

Assemblymember Blanca Pacheco AB 1852: Clean Power Alliance: Alternate Board Member Participation

Summary

This bill extends a previously granted interpretation of the Brown Act that allows Clean Power Alliance to allow a designated alternate board member to participate in Closed Session meetings.

Background

Clean Power Alliance (CPA) is a Joint Powers Authority (JPA) comprised of 35 local jurisdictions across Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. It serves over 3 million residents and businesses and provides customers with a choice of clean power at competitive rates. CPA is governed by a Board of Directors composed of one elected official from each of its member agencies and up to two alternate directors. As a community-driven entity, alternate directors may be municipal agency staff or qualified members of the public, often former elected officials.

SB 355 (Portantino) was passed in 2019. It enabled CPA to amend its bylaws to allow a designated alternate director who is not a member of an agencies legislative body (e.g. elected official) to participate in Closed Session Meetings until a sunset date of January 1, 2025.

The Problem

SB 355's provision sunsets on January 1, 2025. CPA ability to conduct business and govern operation effectively will be hampered if the provision is not extended.

The Solution

AB 1852 would extend the repeal date to January 1, 2030, and CPA's designated alternate board members would be able to participate in Closed Session meetings when the primary board member is unable to attend.

Conclusion

Extending the provision that enables designated alternate board members who are not members of an agencies legislative body will enable CPA to maintain smooth and effective business operations.

Exhibit No. 2

Support

Clean Power Alliance (sponsor)

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