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23 August 2011

The Honorable Lou Correa
California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 5052
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: SB 46 (Correa) – Compensation Disclosure – OPPOSE

Dear Senator Correa:

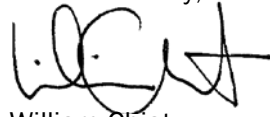
On behalf of the California Association of Local Agency Formation Commissions, I write to express our respectful opposition to your bill, SB 46. While we agree and support the intent for more transparency in local public official compensation, this bill creates a significant unfunded mandate to local agencies that already comply to a great extent with the requirements.

The legislation is particularly difficult for small agencies such as the local agency formation commissions (LAFCo) in each county. Most have fewer than two staff members and have had their budgets and staffing cut by the local agencies which fund LAFCo. The additional work to compile and post these forms for commissioners, staff and contractors is beyond the capacity of many of our members to adequately provide the required staff support. The legislation, for example, is unclear what the requirements are for individuals who serve on LAFCo as a secondary appointment such as a councilmember or county supervisor.

Nonetheless the CALAFCO Board of Directors agrees with the issue of increased transparency for LAFCo commissioner and staff. As such the Board adopted disclosure guidelines for LAFCos. We believe these accomplish similar goals with less expenditure of resources.

Because SB 46 creates an unfunded and duplicative mandate to local agencies, we must regrettably oppose this legislation. Thank you for your consideration of our comments

Yours sincerely,



William Chiat,
Executive Director

c: Chair Smyth, Assembly Local Government Committee
Chair Fong, Assembly Elections & Redistricting Committee
Katie Kollitos, Chief Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
Ethan Jones, Chief Consultant, Assembly Elections & Redistricting Committee
William Weber, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus