



## LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

RECORD OF ACTION FOR  
June 12, 2023

Supervisor Ken Carlson, Chair  
Supervisor Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Present: Ken Carlson, Chair  
Diane Burgis, Vice Chair

Staff Present: Lara DeLaney, Senior Deputy County Administrator, staff to Committee; Monica Nino, County Administrator; Julie Enea, Senior Deputy County Administrator; Teresa Gerringer, Chief of Staff, District III; Abigail Fateman, Executive Director, ECCCHC; Kristin Connelly, Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters; Michael Kent, Hazardous Materials Ombudsman; Tamina Alon, EHSD staff; Peter Myers, District III Communications

Attendees: Geoff Neill, Paul Schlesinger and Jim Davenport, See Attachment

### 1. Introductions

*Chair Carlson convened the meeting at 1:02 p.m., introducing himself and Vice Chair Burgis.*

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** Persons who wish to address the Legislation Committee during public comment on matters within the jurisdiction of the Legislation Committee that are not on the agenda, may comment in person, via Zoom, or via call-in. All public comments will be limited to three minutes.

*Call\_in\_user\_1 requested advocacy from the Committee so they could exercise their civil rights and not be treated as a "second-class citizen."*

3. Staff recommends APPROVAL of the Record of Action for the May 8, 2023 meeting of the Legislation Committee, with any necessary corrections.

*The Record of Action was approved as presented.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

4. Receive a report on federal matters of interest to the County and provide direction, as needed.

*The County's federal lobbyists, Paul Schlesinger and Jim Davenport from Thorn Run Partners, provided a recap of the resolution of the federal debt limit crisis, noting appropriations were lower than anticipated. They also indicated that an enforcement provision was included that would force a 1% cut to all appropriations bills if not completed by December 31. They also spoke about federal earmark projects and the uncertainty of their fate because of the debt ceiling deal impact and the majority party in the House. They noted the House and Senate were moving forward on the budget bills, which could be finished before the August recess or would resume after the Labor Day return. The Committee requested updates, as they were available. Public comments included gratitude to Speaker McCarthy for his "advocacy for taxpayers." Vice Chair Burgis inquired about a calculation of cost for public comments, advocating for the efficient use of tax dollars to conduct the public's business.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

5. CONSIDER recommending to the Board of Supervisors the adoption of the proposed changes to the County's 2023-24 State and Federal Legislative Platforms, as recommended.

*The County's state and federal lobbyists indicated they had no concerns with the proposed changes to the County's adopted State and Federal Legislative Platforms. Vice Chair Burgis noted she was in the Clerk-Recorder's office the prior week, and she found staff "amazing." She was able to observe some of the work of the Office and its safety needs. She thanked them for the work they do and indicated her support for the policy additions. Chair Carlson agreed with Vice Chair Burgis' comments and noted the Office was increasing confidence in the voting system and in public engagement while navigating the challenges of misinformation and disinformation. Call\_in\_user\_1 suggested their rights were violated.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

6. CONSIDER finding AB 1238 (Ward) Hazardous Waste: Solar Panels consistent with the County's adopted 2023-24 State Legislative Platform or CONSIDER recommending a position of "Support" for AB 1238 to the Board of Supervisors on their consent agenda.

*Michael Kent provided the Committee with a brief recap of the bill, noting it was a straight-forward bill to address the issue of the recycling of solar panels after their 25-40 years of useful life. He noted that some panels are designated as hazardous waste and obtaining a permit to dispose is difficult. Therefore, the Department of Toxic Substances Control needed to develop "alternative management standards," a similar process for dealing with treated wood waste. Chair Carlson asked if we could anticipate a similar situation with lithium ion batteries, and Mr. Kent responded that recommendations would be coming forward in the near future. Call\_in\_user\_1 suggested that this should have been thought of before. Chair Carlson indicated a "Support" position was consistent with the adopted State Legislative Platform, and Vice Chair Burgis agreed.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

7. CONSIDER finding AB 50 (Wood) Public Utilities: Timely Service: Customer Energization and SB 410 (Becker) Powering Up Californian Act consistent with the County's adopted 2023-24 State Legislative Platform or CONSIDER recommending a position of "Support" for AB 50 and SB 410 to the Board of Supervisors on their consent agenda.

*Chair Carlson provided a recap of the bills. Vice Chair Burgis expressed concerns with the capacity of PG&E to fill employee positions and meet the requirements of AB 50. Geoff Neill indicated that AB 50 was supported by many local agencies who had real concerns from residents and businesses about the time it takes to energize projects. He noted that RCRC also supports the bill. Vice Chair Burgis asked CAO Nino about County impacts; CAO Nino responded that she would check with Public Works and the Department of Conservation and Development. Vice Chair Burgis indicated her support for a recommendation to the Board of "Support" on SB 410 but wanted to hold off on AB 50. Call\_in\_user\_1*

*asked about the impact to her PG&E bill. Staff sent SB 410 to the Board on its July 11 consent calendar for support.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

8. CONSIDER providing input on AB 764 (Bryan and Cervantes) and AB 1248 (Bryan, Muratsuchi, Arambula, Berman, Newman, Bennett, Bonta, Jackson, Lowenthal, Pellerin, Menjivar, and Allen) or RECOMMENDING a position on the bills to the Board of Supervisors.

*The County's state lobbyist, Geoff Neill, provided a brief recap of AB 764 and AB 1248. Chair Carlson indicated he was in line with the position of CSAC and UCC, and Vice Chair Burgis agreed with an Oppose Unless Amended recommendation to the Board. Call\_in\_user\_1 noted she supported Vice Chair Burgis' position.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

9. ACCEPT the report on the State Budget and State Bills of Interest to the County and provide direction and/or input to staff and the County's lobbyists, as needed.

*The County's state lobbyist, Geoff Neill, provided an update on the status of AB 592, noting that amendments were being made to scale back the pilot project to three counties for three years: Contra Costa, Alameda, and Solano. The bill was to be heard that week in committee and stood an excellent chance of passing. SB 511 would also be heard soon in Assembly Natural Resources. Mr. Neill also provided a recap of the Governor's infrastructure streamlining proposals. The County's water lobbyist, Audrey Ratajczak, discussed the potential impact on the Delta tunnel/conveyance project in terms of judicial streamlining, quorum changes, and fully protected species. Vice Chair Burgis noted there were efforts underway to undermine the processes, and she noted that "before we take away anything, we need to understand the impacts on our system." She inquired about alternatives for the quorum changes. Chair Carlson shared his "vehement opposition" to the tunnel project. Audrey suggested the references to the Delta Tunnel would come out of the infrastructure streamlining proposals. Call\_in\_user\_1 wanted more information about Progressive Design Build authority for Caltrans.*

AYE: Chair Ken Carlson  
Vice Chair Diane Burgis

10. The next meeting is currently scheduled for **Monday, July 10 at 1:00 p.m.**

*The July 10 and August 14 meetings of the Legislation Committee were subsequently cancelled.*

11. Adjourn

*The meeting was adjourned at 2:21 p.m.*

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For Additional Information Contact:

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**Legislation Committee Meeting Participants**

<u>Start Time</u>	<u>End Time</u>	<u>Participants</u>
6/12/2023 12:57	6/12/2023 14:21	16

**Name**

District 3 - Brentwood

Kristin Connelly (she/her)# Clerk-Recorder-Registrar (Kristin Connelly)

Geoff Neill

Michael Kent# Contra Costa Health

Audrey Ratajczak

Peter Myers

LARA DELANEY

Paul Schlesinger

Supervisor Burgis

MONICA NINO

Call\_in\_user\_1

Jim Davenport

JULIE ENEA

Tamina Alon# EHSD

Teresa Gerring (she/her)

Abigail Fateman

