



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

May 2, 2013

Ms. Heather Halsey
Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 9th Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Reconsideration Request for Parameters and Guidelines of *California Public Records Act*
as Adopted April 13, 2013**

Dear Ms. Halsey:

The California Special Districts Association (CSDA), representing over a 1,000 special districts and affiliated organizations, respectfully requests reconsideration of the recently adopted Parameters and Guidelines for the *California Public Records Act (CPRA)*, 02-TC-10 and 02-TC-51. In reviewing the Parameters and Guidelines, we noted that under Section II the "Eligible Claimants" are no longer identified as "local agencies" and regrettably, the new definition omits special districts from the list of eligible claimants.

The Parameters and Guidelines for the CPRA (dated February 13, 2013 and adopted April 13, 2013) provides that "Any city, county, and city and county, or any 'school district' as defined in Government Code section 17519, which incurs increased costs as a result of this mandate, is eligible to claim reimbursement." It appears that the term "local agencies" was replaced by "Any city, county, and city and county" for eligible claimants. This language is inconsistent with the eligible claimants identified in the following documents, in which all eligible claimants and affected entities are repeatedly identified as "local agencies":

- Test Claim filed by the County of Los Angeles (October 2002),
- "Adopted Statement of Decision" (May 26, 2011)
- County of Los Angeles "Proposed Parameters and Guidelines" (June 23, 2011)
- County of Los Angeles "Revised Parameters and Guidelines" (August 30, 2011)

California Government Code section 17518 defines "Local agency" to mean any city, county, special district, authority, or other political subdivision of the state. Thus, special districts have been incorrectly removed as eligible claimants. Therefore, we respectfully request that the Commission reconsiders this omission as allowed under Title 2, California Code of Regulations Section 1188.4 and includes special districts as eligible claimants to ensure they may continue to seek reimbursement for their adherence to the CPRA mandates.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you or your staff should have any questions regarding the above referenced issue at (916) 442-7887. Thank you for your consideration of, and attention to, our request for reconsideration.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Holzem
Legislative Representative

California Special Districts Association

1112 I Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 877.924.2732
t: 916.442.7887
f: 916.442.7889
www.csda.net

A proud California Special Districts Alliance partner

Special District Risk Management Authority
1112 I Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 800.537.7790
f: 916.231.4111

CSDA Finance Corporation
1112 I Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814
toll-free: 877.924.2732
f: 916.442.7889