

Your source for legislative and regulatory news impacting California's rural counties.

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Governor Vetoes State PILT Legislation

Disappointingly, Governor Brown vetoed Senate Bill 1188 (McGuire and others) late last week despite unanimous support throughout the entire legislative process. While Governor Brown has included State Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) funding in both the 2015–16 and 2016-17 budgets, last year's change in statute leaves the future of State PILT payments in question.

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Congress Continues Federal Funding Before Leaving Washington

Congress passed a 10-week continuing resolution (CR) that will allow the federal government to continue to be funded at current fiscal year 2016 levels until December 9, 2016. The House passed the CR by a vote of 342-85 and the Senate passed the CR by a vote of 72-26. The CR also includes \$1.1 billion in funding to respond to the Zika virus, \$500 million in flood relief for Louisiana and other states and full fiscal 2017 appropriations for military construction and veterans. The President has signed the bill into law.

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Feinstein Weighs in on Forestry Reform

Before leaving Washington, D.C. for the October campaign recess period, Senator Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) sent her priorities for forestry reform to the leaders of the energy policy reform conference committee. The bipartisan letter was co-authored by Senator Steve Daines (R-MT) and listed several requests for the energy conference committee to consider this fall as the conference committee works toward a compromise bill.

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Senators Feinstein and Boxer Endorse Kamala Harris

This week, Senators Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer jointly endorsed state Attorney General Kamala Harris for Senate. Harris is running against Representative Loretta Sanchez (D-CA) for the Senate to replace retiring Senator Boxer.

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Delta Legislators Voice Opposition to California WaterFix Project

A dozen Delta-area legislators have recently submitted a letter to Felicia Marcus, Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, expressing their strong opposition to the California Water Fix Project. The legislators believe the project will not fix anything and will in fact cause significant harm to the Delta. The letter can be accessed [here](#).

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Announcements regarding hearings, grants, and public comment notices of importance to California's rural counties.

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Legislative Update

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