



**COUNTY OF  
SAN BERNARDINO**

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GREGORY C. DEVEREAUX  
Chief Executive Officer

The Senate and the Assembly are in session this week. Below you will find a list of state legislative activities the County and state advocates are monitoring the week of August 6, 2012.

Status of County Advocacy Legislation

- County Supported AB 1600 (Torres), which was amended on March 30, 2012, would authorize the Metro Gold Line Foothill Extension Construction Authority (Authority) to facilitate the expansion of light-rail service to the City of Montclair. This bill passed Senate Transportation and Housing on a 9-0 vote and is scheduled to be heard in Senate Appropriations.
- County Supported AB 1623 (Yamada), which was amended on June 26, 2012, would extend the authority of a county board of supervisors to charge fees to recover the costs of the County Sealer, from January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2018 and provide adjustments to the fee for particular weighing and measuring devices to reflect the actual cost of providing services. This bill is scheduled to be heard on the Assembly floor.
- County Supported AB 2127 (Carter), which was amended on June 7, 2012, would assist counties in managing their jail population by providing incentives for individuals convicted of low-level misdemeanors to successfully integrate back into the community by authorizing a sheriff or other designated official to grant work credit for documented participation in educational, vocational, substance abuse life skills or parenting programs. This bill passed the Senate floor on a 21-14 vote and is scheduled for concurrence in the Assembly.
- County Supported SB 1186 (Steinberg), which was amended on June 20, 2012, would prohibit an attorney or other person from issuing a demand for money to a building owner or tenant, or an agent or employee of a building owner or tenant, or from receiving any payment, settlement, compensation, or other remuneration pursuant to a demand for money that is provided or issued without or prior to the filing of a complaint on the basis of one or more construction-related accessibility violations. This bill passed on Assembly Judiciary on a 10-0 vote and is scheduled to be heard in Senate Appropriations.
- County Opposed SB 1222 (Leno), which was amended on June 19, 2012, would impose hard caps on solar permit fees, create unnecessary and burdensome administrative process and erode city and county decision making authority. This bill passed Assembly Local Government on a 7-1 vote and is schedule to be heard in Assembly Appropriations.
- County Sponsored SB 1425 (McLeod), which was amended on June 26, 2012, would improve the ability of county child welfare services to protect seriously abused children. This bill passed the Senate floor on a 38-0 vote is scheduled to be heard in Assembly Judiciary.
- County Supported SB 1544 (Hernandez), which was amended on May 2, 2012, would afford disaster loss treatment to taxpayers in the County of San Bernardino and Los Angeles affected by the serve winds in 2011. This bill passed Assembly Revenue and Taxation on a 9-0 vote and is scheduled to be heard in Assembly Appropriations.

*The mission of the government of the County of San Bernardino is to satisfy its customers by providing service that promotes the health, safety, well being, and quality of life of its residents according to the County Charter, general laws, and the will of the people it serves.*

### State Responsibility Area

Beginning this month, the Board of Equalization (BOE) will be sending out bills for the State Fire Prevention Fee to homeowners in areas where the state is responsible for fire protection. The mailings are scheduled to proceed alphabetically, by county, and finish up by December. The BOE will send out pre-billing notices so that homeowners are aware in advance, as well as a brochure from CalFire that includes information on how to appeal the billing. According to the BOE, the billings for San Bernardino County will start to go out around the middle of October and will take about a week for all 65,000 to be sent. CalFire has set up a website and phone number dedicated to this fee: (888) 310-6447, and [www.FirePreventionFee.org](http://www.FirePreventionFee.org).

### Pension Reform

Rumors continue to swirl that the Joint Conference Committee on Public Employee Pensions may release bill language in the next few weeks prior to the end of session. Reports have indicated that a few of the proposals from the Governor's 12-point plan such as eliminating air-time, prohibiting contribution holidays, forfeiting benefits if convicted of a felony and restricting the use of retirees to fill positions will be included. A potential hybrid plan has been discussed but details are forthcoming. The proposal, if adopted by the Legislature and signed by the Governor, may apply to all new employees of all public retirement systems.