

Santa Barbara LAFCO

Assembly Bill 3 Status Report and Possible Action

May 7, 2015

Status Report on Assembly Bill 3 (Williams)

- On April 2, 2015, the Commission approved an Oppose, Unless Amended position on Assembly Bill 3 (AB 3)(Williams)
- AB 3 was last amended on May 4, 2015 to require the Board of Supervisors to place the formation process on the ballot and at the same election vote on the initial board of directors. If the formation is approved, the bill would require the new board of directors to place a utility user tax on the ballot. If a utility user tax is not approved by January 1, 2027, the district would automatically be dissolved.
- The Bill still contains the same provisions included in the April 27, 2015 version that specifies the makeup of the Board of Directors and the Utility User tax for financing.

SBLAFCO's AB 3 Ad Hoc Committee

- The Commission's AB 3 Ad Hoc Committee met on May 4, 2015 to review the amendments to the bill.
- The May 4, 2015 amendments dealing with placing the formation process and new board of directors on the ballot and voter approval of the utility user tax were not discussed at the Ad Hoc Committee meeting.
- CALAFCO's May 1, 2015 Oppose, Unless Amended, letter was discussed at the meeting.

Ad Hoc Committee Options

- Members of the Ad Hoc Committee recommended the Commission consider one of the following options:
 - 1) Take no action.
 - 2) Send a letter that reiterates Commission's previous position to Oppose AB3, Unless Amended.
 - 3) Send a letter stating that the Commissions Opposes AB 3 unless it is amended to require LAFCO review and approval of any proposed district for Isla Vista, consistent with the position stated by CALAFCO in its letter of May 1, 2015.
 - 4) Any other option as directed by the Commission.

Current Status of Assembly Bill 3

- The Committee acknowledged that a number of the areas of concern in the Commission's February 19, 2015 Letter of Concern have been addressed in revisions to AB 3. However, there are still outstanding areas of concern with the bill, most notably circumvention of the special district formation process that involves LAFCO.
- The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Act (CKH), among the requirements, would provide for a comprehensive fiscal analysis before the commission acts on a proposal.

Commission Direction

- Ad Hoc Committee members Geyer and Moorhouse support Option 3, above.
- If directed, the Executive Officer will draft a letter to Assembly Member Williams stating any further policy position of LAFCO.

2015 LEGISLATIVE CALENDAR

- January 30 - Last day to submit bill requests to Legislative Counsel
- February 27 – Last day for bills to be introduced
- May 1 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report fiscal bills for referral to fiscal committees
- May 15 – Last day for policy committees to hear and report to the Floor non-fiscal bills
- May 22 – Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 8
- May 29 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear and report bills the Floor
- June 5 – Last day to pass bills out of the house of original

Recommendation

Consider the Following Recommendations:

- a) Receive and file staff presentation
- b) Consider taking an advocacy positions of support, watch, or oppose on AB 3 (Williams); or
- c) Take no position on AB 3 (Williams) – Isla Vista Community Services District