

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS FORM

This form is required for the Legislative Program Committee to consider taking an advocacy position on an issue or legislative item

BILL NUMBER: SB 958	AUTHOR: Lara
INTRO/AMEND DATE: February 8, 2016 / June 21, 2016	AUTHOR'S POLITICAL PARTY:
BILL STATUS: Senate - Engrossing and Enrolling	

1) BILL SUBJECT:

County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission

2) FROM DEPARTMENT:

CEO

3) IS THIS ITEM SPECIFICALLY REFERENCED IN THE LEGISLATIVE PLATFORM?

No

4) WHICH POLICY-RELATED MATTER IS OF CONCERN WITH THIS BILL?

Local Control

5) HOW WOULD THIS BILL IMPACT THE COUNTY? (*Current practices, responsibility, authority, pros/cons, affected programs and/or services, etc.*)

The bill is focused on Los Angeles, but could set a precedent for other Counties requiring that district boundaries be adjusted after each decennial federal census through a redistricting commission instead of the Board of Supervisors. This could remove local authority and potentially create increased costs.

6) IMPACT ON COUNTY PROGRAM:

Major

Minor

None

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY IMPACT:

Major

Minor

None

STATEWIDE IMPACT:

Major

Minor

None

Explanation of Impacts:

It is not entirely clear the severity of the impacts, but it could change local requirements.

7) WOULD THIS BILL IMPACT (*Legislative Principles*):

a. Job growth and Economic Vitality?

YES

NO

b. Efficient service delivery and operations?

YES

NO

c. Fiscal stability?

YES

NO

d. Inter-agency cooperation?

YES

NO

e. Local control?

YES

NO

f. Health and human services?

YES

NO

g. Community sustainability and environmental protection?

YES

NO

Additional Comments:



COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

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8) FISCAL IMPACT ON THE COUNTY:

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue Increase | <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue Decrease | <input type="checkbox"/> Unfunded Mandate |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cost Increase | <input type="checkbox"/> Cost Decrease | <input type="checkbox"/> Undetermined |
| <input type="checkbox"/> None | | |

Additional Comments:

9) OTHER AGENCIES THAT SHOULD REVIEW THIS BILL:

10) CSAC POSITION ON BILL:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose | <input type="checkbox"/> Support if Amended |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose unless Amended | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> No position taken |

11) OTHER LOCAL OR STATEWIDE ORGANIZATIONS THAT HAVE TAKEN A POSITION ON THIS BILL:

(Indicate support or opposition for each)

Kern County has opposed. Letter is attached.

12) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS: (Attach separate sheet)

13) RECOMMENDATION:

- | | | |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Support to Board* | <input type="checkbox"/> Support if Amended |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Oppose | <input type="checkbox"/> Recommend Opposition to Board* | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose unless Amended |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Send to Board with No Position* | <input type="checkbox"/> No Position (Why?) |

* Indicates that the department believes that the Board of Supervisors should take a formal position on this bill

Additional Comments:

14) LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS FORM PREPARED BY: Joseph Toney

Telephone extension: x2060

E-mail address: jtoney@countyofsb.org



UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 958
Author: Lara (D) and Hall (D)
Amended: 6/21/16
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 4/5/16
AYES: Allen, Hancock, Hertzberg, Liu
NOES: Anderson

SENATE GOVERNANCE & FIN. COMMITTEE: 5-2, 4/20/16
AYES: Hertzberg, Beall, Hernandez, Lara, Pavley
NOES: Nguyen, Moorlach

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 5/27/16
AYES: Lara, Beall, Hill, McGuire, Mendoza
NOES: Bates, Nielsen

SENATE FLOOR: 26-11, 5/31/16
AYES: Allen, Beall, Block, Cannella, Galgiani, Glazer, Hall, Hancock,
Hernandez, Hertzberg, Hill, Hueso, Jackson, Lara, Leno, Leyva, Liu, McGuire,
Mendoza, Mitchell, Monning, Pan, Pavley, Roth, Wieckowski, Wolk
NOES: Anderson, Bates, Berryhill, Fuller, Gaines, Huff, Moorlach, Morrell,
Nielsen, Stone, Vidak
NO VOTE RECORDED: De León, Nguyen, Runner

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 47-29, 8/18/16 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill establishes a 14-member Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles, which would be charged with adjusting the

boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors in accordance with specified criteria.

Assembly Amendments require hearings to be scheduled at various times and days of the week to accommodate a variety of work schedules and to reach as large an audience as possible; 2) provide that following service on the commission, commission members are ineligible for a period of five years beginning from the date of appointment to hold specified elective offices, specified appointive and other positions, or register as a lobbyist; 3) require at least one commission member to reside in each of five existing supervisorial districts of the board rather than the eight service planning areas in the county; 4) require the board of supervisors to provide for reasonable funding and staffing for the commission; and 5) make other conforming changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the board of supervisors of each county, following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, to adjust the boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the districts are as nearly equal in populations as may be and comply with the applicable provisions of Section 2 of the federal Voting Rights Act (VRA), as amended.
- 2) Permits a board of supervisors, when adjusting the boundaries of supervisorial districts, to give consideration to the following factors:
 - a) Topography;
 - b) Geography;
 - c) Cohesiveness, contiguity, integrity, and compactness of territory; and,
 - d) Communities of interests in the districts.
- 3) Requires a board of supervisors to hold at least one public hearing on any proposal to adjust the boundaries of a supervisorial district prior to the public hearing at which the board votes to approve or defeat the proposal.
- 4) Provides, pursuant to the California Constitution, that charter counties are subject to state statutes that relate to redistricting seats of the counties' boards of

supervisors.

- 5) Permits a county board of supervisors to appoint a committee composed of residents of the county to study the matter of changing the boundaries of the supervisorial districts but provides that the recommendations of the committee are advisory only unless otherwise permitted by state law.
- 6) Establishes a redistricting commission in San Diego County and charges it with adjusting the boundaries of supervisorial districts after each decennial federal census. The San Diego County redistricting commission is comprised of five former or retired state or federal judges who are residents and voters in the county. The commission members are picked from among qualified applicants through a random drawing.

This bill:

- 1) Requires the commission to be comprised of 14 members, and to be created no later than December 31, 2020, and in each year ending in the number zero thereafter.
- 2) Requires the political party preferences of commission members to be as proportional as possible to the registered voter population in the County, as specified. Requires at least one commission member to reside in each of the five existing supervisorial districts.
- 3) Requires each commission member to have various qualifications, including possessing experience that demonstrates relevant analytical skills and an ability to be impartial.
- 4) Prohibits a person from being a member of the commission if, in the prior 10 years, that person or an immediate family member of the person was a candidate for, or an elected official of, an office representing Los Angeles County; an employee or consultant of such a candidate or official; an officer, employee, consultant, or appointed member of a political party; or a registered state or local lobbyist, as specified. Prohibits the commission from retaining a consultant who would not be qualified as a commission applicant due to any of these disqualifying criteria.
- 5) Permits any interested person meeting the qualifications to apply for the commission. Requires the county elections official to review applications,

eliminate applicants who do not meet the required qualifications, and select 60 of the most qualified applicants, as specified.

- 6) Requires the Auditor-Controller of Los Angeles County to randomly select at least eight commissioners from the pool of applicants selected by the county elections official, including at least one commissioner from each of the five supervisorial districts. Requires the eight selected commissioners to appoint six additional applicants to the commission from the pool of applicants selected by the county elections official. Requires the appointees to be chosen based on relevant experience and skills, and to ensure that the commission reflects the county's diversity, as specified.
- 7) Requires nine or more affirmative votes by commissioners for any official action.
- 8) Requires the commission to establish single-member supervisorial districts for the board pursuant to a mapping process using specified criteria.
- 9) Specifies minimum requirements for hearings conducted by the commission, and for the preparation and adoption of a district map by the commission.
- 10) Prohibits commissioners from holding public office, serving as paid staff to a public official, or serving as a lobbyist for five years after being appointed to the commission, as specified.

Background

California Counties Must Follow State Law Governing Redistricting. A number of California cities have established redistricting commissions to adjust city council districts following each decennial census. In some cities, these commissions are advisory, and only make recommendations to the city council, but in other cities, the redistricting commission has the authority to adopt a redistricting plan independent of the city council. Charter cities are able to establish such commissions because the state Constitution gives charter cities broad authority over the conduct of city elections and over the manner in which, method by which, times at which, and terms for which municipal officers are elected.

General law cities and all counties, on the other hand, are not granted the same level of authority over the conduct of their elections, and in fact, the state Constitution explicitly provides that "[c]harter counties are subject to statutes that relate to apportioning population of governing body districts." In light of this

provision of the state Constitution, charter counties are unable to provide for the creation of a redistricting commission through an amendment to the county charter unless statutory authority is provided to allow a county to have such a commission.

The San Diego County Commission. SB 1331 (Kehoe, Chapter 508 Statutes of 2012), established an independent redistricting commission in San Diego County to adjust the boundaries of supervisorial districts after each decennial federal census. The bill was requested by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors who sought the change in state law necessary to create a commission comprised of retired judges. As mentioned above, because the Elections Code controls and limits the redistricting process, the County Board could not reformulate its redistricting process unless the Legislature changed the code. Furthermore, because the county board requested the bill, the state was not subject to a reimbursable local mandate.

California Citizens Redistricting Commission. Proposition 11, which was approved by the voters at the 2008 Statewide General Election, created the Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC), and gave it the responsibility for establishing district lines for the Assembly, Senate, and Board of Equalization. Proposition 11 also modified the criteria to be used when drawing district lines. Proposition 20, which was approved by the voters at the 2010 Statewide General Election, gave the CRC the responsibility for establishing lines for California's congressional districts, and made other changes to the procedures and criteria to be used by the CRC. The CRC consists of 14 registered voters, including five Democrats, five Republicans, and four others, all of whom are chosen according to procedures specified in Proposition 11.

Comments

- 1) According to the author, SB 958 is a good government proposal for the citizens of Los Angeles County. This bill seeks to align the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' redistricting policy with the statewide movement toward independent redistricting. San Diego, the second most populous county in California, established an independent redistricting commission for its Board therefore it is possible for the largest county in California, Los Angeles, to maximize public participation for its 10 million residents.

SB 958 requires district lines to be drawn by bipartisan groups and diverse representatives of the county. As Los Angeles is one of the most geographically and ethnically diverse counties in the state it is vital that the Board reflects its regional diversity. SB 958 will also help to maintain

communities of interests, to ensure groups with similar socioeconomic interests are not negatively impacted by redistricting. For the purposes of fair representation, the political party preferences of the 14 commission members, as shown on the members' most recent registration affidavits, will be proportional to the total number of registered voters.

Election districts drawn by citizens can increase the supervisors' responsiveness to constituents. By requiring an independent body to draw the Board's district lines, elections would become more competitive, thereby increasing accountability to Los Angeles citizens. Government entities need to remain accountable to the public and SB 958 can aid in achieving this goal.

Following each decennial federal census, county supervisorial districts can be redrawn. In accordance with this law, SB 958 provides that the Board's independent redistricting commission would go into effect December 31, 2020. This provision would allow four years for public deliberation. The public will also have the opportunity to review redistricting maps and appointments. The geographic integrity of any city, county, city and county, local neighborhood, or local community of interest will also be respected.

The goal of SB 958 is to provide a similar public process as was provided by the CRC.

- 2) *Partisan Make Up*. The legislation establishing the San Diego County Redistricting Commission did not include a requirement that its members be registered as preferring any specific political parties. Proposition 11, which established the state's redistricting commission, requires that of its 14 members, five be registered as preferring the Democratic Party, five be registered as preferring the Republican Party, and four be registered as preferring other parties or having no party preference. This bill requires the political party preferences of the Los Angeles County redistricting commission members to be as proportional as possible to the total number of voters who are registered with each political party in the County of Los Angeles, as determined by registration at the most recent statewide election.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1108 (Allen, 2016), which is pending concurrence in Assembly amendments at the time of this writing, would authorize any county or city to establish a

redistricting commission that has the authority to adjust the boundaries of the districts of the board of supervisors or the city council.

SB 1331 (Kehoe, Chapter 508, Statutes of 2012), established a redistricting commission in San Diego County to adjust the boundaries of supervisorial districts after each decennial federal census.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Assembly Appropriations Committee:

- Significant state reimbursable General Fund costs of at least of several hundred thousand dollars every ten years. (Unlike prior legislation establishing a similar commission for San Diego County, SB 958 is not being requested by LA County and thus creates a reimbursable state mandate.)

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/18/16)

League of Women Voters of California
Mexican American Legal Defense and Education Fund

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/30/16)

California State Association of Counties
Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 47-29, 8/18/16

AYES: Alejo, Arambula, Atkins, Bonta, Brown, Burke, Campos, Chau, Chiu, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Daly, Dodd, Eggman, Frazier, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gonzalez, Gordon, Gray, Holden, Irwin, Jones-Sawyer, Levine, Lopez, Low, McCarty, Medina, Mullin, Nazarian, O'Donnell, Quirk, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Weber, Williams, Wood, Rendon

NOES: Achadjian, Travis Allen, Baker, Bigelow, Brough, Chang, Chávez, Dahle, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Jones, Kim, Lackey, Linder, Maienschein, Mathis, Mayes, Melendez, Obernolte, Olsen, Patterson, Ridley-Thomas, Steinorth, Wagner, Waldron, Wilk

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bloom, Bonilla, Calderon, Roger Hernández

Prepared by: Darren Chesin / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/30/16 12:02:39

**** END ****

Senate Bill No. 958

Passed the Senate August 30, 2016

Secretary of the Senate

Passed the Assembly August 18, 2016

Chief Clerk of the Assembly

This bill was received by the Governor this _____ day
of _____, 2016, at _____ o'clock ____M.

Private Secretary of the Governor

CHAPTER _____

An act to add Chapter 6.3 (commencing with Section 21530) to Division 21 of the Elections Code, relating to elections.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 958, Lara. County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Existing law requires the board of supervisors of each county, following each decennial federal census, and using that census as a basis, to adjust the boundaries of any or all of the supervisorial districts of the county so that the districts are as nearly equal in population as possible and comply with applicable federal law, and specifies the procedures the board of supervisors must follow in adjusting those boundaries. Existing law establishes the Independent Redistricting Commission in the County of San Diego, which is charged with adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries for the county.

This bill would establish the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles, which would be charged with adjusting the boundary lines of the districts of the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles. The commission would consist of 14 members who meet specified qualifications. This bill would require the commission to adjust the boundaries of the supervisorial districts in accordance with specified criteria and adopt a redistricting plan, which would become effective 30 days following its submission to the county elections official. By increasing the duties on local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the unique circumstances facing the County of Los Angeles.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the

state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Chapter 6.3 (commencing with Section 21530) is added to Division 21 of the Elections Code, to read:

CHAPTER 6.3. COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES CITIZENS
REDISTRICTING COMMISSION

21530. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:

(a) “Board” means the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles.

(b) “Commission” means the Citizens Redistricting Commission in the County of Los Angeles established pursuant to Section 21532.

(c) “Immediate family member” means a spouse, child, in-law, parent, or sibling.

21531. There is, in the County of Los Angeles, a Citizens Redistricting Commission. In the year following the year in which the decennial federal census is taken, the commission shall adjust the boundary lines of the supervisorial districts of the board in accordance with this chapter.

21532. (a) The commission shall be created no later than December 31, 2020, and in each year ending in the number zero thereafter.

(b) The selection process is designed to produce a commission that is independent from the influence of the board and reasonably representative of the county’s diversity.

(c) The commission shall consist of 14 members. The political party preferences of the commission members, as shown on the members’ most recent affidavits of registration, shall be as proportional as possible to the total number of voters who are registered with each political party in the County of Los Angeles, as determined by registration at the most recent statewide election. However, the political party preferences of the commission members are not required to be exactly the same as the proportion of political party preferences among the registered voters of the

county. At least one commission member shall reside in each of the five existing supervisorial districts of the board.

(d) Each commission member shall meet all of the following qualifications:

(1) Be a resident of the County of Los Angeles.

(2) Be a voter who has been continuously registered in the County of Los Angeles with the same political party or unaffiliated with a political party and who has not changed political party affiliation for five or more years immediately preceding the date of his or her appointment to the commission.

(3) Have voted in at least one of the last three statewide elections immediately preceding his or her application to be a member of the commission.

(4) Within the 10 years immediately preceding the date of application to the commission, neither the applicant, nor an immediate family member of the applicant, has done any of the following:

(A) Been appointed to, elected to, or have been a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of Los Angeles, including as a member of the board.

(B) Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, an elected representative at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of Los Angeles.

(C) Served as an employee of, or paid consultant for, a candidate for office at the local, state, or federal level representing the County of Los Angeles.

(D) Served as an officer, employee, or paid consultant of a political party or as an appointed member of a political party central committee.

(E) Been a registered state or local lobbyist.

(5) Possess experience that demonstrates analytical skills relevant to the redistricting process and voting rights, and possess an ability to comprehend and apply the applicable state and federal legal requirements.

(6) Possess experience that demonstrates an ability to be impartial.

(7) Possess experience that demonstrates an appreciation for the diverse demographics and geography of the County of Los Angeles.

(e) An interested person meeting the qualifications specified in subdivision (d) may submit an application to the county elections official to be considered for membership on the commission. The county elections official shall review the applications and eliminate applicants who do not meet the specified qualifications.

(f) (1) From the pool of qualified applicants, the county elections official shall select 60 of the most qualified applicants, taking into account the requirements described in subdivision (c). The county elections official shall make public the names of the 60 most qualified applicants for at least 30 days. The county elections official shall not communicate with a member of the board, or an agent for a member of the board, about any matter related to the nomination process or applicants before the publication of the list of the 60 most qualified applicants.

(2) During the period described in paragraph (1), the county elections official may eliminate any of the previously selected applicants if the official becomes aware that the applicant does not meet the qualifications specified in subdivision (d).

(g) (1) After complying with the requirements of subdivision (f), the county elections official shall create a subpool for each of the five existing supervisorial districts of the board.

(2) (A) At a regularly scheduled meeting of the board, the Auditor-Controller of the County of Los Angeles shall conduct a random drawing to select one commissioner from each of the five subpools established by the county elections official.

(B) After completing the random drawing pursuant to subparagraph (A), at the same meeting of the board, the Auditor-Controller shall conduct a random drawing from all of the remaining applicants, without respect to subpools, to select three additional commissioners.

(h) (1) The eight selected commissioners shall review the remaining names in the subpools of applicants and shall appoint six additional applicants to the commission.

(2) The six appointees shall be chosen based on relevant experience, analytical skills, and ability to be impartial, and to ensure that the commission reflects the county's diversity, including racial, ethnic, geographic, and gender diversity. However, formulas or specific ratios shall not be applied for this purpose. The eight commissioners shall also consider political party

preference, selecting applicants so that the political party preference of the members of the commission complies with subdivision (c).

21533. (a) A commission member shall apply this chapter in a manner that is impartial and that reinforces public confidence in the integrity of the redistricting process.

(b) The term of office of each member of the commission expires upon the appointment of the first member of the succeeding commission.

(c) Nine members of the commission shall constitute a quorum. Nine or more affirmative votes shall be required for any official action.

(d) (1) The commission shall not retain a consultant who would not be qualified as an applicant pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 21532.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, “consultant” means a person, whether or not compensated, retained to advise the commission or a commission member regarding any aspect of the redistricting process.

(e) Each commission member shall be a designated employee for purposes of the conflict of interest code adopted by the County of Los Angeles pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 87300) of Chapter 7 of Title 9 of the Government Code.

21534. (a) The commission shall establish single-member supervisorial districts for the board pursuant to a mapping process using the following criteria as set forth in the following order of priority:

(1) Districts shall comply with the United States Constitution and each district shall have a reasonably equal population with other districts for the board, except where deviation is required to comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.) or allowable by law.

(2) Districts shall comply with the federal Voting Rights Act of 1965 (52 U.S.C. Sec. 10101 et seq.).

(3) Districts shall be geographically contiguous.

(4) The geographic integrity of any city, local neighborhood, or local community of interest shall be respected in a manner that minimizes its division to the extent possible without violating the requirements of paragraphs (1) to (3), inclusive. A community of interest is a contiguous population that shares common social and economic interests that should be included within a single district

for purposes of its effective and fair representation. Communities of interest shall not include relationships with political parties, incumbents, or political candidates.

(5) To the extent practicable, and where this does not conflict with paragraphs (1) to (4), inclusive, districts shall be drawn to encourage geographical compactness such that nearby areas of population are not bypassed for more distant areas of population.

(b) The place of residence of any incumbent or political candidate shall not be considered in the creation of a map. Districts shall not be drawn for purposes of favoring or discriminating against an incumbent, political candidate, or political party.

(c) (1) The commission shall comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act (Chapter 9 (commencing with Section 54950) of Part 1 of Division 2 of Title 5 of the Government Code).

(2) Before the commission draws a map, the commission shall conduct at least seven public hearings, to take place over a period of no fewer than 30 days, with at least one public hearing held in each supervisorial district.

(3) After the commission draws a draft map, the commission shall do both of the following:

(A) Post the map for public comment on the Internet Web site of the County of Los Angeles.

(B) Conduct at least two public hearings to take place over a period of no fewer than 30 days.

(4) (A) The commission shall establish and make available to the public a calendar of all public hearings described in paragraphs (2) and (3). Hearings shall be scheduled at various times and days of the week to accommodate a variety of work schedules and to reach as large an audience as possible.

(B) Notwithstanding Section 54954.2 of the Government Code, the commission shall post the agenda for the public hearings described in paragraphs (2) and (3) at least seven days before the hearings. The agenda for a meeting required by paragraph (3) shall include a copy of the draft map.

(5) (A) The commission shall arrange for the live translation of a hearing held pursuant to this chapter in an applicable language if a request for translation is made at least 24 hours before the hearing.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, an “applicable language” means a language for which the number of residents of the County

of Los Angeles who are members of a language minority is greater than or equal to 3 percent of the total voting age residents of the county.

(6) The commission shall take steps to encourage county residents to participate in the redistricting public review process. These steps may include:

(A) Providing information through media, social media, and public service announcements.

(B) Coordinating with community organizations.

(C) Posting information on the Internet Web site of the County of Los Angeles that explains the redistricting process and includes a notice of each public hearing and the procedures for testifying during a hearing or submitting written testimony directly to the commission.

(7) The board shall take all steps necessary to ensure that a complete and accurate computerized database is available for redistricting, and that procedures are in place to provide to the public ready access to redistricting data and computer software equivalent to what is available to the commission members.

(8) The board shall provide for reasonable funding and staffing for the commission.

(9) All records of the commission relating to redistricting, and all data considered by the commission in drawing a draft map or the final map, are public records.

(d) (1) The commission shall adopt a redistricting plan adjusting the boundaries of the supervisorial districts and shall file the plan with the county elections official before August 15 of the year following the year in which each decennial federal census is taken.

(2) The plan shall be effective 30 days after it is filed with the county elections official.

(3) The plan shall be subject to referendum in the same manner as ordinances.

(4) The commission shall issue, with the final map, a report that explains the basis on which the commission made its decisions in achieving compliance with the criteria described in subdivisions (a) and (b).

21535. A commission member shall be ineligible for a period of five years beginning from the date of appointment to hold elective public office at the federal, state, county, or city level in this state. A commission member shall be ineligible for a period

of three years beginning from the date of appointment to hold appointive federal, state, or local public office, to serve as paid staff for, or as a paid consultant to, the Board of Equalization, the Congress, the Legislature, or any individual legislator, or to register as a federal, state or local lobbyist in this state.

SEC. 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 facing the County of Los Angeles.

SEC. 3. If the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code.

Approved _____, 2016

Governor



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

Sacramento Legislative Office

1100 K Street, Suite 400, Sacramento, California 95814
(916) 441-7888 • Fax (916) 445-1424
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

SACHI A. HAMAI
Chief Executive Officer

August 19, 2016

PHYLLIS MARSHALL
Chief Legislative Representative

Board of Supervisors
HILDA L. SOLIS
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

SHEILA KUEHL
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

SENATE FLOOR ALERT – NON-CONCURRENCE

TO: Each Member, California State Senate

FROM: Phyllis Marshall, Chief Legislative Representative *pm*
Ed Berends, Legislative Representative *EB*

RE: **SB 958 (Lara and Hall), As Amended June 21, 2016 – OPPOSE**
Relating to the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission

The Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors opposes SB 958 (Lara).

Current law requires a county board of supervisors to consider adjustments to the boundaries of supervisorial districts every ten years following the United States Census. It permits a board of supervisors to appoint an advisory committee of county residents to study supervisorial district boundaries and recommend changes, if necessary. The current redistricting process is governed by numerous State and Federal requirements to ensure that the residents of a county receive fair representation. These requirements include mandates under the 14th Amendment of the United States Constitution and the Federal Voting Rights Act of 1965, which require that supervisorial districts provide fair and effective representation to racial and language-minority groups.

SB 958 would mandate the establishment of the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC), consisting of 14 members who meet specific qualifications. The bill would require at least one commissioner to reside in each of the five existing supervisorial districts. It would also require the board of supervisors to provide funding and staffing for the CRC and would establish detailed guidelines for adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries. Additionally, SB 958 would subject the CRC to the Ralph M. Brown Act, which governs open public meetings. The measure would further require the CRC to conduct public hearings, post notices and a proposed map for public comment on the County's website, and adopt a redistricting plan by a certain date.

SB 958 is unnecessary as Los Angeles County already has a redistricting process in place. In 2011, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed a Boundary Review Committee to recommend adjustments to the supervisorial districts following the 2010 United States Census. During this process, a broad range of diverse perspectives were presented from across Los Angeles County to determine how the boundaries of each district should be drawn. A vital part of the 2011 redistricting was a "Public Access Plan" to educate the public about the County's process and to encourage public participation in public hearings and in Board deliberations. The Plan included outreach to groups affected by the proposed changes to the existing boundaries, and the Board took the initiative to ensure that the revised supervisorial boundaries reflected the County's broad demographic and regional diversity. If mandating the process of redistricting supervisorial districts, it should apply uniformly across the State, and not singling out just Los Angeles County.

SB 958 also constitutes a reimbursable State mandate. Therefore, for the reasons stated, we urge your **"NO"** vote on SB 958.

c: Senator Ricardo Lara
Senator Isadore Hall III

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

SUPERVISORS

Mick Gleason District 1
Zack Scrivner District 2
Mike Maggard District 3
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August 30, 2016

The Honorable Edmund G. "Jerry" Brown, Jr.
Governor of California
State Capital
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 958: Los Angeles County redistricting commission: REQUEST FOR VETO

Dear Governor Brown:

The Kern County Board of Supervisors opposes SB 958, which would require the establishment of a County of Los Angeles Citizens Redistricting Commission.

Specifically, SB 958 would require the establishment of the Los Angeles County Citizens Redistricting Commission (CRC), consisting of 14 members who meet specific qualifications. The bill would require at least one commissioner to reside in each of the five existing supervisorial districts. It would also require the board of supervisors to provide funding and staffing for the CRC and would establish detailed guidelines for adjusting the supervisorial district boundaries. The measure would further require the CRC to conduct public hearings, post notices and a proposed map for public comment on the County's website, and adopt a redistricting plan by a certain date.

During the most recent redistricting in 2011, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors appointed a Boundary Review Committee to gather a broad range of perspectives on supervisorial district boundaries and recommend adjustments to the supervisorial districts following the 2010 United States Census. The board then voted on the plan that it felt best represented Los Angeles County's needs.

In Kern County, our Board solicited opinions from residents of nearly every community in Kern County and received extensive public input before adopting district boundaries. State law charges each Board of Supervisors with approving supervisorial district boundaries, and we believe this local control should continue. If SB 958 is followed by similar legislation requiring all other counties to appoint redistricting commissions, it would remove this local authority and would carry significant costs for these counties to comply, creating a new reimbursable state mandate.

For these reasons, our Board respectfully requests that you veto SB 958.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mick Gleason".

Mick Gleason, Chairman
Kern County Board of Supervisors

cc: Paul Yoder
California State Association of Counties