



LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE MEETING

August 13, 2026, 5:30 pm

North Bay Conference Room (Room 145), Sunnyvale City Hall
456 W. Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086

Rob Moore, Chair
Town of Los Gatos

Anne Bybee
City of Campbell

Ray Wang
City of Cupertino

Sally Meadows
City of Los Altos

Carmen Montano
City of Milpitas

Ken Toren
City of Monte Sereno

Mark Turner
City of Morgan Hill

Ellen Kamei
City of Mountain View

Vicki Veenker
City of Palo Alto

George Casey
City of San Jose

Rajiv Bhateja
Town of Los Altos Hills

Kelly Ramirez
City of Gilroy

Kelly Cox
City of Santa Clara

Tina Walia
City of Saratoga

Charlsie Chang
City of Sunnyvale

Meeting Information:

- *Board meetings are open to the public at the location shown above.*
- *Members of the public may use the information below to join the webinar:*

- **Webinar ID: 823 1430 2917 (Zoom)**

- **Passcode: 254352**

- *Meeting also livestreamed on YouTube:*

<https://www.youtube.com/@citiesassoc>

- *More information on public comment and accessibility is given at the end of the agenda.*

Mayor Mark Turner will attend via teleconference from Mayor's Office, Morgan Hill City Hall, 17575 Peak Ave., Morgan Hill, CA 95037. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Board of Directors from the teleconference location.



WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER

Rob Moore, Chair
Town of Los Gatos

ROLL CALL

Anne Bybee
City of Campbell

Ray Wang
City of Cupertino

Sally Meadows
City of Los Altos

Carmen Montano
City of Milpitas

Ken Toren
City of Monte Sereno

Mark Turner
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City of Sunnyvale

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NONAGENDIZED ITEMS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Board on any matter not on the agenda. State law prohibits the Board from discussing and/or acting on nonagendized items.

1. Consent Agenda (Action)

Recommendation: Review and approve minutes of the Legislative Action

Committee Meeting held on May 14, 2026.

Attachment:

a. Minutes from May 14, 2026 Legislative Action Committee meeting

2. Chair Update (Information)

Recommendation: Receive update from Chair Rob Moore.

3. Early Bill Review (Discussion and Potential Action)

Recommendation: Share early bills and discuss any potential action to recommend to the Board of Directors.

Attachments: Included are bill summaries, letters of support and other supporting documentation as available for the following bills:

a. SB 936 (Blakespear): Nitrous oxide: sales.

b. SB 758 (Umberg): Public health: nitrous oxide.

c. SB 1370 (Stern): Covered wildfire mitigation projects.

d. SB 1125 (Menjivar): Water Rate Assistance Program

e. AB 387 (Alanis): Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act.

f. SB 1117 (Cervantes): Accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units.



4. Propose Bills to Consider for Discussion at Next LAC Meeting (Action)

Rob Moore, Chair
Town of Los Gatos

Anne Bybee
City of Campbell

Ray Wang
City of Cupertino

Sally Meadows
City of Los Altos

Carmen Montano
City of Milpitas

Ken Toren
City of Monte Sereno

Mark Turner
City of Morgan Hill

Ellen Kamei
City of Mountain View

Vicki Veenker
City of Palo Alto

George Casey
City of San Jose

Rajiv Bhateja
Town of Los Altos Hills

Kelly Ramirez
City of Gilroy

Kelly Cox
City of Santa Clara

Tina Walia
City of Saratoga

Charlsie Chang
City of Sunnyvale

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION OPTIONS

Online Participation:

Members of the public may also attend online. However, the Cities Association of Santa Clara County cannot guarantee uninterrupted access to online technology. Technical difficulties may occur from time to time. The meeting will continue even if technical difficulties prevent online participation.

Members of the public wishing to comment on an item on the agenda may do so in the following ways:

1. Email comments to info@citiesassociation.org
 - **IMPORTANT:** identify the Agenda Item number in the subject line of your email.
 - Emails must be received at least 48 hours before meeting start day/time to be entered into the record for the meeting.
2. Provide oral public comments in-person during the meeting
3. Provide oral public comments virtually during the meeting
 - When the President/Chair announces the item on which you wish to speak, click the “raise hand” feature in Zoom. Speakers will be notified shortly before they are called to speak.
 - When called to speak, please limit your comments to the time allotted (up to 3 minutes, at the discretion of the Chair).
 - Phone participants:
 - *6 - Toggle mute/unmute
 - *9 - Raise hand

ACCESSIBILITY

We strive for our meetings and materials to be accessible to all members of the public, and welcome feedback and requests for accommodations. Please submit requests for accommodations to info@citiesassociation.org at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting to allow us to best meet your request.



REGULAR MEETING LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

North Bay Conference Room (Room 145)
Sunnyvale City Hall
456 W. Olive Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086

**MAY 14, 2026
5:30 PM**

AGENDA IN BLACK/**MINUTES IN RED**

Meeting Information:

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 - **Webinar ID: 823 1430 2917**
 - **Passcode: 254352**
- *Meeting also livestreamed on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@citiesassoc>*
- *More information on public comment and accessibility is given at the end of the agenda.*

Hon. George Casey will attend via teleconference from 200 E. Santa Clara Street, Floor 18, Conference Room 1853, San Jose, CA 95113. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Legislative Action Committee members from the teleconference location.

Vice Mayor Larry Lang will attend via teleconference from Neutra House Conference Center, Los Altos Civic Center, 181 Hillview Avenue, Los Altos, CA 94022. This teleconference location is open to the public and any member of the public may address the Legislative Action Committee members from the teleconference location.

WELCOME & CALL TO ORDER – (MOORE)

Meeting called to order at 5:40 PM

ROLL CALL (SIRKAY)

Board Members Present (13):

Campbell	Anne Bybee
Cupertino	Liang Chao*
Gilroy	Kelly Ramirez (arrived 5:45 PM)
Los Altos	Larry Lang
Los Gatos	Rob Moore (arrived 5:40 PM)
Milpitas	Carmen Montano
Monte Sereno	Lisa Shannon*
Morgan Hill	Mark Turner (arrived 5:45 PM)
Mountain View	Ellen Kamei (arrived 5:47 PM)
Palo Alto	Vicki Veenker
Santa Clara	Suds Jain*
Saratoga	Tina Walia
Sunnyvale	Charlsie Chang

*Alternate

Board Members Absent: (2)

Los Altos Hills	Rajiv Bhateja
San Jose	George Casey

Also Present (1):

Shali Sirkay	Executive Director
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Members of the Public Present (1):

Alex	Staff, City of Sunnyvale
Zach Hilton	Mayor Pro Tempore, Gilroy
Joshua Hugg	Midpeninsula Open Space
Victoria Ketell	Staff, City of Sunnyvale

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC ON NONAGENDIZED ITEMS

This portion of the meeting is reserved for persons wishing to address the Legislative Action Committee on any matter not on the agenda but within the Committee's jurisdiction. State law prohibits the Legislative Action Committee from discussing and/or acting on nonagendized items.

None

AGENDA

5. Consent Agenda (Action)

Recommendation: Review and approve minutes of the Legislative Action Committee Meeting held on April 9, 2026.

Attachment:

- a. Minutes from April 9, 2026 Legislative Action Committee meeting

Motion to approve the minutes with the correction that the minutes of the April 9, 2026 Legislative Action Committee meeting was chaired by Board President Tina Walia

By Veenker

Second by Walia

AYES: 9

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Jain)

ABSENT: 5 (Bhateja, Casey, E. Kamei, Ramirez, Turner)

Motion passes 9-0-1-5

6. Chair Update (Information)

Recommendation: Receive update from Chair Rob Moore.

7. Early Bill Review (Discussion and Potential Action)

Recommendation: Share early bills and discuss any potential action to recommend to the Board of Directors.

Attachments: Included are bill summaries, letters of support and other supporting documentation as available for the following bills:

- a. AB 1821 (Pacheco): California Public Records Act: agency response time

Motion to recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on AB 1821 (Pacheco)

By Turner

Second by Walia

AYES: 13

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 0

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 13-0-0-2

- b. AB 2296 (Papan): Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation

Motion to recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on AB 2296 (Papan)

By Ramirez

Second by Turner

AYES: 11

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 2 (E. Kamei, Veenker)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 13-0-0-2

c. SB 1167 (Blakespear): Vehicles: electric bicycles

Motion to recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on SB 1167 (Blakespear)

By Turner

Second by Jain

AYES: 8

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 5 (Bybee, Chang, Chao, E. Kamei, Shannon)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 8-0-5-2

d. SB 949 (Becker): Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: resource of statewide significance: Santa Cruz Mountains.

Motion to recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on SB 949 (Becker)

By Jain

Second by Ramirez

AYES: 9

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 4 (Bybee, E. Kame, Lang, Montano)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 9-0-4-2

e. AB 1708 (Solache): Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: smaller jurisdictions

Motion to recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on AB 1708 (Solache)

By Veenker

Second by Jain

AYES: 10

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 3 (Montano, Turner, Walia)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 10-0-3-2

f. SB 922 (Laird): Vehicles: local agency charges: use of streets or highways.

Motion to *recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on SB 922 (Laird)*

By Turner

Second by Shannon

AYES: 12

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 1 (Lang)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 12-0-1-2

g. AB 2385 (Petrie-Norris): Local reconstruction agencies.

Motion to *recommend that the Cities Association take a support position on AB 2385 (Petrie-Norris)*

By Turner

Second by Montano

AYES: 8

NAYS: 0

ABSTENTIONS: 5 (Bybee, Chang, E. Kamei, Lang, Shannon)

ABSENT: 2 (Bhateja, Casey)

Motion passes 8-0-5-2

8. Propose Bills to Consider for Discussion at Next Legislative Action Committee Meeting (Action)

ADJOURN (MOORE)

Meeting adjourned at 6:40 PM

SB 936 (Blakespear): Nitrous oxide: sales. (Cal Cities supported bill)

Summary:

This bill would prohibit the retail sale of nitrous oxide canisters larger than eight grams, except for legitimate uses in the medical, dental, culinary, and automotive industries, in response to the rise of "whippets" as a recreational drug.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law makes it a misdemeanor to possess nitrous oxide with intent to inhale it for intoxication, and to sell nitrous oxide to anyone under 18. This bill would go further, adding a new Penal Code section and a new chapter to the Health and Safety Code. The bill would prohibit, except as specifically exempted, the sale and distribution of a nitrous oxide container capable of holding more than eight grams of nitrous oxide, or from which an individual may directly inhale nitrous oxide. The bill would also prohibit the sale and distribution of nitrous oxide that has, or is marketed as having, the taste or smell of any food, targeting the flavored, kid-friendly branded products (bubble gum, vanilla cupcake, tropical punch) that critics say have driven youth misuse. Because the bill creates new crimes, it imposes a state-mandated local program, though the bill specifies no state reimbursement is required.

Local context:

Orange, San Mateo, Santa Cruz, and Humboldt Counties have already adopted local bans on retail whippet sales, and Nebraska and Louisiana have enacted similar statewide restrictions. SB 936 would replace this patchwork with one uniform statewide standard.

Status:

SB 936 passed the Senate unanimously (32-0) in May 2026 and has since cleared the Assembly Public Safety Committee 17-0. It is currently moving through the Assembly.

Supporters:

This bill is co-sponsored by the County of Orange, the National Stewardship Action Council, and the San Diego County District Attorney's Office. It is also supported by the League of California Cities and a broad coalition of city and county governments, including San Jose, Long Beach, Santa Clara County, Santa Barbara County, and Humboldt and Mendocino Counties. Law enforcement support includes the California District Attorneys Association, California Narcotic Officers' Association, and local police associations, along with several county sheriffs' offices. Public health backing includes the California Medical Association, American Nurses Association/California, and the Health Officers Association of California, and a large bloc of waste management and recycling authorities have signed on given the environmental disposal angle of the discarded canisters.

Opponents:

Opposition includes the ACLU California Action, the San Francisco Public Defender, Californians United for a Responsible Budget, and the California Coalition for Women Prisoners.



LEAGUE OF
CALIFORNIA
CITIES



July 28, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 936 (Blakespear) – SUPPORT
As Amended July 2, 2026**

Dear Assemblymember Wicks:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California, the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), the Urban Counties of California (UCC), and the County of Santa Barbara we are pleased to support Senate Bill 936 (Blakespear), banning the sale of nitrous oxide for illicit purposes.

Senate Bill 936 bans the sale of nitrous oxide, which is widely used as an illicit recreational inhalant. The illicit use of nitrous oxide as a party drug causes serious and sobering public health and safety consequences. Proper management and disposal of large nitrous oxide cylinders is a growing and expensive waste management problem for local governments. Importantly, SB 936 preserves access to nitrous oxide for legitimate purposes by exempting sales for food preparation, manufacturing, automotive, medical, veterinary, and dentistry purposes.

When used as a recreational inhalant, nitrous oxide has been linked to serious health problems, including dizziness, nausea and vomiting, memory loss, low blood pressure, impaired functioning and judgement, irregular heartbeats, severe asphyxia, and neurological damage. Nitrous oxide misuse was responsible for a fatal collision in Orange County that killed three and seriously injured four children.¹ Another nitrous oxide-related crash in Northern California killed the impaired driver, two occupants of another vehicle, and left a young mother who was a passenger in the car unable to walk or talk.²

California has long prohibited the use or sale of nitrous oxide for recreational purposes, but those laws have had little impact on a rapidly increasing problem. The

¹ <https://abc7.com/post/orange-dominic-mcginley-fiery-crash-nitrous-oxide/12041765/>

² Brooke Park, "It's Available in California Stores and Surging in Use – Yet This Dangerous Drug is Ruining Lives," *San Francisco Chronicle*, October 20, 2025.

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Senate Bill 936
July 28, 2026
Page 2

Food and Drug Administration warned the public about the risks of recreational nitrous oxide use in June of 2025 and several cities and counties in California have since banned the sale of nitrous oxide.

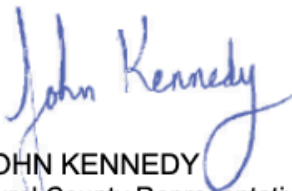
Unfortunately, existing law provides neither the tools nor the consequences to adequately address the problem. SB 936 builds upon the models adopted by local governments in Orange County, Humboldt County, Nebraska, and Louisiana and imposes serious consequences for those who illegally sell nitrous oxide.

Local agencies are responsible for the collection, processing, recycling and disposal of solid waste, including the operation of local household hazardous waste (HHW) collection programs. Waste nitrous oxide cylinders must be managed by local governments as HHW, where the cost for disposal (roughly \$70-\$120/container) far exceeds the initial consumer purchase price (\$40-\$70/container). These costs are not sustainable.

Local governments have no control over what products are introduced into the marketplace and for which we will ultimately be responsible for management and disposal. By banning the sale of large nitrous oxide containers, SB 936 will significantly reduce cost pressures and management challenges for local solid waste programs and their operators.

In short, SB 936 will better protect children and young adults from the dangers of illicit nitrous oxide use while reducing local government solid waste management costs and challenges. For these reasons, we are pleased to support SB 936 and respectfully request your "aye" vote when this measure is heard before your committee. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Rural County Representatives of California
Senior Policy Advocate
jkennedy@rcrcnet.org



JOLENA VOORHIS
League of California Cities
Legislative Advocate, Public Safety
voorhis@calcities.org

SB 758 (Umberg): Public health: nitrous oxide. (League of California Cities co-sponsored bill)

Summary:

This bill prohibits any retailer holding a cigarette and tobacco license from selling nitrous oxide at a retail location, closing off one of the easiest points of purchase for recreational nitrous oxide misuse.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law already makes it a misdemeanor to sell nitrous oxide to anyone under 18, to knowingly distribute it to someone intending to use it for intoxication, and requires sellers to document each transaction with the buyer's ID and a signed warning about the risks of misuse. This bill goes further by prohibiting any retailer licensed under the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act of 2003 from selling nitrous oxide at their retail location at all. Grocery stores and general retail merchandise stores with a grocery department are not considered "retailers" for purposes of this restriction, preserving legitimate culinary uses like whipped cream canisters. As amended in the Assembly, convenience stores were removed from the list of exempted retailers, meaning gas station mini-marts and smoke shops, common points of sale for nitrous oxide to minors and recreational users, would no longer be allowed to sell it.

An earlier version of this bill also would have added 7-hydroxymitragynine (7-OH), a concentrated synthetic compound derived from kratom and sometimes called "gas station heroin," to the state's Schedule I controlled substances list. However, that provision regarding 7-OH was subsequently amended out of the bill, leaving the current legislation focused primarily on restricting the retail sale of nitrous oxide.

Status:

SB 758 passed the Senate 40-0 and is now moving through Assembly policy committees, most recently Business and Professions on June 23, 2026.

Supporters:

This bill is sponsored by the League of California Cities and supported by the California Narcotic Officers' Association, along with a wide bench of local police officer associations, including Riverside, Corona, Fullerton, Burbank, Pomona, Murrieta, and Newport Beach among many others. Local government support includes the Counties of Humboldt, Kern, Orange, and Tulare, and cities including Sunnyvale, Irvine, Ventura, Carlsbad, and Rocklin, plus the Rural County Representatives of California. Notably, the American Kratom Association and Global Kratom Coalition are also in support, distinguishing this bill's focus on nitrous oxide retail access from any restriction on traditional kratom products.

Opposition:

Opposition includes the ACLU California Action, Drug Policy Alliance, California Public Defenders Association, California Attorneys for Criminal Justice, and the California Retail and Distribution Fairness Association, along with harm reduction groups like Californians for Safety and Justice, Smart Justice California, and Students for Sensible Drug Policy. Opponents argue the bill leans on criminalization and retail restriction rather than public health regulation.



July 13, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee
1021 O Street, Suite 8220
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 758 (Umberg) Public health: nitrous oxide.
Notice of SUPPORT/ Co-Sponsor (As Amended 6/24/2026)

Dear Chair Wicks,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities) is pleased to co-sponsor **SB 758 (Umberg)**, which would prohibit all licensed Cigarette and Tobacco retailers (except grocery stores) from selling nitrous oxide.

Nitrous oxide (NOX) is an odorless, colorless chemical with established legitimate uses in food preparation and dentistry. However, it is increasingly misused through inhalation for intoxicating purposes. In recent years, numerous California cities have reported an increase in the recreational use of nitrous oxide obtained from smoke shops and other retailers.

Not only is recreational use illegal but it is also extremely dangerous. The U.S. Food & Drug Administration earlier this year warned in their publication titled, "[FDA Advises Consumers Not to Inhale Nitrous Oxide Products](#)" that, "Inhaling nitrous oxide can result in a range of symptoms and serious health problems, neurological and nerve damage, spinal cord and brain damage, heart attack, and in some cases, death."

Although current law prohibits the sale of nitrous oxide for recreational intoxicating purposes, significant loopholes in the statutory framework allow these products to be easily diverted into the recreational market. For example, nitrous oxide canisters labeled for food preparation are repurposed and resold at various tobacco retail locations. To address this issue, at least twenty-five cities have brought forth ordinances focused on restricting the sale of nitrous oxide in tobacco retail locations that have no real connection to legitimate uses. However, effectively preventing the recreational sale of nitrous oxide will require clear, consistent statewide guidelines.

SB 758 would close the dangerous loophole that allows nitrous oxide to be sold in smoke shops, making it easier for cities to address the troubling proliferation of recreational nitrous oxide related injuries and deaths.

For these reasons, Cal Cities is pleased to Co-Sponsor **SB 758 (Umberg)**. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact me at jvoorhis@calcities.org.

SB 1370 (Stern): Covered wildfire mitigation projects: consolidated and expedited review.

Summary:

This bill creates a single, consolidated state permitting process for wildfire mitigation projects and exempts qualifying projects from CEQA review, with the goal of clearing the fuel breaks, vegetation management, and forest health work that currently gets tied up in multi-agency permitting.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law establishes CAL FIRE's Office of the State Fire Marshal and its Community Wildfire Mitigation Assistance Program to coordinate wildfire prevention efforts across state and local agencies. This bill requires that all state-level environmental and resource permits, approvals, and consultations for a "covered wildfire mitigation project" be consolidated into a single review administered jointly by the Natural Resources Agency and CalEPA. Applicants would submit one consolidated application, and the reviewing agencies would be required to issue a written determination within 60 calendar days, extendable only by mutual agreement. An expedited authorization issued under this process would waive the need to separately comply with the individual permitting statutes and regulations that would otherwise apply within the consolidated agencies' jurisdiction. Qualifying projects must be under 3,000 acres, completed within two years of approval, and are exempted outright from CEQA. Violations of the project conditions carry a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per infraction. CAL FIRE is also required to calculate a risk-reduction cost per unit for publicly funded projects, and the review agencies must report back to the Legislature on implementation by July 2029. The streamlined process sunsets on December 31, 2030.

Status:

SB 1370 passed the Senate 29-5 on May 26, 2026, and is now moving through Assembly policy committees, including a hearing in Assembly Natural Resources on June 29, 2026.

Supporters:

This bill is supported by the League of California Cities and CSAC, along with the Rural County Representatives of California. It is also backed by the insurance industry, including the American Property Casualty Insurance Association, Personal Insurance Federation of California, and National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies, as well as the state's major utilities, Pacific Gas and Electric, Southern California Edison, and San Diego Gas & Electric. CalChamber and Megafire Action are also in support. The Nature Conservancy has taken an if-amended support position.

Opposition:

Sierra Club, Center for Biological Diversity, California Native Plant Society, Environment California, and Californians for Pesticide Reform. Their concerns center on the CEQA exemption and consolidated waiver process opening the door to logging and pesticide use with limited scientific review. Pacific Forest Trust and Endangered Habitats League hold against-unless-amended positions.



June 16, 2026

The Honorable Henry Stern
Member, California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 7710
Sacramento, CA 95814

The Honorable Josh Becker
Member, California State Senate
1021 O Street, Suite 6520
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Senate Bill 1370 – SUPPORT
As Amended June 11, 2026**

Dear Senators Stern and Becker:

On behalf of the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the League of California Cities (Cal Cities), we are pleased to support your Senate Bill 1370, which seeks to expedite state permit review for wildfire prevention projects.

Senate Bill 1370 creates a consolidated and expedited state permit review process for a variety of wildfire mitigation projects that comply with the Statewide Fuels Reduction Environmental Protection Plan. These projects include removal of hazardous, dead, or dying trees or vegetation, removal of vegetation to create strategic fuel breaks, removal of vegetation for community defensible space or along roadways, maintenance of previously established fuel breaks, prescribed fire and cultural burning, and removal of vegetation around utility poles, lines, and rights of way. SB 1370 codifies the extremely successful Executive Order (N-38-25) that has expedited hundreds of critical wildfire prevention projects. In codifying the operative provisions of the Executive Order, SB 1370 also responds to requests from utilities, local governments, and the California Earthquake Authority to make permanent this common sense and transformational program.

Wildfire risk reduction is paramount for communities in the wildland-urban interface. Beyond those communities, fuel management benefits accrue statewide, including reducing fire intensity, reducing response costs and risks, mitigating emissions from wildfires, and avoiding smoke exposure in communities even over one hundred miles away. CAL FIRE's Fire Hazard Severity Zone maps present a sobering view of how dramatically the state's wildfire patterns and potential impacts have been exacerbated by climate change and inattention to fuels treatment. Those trends continue to highlight the urgent need to expedite wildfire risk mitigation at the community and parcel level.

California must improve its permitting process to reduce project delivery timelines and realize the state's goals of increasing the pace and scale of fuel treatment. Permit

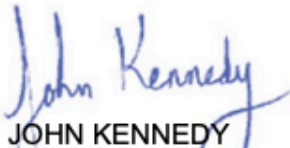
The Honorable Henry Stern
The Honorable Josh Becker
Senate Bill 1370
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Page 2

delays, including compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, can have catastrophic consequences, as seen when the town of Berry Creek was destroyed by a wildfire while waiting for the state to complete CEQA review associated with an \$836,000 fuel management project. With seasonal weather constraints, even a month's delay in obtaining the requisite permits can delay a project deep into the following year. As the joint Investor-Owned Utilities noted in their letter to the California Earthquake Authority, Governor Newsom's N-38-25's fast-track permitting project significantly reduced permitting delays for critical fuel reduction projects, with coastal development permits that normally would have taken three years to obtain secured in less than a month. Just as importantly, the process seeks to reduce the risk of regulatory overlap and inconsistencies between different state permitting entities.

In sum, SB 1370 codifies long-overdue changes to the state's permitting process for a wide variety of projects that will save lives, make our communities safer, and reduce the risk of catastrophic wildfires.

For these reasons, we are pleased to support your SB 1370. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

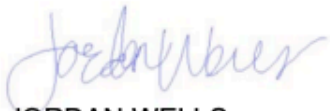
Sincerely,



JOHN KENNEDY
Rural County Representatives of California
Senior Policy Advocate
jkennedy@rcrcnet.org



MELISSA SPARKS-KRANZ
League of California Cities
Legislative Advocate
msparkskranz@calcities.org



JORDAN WELLS
California State Association of Counties
Legislative Advocate
jwells@counties.org

cc: The Honorable Cottie Petrie-Norris, Chair, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
The Honorable Isaac Bryan, Chair, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Laura Shybut, Chief Consultant, Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee
Paige Brokaw, Consultant, Assembly Natural Resources Committee
Gino Folchi, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

SB 1125 (Menjivar): Water Rate Assistance Program.

Summary:

This bill creates California's first statewide low-income water rate assistance program, providing direct bill credits to eligible residential water customers through a new state-administered fund.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to develop a plan for funding and implementing a Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program, but no statewide program has ever been enacted. This bill establishes the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury, available upon legislative appropriation, to provide water affordability assistance to low-income residential ratepayers. The state board would administer the fund, track its revenue separately from other state funds, and, after a public hearing, adopt implementation guidelines covering eligibility requirements, including self-certification under penalty of perjury. Local water agencies could participate directly in the state program or integrate the funding into their own existing local assistance programs. The state board would also be required to regularly assess water affordability needs and funding levels statewide and publish an annual public report on the fund's performance. The bill authorizes the Attorney General, at the state board's request, to bring a court action to stop violations of the program's provisions. Implementation of the entire program is contingent on the Legislature actually appropriating funding, meaning the framework could pass without the assistance itself taking effect right away.

Status:

SB 1125 passed the Senate and has cleared two Assembly policy committees, most recently Assembly Utilities and Energy on June 24. It now heads to Assembly Appropriations, its biggest remaining hurdle, with the August 13 suspense file hearing as the next major checkpoint.

Supporters:

SB 1125 has drawn a large coalition. Water agencies and associations in support include ACWA, the California Municipal Utilities Association, California Special Districts Association, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, San Diego County Water Authority, East Bay Municipal Utility District, San Francisco Public Utilities Commission, and several other regional water districts. Local governments in support include the City of Sacramento, City of Burbank, City of Roseville, City of Thousand Oaks, and CSAC. Environmental and consumer advocacy support includes Clean Water Action, Sierra Club California, Environmental Defense Fund, Community Water Center, and California Environmental Voters, among others. Notably, ACWA's support marks a shift from its opposition to earlier water rate assistance proposals like SB 350 and SB 222.

Opposition:

None on record.

AB 387 (Alanis): Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act.

Summary:

This bill strengthens California's existing Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act by extending AED access requirements to sports facilities themselves, not just the youth sports organizations that use them, and requires facilities and organizations to share the cost of installing and maintaining lifesaving equipment on site.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law, the Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act, already requires youth sports organizations to ensure their athletes have access to an AED during official practices and matches, effective January 1, 2028, and requires those AEDs to be maintained and tested to specified standards. This bill closes a gap in that framework: commencing January 1, 2028, any public or private local facility with permanent sports infrastructure must ensure the youth sports organizations using it have access to an AED that the facility itself procures and maintains during any official practice or match it permits, with an exception for local educational agencies. If a facility doesn't have an AED available, the youth sports organization using that facility must ensure access to one on its own. Facilities and youth organizations are required to work collaboratively to keep AEDs accessible and to identify ways to share the financial costs of installing or maintaining the device, rather than leaving the full burden on one side.

Status:

AB 387 passed the Assembly 67-0, cleared the Senate Health Committee on June 24, 2026, and cleared Senate Education on July 1, 2026. It was amended again on August 3, 2026 and is now headed to Senate third reading.

Supporters:

Supporters include the American Youth Soccer Organization and the Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation, an organization dedicated to preventing sudden cardiac arrest deaths in young athletes through AED access. Law enforcement support includes the California Association of School Police Chiefs, California Coalition of School Safety Professionals, Los Angeles School Police Management Association, Los Angeles School Police Officers Association, Riverside Police Officers Association, and Riverside Sheriffs' Association.

The League of California Cities, CSAC, Rural County Representatives, and Urban Counties of California, along with several individual cities and parks and recreation associations, held oppose or oppose-unless-amended positions rooted in the cost of procuring and maintaining AEDs at facilities. However, this opposition has since been removed based on the establishment of a shared-responsibility model between youth sports organizations and local governments to ensure access to an automated external defibrillator (AED) during practices and matches.

Opposition:

Individual cities opposing include Rancho Cucamonga, Belmont, Buena Park, Corona, Lancaster, and Santa Rosa. The California Association of Recreation & Park Districts and California Park & Recreation Society both cited cost concerns unless amended.



June 26, 2026

The Honorable Sasha Renée Pérez
Chair, Senate Education Committee
1021 O Street, Room 6740
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 387 (Alanis) Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act.
Notice of REMOVAL OF OPPOSITION *(As Amended 6/25/26)*

Dear Senator Pérez,

The League of California Cities writes to inform you that, based on the amendments in print as of June 25, Cal Cities has removed its opposition to **AB 387 (Alanis)**.

The current version of the bill establishes a thoughtful shared-responsibility model between youth sports organizations and local governments to ensure access to an automated external defibrillator (AED) during practices and matches. This shared approach provides important local flexibility in meeting the bill's requirements without limiting access to public parks or creating undue cost burdens on families registering children for youth sports.

Cal Cities sincerely appreciates the work of the author and committee staff in addressing our concerns. For these reasons, Cal Cities is removing its opposition to **AB 387 (Alanis)**. If you have any questions, please contact me at cgrinder@calcities.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Caroline Grinder".

Caroline Grinder
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities

SB 1117 (Cervantes): Accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units.

Summary:

This bill would further limit the impact fees local agencies can charge on larger accessory dwelling units, restricting fees to only the square footage that exceeds 750 square feet.

Legislative Digest:

Existing law already prohibits local agencies, special districts, and water corporations from charging any impact fee on an ADU with 750 square feet of interior livable space or less, and requires that fees on larger ADUs be charged proportionately based on the square footage of the primary dwelling unit. This bill goes a step further, requiring that the fee charged for a larger ADU be based only on the interior livable area in excess of 750 square feet, not the unit's full square footage. So a 1,000-square-foot ADU would only be assessed impact fees on 250 square feet, regardless of what fee methodology the local agency otherwise uses. Because this changes how local agencies must calculate ADU fees, the bill imposes a state-mandated local program. The bill also includes findings declaring this a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair, meaning it would apply to charter cities as well as general law cities.

Status:

SB 1117 passed the Senate and cleared the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee on June 10, 2026, and the Assembly Local Government Committee on July 1, 2026, where it passed 8-0. It now heads to Assembly Appropriations.

Supporters:

This bill is sponsored by California YIMBY and the Casita Coalition. It draws broad support from housing production and tenant advocacy groups, including Abundant Housing Los Angeles, Circulate Planning & Policy, Eden Housing, and Faith and Housing Coalition, along with a large network of regional pro-housing groups such as East Bay for Everyone, Peninsula for Everyone, Napa-Solano for Everyone, and San Mateo Forward. Rental property and apartment industry groups are also in support, including the California Apartment Association, California Rental Housing Association, Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles, and several regional rental housing associations. Zillow Group and the Shasta County Board of Supervisors are also in support.

Opposition:

Cal Cities and CSAC both oppose the bill, joined by the Rural County Representatives of California, California Special Districts Association, and a long list of individual cities including Thousand Oaks, Redwood City, Buena Park, Foster City, San Marcos, and Morgan Hill. Fire service groups have also raised concerns, with the Fire Districts Association of California and California Fire Chiefs Association both in an against-unless-amended position, reflecting worry about fire facility impact fee funding. The Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers and South Bay Cities Council of Governments are opposed as well. The core concern across this coalition is the same one Cal Cities has raised throughout the session: further limiting ADU impact fees cuts into funding local agencies rely on for infrastructure and public safety services tied to new development.



July 27, 2026

The Honorable Buffy Wicks
 Chair, California State Assembly Appropriations Committee
 1021 O Street, Suite 8220
 Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 1117 (Cervantes) Accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units

Notice of OPPOSITION (As of 7/8/2026)

Dear Chair Wicks,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities), the California Special Districts Association (CSDA), the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts (CARPD), the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) must regrettably oppose **SB 1117 (Cervantes)** which would limit the amount of impact fees a local government could charge on an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) more than 750 square feet for up to two ADUs on a lot.

Local governments and planners appreciate the need to provide builders with some level of certainty regarding the fees and other conditions applicable to their proposed development before they make substantial investments in pursuing the development. However, that certainty often comes with social costs. The roads, fire stations, fire apparatus, parks, recreational facilities, and other necessary assets that will serve future residents of the development or mitigate the development's environmental impacts are not without cost. The quality of these public assets is often a key factor in making new development attractive and marketable. Prospective residents are unlikely to choose communities with inadequate public services.

SB 1117 completely disregards the Mitigation Fee Act (MFA), which strictly regulates how local agencies impose impact fees. Under the MFA, impact fees must be limited to the specific service and may cover only the cost of providing that service. Arbitrarily capping these fees would prevent the development of the public improvements and services necessary to meet the needs of residents living in the newly constructed ADU. Further, the inability to ensure that the applicable fees will generate sufficient funding to construct the

necessary facilities within a reasonable timeframe may make it more difficult to rely on those fee mechanisms as mitigation for environmental impacts, thereby encouraging legal challenges and consequent delays.

Development impact fees—grounded in required nexus studies rather than set arbitrarily—serve as a critical, and in some cases the only, funding source for local governments with limited revenue options. Nexus studies require evidence-based reasoning to validate the proposed fees and cover the reasonable cost of providing the service, which local governments must complete before adopting impact fees under the MFA. Without these funds, many jurisdictions lack the ability to build essential public facilities.

SB 1117 would substantially reduce the impact fees collected for the construction of an ADU. As noted in the Senate Housing Committee analysis, the bill would frequently result in a fee reduction of approximately 75 percent. The on-the-ground reality is that the need for infrastructure and public services does not go away if fees are reduced, and local governments have limited general fund cash to cover upfront costs of these essential public goods to support livable, equitable, and thriving communities. By sharply reducing these fees, the bill would shift a greater share of the cost of serving new development onto existing residents.

Effectively addressing California's housing crisis requires aligning housing production with investments in infrastructure, since communities cannot be healthy, equitable, or livable without the facilities these fees support. Our organizations strongly support housing, development, and economic growth, and we are committed to partnering with those actively building housing to help solve the crisis.

For these reasons, the undersigned organizations regrettably must oppose **SB 1117 (Cervantes)**. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,



Brady Guertin
Legislative Advocate
League of California Cities
bguertin@calcities.org



Anthony Tannehill
Legislative Representative
California Special Districts Association
anthonyt@csgda.net



Ethan Nagler
Legislative Representative
California Association of Recreation
and Park Districts
enagler@publicpolicygroup.com



Mark Neuburger
Legislative Advocate
California State Association of Counties
mneuburger@counties.org