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**BUTTE LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION**

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May 27, 2014

Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr.  
State of California  
State Capitol Building, Suite 1173  
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Request to Sign AB 2156 - Local Agency Formation Commissions: Studies

Dear Governor Brown:

The Butte Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) respectfully requests that you **sign Assembly Bill 2156** (Achadjian) which is now before you for action. AB 2156 adds joint powers agencies and joint powers authorities (JPAs) to the list of entities local agency formation commissions (LAFCOs) may request information from for purposes of conducting studies.

Pursuant to the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, LAFCOs are charged with evaluating the provision of municipal services and to conduct studies of existing governmental agencies including their service area and service capacities. As many local agencies across the state are providing municipal services through JPAs, having access to the information that outlines service areas and specific services being delivered by these entities is critical to conducting comprehensive studies that support LAFCOs' core mission of encouraging the efficient delivery of local services and evaluating local agency boundaries.

The bill is substantively informed by, and consistent with, the earlier work of CalForward (2011) and the Legislative Analyst Office Report of October 21, 2011, the latter of which specifically addressed the relationship between LAFCO and joint powers authorities and joint powers agencies.

AB 2156 is consistent with the LAFCOs legislative directives of assuring their ability to evaluate the efficiency and sustainability of local government services to meet current and is an important first step in the development of the relationship between LAFCOs and JPAs. For these reasons, Butte LAFCO supports AB 2156 and we respectfully urge you to **sign AB 2156**.

Respectfully,

*Steve Lucas*

Stephen Lucas,  
Executive Officer

cc: Assembly member Katcho Achadjian  
Camille Wagner, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary to the Governor