



VENTURA LOCAL AGENCY FORMATION COMMISSION  
**STAFF REPORT**

Meeting Date: September 18, 2024

**TO:** LAFCo Commissioners

**FROM:** Kai Luoma, Executive Officer 

**SUBJECT:** Executive Officer’s Report – Letter to Governor

**Recommendation:** Receive and file.

**Discussion:** Attached is an August 28, 2024 letter from the Executive Officer to Governor Newsom requesting that he sign Senate Bill 1209 (Cortese). The bill will provide LAFCos with the authority to require that applicants indemnify LAFCo against any legal action that may occur following LAFCo approval of an application. Though it had been long assumed that LAFCos possessed such authority, a 2022 court of appeals found that LAFCo did not, in fact, have such authority. This bill was a priority for CALAFCO, which requested letters of support from LAFCos. The bill was presented to the governor on September 3, starting a 30-day time period in which he must act. At the time of the writing of this staff report, no action had yet been taken.

This letter is being provided to the Commission pursuant to Ventura LAFCo Commissioner’s Handbook Section 2.5.5. It was written in consultation with LAFCo Legal Counsel and reviewed by Chair Crosswhite before being sent.

Attachment:

1. Letter to Governor Gavin Newsom in Support of SB 1209, dated August 28, 2024

COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF

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Kai Luoma	Andrea Ozdy	Richelle Beltran	Jeffrey Barnes