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FPPC: Time to Overhaul Political Reform Act

The California Fair Political Practices Commission is reviewing the Political Reform Act (PRA) with the goal of making some significant reforms to the law first enacted in 1974. The project is no small matter. The PRA sets up the rules and regulations for raising and spending campaign funds, lobbying the legislature, and a variety of other political activities in California. We asked FPPC Chair Jodi Remke about the project.



CSAC: California's Political Reform Act was enacted in the 1970's there have been changes, but not a complete overhaul, why is it important to do this now?

Remke: Voter initiatives and the Legislature have made significant changes to the Act over the years. The unintended consequence is a body of law that is overly complex, cumbersome and sometimes contradictory.

[Read more](#)

CSAC, Cities Support Utility Relocation Funding

CSAC and the League of California Cities have partnered to support continued funding to move electric utility infrastructure underground. Together, we oppose a proposal from the Office of the Ratepayer Advocate (ORA) in the Public Utilities Commission that would eliminate funding for utility relocation projects in Pacific Gas and Electric's (PG&E) service area.

[Read more](#)

Workers' Compensation and Gender In the News

The California Department of Industrial Relations Director Christine Baker said that current claims of gender discrimination in the workers' compensation system are unfounded and may undermine successful reforms. A recent [class action lawsuit](#) alleges gender discrimination, but Director Baker says these claims are without merit.

[Read more](#)

CSAC Domestic Violence Task Force to Meet

CSAC's Administration of Justice Policy Committee has established a task force to review domestic violence batterer intervention programs. The long-term goal is to reduce recidivism by supporting the most effective programs. The task force will hold its first meeting next week with stakeholders represented from Supervisors, Chief Probation Officers, District Attorneys, advocates against domestic violence, domestic violence intervention program providers, and the judicial council.

[Read more](#)

BSCC Seeks Committee Members for Innovative Diversion Program

The Board of State and Community Corrections is seeking members for an executive steering committee for its new Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) competitive grant program. The Governor's 2016-2017 budget allocates \$15 million to the LEAD program. Grants will be allocated to three jurisdictions for three-year pilot programs.

[Read more](#)

Carcieri "Fix" Rider Removed from House Legislation

In a victory for CSAC, controversial language that would overturn, in part, the Supreme Court's *Carcieri v. Salazar* decision was removed this week from the fiscal year 2017 Interior Appropriations bill (HR 5538). Under the language in question, tribal trust-land acquisitions made between June 18, 1934 and February 24, 2009 would be insulated from legal action challenging the Secretary of the Interior's authority to hold the land in trust.

[Read more](#)

Federal Issues: FAA, Families First, Energy and More

Capitol Hill was bustling with activity this week as lawmakers looked to tie up a number of loose ends in advance of an extended summer recess. With the Republican and Democratic national conventions scheduled to convene the week of July 18th and 25th, respectively, members of Congress were aiming to wrap up legislative business by the weekend. The House and Senate are not scheduled to be back in session until after Labor Day.

[Read more](#)

Chief Justice Appoints New Members to Power of Democracy Committee

Chief Justice Tani G. Cantil-Sakauye has appointed Judge Charles Smiley, the presiding judge of Alameda County's juvenile court and Laura Robles, a senior at George Washington Carver School of Arts and Science to the Power of Democracy Steering Committee. The Power of Democracy Steering Committee works to improve civic learning, awareness and engagement for all California K-12 students. Both appointments are for two years. For additional information please click [here](#).

HHS Policy Committee to Consider Ballot Measures

The Health and Human Services (HHS) Policy Committee will consider taking a position on two propositions on the November ballot when it meets on July 18. Proposition 55 is the tax extension to fund education and healthcare that would extend portions of the taxes voters approved as Proposition 30 in 2012. Proposition 56 is the cigarette tax to fund healthcare, tobacco use prevention, research and law enforcement.

[Read more](#)

The CSAC Excess Insurance Authority has a "Captive"

The CSAC Excess Insurance Authority (EIA) recently launched a "captive" insurance company to help manage its risk. The Excess Insurance Organization, Inc. (EIO) was over a year in the making, having been under discussion at strategic planning, committee, and Board meetings over the past several years. The EIO is a pure captive, meaning it is 100 percent owned by the EIA and will only take on the risk of its parent organization.

[Read more](#)

Meetings, Webinars, Training etc.

Register Now For Transportation Funding Conference in Sacramento

The Sacramento Area Council of Governments has partnered with Transportation for America (T4A), a Washington D.C.-based alliance of elected, business and civic leaders that advocates for states and the federal government to invest in smart, locally-driven transportation solutions, to host T4A's second "Capital Ideas" transportation funding conference in Sacramento on November 16 and 17. [Read more.](#)

Two Seminars Offered Re: Municipal Debt

The California Debt and Investment Advisory Commission is offering to seminars later this year regarding municipal debt. The first one relates to disclosure policies, and the second is an overview course. [Get details and register here.](#)

From Our Blog: CSAC Forms Domestic Violence Task Force

By Matt Cate

CSAC is creating a domestic violence task force that will hold its first conference call next week on July 18. The goal is to convene a group of experts to look at the intervention programs that offenders are required to attend. This is important, because while some progress has been made in how we treat victims of domestic violence, we have not done as well dealing with the offenders.

[Read more](#)

Solano Takes Best of Show in State Fair County Exhibits

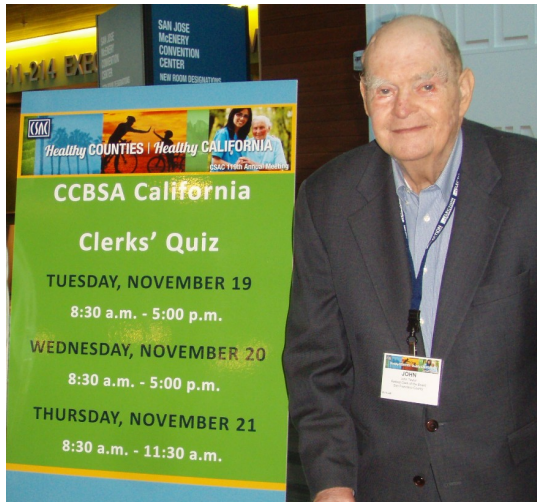


counties have to offer.

[Read more](#)

If Walt Disney wanted to depict the best things about your county, what do you think he would come up with? Each year participating counties from all over California build exhibits that exemplify the best of California's counties. The results are on display through the run of the California State Fair at Cal Expo in Building A. Five judges from various backgrounds and organizations had the pleasurable experience of judging the Counties Exhibits, and while each exhibit is unique, they display the myriad of cultures, events, landscapes and agricultural crops our

John Taylor — Creator of Clerks' Quiz — Passes Away



A memorial service will be held Saturday, July 30, for John Taylor, retired San Francisco City & County clerk of the board, who passed away recently at the age of 88. The service will be held at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., in Berkeley.

The creator in 1989 of the popular California Clerks' Quiz that takes place at the CSAC Annual Meeting, John was affectionately known as "Mr. Clerk."

[Read more](#)

Job Openings

Click [here](#) to see the latest county and local government job postings.





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