

REPORT

To the City Council
From Mayor Barbara Pierce

August 27, 2007

SUBJECT

Consideration of resolutions proposed for adoption at the Annual League of California Cities Conference on September 5-8, 2007.

RECOMMENDATION

Request City Council support of the four resolutions introduced for consideration at the Annual League of California Cities Conference.

BACKGROUND

Mayor Pierce and Council Member Aguirre were selected on August 13, 2007 by City Council to serve as delegate and alternate delegate respectively at the Annual Conference to occur on September 5-8, 2007. Delegates will be voting on resolutions that were introduced for consideration and Council is being asked to support all four resolutions. The draft resolutions are attached to this report and relate to:

1. Renewal of League Grassroots Network Program
2. Healthy Aging
3. Applying 300-Foot Distance Separation for All New Residential Care Facilities
4. Implementation of AB 38; establishing a New "Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security"

ALTERNATIVES

Council may vote not to support any or all of the proposed resolutions.

FISCAL IMPACT

No direct impact to the City as presented.



Barbara Pierce
Mayor

ATTACHMENTS

1. League of California Annual Conference Resolutions Packet



1400 K Street, Suite 400 • Sacramento, California 95814
Phone: 916.658.8200 Fax: 916.658.8240
www.cacities.org

July 23, 2007

TO: Mayors, City Managers and City Clerks
League Board of Directors
General Resolutions Committee Members
Members, League Policy Committees to Which Resolutions Are Referred

RE: Annual Conference Resolutions Packet
Notice of League Annual Meeting

Enclosed please find the 2007 Annual Conference Resolutions packet.

Annual Conference in Sacramento. This year's League Annual Conference will be held September 5-8 at the Sacramento Convention Center. The conference announcement has previously been sent to all cities and we hope that you and your colleagues will be able to join us. More information about the conference is available on the League's website at www.cacities.org/ac. We look forward to welcoming city officials to the conference.

Annual Business Meeting - Saturday, September 8, 8:30 a.m. The League's Annual Business Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, located across from the Sacramento Convention Center.

Resolutions Packet. At the Annual Conference, the League will consider the four resolutions introduced by the deadline, Friday, July 6, 5 p.m., for submittals by regular mail, or Saturday, July 7, midnight, for submittals by email or fax. These resolutions are included in this packet. We request that you distribute this packet to your city council.

We encourage each city council to consider the resolutions and to determine a city position so that your voting delegate can represent your city's position on each. A copy of the resolutions packet is posted on the League's website for your convenience: www.cacities.org/resolutions.

This resolutions packet contains additional information related to consideration of the resolutions at the Annual Conference. This includes the date, time and location of the meetings at which resolutions will be considered.

Voting Delegates. Each city council is encouraged to designate a voting delegate and two alternates to represent their city at the Annual Business Meeting. A letter asking city councils to designate their voting delegate and two alternates has already been sent to each city. Copies of the letter, voting delegate form, and additional information are also available at: www.cacities.org/resolutions.

Please Bring This Packet to the Annual Conference
September 5-8 — Sacramento

I.
INFORMATION AND PROCEDURES

RESOLUTIONS CONTAINED IN THIS PACKET: This year, four resolutions have been introduced for consideration by the Annual Conference and referred to the League policy committees. The League bylaws provide that resolutions shall be referred by the president to an appropriate policy committee for review and recommendation. Resolutions with committee recommendations shall then be referred to the General Resolutions Committee at the Annual Conference.

POLICY COMMITTEES: Four policy committees will meet at the Annual Conference to consider and take action on resolutions referred to them. They are: Administrative Services; Community Services; Housing, Community and Economic Development; and Public Safety. The committees will meet on Wednesday, September 5, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Regency Ballroom, located across from the Sacramento Convention Center. Please see page iii for the meeting schedule. The sponsors of the resolutions were notified of the time and location of the meeting.

In addition, Employee Relations, Environmental Quality, and Revenue and Taxation will meet at the Annual Conference, even though no resolutions were referred to them. (Transportation, Communication & Public Works will not meet at the Annual Conference.)

GENERAL RESOLUTIONS COMMITTEE will meet at 1:30 p.m., on Friday, September 7, at the Sacramento Convention Center (Rooms 317-318), to consider the reports of the four policy committees regarding the four resolutions. This committee includes one representative from each of the League's regional divisions, functional departments, standing policy committees, as well as other individuals.

ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Saturday, September 8, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Regency Ballroom, located across from the convention center.

PETITIONED RESOLUTIONS: For those issues that develop after the normal 60-day deadline, a resolution may be introduced with a petition signed by designated voting delegates of 10 percent of all member cities (48 valid signatures required) and presented to the Voting Delegates Desk no later than 24 hours prior to the time set for convening the Annual Business Session of the General Assembly. This year, the deadline is 8:30 a.m., Friday, September 7. If the petitioned resolution is substantially similar in substance to a resolution already under consideration, the petitioned resolution may be disqualified by the General Resolutions Committee.

Resolutions can be viewed on the League's website: www.cacities.org/resolutions.

Any questions concerning the resolutions procedure may be directed to Linda Welch Hicks at the League office: lhicks@cacities.org or (916) 658-8224.

II. GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

Policy development is a vital and ongoing process within the League. The principal means for deciding policy on the important issues facing cities and the League is through the League's eight standing policy committees and the board of directors. The process allows for timely consideration of issues in a changing environment and assures city officials the opportunity to both initiate and influence policy decisions.

Annual conference resolutions constitute an additional way to develop League policy. Resolutions should adhere to the following criteria.

Guidelines for Annual Conference Resolutions

1. Only issues that have a direct bearing on municipal affairs should be considered or adopted at the Annual Conference.
2. The issue is not of a purely local or regional concern.
3. The recommended policy should not simply restate existing League policy.
4. The resolution should be directed at achieving one of the following objectives:
 - (a) Focus public or media attention on an issue of major importance to cities.
 - (b) Establish a new direction for League policy by establishing general principals around which more detailed policies may be developed by policy committees and the Board of Directors.
 - (c) Consider important issues not adequately addressed by the policy committees and Board of Directors.
 - (d) Amend the League bylaws.

III.
LOCATION OF MEETINGS



Policy Committee Meetings
Wednesday, September 5, 2007
Hyatt Regency Hotel (Regency Ballroom)
(Located across from the Convention Center)
1209 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**POLICY COMMITTEES MEETING TO CONSIDER RESOLUTIONS
REFERRED TO THEM**

<u>10:00 a.m. - Noon</u>	<u>12:30 - 2:30 p.m.</u>
Community Services	Administrative Services
Public Safety	Housing, Community & Econ. Dev.

OTHER POLICY COMMITTEES MEETING AT THE ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Employee Relations, Environmental Quality, Revenue and Taxation
Notification will be mailed to all policy committee members.

Note: Transportation, Communication & Public Works will NOT meet at the Annual Conference.



General Resolutions Committee
Friday, September 7, 2007, 1:30 p.m.
Sacramento Convention Center (Rooms 317-318)
1400 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



Annual Business Meeting and General Assembly
Saturday, September 8, 2007, 8:30 a.m.
Hyatt Regency Hotel (Regency Ballroom)
(Located across from the Convention Center)
1209 L Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

**IV.
KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN ON RESOLUTIONS**

Resolutions have been grouped by policy committees to which they have been assigned.

Number	Key Word Index	Reviewing Body Action		
		1	2	3

1 - Policy Committee Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee
 2 - General Resolutions Committee
 3 - General Assembly

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
1	Renewal of League Grassroots Network Program			

COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
2	Healthy Aging			

HOUSING, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
3	Applying 300-Foot Distance Separation for All New Residential Care Facilities			

PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE

		1	2	3
4	Implementation of AB 38; Establishing a New "Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security"			

NOTE: NO RESOLUTIONS WERE ASSIGNED TO THESE POLICY COMMITTEES:

Employee Relations Environmental Quality
 Revenue and Taxation Transportation, Communication & Public Works

Please note: Some Policy Committees without resolutions will still meet. Notification will be mailed to committee members. Information will also be posted on each committee's page on the League website: www.cacities.org.

RESOLUTIONS INITIATED BY PETITION

		General Resolutions Committee Recommendation	General Assembly Action

KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN ON RESOLUTIONS (Continued)KEY TO REVIEWING BODIES

1. Policy Committee
2. General Resolutions Committee
3. General Assembly

KEY TO ACTIONS TAKEN

- A - Approve
- D - Disapprove
- N - No Action
- R - Refer to appropriate policy committee for study
- a - Amend
- Aa - Approve as amended
- Aaa - Approve with additional amendment(s)
- Ra - Amend and refer as amended to appropriate policy committee for study
- Raa - Additional amendments and refer
- Da - Amend (for clarity or brevity) and Disapprove
- Na - Amend (for clarity or brevity) and take No Action
- W - Withdrawn by Sponsor

Action Footnotes

- * Subject matter covered in another resolution
- ** Existing League policy
- *** Local authority presently exists

Procedural Note: Resolutions that are approved by the General Resolutions Committee, as well as all qualified petitioned resolutions, are reported to the floor of the General Assembly. In addition, League policy provides the following procedure for resolutions approved by League policy committees but *not* approved by the General Resolutions Committee:

Resolutions initially recommended for approval and adoption by all the League policy committees to which the resolution is assigned, but subsequently recommended for disapproval, referral or no action by the General Resolutions Committee, shall then be placed on a consent agenda for consideration by the General Assembly. The consent agenda shall include a brief description of the bases for the recommendations by both the policy committee(s) and General Resolutions Committee, as well as the recommended action by each. Any voting delegate may make a motion to pull a resolution from the consent agenda in order to request the opportunity to fully debate the resolution. If, upon a majority vote of the General Assembly, the request for debate is approved, the General Assembly shall have the opportunity to debate and subsequently vote on the resolution.

V
2007 ANNUAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS

RESOLUTION REFERRED TO ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

**1. RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE RENEWAL OF THE LEAGUE
GRASSROOTS NETWORK PROGRAM**

Source: League Board of Directors
Referred to: Administrative Services Policy Committee
Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, until 2004 the cities of California were faced with continual actions by the legislature and the administration to take city revenues and use those revenues to counter deficits in the state general fund; and

WHEREAS, this repeated action by the legislature and the administration seriously threatened the ability of local government to deliver essential public services to local communities; and

WHEREAS, in 2001 the Board of Directors and membership of the League of California Cities took actions to strengthen the effectiveness of the League and to prevent the year-after-year erosion of local public services; and

WHEREAS, the membership of the League overwhelmingly supported the establishment of the League's Grassroots network program and the accompanying dues increase to hire and support 15 new, professional grassroots staff positions in the organization; and

WHEREAS, the Grassroots network program in the League has been a key factor in the League's efforts to secure passage of Proposition 1A in 2004 that placed an effective constitutional restraint against the state continuing to take local government revenues to help meet state fiscal problems; and

WHEREAS, the League grassroots network program has been effective in other statewide ballot measures battles including Proposition 42 in 2002, protecting transportation money for transportation purposes; and Proposition 46 in 2002, enacting a statewide bond measure for affordable housing; and the most recent defeat in 2006 of Proposition 90 that threatened to squander taxpayer money and negate local land use decision-making authority; and

WHEREAS, the League grassroots network program has proven to be an effective tool in support of the League's legislative program; and

WHEREAS, the League's grassroots network program is known as one of the preeminent grassroots programs in the country; and

WHEREAS, Article XVII, Section 3 (c) of the League bylaws provides that the membership of the League shall be asked to vote before December 31, 2007 on the continuation of the Grassroots program beyond December 31, 2008; and

WHEREAS, the League Board of Directors desires to hold this election at the Annual Business Meeting of the League scheduled to be held in on September 8, 2007 in conjunction with the 2007 Annual Conference in Sacramento; and

WHEREAS, the League Board of Directors respectfully urges each city to support continuation of the grassroots network program because of its proven effectiveness; and

WHEREAS, the extension of the grassroots network program will not cause a dues increase for cities since support for the program is now part of the base budget of the League of California Cities; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities, assembled in Annual Conference in Sacramento, September 8, 2007, that the Grassroots Network Program, first established by the member cities of the League of California Cities in 2001, be continued and operated in accordance with the bylaws of the League of California Cities.

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Background Information for Resolution #1

Source: League Board of Directors

Title: Resolution Relating to Renewal of League Grassroots Network Program

Background:

In 2001, the League membership voted to approve a new grassroots program for the League of California Cities. The program was designed to support the League's advocacy efforts by adding a new grassroots field staff. The membership dues increase approved in 2001 to support the grassroots program was used to hire 15 new professional positions around the state. This grassroots staff is directed to organize and strengthen the voice of city officials when advocating on behalf of city interests at the state capitol and in Washington DC. They are charged with media outreach in their regions, building coalitions with other organizations that have an interest in the public services provided by cities and ensuring that the messages delivered by city officials are on point and effective.

When the program was approved in 2001, there was a sunset provision built into the program. This sunset provision requires that a vote of the League membership be taken in 2007 in order to continue the League grassroots program. That vote has been scheduled at the 2007 League Annual Conference in Sacramento and this resolution is the vehicle to take that vote. If the membership approves this resolution, the grassroots program will continue. If the membership disapproves the program, the program will be terminated no later than the end of December, 2008.

Membership Surveys:

The League has engaged an independent research firm to conduct confidential surveys to test the League membership support for the program, as well as the support for the League's legislative and ballot measure activities. The most recent survey was taken in 2007. Randomly selected mayors, council

members and city managers were asked to complete the survey. Responses were received from 467 city officials, a strong 31% response rate. Some of the key findings were:

- City Officials are more involved with the League than they were in 2004
- Nine in ten members rate the job the League is doing as excellent or good.
- Email is the preferred communication vehicle for receiving information on grassroots action.
- Seven in 10 respondents are familiar with their regional representative.
- Compared to five years ago, (prior to the grassroots program) 84% of respondents feel that their efforts on pending legislation and state budget issues have become more effective.

Grassroots Activities:

In its relatively short existence, the League grassroots program has been a key element in the League's advocacy on behalf of California's cities. Grassroots activities include:

- **State Budget Deliberations.** The grassroots program played a significant role in preventing legislative efforts to prevent state takeaways of local government revenues during the 2002 state budget process.
- **Proposition 1A (2004).** The grassroots program was focused on building a strong coalition of supporting organization and community groups as well as media support for a measure to constitutionally protect city revenues from state takeaways.
- **Proposition 65 Signature Gathering.** The League grassroots staff coordinated a highly successful, volunteer signature gathering effort that qualified Proposition 65 for the 2004 general election ballot. This measure was used to leverage the passage of the measure by the legislature that ultimately became Proposition 1A.
- **Infrastructure Bonds.** The League grassroots program was also directed at both the legislative passage of the largest infrastructure bond packages ever passed in the nation, as well as the campaign to secure voter approval of Proposition 1A-E and Proposition 84.
- **No on Proposition 90 Campaign.** The League's grassroots program led the field operations in the campaign to defeat Proposition 90 on the November ballot. This measure was a destructive proposal designed to cripple local government land use authority.

Sponsorship:

This resolution is sponsored by the Board of Directors of the League of California Cities.

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RESOLUTION REFERRED TO COMMUNITY SERVICES POLICY COMMITTEE

2. RESOLUTION RELATING TO HEALTHY AGING

Source: Community Services Policy Committee
Referred to: Community Services Policy Committee
Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, according to the Brookings Institute, the aging U.S. population will begin to mushroom when the leading edge of the large baby-boom generation -- born between 1946 and 1965 -- reaches the age of 65 in the year 2011; and

WHEREAS, any discussion of the changing senior population must also include the World War II generation, born between 1936 and 1945, whose members are currently entering the 65-and older category; and

WHEREAS, according the Brookings Institute, California and Florida have large existing senior populations, and will experience gains of more than 500,000 seniors during the 2000 to 2010 period; and

WHEREAS, the health of a community thrives when all of its residents, from youth to seniors are healthy and active; and

WHEREAS, in order to preserve the quality of life and health of seniors, cities need to be actively involved and have the necessary information and tools to assist with the changing senior population which includes the baby boomers and the World War II generation; and

WHEREAS, cities may address quality of life through existing programs that address issues such as "fall preventions" by implementing programs similar to the "Down with Falls Coalition of Orange County" and others which were created to conduct countywide fall prevention needs assessments and create 3-5 year strategic plans to address the issue; and

WHEREAS, cities may plan for universal housing to emphasize the importance of independent living designs that may include reinforced towel bars, ADA compliance and short distance transportation; and

WHEREAS, cities may be involved with programs to address active senior living including intergenerational programs such as mentoring that help to improve the quality of life for seniors and youth in a community; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities assembled in Annual Conference in Sacramento, September 8, 2007, that the League examine programs, infrastructure and funding for California cities addressing the aging population; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the issue of planning for an aging population will be supported by the League through education and conference programming to share ideas and develop a dialogue with elected officials throughout the state.

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No Background Information Submitted for Resolution #2

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**RESOLUTION REFERRED TO HOUSING, COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
POLICY COMMITTEE**

**3. RESOLUTION RELATING TO APPLYING 300 FOOT DISTANCE SEPARATION
FOR ALL NEW RESIDENTIAL CARE FACILITIES**

Source: City of Los Angeles

Referred to: Housing, Community and Economic Development

Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, the intent of existing federal and state law is to offer housing and care facility options for the elderly, mentally and physically handicapped persons, and others in need of care in residential surroundings. The proposed legislative amendments are not intended to place undue restrictions on residential care facilities with six or fewer people. However, the placement of an unlimited number of facilities within close proximity of one another could lead to an over concentration of residential care facilities and thereby significantly alter the very residential character that these homes are seeking; and

WHEREAS, in 2006 the League supported legislation such as Assembly Bills 3005, 3006, and 3007 (Emmerson) to provide more regulatory authority to cities regarding the location of alcohol and drug abuse recovery treatment facilities, and increase public awareness of the location of those public facilities, but these bills were not enacted, and it became apparent that State legislation would only be feasible in the area of the 300 foot distance separation for certain categories of residential care facilities; and

WHEREAS, there is a growing problem of more senior residential care facilities for six or fewer people being concentrated in neighborhoods in excessive amounts; and

WHEREAS, this problem has been aggravated by differing Health and Safety Code provisions (see chart attached, 1500, 1520.4, 1520.5, 1527, 1566, 1568, 1569 and 11834) for differing types of residential care facilities (alcohol or drug abuse recovery/treatment facilities; adult residential; group homes; and residential care facilities for the elderly) for six or fewer people, all of which are regulated by a number of State agencies, and all of which are preempted from local regulation per State and federal law; and

WHEREAS, there is no intent to stop the creation of housing and care facilities for six or fewer people, there is a strong need to apply one state law to all such residential care facility arrangements fairly and equitably, and this state law is the one establishing the over-concentration formula of not siting one such facility within 300 feet of another; while this distance threshold exists for some residential care facilities, it does not for all of them, and therein lies a powerful aggravation of the over-concentration situation; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities, assembled in Annual Conference in Sacramento, September 8, 2007, that the League support state legislation to require a 300 foot distance separation for all new residential care facilities.

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Background Information on Resolution #3

Source: City of Los Angeles, Councilmember José Huizar
Title: Resolution Relating to the 300-Foot Over-Concentration Criteria for Residential Care Facilities Serving Six or Fewer People

Background:

In the state of California, a residential care facility serving six or fewer people is considered a family use and is exempt from local land use jurisdiction. To prevent over-concentration, the State requires that certain types of residential care facilities serving six or fewer people be located at least 300 feet from another like facility.

However, existing over-concentration criteria do not apply to all types of residential care facilities serving six or fewer people, and do not cross over from category to category of facility (*see attached chart*). Therefore there are no checks in place on the *overall* concentration of different types of six-person residential care facilities in one area.

For example, currently, a senior care facility located at one end of a residential street could be joined by an adult residential care facility two doors down, with a group home next door to that, and so on, because over-concentration criteria do not currently apply to all types of residential care facilities, and what criteria do exist are not applied across the various residential care facility categories.

This proposal focuses on the fact that currently the 300-foot rule applies only to some types of residential care facilities, and that it should apply to any and all types of new residential care facilities serving six or fewer people which may desire to locate in close proximity to another.

As policy makers, we need to look at the big picture, considering not only the impact of one type of facility near another facility of the same type, but also the potential cumulative effect of a number of different types of 6-bed residential care facilities in one area. This is a statewide concern with which municipalities throughout the State of California are concerned and seek to address.

Care facilities have a place in residential neighborhoods in order to offer quality care in family-style environments. Unless we apply uniform and consistent over-concentration criteria for all types of residential care facilities for six or fewer people, we risk denigrating the very residential character these facilities seek to offer to those they serve.

By applying the existing 300-foot criteria uniformly and fairly across the board, we will preserve and protect the residential character that these facilities seek and which the State legislation encourages, while ensuring the intent of the law is matched by the implementation of it.

RESOLUTION REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY POLICY COMMITTEE

**4. RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF A.B. 38;
ESTABLISHING A NEW “DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES
AND HOMELAND SECURITY”**

Source: Public Safety Policy Committee
Referred to: Public Safety Policy Committee
Recommendation to General Resolutions Committee:

WHEREAS, California emergency management and public safety professionals have for the past several years, expressed concerns over the redundant and conflicting roles and responsibilities of the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, and the Office of Homeland Security; and

WHEREAS, in May 2006 the League Board of Directors voted to support the Legislative Analyst Office’s recommendation to establish the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) as a division within the Office of Emergency Services (OES); and

WHEREAS, in December 2006, Assembly Member Nava introduced A.B.-38, which consolidates the Office of Emergency Services (OES) and the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) into a new cabinet-level Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security, responsible for overseeing and coordinating emergency preparedness, response, recovery, and homeland security activities; and

WHEREAS, the League of California Cities has joined with the California State Association of Counties, the Institute for Local Government, and the Center for Collaborative Policy-CSU Sacramento, in promulgating a Discussion Paper entitled “An Assessment of Collaborative Challenges and Possibilities for Emergency Services and Homeland Security at the Local Level,” wherein cities and counties identify in detail the continuing confusion and conflicts created by the existence of OES and OHS in their current organizational configuration; and

WHEREAS, the Discussion Paper recommends convening diverse statewide discussion groups to address emergency management and homeland security issues across all jurisdictions and levels of government; and

WHEREAS, the Discussion Paper specifies the need for participation of elected officials, the Legislature, the Governor’s staff, and key associations such as the League of California Cities, in these discussion groups; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, by the General Assembly of the League of California Cities, assembled in Annual Conference in Sacramento, September 8, 2007; that the League provide appropriate representation in any and all blue ribbon committees, working groups, and other forums convened to ensure the effective implementation of A.B. 38; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the League of California Cities send a letter to the Governor addressing in detail, the need for local government policy participation in this important endeavor.

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Background Information on Resolution #4

Source: Public Safety Policy Committee
Title: Resolution Relating to the Implementation of A.B. 38; Establishing a New “Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security”



MAY 2nd, 2007

Subject: *Discussion Paper: An Assessment of Collaborative Challenges and Possibilities for Emergency Services and Homeland Security at the Local Level*

Dear Mr. Henry Renteria, Director, Governor’s Office of Emergency Services:

We are pleased to submit to you an advance copy of our *Discussion Paper: An Assessment of Collaborative Challenges and Possibilities for Emergency Services and Homeland Security at the Local Level*. It was prepared by the Center for Collaborative Policy, California State University, Sacramento (CCP) in collaboration with the Institute for Local Government’s Collaborative Governance Initiative (ILG). The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) and the League of California Cities (LCC) have recently joined in partnership with CCP and ILG to address the topics and findings outlined in the Discussion Paper. It reports the results of a focus group of expert participants involved with state and local emergency management and homeland security programs, with subsequent interviews completed in 2006. CCP and ILG facilitated this process. Drafts of the Discussion Paper were reviewed by all expert participants.

The purpose of this Discussion Paper is to help state and local governments better address the complexities of emergency services and homeland security through the use of the emerging and relevant tools of collaborative planning, management and problem solving, multi-stakeholder consensus building, and strategies for public involvement. While this assessment does not evaluate a specific program, it presents expert participants’ insights on where public participation and collaborative techniques have potential to support the challenges faced by state and local emergency managers. The CCP/ILG paper also presents the recommendations drawn from these insights. The goal is to provide a basis for interested organizations to discuss how to respond the identified challenges

Because many of the items outlined in the Discussion Paper address intergovernmental coordination, we feel it is important that your agency be aware of its findings and take part in meaningful discussion of its recommendations.

Please take the opportunity to review the paper and its findings. Our organizations hope to meet with you to discuss the possibility of next steps for the paper’s recommendations and to strategize how to move forward with its public release. A follow-up contact will be made in the near future to explore opportunities for a joint meeting. In the meantime, please feel free to contact Adam Sutkus, Senior Mediator & Project Manager at CCP: 916.323.8409.

Thank you for taking time to review the Discussion Paper. Our organizations look forward to beginning a conversation with you on ways we can work together to improve emergency services and homeland security at the local level.

Sincerely,

Lisa Beutler
Associate Director

JoAnne Speers
Executive Director

Steve Keil
Interim Executive Director

Chris McKenzie
Executive Director

Center for
Collaborative Policy

Institute for Local
Government

California State
Association of Counties

League of California
Cities

Background Information on Resolution #4

Source: Public Safety Policy Committee
Title: Resolution Relating to the Implementation of A.B. 38; Establishing a New "Department of Emergency Services and Homeland Security"



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www.cacities.org

June 7, 2006

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
State Capitol
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Office of Emergency Services and Office of Homeland Security

Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

I am writing to inform you of a recent action by the League of California Cities Board of Directors to support the Legislative Analyst Office's recommendation detailed in The Analysis of the 2006-07 State Budget Bill, to establish the Office of Homeland Security (OHS) as a division within the Office of Emergency Services (OES).

The League is aware that meetings have been held regarding this issue that may be part of a long -term discussion. Though we support the LAO recommendation, we realize that the challenge is to strike a balance between services offered by both OHS and OES to best serve the public. We also realize that there may be other ideas for moving forward on this in addition to what was recommended by the LAO.

The League's Board of Directors based their decision on the recommendation of the League's Public Safety Policy Committee, as well as discussions during the May 19, 2006 board meeting. Board members cited several reasons for their action, including:

- It is critical that cities have one point of contact to rely on in a disaster situation. Cities have experienced several incidences in which disaster response coordinated through OES has worked well, including flooding and fires.
- OES is better suited to subsume the preparedness and response activities associated with homeland security incidents or events, such as is currently done with other disaster response, because a proven system is already in place that local governments are familiar with and rely on.
- OHS and OES have overlapping activities and there is a need to work closely together. League members support the LAO's observations that describe the redundant and overlapping activities of both (OHS and OES) agencies.

Lastly, the League is aware that law enforcement organizations are engaged in discussions with the Governor's staff focusing on ways to better coordinate the dissemination and analysis of homeland security advisories statewide. The League recognizes that this is an important issue and supports continued discussions to address these concerns.

The League wishes to remain involved in matters pertaining to homeland security through its Public Safety Policy Committee, and would welcome the opportunity to participate and provide the "local government perspective" on this important endeavor.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me (916-658-8275) or Liisa Lawson Stark (916-658-8249).

Sincerely,

Chris McKenzie
Executive Director

CC: Chairs and Members, Budget Conference Committee
Office of Emergency Services
Office of Homeland Security
California Police Chiefs Association
Senator Flores, Chair, Senate Governmental Organization Committee
Assembly Member Jerome Horton, Chair, Assembly Governmental Organization Committee

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