

COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS FORM

BILL NUMBER: AB 1801	AUTHOR: Campos
INTRO/AMEND DATE: 4/23/2012	AUTHOR'S POLITICAL PARTY: Democratic
BILL STATUS: Assembly Committee on Local Government	

1) BILL SUBJECT:

Permitting solar energy systems

2) FROM DEPARTMENT:

Planning and Development

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

No

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

Permitting Fees

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

This bill would prohibit a local agency from charging a fee for permit for a solar energy system, as defined, that exceeds the actual cost of issuing the permit. It declares permitting fees for solar energy systems to be a matter of statewide concern and not a municipal affair.

6) IMPACT ON COUNTY PROGRAM: Major Minor None**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY IMPACT:** Major Minor None**STATEWIDE IMPACT:** Major Minor None*Explanation of Impacts:*

This bill could make it difficult for the County to recoup all costs associated with permitting a solar energy project. It could allow for a very strict interpretation of what the "actual costs of issuing the permit" is, leading to developers arguing that they are being charged more than they should be for permitting their project. The County should be allowed to implement its current fee processes for all projects.

7) WOULD THIS BILL IMPACT:

a. Efficient service delivery and operations?

 YES NO

b. Fiscal stability?

 YES NO

c. Inter-agency cooperation?

 YES NO

d. Local control?

 YES NO

e. Protection of safety net services?

 YES NO

f. Community sustainability/economic stability?

 YES NO*Additional Comments:*

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8) FISCAL IMPACT ON THE COUNTY:

- | | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Revenue Increase | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Revenue Decrease | <input type="checkbox"/> Unfunded Mandate |
| <input 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:

Please list other agencies below:

None

10) CSAC POSITION ON BILL:

- | | | |
|--|---------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose | <input type="checkbox"/> Support if Amended |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose unless Amended | <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input checked="" 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)

N/A

12) PROPOSED AMENDMENTS: (Attach separate sheet)

13) RECOMMENDATION:

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active Support* | <input type="checkbox"/> Passive Support | <input type="checkbox"/> Support if Amended* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Active Opposition* | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Passive Opposition | <input type="checkbox"/> Oppose unless Amended* |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Watch | <input type="checkbox"/> Concerns (Why? Explain in #6) | <input type="checkbox"/> No Position (Why?) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No Change since Last Position | | |

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

Additional Comments:



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14) LEGISLATIVE ANALYSIS FORM PREPARED BY: Paul Clementi, Planner

Telephone extension: 2011

E-mail address: pclementi@countyofsb.org

15) APPROVED BY: Terri Nisich, Assistant CEO

Date:

Signature

