

# IN PERSON & VIRTUAL BOARD MEETING

**\*This meeting will be held following the Committee scheduled prior.**



**TO VIEW VIA WEB**



**TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Members of the public may address the Board orally and in writing. To provide Public Comment, please visit the above link and complete the request form.**

**Attention:** If you have any questions, you may email [PublicComment@lacera.gov](mailto:PublicComment@lacera.gov)

**LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION  
300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 650, PASADENA, CA**

# AGENDA

## A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT

### LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 7, 2026\*

*This meeting will be conducted by the Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953.8.3.*

*Any person may view the meeting in person at LACERA's offices or online at <https://LACERA.com/leadership/board-meetings>*

*The Board may take action on any item on the agenda, and agenda items may be taken out of order.*

NOTICE: Pursuant to FPPC Regulation 18702.5, this statement provides notice, before elections take place, that appointed trustees, the retired trustee, and the alternate retired trustee when elected or appointed to a committee will receive a stipend of \$100 per meeting attended, up to a total of \$500 per month for all Board of Retirement and committee meetings attended during the term of their appointment. Upon completion of today's election and the Chair's appointment of other committee members, LACERA will post Form 806 on [lacera.com](https://lacera.com) to provide public notice of the fees to be received by such trustees. Active general and safety member elected trustees, the ex-officio trustee, and the alternate ex-officio do not receive compensation for attending LACERA Board and committee meetings, other than their regular salary as County employees. All trustees receive reasonable and necessary expenses.

Appointed trustees to the Board of Retirement are Wayne Moore, David Ryu, Bobbie Fesler, and Ernesto J. Pantoja. The retired trustee is Les Robbins. The alternate retired trustee is James P. Harris. The active general and safety member elected trustees are Aleen Langton, Shawn R. Kehoe, Jason E. Green (alternate safety), and Nancy Durazo. The ex-officio member is Elizabeth B. Ginsberg. The alternate ex-officio is Lisa Proft.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER SB707

- A. Just Cause (Section 54953.8.3)
- B. Statement of Persons Present at SB707 Teleconference Locations

IV. RATIFICATION OF OFFICERS

A. **Board of Retirement Board Officers – 2026 Calendar Year**

Recommendation as submitted by Luis A. Lugo, Acting Chief Executive Officer: That the Board ratify its slate of board officers who will serve their term in the 2026 calendar year under the Board's Board Officer Rotation Policy: James P. Harris as Chair, Wayne Moore as Vice Chair, and Les Robbins as Secretary. (Memo dated December 14, 2025)

V. ELECTIONS OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Election of Trustees to Joint Organizational Governance Committee (1 Trustee) and Audit, Compliance, Risk, and Ethics Committee (3 Trustees)#

VI. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

- A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of December 3, 2025

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT

(Members of the public may address the Board orally and in writing. To provide Public Comment, you should visit <https://LACERA.com/leadership/board-meetings> and complete the request [form](#).

If you select oral comment, we will contact you via email with information and instructions as to how to access the meeting as a speaker. You will have up to 3 minutes to address the Board. Oral comment requests will be accepted up to the close of the Public Comment item on the agenda.

If you select written comment, please input your written public comment within the form as soon as possible and up to the close of the meeting. Written comment will be made part of the official record of the meeting. If you would like to remain anonymous at the meeting without stating your name, please leave the name field blank in the request form. If you have any questions, you may email [PublicComment@lacera.gov](mailto:PublicComment@lacera.gov).)

VIII. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

- A. LACERA All Stars
- B. Awards
- C. Member Spotlight
- D. Chief Executive Officer's Report

IX. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

X. CONSENT ITEMS

A. **Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as December 30, 2025, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated December 30, 2025)

B. **Appeal(s) for the Board of Retirement's Meeting**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement grant the appeals and requests for administrative hearing received from Dacia A. Martinez and Herman B. Edwards and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee. (Memo dated December 22, 2025)

C. **Service Provider Invoice Approval Request - Stuart Fischer M.D.**

Recommendation as submitted by Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Stuart Fischer M.D. (Memo dated December 18, 2025 – Attachment is Non-Public and Exempt from Disclosure as Private Information and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.700, 54957.56(a))

XI. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS



## XII. REPORTS

- A. **Disability Retirement Services: Strategic Operations and Performance**  
Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services  
(Presentation) (Memo dated December 18, 2025)
- B. **SB707 Amendments to the Brown Act**  
Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 30, 2025)
- C. **Contract Activity Report - November 2025**  
Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager  
Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 15, 2025)
- D. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report – November 2025**  
Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 22, 2025)
- E. **December 2025 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**  
Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 29, 2025)  
(Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.705, 54957.5(a))
- F. **Fiduciary Counsel Annual Self-Assessments**  
Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 29, 2025)  
(Attachments are Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.705, 54957.5(a))

## XIII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

(This item summarizes requests and suggestions by individual trustees during the meeting for consideration by staff. These requests and suggestions do not constitute approval or formal action by the Board, which can only be made separately by motion on an agenda item at a future meeting.)

XIV. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

(This item provides an opportunity for trustees to identify items to be included on a future agenda as permitted under the Board's Regulations.)

XV. GOOD OF THE ORDER

(For Information Purposes Only)

XVI. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

B. Staff Recommendations

1. **Application of Velma W. Ingram (Deceased)**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board instruct staff to close Velma M. Ingram's (deceased) application for Disability Retirement. (Memo dated December 22, 2025)

XVII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. Conference with Labor Negotiators

(Pursuant to California Government Code Section 54957.6)

1. **Agency Designated Representatives**

Chief Negotiator Irma Rodriguez Moisa, Carly Ntoya, Luis Lugo, Laura Guglielmo, JJ Popowich, Annette Cleary, and Jasmine Bath

2. **Labor Negotiation with Represented Group**

Luis A. Lugo, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
(Memo dated December 19, 2025)

3. **One Item**

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated December 10, 2025)

XVIII. ADJOURNMENT

***\*Although the meeting is scheduled for 9:00 a.m., it can start anytime thereafter, depending on the length of the Committee meeting preceding it.***

***Documents subject to public disclosure that relate to an agenda item for an open session of the Board of Retirement that are distributed to members of the Board of Retirement less than 72 hours prior to the meeting will be available for public inspection at the time they are distributed to a majority of the Board of Retirement Trustees at LACERA's offices at 300 N. Lake Avenue, Suite 820, Pasadena, CA 91101, during normal business hours of 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and will also be posted on [lacera.com](http://lacera.com) at the same time, [Board Meetings | LACERA](#).***

***Requests for reasonable modification or accommodation of the telephone public access and Public Comments procedures stated in this agenda from individuals with disabilities, consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, may call the Board Offices at (626) 564-6000, Ext. 4401/4402 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday or email [PublicComment@lacera.gov](mailto:PublicComment@lacera.gov), but no later than 48 hours prior to the time the meeting is to commence.***

December 14, 2025

TO: Each Trustee  
Board of Retirement

FROM: Luis A. Lugo  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

FOR: January 7, 2026 Board of Retirement Meeting

SUBJECT: **Board of Retirement Board Officers: 2026 Calendar Year**

## **RECOMMENDATION**

That the Board of Retirement ratify its slate of board officers who will serve their term in the 2026 calendar year under the Board's Board Officer Rotation Policy: James P. Harris as Chair, Wayne Moore as Vice Chair, and Les Robbins as Secretary.

## **LEGAL AUTHORITY**

The Board of Retirement (BOR) Regulations provide that each January the BOR shall elect from its members a Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary to serve for a term of one year or until his or her successor is duly elected and qualified.

The [BOR Board Officer Rotation Policy](#) provides that the process of selecting board officers will be a seniority-based system. At the first regular meeting in January, the BOR shall hold a vote to ratify the slate of board officers determined by the Executive Board Assistant.

## **DISCUSSION**

The BOR Board Officer Rotation Policy provides that with reasonable and sufficient time before the first regular meeting in January, the Executive Board Assistant shall verify the seniority of each trustee on the seniority list for each board officer position who would be in office during the calendar year commencing in January and ascertain in order of seniority which trustee opts to serve as a board officer for the upcoming year.

According to the Executive Board Assistant, the following trustees opted to serve as BOR Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for the 2026 calendar year.

Chair: James P. Harris  
Vice Chair: Wayne Moore  
Secretary: Les Robbins

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD** ratify its slate of board officers as identified above to serve their term in the 2026 calendar year.

Board Officers: 2026 Calendar Year  
Board of Retirement  
December 14, 2025  
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Attachment

cc: Board of Investments  
Jonathan Grabel  
Jude Perez  
Steven P. Rice  
JJ Popowich  
Laura Guglielmo

**Documents not attached are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act and other legal authority.**

**For further information, contact:  
LACERA  
Attention: Public Records Act Requests  
300 N. Lake Ave., Suite 620  
Pasadena, CA 91101**

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION

300 N. LAKE AVENUE, SUITE 810, PASADENA, CA 91101

9:00 A.M., WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2025

*This meeting was conducted by the Board of Retirement both in person and by teleconference under California Government Code Section 54953 (f).*

TRUSTEES PRESENT:

Les Robbins, Chair

Ronald Okum, Vice Chair

Shawn R. Kehoe, Secretary (Alternate Seventh Member)

Elizabeth Ginsberg

Nancy Durazo (Joined the meeting at 9:06 a.m.)

Bobbie Fesler

JP Harris (Alternate Retired)

Aleen Langton

Jason Green

Wayne Moore (Teleconference Due to Just Cause under Section 54953(f))

David Ryu

STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Luis A. Lugo, Acting Chief Executive Officer

Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment Officer

JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer



## STAFF ADVISORS AND PARTICIPANTS

Laura Guglielmo, Assistant Executive Officer

Jude Perez, Deputy Chief Investment Officer

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel

Allison Barrett, Senior Staff Counsel

Tamara Caldwell, Disability Retirement Manager

Eugenia Der, Senior Staff Counsel

Dr. Glenn Ehresmann, Medical Advisor

### I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Robbins at 9:04 a.m. in the Board Room of Gateway Plaza.

### II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Trustee Okum led the Trustees and staff in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

### III. PROCEDURE FOR TELECONFERENCE MEETING ATTENDANCE UNDER AB 2449, California Government Code Section 54953 (f)

A. Just Cause

B. Action on Emergency Circumstance Requests

C. Statement of Persons Present at AB 2449 Teleconference Locations

A physical quorum was present at the noticed meeting location. There was a request received from Trustee Moore to participate by teleconference for Just Cause (A) Illness. Trustee Moore confirmed that there were no individuals 18 years or older present at the teleconference location.

#### IV. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

##### A. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2025

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of November 5, 2025. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Abstain: Langton

Absent: Durazo

#### V. PUBLIC COMMENT

Applicant Herman B. Edwards (5473B) provided a verbal comment and addressed the Board regarding his disability application.

#### VI. EXECUTIVE UPDATE

##### A. LACERA All Stars

Mr. Popowich announced the winners for the month: Tionna Fredericks Christian Pieratt, Christian Perez and Louis Gittens. The web watcher was Linda El-Farra and the Rideshare winner was Judy Tran.

##### B. Member Spotlight

Mr. Popowich recognized LACERA member, Kurt Keller.

##### C. Service Award

LACERA Staff Member Recognition: Cookie Jaranilla, was recognized for his 35 years of service, Barry Lew, was recognized for his 23 years of service and Vincent Lim was recognized for his 21 years of service.

##### D. Chief Executive Officer's Report

Mr. Lugo provided a brief presentation on the Chief Executive Officer's Report and answered questions from the Board.

## VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

### Safety Law Enforcement

#### Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Kehoe, seconded by Trustee Okum, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
782E	BANKS, JANICE M.
783E	BUNT, LISA A.
784E*	FELIX, KENNETH P.
785E	BURT, RODGER A.
786E	GALLEGOS, JOE JR.
787E	MCDONALD, LUZ E.
788E**	CASTANEDA, DANILO R., JR. (DEC'D)
789E*	BAIN, DIANA Y.
790E***	PEACOCK, ROBERT G.
791E	PAZ, SILVIO R.
792E	THIEME, KONRAD W. (This item was pulled for further discussion in Closed Session)
793E	LOPEZ, CARLOS E.
794E	RAMIREZ, HECTOR W.
795E	ORTEGA, FLOR
796E	ARREOLA, JUAN J.
797E	MULAY, JAMES P.
798E	SHEFFIELD, BRADLEY W.
799E	FRENCH, STEVEN B.
800E	ZAMORA, GABRIELA
801E	WEST, THOMAS A., JR.

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*Granted SCD – Survivor Benefit

\*\*\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

Safety Fire, Lifeguards

Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Green, seconded by Trustee Robbins, the Board of Retirement approved a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
1016C	AVILA, ANTHONY W.
1017C	GUETZKOW, JASON L.
1018C	AKINS, ANTHONY P.
1019C*	BARTRAM, STEVEN L.
1020C	COHEN, DAVID R.
1021C	HALEY, DAVID A.
1022C	HUERTA, GABRIEL
1023C	MURRIETA, ADRIAN
1024C	DE ALBA, ROBERT E.
1025C	DURIAN, GARY J.
1026C*	GARZA, JOHN
1027C	GRIFFIN, TYLER S.
1028C	MINER, JOHN D.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

## VII. DISABILITY RETIREMENT APPLICATIONS ON CONSENT CALENDAR

### General Members

#### Service-Connected Disability Applications

On a motion by Trustee Robbins, seconded by Trustee Okum, the Board of Retirement made a motion to approve a service-connected disability retirement for the following named employees who met the burden of establishing permanent incapacity from the performance of their usual duties and a real and measurable connection between their incapacity and employment.

<u>APPLICATION NO.</u>	<u>NAME</u>
2037D	SPECTOR, NEIL C.
2038D*	FUKUTAKI, ROBERT M.
2039D**	STEFFANY, JOSEPH R.
2040D	POLSKY, CHERYL A.
2041D	BROOKS, LESLIE E.
2042D	WANG, HUIYU
2043D**	MOSER, LAWRENCE E.
2044D	RHINE, DWAYNE A.
2045D	MC CRIMMON, NICOLE D.
2046D*	PINKERTON, PATRICIA A.
2047D***	BENJAMIN, KEYONA L.
2048D***	REAVES, STEVE R.
2049D	DOMINGUEZ, ZACHARY M.
2050D	CONTRERAS, STEPHANIE M.
2051D****	BOLLEN, DORI D.
2052D*	ZENTNER, JEFFREY W.

The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

\*Granted SCD – Employer Cannot Accommodate

\*\*Granted SCD – Retroactive

\*\*\*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement

\*\*\*\*Granted SCD – Salary Supplement Employer Cannot Accommodate

## VIII. CONSENT ITEMS

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to approve consent items A-D. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

**A. Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals**

Recommendation that the Board approve the service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of November 26, 2025, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. (Memo dated November 26, 2025)

**B. Service Provider Invoice Approval Request-Winet Patrick Creighton & Hanes**

Recommendation as submitted by Francis J. Boyd, Senior Staff Counsel, Legal Services: That the Board approve the service provider invoice for Winet Patrick Creighton & Hanes. (Memo dated November 6, 2025 – Attachment is Non-Public and Exempt from Disclosure as Private Information and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.700, 54957.56(a))

**C. Appeal for the Board of Retirement's Meeting of December 3, 2025**

Recommendation as submitted by Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager, Disability Retirement Services: That the Board of Retirement grant the appeal and request for administrative hearing received from Tanya Chapman (Survivor) and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer this case to a referee. (Memo dated November 20, 2025)

**D. Pensionability Analysis Under CERL and PEPRA for New Pay Items**

Recommendation as submitted by Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel, that the Board 1. Approve the recommendations set forth as to the new pay item. 2. Instruct staff to coordinate with the Auditor-Controller to establish the necessary reporting mechanisms and procedures to permit LACERA to implement such determinations when calculating final compensation for legacy and PEPRA members. (Memo dated November 14, 2025)

IX. EXCLUDED FROM CONSENT ITEMS

There were no items pulled for discussion.

X. NON – CONSENT ITEMS

A. **FY 2025-2026 Proposed Mid-Year Budget Adjustments**

Recommendation as submitted by Patrick Jones, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee: That the Board of Retirement approve and adopt the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Mid-Year Budget Adjustments to the LACERA Administrative Budget, including the addition of one Senior Investment Officer position. No changes are recommended for the Retiree Health Care Benefits Program Budget. (Memo dated November 24, 2025)

Trustee Moore made a motion, Trustee Ginsberg seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

B. **Board of Retirement 2026 Meeting Calendar**

Recommendation as submitted by Luis A. Lugo, Acting Chief Executive Officer: That the Board of Retirement review the 2026 meeting calendar and consider rescheduling meeting dates that conflict with a holiday and/or the potential lack of a quorum. (Memo dated November 24, 2025)

Trustee Harris made a motion, Trustee Okum seconded, to approve staff's recommendation. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

XI. REPORTS

A. **FY 2024-2025 Final Budget Control Report**

Patrick Jones, Chair, Joint Organizational Governance Committee  
(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 24, 2025)



XI. REPORTS (Continued)

This item was received and filed.

B. **Report of Revised Pay Items**

Jean J. Kim, Senior Staff Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 14, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

C. **Contracting Activity Report – October 2025**

Ricki Contreras, Administrative Services Division Manager

Elsy Gutierrez, Supervising Administrative Assistant II

(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 14, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

D. **Monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report – October 2025**

**Fiscal Year 2025-2026 - 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Trustee Travel and Education Expenditure Reports**

**Fiscal Year 2025-2026 – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Staff Travel Report**

Ted Granger, Chief Financial Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 20, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

E. **Update on SACRS 2026 Legislative Platform**

Barry W. Lew, Legislative Affairs Officer

(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 20, 2025)

This item was received and filed.

F. **November 2025 Fiduciary Counsel Contact and Billing Report**

Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel

(For Information Only) (Memo dated November 24, 2025)

(Privileged and Confidential/Attorney-Client Communication/Attorney Work Product and Exempt from Disclosure under California Government Code Sections 7927.705, 54957.5(a))

This item was received and filed.

XII. ITEMS FOR STAFF REVIEW

There were no items for staff review.

XIII. ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

There was nothing to report.

XIV. GOOD OF THE ORDER  
(For Information Purposes Only)

The Board and staff thanked Trustee Okum for his service on the Board of Retirement.

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

A. Applications for Disability

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5470B - NARVAEZ, HUGO JR.

Trustee Langton made a motion, Trustee Green seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement without prejudice. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5471B - VILLASENOR, FELICISIMA

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Ryu seconded, to return to staff for further development. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5472B – HINES, KIMBERLY\*

Trustee Robbins made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5473B - EDWARDS, HERMAN B.\*

Trustee Okum made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins

Abstain: Ryu

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5474B - LEVENTHAL, ROBERT L.

Trustee Langton made a motion, Trustee Robbins seconded to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

2558C - TONG, KELLY S.\*

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to continue to grant a service-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

5279B - YU, LARISSA J.

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Langton seconded, to continue to grant a nonservice-connected disability retirement pursuant to Government Code Section 31720. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

792E - THIEME, KONRAD W.

This item was pulled for further discussion in Closed Session. Trustee Langton made a motion, seconded by Trustee Harris, to return this item to staff for further development. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Kehoe, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

XV. DISABILITY RETIREMENT CASES TO BE HELD IN CLOSED SESSION

B. Disability Retirement Appeals

APPLICATION NO. & NAME AND BOARD ACTION

FRIEDMAN, SCOTT R. – In Pro Per  
Eugenia W. Der for the Respondent

Trustee Kehoe made a motion, Trustee Harris seconded, to deny a service-connected disability retirement. The motion passed by the following roll call vote:

Yes: Durazo, Fesler, Ginsberg, Green, Langton, Moore, Okum, Robbins, Ryu

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned in memory of Principal Investment Officer, James Rice at 11:30 a.m.

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SHAWN R. KEHOE, SECRETARY

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LES ROBBINS, CHAIR



# Recognizing Our Members' Service and Accomplishments

LACERA has over 120,000 active members working in dozens of L.A. County departments, many of whom dedicate their entire working lives to serving the community. Meet one of our long-serving members who is on the road to retirement.



## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Retiring Member

# Adiel Vasquez

Program Specialist IV, CEO, Board of Supervisors

Years of Service: 40

**Notable Contributions:** Adiel Vasquez plans to retire in February 2026 after 40 years of dedicated service to L.A. County. He currently serves as a Program Specialist IV, CEO for the Board of Supervisors, on loan to the Sheriff's Department. There, he works in the County's Workplace Violence Authority Unit, where he manages about 2,500 workplace violence cases a year and oversees the reporting and mitigation efforts that support the 100,000 County employees and clients they serve.

**Proudest Accomplishment:** He is most proud of the unique career path he's taken—advancing and building relationships in the Sheriff's Department while being the only civilian in his unit.

**Retirement Plans:** In his retirement, Adiel and his wife plan to take a trip to New York City to visit their two daughters. He's also looking forward to traveling the world with his wife and getting a chance to revisit his hobbies, including collecting cards, painting figurines, and watching Dodgers, Lakers, and Rams games.







# Chief Executive Officer's Report

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**January 2026**



# Organizational Updates

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# 2025 By the Numbers



**\$4.85 Billion\***  
**Retiree Payroll**

**3,619**  
**New Retirees**

**319,248**  
**Pieces of Mail Processed**

**15,579**  
**One-on-One  
Counseling Sessions**

**175,994**  
**Member Services and Retiree  
Healthcare Phone Inquiries**

**291**  
**Workshops/Benefit Fairs  
(14,993 attendees)**

**653,323**  
**Member Documents  
Scanned & Indexed**

\*Estimate as of December 29, 2025

# LACERA Highlights



## ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2025 AND 2024

- Guided by Values, Driven by Innovation

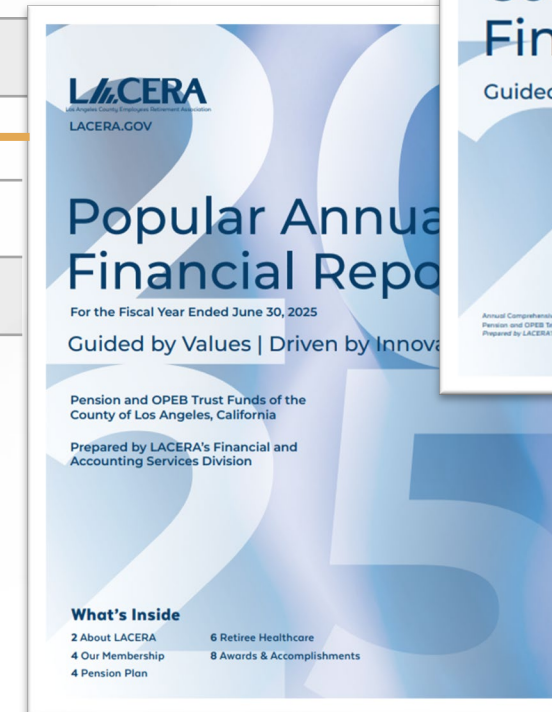


## LACERA CONNECTION

- LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube

## 2026 MARKET GROUP'S ELITE INSTITUTIONAL CIOs LIST

- Chief Investment Officer, Jonathan Grabel



# Retiree Healthcare Updates



## UNITED HEALTHARE (UHC) MEDICARE ADVANTAGE PLAN PROVIDER TERMINATION NOTICES

- Erroneous Termination Letters Sent to LACERA Administered UHC Plan
- LACERA retiree members will continue to have their same Primary Care Provider

## SENATE BILL 40 (SB 40) | AFFORDABLE ACCESS TO INSULIN AND ESSENTIAL SUPPLIES

- Requires compliance for health plans renewing on or after January 1, 2026
- Impacts large group fully insured health plans in California
- Insulin Cost Cap: Limits copays, coinsurance, and deductibles for a 30-day insulin supply to no more than \$35
- Step Therapy Ban: Prohibits health plans from requiring patients to try less expensive medications before covering insulin
- Mandated Coverage: Requires health plans to cover necessary diabetes supplies such as glucose monitors, pumps, strings, syringes, and ketone strips without extra cost-sharing
- LACERA staff and Segal are working with LACERA carriers to confirm applicability of SB 40 to LACERA plans

# Hiring Update

Reporting Period November 16, 2025 – December 15, 2025



## Promotions & Additions to the Team

### Financial & Accounting Services

Serineh Davis, Accountant II (Promotion)

### Investments

Quoc Nguyen, Sr. Investment Officer (Promotion)

### Systems

Joseph Shiuan, IT Manager II

## Recruitments Underway

### Executive Office

Assistant Executive Officer

### Financial & Accounting Services

Accountant I  
(General & Investment Accounting)  
Investment Accountant

### Internal Audit

Chief Internal Audit

### Investments

Finance Analyst II & III

### Legal

Legal Analyst  
Senior Staff Counsel

### Various Divisions

Retirement Benefits Specialist I  
(Trainees)

Retirement Benefits Specialist III  
(Promotional)

Sr. Retirement Benefits Specialist  
(Promotional)



# CEO DASHBOARD

---

Service Metrics



# Disability Retirement | January Agenda Snapshot

Reporting as of December 26, 2025



Total Cases on  
January Agenda  
**59**

Processed in 12  
Months or Less  
**23%**

Average Processing  
in Months  
**15**



**TARGET**  
12 Months

## PENDING APPLICATIONS (TOP 5 BY DEPARTMENT)

Reporting as of December 21, 2025

Sheriff	503
Probation	189
Fire	183
Children & Family Services	26
Public Social Services	23

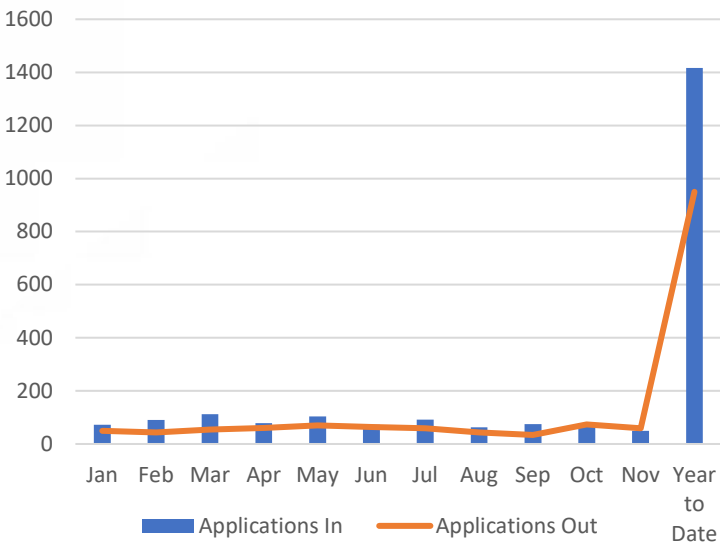
## PENDING APPLICATIONS BY MILESTONE

Reporting as of December 21, 2025

Milestone	Applications	Percentage
Intake Review	55	5%
Records Request	142	13%
File Indexing	359	33%
Pending Interview	213	20%
Drafting Report	119	11%
Medical Review	137	13%
Post Medical Review	15	1%
Board Prep	26	3%
Final Case Review	14	1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>100%</b>

## APPLICATIONS IN VS. OUT

July to November 30, 2025 - FY to Date



# Disability Retirement & Disability Litigation Snapshot

Reporting as of November 30, 2025



## APPLICATIONS

Pending Applications  
in Process  
**1,081**

## APPEALS

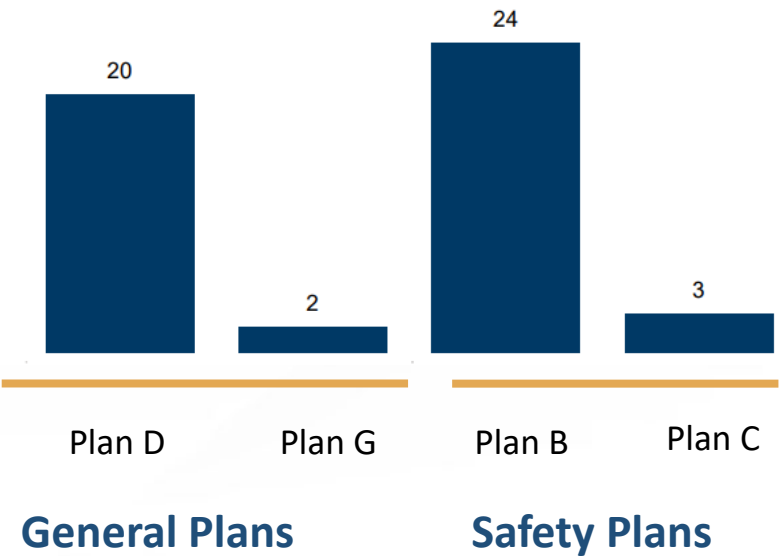
Pending Appeals  
in Process  
**61**

New Applications | 49  
Applications Received Fiscal Year to Date (FYTD) | 357  
Applications Presented to Board (Month) | 72  
Applications Presented to Board (FYTD) | 251  
New Appeals | 0  
Appeals Received Fiscal Year to Date (FYTD) | 4

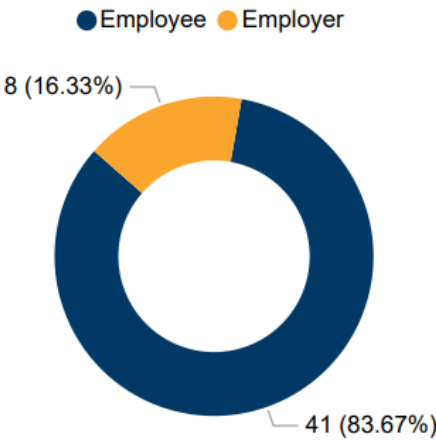
## APPLICATIONS FILED BY TYPE

Service-Connected Disability (SCD) | 62  
SCD Supplemental Allowance | 8  
Pending Acceptance | 4  
Nonservice-Connected Disability (NSCD) | 3  
NSCD Supplemental Allowance | 1

## APPLICATIONS FILED BY PLAN



## APPLICATIONS FILED BY SOURCE

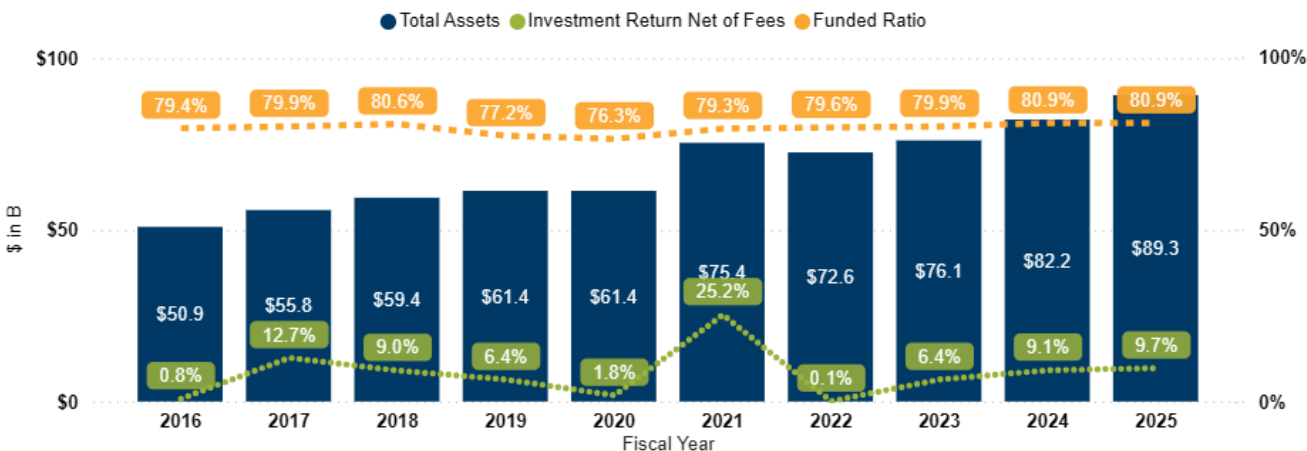


# Key Financial Information

Fiscal Year End June 30, 2025



## FISCAL YEAR END FINANCIAL UPDATE



### Funding Metrics

UAAL | 14.73%  
Assumed Rate | 7.00%  
Star Reserve | \$607.M  
Total Net Assets | 86.2B

### Annualized Investment Returns | Net of Fees

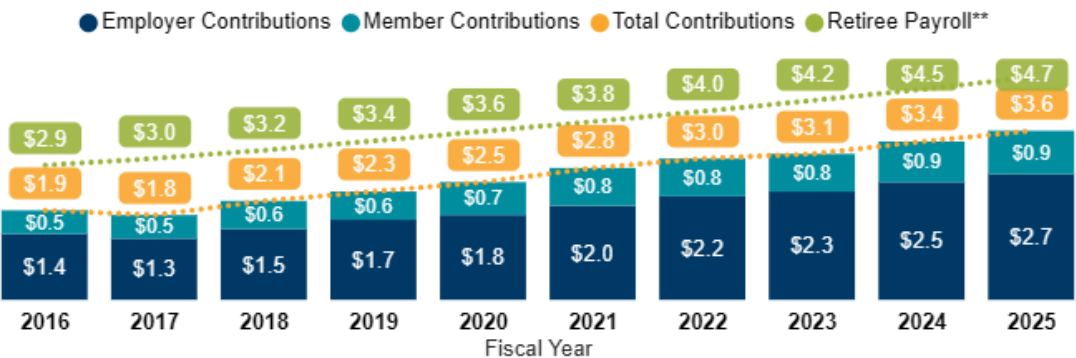
1-Year	3-Years	5-Years	10-Years
9.7%	8.4%	9.8%	7.9%

### Contributions

Employer Annual Contribution | \$2.7B  
Employer % of Payroll | 25.61%  
Member Annual Contribution | \$919.1M  
Member % of Payroll | 8.46%

## CONTRIBUTIONS AND RETIREE PAYROLL BY YEAR

(Dollars in Billions)



\*Based on the latest actuarial valuation data available, as of June 30, 2024

\*\*Retiree Payroll includes pension benefits and excludes retiree healthcare benefits.

## LACERA PENSION DOLLAR



# Human Resource Snapshot

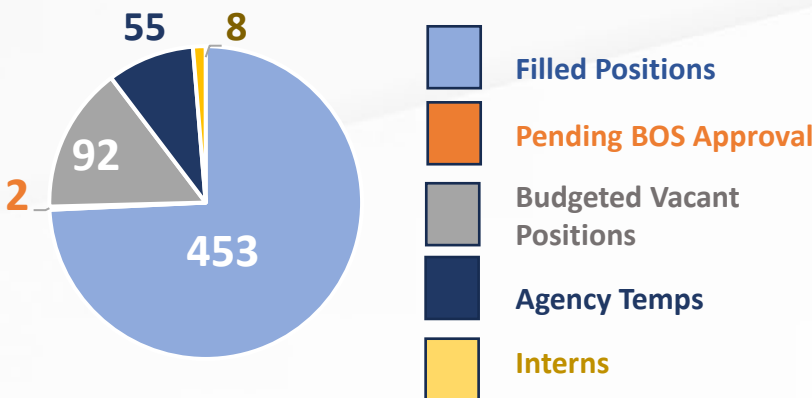
Reporting Period November 16, 2025 – December 15, 2025



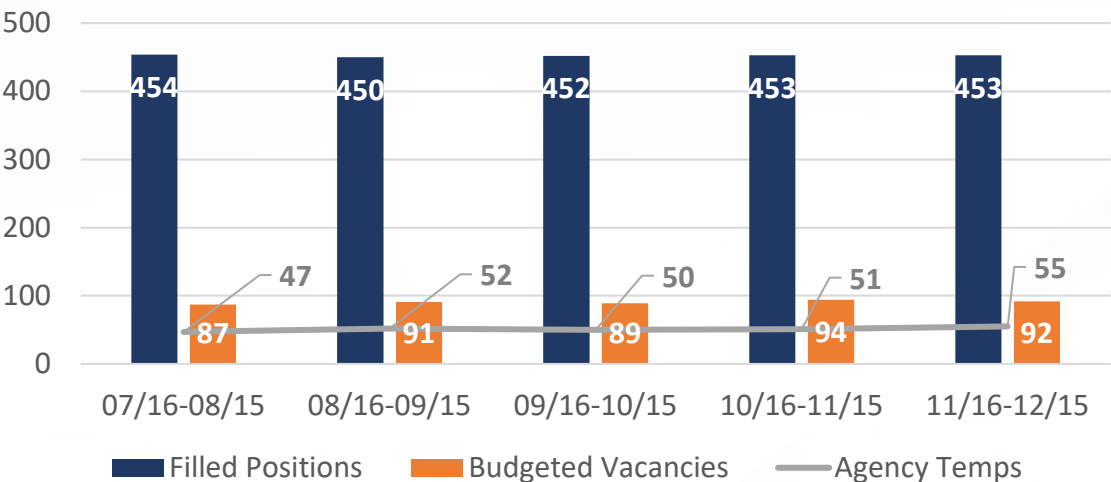
## VACANCY RATE

Positions  
Planned to Fill **14%**

All Budgeted  
Positions **17%**

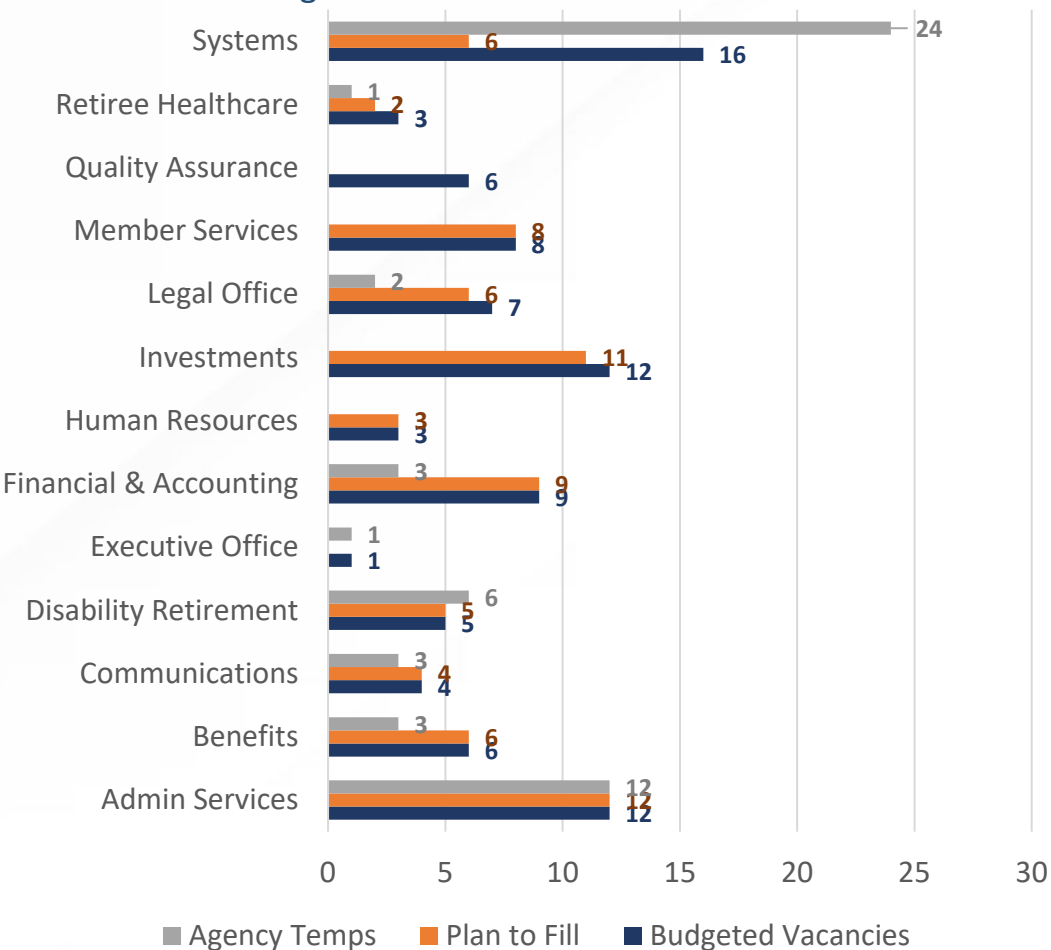


## MONTH TO MONTH PERFORMANCE



## VACANCIES BY DIVISION\*

Budgeted Positions vs. Plan to Fill Positions



\*Does not include intern vacancy

# Membership Snapshot

Reporting Period November 16, 2025 – December 15, 2025



## MEMBERSHIP COUNT

	Active		Inactive		Service Retirement	Retired		Survivors	Total
	Active Vested	Active Non-Vested	Inactive Vested	Inactive Non-Vested		SCD-Disability Retirement	NSCD-Disability Retirement		
☐ General Plans	65,270	23,132	7,900	12,789	50,161	3,171	579	8,479	171,481
AG	31		7	30	10,194	760	122	4,051	15,195
BG	6		5	3	538	33	5	81	671
CG	6		4	7	339	35	4	68	463
DG	29,457	112	3,651	3,597	22,030	2,256	434	2,340	63,877
EG	10,839	4	2,157	323	16,546			1,896	31,765
GG	24,931	23,016	2,076	8,829	514	87	14	44	59,511
☐ Safety Plans	10,311	1,980	562	1,025	5,164	7,626	76	2,240	28,984
AS			1	2	1,623	2,142	21	1,714	5,503
BS	6,339	12	378	341	3,521	5,430	54	521	16,596
CS	3,972	1,968	183	682	20	54	1	5	6,885
Total	75,581	25,112	8,462	13,814	55,325	10,797	655	10,719	200,465

Membership Count vesting status excludes reciprocal service credit.

## MEMBER GROSS AVERAGE MONTHLY BENEFIT

General & Safety Plan Average

\$5,526

General Plans

\$4,486

Safety Plans

\$9,883

## SURVIVOR GROSS AVERAGE MONTHLY BENEFIT

\$3,849

Excludes active deaths and replacement benefit plan benefits

## NOVEMBER 2025 PAYROLL

New Retired Payees | 251

Monthly Payroll | \$409.19M

Payroll Fiscal Year to Date | \$2.04B

Monthly Payroll by Direct Deposit | 98.60%

Monthly Payroll by Check | 1.40%

## MONTHLY BENEFIT ALLOWANCE DISTRIBUTION

Members and Survivors

Gross Benefit Range	General Plans	Safety Plans	Total
\$0 to \$3,999	36,174	1,432	37,606
\$4,000 to \$7,999	17,801	4,506	22,307
\$8,000 to \$11,999	5,504	4,690	10,194
\$12,000 to \$15,999	1,619	3,180	4,799
\$16,000 to \$19,999	562	869	1,431
\$20,000 to \$23,999	192	255	447
\$24,000 to \$27,999	40	50	90
> \$28,000	29	17	46
Total	61,921	14,999	76,920

# Member Services (MS) Snapshot

Reporting Period Month End | November 30, 2025



## EVENT/WEBINARS

Current Month | Year to Date

**15 | 153**

### ATTENDANCE

Current Month | Year to Date

**642 | 8,798**

Webinar Satisfaction | 1-5 Scale

**4.6**

(35% Response Rate)

EMA  
RHC M



## MS CENTER (MSC) APPOINTMENTS

Current Month | Fiscal Year to Date

**888 | 5,470**

MSC Satisfaction | % Scale

(22% Response Rate)

**97%**

**November**

In-Person | 472

Virtual | 393

Phone | 23

**Fiscal Year  
Monthly Average**

In-Person | 560

Virtual | 503

Phone | 30



## MS CALL CENTER

96% Answered | 4% Abandoned

**6,575 | 266**

Average Speed of Answer: 1 Min, 21 Sec.

Average Duration: 16 Min, 33 Sec.

**Total Calls 6,841**

### CALL BACK QUEUE

99% Answered | 1% Abandoned

**386 | 3**

Average Speed of Answer: 4 Min, 30 Sec.

Average Duration: 12 Min, 36 Sec.

**Total Calls 389**

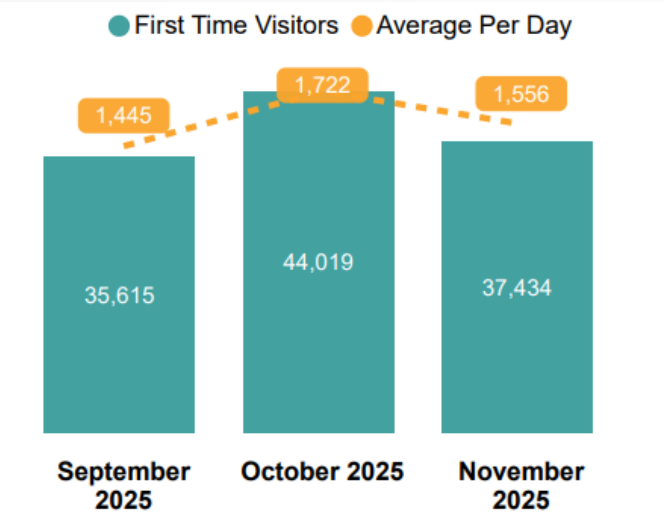


# Online Services | LACERA.gov & My LACERA

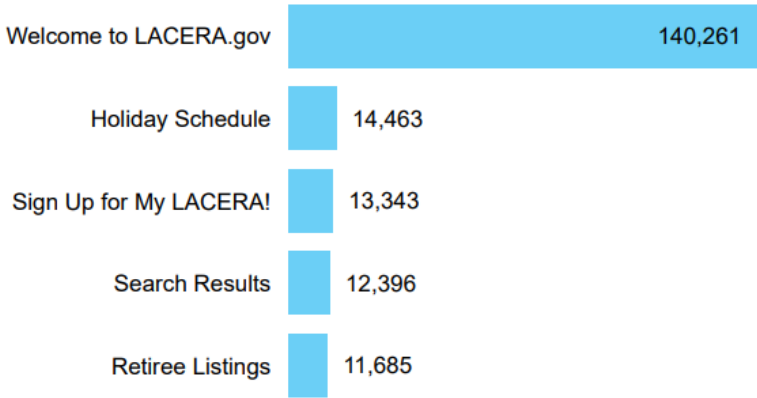


Reporting Period Month End | November 30, 2025

## LACERA.GOV USER TRAFFIC



## TOP FIVE LACERA.GOV PAGE VIEWS



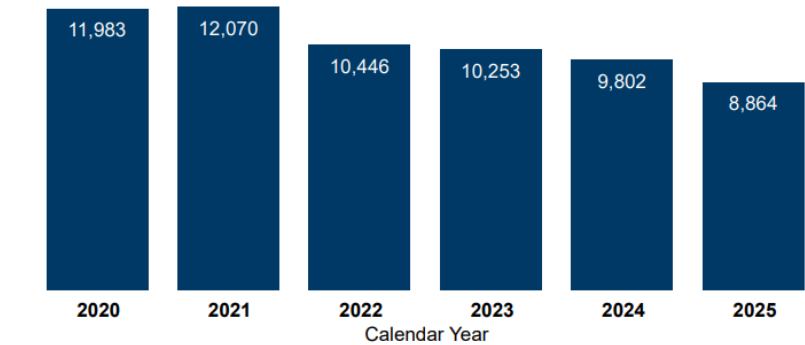
Total Member Accounts

Percentage of  
Total Members

63%

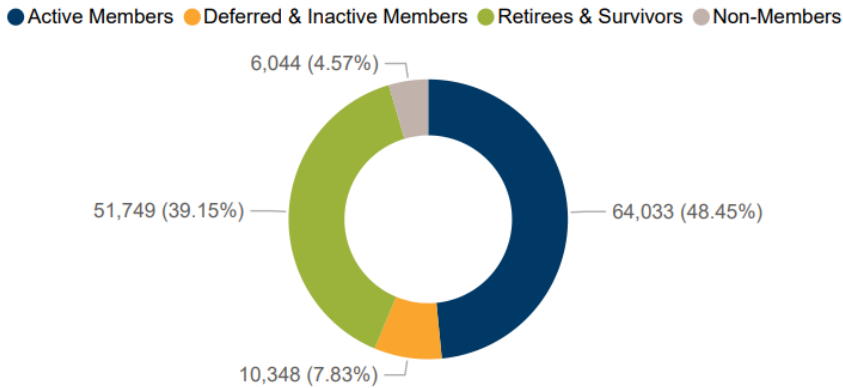
Excludes Non-Members

## ANNUAL NEW MYLACERA ACCOUNTS



Data labels may not appear for all values

## TOTAL ACCOUNTS BY MEMBER TYPE\*



\*Data as of  
December 15, 2025

Non-Members include legal split payees and withdrawn members.

# Retiree Healthcare (RHC)

Reporting Period Month End | November 30, 2025



EMAILS  
healthcare@lacera.gov  
**238**



SECURE MESSAGE  
MyLACERA  
**491**

SERVICE LEVEL  
24 Business Hours

Retiree Healthcare Program Enrollments			
Benefit	Employer	Member	Enrollments
Medical	\$316.8	\$22.3	57,910
Dental	\$23.1	\$2.1	60,259
Part B	\$45.6	\$0.0	40,290
Long Term Care	-	-	56
Total	\$385.5	\$24.4	158,515



## RHC CALL CENTER | MAIN QUEUE

92% Answered | 8% Abandoned  
**3,646 | 303**

Average Speed of Answer  
4 Minutes, 42 Seconds  
  
Average Duration  
13 Minutes, 29 Seconds

Total Calls **3,997**

## RHC CALL CENTER | CALL BACK QUEUE

100% Answered | 0% Abandoned  
**349 | 2**

Average Speed of Answer  
19 Minutes, 51 Seconds  
  
Average Duration  
10 Minutes, 02 Seconds

Total Calls **351**

TOP CALL TOPICS | Medicare Part B, Medical/Dental Enrollments, General Benefit Inquiries

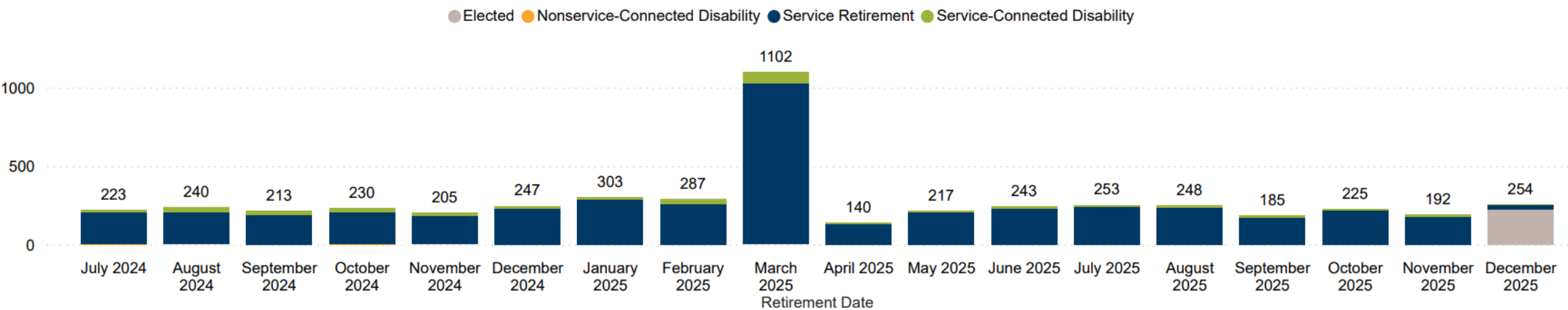


# Retirements | Member Snapshot

Reporting Period November 16, 2025 – December 15, 2025



## MONTHLY RETIREMENTS

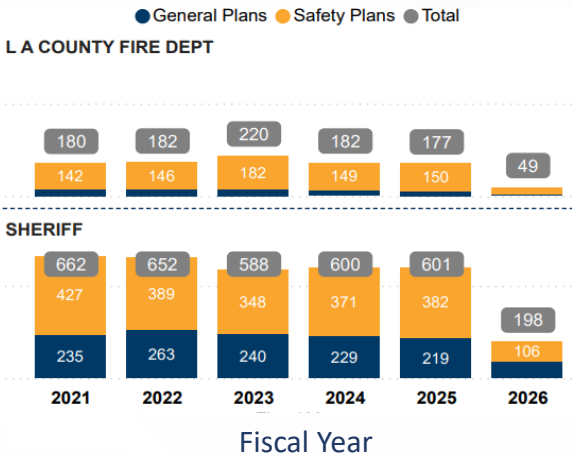


Elected retirements are members placed on the BOR Agenda, but not yet retired as of reporting date

## MONTHLY RETIREMENT TYPES

Retirement Type	December 2025
Elected	223
Service Retirement	30
Service-Connected Disability	1
Total	254

## FIRE AND SHERIFF RETIREMENTS



## TOTAL RETIREMENTS BY TYPE





# APPENDIX

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Additional Reports and Information



A quiet period is a period during which LACERA is prohibited from communicating with vendors about a specific procurement. This is typically done to avoid any conflicts of interest.

The quiet period typically begins when LACERA releases a solicitation (i.e., Request for Proposal – RFP, Request for Quote – RFQ, etc.) and ends when the contract is awarded. During this time, trustees and staff are not allowed to have any contact with vendors, including phone calls, emails, or in-person meetings.

There are a few exceptions to the quiet period rule. For example, trustees and staff may still communicate with vendors if they are:

- Responding to a question or clarification that was asked in writing to authorized staff pursuant to the solicitation.

- Participating in a pre-bid conference with authorized LACERA personnel that was scheduled before the quiet period began.

- Negotiating a contract after the award has been made.

- Conducting other existing business.

- Conducting Proof of Concept studies

If you are unsure whether or not you are allowed to communicate with a vendor during a quiet period, it is always best to err on the side of caution and avoid any contact or seek advice from the LACERA Legal Office.

# Quiet List | Administrative/Operations

Reporting as of December 23, 2025



Solicitation Name	Issuing Division	Public Release Date	Solicitation Stage*	Bid Respondents*
<b>Auditing and Consulting Services Pool</b>	Internal Audit	2/13/2025	Contract Development	Eide Bailly, Grant Thornton, Tap International Inc.
<b>Economic Impact Analysis</b>	Executive Office	08/08/25	Contract Development	Beacon Economics LLC, Berkely Economic Advising and Research
<b>eDiscovery</b>	Legal/InfoSec	12/1/2023	Contract Development	GlobalRelay
<b>Fiduciary Counsel Legal Services</b>	Legal Office	10/30/2025	Bid Review	Foley & Lardner LLP, Groom Law Group, Klausner Kaufman Jensen & Levinson, Nossaman LLP Olson Remcho LLP, Reed Smith LLP
<b>Financial Auditor Search</b>	Internal Audit	4/30/2025	Contract Execution	CLA (Clifton, Larson, Allen), CPAs
<b>Knowledge Management Solution</b>	Disability Litigation	10/31/2025	Bid Review	Americas, Oxcyon Inc., Eccentex , Enterprise Knowledge LLC, Progress Federal Solutions, Quisitive LLC, Speridian Technologies LLC., Squirro, Top Quadrant Inc., Work Methods Solutions Inc.
<b>Quality Assurance and Process Management Group Classification and Compensation Study</b>	Human Resources	07/21/2025	Contract Development	CBIZ Benefits & Insurance Services, Inc., CPS HR Consulting, Gallagher Benefits Services, Inc., Segal Western States, Transformance Consulting
<b>SAAS Provider: Drupal Hosting</b>	Systems	08/11/2025	Bid Review	AIM Technical Group LLC, Amaze.io, ATZ Solutions LLC, Datanetiix Solutions, Dynamics Federal Technologies, Exemplifai LLC, Pantheon Systems, Inc., Smashing Infolabs Private Limited

\*Subject to Change

# Quiet List | Investments

\*Subject to Change



Solicitation Name	Issuing Division	Public Release Date	Solicitation Stage*	Bid Respondents*
Passive Cash Overlay Investment Manager Search	Investments	6/13/2025	Contract Development	Legal & General Asset Management, NISA Investment Advisors, Parametric Portfolio Associates, Russell Investments, State Street Investment Management
Real Assets Emerging Manager Program Discretionary Separate Account Manager	Investments	3/29/2023	Contract Execution	BlackRock, GCM Grosvenor

# Upcoming Conferences



Date	Conference Title
January 20-22	IFEBP (International Foundation of Employment Benefit Plans) Health Benefits Conference & Expo Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
January 26-28	NCPERS (National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems) Legislative Conference and Policy Day Washington D.C
February 25-27	PPI La Jolla Roundtable La Jolla, CA
March 2-4	NCPERS (National Conference on Public Employee Retirement Systems) Communications & Member Services Summit (formerly Pension Communications Summit) Washington D.C.
March 8-11	CALAPRS (California Association of Public Retirement Systems) General Assembly 2026 Carlsbad, CA
March 9-11	Council of Institutional Investors (CII) Spring Conference Washington D.C.
March 23-25	AHIP (America's Health Insurance Plans) Medicare, Medicaid, Duals and Commercial Markets Forum Washington D.C
March 24-27	2026 Infrastructure Investor Global Summit Berlin, Germany
March 26-27	PREA (Pension Real Estate Association) Spring Conference Nashville, TN
April 9-10	National Association of Corporate Directors (NACD) Master Class – Technology & Innovation Oversight Washington D.C.

# Report of Felony Forfeiture Cases

As of December 22, 2025



Member's Last Name	Member's First Name	Dept.	Conviction Date	LACERA Notified	Initial Impact Notice Sent	Final Impact Notice Sent	Status*	Disability Status	Serv. Level
COBERG	MICHAEL D.	SHERIFF	9/29/2025	10/20/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
CADMAN	CHRISTOPHER M.	SHERIFF	7/14/2025	9/11/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
RODRIGUEZ	DAVID A.	SHERIFF	7/14/2025	9/11/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
MEISER	MICHAEL	SHERIFF	7/10/2025	8/1/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
KAMACK	DANNIE T.	PROBATION	3/3/2025	4/22/2025	N/A	N/A	DELAY – CD	N/A	N/A
BENZA	JOSEPH M.	SHERIFF	12/17/2024	2/11/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	PEND	N/A
SAAVEDRA	ERIC C.	SHERIFF	1/16/2025	2/6/2025	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
PINEDA	REMIN	SHERIFF	11/19/2024	1/10/2025	10/15/2025	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
ESSEX	SEAN	SHERIFF	6/7/2024	7/22/2024	N/A	N/A	PEND	N/A	N/A
RIDLEY-THOMAS	MARK	BOS	3/31/2023	3/31/2023	10/23/2023	N/A	APPEAL	N/A	N/A

## STATUS LEGEND:

APPEAL: Pending an appeal filed with LACERA

CLOSED: RET: Retired member, case is complete

CLOSED: DEF: Deferred member, case complete

CLOSED: INA: Inactive member – not eligible until age 70, case closed

DELAY-MI: Member input needed (i.e. pending a legal split decision)

DELAY-CD: Pending a court decision (reduction in charges pending conditions being met)

PEND: Case is currently in evaluation and notification stages

WITHDRAWN: Member withdrew prior to conviction – no impact

# Public Records Requests

Reporting Period November 15, 2025 – December 14, 2025



Date Received	Requestor	Documents Requested and Submitted During Reporting Period
11-12-25 Rec'd in Quarantine 11-21-25	J. Brewen, Retireready.com	Request: Survivor benefit option factor tables for Unmodified Plus and Options 1, 2 and 3 for your Safety plans A, B, and C as well as your General Plans D, E, and G.
11-17-25	R. Inchody, Pitchbook Data Inc.	Request: Quarterly records from 3Q25 for alternative asset holdings.
11-21-25	L. Wilson Amosion	Request: List of investment holdings for calendar year-end for 2022-2023, 2024 and 2025.
11-25-25	FOIA Data Aggregation	Request: Q3 2025 Alternatives and Hedge Fund reports.
12-03-25	H. Ahaiwe, HR, LA County and 1 other Recipient	Per monthly request: Monthly Agenda.csv dated December 3, 2025.
12-03-25	Sheriffs Dept, LA County and 4 other Recipients	Per monthly request: Monthly Agenda Reports for Sheriff Department Listing and Fire Department listing, each dated December 3, 2025.
12-03-25	C. Siverson, Fire, LA County and 6 other Recipients	Monthly Response: Board of Retirement Meeting Benefit Approval List dated, December 3, 2025.pdf.
11-12-25 Rec'd in Quarantine 11-21-25	J. Brewen, Retireready.com	Request: Survivor benefit option factor tables for Unmodified Plus and Options 1, 2 and 3 for your Safety plans A, B, and C as well as your General Plans D, E, and G.





# Thank You!

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December 30, 2025

**TO:** Trustees, Board of Retirement

**FOR:** Board of Retirement Meeting on January 7, 2026

**SUBJECT:** Ratification of Service Retirement and Survivor Benefit Application Approvals

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The attached report reflects service retirements and survivor benefit applications received as of the date of this memo, along with any retirement rescissions and/or changes approved at last month's Board meeting. Any retirement rescissions or changes received after the date of this memo up to the date of the Board's approval, will be reflected in next month's report.

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### SAFETY MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
CHARLES M. BRUCE	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-23-2026	30 YRS 03 MOS
SEAN M. CARIAGA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	02-10-2026	35 YRS 11½ MOS
MATTHEW E. COLIN	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	20 YRS ½ MOS
TRAVIS T. DOWDY	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-29-2026	27 YRS 07 MOS
JOSE E. GUARDERAS JR	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	33 YRS 05½ MOS
RAYMOND L. JONES J R	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-01-2026	30 YRS 05½ MOS
ALEJO R. JUAREZ	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	01-01-2026	25 YRS 02½ MOS
SHEILA A. KELLIHER	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	11-05-2025	25 YRS ½ MOS
MICHAEL J. KIM	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	01-31-2026	26 YRS 06½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### SAFETY MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JOSEPH J. MESA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-29-2025	34 YRS 00 MOS
RODNEY K. MOORE	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-31-2026	31 YRS 04½ MOS
EUGENE RAMIREZ	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	01-30-2026	40 YRS 03 MOS
SEAN T. TURNER	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-31-2026	18 YRS 07½ MOS
EDMOND M. WILSON	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	01-09-2026	25 YRS 02½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
MANYAHLHAL ADENOW	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-01-2025	27 YRS 06 MOS
JOLEMIO R. AGATON	AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK Dept.#HN	01-30-2026	19 YRS 07 MOS
VIOLETA ALAVERDYAN	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	12-03-2025	26 YRS 05½ MOS
VON ERIC L. ALCANTARA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	28 YRS ½ MOS
JOSE C. ALDANA AYELO	CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE Dept.#AO	01-31-2026	39 YRS 06½ MOS
KAREN L. ALLEN	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	11-24-2025	24 YRS 04½ MOS
CAMILO T. ARGONZA	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-16-2026	30 YRS 09 MOS
ROSARIO F. ARIAS ALVARE	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-31-2026	13 YRS 09½ MOS
HELEN AU-YEUNG	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-19-2025	34 YRS 03 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
NELSON AVILES	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-02-2026	31 YRS 10½ MOS
ERIC R. BAAS	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-30-2026	32 YRS 06 MOS
DELMY R. BALETTE	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	11-24-2025	33 YRS 08½ MOS
INNA BARG	MENTAL HEALTH Dept.#MH	01-30-2026	30 YRS 06 MOS
AUDRA Y. BARNES	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-16-2025	18 YRS 00 MOS
MELANIE J. BARR	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	12-31-2025	37 YRS ½ MOS
PETER BARTHOLOMEW	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-31-2025	33 YRS 02½ MOS
KASHIM M. BAXTER	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	12-31-2025	38 YRS 04½ MOS
RICHARD P. BENDALL	LACERA Dept.#NL	02-28-2026	38 YRS 06 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
VIRGILIO S. BERGADO	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-01-2025	21 YRS 07½ MOS
NATTAYA BOONKOKUA	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-30-2026	27 YRS 01 MOS
LESLEY H. BOURNE	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	01-31-2026	31 YRS 03½ MOS
NORMA V. BRANSFIELD	SFV CLUSTER-OLIVE VIEW/UCLA MC Dept.#HO	12-07-2025	08 YRS 06½ MOS
YOLANDA M. BROWN	ASSESSOR Dept.#AS	12-26-2025	34 YRS 04 MOS
DIANE R. BROWN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	11-29-2025	39 YRS 11 MOS
KIM DAO T. BUI	PUBLIC LIBRARY Dept.#PL	01-30-2026	41 YRS 10 MOS
MARIO O. CAIN-SANCHEZ	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	25 YRS 05½ MOS
MARIA CARBAJAL	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-31-2025	25 YRS ½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
MELISSA E. CARR	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	01-30-2026	35 YRS 11 MOS
ROBERT Z. CARRILLO	PUBLIC WORKS Dept.#PW	12-26-2025	38 YRS 09 MOS
LOUISA CHAN	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-31-2026	40 YRS 05½ MOS
SONGDO CHANG	INTERNAL SERVICES Dept.#IS	12-16-2025	20 YRS 03 MOS
CHI TING CHANG	ANIMAL CONTROL Dept.#AN	12-28-2025	20 YRS 01 MOS
CAROL M. CHAPARRO	PUBLIC WORKS Dept.#PW	12-31-2025	25 YRS 07½ MOS
CASIA A. CHIDLEY	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-26-2026	15 YRS 01 MOS
JOANN C. CHU	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	01-31-2026	21 YRS 01½ MOS
EVELYN G. CLARK	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-31-2026	17 YRS ½ MOS



# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
PATRICIA M. CRAIGG-DAVIS	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	11-29-2025	29 YRS 07 MOS
JACQUELINE D. CRAIN	CORRECTIONAL HEALTH Dept.#HC	12-24-2025	45 YRS 05 MOS
THUAN N. DAMRON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-31-2025	31 YRS 03½ MOS
KARIN DAVIDIAN	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES Dept.#CD	12-31-2025	23 YRS 08½ MOS
LUCITA T. DAY	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	25 YRS ½ MOS
JOHNNY L. DEL ROSARIO	ASSESSOR Dept.#AS	01-31-2026	25 YRS 08½ MOS
ELMER B. DEL VALLE	AGRICULTURAL COMM./WTS & MEAS. Dept.#AW	01-30-2026	25 YRS 05 MOS
ALFONSO D. DELA CUESTA	SFV CLUSTER-OLIVE VIEW/UCLA MC Dept.#HO	12-31-2025	12 YRS ½ MOS
HERMAN A. DES VIGNES	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	12-28-2025	24 YRS 04 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JULIE DUONG	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-31-2026	26 YRS 06½ MOS
TRINA R. DYSON	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	12-30-2025	10 YRS 09 MOS
BERNARD EDWARDS	LACERA Dept.#NL	03-07-2026	19 YRS 05½ MOS
KELLY G. EMLING	COUNTY COUNSEL Dept.#CC	01-31-2026	40 YRS ½ MOS
NORMA E. ESPINOSA	INTERNAL SERVICES Dept.#IS	01-31-2026	34 YRS 10½ MOS
ELVA ESPINOZA	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	11-29-2025	34 YRS 04 MOS
BLANCA A. FETUI	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	22 YRS 02½ MOS
RITA FUENTES	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-02-2025	41 YRS 07½ MOS
CYNTHIA L. GALLEGOS	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	29 YRS 04 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JESSICA L. GAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-30-2026	25 YRS 06 MOS
GERARDO GAOR	MENTAL HEALTH Dept.#MH	12-31-2025	13 YRS 03½ MOS
ANH GIANG	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-27-2025	25 YRS 00 MOS
MICHELE D. GIRON	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-24-2025	38 YRS 05 MOS
ALISA GORODETSKAYA	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-31-2026	30 YRS 08½ MOS
SHNORIK GRIGORYAN	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-02-2026	17 YRS 08½ MOS
LISA L. GUERRERO	AGING DEPARTMENT Dept.#AG	12-29-2025	35 YRS 03½ MOS
KEN B. HABARADAS	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	12-31-2025	28 YRS 03½ MOS
MULU A. HAILU	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-30-2025	12 YRS 02½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
SEON JOO HAN	SFV CLUSTER-OLIVE VIEW/UCLA MC Dept.#HO	12-27-2025	18 YRS 05½ MOS
VIVIAN L. HARRIS	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-07-2025	40 YRS 06½ MOS
DARRYL L. HARRIS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-31-2025	35 YRS 06½ MOS
ANA B. HENDERSON	REG-RECORDER/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#RR	01-31-2026	38 YRS 03½ MOS
GORDON L. HENDLER	MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY Dept.#NH	12-31-2025	45 YRS 03½ MOS
DANIEL J. HERLACHE III	INTERNAL SERVICES Dept.#IS	01-30-2026	36 YRS 09 MOS
ROBERTA N. HOLTS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-31-2025	32 YRS 06½ MOS
GARY HOO	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-31-2026	27 YRS 04½ MOS
MAX HUNTSMAN	BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Dept.#BS	12-15-2025	34 YRS 03 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
ROSIO IGLESIAS	AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK Dept.#HN	12-31-2025	16 YRS 06½ MOS
CATALINA IGNACIO	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	11-24-2025	01 YRS 09½ MOS
ESTELA INOUYE	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-12-2025	48 YRS 05 MOS
TIMOTHY D. ITTNER	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	01-23-2026	19 YRS 07 MOS
GWENDOLYN JAMES	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-27-2025	10 YRS 06 MOS
VAHIK D. JAVADIAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-28-2025	31 YRS 11 MOS
CYNTHIA JEFFERSON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-09-2026	36 YRS 10½ MOS
BRYAN D. JENKINS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-26-2025	35 YRS ½ MOS
CECIL M. JOHNSON	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	45 YRS ½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
EVELYN A. JONES	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-30-2026	17 YRS 06 MOS
KEVIN V. KANE	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	01-03-2026	27 YRS 06½ MOS
MATTHEW T. KANG	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	11-29-2025	18 YRS 02 MOS
LAURA J. KESSNER	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	10-31-2025	30 YRS 08½ MOS
GOHAR KHACHATRYAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	02-28-2026	10 YRS 03 MOS
PATRICK C. LAM	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	02-28-2026	27 YRS 00 MOS
LISA TUYET LE	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	02-28-2026	35 YRS 10 MOS
MAI D. LEPHONG	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-30-2026	43 YRS 02 MOS
EUGENE LEWIS	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-31-2025	46 YRS 03½ MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
BLANCA S. LOPEZ	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-30-2026	25 YRS 01 MOS
AMALIA LOPEZ	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-16-2025	41 YRS 01 MOS
RUTH LUBINSKY	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-31-2026	35 YRS 09½ MOS
BRIAN W. LUCY	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	02-24-2026	37 YRS 09 MOS
ANITA LUEVANO	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-31-2026	31 YRS 01½ MOS
FRANCES LUK	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	12-27-2025	31 YRS 01 MOS
MANA LY	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	01-14-2026	35 YRS 03½ MOS
CYNTHIA E. MALUTO	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-01-2025	35 YRS 03 MOS
FETLEWORK MAMO	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	12-27-2025	34 YRS 03 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
LITA O. MARTINEZ	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	02-26-2026	10 YRS 00 MOS
ROSA MARTINEZ	ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#AD	01-31-2026	39 YRS ½ MOS
ABUBAKR A. MARZOUK	MEDICAL EXAMINER Dept.#ME	03-01-2025	00 YRS 01½ MOS
MYRNA MEDINA	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	11-22-2025	32 YRS 11 MOS
MARIA ELENA MERCADO	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	11-30-2025	19 YRS 04 MOS
DONNA L. MERCHANT	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	01-30-2026	10 YRS 06 MOS
VALERIE MIJARES	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-13-2025	36 YRS 08½ MOS
LUZ E. MORAN	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-30-2025	38 YRS 06 MOS
EDNA S. MORENO ALBA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-27-2025	05 YRS 01 MOS



# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JOY V. MUZHUTHETTU	ECONOMIC AND WORKFORCE DEV Dept.#EW	12-31-2025	25 YRS 01½ MOS
KRISTIN E. NAIR	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	12-31-2025	29 YRS 11½ MOS
THANH D. NGUYEN	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	01-31-2026	34 YRS 09½ MOS
VAN N. NGUYEN	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	11-29-2025	14 YRS 04 MOS
KAY M. NORTH	TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR Dept.#TT	12-31-2025	37 YRS 09½ MOS
IRMA R. NUNEZ	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	01-31-2026	09 YRS 08½ MOS
PATRICK D. O'CROWLEY	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	01-21-2026	31 YRS 09 MOS
HILDA B. OCHOA	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	35 YRS 08½ MOS
RICHARD OROZCO	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	06 YRS 07½ MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
LINDA ORTEGA	AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK Dept.#HN	11-26-2025	50 YRS 00 MOS
LETICIA PACILLAS	LA COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	12-30-2025	27 YRS 04 MOS
ASHOK PANDYA	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	12-14-2025	20 YRS 10 MOS
CECILIA PANTOJA	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	12-31-2025	28 YRS 01½ MOS
OTTO PERDOMO	AGING DEPARTMENT Dept.#AG	11-19-2025	30 YRS 05½ MOS
MAY PHOSRI	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	10-31-2025	19 YRS 07½ MOS
ROSEMARY F. PIMENTEL	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-30-2025	06 YRS 04 MOS
DEXTER J. PUNO	SFV CLUSTER-OLIVE VIEW/UCLA MC Dept.#HO	11-29-2025	28 YRS 04 MOS
CYNTHIA A. PURCELL	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-30-2026	07 YRS 02 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
HERMELINDA RESENDEZ	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	12-31-2025	40 YRS 09½ MOS
LETICIA REY MONJE	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	12-31-2025	21 YRS 05½ MOS
TINA H. RICHARDS	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	12-31-2025	27 YRS ½ MOS
ELRIZAH RIZADA-BAUTI	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	01-17-2026	26 YRS 04 MOS
STEPHANIE C. ROBINSON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-31-2025	04 YRS 02½ MOS
ARACELY ROBLETO	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	26 YRS 06½ MOS
JANE H. ROOT	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	12-31-2025	24 YRS ½ MOS
DORA P. ROSALES	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-31-2025	36 YRS 11½ MOS
RODNEY D. ROSSER	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	11-07-2025	27 YRS 08 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
YOLANDA P. SABLAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	25 YRS 07 MOS
LORENZA SANCHEZ	AGING DEPARTMENT Dept.#AG	01-31-2026	35 YRS 08½ MOS
LEIZA C. SANTOS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	01-31-2026	36 YRS 07½ MOS
FRANCESCA P. SCIORTINO	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	01-30-2026	40 YRS 11½ MOS
ANA T. SIME	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-17-2026	30 YRS 10½ MOS
MICHAEL H. SKLAR	PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#PD	01-30-2026	36 YRS 00 MOS
JACQUELYN A. SMALL	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	11-29-2025	17 YRS 09½ MOS
MASHELL SPENCER	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	12-30-2025	42 YRS 00 MOS
KIMBERLY J. STANDIFER	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	12-30-2025	35 YRS 11 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
TERREL L. STEPHENS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	11-29-2025	26 YRS 03 MOS
ROBERT B. STOUTEMIRE	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	11-23-2025	26 YRS 10 MOS
MAY M. TANG	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	11-15-2025	25 YRS 03½ MOS
GRACIA L. TANG	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	12-31-2025	25 YRS 01½ MOS
MARCIE L. TATUM	ASSESSOR Dept.#AS	12-27-2025	40 YRS 07½ MOS
MICHAEL A. THEBERGE	PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#PD	01-30-2026	37 YRS 08 MOS
ADRIANNE THOMPSON	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-31-2026	27 YRS 05½ MOS
MELISSA R. TOLES	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	01-02-2026	32 YRS 05½ MOS
WANDA L. TOLLIVER	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	01-31-2026	35 YRS 04 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
GLORIA TORRES	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	01-31-2026	38 YRS 11½ MOS
HONEY BEE G. TOTTEN	CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES Dept.#CD	12-31-2025	30 YRS 06½ MOS
ROUZANNA TOUNIAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-27-2025	10 YRS 03½ MOS
SAM H. UNG	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	25 YRS ½ MOS
ALICIA VALDOVINOS	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-15-2025	17 YRS 01 MOS
ROSAA. VASQUEZ	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-31-2025	27 YRS 03½ MOS
PATRICIA VAZIRZADEH	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-25-2026	45 YRS 11 MOS
WALTER E. VISQUERRA	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-31-2025	26 YRS 10½ MOS
OLIVIA M. WHEELER	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-31-2025	40 YRS 00 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
TRACY R. WRIGHT	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-05-2025	25 YRS 01½ MOS
JOHN YUEN	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-24-2025	14 YRS 03½ MOS

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026**

**BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST**

**GENERAL SURVIVOR APPLICATIONS**

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
NINOSKA FRENCH	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	09-23-2025	48 YRS 02 MOS



## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### SAFETY MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
CURTIS L. BYNUM	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-03-2026	09 YRS 00 MOS
NOAH CORRALES	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	01-15-2026	24 YRS 02½ MOS
JASON K. HAUGEN	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	10-29-2025	05 YRS 00 MOS
CHAD V. HOEPPNER	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-07-2025	01 YRS 02 MOS
JESSE U. LEGAZPI	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-20-2025	15 YRS 05½ MOS
RYAN L. SCHMIDT	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-31-2025	06 YRS 11 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
FRANCISCO R. AMEZCUA	OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY Dept.#SY	12-14-2025	10 YRS 03 MOS
LA RHONDA M. BROWN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	11-12-2025	10 YRS 06 MOS
ANASTASIA BROWN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-20-2025	11 YRS 05 MOS
APRIL A. CARLSON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-01-2026	07 YRS 10 MOS
MARGARET CARTER	INTERNAL SERVICES Dept.#IS	03-01-2025	08 YRS 00 MOS
WEN CHANG	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT Dept.#FR	11-29-2025	00 YRS 09 MOS
KELLY CHAPPELL	PUBLIC WORKS Dept.#PW	11-24-2025	11 YRS 02 MOS
MILDRED J. CHIN	ASSESSOR Dept.#AS	12-31-2025	01 YRS 02½ MOS
VARTENI DISHIGRIKYAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	11-21-2025	25 YRS 10 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
JOELLE F. DUMONT	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	11-17-2025	21 YRS 08 MOS
LISA EDMONDS	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-28-2025	13 YRS 01 MOS
ADRIENNE A. ELENTENY	PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#PD	10-01-2025	00 YRS 05 MOS
SHIEN-CHI FAN	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-08-2025	08 YRS 11 MOS
JOSE N. GARFIAS	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	10-14-2025	00 YRS 04 MOS
SHAWN A. GORDON	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-14-2025	29 YRS 01 MOS
TERRELL A. GREEN	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	05-08-2021	11 YRS 05 MOS
MARCUS L. HELMS	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-05-2025	33 YRS 06½ MOS
MIRNA C. HERNANDEZ	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-12-2025	26 YRS 01 MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
SHEILA D. JOHNSON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-11-2025	17 YRS 03 MOS
JANIS Y. KANEGAWA	INTERNAL SERVICES Dept.#IS	01-06-2026	12 YRS 11 MOS
SHAWN A. KENNEDY	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	12-03-2025	07 YRS 03 MOS
MICHELLE C. KIM	ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#AD	12-14-2025	16 YRS 06½ MOS
RAY C. KIM	ASSESSOR Dept.#AS	01-09-2026	09 YRS 03 MOS
KATHLINE J. KING	PARKS AND RECREATION Dept.#PK	01-09-2026	14 YRS 09 MOS
FREDERICK C. KITTMAN III	OFFICE OF PUBLIC SAFETY Dept.#SY	11-15-2025	09 YRS 03 MOS
ERU KYEYUNE-NYOM	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	10-09-2025	18 YRS 01½ MOS
NIDRA LARRY	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	01-04-2026	07 YRS 00 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
OANA D. LITERAT	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION Dept.#HS	11-19-2025	16 YRS 10 MOS
KAREN S. MAPP	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM Dept.#PH	11-12-2025	17 YRS 06½ MOS
LYDIA MC CORKLE	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	11-07-2025	41 YRS 11 MOS
TERESA A. MCFERREN	TREASURER AND TAX COLLECTOR Dept.#TT	12-08-2025	16 YRS 05 MOS
MICHAEL D. MCINTYRE	PUBLIC WORKS Dept.#PW	11-18-2025	19 YRS 06½ MOS
MARIGENE S. MCNICHOLL	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-11-2025	15 YRS 05 MOS
DONNA NEALY	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	11-29-2025	40 YRS 08 MOS
TIN H. OO	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC) Dept.#HG	12-27-2025	21 YRS 01 MOS
STEPHANIE C. PARKER	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES Dept.#SS	12-05-2025	11 YRS 11 MOS

# BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

## BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
MARISSA A. PEREZ	MENTAL HEALTH Dept.#MH	01-29-2026	09 YRS 00 MOS
ERENDIDA M. PEREZ	DISTRICT ATTORNEY Dept.#DA	11-29-2025	34 YRS 07 MOS
JOYCE A. RAYNA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	12-29-2025	46 YRS 10 MOS
KENNETH A. RUTHERFORD	ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#AD	11-30-2025	12 YRS 10½ MOS
ROSEMARY RUVALCABA	PROBATION DEPARTMENT Dept.#PB	11-01-2025	00 YRS 07 MOS
SCOTT L. RYAN	PUBLIC WORKS Dept.#PW	12-31-2025	12 YRS 10 MOS
RICK SAKANE	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-11-2025	12 YRS 11 MOS
DOUGLAS D. SWEET	PUBLIC DEFENDER Dept.#PD	10-15-2025	35 YRS 07 MOS
KAREN TAPPER	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	11-17-2025	33 YRS 03½ MOS

## BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026

### BENEFIT APPROVAL LIST

#### GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR: SERVICE RETIREMENT FROM DEFERRED

<u>NAME</u>	<u>DEPARTMENT</u>	<u>RETIRED</u>	<u>SERVICE</u>
KENDRA D. VALDEZ	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	12-05-2025	15 YRS 02 MOS
RINA G. WHITE	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-03-2026	14 YRS 07½ MOS
ANTONIO L. WILLIAMS	MENTAL HEALTH Dept.#MH	10-01-2025	03 YRS 03 MOS
CHERYL A. WILLIS	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC Dept.#HH	11-30-2025	36 YRS 01 MOS
GAIL WILSON	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES Dept.#CH	01-31-2026	19 YRS 06 MOS
HOYT M. YEE	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK Dept.#SC	12-03-2025	09 YRS 01 MOS
ANI M. YOKOYAMA	SHERIFF Dept.#SH	11-25-2025	12 YRS 06½ MOS

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026  
RESCISSIONS/CHANGES FROM PRIOR BENEFIT APPROVAL LISTS**

**SAFETY MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIRMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
PATRICIA A. RINES	SHERIFF	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 23, 2026
ROBERT R. SMITH	L A COUNTY FIRE DEPT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 20, 2026
STEVE A. OOSTERHOF	SHERIFF	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 13, 2026



**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026  
RESCISSIONS/CHANGES FROM PRIOR BENEFIT APPROVAL LISTS**

**GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIRMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
ALBA F. AMAYA RECINOS	PARKS AND RECREATION	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 26, 2026
ANTHONY J. GALVAN	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 01, 2026
ARLENE SANTOS	AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 28, 2026
ARTEMIS KURINYAN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 30, 2025
BEATRIZ MEZA	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 09, 2026
BRADLEY L. ANDERSON	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 21, 2026
CECILIA REYNOSO	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
DAVID A. ROSS	ALTERNATE PUBLIC DEFENDER	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
DAVID R. MARTINEZ	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
DEMMIA T. SALARDA	AMBULATORY CARE NETWORK	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
DOLORES M. GIBBS	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC)	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
EDDIE ELLOIE	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 07, 2026

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026**  
**RESCISSIONS/CHANGES FROM PRIOR BENEFIT APPROVAL LISTS**

**GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIRMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
FUNMI S. TOFOWOMO	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 03, 2026
GABRIEL M. MENDOZA	COASTAL CLUSTER-HARBOR/UCLA MC	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 30, 2025
GILBERT LAZAR	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC)	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 05, 2026
GUADALUPE GUTIERREZ	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC)	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
HERBERT ABAD	SHERIFF	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
JACQUELINE A. STEVERSON	INTERNAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 30, 2026
JAMES G. CURRAN	SHERIFF	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 13, 2026
JUANITA VIRAMONTES	SHERIFF	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
JUDITH A. ZISSA	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
JULES D. VANCOL	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
KENT B. TABLADA	MENTAL HEALTH	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 30, 2026
LESLIE B. RINGOLD	PUBLIC DEFENDER	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 05, 2026
LILLIAN M. HARPER	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 22, 2025

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026  
RESCISSIONS/CHANGES FROM PRIOR BENEFIT APPROVAL LISTS**

**GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIRMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
LINGNA HU	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
LUCY ERICKSON	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC)	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 31, 2025
MARGARET DURAN	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 03, 2026
MARTIN A. BARBOZA	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
MELEN-PIO T. CORDOVA	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 30, 2026
MIRTHA P. GALLEGOS	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
NELIE C. MUTUC-AGNO	PARKS AND RECREATION	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 16, 2025
PATRICIA A. MILLER	SUPERIOR COURT/COUNTY CLERK	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 27, 2026
ROBERT J. SALE	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 28, 2026
ROXANNE C. RODRIGUEZ	CHILDREN & FAMILY SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 31, 2025
SHARON DAVIS	PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM	RESCISSION OF RETIREMENT
SIMON ARSHARUNI	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 01, 2026
STEVEN H. HOANG	LACERA	CHANGE OF DATE TO December 27, 2025

**BOARD OF RETIREMENT MEETING OF JANUARY 7, 2026  
RESCISSIONS/CHANGES FROM PRIOR BENEFIT APPROVAL LISTS**

**GENERAL MEMBER APPLICATIONS FOR SERVICE RETIRMENT**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>UPDATE</b>
SUNHUAN C. BARNES	PROBATION DEPARTMENT	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
THERESA H. NGUYEN	DEPT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 06, 2026
VIJAY P. MANGHIRMALANI	HEALTH SERVICES ADMINISTRATION	CHANGE OF DATE TO January 31, 2026
WINNIE CHAN	NORTHEAST CLUSTER (LAC+USC)	CHANGE OF DATE TO February 11, 2026



December 22, 2025

TO: Each Trustee  
Board of Retirement

FROM: Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager  
Disability Retirement Services

SUBJECT: **APPEAL(S) FOR THE BOARD OF RETIREMENT'S MEETING  
OF JANUARY 7, 2026**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED** that the Board of Retirement grant the appeal(s) and request(s) for administrative hearing received from the following member(s), and direct the Disability Retirement Services Manager to refer each case to a referee:

5178B	Dacia A. Martinez	In Pro Per	DENY SCD EMPLOYER CAN ACCOMMODATE
5473B	Herman B. Edwards	In Pro Per	DENY SCD – GRANT NSCD

TLC:kw

December 18, 2025

TO: Each Trustee  
Board of Retirement

FROM: Francis J. Boyd   
Senior Staff Counsel

FOR: January 7, 2026, Board of Retirement Meeting

**SUBJECT: SERVICE PROVIDER INVOICE APPROVAL REQUEST – STUART FISCHER M.D.**

On January 1, 2015, the Board of Retirement adopted a policy whereby staff is authorized to approve and pay vendor invoices up to a cumulative amount of \$15,000.00 per vendor. Invoices from vendors exceeding \$15,000.00 per case shall be submitted to the Board of Retirement for approval prior to payment.

Dr. Stuart Fischer completed his initial report and record review and is requesting approval for payment of the attached invoice. This confidential file is identified as 2H2024K. The total outstanding balance is \$18,567.90. This application involved an extensive medical-record review, and Dr. Fischer's invoice is appropriate for the services performed.

**IT IS THEREFORE RECOMMENDED THAT** the Board approve the service provider invoice for Stuart Fischer, M.D.

FJB:mc


Confidential Attachment

**Documents not attached are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act and other legal authority.**

**For further information, contact:  
LACERA  
Attention: Public Records Act Requests  
300 N. Lake Ave., Suite 620  
Pasadena, CA 91101**

December 18, 2025

TO: Board Trustees  
Board of Retirement

FROM: Tamara Caldwell, Division Manager   
Disability Retirement Services

FOR: January 7, 2026, Board of Retirement Meeting

**SUBJECT: Disability Retirement Services: Strategic Operations and Performance**

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Disability Retirement Services (DRS) presents this report to foster a strategic dialogue with the Board of Retirement, moving beyond routine updates to provide a clear view of the disability retirement process, case inventory, processing performance, and improvement initiatives.

Our work aligns with LACERA's mission to produce, protect, and provide the promised benefits to our members and uphold our core I-ACT values— innovation, integrity, inclusivity, accountability, collaboration, and transparency. These principles guide our approach to service and reinforce our shared fiduciary responsibility to members and beneficiaries.

The Board's oversight is critical in the disability-retirement process, where decisions directly affect members' financial security during life-changing circumstances. DRS is committed to equipping trustees with accurate, timely information to support informed decision-making.

**Current Status:** DRS currently has **1,149 cases pending**, with **342 cases (29.8%) classified as backlog** (pending 12 months or more). While application volumes and complexity remain high, we are implementing measures to improve efficiency without compromising investigative integrity and LACERA's mission.



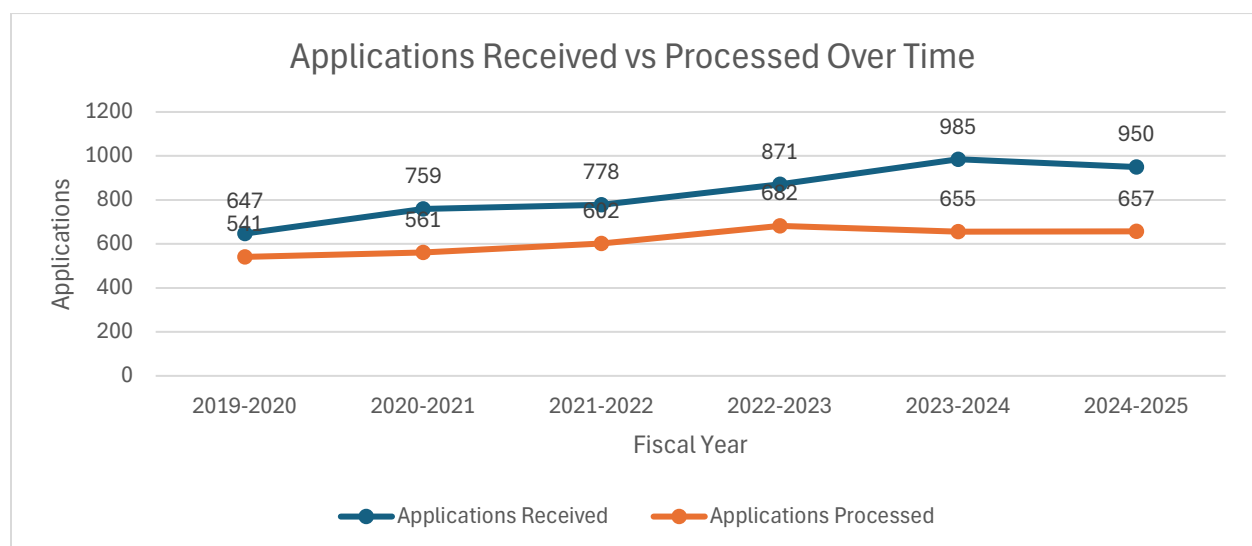
Our focus is on timely, equitable outcomes through resource optimization, advanced reporting tools, and continuous process improvement. We acknowledge the impact of delays on members and appreciate the Board’s continued attention to timely resolution.

## BACKGROUND

Building on the executive summary, the following sections present the core details of our disability-retirement operations. We begin with a review of historical application volumes, and processing trends, providing essential context for discussion. Next, we outline case-management milestones and service levels, followed by an analysis of the backlog including contributing factors and current strategies for reduction. Finally, we introduce upcoming process improvements aimed at further enhancing efficiency and service for our members. The structure of this memo is intended to guide the Board to the substance of our ongoing work and future plans.

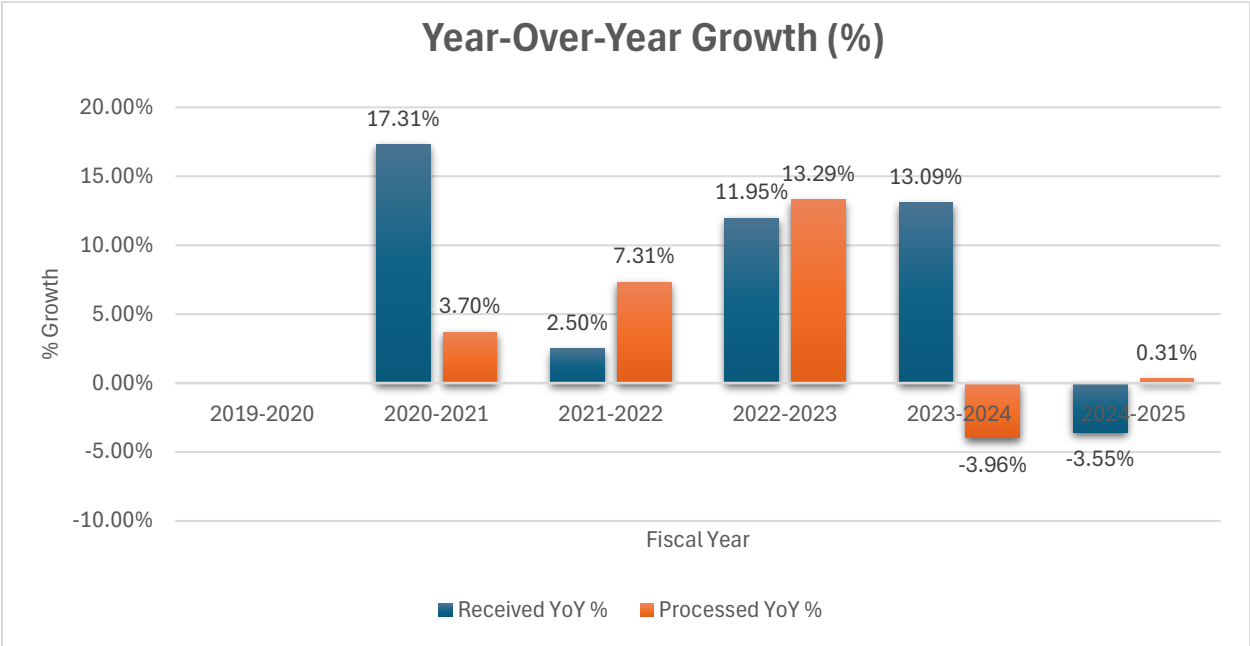
### Application Volume and Processing Trends

The chart below shows disability-retirement applications received and processed by DRS from fiscal years 2019–2020 to 2024–2025. Applications rose steadily from 647 to a peak of 985, then slightly declined to 950 most recently. Processed cases generally increased, peaking at 682 in 2022–2023, then stabilizing at 655 and 657 during the last two fiscal years. These trends highlight consistent demand and the need for efficient use of our resources to ensure timely and fair outcomes.



The following chart highlights the yearly percentage changes for applications received and processed. Applications received saw significant growth of 17.3% between 2020 and

2021, followed by moderate increases in later years before slipping by 3.6% in 2024–2025. In contrast, processed applications changed less dramatically year-to-year, with a strong rise of 13.3% in 2022–2023, a modest dip of 4% in 2023–2024, and a negligible uptick of 0.3% in 2024–2025.



### Processing Milestones

This section provides a comprehensive overview of the key milestones and corresponding service levels in our case management process. The stages are defined to ensure transparency at each step and set clear expectations for timeframes associated with case progression. Understanding these anticipated service levels helps to appreciate how this framework supports efficient case management. While these guidelines represent our general approach, it is important to recognize that certain cases, particularly those that are more complex, require multiple evaluations, experience delays due to external factors, or if returned for further development may require extended timeframes to reach completion.

By sharing this overview, we seek to provide a comprehensive understanding of both our process structure and the unique challenges associated with longstanding or intricate cases.

Milestone	Process Description	Service Level (from acceptance)	Responsible Parties
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<b>Intake</b>	Application review; confirm completeness; confirm conditions claimed; initiate request to access Workers' Compensation records	Complete review within 30 days	Support Staff
<b>Records</b>	Preliminary review of Workers' Compensation claims and identification of relevant records based on application; download or submit request for hardcopy records from appropriate sources; monitor outstanding orders and distribute to record repository	Preliminary review and order placed within 75 days	Support Staff
<b>Indexing</b>	Index all records; specialist review to identify gaps; request additional items; prepare "last day of regular compensation" (LDRC) requests	Index finalized by 120 days	Support Staff
<b>Interview</b>	Case assignment received; preliminary review and plan of action; queue and complete interview; request additional records and fold any new information into the file	Interview scheduled and completed by 180 days	Specialist
<b>DRER</b>	Draft Disability Retirement Evaluation Report (DRER); consult with supervisor; submit for approval by supervisor for medical evaluation	Draft report submitted for supervisory review within 195 days	Specialist > Supervisor
<b>Medical Review</b>	Appointment scheduling and medical package to panel physician(s) (IME) for medical evaluation; monitoring and follow-ups	IME request initiated by 210 days; initial exam completed by 270 days	Specialist > Support Staff
<b>Post Medical Review</b>	Review incoming medical report to determine readiness or additional development steps; may consult with leadership/legal for guidance	Post-exam review and next steps defined within 280 days	Specialist
<b>Board Prep</b>	Supervisor's first level review prior to QA Agenda readiness review; finalize materials for quality/legal review	<b>Next 3 milestones completed within 281 days – 360 days</b>	Specialist > Supervisor
<b>QA</b>	Management, legal, and final quality checks to ensure completeness and accuracy		Disability Legal > Manager > QA Supervisor
<b>On Agenda</b>	Added to upcoming agenda and set for Board adjudication; distribute to Board Office		Support Staff

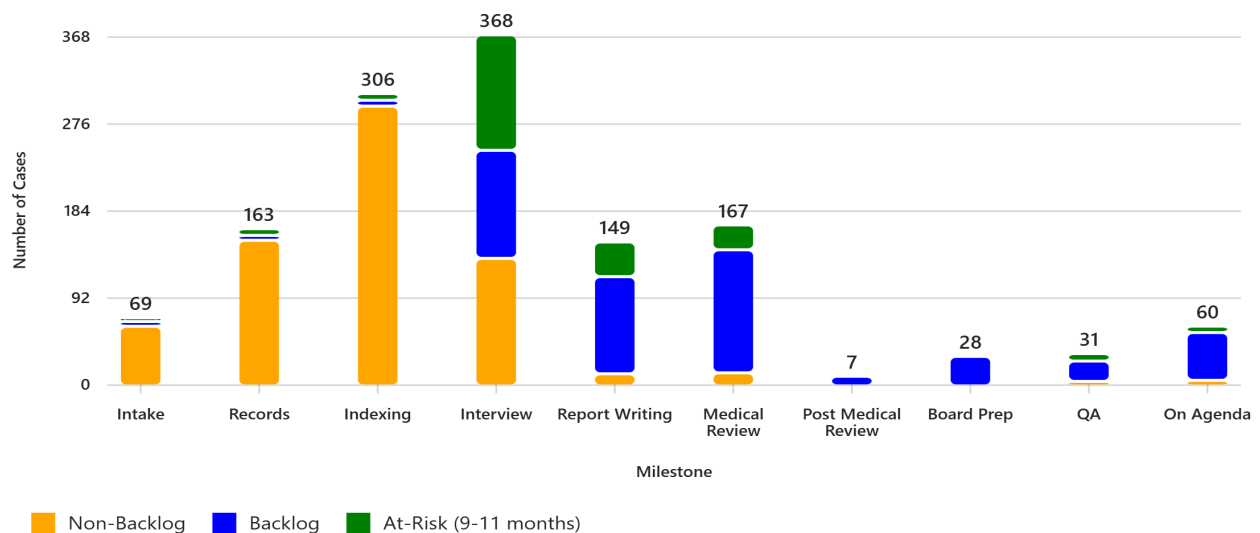
## Backlog in Context

This section summarizes the main causes of the disability retirement processing backlog, and the interim measures DRS has implemented to address these challenges. It highlights key trends, ongoing solutions, and strategies aimed at improving efficiency, transparency, and accountability in managing disability retirement applications. This

provides a foundation for ongoing discussions about maintaining service quality amid changing operational demands.

DRS currently has a total of **1,149** cases pending. Cases are generally classified as backlog cases if they have been pending for 12 months or more. There are currently 342 cases that can be classified as backlog cases, which is 29.8% of the entire caseload. Eighty-seven percent (87%) of backlog cases are in later stages of the disability process. (Report Writing onward). In the past, when discussing the “backlog,” a backlog implied cases were stagnant, untouched for long periods or bottlenecked at a single point. Today, although cases may have been ‘in-office’ for longer periods, cases are actively progressing through defined milestones. Each milestone has an expected duration, and cases are moving forward as designed but are delayed. We have encountered delays in processing because our staffing levels were not sufficient for the number of applications we are receiving, and our production targets were misaligned with the increased workload.

### Case Milestone Status: Backlog vs Non-Backlog and At-Risk Analysis



Milestone	Backlog (≥12 months)	At-Risk of Becoming Backlogged (9–11 months)	Non-Backlog (<9 months)	Total
Intake	1	1	66	68
Records	1	4	154	159
Indexing	0	4	298	302
Interview	45	121	81	247
Report Writing	74	35	5	114
Medical Review	116	24	3	143
Post Medical Review	7	0	0	7

Board Prep	28	0	0	28
QA	19	6	0	25
On Agenda	51	4	1	56
	342	199	608	1149

### Contributing Factors to the Processing Backlog

DRS leadership identified a rise in both the volume and complexity of disability retirement applications about four years ago. In response, the Board approved additional staffing, but recruitment was deferred due to competing organizational priorities. This hindered DRS's ability to scale operations promptly. Case production goals for Disability Retirement Specialists remained at 32 cases per year, while application volumes steadily increased, making it challenging to keep up with demand. Further, DRS staff on extended and intermittent leaves, retirements among budgeted specialists reduced processing capacity, contributed significantly to the backlog.

Other contributing factors include:

- **County Framework:** The County created a standard process for employees who cannot be permanently accommodated, requiring them to apply for disability retirement. All 28 departments now hold timely Interactive Process Meetings and consistently review work restrictions to ensure uniform and accountable case management.
- **PEPRA:** Plan G was introduced on January 1, 2013, under PEPRA, expanding disability retirement eligibility to all new members and increasing application volume. While Plan G applicants are not the main reason for the backlog, their numbers have added to the workload and will likely continue to do so. Previously, only Plans A, B, C, and D could file for disability retirement; now, Plan G is included and represents about 9% of current cases.
- **Pandemic:** The pandemic, along with related economic uncertainty, further accelerated the trend of increased disability retirement applications, as more individuals sought retirement options rather than remaining in service.

Despite the Division's efforts to maintain consistent operations with existing staff, it was not possible to absorb the compounded impact of these factors without additional resources. Consequently, these challenges resulted in the backlog currently affecting disability retirement processing.

### INTERIM MEASURES TO MINIMIZE BACKLOG

DRS implemented several targeted measures to try to mitigate the accumulation of aging cases and curb further backlog growth. The team conducted regular reviews of the pending case inventory to identify older cases, which were then promptly reassigned for

immediate processing. Following the launch of SOL (Case Management System) on September 23, 2023, DRS had greater visibility into the case inventory, allowing us to quickly pinpoint aging cases, track their exact locations in the process, and identify bottlenecks. With this level of transparency, we were able to identify workflow bottlenecks and pave the way for more comprehensive root cause analyses to understand underlying issues and implement corrective measures such as those listed below.

- **Senior Specialist Deployment** – Redirected two senior specialists to work aged cases, this focused deployment allowed for more efficient resolution of long-standing cases, directly addressing the accumulation of older files and helping to slow the overall growth of the backlog.
- **Administrative Staff Training** – Trained four administrative support staff to expand processing capacity. Once trained, each carried a modest caseload in addition to their normal administrative duties. Three advanced to full-time specialist roles, reinforcing career development, succession planning, and LACERA's commitment to investing in people.
- **Increased Production Goals** – Raised annual case submissions to the Board from 32 to 36 per specialist to improve production rate and address rising volumes, with annual review for alignment.
- **Onboarding & Advancement** – Added seven specialists (three new hires, four promotions) as of September 2025; all are trained and actively managing caseloads, strengthening capacity for current and future demand.
- **Compress Written Reports** - DRS made efforts to streamline the Disability Retirement Evaluation Report (DRER) format by promoting the use of standardized language and minimizing lengthy narrative-style reports whenever possible.

These measures sustained processing momentum and expedited aged case resolution. While progress is evident, backlog reduction remains our priority.

## **PROPOSED FUTURE STRATEGIES**

To further reduce backlog and improve service delivery, DRS is evaluating enhancements to its case management approach. Building on lessons learned from the current priority-based framework, leadership and Legal-Disability are exploring strategies that streamline processing for cases with well-documented substantial medical evidence that supports permanent incapacity and causation while maintaining compliance and fairness. The proposed initiatives include revamping the existing tiered system and piloting expedited methods for certain arduous classifications. Additionally, DRS plans to incorporate

artificial intelligence into its workflow to automate indexing and medical listing creation, further accelerating case resolution and improving operational accuracy. These measures aim to accelerate resolution, optimize resource allocation, and create a scalable model that supports long-term operational efficiency and member satisfaction.

### **Revamp Priority-Based Case Framework**

In 2014, DRS implemented a priority-based framework to manage the intake and processing of applications. This system was developed to ensure that cases are handled efficiently according to their urgency and complexity. The framework organizes cases into specific tiers, each with clearly defined criteria and expected processing timelines, allowing for a structured and responsive approach to case management.

The core principle of the priority-based framework is that higher-priority cases receive faster processing and involve fewer procedural steps. All assignments within this system are subject to review to maintain compliance and fairness, ensuring that each case is managed appropriately according to its designated tier and the established criteria.

The table below provides a quick summary of the current case tiers for background.

Case Tier	Description	Conditions/Criteria	Processing Method	Processing Time
<b>Priority 1 (P1)</b>	Immediate attention due to “critical” nature	Terminal conditions, catastrophic injuries, statutory presumptions for safety members (heart disease, cancer, PTSD, etc.)	Record review only	4-6 months
<b>Priority 1-Ortho (P1-Ortho)</b>	Orthopedic cases meeting Board approved criteria	Age 50, 20+ years of service, arduous position, injury to weight-bearing joint, and inability to return to usual duties following surgery	Record review; physical exams required based on panel physician request or applicant not disabled	6-9 months
<b>Priority 2 (P2)</b>	Expedited processing and full physical medical evaluation	Significant conditions where record review alone is insufficient	Full physical medical evaluation	6-9 months
<b>Priority 3 (P3)</b>	Standard processing for less urgent but complex cases	Cumulative trauma, late applications, termination for cause, felony forfeitures, accommodation or modified duties	Full development of facts	9-14 months

DRS leadership and Legal-Disability are reviewing the current priority framework to determine opportunities for improvement, including expansion and a pilot program designed to create a new fast-track tier to accelerate processing for cases with well-documented injuries and strong medical evidence supporting permanent incapacity and service connection. In addition, the review considers expanding the framework's granularity by introducing new tiers for complex case types such as felony forfeitures, salary supplements, terminations for cause, and multi-medical conditions that often require extended timelines. The goal is to provide clearer definitions for different case categories, addressing the current limitation where Priority3 groups diverse cases under a single tier without accounting for the additional time needed for more complex matters.

### **Proposed Pilot Program for Expedited Case Processing**

This proposal is based on the observation that certain cases, due to robust supporting medical records, may not require extensive development. By utilizing a focused record review, an abbreviated disability evaluation report, and, where appropriate, forgoing a medical evaluation. Such a pilot is projected to significantly speed case resolution compared to current methods. For the Board's review, two processing options are being explored for the pilot, to be used individually or in combination depending on application details. The following represents a summary of a proposed plan; it is not yet fully vetted. DRS and Legal-Disability intend to return to the Board with a well-developed proposal following further division and review.

1. **Workers' Compensation Agreed Medical Evaluation (AME) Reports in Lieu of Panel Evaluation:** Consider using Workers' Compensation AME reports in lieu of panel physician evaluations. Cases would continue to be reviewed by DRS leadership and Legal-Disability to ensure legal compliance with CERL and relevant case law. Cases that do not meet set standards would be moved to a different case tier for a more in-depth review. Should the Board not concur with a staff recommendation, the case could be directed for further development and/or a medical evaluation at the Board's discretion.
2. **Abbreviated Process with Abbreviated Record Review:** Consider implementing an abbreviated Disability Retirement Evaluation Report summarizing key occupational history and injury detail. Panel physicians would review the report and records and complete a Medical Evaluation Form, rather than the full medical-legal report currently required. This form would be developed in partnership between DRS and Legal-Disability, ensuring legal compliance, and would be subject to Board oversight.

### **Implementation and Timeline**

DRS and Legal-Disability believe it can submit for the Board's consideration a pilot program aimed at accelerating the processing of select cases. The proposed pilot



would require a three-month development period and if approved another three months for infrastructure setup, staff training, and the identification of initial test cases. Key anticipated benefits include:

- Faster resolution for members;
- A reduced administrative workload for staff;
- A reduction in caseload for our panel physicians and reduced medical fees;
- A scalable model that could inform broader program improvements.

### **Estimated Impact and Case Volume**

There are currently 316 deputy sheriff and firefighter cases, that could potentially be candidates for the pilot program. As part of the development phase, cases would be identified that could be processed under this approach. Taking a conservative approach to development and implementation takes into account the inherent unpredictability of casework and would provide flexibility in managing cases that require additional attention or resources, consistent with Board priorities and oversight.

### **Artificial Intelligence Solution for Disability Record Categorization**

DRS is actively pursuing technological solutions to eliminate unnecessary manual tasks and drive operational efficiency. Having transitioned to a digital workflow, DRS now seeks to automate the indexing and medical listing creation using artificial intelligence, aiming to reduce case preparation time and improve accuracy in alignment with our objectives of Innovation Through Technology. Project planning for this AI-driven initiative will commence in January 2026, with a focus on maximizing productivity and minimizing errors through advanced automation.

### **Strengthening Board Engagement with Disability Retirement Services**

Alongside these initiatives, we also aim to deepen and strengthen Board engagement with DRS. By fostering continuous dialogue and providing opportunities for educational sessions, we seek to ensure the Board is actively involved and well-informed regarding the disability process and ongoing improvements. We propose having a series of educational discussions surrounding various stages/aspects of the disability process, guest speakers from our panel of physicians to provide insights into medical conditions frequently encountered in disability retirement cases, and County departments to discuss issues that directly impact disability retirement. With further engagement and understanding of what happens behind the scenes, we aim to provide a fuller perspective on the disability process. By breaking this into “bite-size” discussions, we can build understanding gradually and ensure trustees appreciate the complexity and fairness of

our process. This also gives the Board an opportunity to get to know me as a new manager, my team, and our approach to leadership and the division's operations.

## **Conclusion**

A combination of process improvements, efficient case management, and filled vacancies will play key roles in reducing processing times, enabling us to address cases more efficiently and improve overall member satisfaction. Our continued commitment to process improvement with efforts such as the proposed pilot program and other ongoing enhancements to case processing are critical steps to achieving our service goals and strengthening the integrity of our operations. By leveraging data-driven strategies, expanding successful initiatives, and maintaining transparent communication with the Board, we position DRS to deliver timely, high-quality outcomes for our members.

# **DISABILITY RETIREMENT**

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## **STRATEGIC OPERATIONS & PERFORMANCE**

Enhancing Management and Outcomes Through Dialogue

# Assuring Accountability and Commitment to Improvement



## Leading with Accountability

- **We Own the Challenge:** DRS recognizes and fully owns the increase in processing times.

## Driving Process Improvement

- **Action -Oriented Solutions:** Targeted strategies and workflow enhancements are actively underway to accelerate case processing.

## Empowering Our Team

- **Accountability at Every Level:** Every staff member is empowered and responsible for driving solutions.

## Delivering Results

- **Restoring Confidence:** Our commitment is to deliver timely, equitable outcomes and rebuild member and trustee trust.



# Understanding Processing Capacity: Consistent Output, Overwhelming Volume

## Volume Overwhelmed Processing Capacity

Applications rose sharply; we couldn't keep pace, resulting in bottlenecks and longer processing times.

## Consistent Production, Increase Volume

Our team maintained steady production even as application volumes surged to record highs.

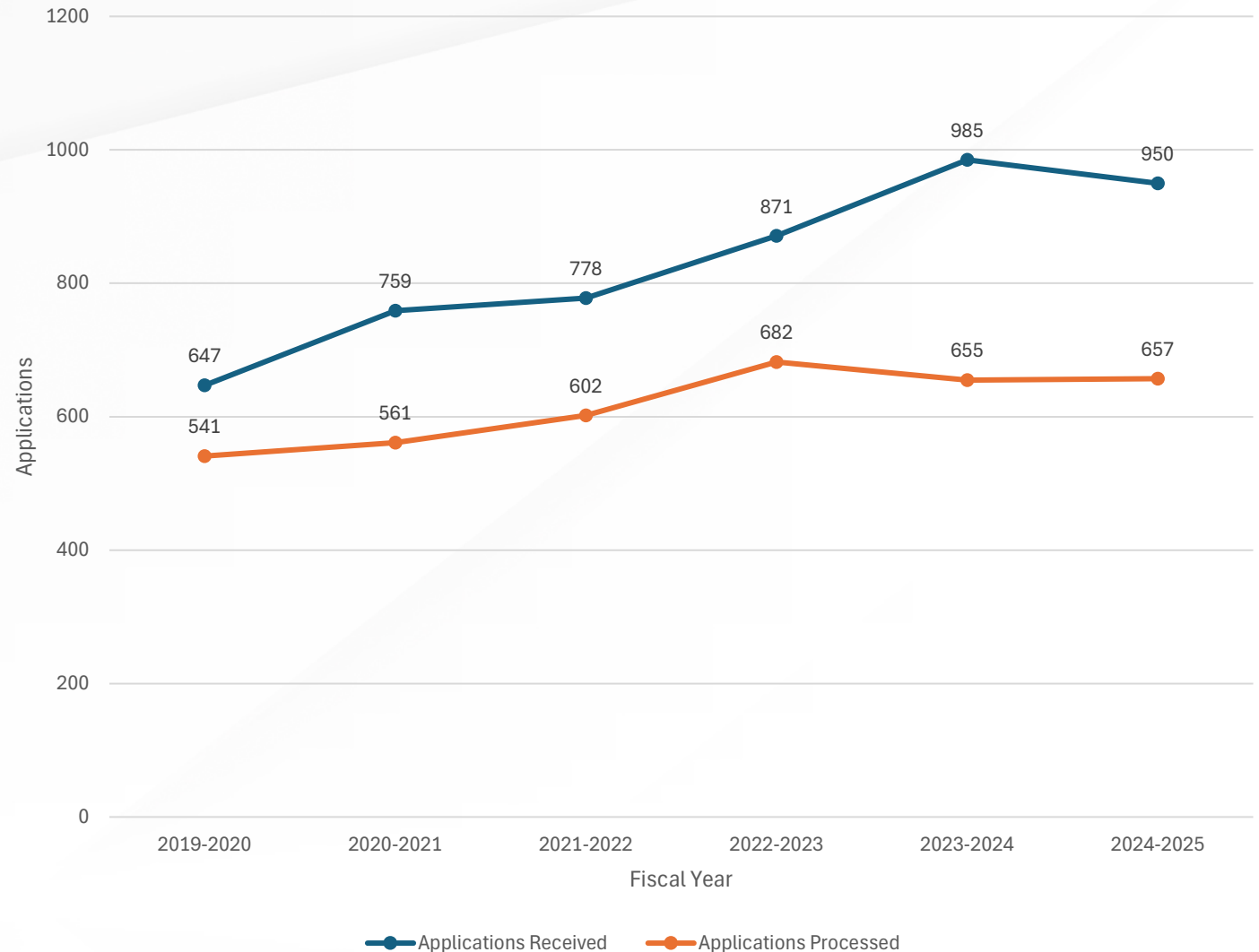
## Staffing Shortfalls

Division operated understaffed at the specialist position during the height of the surge.

## Positive Change

The good news is that we were able to add seven new specialists—three new hires and four promotions—on September 25, 2025

Applications Received vs Processed Over Time



# Case Management Milestones

## Defined Milestones and Timelines

Disability retirement follows structured milestones with clear service level targets for each stage.

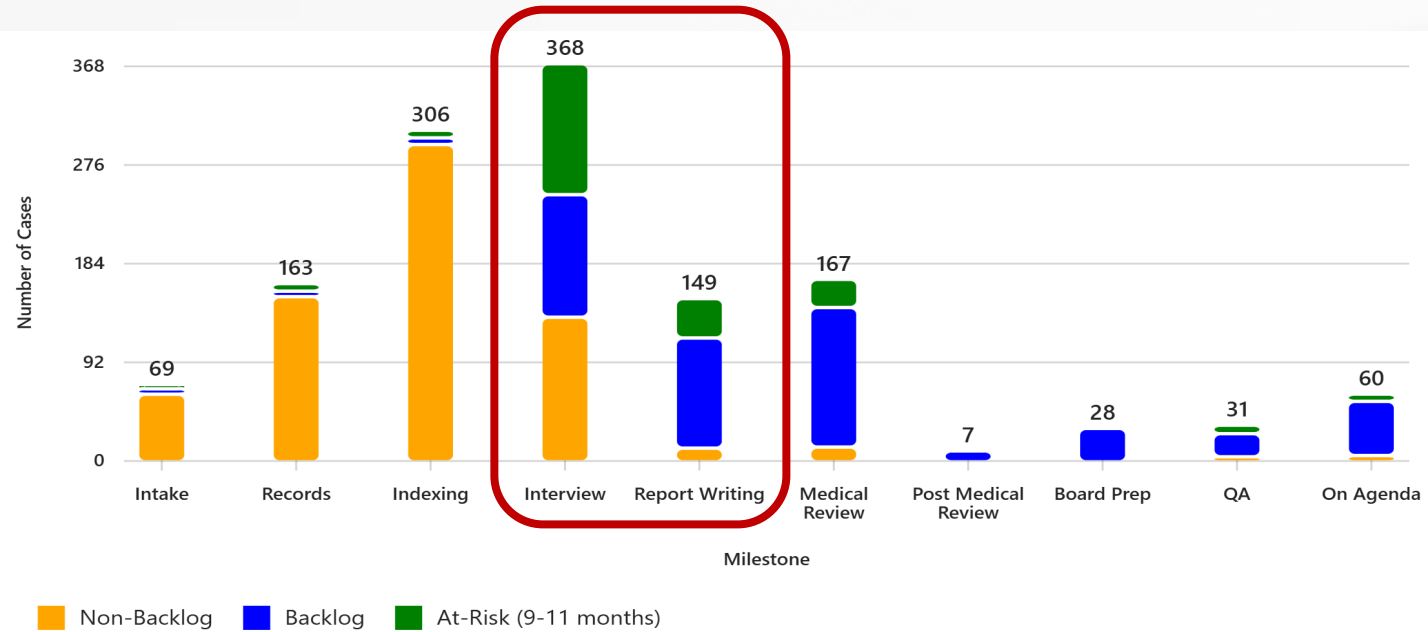
- Intake
- Records
- Indexing
- Interview
- Report Writing
- Medical Review
- Post Medical Review
- Board Prep
- QA
- Placement on Agenda

## Trustee Awareness

Understanding milestones helps Trustees identify bottlenecks and reasons for case processing delays.



# Key Insight from Inventory Analysis



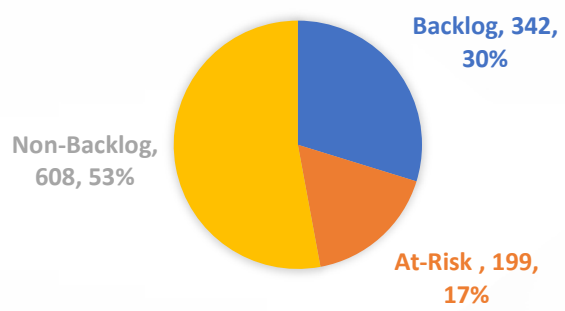
**Early Stages Are Healthy**

**Interview and Report Writing are the Critical Risk Points**

**Medical Review Dependent on Third Party**

**Final Stages move quicker, unless further development needed.**

## BACKLOG IN OFFICE 12 MONTHS OR MORE





# Key Insight from Inventory Analysis

Milestone	Backlog (≥12 months)	At-Risk of Becoming Backlogged (9–11 months)	Non-Backlog (<9 months)	Total
Intake	1	1	66	68
Records	1	4	154	159
Indexing	0	4	298	302
Interview	45	121	81	247
Report Writing	74	35	5	114
Medical Review	116	24	3	143
Post Medical Review	7	0	0	7
Board Prep	28	0	0	28
QA	19	6	0	25
On Agenda	51	4	1	56
	342	199	608	1149



# Factors Behind Rising Applications and Longer Processing Times



## External Process Impact

County framework, pandemic, PEPRA eligibility expansion, more complex cases such as felony forfeitures, terminations, salary supplements.

## Staffing Challenges

Deferred recruitment, extended leaves and retirements at specialist position

## Internal Process

Comprehensive, multi-step and lengthy investigative process applied to all cases. Static case production goals amid increasing workload.



# Clearing Bottlenecks and Building Momentum



## Specialist Deployment and Training

Two dedicated senior specialists assigned to process aged cases

## Increased Production Goals

Annual case processing goals adjusted to boost production.

## Onboarded New Specialists

Seven new specialists added to the team

## SOL Case Management System

Leveraging SOL case management system which has enhanced visibility into case inventory and helped to identify bottlenecks quicker and more efficiently.



# Strategic Pathways to Accelerate Disability Processing



## Priority-Based Case Framework

Revamping the priority-based case framework will add granularity to case management processes.

## Expedited Case Processing

Developing a pilot program to accelerate case resolution based on existing substantial medical evidence.

## AI Automation Integration

Incorporating artificial intelligence to automate indexing, create medical listings and summarization of records.





# Board Education

## Purpose of Sessions

Educational sessions are designed to deepen understanding of the disability process, equipping trustees with insights and tools to support strategies that reduce processing times and enhance the applicant experience. departmental issues.

## Schedule and Engagement

Sessions planned through April 2026 to encourage ongoing dialogue and active Trustee engagement, with additional sessions added.

## Outcome and Collaboration

Fostering transparency and collaboration supports strategic decision-making and oversight effectiveness.

# Proposed Training Sessions



Date	Topic	Duration	Key Focus Areas	Outcome
Feb 4, 2026	Disability Retirement Process	30–45 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Milestones &amp; timelines</li> <li>• Service levels &amp; backlog</li> <li>• Priority framework</li> <li>• Interim measures</li> <li>• Applicant profile</li> </ul>	Clear understanding of process flow & factors impacting timelines
Mar 4, 2026	Case Inventory & Statistics	30 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pending cases &amp; backlog trends</li> <li>• Charts: volumes &amp; stage breakdown</li> <li>• Staffing impact &amp; initiatives</li> </ul>	Update into current state & progress
Apr 1, 2026	Update on Pilot Program & Other Strategies	30–45 min	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Goals, scope &amp; expected outcomes</li> <li>• Expedited options &amp; timeline</li> <li>• Board feedback &amp; next steps</li> </ul>	Support for pilot & future strategies
Future Sessions	Guest Speakers Panel Physician Department of Human Resources			



# Conclusion & Questions



## Anticipated Improvements

New staff and ongoing improvements are expected to reduce processing times and enhance satisfaction.

## Commitment to Innovation

The division commits to process improvement via data-driven strategies and technological innovation.

## Collaborative Approach

The presentation closes inviting questions and discussion, reinforcing a collaborative strategy for challenges.

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

December 30, 2025

TO: Each Trustee,  
Board of Retirement  
Board of Investments

FROM: Steven P. Rice, *SPR*  
Chief Counsel

FOR: January 7, 2026 Board of Retirement Meeting  
January 14, 2026 Board of Investments Meeting

SUBJECT: **SB707 Amendments to Brown Act**

**Summary of SB 707**

SB707, approved by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Newsom, made material changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code §§ 54950 et seq., the open meeting law applicable to LACERA and other public agencies. A copy of SB707 is attached as Attachment A.

*A. Changes Effective January 1, 2026*

Changes effective January 1, 2026 include the following:

1. Teleconferencing for Just Cause. The legislation eliminates the concept of "emergency circumstances" as a basis for teleconferencing, while expanding "just cause" to include (Section 54953.8.3.(c)(1)-(7)):
  - a. Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. "Child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms do in Government Code Section 12945.2.
  - b. A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.
  - c. A need related to a physical or mental condition that is not a disability under state or federal law.
  - d. Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.
  - e. An immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.

- f. A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.
- g. Military service obligations that result in a member being unable to attend in person because they are serving under official written orders for active duty, drill, annual training, or any other duty required as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization that requires the member to be at least 50 miles outside the boundaries of the local agency.

The current limit of two meetings per calendar years for teleconferencing for just cause remains in effect. (Section 54953.8.3(a)(3).)

- 2. Minutes of Just Cause. The new law requires that meeting minutes disclose the specific type of cause cited by section number for each teleconferencing trustee. (Section 54953.8.3(b).)
- 3. Teleconferencing for Disability. A new provision is added that clearly provides that trustees may teleconference if they have a disability under state or federal law. There is no limit for teleconferencing due to disability and such participation counts towards the required physical quorum, unlike the just cause section. Trustees invoking disability must participate by audio and video unless their ADA disability prevents video participation. (Section 54953(c).)
- 4. Copy of the Brown Act. The full Brown Act must now be provided to both elected and appointed trustees. (Section 54952.7.) To comply with this requirement, a copy of the full Act is attached as Attachment B.
- 5. Trustee Use of Social Media. The new law makes permanent the exception that permits trustees to communicate with the public via social media while prohibiting them responding to a post by another trustee regarding LACERA business. (Section 54952.2(b)(3).) Notwithstanding this exception, the Boards' joint Media Policy remains in effect and provides that the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Investment Officer are LACERA's official spokespersons; LACERA also has strong member outreach services to ensure consistency in information and counseling.
- 6. Public Recording Rights. The new law removes limiting references to the type of technology the public may use in recording open session meetings and affirms that meetings made be recorded, with limited exceptions if recording will be disruptive. (Section 54953.5(b).)



7. Ability to Remove Disruptive Participants. The new law extends the authority of the presiding trustee at any meeting to remove a person for disrupting a meeting, including a teleconferenced meeting. (Section 54957.95.)
8. Exemptions to Public Comment. The new law amends the Act to skip public comment for certain items already heard by a Board committee if there was a physical quorum at the committee, the item has not substantially changed since considered by the committee, and the committee must not have had primary jurisdiction over sensitive matters such as budget and privacy. (Section 54953.3(2)(B).)
9. Teleconference Meetings for Eligible Subsidiary Bodies. Such bodies may hold their meetings by teleconference, if sorted by the Boards and subject to the other requirements of the new law and provided that the committee is advisory, that the committee does not have primary jurisdiction and/or cannot take final action on legislation, budget, contracts, privacy, or other specified matters and that elected officials must, in any event, attend in person. (Section 54953.8.6.) Staff has not yet fully evaluated the eligibility of the Boards' committees, upon Board approval, to invoke this provision or the governance implications; however, some Board committees do have authority over excluded subject matters and the difference in statutory requirements for elected and appointed officials may be an impediment.

The revised teleconference procedures will require changes to the Boards' existing teleconference policies. Staff will bring this issue to the next Joint Organizational Governance Committee meeting.

- B. *Changes Effective July 1, 2026*. In addition to the changes listed above, which are effective January 1, 2026, the new law also amends the Act to require "eligible legislative bodies" to make changes to their remote access and multilingual outreach requirements effective July 1, 2026, including, for example, translation of agendas and outreach to underrepresented and non-English-speaking populations. (Section 54953.4.) Staff continues to evaluate these provisions to determine whether LACERA must comply and will provide the Boards with an update at future meetings.

### **Training Requirements under SB827**

In addition to the changes to the Brown Act discussed above, another new bill, SB827, changes training requirements for certain public officials. Staff is evaluating the impact of this bill on the Boards and other trustee training, which will be discussed at the next Joint Organizational Governance Committee meeting.

Re: SB 707 Amendments to Brown Act  
December 30, 2025  
Page 4 of 4

Attachments:

A – SB707

B – Copy of Complete Brown Act

c:	Luis Lugo	Laura Guglielmo	Richard Bendall	Bonnie Nolley
	Jonathan Grabel	JJ Popowich	Ted Granger	Francis J. Boyd



## SB-707 Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements. (2025-2026)

SHARE THIS:



Date Published: 10/06/2025 02:00 PM

### Senate Bill No. 707

#### CHAPTER 327

An act to amend Sections 54952.7, 54953, 54953.5, 54953.7, 54954.2, 54954.3, 54956, 54956.5, 54957.6, 54957.9, and 54957.95 of, to amend and repeal Section 54952.2 of, to add Sections 54953.8, 54953.8.1, 54953.8.2, and 54957.96 to, and to add and repeal Sections 54953.4, 54953.8.3, 54953.8.4, 54953.8.5, 54953.8.6, and 54953.8.7 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.

[ Approved by Governor October 03, 2025. Filed with Secretary of State  
October 03, 2025. ]

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 707, Durazo. Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

(1) Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate.

This bill would, beginning July 1, 2026, and until January 1, 2030, require an eligible legislative body, as defined, to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that, except as specified, all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as defined, and that the eligible legislative body take specified actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified. The bill would require an eligible legislative body, on or before July 1, 2026, to approve at a noticed public meeting in open session a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet services occurring during meetings subject to these provisions, as specified, and would require the eligible legislative body to comply with certain requirements relating to disruption, including for certain disruptions, recessing the open session for at least one hour and making a good faith attempt to restore the service, as specified.

(2) Existing law prohibits a majority of the members of a legislative body, outside a meeting authorized by the act, from using a series of communications of any kind to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Existing law defines "meetings" for these purposes to mean any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, as specified, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Until January 1, 2026, existing law excepts from the prohibition a member engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting with any other person using an internet-based social media platform for specified purposes, provided, among other things, that a

majority of the members do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

This bill would make the above-described exception related to communications on an internet-based social media platform applicable indefinitely.

(3) Existing law requires a legislative body, prior to taking final action, to orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on specified forms of compensation for a local agency executive, as defined, during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken.

This bill would also require the legislative body to make that oral report, as provided above, prior to taking final action on those specified forms of compensation for a department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.

(4) Existing law requires a legislative body of a local agency or its designee, at least 72 hours before a regular meeting, to post an agenda that meets specified requirements, including that the agenda contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, as specified.

This bill would, beginning July 1, 2026, and until July 1, 2030, require the agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body, as defined, to be translated into all applicable languages. The bill would define "applicable languages" to mean languages, according to data from the most recent American Community Survey, spoken jointly by 20% or more of the applicable population, as specified, provided that 20% or more of the population that speaks that language that in that city or county speaks English less than "very well," as specified, and except as provided.

Existing law requires every agenda for regular meetings to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest of the public, as specified. Existing law specifies that the agenda is not required to provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, as specified, except if the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body.

This bill would add certain exceptions to the provision related to an item that has already been considered by a committee, including excepting committees whose primary subject matter jurisdiction focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals, except as specified.

(5) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to require a copy of the act to be given to each member of the legislative body and specified persons elected to serve as a member of the legislative body, and authorizes an elected legislative body member to require a copy to be given to each member of each legislative body all or a majority of whose members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would instead require a local agency to provide a copy of the act to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

Existing law authorizes legislative bodies of local agencies to impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in the act, and authorizes an elected legislative body of a local agency to also impose those requirements on those appointed legislative bodies of the local agency of which all or a majority of the members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would remove the above-described requirement that members of an appointed legislative body of a local agency must be appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body of a local agency in order for the elected legislative body to impose the above-described requirements on the appointed legislative body.

(6) Existing law provides any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency with the right to record the proceedings with an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera, as specified.

This bill would remove the reference to an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera for purposes of recording the proceedings, as described above.

(7) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified general requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each

teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified.

Existing law authorizes members who are outside the jurisdiction of a health authority, as defined, that conducts a teleconferencing meeting to, notwithstanding the above-described general teleconference provisions, count towards the establishment of a quorum when participating in the teleconference if, among other things, at least 50% of the number of members that would establish a quorum are present within the boundaries of the territory over which the authority exercises jurisdiction.

Existing law authorizes, in certain circumstances, the legislative body of a local agency to use specified alternative teleconferencing which include provisions related to, among others, notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment and identifying and including an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option. Those circumstances in which the legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions include specified circumstances relating to a state of emergency, as defined, and, until January 1, 2026, subject to specified limitations, a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause, defined to include, among other things, a need related to a physical or mental disability, or emergency circumstances, as defined, if certain quorum and disclosure requirements are met.

Existing law also authorizes certain eligible legislative bodies, including neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations to, until January 1, 2026, use alternate teleconferencing if, among other requirements, the city council or board of trustees, as applicable, has adopted an authorizing resolution and  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the neighborhood city council or specified student organization, as applicable, votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified.

This bill would revise and recast the above-specified teleconferencing and alternative teleconferencing provisions to uniformly apply certain noticing, disclosure, accessibility, and public commenting provisions. The bill would require a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions to comply with, in addition to any other applicable requirements under the act, specified requirements, including that the legislative body provides at least either 2-way audiovisual platform or 2-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting as a means by which the public may, among other things, remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and that a member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing are listed in the minutes of the meeting. The bill would require a local agency to identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

The bill would specify that nothing in the bill's provisions is to be construed to prohibit a member of a legislative body with a disability, as defined, from participating in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to any applicable law. The bill would apply certain provisions relative to, among other things, quorum establishment to that circumstance.

The bill would instead authorize a health authority, as defined, to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in a state of emergency, as defined. The bill would also include a local emergency, as defined, as a circumstance in which a legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in cases of a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause or emergency circumstances, as defined, to remove the provision applicable to emergency circumstances, to revise related definitions, including broadening the definition of just cause to include, among other things, a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person, and to require the minutes for a meeting to identify the specific provision of law that each member relied upon to participate remotely, as specified. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provision until January 1, 2030.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations. In regards to the alternative

teleconferencing provisions applicable to student body associations and student-run community college organizations, the bill would exempt the California Online Community College from specified requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations under the authorization, and remove the ability for a person with a disability that requires certain accommodations to count towards the in-person quorum requirement. The bill would specify that the student body associations and student-run community college organizations described above are those in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system, and would extend the authorization to the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations until January 1, 2030.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize a specified subsidiary body of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the subsidiary body designates one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body where members of the subsidiary body who are not participating remotely shall be present and members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting, as specified.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize specified multijurisdictional bodies of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing at a regular meeting in open session.

The bill would specify that these teleconferencing provisions are cumulative, and would authorize a legislative body to elect to use any teleconferencing provisions that are applicable to a meeting, regardless of whether any other teleconferencing provisions would also be applicable to that meeting.

Existing law defines "teleconference" for purposes of the authorization for a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing to mean a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

This bill would specify that "teleconference" does not include the attendance of one or more members of a legislative body in a meeting of the body solely by watching or listening via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(8) Existing law authorizes a special meeting to be called any time by, among other persons, the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, by delivering specified written notices and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one. Existing law requires specified legislative bodies to comply with the internet website posting requirement.

The bill would remove the requirement that only specified legislative bodies comply with the internet website posting requirement, thereby imposing that requirement on all legislative bodies.

(9) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to hold an emergency meeting without complying with specified notice and posting requirements in the case of emergency circumstances, as specified, and imposes various requirements under these provisions applicable to either legislative bodies generally or legislative bodies which are a school board.

This bill would remove the school board distinction from the above-described provisions, thereby imposing the same requirements to hold an emergency meeting on all legislative bodies of local agencies.

By imposing additional duties on legislative bodies of local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(10) Existing law authorizes, in addition to other related specified authorizations, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. Existing law defines "disrupting" for these purposes to mean engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified.

This bill would specify that a meeting for purposes of that provision includes any teleconferenced meeting. The bill would specify that the existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified, applies to members of the public participating in a meeting via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as those terms are defined.

(11) The bill would make other updates to references in the act.

(12) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(13) The California Constitution requires local agencies, for the purpose of ensuring public access to the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies, to comply with a statutory enactment that amends or enacts laws relating to public records or open meetings and contains findings demonstrating that the enactment furthers the constitutional requirements relating to this purpose.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(14) The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

(15) 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 no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

## THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

**SECTION 1.** Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is amended to read:

**54952.2.** (a) As used in this chapter, "meeting" means any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, including teleconference location as permitted by Section 54953, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(b) (1) A majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing an employee or official of a local agency, from engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this chapter with members of a legislative body in order to answer questions or provide information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency, if that person does not communicate to members of the legislative body the comments or position of any other member or members of the legislative body.

(3) (A) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing a member of the legislative body from engaging in separate conversations or communications on an internet-based social media platform to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body provided that a majority of the members of the legislative body do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. A member of the legislative body shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply:

(i) "Discuss among themselves" means communications made, posted, or shared on an internet-based social media platform between members of a legislative body, including comments or use of digital icons that express reactions to communications made by other members of the legislative body.

(ii) "Internet-based social media platform" means an online service that is open and accessible to the public.

(iii) "Open and accessible to the public" means that members of the general public have the ability to access and participate, free of charge, in the social media platform without the approval by the social media platform or a person or entity other than the social media platform, including any forum and chatroom, and cannot be blocked from doing so, except when the internet-based social media platform determines that an individual violated its protocols or rules.

(c) Nothing in this section shall impose the requirements of this chapter upon any of the following:

(1) Individual contacts or conversations between a member of a legislative body and any other person that do not violate subdivision (b).

(2) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a conference or similar gathering open to the public that involves a discussion of issues of general interest to the public or to public agencies of the type represented by the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to allow members of the public free admission to a conference or similar gathering at which the organizers have required other participants or registrants to pay fees or charges as a condition of attendance.

(3) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and publicized meeting organized to address a topic of local community concern by a person or organization other than the local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(4) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of another body of the local agency, or at an open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled meeting, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(5) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a purely social or ceremonial occasion, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(6) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of that body, provided that the members of the legislative body who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers.

**SEC. 2.** Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as added by Section 2 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is repealed.

**SEC. 3.** Section 54952.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54952.7.** A local agency shall provide a copy of this chapter to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

**SEC. 4.** Section 54953 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 534 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

**54953.** (a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all



otherwise applicable requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, the legislative body of a local agency shall comply with all of the following:

(A) All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

(B) The teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency.

(C) The legislative body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.

(D) The legislative body shall allow members of the public to access the meeting and the agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3.

(3) If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public. During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as expressly provided in this chapter.

(4) The teleconferencing requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to remote participation described in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a member of a legislative body with a disability from participating in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to any applicable law.

(2) A member of a legislative body participating in a meeting by remote participation pursuant to this subdivision shall do both of the following:

(A) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology, except that any member with a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, may participate only through audio technology if a physical condition related to their disability results in a need to participate off camera.

(B) The member shall disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any of those individuals.

(3) Remote participation under this subdivision shall be treated as in-person attendance at the physical meeting location for all purposes, including any requirement that a quorum of the legislative body participate from any particular location. The provisions of subdivision (b) and Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, shall not apply to remote participation under this subdivision.

(d) (1) No legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final.

(2) The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action.

(3) (A) Prior to taking final action, the legislative body shall orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of either of the following during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken:

(i) A local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1.

(ii) A department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.

(B) This paragraph shall not affect the public's right under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1) to inspect or copy records created or received in the process of developing the recommendation.

(e) For purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Disability" means a physical disability or a mental disability as those terms are defined in Section 12926 and used in Section 12926.1, or a disability as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

(2) (A) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), "teleconference" does not include one or more members watching or listening to a meeting via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(3) "Remote participation" means participation in a meeting by teleconference at a location other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting.

**SEC. 5.** Section 54953.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.4.** (a) The Legislature finds and declares that public access, including through translation of agendas as required by this section, is necessary for an informed populace. The Legislature encourages local agencies to adopt public access requirements that exceed the requirements of this chapter by translating additional languages, employing human translators, and conducting additional outreach.

(b) (1) In addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, a meeting held by a eligible legislative body pursuant to this chapter shall comply with both of the following requirements:

(A) (i) (I) (ia) All open and public meetings shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, except if adequate telephonic or internet service is not operational at the meeting location. If adequate telephonic or internet service is operational at the meeting location during only a portion of the meeting, the legislative body shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform during that portion of the meeting.

(ib) (Ia) On or before July 1, 2026, an eligible legislative body shall approve at a noticed public meeting in open session, not on the consent calendar, a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet service occurring during meetings subject to this sub-subclause. The policy shall address the procedures for recessing and reconvening a meeting in the event of disruption and the efforts that the eligible legislative body shall make to attempt to restore the service.

(Ib) If a disruption of telephonic or internet service that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting via the two-way telephonic service or two-way audiovisual platform occurs during the meeting, the eligible legislative body shall recess the open session of the meeting for at least one hour and make a good faith attempt to restore the service. The eligible legislative body may meet in closed session during this period. The eligible legislative body shall not reconvene the open session of the meeting until at least one hour following the disruption, or until telephonic or internet service is restored, whichever is earlier.

(Ic) Upon reconvening the open session, if telephonic or internet service has not been restored, the eligible legislative body shall adopt a finding by rollcall vote that good faith efforts to restore the telephonic or internet service have been made in accordance with the policy adopted pursuant to sub-sub-subclause (Ia) and that the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access.

(II) Subclause (I) does not apply to a meeting that is held to do any of the following:

(ia) Attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the local agency is a party.

(ib) Inspect real or personal property provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the real or personal property.

(ic) Meet with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California, solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction.

(id) Meet in or nearby a facility owned by the agency, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the facility.

(ie) Meet in an emergency situation pursuant to Section 54956.5.

(ii) If an eligible legislative body elects to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate any automatic captioning function during the meeting if an automatic captioning function is included with the two-way audiovisual platform. If an eligible legislative body does not elect to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall provide a two-way telephonic service for the public to participate in the meeting, pursuant to subclause (I).

(B) (i) All open and public meetings for which attendance via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform is provided in accordance with paragraph (1) shall provide the public with an opportunity to provide public comment in accordance with Section 54954.3 via the two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform, and ensure the opportunity for the members of the public participating via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform to provide public comment with the same time allotment as a person attending a meeting in person.

(2) (A) An eligible legislative body shall reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language or wish to receive interpretation provided by another member of the public, so long as the interpretation is not disrupting to the meeting, as defined in Section 54957.95. The eligible legislative body shall publicize instructions on how to request assistance under this subdivision. Assistance may include any of the following, as determined by the eligible legislative body:

(i) Arranging space for one or more interpreters at the meeting location.

(ii) Allowing extra time during the meeting for interpretation to occur.

(iii) Ensuring participants may utilize their personal equipment or reasonably access facilities for participants to access commercially available interpretation services.

(B) This section does not require an eligible legislative body to provide interpretation of any public meeting, however, an eligible legislative body may elect to provide interpretation of any public meeting.

(C) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision. An action shall not be commenced or maintained against the eligible legislative body arising from the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision.

(3) An eligible legislative body shall take the following actions to encourage residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English-speaking communities, to participate in public meetings:

(A) Have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents pursuant to Section 54954.1 through email or through an integrated agenda management platform. Information about how to make a request using this system shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(B) (i) Create and maintain an accessible internet webpage dedicated to public meetings that includes, or provides a link to, all of the following information:

(I) A general explanation of the public meeting process for the eligible legislative body.

(II) An explanation of the procedures for a member of the public to provide in-person or remote oral public comment during a public meeting or to submit written public comment.

(III) A calendar of all public meeting dates with calendar listings that include the date, time, and location of each public meeting.

(IV) The agenda posted online pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2.

(ii) The eligible legislative body shall include a link to the webpage required by subparagraph (A) on the home page of the eligible legislative body's internet website.

(C) (i) Make reasonable efforts, as determined by the legislative body, to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in public meetings to attend those meetings, which may include, but are not limited to, all the following:

(I) Media organizations that provide news coverage in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including media organizations that serve non-English-speaking communities.

(II) Good government, civil rights, civic engagement, neighborhood, and community group organizations, or similar organizations that are active in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including organizations active in non-English-speaking communities.

(ii) Legislative bodies shall have broad discretion in the choice of reasonable efforts they make under this subparagraph. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from failing to provide public meeting information to any specific group pursuant to this subparagraph.

(c) (1) (A) The agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be posted in accordance with Section 54954.2. Each translation shall include instructions in the applicable language describing how to join the meeting by the telephonic or internet-based service option, including any requirements for registration for public comment.

(B) The accessible internet webpage provided under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(2) A translation made using a digital translation service shall satisfy the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) The eligible legislative body shall make available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public in reasonable proximity to the physical location in which the agenda and translations are posted as described in paragraph (1), and shall allow members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda in that location.

(4) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any translation provided pursuant to this subdivision. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from the content, accuracy, posting, or removal of any translation provided by the eligible legislative body or posted by any person pursuant to this subdivision.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the agenda does not include the entire agenda packet.

(d) This section shall not be construed to affect or supersede any other applicable civil rights, nondiscrimination, or public access laws.

(e) For purposes of this section, all of the following definitions apply:

(1) (A) "Applicable languages" means languages, according to data from the most recent American Community Survey, spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the applicable population, provided that 20 percent or more of the population that speaks that language in that city or county speaks English less than "very well."

(B) For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable population shall be determined as follows:

(i) For an eligible legislative body that is a city council or county board of supervisors, the applicable population shall be the population of the city or county.

(ii) For an eligible legislative body of a special district, the applicable population shall be either of the following, at the discretion of the board of directors of the special district:

(I) The population of the county with the greatest population within the boundaries of the special district.

(II) The population of the service area of the special district, if the special district has the data to determine what languages spoken by the population within its service area meet the requirements of paragraph (A).

(C) If more than three languages meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A), "applicable languages" shall mean the three languages described in subparagraph (A) that are spoken by the largest percentage of the population.

(D) An eligible legislative body may elect to determine the applicable languages based upon a source other than the most recent American Community Survey if it makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence,

that the other source provides equally or more reliable data for the territory over which the eligible legislative body exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "Eligible legislative body" means any of the following:

(A) A city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

(B) A county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more.

(C) A city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more.

(D) The board of directors of a special district that has an internet website and meets any of the following conditions:

(i) The boundaries of the special district include the entirety of a county with a population of 600,000 or more, and the special district has over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(ii) The special district has over 1,000 full-time equivalent employees.

(iii) The special district has annual revenues, based on the most recent Financial Transaction Report data published by the California State Controller, that exceed four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000), adjusted annually for inflation commencing January 1, 2027, as measured by the percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index from January 1 of the prior year to January 1 of the current year, and the special district employs over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(f) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2026.

(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 6.** Section 54953.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54953.5.** (a) Any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency shall have the right to record the proceedings in the absence of a reasonable finding by the legislative body of the local agency that the recording cannot continue without noise, illumination, or obstruction of view that constitutes, or would constitute, a persistent disruption of the proceedings.

(b) Any recording of an open and public meeting made for whatever purpose by or at the direction of the local agency shall be subject to inspection pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), but, notwithstanding Section 34090, may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the recording. Any inspection of an audio or video recording shall be provided without charge on equipment made available by the local agency.

**SEC. 7.** Section 54953.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54953.7.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, legislative bodies of local agencies may impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in this chapter. In addition thereto, an elected legislative body of a local agency may impose those requirements on appointed legislative bodies of the local agency.

**SEC. 8.** Section 54953.8 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.** (a) The legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing as authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54953 without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 in any of the circumstances described in Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive.

(b) A legislative body that holds a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section shall, in addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, comply with all of the following:

(1) The legislative body shall provide at least one of the following as a means by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the legislative body:

(A) A two-way audiovisual platform.

(B) A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.

(2) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconference meeting held pursuant to this section is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.

(3) In the event of a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(4) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

(5) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the local legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(6) (A) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(B) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(C) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(7) Any member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing shall be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

(8) The legislative body shall have and implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and resolving any doubt in favor of accessibility. In each instance in which notice of the time of the meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation.

(9) The legislative body shall conduct meetings subject to this chapter consistent with applicable civil rights and nondiscrimination laws.

(c) A local agency shall identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

(d) (1) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional teleconference locations.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional physical locations in which the public may observe and address the legislative body by electronic means.

(e) A member of a legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with those individuals.

(f) The teleconferencing provisions described in Section 54953 and Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, are cumulative. A legislative body may elect to use any teleconferencing provisions that are applicable to a meeting, regardless of whether any other teleconferencing provisions would also be applicable to that meeting.

(g) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Remote location" means a location from which a member of a legislative body participates in a meeting pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting. Remote locations need not be accessible to the public.

(2) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(5) "Webcasting" means a streaming video broadcast online or on television, using streaming media technology to distribute a single content source to many simultaneous listeners and viewers.

**SEC. 9.** Section 54953.8.1 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.1.** (a) A health authority may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section.

(b) Nothing in this section or Section 54953.8 shall be construed as discouraging health authority members from regularly meeting at a common physical site within the jurisdiction of the authority or from using teleconference locations within or near the jurisdiction of the authority.

(c) For purposes of this section, a health authority means any entity created pursuant to Sections 14018.7, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, and 14087.9605 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, any joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 for the purpose of contracting pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and any advisory committee to a county-sponsored health plan licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code if the advisory committee has 12 or more members.

**SEC. 10.** Section 54953.8.2 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.2.** (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 during a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and the teleconferencing is used in either of the following circumstances:

(1) For the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(2) After a determination described in paragraph (1) is made that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(b) If the state of emergency or local emergency remains active, in order to continue to teleconference pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall, no later than 45 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to this section, and every 45 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(1) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency or local emergency.

(2) The state of emergency or local emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

(c) This section shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.8, a legislative body conducting a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section may elect to use a two-way telephonic service without a live webcasting of the meeting.

(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Local emergency" means a condition of extreme peril to persons or property proclaimed by the governing body of the local agency affected, in accordance with Section 8630 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), as defined in Section 8680.9, or a local health emergency declared pursuant to Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code. Local emergency, as used in this section, refers only to local emergencies in the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "State of emergency" means state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2).

**SEC. 11.** Section 54953.8.3 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.3.** (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda, which location shall be open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, provided that the legislative body complies with the requirements of Section 54953.8 and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) A member of the legislative body notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting.

(2) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(3) (A) The provisions of this subdivision shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for just cause for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(i) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(ii) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(iii) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(B) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) The minutes for the meeting shall identify the specific provision in subdivision (c) that each member relied upon to participate remotely. This subdivision shall not be construed to require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is otherwise exempt under existing law, including, but not limited to, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 56) of Part 2.6 of Division 1 of the Civil Code).

(c) For purposes of this section, "just cause" means any of the following:

(1) Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. "Child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms do in Section 12945.2.

(2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.

(3) A need related to a physical or mental condition that is not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953.

(4) Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.



(5) An immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.

(6) A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

(7) Military service obligations that result in a member being unable to attend in person because they are serving under official written orders for active duty, drill, annual training, or any other duty required as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization that requires the member to be at least 50 miles outside the boundaries of the local agency.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 12.** Section 54953.8.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.4.** (a) An eligible neighborhood council may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following have occurred:

(1) (A) The city council for a city described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible neighborhood councils to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the city council adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible neighborhood council may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible neighborhood council votes to do so. The eligible neighborhood council shall notify the city council if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible neighborhood council described in subparagraph (B), the city council may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible neighborhood council from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(2) After completing the requirements of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), an eligible neighborhood council that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the city in which the eligible neighborhood council is established.

(B) At least once per year, at least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate in person from a singular physical location that is open to the public and within the boundaries of the eligible neighborhood council.

(3) If the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the city council member that represents the area that includes the eligible neighborhood council, the eligible neighborhood council shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the city council member who represents the area where the eligible neighborhood council is located, unless the eligible neighborhood council identifies an alternative location.

(4) If the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible neighborhood council shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(2) "Eligible neighborhood council" means a neighborhood council that is an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to this chapter.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 13.** Section 54953.8.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.5.** (a) An eligible community college student organization may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) An eligible community college student organization may only use teleconferencing as described in Section 54953.8 after all the following have occurred:

(A) The board of trustees for a community college district considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible community college student organizations to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the board of trustees for a community college district adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible community college student organization may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible community college student organization votes to do so. The eligible community college student organization shall notify the board of trustees if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible community college student organization as described in subparagraph (B), the board of trustees may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible community college student organization from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(D) (i) Except as specified in clause (ii), at least a quorum of the members of the eligible community college student organization shall participate from a singular physical location that is accessible to the public and is within the community college district in which the eligible community college student organization is established.

(ii) The requirements described in clause (i) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(iii) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (i), a person may count toward the establishment of a quorum pursuant to clause (i) regardless of whether the person is participating at the in-person location of the meeting or remotely if the person meets any of the following criteria:

(I) The person is under 18 years of age.

(II) The person is incarcerated.

(III) The person is unable to disclose the location that they are participating from because of either of the following circumstances:

(ia) The person has been issued a protective court order, including, but not limited to, a domestic violence restraining order.

(ib) The person is participating in a program that has to remain confidential, including, but not limited to, an independent living program.

(IV) The person provides childcare or caregiving to a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. For purposes of this subclause, "child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 12945.2.

(2) An eligible community college student organization that holds a meeting by teleconference as described in Section 54953.8 shall do the following, as applicable:

(A) (i) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, the eligible community college student organization shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, unless the eligible community college student organization identifies an alternative location.

(ii) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible community college student organization shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting,

or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(B) The requirements described in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(b) For purposes of this section, "eligible community college student organization" means a student body association organized pursuant to Section 76060 of the Education Code, or any other student-run community college organization that is required to comply with the meeting requirements of this chapter, that is in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system and includes the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 14.** Section 54953.8.6 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.6.** (a) An eligible subsidiary body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible subsidiary body shall designate one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body where members of the subsidiary body who are not participating remotely shall be present and members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting. At least one staff member of the eligible subsidiary body or the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body shall be present at the physical meeting location during the meeting. The eligible subsidiary body shall post the agenda at the physical meeting location, but need not post the agenda at a remote location.

(2) (A) A member of the eligible subsidiary body shall visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, except if the member has a physical or mental condition not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953 that results in a need to participate off camera.

(B) The visual appearance of a member of the eligible subsidiary body on camera may cease only when the appearance would be technologically infeasible, including, but not limited to, when the member experiences a lack of reliable broadband or internet connectivity that would be remedied by joining without video.

(C) If a member of the eligible subsidiary body does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity, the member shall announce the reason for their nonappearance prior to turning off their camera.

(3) An elected official serving as a member of an eligible subsidiary body in their official capacity shall not participate in a meeting of the eligible subsidiary body by teleconferencing pursuant to this section unless the use of teleconferencing complies with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.

(4) (A) In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section, the legislative body that established the eligible subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action shall make the following findings by majority vote before the eligible subsidiary body uses teleconferencing pursuant to this section for the first time, and every six months thereafter:

(i) The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the eligible subsidiary body.

(ii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the eligible subsidiary body, and the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation, including audio-visual or telephonic, that will be made available at a regularly scheduled meeting and has been provided the opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the legislative body authorizing the subsidiary body to meet entirely remotely.

(iii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members.

(B) (i) An eligible subsidiary body authorized to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section may request to present any recommendations it develops to the legislative body that created it.

(ii) Upon receiving a request described in clause (i), the legislative body that created the subsidiary body shall hold a discussion at a regular meeting held within 60 days after the legislative body receives the

request, or if the legislative body does not have another regular meeting scheduled within 60 days after the legislative body receives the request, at the next regular meeting after the request is received.

(iii) The discussion required by clause (ii) shall not be placed on a consent calendar, but may be combined with the legislative body's subsequent consideration of the findings described in subparagraph (A) for the following 12 months.

(iv) The legislative body shall not take any action on any recommendations included in the report of a subsidiary body until the next regular meeting of the legislative body following the discussion described in clause (ii).

(C) After the legislative body makes the findings described in subparagraph (A), the eligible subsidiary body shall approve the use of teleconferencing by majority vote before using teleconference pursuant to this section.

(D) The legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body may elect to prohibit the eligible subsidiary body from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section at any time.

(b) (1) For purposes of this section, "eligible subsidiary body" means a legislative body that meets all of the following:

(A) Is described in subdivision (b) of Section 54952.

(B) Serves exclusively in an advisory capacity.

(C) Is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds.

(D) Does not have primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals.

(2) An eligible subsidiary body may include members who are elected officials, members who are not elected officials, or any combination thereof.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 15.** Section 54953.8.7 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54953.8.7.** (a) An eligible multijurisdictional body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the eligible multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section at a regular meeting in open session.

(2) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(3) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who receives compensation for their service on the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from a physical location that is open to the public. For purposes of this paragraph, "compensation" does not include reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses.

(4) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body may participate from a remote location provided that:

(A) The eligible multijurisdictional body identifies each member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who plans to participate remotely in the agenda.

(B) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(5) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall not participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to this section, unless the location from which the member participates is more than 20 miles each way from any physical location of the meeting described in paragraph (2).

(6) The provisions of this section shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(A) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(B) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(C) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(D) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) For the purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Eligible multijurisdictional body" means a multijurisdictional board, commission, or advisory body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed, and the board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to this chapter.

(2) "Multijurisdictional" means either of the following:

(A) A legislative body that includes representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, or special district.

(B) A legislative body of a joint powers entity formed pursuant to an agreement entered into in accordance with Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**SEC. 16.** Section 54954.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 92 of Chapter 131 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

**54954.2.** (a) (1) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda that meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The agenda shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words.

(B) The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one.

(C) (i) If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(ii) The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

(2) For a meeting occurring on and after January 1, 2019, of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website, the following provisions shall apply:

(A) An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda. The direct link to the agenda shall not be in a contextual menu; however, a link in addition to the direct link to the agenda may be accessible through a contextual menu.

(B) An online posting of an agenda, including, but not limited to, an agenda posted in an integrated agenda management platform, shall be posted in an open format that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used internet search applications.

(ii) Platform independent and machine readable.

(iii) Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

(C) A legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website and an integrated agenda management platform shall not be required to comply with subparagraph (A) if all of the following are met:

(i) A direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state. The direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall not be in a contextual menu. When a person clicks on the direct link to the integrated agenda management platform, the direct link shall take the person directly to an internet website with the agendas of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(ii) The integrated agenda management platform may contain the prior agendas of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state for all meetings occurring on or after January 1, 2019.

(iii) The current agenda of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state shall be the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

(iv) All agendas posted in the integrated agenda management platform shall comply with the requirements in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to a political subdivision of a local agency that was established by the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(E) For purposes of this paragraph, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Integrated agenda management platform" means an internet website of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state dedicated to providing the entirety of the agenda information for the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state to the public.

(2) "Legislative body" means a legislative body that meets the definition of subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(3) No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on their own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the legislative body may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda under any of the conditions stated below. Prior to discussing any item pursuant to this subdivision, the legislative body shall publicly identify the item.

(1) Upon a determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.

(2) Upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there

is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision (a).

(3) The item was posted pursuant to subdivision (a) for a prior meeting of the legislative body occurring not more than five calendar days prior to the date action is taken on the item, and at the prior meeting the item was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken.

(c) This section is necessary to implement and reasonably within the scope of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

(d) For purposes of subdivision (a), the requirement that the agenda be posted on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one, shall only apply to a legislative body that meets either of the following standards:

(1) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(2) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (b) of Section 54952, if the members of the legislative body are compensated for their appearance, and if one or more of the members of the legislative body are also members of a legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

**SEC. 17.** Section 54954.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54954.3.** (a) (1) Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the agenda need not provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, composed exclusively of members of the legislative body, at a public meeting wherein all interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply if any of the following conditions are met:

(i) The item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body.

(ii) When considering the item, a quorum of the committee members did not participate from a singular physical location, that was clearly identified on the agenda, open to the public, and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(iii) The committee has primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals. This clause shall not apply to an item if the local agency has adopted a law applicable to the meeting of the committee at which the item that was considered prohibits the committee from placing a limit on the total amount of time for public comment on the item.

(3) Every notice for a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item.

(b) (1) The legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the legislative body of a local agency limits time for public comment, the legislative body of a local agency shall provide at least twice the allotted time to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the legislative body of a local agency.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall not apply if the legislative body of a local agency utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the legislative body of a local agency to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously.

(c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law.

**SEC. 18.** Section 54956 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54956.** (a) (1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, or by a majority of the members of the legislative body, by delivering written notice to each member of the legislative body and to each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station requesting notice in writing and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one. The notice shall be delivered personally or by any other means and shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting as specified in the notice. The call and notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at these meetings by the legislative body. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the legislative body a written waiver of notice. The waiver may be given by telephone or electronic mail. The written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.

(2) The call and notice shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the special meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, a legislative body shall not call a special meeting regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits, of the legislative body or of a local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1. However, this subdivision does not apply to a local agency calling a special meeting to discuss the local agency's budget.

**SEC. 19.** Section 54956.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54956.5.** (a) For purposes of this section, "emergency situation" means both of the following:

(1) An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(2) A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring a legislative body to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting under this section may endanger the public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), in the case of an emergency situation involving matters upon which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, a legislative body may hold an emergency meeting without complying with either the 24-hour notice requirement or the 24-hour posting requirement of Section 54956 or both of the notice and posting requirements.

(2) Each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station that has requested notice of special meetings pursuant to Section 54956 shall be notified by the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, one hour prior to the emergency meeting, or, in the case of a dire emergency, at or near the time that the presiding officer or designee notifies the members of the legislative body of the emergency meeting.

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the notice required by this paragraph shall be given by telephone and all telephone numbers provided in the most recent request of a newspaper or station for notification of special meetings shall be exhausted. In the event that telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(B) For an emergency meeting held pursuant to this section, the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, may send the notifications required by this paragraph by email instead of by telephone, as



provided in subparagraph (A), to all local newspapers of general circulation, and radio or television stations, that have requested those notifications by email, and all email addresses provided by representatives of those newspapers or stations shall be exhausted. In the event that internet services and telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(c) During a meeting held pursuant to this section, the legislative body may meet in closed session pursuant to Section 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

(d) All special meeting requirements, as prescribed in Section 54956 shall be applicable to a meeting called pursuant to this section, with the exception of the 24-hour notice requirement.

(e) The minutes of a meeting called pursuant to this section, a list of persons who the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the rollcall vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for a minimum of 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible.

**SEC. 20.** Section 54957.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54957.6.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions with the local agency's designated representatives regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation, subject to all of the following conditions:

(1) Prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its designated representatives.

(2) The closed session shall be for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the local agency's designated representatives.

(3) The closed session may take place prior to and during consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees.

(4) Any closed session with the local agency's designated representative regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits may include discussion of an agency's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as these discussions relate to providing instructions to the local agency's designated representative.

(5) The closed session shall not include final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees.

(6) For the purposes enumerated in this section, a legislative body of a local agency may also meet with a state conciliator who has intervened in the proceedings.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee, but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body, or other independent contractors.

**SEC. 21.** Section 54957.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54957.9.** In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

**SEC. 22.** Section 54957.95 of the Government Code is amended to read:

**54957.95.** (a) (1) In addition to authority exercised pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54957.9, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting, including any teleconferenced meeting.

(2) Prior to removing an individual, the presiding member or their designee shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding member or their designee may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. This paragraph does not apply to any behavior described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Disrupting" means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, one of the following:

(A) A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or any other law.

(B) Engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

(2) "True threat of force" means a threat that has sufficient indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use force by the person making the threat.

**SEC. 23.** Section 54957.96 is added to the Government Code, to read:

**54957.96.** (a) The existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, including existing limitations upon that authority, shall apply to members of the public participating in a meeting via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(2) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

**SEC. 24.** The Legislature finds and declares that Section 4 of this act, which amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 22 of this act, which amends Section 54957.95 of, and Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, the Government Code, impose a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

**SEC. 25.** The Legislature finds and declares that Sections 1 and 2 of this act, which amend and repeal Section 54952.2, respectively, of, Section 3 of this act, which amends Section 54952.7 of, Section 4 of this act, which

amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Section 6 of this act, which amends Section 54953.5 of, Section 7 of this act, which amends Section 54953.7 of, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 16 of this act, which amends Section 54954.2 of, Section 17 of this act, which amends Section 54954.3 of, Section 18 of this act, which amends Section 54956 of, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 20 of this act, which amends Section 54957.6 of, Section 21 of this act, which amends Section 54957.9 of, Section 22 of this act, which amends Section 54957.95 of, and Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, the Government Code, further, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

**SEC. 26.** The Legislature finds and declares that adequate public access to meetings is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this bill would apply to all cities, including charter cities.

**SEC. 27.** No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district under this act would result from a legislative mandate that is within the scope of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

**GOVERNMENT CODE - GOV****TITLE 5. LOCAL AGENCIES [50001 - 57607]** ( Title 5 added by Stats. 1949, Ch. 81. )**DIVISION 2. CITIES, COUNTIES, AND OTHER AGENCIES [53000 - 55821]** ( Division 2 added by Stats. 1949, Ch. 81. )**PART 1. POWERS AND DUTIES COMMON TO CITIES, COUNTIES, AND OTHER AGENCIES [53000 - 54999.7]** ( Part 1 added by Stats. 1949, Ch. 81. )**CHAPTER 9. Meetings [54950 - 54963]** ( Chapter 9 added by Stats. 1953, Ch. 1588. )

**54950.** In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the public commissions, boards and councils and the other public agencies in this State exist to aid in the conduct of the people's business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly.

The people of this State do not yield their sovereignty to the agencies which serve them. The people, in delegating authority, do not give their public servants the right to decide what is good for the people to know and what is not good for them to know. The people insist on remaining informed so that they may retain control over the instruments they have created.

(Added by Stats. 1953, Ch. 1588.)

**54950.5.** This chapter shall be known as the Ralph M. Brown Act.

(Added by Stats. 1961, Ch. 115.)

**54951.** As used in this chapter, "local agency" means a county, city, whether general law or chartered, city and county, town, school district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, or any board, commission or agency thereof, or other local public agency.

(Amended by Stats. 1959, Ch. 1417.)

**54952.** As used in this chapter, "legislative body" means:

- (a) The governing body of a local agency or any other local body created by state or federal statute.
- (b) A commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency, whether permanent or temporary, decisionmaking or advisory, created by charter, ordinance, resolution, or formal action of a legislative body. However, advisory committees, composed solely of the members of the legislative body that are less than a quorum of the legislative body are not legislative bodies, except that standing committees of a legislative body, irrespective of their composition, which have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction, or a meeting schedule fixed by charter, ordinance, resolution, or formal action of a legislative body are legislative bodies for purposes of this chapter.
- (c) (1) A board, commission, committee, or other multimember body that governs a private corporation, limited liability company, or other entity that either:
  - (A) Is created by the elected legislative body in order to exercise authority that may lawfully be delegated by the elected governing body to a private corporation, limited liability company, or other entity.
  - (B) Receives funds from a local agency and the membership of whose governing body includes a member of the legislative body of the local agency appointed to that governing body as a full voting member by the legislative body of the local agency.

(2) Notwithstanding subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1), no board, commission, committee, or other multimember body that governs a private corporation, limited liability company, or other entity that receives funds from a local agency and, as of February 9, 1996, has a member of the legislative body of the local agency as a full voting

member of the governing body of that private corporation, limited liability company, or other entity shall be relieved from the public meeting requirements of this chapter by virtue of a change in status of the full voting member to a nonvoting member.

(d) The lessee of any hospital the whole or part of which is first leased pursuant to subdivision (p) of Section 32121 of the Health and Safety Code after January 1, 1994, where the lessee exercises any material authority of a legislative body of a local agency delegated to it by that legislative body whether the lessee is organized and operated by the local agency or by a delegated authority.

*(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 1073, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2003.)*

**54952.1.** Any person elected to serve as a member of a legislative body who has not yet assumed the duties of office shall conform his or her conduct to the requirements of this chapter and shall be treated for purposes of enforcement of this chapter as if he or she has already assumed office.

*(Amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 32, Sec. 2. Effective March 30, 1994. Operative April 1, 1994, by Sec. 23 of Ch. 32.)*

**54952.2.** (a) As used in this chapter, "meeting" means any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, including teleconference location as permitted by Section 54953, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(b) (1) A majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing an employee or official of a local agency, from engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this chapter with members of a legislative body in order to answer questions or provide information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency, if that person does not communicate to members of the legislative body the comments or position of any other member or members of the legislative body.

(3) (A) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing a member of the legislative body from engaging in separate conversations or communications on an internet-based social media platform to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body provided that a majority of the members of the legislative body do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. A member of the legislative body shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply:

(i) "Discuss among themselves" means communications made, posted, or shared on an internet-based social media platform between members of a legislative body, including comments or use of digital icons that express reactions to communications made by other members of the legislative body.

(ii) "Internet-based social media platform" means an online service that is open and accessible to the public.

(iii) "Open and accessible to the public" means that members of the general public have the ability to access and participate, free of charge, in the social media platform without the approval by the social media platform or a person or entity other than the social media platform, including any forum and chatroom, and cannot be blocked from doing so, except when the internet-based social media platform determines that an individual violated its protocols or rules.

(c) Nothing in this section shall impose the requirements of this chapter upon any of the following:

(1) Individual contacts or conversations between a member of a legislative body and any other person that do not violate subdivision (b).

(2) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a conference or similar gathering open to the public that involves a discussion of issues of general interest to the public or to public agencies of the type represented by the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to allow members of the public free admission to a conference or similar gathering at which the organizers have required other participants or registrants to pay fees or charges as a condition of attendance.

(3) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and publicized meeting organized to address a topic of local community concern by a person or organization other than the local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(4) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of another body of the local agency, or at an open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled meeting, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(5) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a purely social or ceremonial occasion, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(6) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of that body, provided that the members of the legislative body who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers.

*(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2020, Ch. 89, Sec. 1) by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 1. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54952.3.** (a) A legislative body that has convened a meeting and whose membership constitutes a quorum of any other legislative body may convene a meeting of that other legislative body, simultaneously or in serial order, only if a clerk or a member of the convened legislative body verbally announces, prior to convening any simultaneous or serial order meeting of that subsequent legislative body, the amount of compensation or stipend, if any, that each member will be entitled to receive as a result of convening the simultaneous or serial meeting of the subsequent legislative body and identifies that the compensation or stipend shall be provided as a result of convening a meeting for which each member is entitled to collect compensation or a stipend. However, the clerk or member of the legislative body shall not be required to announce the amount of compensation if the amount of compensation is prescribed in statute and no additional compensation has been authorized by a local agency.

(b) For purposes of this section, compensation and stipend shall not include amounts reimbursed for actual and necessary expenses incurred by a member in the performance of the member's official duties, including, but not limited to, reimbursement of expenses relating to travel, meals, and lodging.

*(Added by Stats. 2011, Ch. 91, Sec. 1. (AB 23) Effective January 1, 2012.)*

**54952.6.** As used in this chapter, "action taken" means a collective decision made by a majority of the members of a legislative body, a collective commitment or promise by a majority of the members of a legislative body to make a positive or a negative decision, or an actual vote by a majority of the members of a legislative body when sitting as a body or entity, upon a motion, proposal, resolution, order or ordinance.

*(Added by Stats. 1961, Ch. 1671.)*

**54952.7.** A local agency shall provide a copy of this chapter to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 3. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54953.** (a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding

authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all otherwise applicable requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, the legislative body of a local agency shall comply with all of the following:

(A) All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

(B) The teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency.

(C) The legislative body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.

(D) The legislative body shall allow members of the public to access the meeting and the agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3.

(3) If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public. During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as expressly provided in this chapter.

(4) The teleconferencing requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to remote participation described in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prohibit a member of a legislative body with a disability from participating in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation as a reasonable accommodation pursuant to any applicable law.

(2) A member of a legislative body participating in a meeting by remote participation pursuant to this subdivision shall do both of the following:

(A) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology, except that any member with a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, may participate only through audio technology if a physical condition related to their disability results in a need to participate off camera.

(B) The member shall disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any of those individuals.

(3) Remote participation under this subdivision shall be treated as in-person attendance at the physical meeting location for all purposes, including any requirement that a quorum of the legislative body participate from any particular location. The provisions of subdivision (b) and Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, shall not apply to remote participation under this subdivision.

(d) (1) No legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final.

(2) The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action.

(3) (A) Prior to taking final action, the legislative body shall orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of either of the following during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken:

(i) A local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1.

(ii) A department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.

(B) This paragraph shall not affect the public's right under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1) to inspect or copy records created or received in the process of developing the recommendation.

(e) For purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:



(1) "Disability" means a physical disability or a mental disability as those terms are defined in Section 12926 and used in Section 12926.1, or a disability as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

(2) (A) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(B) Notwithstanding subparagraph (A), "teleconference" does not include one or more members watching or listening to a meeting via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(3) "Remote participation" means participation in a meeting by teleconference at a location other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting.

*(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 534, Sec. 2) by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 4. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54953.1.** The provisions of this chapter shall not be construed to prohibit the members of the legislative body of a local agency from giving testimony in private before a grand jury, either as individuals or as a body.

*(Added by Stats. 1979, Ch. 950.)*

**54953.2.** All meetings of a legislative body of a local agency that are open and public shall meet the protections and prohibitions contained in Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

*(Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 300, Sec. 5. Effective January 1, 2003.)*

**54953.3.** A member of the public shall not be required, as a condition to attendance at a meeting of a legislative body of a local agency, to register his or her name, to provide other information, to complete a questionnaire, or otherwise to fulfill any condition precedent to his or her attendance.

If an attendance list, register, questionnaire, or other similar document is posted at or near the entrance to the room where the meeting is to be held, or is circulated to the persons present during the meeting, it shall state clearly that the signing, registering, or completion of the document is voluntary, and that all persons may attend the meeting regardless of whether a person signs, registers, or completes the document.

*(Amended by Stats. 1981, Ch. 968, Sec. 28.)*

**54953.4.** (a) The Legislature finds and declares that public access, including through translation of agendas as required by this section, is necessary for an informed populace. The Legislature encourages local agencies to adopt public access requirements that exceed the requirements of this chapter by translating additional languages, employing human translators, and conducting additional outreach.

(b) (1) In addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, a meeting held by a eligible legislative body pursuant to this chapter shall comply with both of the following requirements:

(A) (i) (I) (ia) All open and public meetings shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, except if adequate telephonic or internet service is not operational at the meeting location. If adequate telephonic or internet service is operational at the meeting location during only a portion of the meeting, the legislative body shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform during that portion of the meeting.

(ib) (Ia) On or before July 1, 2026, an eligible legislative body shall approve at a noticed public meeting in open session, not on the consent calendar, a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet service occurring during meetings subject to this sub-subclause. The policy shall address the procedures for recessing and reconvening a meeting in the event of disruption and the efforts that the eligible legislative body shall make to attempt to restore the service.

(Ib) If a disruption of telephonic or internet service that prevents members of the public from attending or observing the meeting via the two-way telephonic service or two-way audiovisual platform occurs during the meeting, the eligible legislative body shall recess the open session of the meeting for at least one hour and make a good faith attempt to restore the service. The eligible legislative body may meet in closed session during this period. The eligible legislative body



shall not reconvene the open session of the meeting until at least one hour following the disruption, or until telephonic or internet service is restored, whichever is earlier.

(Ic) Upon reconvening the open session, if telephonic or internet service has not been restored, the eligible legislative body shall adopt a finding by rollcall vote that good faith efforts to restore the telephonic or internet service have been made in accordance with the policy adopted pursuant to sub-sub-subclause (Ia) and that the public interest in continuing the meeting outweighs the public interest in remote public access.

(II) Subclause (I) does not apply to a meeting that is held to do any of the following:

(ia) Attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the local agency is a party.

(ib) Inspect real or personal property provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the real or personal property.

(ic) Meet with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California, solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction.

(id) Meet in or nearby a facility owned by the agency, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the facility.

(ie) Meet in an emergency situation pursuant to Section 54956.5.

(ii) If an eligible legislative body elects to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate any automatic captioning function during the meeting if an automatic captioning function is included with the two-way audiovisual platform. If an eligible legislative body does not elect to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall provide a two-way telephonic service for the public to participate in the meeting, pursuant to subclause (I).

(B) (i) All open and public meetings for which attendance via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform is provided in accordance with paragraph (1) shall provide the public with an opportunity to provide public comment in accordance with Section 54954.3 via the two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform, and ensure the opportunity for the members of the public participating via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform to provide public comment with the same time allotment as a person attending a meeting in person.

(2) (A) An eligible legislative body shall reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language or wish to receive interpretation provided by another member of the public, so long as the interpretation is not disrupting to the meeting, as defined in Section 54957.95. The eligible legislative body shall publicize instructions on how to request assistance under this subdivision. Assistance may include any of the following, as determined by the eligible legislative body:

(i) Arranging space for one or more interpreters at the meeting location.

(ii) Allowing extra time during the meeting for interpretation to occur.

(iii) Ensuring participants may utilize their personal equipment or reasonably access facilities for participants to access commercially available interpretation services.

(B) This section does not require an eligible legislative body to provide interpretation of any public meeting, however, an eligible legislative body may elect to provide interpretation of any public meeting.

(C) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision. An action shall not be commenced or maintained against the eligible legislative body arising from the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision.

(3) An eligible legislative body shall take the following actions to encourage residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English-speaking communities, to participate in public meetings:

(A) Have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents pursuant to Section 54954.1 through email or through an integrated agenda management

platform. Information about how to make a request using this system shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(B) (i) Create and maintain an accessible internet webpage dedicated to public meetings that includes, or provides a link to, all of the following information:

(I) A general explanation of the public meeting process for the eligible legislative body.

(II) An explanation of the procedures for a member of the public to provide in-person or remote oral public comment during a public meeting or to submit written public comment.

(III) A calendar of all public meeting dates with calendar listings that include the date, time, and location of each public meeting.

(IV) The agenda posted online pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2.

(ii) The eligible legislative body shall include a link to the webpage required by subparagraph (A) on the home page of the eligible legislative body's internet website.

(C) (i) Make reasonable efforts, as determined by the legislative body, to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in public meetings to attend those meetings, which may include, but are not limited to, all the following:

(I) Media organizations that provide news coverage in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including media organizations that serve non-English-speaking communities.

(II) Good government, civil rights, civic engagement, neighborhood, and community group organizations, or similar organizations that are active in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including organizations active in non-English-speaking communities.

(ii) Legislative bodies shall have broad discretion in the choice of reasonable efforts they make under this subparagraph. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from failing to provide public meeting information to any specific group pursuant to this subparagraph.

(c) (1) (A) The agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be posted in accordance with Section 54954.2. Each translation shall include instructions in the applicable language describing how to join the meeting by the telephonic or internet-based service option, including any requirements for registration for public comment.

(B) The accessible internet webpage provided under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(2) A translation made using a digital translation service shall satisfy the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) The eligible legislative body shall make available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public in reasonable proximity to the physical location in which the agenda and translations are posted as described in paragraph (1), and shall allow members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda in that location.

(4) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any translation provided pursuant to this subdivision. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from the content, accuracy, posting, or removal of any translation provided by the eligible legislative body or posted by any person pursuant to this subdivision.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the agenda does not include the entire agenda packet.

(d) This section shall not be construed to affect or supersede any other applicable civil rights, nondiscrimination, or public access laws.

(e) For purposes of this section, all of the following definitions apply:

(1) (A) "Applicable languages" means languages, according to data from the most recent American Community Survey, spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the applicable population, provided that 20 percent or more of the population that speaks that language in that city or county speaks English less than "very well."

(B) For the purposes of subparagraph (A), the applicable population shall be determined as follows:

(i) For an eligible legislative body that is a city council or county board of supervisors, the applicable population shall be the population of the city or county.

(ii) For an eligible legislative body of a special district, the applicable population shall be either of the following, at the discretion of the board of directors of the special district:

(I) The population of the county with the greatest population within the boundaries of the special district.

(II) The population of the service area of the special district, if the special district has the data to determine what languages spoken by the population within its service area meet the requirements of paragraph (A).

(C) If more than three languages meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A), "applicable languages" shall mean the three languages described in subparagraph (A) that are spoken by the largest percentage of the population.

(D) An eligible legislative body may elect to determine the applicable languages based upon a source other than the most recent American Community Survey if it makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that the other source provides equally or more reliable data for the territory over which the eligible legislative body exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "Eligible legislative body" means any of the following:

(A) A city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

(B) A county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more.

(C) A city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more.

(D) The board of directors of a special district that has an internet website and meets any of the following conditions:

(i) The boundaries of the special district include the entirety of a county with a population of 600,000 or more, and the special district has over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(ii) The special district has over 1,000 full-time equivalent employees.

(iii) The special district has annual revenues, based on the most recent Financial Transaction Report data published by the California State Controller, that exceed four hundred million dollars (\$400,000,000), adjusted annually for inflation commencing January 1, 2027, as measured by the percentage change in the California Consumer Price Index from January 1 of the prior year to January 1 of the current year, and the special district employs over 200 full-time equivalent employees.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(f) This section shall become operative on July 1, 2026.

(g) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 5. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026. Operative July 1, 2026, by its own provisions. Repealed as of January 1, 2030, by its own provisions.)*

**54953.5.** (a) Any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency shall have the right to record the proceedings in the absence of a reasonable finding by the legislative body of the local agency that the recording cannot continue without noise, illumination, or obstruction of view that constitutes, or would constitute, a persistent disruption of the proceedings.

(b) Any recording of an open and public meeting made for whatever purpose by or at the direction of the local agency shall be subject to inspection pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), but, notwithstanding Section 34090, may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the recording. Any inspection of an audio or video recording shall be provided without charge on equipment made available by the local agency.

**54953.6.** No legislative body of a local agency shall prohibit or otherwise restrict the broadcast of its open and public meetings in the absence of a reasonable finding that the broadcast cannot be accomplished without noise, illumination, or obstruction of view that would constitute a persistent disruption of the proceedings.

*(Amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 32, Sec. 6. Effective March 30, 1994. Operative April 1, 1994, by Sec. 23 of Ch. 32.)*

**54953.7.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, legislative bodies of local agencies may impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in this chapter. In addition thereto, an elected legislative body of a local agency may impose those requirements on appointed legislative bodies of the local agency.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 7. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54953.8.** (a) The legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing as authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54953 without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 in any of the circumstances described in Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive.

(b) A legislative body that holds a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section shall, in addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, comply with all of the following:

(1) The legislative body shall provide at least one of the following as a means by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the legislative body:

(A) A two-way audiovisual platform.

(B) A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.

(2) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconference meeting held pursuant to this section is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.

(3) In the event of a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(4) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

(5) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the local legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(6) (A) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(B) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(C) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to

paragraph (5), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(7) Any member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing shall be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

(8) The legislative body shall have and implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and resolving any doubt in favor of accessibility. In each instance in which notice of the time of the meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation.

(9) The legislative body shall conduct meetings subject to this chapter consistent with applicable civil rights and nondiscrimination laws.

(c) A local agency shall identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

(d) (1) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional teleconference locations.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional physical locations in which the public may observe and address the legislative body by electronic means.

(e) A member of a legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with those individuals.

(f) The teleconferencing provisions described in Section 54953 and Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, are cumulative. A legislative body may elect to use any teleconferencing provisions that are applicable to a meeting, regardless of whether any other teleconferencing provisions would also be applicable to that meeting.

(g) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Remote location" means a location from which a member of a legislative body participates in a meeting pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting. Remote locations need not be accessible to the public.

(2) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(5) "Webcasting" means a streaming video broadcast online or on television, using streaming media technology to distribute a single content source to many simultaneous listeners and viewers.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 8. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54953.8.1.** (a) A health authority may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section.

(b) Nothing in this section or Section 54953.8 shall be construed as discouraging health authority members from regularly meeting at a common physical site within the jurisdiction of the authority or from using teleconference locations within or near the jurisdiction of the authority.

(c) For purposes of this section, a health authority means any entity created pursuant to Sections 14018.7, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, and 14087.9605 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, any joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 for the purpose of contracting pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and any advisory committee to a county-sponsored health plan licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code if the advisory committee has 12 or more members.

**54953.8.2.** (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 during a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and the teleconferencing is used in either of the following circumstances:

(1) For the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(2) After a determination described in paragraph (1) is made that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(b) If the state of emergency or local emergency remains active, in order to continue to teleconference pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall, no later than 45 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to this section, and every 45 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(1) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency or local emergency.

(2) The state of emergency or local emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

(c) This section shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.8, a legislative body conducting a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section may elect to use a two-way telephonic service without a live webcasting of the meeting.

(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Local emergency" means a condition of extreme peril to persons or property proclaimed by the governing body of the local agency affected, in accordance with Section 8630 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), as defined in Section 8680.9, or a local health emergency declared pursuant to Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code. Local emergency, as used in this section, refers only to local emergencies in the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "State of emergency" means state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2).

**54953.8.3.** (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda, which location shall be open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, provided that the legislative body complies with the requirements of Section 54953.8 and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) A member of the legislative body notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting.

(2) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(3) (A) The provisions of this subdivision shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for just cause for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(i) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(ii) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.



(iii) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(B) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) The minutes for the meeting shall identify the specific provision in subdivision (c) that each member relied upon to participate remotely. This subdivision shall not be construed to require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is otherwise exempt under existing law, including, but not limited to, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 56) of Part 2.6 of Division 1 of the Civil Code).

(c) For purposes of this section, "just cause" means any of the following:

(1) Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. "Child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms do in Section 12945.2.

(2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.

(3) A need related to a physical or mental condition that is not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953.

(4) Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

(5) An immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.

(6) A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

(7) Military service obligations that result in a member being unable to attend in person because they are serving under official written orders for active duty, drill, annual training, or any other duty required as a member of the California National Guard or a United States Military Reserve organization that requires the member to be at least 50 miles outside the boundaries of the local agency.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 11. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026. Repealed as of January 1, 2030, by its own provisions.)*

**54953.8.4.** (a) An eligible neighborhood council may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following have occurred:

(1) (A) The city council for a city described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible neighborhood councils to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the city council adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible neighborhood council may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible neighborhood council votes to do so. The eligible neighborhood council shall notify the city council if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible neighborhood council described in subparagraph (B), the city council may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible neighborhood council from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(2) After completing the requirements of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), an eligible neighborhood council that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the city in which the eligible neighborhood council is established.

(B) At least once per year, at least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate in person from a singular physical location that is open to the public and within the boundaries of the eligible neighborhood council.

(3) If the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the city council member that represents the area that includes the eligible neighborhood council, the eligible neighborhood council shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the city council member who represents the area where the eligible neighborhood council is located, unless the eligible neighborhood council identifies an alternative location.

(4) If the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible neighborhood council shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(2) "Eligible neighborhood council" means a neighborhood council that is an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to this chapter.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 12. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026. Repealed as of January 1, 2030, by its own provisions.)*

**54953.8.5.** (a) An eligible community college student organization may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) An eligible community college student organization may only use teleconferencing as described in Section 54953.8 after all the following have occurred:

(A) The board of trustees for a community college district considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible community college student organizations to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the board of trustees for a community college district adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible community college student organization may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible community college student organization votes to do so. The eligible community college student organization shall notify the board of trustees if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible community college student organization as described in subparagraph (B), the board of trustees may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible community college student organization from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(D) (i) Except as specified in clause (ii), at least a quorum of the members of the eligible community college student organization shall participate from a singular physical location that is accessible to the public and is within the community college district in which the eligible community college student organization is established.

(ii) The requirements described in clause (i) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(iii) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (i), a person may count toward the establishment of a quorum pursuant to clause (i) regardless of whether the person is participating at the in-person location of the meeting or remotely if the person meets any of the following criteria:

(I) The person is under 18 years of age.

(II) The person is incarcerated.



(III) The person is unable to disclose the location that they are participating from because of either of the following circumstances:

(ia) The person has been issued a protective court order, including, but not limited to, a domestic violence restraining order.

(ib) The person is participating in a program that has to remain confidential, including, but not limited to, an independent living program.

(IV) The person provides childcare or caregiving to a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. For purposes of this subclause, "child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 12945.2.

(2) An eligible community college student organization that holds a meeting by teleconference as described in Section 54953.8 shall do the following, as applicable:

(A) (i) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, the eligible community college student organization shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, unless the eligible community college student organization identifies an alternative location.

(ii) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible community college student organization shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(B) The requirements described in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(b) For purposes of this section, "eligible community college student organization" means a student body association organized pursuant to Section 76060 of the Education Code, or any other student-run community college organization that is required to comply with the meeting requirements of this chapter, that is in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system and includes the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 13. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026. Repealed as of January 1, 2030, by its own provisions.)*

**54953.8.6.** (a) An eligible subsidiary body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible subsidiary body shall designate one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body where members of the subsidiary body who are not participating remotely shall be present and members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting. At least one staff member of the eligible subsidiary body or the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body shall be present at the physical meeting location during the meeting. The eligible subsidiary body shall post the agenda at the physical meeting location, but need not post the agenda at a remote location.

(2) (A) A member of the eligible subsidiary body shall visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, except if the member has a physical or mental condition not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953 that results in a need to participate off camera.

(B) The visual appearance of a member of the eligible subsidiary body on camera may cease only when the appearance would be technologically infeasible, including, but not limited to, when the member experiences a lack of reliable broadband or internet connectivity that would be remedied by joining without video.

(C) If a member of the eligible subsidiary body does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity, the member shall announce the reason for their nonappearance prior to turning off their camera.

(3) An elected official serving as a member of an eligible subsidiary body in their official capacity shall not participate in a meeting of the eligible subsidiary body by teleconferencing pursuant to this section unless the use of teleconferencing complies with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.

(4) (A) In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section, the legislative body that established the eligible subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action shall make the following findings by majority vote before the eligible subsidiary body uses teleconferencing pursuant to this section for the first time, and every six months thereafter:

(i) The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the eligible subsidiary body.

(ii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the eligible subsidiary body, and the public has been made aware of the type of remote participation, including audio-visual or telephonic, that will be made available at a regularly scheduled meeting and has been provided the opportunity to comment at an in-person meeting of the legislative body authorizing the subsidiary body to meet entirely remotely.

(iii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members.

(B) (i) An eligible subsidiary body authorized to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section may request to present any recommendations it develops to the legislative body that created it.

(ii) Upon receiving a request described in clause (i), the legislative body that created the subsidiary body shall hold a discussion at a regular meeting held within 60 days after the legislative body receives the request, or if the legislative body does not have another regular meeting scheduled within 60 days after the legislative body receives the request, at the next regular meeting after the request is received.

(iii) The discussion required by clause (ii) shall not be placed on a consent calendar, but may be combined with the legislative body's subsequent consideration of the findings described in subparagraph (A) for the following 12 months.

(iv) The legislative body shall not take any action on any recommendations included in the report of a subsidiary body until the next regular meeting of the legislative body following the discussion described in clause (ii).

(C) After the legislative body makes the findings described in subparagraph (A), the eligible subsidiary body shall approve the use of teleconferencing by majority vote before using teleconference pursuant to this section.

(D) The legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body may elect to prohibit the eligible subsidiary body from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section at any time.

(b) (1) For purposes of this section, "eligible subsidiary body" means a legislative body that meets all of the following:

(A) Is described in subdivision (b) of Section 54952.

(B) Serves exclusively in an advisory capacity.

(C) Is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds.

(D) Does not have primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals.

(2) An eligible subsidiary body may include members who are elected officials, members who are not elected officials, or any combination thereof.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**54953.8.7.** (a) An eligible multijurisdictional body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the eligible multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section at a regular meeting in open session.

(2) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(3) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who receives compensation for their service on the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from a physical location that is open to the public. For purposes of this paragraph, "compensation" does not include reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses.

(4) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body may participate from a remote location provided that:

(A) The eligible multijurisdictional body identifies each member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who plans to participate remotely in the agenda.

(B) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(5) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall not participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to this section, unless the location from which the member participates is more than 20 miles each way from any physical location of the meeting described in paragraph (2).

(6) The provisions of this section shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(A) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(B) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(C) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(D) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) For the purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Eligible multijurisdictional body" means a multijurisdictional board, commission, or advisory body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed, and the board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to this chapter.

(2) "Multijurisdictional" means either of the following:

(A) A legislative body that includes representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, or special district.

(B) A legislative body of a joint powers entity formed pursuant to an agreement entered into in accordance with Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

**54954.** (a) Each legislative body of a local agency, except for advisory committees or standing committees, shall provide, by ordinance, resolution, bylaws, or by whatever other rule is required for the conduct of business by that body, the time and place for holding regular meetings. Meetings of advisory committees or standing committees, for which an agenda is posted at least 72 hours in advance of the meeting pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2, shall be considered for purposes of this chapter as regular meetings of the legislative body.

(b) Regular and special meetings of the legislative body shall be held within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except to do any of the following:

(1) Comply with state or federal law or court order, or attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the local agency is a party.

(2) Inspect real or personal property which cannot be conveniently brought within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the real or personal property.

(3) Participate in meetings or discussions of multiagency significance that are outside the boundaries of a local agency's jurisdiction. However, any meeting or discussion held pursuant to this subdivision shall take place within the jurisdiction of one of the participating local agencies and be noticed by all participating agencies as provided for in this chapter.

(4) Meet in the closest meeting facility if the local agency has no meeting facility within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, or at the principal office of the local agency if that office is located outside the territory over which the agency exercises jurisdiction.

(5) Meet outside their immediate jurisdiction with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California when a local meeting would be impractical, solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction.

(6) Meet outside their immediate jurisdiction if the meeting takes place in or nearby a facility owned by the agency, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the facility.

(7) Visit the office of the local agency's legal counsel for a closed session on pending litigation held pursuant to Section 54956.9, when to do so would reduce legal fees or costs.

(c) Meetings of the governing board of a school district shall be held within the district, except under the circumstances enumerated in subdivision (b), or to do any of the following:

(1) Attend a conference on nonadversarial collective bargaining techniques.

(2) Interview members of the public residing in another district with reference to the trustees' potential employment of an applicant for the position of the superintendent of the district.

(3) Interview a potential employee from another district.

(d) Meetings of a joint powers authority shall occur within the territory of at least one of its member agencies, or as provided in subdivision (b). However, a joint powers authority which has members throughout the state may meet at any facility in the state which complies with the requirements of Section 54961.

(e) If, by reason of fire, flood, earthquake, or other emergency, it shall be unsafe to meet in the place designated, the meetings shall be held for the duration of the emergency at the place designated by the presiding officer of the legislative body or his or her designee in a notice to the local media that have requested notice pursuant to Section 54956, by the most rapid means of communication available at the time.

*(Amended by Stats. 2004, Ch. 257, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2005.)*

**54954.1.** Any person may request that a copy of the agenda, or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet, of any meeting of a legislative body be mailed to that person. If a local agency has an internet website, the legislative body or its designee shall email a copy of, or website link to, the agenda or a copy of all the documents constituting the agenda packet if the person requests that the item or items be delivered by email. If the local agency determines it is technologically infeasible to send a copy of all documents constituting the agenda packet or

a link to a website that contains the documents by email or by other electronic means, the legislative body or its designee shall send by mail a copy of the agenda or a website link to the agenda and mail a copy of all other documents constituting the agenda packet in accordance with the mailing requirements established pursuant to this section. If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. Upon receipt of the written request, the legislative body or its designee shall cause the requested materials to be mailed at the time the agenda is posted pursuant to Section 54954.2 and 54956 or upon distribution to all, or a majority of all, of the members of a legislative body, whichever occurs first. Any request for mailed copies of agendas or agenda packets shall be valid for the calendar year in which it is filed, and must be renewed following January 1 of each year. The legislative body may establish a fee for mailing the agenda or agenda packet, which fee shall not exceed the cost of providing the service. Failure of the requesting person to receive the agenda or agenda packet pursuant to this section shall not constitute grounds for invalidation of the actions of the legislative body taken at the meeting for which the agenda or agenda packet was not received.

*(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 763, Sec. 1. (SB 274) Effective January 1, 2022.)*

**54954.2.** (a) (1) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda that meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The agenda shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words.

(B) The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one.

(C) (i) If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(ii) The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

(2) For a meeting occurring on and after January 1, 2019, of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website, the following provisions shall apply:

(A) An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda. The direct link to the agenda shall not be in a contextual menu; however, a link in addition to the direct link to the agenda may be accessible through a contextual menu.

(B) An online posting of an agenda, including, but not limited to, an agenda posted in an integrated agenda management platform, shall be posted in an open format that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used internet search applications.

(ii) Platform independent and machine readable.

(iii) Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

(C) A legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website and an integrated agenda management platform shall not be required to comply with subparagraph (A) if all of the following are met:

(i) A direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state. The direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall not be in a contextual menu. When a person clicks on the direct link to the integrated agenda management platform, the direct link shall take the person directly to an internet website with the agendas of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(ii) The integrated agenda management platform may contain the prior agendas of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state for all meetings occurring on or after January 1, 2019.

(iii) The current agenda of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state shall be the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

(iv) All agendas posted in the integrated agenda management platform shall comply with the requirements in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to a political subdivision of a local agency that was established by the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(E) For purposes of this paragraph, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Integrated agenda management platform" means an internet website of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state dedicated to providing the entirety of the agenda information for the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state to the public.

(2) "Legislative body" means a legislative body that meets the definition of subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(3) No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on their own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the legislative body may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda under any of the conditions stated below. Prior to discussing any item pursuant to this subdivision, the legislative body shall publicly identify the item.

(1) Upon a determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.

(2) Upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision (a).

(3) The item was posted pursuant to subdivision (a) for a prior meeting of the legislative body occurring not more than five calendar days prior to the date action is taken on the item, and at the prior meeting the item was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken.

(c) This section is necessary to implement and reasonably within the scope of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

(d) For purposes of subdivision (a), the requirement that the agenda be posted on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one, shall only apply to a legislative body that meets either of the following standards:

(1) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.



(2) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (b) of Section 54952, if the members of the legislative body are compensated for their appearance, and if one or more of the members of the legislative body are also members of a legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

*(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2023, Ch. 131, Sec. 92) by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 16. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54954.3.** (a) (1) Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

(2) (A) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the agenda need not provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, composed exclusively of members of the legislative body, at a public meeting wherein all interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item.

(B) Subparagraph (A) shall not apply if any of the following conditions are met:

(i) The item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body.

(ii) When considering the item, a quorum of the committee members did not participate from a singular physical location, that was clearly identified on the agenda, open to the public, and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(iii) The committee has primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries, or taxes or related spending proposals. This clause shall not apply to an item if the local agency has adopted a law applicable to the meeting of the committee at which the item that was considered prohibits the committee from placing a limit on the total amount of time for public comment on the item.

(3) Every notice for a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item.

(b) (1) The legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the legislative body of a local agency limits time for public comment, the legislative body of a local agency shall provide at least twice the allotted time to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the legislative body of a local agency.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall not apply if the legislative body of a local agency utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the legislative body of a local agency to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously.

(c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 17. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54954.4.** (a) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that Section 12 of Chapter 641 of the Statutes of 1986, authorizing reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for costs mandated by the state pursuant to that act, shall be interpreted strictly. The intent of the Legislature is to provide reimbursement for only those costs

which are clearly and unequivocally incurred as the direct and necessary result of compliance with Chapter 641 of the Statutes of 1986.

(b) In this regard, the Legislature directs all state employees and officials involved in reviewing or authorizing claims for reimbursement, or otherwise participating in the reimbursement process, to rigorously review each claim and authorize only those claims, or parts thereof, which represent costs which are clearly and unequivocally incurred as the direct and necessary result of compliance with Chapter 641 of the Statutes of 1986 and for which complete documentation exists. For purposes of Section 54954.2, costs eligible for reimbursement shall only include the actual cost to post a single agenda for any one meeting.

(c) The Legislature hereby finds and declares that complete, faithful, and uninterrupted compliance 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) is a matter of overriding public importance. Unless specifically stated, no future Budget Act, or related budget enactments, shall, in any manner, be interpreted to suspend, eliminate, or otherwise modify the legal obligation and duty of local agencies to fully comply with Chapter 641 of the Statutes of 1986 in a complete, faithful, and uninterrupted manner.

*(Added by Stats. 1991, Ch. 238, Sec. 1.)*

**54954.5.** For purposes of describing closed session items pursuant to Section 54954.2, the agenda may describe closed sessions as provided below. No legislative body or elected official shall be in violation of Section 54954.2 or 54956 if the closed session items were described in substantial compliance with this section. Substantial compliance is satisfied by including the information provided below, irrespective of its format.

(a) With respect to a closed session held pursuant to Section 54956.7:

**LICENSE/PERMIT DETERMINATION**

Applicant(s): (Specify number of applicants)

(b) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.8:

**CONFERENCE WITH REAL PROPERTY NEGOTIATORS**

Property: (Specify street address, or if no street address, the parcel number or other unique reference, of the real property under negotiation)

Agency negotiator: (Specify names of negotiators attending the closed session) (If circumstances necessitate the absence of a specified negotiator, an agent or designee may participate in place of the absent negotiator so long as the name of the agent or designee is announced at an open session held prior to the closed session.)

Negotiating parties: (Specify name of party (not agent))

Under negotiation: (Specify whether instruction to negotiator will concern price, terms of payment, or both)

(c) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.9:

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—EXISTING LITIGATION**

(Paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9)

Name of case: (Specify by reference to claimant's name, names of parties, case or claim numbers)

or

Case name unspecified: (Specify whether disclosure would jeopardize service of process or existing settlement negotiations)

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Significant exposure to litigation pursuant to paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (Specify number of potential cases)

(In addition to the information noticed above, the agency may be required to provide additional information on the agenda or in an oral statement prior to the closed session pursuant to paragraphs (2) to (5), inclusive, of subdivision (e) of Section 54956.9.)

Initiation of litigation pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 54956.9: (Specify number of potential cases)

(d) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.95:

**LIABILITY CLAIMS**

Claimant: (Specify name unless unspecified pursuant to Section 54961)

Agency claimed against: (Specify name)



(e) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957:

THREAT TO PUBLIC SERVICES OR FACILITIES

Consultation with: (Specify name of law enforcement agency and title of officer, or name of applicable agency representative and title)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE APPOINTMENT

Title: (Specify description of position to be filled)

PUBLIC EMPLOYMENT

Title: (Specify description of position to be filled)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE PERFORMANCE EVALUATION

Title: (Specify position title of employee being reviewed)

PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DISCIPLINE/DISMISSAL/RELEASE

(No additional information is required in connection with a closed session to consider discipline, dismissal, or release of a public employee. Discipline includes potential reduction of compensation.)

(f) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54957.6:

CONFERENCE WITH LABOR NEGOTIATORS

Agency designated representatives: (Specify names of designated representatives attending the closed session) (If circumstances necessitate the absence of a specified designated representative, an agent or designee may participate in place of the absent representative so long as the name of the agent or designee is announced at an open session held prior to the closed session.)

Employee organization: (Specify name of organization representing employee or employees in question)

or

Unrepresented employee: (Specify position title of unrepresented employee who is the subject of the negotiations)

(g) With respect to closed sessions called pursuant to Section 54957.8:

CASE REVIEW/PLANNING

(No additional information is required in connection with a closed session to consider case review or planning.)

(h) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Sections 1461, 32106, and 32155 of the Health and Safety Code or Sections 37606 and 37624.3 of the Government Code:

REPORT INVOLVING TRADE SECRET

Discussion will concern: (Specify whether discussion will concern proposed new service, program, or facility)

Estimated date of public disclosure: (Specify month and year)

HEARINGS

Subject matter: (Specify whether testimony/deliberation will concern staff privileges, report of medical audit committee, or report of quality assurance committee)

(i) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.86:

CHARGE OR COMPLAINT INVOLVING INFORMATION PROTECTED BY FEDERAL LAW

(No additional information is required in connection with a closed session to discuss a charge or complaint pursuant to Section 54956.86.)

(j) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.96:

CONFERENCE INVOLVING A JOINT POWERS AGENCY (Specify by name)

Discussion will concern: (Specify closed session description used by the joint powers agency)

Name of local agency representative on joint powers agency board: (Specify name)

(Additional information listing the names of agencies or titles of representatives attending the closed session as consultants or other representatives.)

(k) With respect to every item of business to be discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.75:

AUDIT BY CALIFORNIA STATE AUDITOR'S OFFICE

(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 759, Sec. 6.1. (AB 2690) Effective January 1, 2013.)

54954.6. (a) (1) Before adopting any new or increased general tax or any new or increased assessment, the legislative body of a local agency shall conduct at least one public meeting at which local officials shall allow public testimony regarding the proposed new or increased general tax or new or increased assessment in addition to the noticed public hearing at which the legislative body proposes to enact or increase the general tax or assessment.

For purposes of this section, the term "new or increased assessment" does not include any of the following:

(A) A fee that does not exceed the reasonable cost of providing the services, facilities, or regulatory activity for which the fee is charged.

(B) A service charge, rate, or charge, unless a special district's principal act requires the service charge, rate, or charge to conform to the requirements of this section.

(C) An ongoing annual assessment if it is imposed at the same or lower amount as any previous year.

(D) An assessment that does not exceed an assessment formula or range of assessments previously specified in the notice given to the public pursuant to subparagraph (G) of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) and that was previously adopted by the agency or approved by the voters in the area where the assessment is imposed.

(E) Standby or immediate availability charges.

(2) The legislative body shall provide at least 45 days' public notice of the public hearing at which the legislative body proposes to enact or increase the general tax or assessment. The legislative body shall provide notice for the public meeting at the same time and in the same document as the notice for the public hearing, but the meeting shall occur prior to the hearing.

(b) (1) The joint notice of both the public meeting and the public hearing required by subdivision (a) with respect to a proposal for a new or increased general tax shall be accomplished by placing a display advertisement of at least one-eighth page in a newspaper of general circulation for three weeks pursuant to Section 6063 and by a first-class mailing to those interested parties who have filed a written request with the local agency for mailed notice of public meetings or hearings on new or increased general taxes. The public meeting pursuant to subdivision (a) shall take place no earlier than 10 days after the first publication of the joint notice pursuant to this subdivision. The public hearing shall take place no earlier than seven days after the public meeting pursuant to this subdivision. Notwithstanding paragraph (2) of subdivision (a), the joint notice need not include notice of the public meeting after the meeting has taken place. The public hearing pursuant to subdivision (a) shall take place no earlier than 45 days after the first publication of the joint notice pursuant to this subdivision. Any written request for mailed notices shall be effective for one year from the date on which it is filed unless a renewal request is filed. Renewal requests for mailed notices shall be filed on or before April 1 of each year. The legislative body may establish a reasonable annual charge for sending notices based on the estimated cost of providing the service.

(2) The notice required by paragraph (1) of this subdivision shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) The amount or rate of the tax. If the tax is proposed to be increased from any previous year, the joint notice shall separately state both the existing tax rate and the proposed tax rate increase.

(B) The activity to be taxed.

(C) The estimated amount of revenue to be raised by the tax annually.

(D) The method and frequency for collecting the tax.

(E) The dates, times, and locations of the public meeting and hearing described in subdivision (a).

(F) The telephone number and address of an individual, office, or organization that interested persons may contact to receive additional information about the tax.

(c) (1) The joint notice of both the public meeting and the public hearing required by subdivision (a) with respect to a proposal for a new or increased assessment on real property or businesses shall be accomplished through a mailing, postage prepaid, in the United States mail and shall be deemed given when so deposited. The public meeting pursuant to subdivision (a) shall take place no earlier than 10 days after the joint mailing pursuant to this subdivision. The public hearing shall take place no earlier than seven days after the public meeting pursuant to this

subdivision. The envelope or the cover of the mailing shall include the name of the local agency and the return address of the sender. This mailed notice shall be in at least 10-point type and shall be given to all property owners or business owners proposed to be subject to the new or increased assessment by a mailing by name to those persons whose names and addresses appear on the last equalized county assessment roll, the State Board of Equalization assessment roll, or the local agency's records pertaining to business ownership, as the case may be.

(2) The joint notice required by paragraph (1) of this subdivision shall include, but not be limited to, the following:

(A) In the case of an assessment proposed to be levied on property, the estimated amount of the assessment per parcel. In the case of an assessment proposed to be levied on businesses, the proposed method and basis of levying the assessment in sufficient detail to allow each business owner to calculate the amount of assessment to be levied against each business. If the assessment is proposed to be increased from any previous year, the joint notice shall separately state both the amount of the existing assessment and the proposed assessment increase.

(B) A general description of the purpose or improvements that the assessment will fund.

(C) The address to which property owners may mail a protest against the assessment.

(D) The telephone number and address of an individual, office, or organization that interested persons may contact to receive additional information about the assessment.

(E) A statement that a majority protest will cause the assessment to be abandoned if the assessment act used to levy the assessment so provides. Notice shall also state the percentage of protests required to trigger an election, if applicable.

(F) The dates, times, and locations of the public meeting and hearing described in subdivision (a).

(G) A proposed assessment formula or range as described in subparagraph (D) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) if applicable and that is noticed pursuant to this section.

(3) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case of an assessment that is proposed exclusively for operation and maintenance expenses imposed throughout the entire local agency, or exclusively for operation and maintenance assessments proposed to be levied on 50,000 parcels or more, notice may be provided pursuant to this subdivision or pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) and shall include the estimated amount of the assessment of various types, amounts, or uses of property and the information required by subparagraphs (B) to (G), inclusive, of paragraph (2) of subdivision (c).

(4) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), in the case of an assessment proposed to be levied pursuant to Part 2 (commencing with Section 22500) of Division 2 of the Streets and Highways Code by a regional park district, regional park and open-space district, or regional open-space district formed pursuant to Article 3 (commencing with Section 5500) of Chapter 3 of Division 5 of, or pursuant to Division 26 (commencing with Section 35100) of, the Public Resources Code, notice may be provided pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(d) The notice requirements imposed by this section shall be construed as additional to, and not to supersede, existing provisions of law, and shall be applied concurrently with the existing provisions so as to not delay or prolong the governmental decisionmaking process.

(e) This section shall not apply to any new or increased general tax or any new or increased assessment that requires an election of either of the following:

(1) The property owners subject to the assessment.

(2) The voters within the local agency imposing the tax or assessment.

(f) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a local agency from holding a consolidated meeting or hearing at which the legislative body discusses multiple tax or assessment proposals.

(g) The local agency may recover the reasonable costs of public meetings, public hearings, and notice required by this section from the proceeds of the tax or assessment. The costs recovered for these purposes, whether recovered pursuant to this subdivision or any other provision of law, shall not exceed the reasonable costs of the public meetings, public hearings, and notice.

(h) Any new or increased assessment that is subject to the notice and hearing provisions of Article XIII C or XIII D of the California Constitution is not subject to the notice and hearing requirements of this section.

**54955.** The legislative body of a local agency may adjourn any regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting to a time and place specified in the order of adjournment. Less than a quorum may so adjourn from time to time. If all members are absent from any regular or adjourned regular meeting the clerk or secretary of the legislative body may declare the meeting adjourned to a stated time and place and he shall cause a written notice of the adjournment to be given in the same manner as provided in Section 54956 for special meetings, unless such notice is waived as provided for special meetings. A copy of the order or notice of adjournment shall be conspicuously posted on or near the door of the place where the regular, adjourned regular, special or adjourned special meeting was held within 24 hours after the time of the adjournment. When a regular or adjourned regular meeting is adjourned as provided in this section, the resulting adjourned regular meeting is a regular meeting for all purposes. When an order of adjournment of any meeting fails to state the hour at which the adjourned meeting is to be held, it shall be held at the hour specified for regular meetings by ordinance, resolution, bylaw, or other rule.

*(Amended by Stats. 1959, Ch. 647.)*

**54955.1.** Any hearing being held, or noticed or ordered to be held, by a legislative body of a local agency at any meeting may by order or notice of continuance be continued or recontinued to any subsequent meeting of the legislative body in the same manner and to the same extent set forth in Section 54955 for the adjournment of meetings; provided, that if the hearing is continued to a time less than 24 hours after the time specified in the order or notice of hearing, a copy of the order or notice of continuance of hearing shall be posted immediately following the meeting at which the order or declaration of continuance was adopted or made.

*(Added by Stats. 1965, Ch. 469.)*

**54956.** (a) (1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, or by a majority of the members of the legislative body, by delivering written notice to each member of the legislative body and to each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station requesting notice in writing and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one. The notice shall be delivered personally or by any other means and shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting as specified in the notice. The call and notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at these meetings by the legislative body. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the legislative body a written waiver of notice. The waiver may be given by telephone or electronic mail. The written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.

(2) The call and notice shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the special meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, a legislative body shall not call a special meeting regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits, of the legislative body or of a local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1. However, this subdivision does not apply to a local agency calling a special meeting to discuss the local agency's budget.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 18. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54956.5.** (a) For purposes of this section, "emergency situation" means both of the following:

(1) An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(2) A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring a legislative body to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting under this section may endanger the public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), in the case of an emergency situation involving matters upon which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, a legislative body may hold an emergency meeting without complying with either the 24-hour notice requirement or the 24-hour posting requirement of Section 54956 or both of the notice and posting requirements.

(2) Each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station that has requested notice of special meetings pursuant to Section 54956 shall be notified by the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, one hour prior to the emergency meeting, or, in the case of a dire emergency, at or near the time that the presiding officer or designee notifies the members of the legislative body of the emergency meeting.

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the notice required by this paragraph shall be given by telephone and all telephone numbers provided in the most recent request of a newspaper or station for notification of special meetings shall be exhausted. In the event that telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(B) For an emergency meeting held pursuant to this section, the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, may send the notifications required by this paragraph by email instead of by telephone, as provided in subparagraph (A), to all local newspapers of general circulation, and radio or television stations, that have requested those notifications by email, and all email addresses provided by representatives of those newspapers or stations shall be exhausted. In the event that internet services and telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(c) During a meeting held pursuant to this section, the legislative body may meet in closed session pursuant to Section 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

(d) All special meeting requirements, as prescribed in Section 54956 shall be applicable to a meeting called pursuant to this section, with the exception of the 24-hour notice requirement.

(e) The minutes of a meeting called pursuant to this section, a list of persons who the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the rollcall vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for a minimum of 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 19. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54956.6.** No fees may be charged by the legislative body of a local agency for carrying out any provision of this chapter, except as specifically authorized by this chapter.

*(Added by Stats. 1980, Ch. 1284.)*

**54956.7.** Whenever a legislative body of a local agency determines that it is necessary to discuss and determine whether an applicant for a license or license renewal, who has a criminal record, is sufficiently rehabilitated to obtain the license, the legislative body may hold a closed session with the applicant and the applicant's attorney, if any, for the purpose of holding the discussion and making the determination. If the legislative body determines, as a result of the closed session, that the issuance or renewal of the license should be denied, the applicant shall be offered the opportunity to withdraw the application. If the applicant withdraws the application, no record shall be kept of the discussions or decisions made at the closed session and all matters relating to the closed session shall be confidential. If the applicant does not withdraw the application, the legislative body shall take action at the public meeting during which the closed session is held or at its next public meeting denying the application for the license but all matters relating to the closed session are confidential and shall not be disclosed without the consent of the applicant, except in an action by an applicant who has been denied a license challenging the denial of the license.

*(Added by Stats. 1982, Ch. 298, Sec. 1.)*

**54956.75.** (a) Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the legislative body of a local agency that has received a confidential final draft audit report from the Bureau of State Audits from holding closed sessions to discuss its response to that report.

(b) After the public release of an audit report by the Bureau of State Audits, if a legislative body of a local agency meets to discuss the audit report, it shall do so in an open session unless exempted from that requirement by some other provision of law.



*(Added by Stats. 2004, Ch. 576, Sec. 4. Effective January 1, 2005.)*

**54956.8.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a legislative body of a local agency may hold a closed session with its negotiator prior to the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease of real property by or for the local agency to grant authority to its negotiator regarding the price and terms of payment for the purchase, sale, exchange, or lease.

However, prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its negotiators, the real property or real properties which the negotiations may concern, and the person or persons with whom its negotiators may negotiate.

For purposes of this section, negotiators may be members of the legislative body of the local agency.

For purposes of this section, "lease" includes renewal or renegotiation of a lease.

Nothing in this section shall preclude a local agency from holding a closed session for discussions regarding eminent domain proceedings pursuant to Section 54956.9.

*(Amended by Stats. 1998, Ch. 260, Sec. 3. Effective January 1, 1999.)*

**54956.81.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a legislative body of a local agency that invests pension funds may hold a closed session to consider the purchase or sale of particular, specific pension fund investments. All investment transaction decisions made during the closed session shall be made by rollcall vote entered into the minutes of the closed session as provided in subdivision (a) of Section 54957.2.

*(Added by Stats. 2004, Ch. 533, Sec. 20. Effective January 1, 2005.)*

**54956.86.** Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a legislative body of a local agency which provides services pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code may hold a closed session to hear a charge or complaint from a member enrolled in its health plan if the member does not wish to have his or her name, medical status, or other information that is protected by federal law publicly disclosed. Prior to holding a closed session pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall inform the member, in writing, of his or her right to have the charge or complaint heard in an open session rather than a closed session.

*(Added by Stats. 1996, Ch. 182, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 1997.)*

**54956.87.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the records of a health plan that is licensed pursuant to the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 (Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code) and that is governed by a county board of supervisors, whether paper records, records maintained in the management information system, or records in any other form, that relate to provider rate or payment determinations, allocation or distribution methodologies for provider payments, formulas or calculations for these payments, and contract negotiations with providers of health care for alternative rates are exempt from disclosure for a period of three years after the contract is fully executed. The transmission of the records, or the information contained therein in an alternative form, to the board of supervisors shall not constitute a waiver of exemption from disclosure, and the records and information once transmitted to the board of supervisors shall be subject to this same exemption.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of a health plan that is licensed pursuant to the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 (Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code) and that is governed by a county board of supervisors may order that a meeting held solely for the purpose of discussion or taking action on health plan trade secrets, as defined in subdivision (f), shall be held in closed session. The requirements of making a public report of action taken in closed session, and the vote or abstention of every member present, may be limited to a brief general description without the information constituting the trade secret.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of a health plan may meet in closed session to consider and take action on matters pertaining to contracts and contract negotiations by the health plan with providers of health care services concerning all matters related to rates of payment. The governing board may delete the portion or portions containing trade secrets from any documents that were finally approved in the closed session held pursuant to subdivision (b) that are provided to persons who have made the timely or standing request.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed as preventing the governing board from meeting in closed session as otherwise provided by law.

(e) The provisions of this section shall not prevent access to any records by the Joint Legislative Audit Committee in the exercise of its powers pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 10500) of Chapter 4 of Part 2 of Division 2 of Title 2. The provisions of this section also shall not prevent access to any records by the Department of Managed Health Care in the exercise of its powers pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 1340) of Chapter 2.2 of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code.

(f) For purposes of this section, "health plan trade secret" means a trade secret, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3426.1 of the Civil Code, that also meets both of the following criteria:

(1) The secrecy of the information is necessary for the health plan to initiate a new service, program, marketing strategy, business plan, or technology, or to add a benefit or product.

(2) Premature disclosure of the trade secret would create a substantial probability of depriving the health plan of a substantial economic benefit or opportunity.

*(Amended by Stats. 2015, Ch. 190, Sec. 65. (AB 1517) Effective January 1, 2016.)*

**54956.9.** (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a legislative body of a local agency, based on advice of its legal counsel, from holding a closed session to confer with, or receive advice from, its legal counsel regarding pending litigation when discussion in open session concerning those matters would prejudice the position of the local agency in the litigation.

(b) For purposes of this chapter, all expressions of the lawyer-client privilege other than those provided in this section are hereby abrogated. This section is the exclusive expression of the lawyer-client privilege for purposes of conducting closed-session meetings pursuant to this chapter.

(c) For purposes of this section, "litigation" includes any adjudicatory proceeding, including eminent domain, before a court, administrative body exercising its adjudicatory authority, hearing officer, or arbitrator.

(d) For purposes of this section, litigation shall be considered pending when any of the following circumstances exist:

(1) Litigation, to which the local agency is a party, has been initiated formally.

(2) A point has been reached where, in the opinion of the legislative body of the local agency on the advice of its legal counsel, based on existing facts and circumstances, there is a significant exposure to litigation against the local agency.

(3) Based on existing facts and circumstances, the legislative body of the local agency is meeting only to decide whether a closed session is authorized pursuant to paragraph (2).

(4) Based on existing facts and circumstances, the legislative body of the local agency has decided to initiate or is deciding whether to initiate litigation.

(e) For purposes of paragraphs (2) and (3) of subdivision (d), "existing facts and circumstances" shall consist only of one of the following:

(1) Facts and circumstances that might result in litigation against the local agency but which the local agency believes are not yet known to a potential plaintiff or plaintiffs, which facts and circumstances need not be disclosed.

(2) Facts and circumstances, including, but not limited to, an accident, disaster, incident, or transactional occurrence that might result in litigation against the agency and that are known to a potential plaintiff or plaintiffs, which facts or circumstances shall be publicly stated on the agenda or announced.

(3) The receipt of a claim pursuant to the Government Claims Act (Division 3.6 (commencing with Section 810) of Title 1 of the Government Code) or some other written communication from a potential plaintiff threatening litigation, which claim or communication shall be available for public inspection pursuant to Section 54957.5.

(4) A statement made by a person in an open and public meeting threatening litigation on a specific matter within the responsibility of the legislative body.

(5) A statement threatening litigation made by a person outside an open and public meeting on a specific matter within the responsibility of the legislative body so long as the official or employee of the local agency receiving knowledge of the threat makes a contemporaneous or other record of the statement prior to the meeting, which

record shall be available for public inspection pursuant to Section 54957.5. The records so created need not identify the alleged victim of unlawful or tortious sexual conduct or anyone making the threat on their behalf, or identify a public employee who is the alleged perpetrator of any unlawful or tortious conduct upon which a threat of litigation is based, unless the identity of the person has been publicly disclosed.

(f) Nothing in this section shall require disclosure of written communications that are privileged and not subject to disclosure pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1).

(g) Prior to holding a closed session pursuant to this section, the legislative body of the local agency shall state on the agenda or publicly announce the paragraph of subdivision (d) that authorizes the closed session. If the session is closed pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d), the body shall state the title of or otherwise specifically identify the litigation to be discussed, unless the body states that to do so would jeopardize the agency's ability to effectuate service of process upon one or more unserved parties, or that to do so would jeopardize its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.

(h) A local agency shall be considered to be a "party" or to have a "significant exposure to litigation" if an officer or employee of the local agency is a party or has significant exposure to litigation concerning prior or prospective activities or alleged activities during the course and scope of that office or employment, including litigation in which it is an issue whether an activity is outside the course and scope of the office or employment.

*(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 615, Sec. 206. (AB 474) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 463 of Stats. 2021, Ch. 615.)*

**54956.95.** (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a joint powers agency formed pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1, for purposes of insurance pooling, or a local agency member of the joint powers agency, from holding a closed session to discuss a claim for the payment of tort liability losses, public liability losses, or workers' compensation liability incurred by the joint powers agency or a local agency member of the joint powers agency.

(b) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the Local Agency Self-Insurance Authority formed pursuant to Chapter 5.5 (commencing with Section 6599.01) of Division 7 of Title 1, or a local agency member of the authority, from holding a closed session to discuss a claim for the payment of tort liability losses, public liability losses, or workers' compensation liability incurred by the authority or a local agency member of the authority.

(c) Nothing in this section shall be construed to affect Section 54956.9 with respect to any other local agency.

*(Added by Stats. 1989, Ch. 882, Sec. 3.)*

**54956.96.** (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the legislative body of a joint powers agency formed pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1, from adopting a policy or a bylaw or including in its joint powers agreement provisions that authorize either or both of the following:

(1) All information received by the legislative body of the local agency member in a closed session related to the information presented to the joint powers agency in closed session shall be confidential. However, a member of the legislative body of a local agency member may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency to the following individuals:

(A) Legal counsel of that local agency member for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency member.

(B) Other members of the legislative body of the local agency present in a closed session of that local agency member.

(2) Any designated alternate member of the legislative body of the joint powers agency who is also a member of the legislative body of a local agency member and who is attending a properly noticed meeting of the joint powers agency in lieu of a local agency member's regularly appointed member to attend closed sessions of the joint powers agency.

(b) (1) In addition to the authority described in subdivision (a), the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, may adopt a policy or a bylaw or include in its joint powers agreement a provision that authorizes both of the following:

(A) A designated alternate member of the legislative body of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, who is not a member of the legislative body of a local agency member and who is



attending a properly noticed meeting of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, in lieu of a local agency member's regularly appointed member, to attend closed sessions of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity.

(B) All information that is received by a designated alternate member of the legislative body of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, who is not a member of the legislative body of a local agency member, and that is presented to the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, in closed session, shall be confidential. However, the designated alternate member may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for the local agency member for which the designated alternate member attended the closed session, to the following individuals:

(i) Legal counsel of that local agency member for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency member.

(ii) Members of the legislative body of the local agency present in a closed session of that local agency member.

(2) If the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, adopts a policy or bylaw or includes in its joint powers agreement a provision authorized pursuant to paragraph (1), the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity, shall establish policies to prevent conflicts of interest and to address breaches of confidentiality that apply to a designated alternate member who is not a member of the legislative body of a local agency member who attends a closed session of the Clean Power Alliance of Southern California, or its successor entity.

(c) If the legislative body of a joint powers agency adopts a policy or a bylaw or includes provisions in its joint powers agreement pursuant to subdivision (a) or (b), then the legislative body of the local agency member, upon the advice of its legal counsel, may conduct a closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information obtained in a closed session of the joint powers agency pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) or paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

*(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2019, Ch. 248, Sec. 1) by Stats. 2024, Ch. 24, Sec. 1. (AB 1852) Effective January 1, 2025. Repealed as of January 1, 2030, by its own provisions. See later operative version, as amended by Sec. 2 of Stats. 2024, Ch. 24.)*

**54956.96.** (a) Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the legislative body of a joint powers agency formed pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1, from adopting a policy or a bylaw or including in its joint powers agreement provisions that authorize either or both of the following:

(1) All information received by the legislative body of the local agency member in a closed session related to the information presented to the joint powers agency in closed session shall be confidential. However, a member of the legislative body of a local agency member may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency to the following individuals:

(A) Legal counsel of that local agency member for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency member.

(B) Other members of the legislative body of the local agency present in a closed session of that local agency member.

(2) A designated alternate member of the legislative body of the joint powers agency who is also a member of the legislative body of a local agency member and who is attending a properly noticed meeting of the joint powers agency in lieu of a local agency member's regularly appointed member to attend closed sessions of the joint powers agency.

(b) If the legislative body of a joint powers agency adopts a policy or a bylaw or includes provisions in its joint powers agreement pursuant to subdivision (a), then the legislative body of the local agency member, upon the advice of its legal counsel, may conduct a closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information obtained in a closed session of the joint powers agency pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (a).

(c) This section shall become operative on January 1, 2030.

*(Amended (as added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 248, Sec. 2) by Stats. 2024, Ch. 24, Sec. 2. (AB 1852) Effective January 1, 2025. Section operative January 1, 2030, by its own provisions.)*

**54956.97.** Notwithstanding any provision of law, the governing board, or a committee of the governing board, of a public bank, as defined in Section 57600 of the Government Code, may meet in closed session to consider and take action on matters pertaining to all of the following:

- (a) A loan or investment decision.
- (b) A decision of the internal audit committee, the compliance committee, or the governance committee.
- (c) A meeting with a state or federal regulator.

*(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 442, Sec. 14. (AB 857) Effective January 1, 2020.)*

**54956.98.** (a) For purposes of this section, the following definitions shall apply:

(1) "Shareholder, member, or owner local agency" or "shareholder, member, or owner" means a local agency that is a shareholder of a public bank.

(2) "Public bank" has the same meaning as defined in Section 57600.

(b) The governing board of a public bank may adopt a policy or a bylaw or include in its governing documents provisions that authorize any of the following:

(1) All information received by a shareholder, member, or owner of the public bank in a closed session related to the information presented to the governing board of a public bank in closed session shall be confidential. However, a member of the governing board of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency may disclose information obtained in a closed session that has direct financial or liability implications for that local agency to the following individuals:

(A) Legal counsel of that shareholder, member, or owner local agency for purposes of obtaining advice on whether the matter has direct financial or liability implications for that shareholder local agency.

(B) Other members of the governing board of the local agency present in a closed session of that shareholder, member, or owner local agency.

(2) A designated alternate member of the governing board of the public bank who is also a member of the governing board of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency and who is attending a properly noticed meeting of the public bank governing board in lieu of a shareholder, member, or owner local agency's regularly appointed member may attend a closed session of the public bank governing board.

(c) If the governing board of a public bank adopts a policy or a bylaw or includes provisions in its governing documents pursuant to subdivision (b), then the governing board of the shareholder, member, or owner local agency, upon the advice of its legal counsel, may conduct a closed session in order to receive, discuss, and take action concerning information obtained in a closed session of the public bank governing board pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

*(Added by Stats. 2019, Ch. 442, Sec. 15. (AB 857) Effective January 1, 2020.)*

**54957.** (a) (1) This chapter does not prevent the legislative body of a local agency from holding closed sessions with the Governor, Attorney General, district attorney, agency counsel, sheriff, or chief of police, or other law enforcement or security personnel, or a security consultant or a security operations manager, on matters posing a threat to the security of public buildings, a threat to the security of essential public services, including water, drinking water, wastewater treatment, natural gas service, and electric service, a threat to the public's right of access to public services or public facilities, or a threat to critical infrastructure controls or critical infrastructure information relating to cybersecurity.

(2) For purposes of this subdivision, the following definitions apply:

(A) "Critical infrastructure controls" means networks and systems controlling assets so vital to the local agency that the incapacity or destruction of those networks, systems, or assets would have a debilitating impact on public health, safety, economic security, or any combination thereof.

(B) "Critical infrastructure information" means information not customarily in the public domain pertaining to any of the following:

(i) Actual, potential, or threatened interference with, or an attack on, compromise of, or incapacitation of critical infrastructure controls by either physical or computer-based attack or other similar conduct, including, but not limited to, the misuse of, or unauthorized access to, all types of communications and data transmission systems, that violates federal, state, or local law or harms public health, safety, or economic security, or any combination thereof.

(ii) The ability of critical infrastructure controls to resist any interference, compromise, or incapacitation, including, but not limited to, any planned or past assessment or estimate of the vulnerability of critical infrastructure.

(iii) Any planned or past operational problem or solution regarding critical infrastructure controls, including, but not limited to, repair, recovery, reconstruction, insurance, or continuity, to the extent it is related to interference, compromise, or incapacitation of critical infrastructure controls.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), this chapter does not prevent the legislative body of a local agency from holding closed sessions during a regular or special meeting to consider the appointment, employment, evaluation of performance, discipline, or dismissal of a public employee or to hear complaints or charges brought against the employee by another person or employee unless the employee requests a public session.

(2) As a condition to holding a closed session on specific complaints or charges brought against an employee by another person or employee, the employee shall be given written notice of their right to have the complaints or charges heard in an open session rather than a closed session, which notice shall be delivered to the employee personally or by mail at least 24 hours before the time for holding the session. If notice is not given, any disciplinary or other action taken by the legislative body against the employee based on the specific complaints or charges in the closed session shall be null and void.

(3) The legislative body also may exclude from the public or closed meeting, during the examination of a witness, any or all other witnesses in the matter being investigated by the legislative body.

(4) For the purposes of this subdivision, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body or other independent contractors. This subdivision shall not limit local officials' ability to hold closed session meetings pursuant to Sections 1461, 32106, and 32155 of the Health and Safety Code or Sections 37606 and 37624.3 of the Government Code. Closed sessions held pursuant to this subdivision shall not include discussion or action on proposed compensation except for a reduction of compensation that results from the imposition of discipline.

*(Amended by Stats. 2024, Ch. 243, Sec. 1. (AB 2715) Effective January 1, 2025.)*

**54957.1.** (a) The legislative body of any local agency shall publicly report any action taken in closed session and the vote or abstention on that action of every member present, as follows:

(1) Approval of an agreement concluding real estate negotiations pursuant to Section 54956.8 shall be reported after the agreement is final, as follows:

(A) If its own approval renders the agreement final, the body shall report that approval and the substance of the agreement in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held.

(B) If final approval rests with the other party to the negotiations, the local agency shall disclose the fact of that approval and the substance of the agreement upon inquiry by any person, as soon as the other party or its agent has informed the local agency of its approval.

(2) Approval given to its legal counsel to defend, or seek or refrain from seeking appellate review or relief, or to enter as an amicus curiae in any form of litigation as the result of a consultation under Section 54956.9 shall be reported in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. The report shall identify, if known, the adverse party or parties and the substance of the litigation. In the case of approval given to initiate or intervene in an action, the announcement need not identify the action, the defendants, or other particulars, but shall specify that the direction to initiate or intervene in an action has been given and that the action, the defendants, and the other particulars shall, once formally commenced, be disclosed to any person upon inquiry, unless to do so would jeopardize the agency's ability to effectuate service of process on one or more unserved parties, or that to do so would jeopardize its ability to conclude existing settlement negotiations to its advantage.

(3) Approval given to its legal counsel of a settlement of pending litigation, as defined in Section 54956.9, at any stage prior to or during a judicial or quasi-judicial proceeding shall be reported after the settlement is final, as follows:

(A) If the legislative body accepts a settlement offer signed by the opposing party, the body shall report its acceptance and identify the substance of the agreement in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session is held.

(B) If final approval rests with some other party to the litigation or with the court, then as soon as the settlement becomes final, and upon inquiry by any person, the local agency shall disclose the fact of that approval, and identify the substance of the agreement.

(4) Disposition reached as to claims discussed in closed session pursuant to Section 54956.95 shall be reported as soon as reached in a manner that identifies the name of the claimant, the name of the local agency claimed against, the substance of the claim, and any monetary amount approved for payment and agreed upon by the claimant.

(5) Action taken to appoint, employ, dismiss, accept the resignation of, or otherwise affect the employment status of a public employee in closed session pursuant to Section 54957 shall be reported at the public meeting during which the closed session is held. Any report required by this paragraph shall identify the title of the position. The general requirement of this paragraph notwithstanding, the report of a dismissal or of the nonrenewal of an employment contract shall be deferred until the first public meeting following the exhaustion of administrative remedies, if any.

(6) Approval of an agreement concluding labor negotiations with represented employees pursuant to Section 54957.6 shall be reported after the agreement is final and has been accepted or ratified by the other party. The report shall identify the item approved and the other party or parties to the negotiation.

(7) Pension fund investment transaction decisions made pursuant to Section 54956.81 shall be disclosed at the first open meeting of the legislative body held after the earlier of the close of the investment transaction or the transfer of pension fund assets for the investment transaction.

(b) Reports that are required to be made pursuant to this section may be made orally or in writing. The legislative body shall provide to any person who has submitted a written request to the legislative body within 24 hours of the posting of the agenda, or to any person who has made a standing request for all documentation as part of a request for notice of meetings pursuant to Section 54954.1 or 54956, if the requester is present at the time the closed session ends, copies of any contracts, settlement agreements, or other documents that were finally approved or adopted in the closed session. If the action taken results in one or more substantive amendments to the related documents requiring retyping, the documents need not be released until the retyping is completed during normal business hours, provided that the presiding officer of the legislative body or his or her designee orally summarizes the substance of the amendments for the benefit of the document requester or any other person present and requesting the information.

(c) The documentation referred to in subdivision (b) shall be available to any person on the next business day following the meeting in which the action referred to is taken or, in the case of substantial amendments, when any necessary retyping is complete.

(d) Nothing in this section shall be construed to require that the legislative body approve actions not otherwise subject to legislative body approval.

(e) No action for injury to a reputational, liberty, or other personal interest may be commenced by or on behalf of any employee or former employee with respect to whom a disclosure is made by a legislative body in an effort to comply with this section.

(f) This section is necessary to implement, and reasonably within the scope of, paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

*(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 538, Sec. 311. Effective January 1, 2007.)*

**54957.2.** (a) The legislative body of a local agency may, by ordinance or resolution, designate a clerk or other officer or employee of the local agency who shall then attend each closed session of the legislative body and keep and enter in a minute book a record of topics discussed and decisions made at the meeting. The minute book made pursuant to this section is not a public record subject to inspection pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), and shall be kept confidential. The minute book shall be available only to members of the legislative body or, if a violation of this chapter is alleged to have occurred at a



closed session, to a court of general jurisdiction wherein the local agency lies. The minute book may, but need not, consist of a recording of the closed session.

(b) An elected legislative body of a local agency may require that each legislative body all or a majority of whose members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body keep a minute book as prescribed under subdivision (a).

*(Amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 615, Sec. 207. (AB 474) Effective January 1, 2022. Operative January 1, 2023, pursuant to Sec. 463 of Stats. 2021, Ch. 615.)*

**54957.5.** (a) Agendas of public meetings are disclosable public records under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), and shall be made available upon request without delay and in compliance with Section 54954.2 or Section 54956, as applicable. However, this section shall not apply to a writing, or portion thereof, that is exempt from public disclosure.

(b) (1) If a writing is a public record related to an agenda item for an open session of a regular meeting of the legislative body of a local agency and is distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the members of a legislative body of a local agency by a person in connection with a matter subject to discussion or consideration at an open meeting of the body less than 72 hours before that meeting, the writing shall be made available for public inspection pursuant to paragraph (2) at the time the writing is distributed to all, or a majority of all, of the members of the body.

(2) (A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), a local agency shall comply with both of the following requirements:

(i) A local agency shall make any writing described in paragraph (1) available for public inspection at a public office or location that the agency shall designate for this purpose.

(ii) A local agency shall list the address of the office or location designated pursuant to clause (i) on the agendas for all meetings of the legislative body of that agency.

(B) A local agency shall not be required to comply with the requirements of subparagraph (A) if all of the following requirements are met:

(i) An initial staff report or similar document containing an executive summary and the staff recommendation, if any, relating to that agenda item is made available for public inspection at the office or location designated pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (A) at least 72 hours before the meeting.

(ii) The local agency immediately posts any writing described in paragraph (1) on the local agency's internet website in a position and manner that makes it clear that the writing relates to an agenda item for an upcoming meeting.

(iii) The local agency lists the web address of the local agency's internet website on the agendas for all meetings of the legislative body of that agency.

(iv) (I) Subject to subclause (II), the local agency makes physical copies available for public inspection, beginning the next regular business hours for the local agency, at the office or location designated pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (A).

(II) This clause is satisfied only if the next regular business hours of the local agency commence at least 24 hours before that meeting.

(c) Writings that are public records described in subdivision (b) and distributed during a public meeting shall be made available for public inspection at the meeting if prepared by the local agency or a member of its legislative body, or after the meeting if prepared by some other person. These writings shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats upon request by a person with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(d) This chapter shall not be construed to prevent the legislative body of a local agency from charging a fee or deposit for a copy of a public record pursuant to Section 7922.530, except that a surcharge shall not be imposed on persons with disabilities in violation of Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(e) This section shall not be construed to limit or delay the public's right to inspect or obtain a copy of any record required to be disclosed under the requirements of the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), including, but not limited to, the ability of the public to inspect public records pursuant to Section 7922.525 and obtain copies of public records pursuant to either subdivision (b) of Section 7922.530 or Section 7922.535. This chapter shall not be construed to require a legislative body of a local agency to place any paid advertisement or any other paid notice in any publication.

*(Amended (as amended by Stats. 2021, Ch. 615, Sec. 208) by Stats. 2022, Ch. 971, Sec. 1. (AB 2647) Effective January 1, 2023.)*

**54957.6.** (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions with the local agency's designated representatives regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation, subject to all of the following conditions:

(1) Prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its designated representatives.

(2) The closed session shall be for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the local agency's designated representatives.

(3) The closed session may take place prior to and during consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees.

(4) Any closed session with the local agency's designated representative regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits may include discussion of an agency's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as these discussions relate to providing instructions to the local agency's designated representative.

(5) The closed session shall not include final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees.

(6) For the purposes enumerated in this section, a legislative body of a local agency may also meet with a state conciliator who has intervened in the proceedings.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee, but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body, or other independent contractors.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 20. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54957.7.** (a) Prior to holding any closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall disclose, in an open meeting, the item or items to be discussed in the closed session. The disclosure may take the form of a reference to the item or items as they are listed by number or letter on the agenda. In the closed session, the legislative body may consider only those matters covered in its statement. Nothing in this section shall require or authorize a disclosure of information prohibited by state or federal law.

(b) After any closed session, the legislative body shall reconvene into open session prior to adjournment and shall make any disclosures required by Section 54957.1 of action taken in the closed session.

(c) The announcements required to be made in open session pursuant to this section may be made at the location announced in the agenda for the closed session, as long as the public is allowed to be present at that location for the purpose of hearing the announcements.

*(Amended by Stats. 1993, Ch. 1137, Sec. 15. Effective January 1, 1994. Operative April 1, 1994, by Sec. 23 of Ch. 1137.)*

**54957.8.** (a) For purposes of this section, "multijurisdictional law enforcement agency" means a joint powers entity formed pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1 that provides law enforcement services for the parties to the joint powers agreement for the purpose of investigating criminal activity involving drugs; gangs; sex crimes; firearms trafficking or felony possession of a firearm; high technology, computer, or identity theft; human trafficking; or vehicle theft.

(b) Nothing contained in this chapter shall be construed to prevent the legislative body of a multijurisdictional law enforcement agency, or an advisory body of a multijurisdictional law enforcement agency, from holding closed sessions to discuss the case records of any ongoing criminal investigation of the multijurisdictional law enforcement agency or of any party to the joint powers agreement, to hear testimony from persons involved in the investigation, and to discuss courses of action in particular cases.

*(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 427, Sec. 1. Effective September 22, 2006.)*

**54957.9.** In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 21. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54957.95.** (a) (1) In addition to authority exercised pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54957.9, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting, including any teleconferenced meeting.

(2) Prior to removing an individual, the presiding member or their designee shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding member or their designee may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. This paragraph does not apply to any behavior described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Disrupting" means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to, one of the following:

(A) A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or any other law.

(B) Engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

(2) "True threat of force" means a threat that has sufficient indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use force by the person making the threat.

*(Amended by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 22. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54957.96.** (a) The existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, including existing limitations upon that authority, shall apply to members of the public participating in a meeting via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service. A two-way audiovisual platform may be structured to disable the use of video for the public participants.

(2) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

*(Added by Stats. 2025, Ch. 327, Sec. 23. (SB 707) Effective January 1, 2026.)*

**54957.10.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions to discuss a local agency employee's application for early withdrawal of funds in a deferred compensation plan when

the application is based on financial hardship arising from an unforeseeable emergency due to illness, accident, casualty, or other extraordinary event, as specified in the deferred compensation plan.

*(Added by Stats. 2001, Ch. 45, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2002.)*

**54958.** The provisions of this chapter shall apply to the legislative body of every local agency notwithstanding the conflicting provisions of any other state law.

*(Added by Stats. 1953, Ch. 1588.)*

**54959.** Each member of a legislative body who attends a meeting of that legislative body where action is taken in violation of any provision of this chapter, and where the member intends to deprive the public of information to which the member knows or has reason to know the public is entitled under this chapter, is guilty of a misdemeanor.

*(Amended by Stats. 1994, Ch. 32, Sec. 18. Effective March 30, 1994. Operative April 1, 1994, by Sec. 23 of Ch. 32.)*

**54960.** (a) The district attorney or any interested person may commence an action by mandamus, injunction, or declaratory relief for the purpose of stopping or preventing violations or threatened violations of this chapter by members of the legislative body of a local agency or to determine the applicability of this chapter to ongoing actions or threatened future actions of the legislative body, or to determine the applicability of this chapter to past actions of the legislative body, subject to Section 54960.2, or to determine whether any rule or action by the legislative body to penalize or otherwise discourage the expression of one or more of its members is valid or invalid under the laws of this state or of the United States, or to compel the legislative body to audio record its closed sessions as hereinafter provided.

(b) The court in its discretion may, upon a judgment of a violation of Section 54956.7, 54956.8, 54956.9, 54956.95, 54957, or 54957.6, order the legislative body to audio record its closed sessions and preserve the audio recordings for the period and under the terms of security and confidentiality the court deems appropriate.

(c) (1) Each recording so kept shall be immediately labeled with the date of the closed session recorded and the title of the clerk or other officer who shall be custodian of the recording.

(2) The audio recordings shall be subject to the following discovery procedures:

(A) In any case in which discovery or disclosure of the audio recording is sought by either the district attorney or the plaintiff in a civil action pursuant to Section 54959, 54960, or 54960.1 alleging that a violation of this chapter has occurred in a closed session that has been recorded pursuant to this section, the party seeking discovery or disclosure shall file a written notice of motion with the appropriate court with notice to the governmental agency that has custody and control of the audio recording. The notice shall be given pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 1005 of the Code of Civil Procedure.

(B) The notice shall include, in addition to the items required by Section 1010 of the Code of Civil Procedure, all of the following:

(i) Identification of the proceeding in which discovery or disclosure is sought, the party seeking discovery or disclosure, the date and time of the meeting recorded, and the governmental agency that has custody and control of the recording.

(ii) An affidavit that contains specific facts indicating that a violation of the act occurred in the closed session.

(3) If the court, following a review of the motion, finds that there is good cause to believe that a violation has occurred, the court may review, in camera, the recording of that portion of the closed session alleged to have violated the act.

(4) If, following the in camera review, the court concludes that disclosure of a portion of the recording would be likely to materially assist in the resolution of the litigation alleging violation of this chapter, the court shall, in its discretion, make a certified transcript of the portion of the recording a public exhibit in the proceeding.

(5) This section shall not permit discovery of communications that are protected by the attorney-client privilege.

*(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 732, Sec. 1. (SB 1003) Effective January 1, 2013.)*



54960.1. (a) The district attorney or any interested person may commence an action by mandamus or injunction for the purpose of obtaining a judicial determination that an action taken by a legislative body of a local agency in violation of Section 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, or 54956.5 is null and void under this section. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to prevent a legislative body from curing or correcting an action challenged pursuant to this section.

(b) Prior to any action being commenced pursuant to subdivision (a), the district attorney or interested person shall make a demand of the legislative body to cure or correct the action alleged to have been taken in violation of Section 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, or 54956.5. The demand shall be in writing and clearly describe the challenged action of the legislative body and nature of the alleged violation.

(c) (1) The written demand shall be made within 90 days from the date the action was taken unless the action was taken in an open session but in violation of Section 54954.2, in which case the written demand shall be made within 30 days from the date the action was taken.

(2) Within 30 days of receipt of the demand, the legislative body shall cure or correct the challenged action and inform the demanding party in writing of its actions to cure or correct or inform the demanding party in writing of its decision not to cure or correct the challenged action.

(3) If the legislative body takes no action within the 30-day period, the inaction shall be deemed a decision not to cure or correct the challenged action, and the 15-day period to commence the action described in subdivision (a) shall commence to run the day after the 30-day period to cure or correct expires.

(4) Within 15 days of receipt of the written notice of the legislative body's decision to cure or correct, or not to cure or correct, or within 15 days of the expiration of the 30-day period to cure or correct, whichever is earlier, the demanding party shall be required to commence the action pursuant to subdivision (a) or thereafter be barred from commencing the action.

(d) An action taken that is alleged to have been taken in violation of Section 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, or 54956.5 shall not be determined to be null and void if any of the following conditions exist:

(1) The action taken was in substantial compliance with Sections 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, and 54956.5.

(2) The action taken was in connection with the sale or issuance of notes, bonds, or other evidences of indebtedness or any contract, instrument, or agreement thereto.

(3) The action taken gave rise to a contractual obligation, including a contract let by competitive bid other than compensation for services in the form of salary or fees for professional services, upon which a party has, in good faith and without notice of a challenge to the validity of the action, detrimentally relied.

(4) The action taken was in connection with the collection of any tax.

(5) Any person, city, city and county, county, district, or any agency or subdivision of the state alleging noncompliance with subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2, Section 54956, or Section 54956.5, because of any defect, error, irregularity, or omission in the notice given pursuant to those provisions, had actual notice of the item of business at least 72 hours prior to the meeting at which the action was taken, if the meeting was noticed pursuant to Section 54954.2, or 24 hours prior to the meeting at which the action was taken if the meeting was noticed pursuant to Section 54956, or prior to the meeting at which the action was taken if the meeting is held pursuant to Section 54956.5.

(e) During any action seeking a judicial determination pursuant to subdivision (a) if the court determines, pursuant to a showing by the legislative body that an action alleged to have been taken in violation of Section 54953, 54954.2, 54954.5, 54954.6, 54956, or 54956.5 has been cured or corrected by a subsequent action of the legislative body, the action filed pursuant to subdivision (a) shall be dismissed with prejudice.

(f) The fact that a legislative body takes a subsequent action to cure or correct an action taken pursuant to this section shall not be construed or admissible as evidence of a violation of this chapter.

*(Amended by Stats. 2002, Ch. 454, Sec. 23. Effective January 1, 2003.)*

54960.2. (a) The district attorney or any interested person may file an action to determine the applicability of this chapter to past actions of the legislative body pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 only if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The district attorney or interested person alleging a violation of this chapter first submits a cease and desist letter by postal mail or facsimile transmission to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body being accused of the violation, as designated in the statement pertaining to that public agency on file pursuant to Section 53051, or if the agency does not have a statement on file designating a clerk or a secretary, to the chief executive officer of that agency, clearly describing the past action of the legislative body and nature of the alleged violation.

(2) The cease and desist letter required under paragraph (1) is submitted to the legislative body within nine months of the alleged violation.

(3) The time during which the legislative body may respond to the cease and desist letter pursuant to subdivision (b) has expired and the legislative body has not provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c).

(4) Within 60 days of receipt of the legislative body's response to the cease and desist letter, other than an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c), or within 60 days of the expiration of the time during which the legislative body may respond to the cease and desist letter pursuant to subdivision (b), whichever is earlier, the party submitting the cease and desist letter shall commence the action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 or thereafter be barred from commencing the action.

(b) The legislative body may respond to a cease and desist letter submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) within 30 days of receiving the letter. This subdivision shall not be construed to prevent the legislative body from providing an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c) at any time after the 30-day period has expired, except that in that event the court shall award court costs and reasonable attorney fees to the plaintiff in an action brought pursuant to this section, in accordance with Section 54960.5.

(c) (1) If the legislative body elects to respond to the cease and desist letter with an unconditional commitment to cease, desist from, and not repeat the past action that is alleged to violate this chapter, that response shall be in substantially the following form:

To \_\_\_\_\_:

The [name of legislative body] has received your cease and desist letter dated [date] alleging that the following described past action of the legislative body violates the Ralph M. Brown Act:

[Describe alleged past action, as set forth in the cease and desist letter submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)]

In order to avoid unnecessary litigation and without admitting any violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, the [name of legislative body] hereby unconditionally commits that it will cease, desist from, and not repeat the challenged past action as described above.

The [name of legislative body] may rescind this commitment only by a majority vote of its membership taken in open session at a regular meeting and noticed on its posted agenda as "Rescission of Brown Act Commitment." You will be provided with written notice, sent by any means or media you provide in response to this message, to whatever address or addresses you specify, of any intention to consider rescinding this commitment at least 30 days before any such regular meeting. In the event that this commitment is rescinded, you will have the right to commence legal action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 of the Government Code. That notice will be delivered to you by the same means as this commitment, or may be mailed to an address that you have designated in writing.

Very truly yours,

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[Chairperson or acting chairperson of the legislative body]

(2) An unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision shall be approved by the legislative body in open session at a regular or special meeting as a separate item of business, and not on its consent agenda.

(3) An action shall not be commenced to determine the applicability of this chapter to any past action of the legislative body for which the legislative body has provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision. During any action seeking a judicial determination regarding the applicability of this chapter to any past action of the legislative body pursuant to subdivision (a), if the court determines that the legislative body has provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision, the action shall be dismissed with prejudice. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to modify or limit the existing ability of the district attorney or any interested person to commence an action to determine the applicability of this chapter to ongoing actions or threatened future actions of the legislative body.

(4) Except as provided in subdivision (d), the fact that a legislative body provides an unconditional commitment shall not be construed or admissible as evidence of a violation of this chapter.

(d) If the legislative body provides an unconditional commitment as set forth in subdivision (c), the legislative body shall not thereafter take or engage in the challenged action described in the cease and desist letter, except as provided in subdivision (e). Violation of this subdivision shall constitute an independent violation of this chapter, without regard to whether the challenged action would otherwise violate this chapter. An action alleging past violation or threatened future violation of this subdivision may be brought pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960, without regard to the procedural requirements of this section.

(e) The legislative body may resolve to rescind an unconditional commitment made pursuant to subdivision (c) by a majority vote of its membership taken in open session at a regular meeting as a separate item of business not on its consent agenda, and noticed on its posted agenda as "Rescission of Brown Act Commitment," provided that not less than 30 days prior to such regular meeting, the legislative body provides written notice of its intent to consider the rescission to each person to whom the unconditional commitment was made, and to the district attorney. Upon rescission, the district attorney or any interested person may commence an action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960. An action under this subdivision may be brought pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960, without regard to the procedural requirements of this section.

*(Added by Stats. 2012, Ch. 732, Sec. 2. (SB 1003) Effective January 1, 2013.)*

**54960.5.** A court may award court costs and reasonable attorney fees to the plaintiff in an action brought pursuant to Section 54960, 54960.1, or 54960.2 where it is found that a legislative body of the local agency has violated this chapter. Additionally, when an action brought pursuant to Section 54960.2 is dismissed with prejudice because a legislative body has provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (c) of that section at any time after the 30-day period for making such a commitment has expired, the court shall award court costs and reasonable attorney fees to the plaintiff if the filing of that action caused the legislative body to issue the unconditional commitment. The costs and fees shall be paid by the local agency and shall not become a personal liability of any public officer or employee of the local agency.

A court may award court costs and reasonable attorney fees to a defendant in any action brought pursuant to Section 54960 or 54960.1 where the defendant has prevailed in a final determination of such action and the court finds that the action was clearly frivolous and totally lacking in merit.

*(Amended by Stats. 2012, Ch. 732, Sec. 3. (SB 1003) Effective January 1, 2013.)*

**54961.** (a) No legislative body of a local agency shall conduct any meeting in any facility that prohibits the admittance of any person, or persons, on the basis of ancestry or any characteristic listed or defined in Section 11135, or which is inaccessible to disabled persons, or where members of the public may not be present without making a payment or purchase. This section shall apply to every local agency as defined in Section 54951.

(b) No notice, agenda, announcement, or report required under this chapter need identify any victim or alleged victim of tortious sexual conduct or child abuse unless the identity of the person has been publicly disclosed.

*(Amended by Stats. 2007, Ch. 568, Sec. 35. Effective January 1, 2008.)*

**54962.** Except as expressly authorized by this chapter, or by Sections 1461, 1462, 32106, and 32155 of the Health and Safety Code, or by Sections 37606, 37606.1, and 37624.3 of the Government Code as they apply to hospitals, or by any provision of the Education Code pertaining to school districts and community college districts, no closed session may be held by any legislative body of any local agency.

*(Amended by Stats. 2006, Ch. 157, Sec. 2. Effective January 1, 2007.)*

54963. (a) A person may not disclose confidential information that has been acquired by being present in a closed session authorized by Section 54956.7, 54956.8, 54956.86, 54956.87, 54956.9, 54957, 54957.6, 54957.8, or 54957.10 to a person not entitled to receive it, unless the legislative body authorizes disclosure of that confidential information.

(b) For purposes of this section, "confidential information" means a communication made in a closed session that is specifically related to the basis for the legislative body of a local agency to meet lawfully in closed session under this chapter.

(c) Violation of this section may be addressed by the use of such remedies as are currently available by law, including, but not limited to:

(1) Injunctive relief to prevent the disclosure of confidential information prohibited by this section.

(2) Disciplinary action against an employee who has willfully disclosed confidential information in violation of this section.

(3) Referral of a member of a legislative body who has willfully disclosed confidential information in violation of this section to the grandjury.

(d) Disciplinary action pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) shall require that the employee in question has either received training as to the requirements of this section or otherwise has been given notice of the requirements of this section.

(e) A local agency may not take any action authorized by subdivision (c) against a person, nor shall it be deemed a violation of this section, for doing any of the following:

(1) Making a confidential inquiry or complaint to a district attorney or grand jury concerning a perceived violation of law, including disclosing facts to a district attorney or grand jury that are necessary to establish the illegality of an action taken by a legislative body of a local agency or the potential illegality of an action that has been the subject of deliberation at a closed session if that action were to be taken by a legislative body of a local agency.

(2) Expressing an opinion concerning the propriety or legality of actions taken by a legislative body of a local agency in closed session, including disclosure of the nature and extent of the illegal or potentially illegal action.

(3) Disclosing information acquired by being present in a closed session under this chapter that is not confidential information.


(f) Nothing in this section shall be construed to prohibit disclosures under the whistleblower statutes contained in Section 1102.5 of the Labor Code or Article 4.5 (commencing with Section 53296) of Chapter 2 of this code.

*(Added by Stats. 2002, Ch. 1119, Sec. 1. Effective January 1, 2003.)*

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

December 15, 2025

**TO:** Each Trustee  
Board of Retirement

**FROM:** Ricki Contreras   
Administrative Services Division Manager

Elsy Gutierrez   
Supervising Administrative Assistant II

**FOR:** January 7, 2026, Board of Retirement Meeting

**SUBJECT: Contracting Activity Report – November 2025**

The Board of Retirement (BOR) adopted the [Policy for the Procurement of Goods and Services \(PGS\)](#) on September 4, 2024. The PGS requires the Vendor Management Group to provide the BOR a monthly report on all contracting activity. Below is a summary of the contracting activity for the month of November 2025.

Category	Total	Approximate Dollar Amount
New Contracts	5	\$283,400.00
Renewals	6	\$158,526.00
Extensions	1	\$414,698.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>\$856,624.00</b>

Attachment

EG: eg

C: Santos H. Kreimann, Chief Executive Officer  
Luis Lugo, Acting Chief Executive Officer  
JJ Popowich, Assistant Executive Officer  
Jonathan Grabel, Chief Investment Officer  
Steven P. Rice, Chief Counsel  
Richard Bendall, Chief Internal Audit  
Carly Ntoya, Director of Human Resources

### Summary of Contracting Activity: November 2025

Vendor	Division	Type	Term (Months)	New/Renewals	Total Contract Value
WBCP Inc.	Human Resources	Recruitment Services Agreement	12	N	\$46,600.00
WBCP Inc.	Human Resources	Recruitment Services Agreement	12	N	\$31,800.00
Macias Gini & O'Connell LLP** <b>Approved by ACRE Committee on June 26, 2025</b>	Internal Audit	Consulting Services Agreement	36	N	\$100,000.00
BDO USA, P.C.** <b>Approved by ACRE Committee on June 26, 2025</b>	Internal Audit	Consulting Services Agreement	36	N	\$100,000.00
Expand Consulting INC**	Investments	Consulting Services Agreement	36	N	\$5,000.00
KNOWBE4 INC.	Information Security	Software License Agreement	12	R	\$10,658.00
Freedom Solutions Group, LLC; DBA LITERA	Legal	Software License Agreement	12	R	\$5,049.00
ACF Technologies*	Systems	Software License Agreement	12	R	\$9,099.00
Mainline Information Systems, INC	Systems	Software License and Support Agreement	12	R	\$95,304.00
SHI International- Cayosoft	Systems	Software License Agreement	12	R	\$22,178.00
The Drala Project INC.	Systems	Software Support Services Agreement	12	R	\$16,238.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$441,926.00</b>

Vendor	Division	Type	Term (Months)	Amendment/Extension	Total Contract Value
Nossaman LLP**	Legal Office	Legal Services Agreement	24	E	\$414,698.00
<b>Total</b>					<b>\$414,698.00</b>

#### Legend

\*Sole Source Procurements

\*\* Contract executed by Business Owner

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

December 22, 2025

TO: Each Trustee  
Board of Retirement  
Board of Investments

FROM: Ted Granger   
Chief Financial Officer

FOR: January 7, 2026 Board of Retirement Meeting  
January 14, 2026 Board of Investments Meeting

**SUBJECT: MONTHLY TRUSTEE TRAVEL & EDUCATION REPORT – NOVEMBER 2025**

Attached for your review is the monthly Trustee Travel & Education Report. This report includes all events (i.e., attended and canceled) from the beginning of the fiscal year through November 2025.

Trustees attend monthly Board and Committee meetings at LACERA's office which are considered administrative meetings per the Trustee Travel Policy. In order to streamline report volume and information, these regular meetings are excluded from the monthly travel reports but are included in the quarterly travel expenditure reports.

Staff travel and education expenditure reports are provided to the Chief Executive Officer monthly and to the Boards quarterly.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:



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Luis A. Lugo  
Acting Chief Executive Officer

TG/JT/EW/AC/SE/gj

**Attachments**

c: J. Popowich  
L. Guglielmo  
J. Gabel  
S. Rice  
R. Contreras



**TRUSTEE TRAVEL AND EDUCATION REPORT**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 - 2026**  
**NOVEMBER 2025**

Attendee	Purpose of Travel - Location	Event Dates	Travel Status
<b>Nancy Durazo</b>			
A	1 Edu - Harvard Business School Executive Education Program: Audit Committees in a New Era of Governance - Boston MA	07/23/2025 - 07/25/2025	Attended
V	- Edu - National University: Ethics (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	08/04/2025 - 10/14/2025	Attended
	- Edu - National University: Public Admin, Urban Planning, Redevelopment (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	09/02/2025 - 10/02/2025	Attended
<b>Bobbie Fesler</b>			
B	- Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended
<b>Mike Gatto</b>			
B	- Edu - iGlobal Forum 28th Real Estate Private Equity Summit: West - Los Angeles CA	09/25/2025 - 09/25/2025	Attended
	- Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended
<b>Elizabeth Ginsberg</b>			
A	1 Edu - Harvard Business School Executive Education Program: Audit Committees in a New Era of Governance - Boston MA	07/23/2025 - 07/25/2025	Attended
B	- Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended
<b>Jason Green</b>			
A	1 Edu - 2025 SuperReturn Europe - Amsterdam Netherlands	11/04/2025 - 11/07/2025	Attended
B	- Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended
<b>Patrick Jones</b>			
A	1 Edu - Goldman Sachs the Garland Summit: Enduring Legacy - New York City NY	10/29/2025 - 10/30/2025	Attended
	2 Edu - Infrastructure Investor Global Summit - America Forum - New York City NY	11/04/2025 - 11/05/2025	Attended
	3 Edu - 2025 Public Funds - Austin TX	11/18/2025 - 11/20/2025	Attended
B	- Edu - 2025 The Investment Diversity Exchange (TIDE) Spark - Dana Point CA	07/09/2025 - 07/10/2025	Attended
	- Edu - Locust Point Capital INC Business Dinner - Los Angeles CA	08/07/2025 - 08/07/2025	Attended
V	- Edu - Harvard Kennedy School - AI in Action (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	10/10/2025 - 11/10/2025	Canceled
<b>Shawn Kehoe</b>			
B	- Admin - Retirement Benefits Meeting with Professional Peace Officers Association - San Dimas CA	11/01/2025 - 11/01/2025	Attended
V	- Edu - 2025 CALAPRS Trustee Round Table - VIRTUAL	10/03/2025 - 10/03/2025	Attended



**TRUSTEE TRAVEL AND EDUCATION REPORT**  
**FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025 - 2026**  
**NOVEMBER 2025**

Attendee Purpose of Travel - Location			Event Dates	Travel Status
<b>Aleen Langton</b>				
A	1	Edu - IFEBP: Public Plan Trustees Institute – Level I - Chicago IL	07/15/2025 - 07/16/2025	Attended
B	-	Edu - 2025 UC Irvine Audit Committee Summit - Irvine CA	09/19/2025 - 09/19/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - iGlobal Forum 28th Real Estate Private Equity Summit: West - Los Angeles CA	09/25/2025 - 09/25/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - NAIC Amplify Alts Forum 2025 - Los Angeles CA	10/01/2025 - 10/01/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - CFA Society Los Angeles (Conversations that Connect) - Los Angeles CA	11/06/2025 - 11/06/2025	Attended
V	-	Edu - Wharton Asset Allocation Program (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	08/01/2025 - 10/01/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - 2025 CALAPRS Trustee Round Table - VIRTUAL	10/03/2025 - 10/03/2025	Attended
X	-	Edu - 2025 CII NYU Corporate Governance Bootcamp - New York City NY	11/20/2025 - 11/21/2025	Canceled
<b>Debbie Martin</b>				
A	1	Edu - Invest in Yourself SACRS Public Pension Investment Management Program - Berkeley CA	07/13/2025 - 07/16/2025	Attended
B	-	Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended
<b>Alma Martinez</b>				
V	-	Edu - Wharton Asset and Portfolio Management Certificate Program (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	07/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - Wharton Executive Education - Investment Products (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	07/01/2025 - 09/30/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - Harvard Business School - Alternative Investments (Weekly Course) - VIRTUAL	08/13/2025 - 09/17/2025	Attended
<b>Nicole Mi</b>				
A	1	Edu - Invest in Yourself SACRS Public Pension Investment Management Program - Berkeley CA	07/13/2025 - 07/16/2025	Attended
	2	Edu - 2nd Annual AAPI LEAD Summit - Atlanta GA	07/23/2025 - 07/25/2025	Attended
B	-	Edu - 2025 The Investment Diversity Exchange (TIDE) Spark - Dana Point CA	07/09/2025 - 07/10/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - 2025 UC Irvine Audit Committee Summit - Irvine CA	09/19/2025 - 09/19/2025	Attended
	-	Edu - 2025 NACD PSW Corporate Directors Symposium - Los Angeles CA	11/13/2025 - 11/13/2025	Attended
X	-	Edu - AAAIM Elevate 2025 - New York City NY	09/29/2025 - 10/01/2025	Canceled
<b>Lisa Proft</b>				
B	-	Edu - 2025 SACRS Fall Conference - Huntington Beach CA	11/11/2025 - 11/14/2025	Attended

Category Legend:

A - Pre-Approved/Board Approved Educational Conferences

B - 1) Board Approved Administrative Meetings and 2) Pre-Approved Educational Conferences in CA where total cost is no more than \$3,000 provided that a Trustee may not incur over \$15,000 for all expenses of attending all such Educational Conferences and Administrative Meetings in a fiscal year per Trustee Travel Policy; Section III.A

V - Virtual Event

X - Canceled events for which expenses have been incurred.

**Documents not attached are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act and other legal authority.**

**For further information, contact:  
LACERA  
Attention: Public Records Act Requests  
300 N. Lake Ave., Suite 620  
Pasadena, CA 91101**

**FOR INFORMATION ONLY**

December 29, 2025

TO: Each Trustee,  
Board of Retirement  
Board of Investments

FROM: Steven P. Rice, *SPR*  
Chief Counsel

FOR: January 7, 2026 Board of Retirement Meeting  
January 14, 2026 Board of Investments Meeting

**SUBJECT: Fiduciary Counsel 2025 Annual Self-Assessments**

At a joint meeting on October 28, 2020, the Boards approved the engagement of three law firms – Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen & Levinson, Nossaman LLP, and Olson Remcho LLP – to serve as a panel of fiduciary counsel. The firms are required to deliver a self-assessment by November 1 each year.

Attached are the self-assessments for Klausner Kaufman and Nossaman for 2025; a report is not provided for Olson Remcho because only a small amount of work was provided this year on two specific Fair Political Practices Commission issues. The assessments are privileged and confidential and protected from public disclosure. Staff welcomes input on fiduciary counsel's services, provided that discussion of this item, which will take place in open session, should not include privileged information about specific assignments.

Staff's input is that all three firms are responsive and provide quality service within their areas of focus. From staff's perspective, the three-firm panel approach continues to work well to ensure that counsel is available in relevant areas of law, obtain different points of view, and capture expertise needed to serve LACERA's fiduciary counsel needs. Staff in the Executive Office and other divisions, as well as individual trustees from time to time, proactively seek out the advice of fiduciary counsel on various projects, along with LACERA's internal Legal Division, to ensure a broad range of legal perspectives and identification of California and national public pension trends relevant to LACERA. Fiduciary counsel also assisted with many Board-level projects, fulfilling a primary goal of serving as independent counsel for the Boards and trustees.

Based on trustee comments, staff are alert to ensuring that the Boards are advised on California issues by attorneys admitted to practice in this state, while also fully utilizing the panel firms and their broad resources to identify important developments at the federal

level and in other states.

In September 2025, as part of the normal five-year contract review cycle for fiduciary counsel, the Boards, based on a recommendation from the Joint Organizational Governance Committee, approved a new Request for Proposals (RFP), which is now in progress. The RFP will allow the Boards and staff to test the market of firms that provide fiduciary services and explore expertise and qualifications, composition of the panel, service models, pricing, and other contract terms.

### **Legal Authority**

The Boards have plenary authority and fiduciary responsibility for the administration and investment of the fund. Cal. Const., art. XVI, § 17; Cal. Gov't Code §§ 31520, 31595. Government Code Section 31529.6, which is a LACERA-specific provision, states that “the board of retirement and the board of investment may contract with attorneys in private practice for legal services and advice. The boards shall pay reasonable compensation for the legal services and advice.” In exercising this authority, it is prudent for the Boards to periodically monitor and assess fiduciary counsel.

Privileged Attachments Not for Public Distribution (Cal. Gov't Code §§ 7927.705, 54957.5(a))

A – Self-assessment provided by Klausner, Kaufman, Jensen & Levinson

B – Self-assessment provided by Nossaman LLP

c:	Luis Lugo	Laura Guglielmo	Richard Bendall	Bonnie Nolley
	Jonathan Grabel	JJ Popowich	Ted Granger	Francis J. Boyd

**Documents not attached are exempt from disclosure under the California Public Records Act and other legal authority.**

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January 2, 2026

**TO:** Each Trustee,  
Board of Retirement

**SUBJECT:** Board of Retirement Meeting on January 7, 2026– Agenda Item XVII. A. 3.

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The materials pertaining to this agenda item will be provided to the Board early next week.