54904, inclusive, of the Government Code after January 1, 1978, but on or before January 1, 1979, the amount of property tax revenue considered to have been received by the jurisdiction for the 1978-79 fiscal year shall be equal to two-thirds of the amount of property tax revenue projected in the final local agency formation commission staff report pertaining to the incorporation multiplied by the proportion that the total amount of property tax revenue received by all jurisdictions within the county for the 1978 -79 fiscal year bears to the total amount of property tax revenue received by all jurisdictions within the county for the 1977-78 fiscal year. Except, however, in the event that the final commission report did not specify the amount of property tax revenue projected for that incorporation, the commission shall by October 10, determine pursuant to Section 54790.3 of the Government Code the amount of property tax to be transferred to the city.

The provisions of this subdivision shall also apply to the allocation of property taxes for the 1980-81 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter for incorporations approved by the voters in June 1979.

(h) For the purpose of the computations made pursuant to this section, in the case of a district formation that was filed pursuant to Sections 54900 to 54904, inclusive, of the Government Code after January 1, 1978, but before January 1, 1979, the amount of property tax to be allocated to the district for the 1979-80 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter shall be determined pursuant to Section 54790.3 of the Government Code.

(i) For the purposes of the computations required by this chapter, in the case of a jurisdictional change, other than a change requiring an adjustment by the auditor pursuant to subdivision (a), the auditor shall adjust the allocation of property tax revenue determined pursuant to Section 96 or 96.1 or its predecessor section, or the annual tax increment determined pursuant to Section 96.5 or its predecessor section, for each local school district, community college district, or county superintendent of schools whose service area or service responsibility would be altered by the jurisdictional change, as determined as follows:

(1) The governing body of each district, county superintendent of schools, or county whose service areas or service responsibilities would be altered by the change shall determine the amount of property tax revenues to be exchanged between and among the affected jurisdictions. This determination shall be adopted by each affected jurisdiction by resolution. For the purpose of negotiation, the county auditor shall furnish the parties and the county board of education with an estimate of the property tax revenue subject to negotiation.

(2) In the event that the affected jurisdictions are unable to agree, within 60 days after the effective date of the jurisdictional change, and if all the jurisdictions are wholly within one county, the county board of education shall, by resolution, determine the amount of property tax revenue to be exchanged. If the jurisdictions are in more than one county, the State Board of Education shall, by resolution, within 60 days after the effective date of the jurisdictional change, determine the amount of property tax to be exchanged.

(3) Upon adoption of any resolution pursuant to this subdivision, the adopting jurisdictions or State Board of Education shall notify the county auditor who shall make the appropriate adjustments as provided in subdivision (a).

(j) For purposes of subdivision (i), the annexation by a community college district of territory within a county not previously served by a community college district is an alteration of service area. The community college district and the county shall negotiate the amount, if any, of property tax revenues to be exchanged. In these negotiations, there shall be taken into consideration the amount of revenue received from the timber yield tax and forest reserve receipts by the community college district in the area not previously served. In no event shall the property tax revenue to be exchanged exceed the amount of property tax revenue collected prior to the annexation for the purposes of paying tuition expenses of residents enrolled in the community college district, adjusted each year by the percentage change in population and the percentage change in the cost of living, or per capita personal income, whichever is lower, less the amount of revenue received by the community college district in the annexed area from the timber yield tax and forest reserve receipts.

(k) At any time after a jurisdictional change is effective, any of the local agencies party to the agreement to exchange property tax revenue may renegotiate the agreement with respect to the current fiscal year or subsequent fiscal years, subject to approval by all local agencies affected by the renegotiation.

**Jurisdictional changes; services by special district to area not previously served by local agency**

**99.01**. (a) For the purposes of Section 99, in the case of a jurisdictional change that will result in a special district providing one or more services to an area where those services have not been previously provided by any local agency, the following shall apply:

(1) The special district referred to in this subdivision and each local agency that receives an apportionment of property tax revenue from the area shall be considered local agencies whose service area or service responsibility will be altered by the jurisdictional change.

(2) The exchange of property tax among those local agencies shall be limited to property tax revenue from the annual tax increment generated in the area subject to the jurisdictional change and attributable to those local agencies.

(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (5) of subdivision (b) of Section 99, any special district affected by the jurisdictional change may negotiate on its own behalf, if it so chooses.

(4) If a special district involved in the negotiation (other than the district which will provide one or more services to the area where those services have not been previously provided) fails to adopt a resolution providing for the exchange of property tax revenue, the board of supervisors of the county in the area subject to the jurisdictional change is located shall determine the exchange of property tax revenue for that special district.

(b) The provisions of subdivisions (a), (b), (c), (d), and (j) of Section 99 not in conflict with this section shall apply. The jurisdictional changes described in subdivisions (e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) of Section 99 shall not be affected by the provisions of this section.

**Annexation development plan; plan for financing services**

**99.3**. (a) The plan for financing services that is included with a resolution of application for change of organization or reorganization filed by a local agency pursuant to Section 56653 of the Government Code for a disadvantaged, unincorporated community may include an annexation development plan that has been adopted pursuant to subdivision (c).

**Definitions**

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

**"Local agency"**

(1) "Local agency" means a local agency as defined by subdivision (a) of Section 95, and does not include any school entity as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 95.

**"Consenting local agency"**

(2) "Consenting local agency" means a local agency that has adopted a resolution of its governing body consenting to the annexation development plan.

**"Territory"**

(3) "Territory" means all or part of the land that is included in the resolution of application for change of organization or reorganization filed by the local agency.

**"Certificate of completing"**

(4) "Certificate of completing" is defined as provided in Section 56020.5 of the Government Code.

**"Disadvantaged unincorporated community"**

(5) "Disadvantaged, unincorporated community" is defined as provided in Section 56033.5 of the Government Code.

(c) A local agency that files a resolution of application for a change of organization or reorganization, and one or more other consenting local agencies that will improve or upgrade structures to serve a disadvantaged, unincorporated community subject to that resolution of application, may agree on an annexation development plan for financing services and structures pursuant to this section.

(d) The annexation development plan agreed upon pursuant to subdivision (c) may contain a provision that taxes levied upon taxable property in the area included within the territory each year by or for the benefit of the local agency and one or more other consenting local agencies that consent to the annexation development plan, be divided as follows:

**Property tax increment financing**

(1) That portion of the taxes that would have been produced by the rate upon which the tax is levied each year by or for each of the consenting local agencies upon the total sum of the assessed value of the taxable property in the territory as shown upon the assessment roll used in connection with the taxation of the property by the consenting local agency, last equalized prior to the effective date of the certification of completion, and that portion of taxes by or for each school entity, shall be allocated to, and when collected shall be paid to, the respective consenting local agencies and school entities as taxes by or for the consenting local agencies and school entities on all property are paid.

(2) That portion of the levied taxes each year specified in the annexation development plan adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) for the city and each consenting local agency that has agreed to participate pursuant to this section, in excess of the amount specified in paragraph (1), shall be allocated to, and when collected shall be paid into a special fund of a special district formed or reorganized with the special district's consent pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 56653 of the Government Code that will finance the infrastructure improvements, including, but not limited to, water, wastewater, and stormwater systems and local streets, roads, and sidewalks, to serve the disadvantaged, unincorporated community. A consenting local agency may advance funds to the special district that is formed or reorganized pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 56653 of the Government Code. The special district shall use those advanced funds solely for the purposes specified in the annexation development plan adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) and shall repay the consenting local agency with revenue from the taxes received pursuant to this subdivision.

(e) An annexation development plan adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) shall specify a date upon which the division of taxes described in subdivision (d) shall terminate.

**Annexation development plan; issuance of indebtedness**

(f) An annexation development plan adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) may include a provision for the issuance of indebtedness. Any indebtedness shall be issued in conformity with Articles 4.5 (commencing with Section 53506) and 5 (commencing with Section 53510) of Chapter 3 of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code or the principal act of the special district.

(g) An annexation development plan adopted pursuant to subdivision (c) shall not result in a reduction of property tax revenues allocated to any school entity as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 95.

(h) Any plan adopted pursuant to this section shall not include any portion of a redevelopment project area which is or has been previously created pursuant to Part 1 (commencing with Section 33000) of Division 24 of the Health and Safety Code.

(i) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2025, and as of that date is repealed.

**Motor vehicle license fees**

**11005.** After payment of refunds therefrom and after making the deductions authorized by Section 11003 and reserving the amount determined necessary by the Pooled Money Investment Board to meet the transfers ordered or proposed to be ordered pursuant to Section 16310 of the Government Code, the balance of all motor vehicle license fees and any other money appropriated by law for expenditure pursuant to this section and deposited to the credit of the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund and remaining unexpended therein at the close of business on the last day of the calendar month, shall be allocated by the Controller by the 10th day of the following month in accordance with the following:

(a) On and after July 1, 2011, to the Local Law Enforcement Services Account in the Local Revenue Fund 2011, as established by Section 30025 of the Government Code, for allocation to cities, counties, and cities and counties.

(b) On or after July 2, 2004, but before July 1, 2011:

(1) First, to the County of Orange. For the 2004—05 fiscal year, that county shall be allocated fifty-four million dollars ($54,000,000) in monthly installments. For the 2005—06 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, that county shall receive, in monthly installments, an amount equal to the amount allocated under this section for the prior fiscal year, adjusted for the percentage change in the amount of revenues credited to the Motor Vehicle License Fee Account in the Transportation Tax Fund from the revenues credited to that account in the prior fiscal year. Moneys allocated to the County of Orange under this subdivision shall be used first for the service of indebtedness as provided in paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) of Section 11001.5.

Any amounts in excess of the amount required for this service of indebtedness may be used by that county for any lawful purpose.

(2) Second, to each city, the population of which is determined under Section 11005.3 on August 5, 2004, in an amount equal to the additional amount of vehicle license fee revenue, including offset transfers, that would be allocated to that city under Sections 11000 and 11005, as those sections read on January 1, 2004, as a result of that city's population being determined under subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 11005.3.

(3) Third, to each city that was incorporated from an unincorporated territory after August 5, 2004, in an amount equal to the product of the following two amounts:

(A) The quotient derived from the following fraction:

(i) The numerator is the product of the following two amounts:

(I) Fifty dollars ($50) per year.

(II) The fraction determined as the total amount of vehicle license fee revenue collected during the most recent fiscal year divided by the total amount of vehicle license fee revenue collected during the 2004—05 fiscal year.

(ii)The denominator is the fraction determined as the actual population, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 11005.3, of all cities during the most recent fiscal year, divided by the actual population, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 11005.3, of all cities in the 2004—05 fiscal year.

(B) The city's population determined in accordance with Section 11005.3.

(4) Fourth, to each city that was incorporated before August 5, 2004, in an amount equal to the product of the following two amounts:

(A) The quotient derived from the following fraction:

(i) The numerator is the product of the following two amounts:

(I) Fifty dollars ($50) per year.

(II) The fraction determined as the total amount of vehicle license fee revenue collected during the most recent fiscal year divided by the total amount of vehicle license fee revenue collected during the 2004—05 fiscal year.

(ii) The denominator is the fraction determined as the actual population, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 111005.3, of all cities during the most recent fiscal year, divided by the actual population, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 11005.3, of all cities in the 2004—05 fiscal year.

(B) The actual population, as defined in subdivision (e) of Section 11005.3, residing in areas annexed after August 5, 2004, as of the date of annexation.

(5) Fifth, to the cities and cities and counties of this state in the proportion that the population of each city or city and county bears to the total population of all cities and cities and counties in this state, as determined by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance.

For the purpose of this subdivision, the population of each city or city and county shall be determined in accordance with Section 11005.3.

**City incorporations; determination of population**

**11005.3.** (a) In the case of a city that incorporated on or after January 1, 1987, and before August 5, 2004, the Controller shall determine that the population of the city for its first 10 full fiscal years, and any portion of the first year in which the incorporation is effective if less than a full fiscal year, is the greater of either:

(1) The number of registered voters in the city multiplied by three. The number of registered voters shall be calculated as the effective date of the incorporation of the city.

(2) The actual population, as defined in subdivision (d).

(b) In the case of a city that incorporated on or after January 1, 1987, and before August 5, 2004, and for which the application for incorporation was filed with the executive officer of the local agency formation commission pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 56828 of the Government Code on or after January 1, 1991, the Controller shall determine that the population of the city for its first seven full fiscal years, and any portion of the first year in which the incorporation is effective if less than a full fiscal year, is the greater of either:

(1) The number of registered voters in the city multiplied by three. The number of registered voters shall be calculated as of the effective date of the incorporation of the city.

(2) The actual population, as defined in subdivision (d).

(c) In the case of a city that was incorporated from unincorporated territory after August 5, 2004, the Controller shall determine the population of the city as follows:

(1) For its first 12 months, 150 percent of the city's actual population.

(2) For its 13th through 24th months, 140 percent of the city's actual population.

(3) For its 25th through 36th months, 130 percent of the city's actual population.

(4) For its 37th through 48th months, 120 percent of the city's actual population.

(5) For its 49th through 60th month, 110 percent of the city's actual population.

(6) After its 60th month, the city's actual population.

(d) For purposes of this section, "actual population" means the population determined by the last federal decennial or special census, or a subsequent census validated by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance or subsequent estimate prepared pursuant to Section 2107.2 of the Streets and Highways Code.

(e) In the case of unincorporated territory being annexed to a city, during the 10-year, 7-year, or 5-year period following incorporation, as the case may be, subsequent to the last federal census, or a subsequent census validated by the Demographic Research Unit of the Department of Finance, the unit shall determine the population of the

annexed territory by the use of any federal decennial or special census or any estimate prepared pursuant to Section 2107.2 of the Streets and Highways Code. The population of the annexed territory as determined by the Demographic Research Unit shall be added to the city's population as previously determined by the Controller pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (a), paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (b), or subdivision (c), as applicable.

(f) After the 10-year, 7-year, or 5-year period following incorporation, as the case may be, the Controller shall determine the population of the city as the city's actual population, as defined in subdivision (d).

(g) The amendments made to this section by the act adding this subdivision shall not apply with respect to either of the following:

(2) Any city that has not prepared and adopted a housing element in compliance with Section 65585 of the Government Code.

(h) This section shall become operative July 1, 1991.

## APPENDIX A: LAFCO CONTACT INFORMATION

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## APPENDIX B: LAFCO-RELATED PUBLICATIONS


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