



Solano Local Agency Formation Commission

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(707) 439-3897 • FAX: (707) 438-1788

April 9, 2018

Assembly Member Heath Flora
California State Assembly
State Capitol, Room 3098
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: **SUPPORT FOR AB 2600:** Regional Park and Open Space Districts

Dear Assembly Member Flora:

The Solano Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) supports **Assembly Bill 2600**, which allows the initiation of Regional Park and Open Space Districts to occur by resolution of the City Councils and Board of Supervisors within the proposed district.

Current law only allows the initiation to occur by a petition of 5,000 or more voters. This restrictive initiation requirement is an antiquated feature of the Open Space District law which was passed in 1939 and has not undergone a comprehensive update since. The petition requirement increases the cost and time for proponents to initiate Regional Park and Open Space District formation proposals. The principal acts for a variety of special districts allow initiation by either petition or local agency resolution, including Cemetery Districts, Community Service Districts, Fire Protection Districts, Mosquito and Vector Abatement Districts, and Parks and Recreation Districts.

The proponents of the last eleven proposals for Regional Park and Open Space Districts have sought special enabling acts from the Legislature. A principal act should allow district initiations without the need for special enabling acts.

Solano LAFCO supports the availability of a more streamlined and less costly initiation process for Regional Park and Open Space Districts. Adding the option for local governments to adopt a resolution of application in lieu of the 5,000 signature petition is a much more streamlined way to initiate the formation process. Further, keeping the LAFCO application

Commissioners

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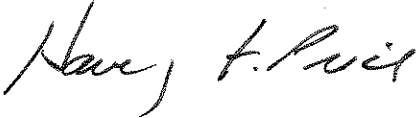
Staff

Rich Seithel, Executive Officer • Michelle McIntyre, Analyst • P. Scott Browne, Legal Counsel

process intact also allows for the appropriate detailed review to ensure the efficient and sustainable provision of services.

For these reasons, the Solano LAFCo is pleased to join the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions (CALAFCO) and support **AB 2600** and thank you for authoring this important piece of legislation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Harry T. Price".

Harry T. Price
Chair, Solano LAFCO

cc: Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Debbie Michel, Chief Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus

Pamela Miller, Executive Director, CALAFCO