

PAL LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE REQUEST FORM

- » Complete this form in order to propose a legislative advocacy position before the PAL Committee.
- » Instructions for completing this form, including due dates, are shown on the back. Work through your CAO Analyst and with the County's State and/or federal legislative advocate!
- » Please be clear and brief as you complete this form. If you have questions, contact your department's CAO Analyst and/or the County's State and/or federal legislative advocate.

REQUESTER INFORMATION:

Name: Sheldon Gilbert
Position: Fire Chief
Agency/Department: ACFD

CAO Analyst: Louie Martirez

County Legislative Advocate: State advocate, Platinum Advisors

REQUESTER'S RECOMMENDATION:

Recommendation: Oppose proposed amendments to the State Responsibility Area (SRA) fee regulations.

BILL INFORMATION:

Description of Issue: Although the proposed amendments do not change the fee structure; it remains \$150 per habitable structure, with a \$35 discount to those structures that have protection from an existing fire protection entity. The protest petition process also remains the same in the latest version.

However, the amendments do include a change in the definition of "habitable structure" which now includes only structures for residential use— government buildings are now excluded— as well as a the following definition of "dwelling unit." The regulations state that a dwelling unit is, "a unit providing independent living facilities for one or more persons, including provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation. Mobile and manufactured homes and condominiums are considered as dwelling units for residential use."

This change in definition will impact an estimated 600 units in Alameda County. The majority of Alameda County residents living in SRA's reside in the Alameda County Fire District and would receive the \$35.00 credit resulting in a \$115.00 dollar fee for most county residents.

The Board of Forestry will be taking up these proposed regulations at their meeting on Wednesday, January 11, 2012. CSAC remains opposed to any SRA fee proposal and will be submitting comments next week. We strongly encourage counties concerned or opposed to these regulations to submit comments to the BOF before the hearing date.

Anticipated Opposition: CSAC, The California Fire Districts, California Fire Chiefs and California Professional Firefighters all oppose this fee.

Proposed Amendments: A insurance based fee has been introduced for several years that would equitably support local and state fire protection and be shared by all residents in California. This is a superior and preferred approach to protecting California's Fire Service safety net.

PAL / BOS MEETING DATE REQUESTS:

PAL Date Requested: 01/09/12
BOS Date Requested: 01/24/12

EXPLANATION OF ACRONYMS:

BOS.....Board of Supervisors
QIC.....County Quick Code System
PAL..Personnel, Administration, and Legislation Committee
CAO..County Administrator's Office

SUBMIT COMPLETED FORM TO THE BOARD COMMITTEE CLERK (QIC: 20101)
SEND COPIES TO: (1) CAO Legislative Analyst; and (2) Your Department's CAO Budget Analyst (both at QIC 20102)
For updated PAL meeting information, contact the Board Committee Clerk (x-23916)