

ITEM 3
ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATION AMENDMENTS
AFTER CLOSE OF 45-DAY COMMENT PERIOD
GENERAL CLEANUP

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 2, DIVISION 2, CHAPTER 2.5
ARTICLES 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, AND 10

SECTIONS 1181.1, 1181.2, 1181.3, 1181.4, 1181.6, 1181.8, 1181.9, 1181.10, 1181.13,
1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.5, 1183.6, 1183.7, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10,
1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2,
1185.4, 1185.5, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.1, 1187.4,
1187.5, 1187.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.1, 1188.2,
1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, 1190.4, AND 1190.5

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Exhibit A

Order to Initiate Rulemaking 1-2

Exhibit B

Proposed Text 1-56

Exhibit C

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking 1-14

Exhibit D

Initial Statement of Reasons 1-77

Exhibit E

Consolidated Comments from County Governments and Associations 1-3

Exhibit F

Final Statement of Reasons 1-1

Exhibit G

Order to Adopt Proposed Rulemaking..... 1-1

BEFORE THE
COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Exhibit A

In the Matter of:

Amendments to California Code of
Regulations, Title 2, Division 2, Chapter 2.5,
Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10

No. 25-01

ORDER TO INITIATE RULEMAKING
PROCEEDINGS

General Cleanup

Pursuant to California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 1188.2, the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) hereby adopts this order to institute rulemaking proceedings in accordance with Government Code sections 11346.2, 11346.4, 11346.8, and 11346.9.

PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION. The Commission proposes revised language, punctuation, and citations in Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 2, Chapter 2.5 with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2026 if no public hearing is requested and April 1, 2026 if a public hearing is requested.

The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure that the regulations provide clear and concise direction, use consistent terminology, and provide transparency to the Commission process. The proposed regulations: (1) clarify definitions; (2) clarify the requirements for certification, filing, service, and formatting documents; (3) clarify the holding of teleconferenced meetings; (4) clarify the filing of a second test claim on the same statute or executive order; (5) clarify the requirements for citations and providing documents relied upon in a filing; (6) clarify the Commission's process on the granting or denial of a motion to consolidate or sever test claims; (7) clarify the processing of test claims; (8) clarify who may participate in the processing of claims and development of commission forms; (9) clarify requirements for the contents of parameters and guidelines; (10) clarify the requirements for requests for review of state controller's claiming instructions; (11) clarify requirements for the filing of declarations to be used in lieu of testimony; (12) add new requirements for the timing of filing written testimony, declarations, and other evidence; (13) clarify the process for requesting an extension of time to file comments and rebuttals and to request a postponement of a hearing; and (14) to make minor, non-substantive edits and corrections.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE. Government Code section 17527(g) authorizes the Commission to adopt the proposed regulations.

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD. Any interested person, or his or her authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action to the Commission. The comment period closes on **September 22, 2025**. The Commission will only consider written comments received at the Commission's offices by that time. Commenters are strongly encouraged to submit their written comments electronically if possible via the Commission website "dropbox" at: <https://www.csm.ca.gov/dropbox.shtml>

Written comments may also be submitted to:

Jill Magee, Program Analyst
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 323-3562

PUBLIC HEARING. The Commission will hold a hearing on September 26, 2025 if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person or their authorized representative, no later than September 8, 2025.

Date: _____

By: _____
Juliana F. Gmur, Executive Director

CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS

TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION

DIVISION 2. FINANCIAL OPERATIONS

CHAPTER 2.5. COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

Article 1. General

§ 1181.1. Delegation of Certain Functions; Executive Director Appeals.

(a) Whenever it is stated in these rules that the "Commission" may or shall exercise or discharge any power, duty, purpose, function, or jurisdiction, the Commission on State Mandates specifically has reserved the same for its own exclusive action.

(b) Whenever it is stated that the "executive director" may or shall exercise or discharge any power, duty, purpose, function, or jurisdiction, or it is not expressly stated that the Commission itself shall so act, the executive director of the Commission has the authority to act thereon.

(c) A party or interested parties~~real party in interest~~ to a matter may appeal to the Commission for review of the actions and decisions of the executive director on that matter.

(1) The appellant shall file the appeal in writing within 10 days of first being served written notice of the executive director's action or decision.

(2) The appellant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the appeal in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(3) The appeal shall explain the basis for the appeal, state the action being requested of the Commission, and include all facts and materials the appellant believes are relevant to the appeal.

(4) The executive director shall schedule the appeal for hearing and vote by the Commission as soon as practicable following receipt of the appeal.

(5) Other parties may file comments on an appeal, which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(6) The Commission shall determine whether to uphold the executive director's decision by a majority vote of the members present. The decision shall be final and not subject to reconsideration.

(7) The executive director shall notify the appellant in writing within 10 days of the Commission's decision.

(d) Nothing herein prohibits the executive director from delegating to subordinates as provided in Government Code section 18572.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17530 and 17531, Government Code.
Reference: Section 17530, Government Code; and *Redevelopment Agency v. Commission on State Mandates* (1996) 43 Cal.App.4th 1188.

1 **§ 1181.2. Definitions.**

2 Unless otherwise indicated, the following definitions and those found in Government
3 Code sections 17510 through 17524 apply to this chapter:

4 (a) "Affected state agency" means a state department or agency that is responsible, in
5 whole or in part, for implementation, enforcement, or administration of any statutes or
6 executive orders that are the subject of a matter.

7 (b) "Amendment" of a test claim means the addition of new allegations based on new
8 statutes or executive orders to an existing test claim. The addition or substitution of
9 parties and supporting declarations based on the original statutes or executive orders
10 alleged in an existing test claim is not an "amendment."

11 (c) "Claimant" means the local agency or school district filing a test claim or incorrect
12 reduction claim. "Test claimant" means the local agency or school district filing a test
13 claim.

14 (d) "Commission staff" means the executive director, legal counsel, or other
15 Commission employee authorized by the Commission or the executive director to
16 represent the Commission on a specific claim or request, or to receive filings at the
17 Commission office.

18 (e) ~~"Completed" means that all general and specific requirements for a new filing have~~
19 ~~been satisfied by the claimant or requester.~~

20 (f) ~~"Filing date" means the date a filing is received at the Commission's office during~~
21 ~~normal business hours by any of the methods provided that it is found to not contain~~
22 ~~personal identifying information as described in section 1181.3 of these regulations.~~
23 ~~"Normal business hours" means from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. of each day from Monday to~~
24 ~~Friday, inclusive, other than state holidays, as provided by Government Code section~~
25 ~~11020(a).~~

26 (fg) "Incorrect reduction claim" means a claim alleging that the Office of State Controller
27 incorrectly reduced the reimbursement claim of a local agency or school district.

28 (gh) "Informational hearing" means any hearing designed to gather and assess
29 information to assist the Commission in formulating policies, informing the public of
30 Commission actions, or obtaining public comment and opinion.

31 (hi) ~~"Interested party" means a local agency, or school district, or state agency, with~~
32 ~~subvention rights in the matter under article XIII B, section 6, of the California~~
33 ~~Constitution a beneficial interest in the matter.~~

34 (ij) ~~"Interested person" means anyone individual, local agency, school district, state~~
35 ~~agency, corporation, partnership, association, or other type of entity, who has an~~
36 ~~interest in a matter before the Commission, but is not a party or interested party with~~
37 ~~respect to that matter.~~

38 (j) "Matter" means test claims, proposed parameters and guidelines, requests to amend
39 parameters and guidelines, incorrect reduction claims, requests to approve a joint
40 reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs, joint requests
41 for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, requests for

1 inclusion or removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for
2 review of apportionment or base year entitlement for programs included in the State
3 Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of the Office of State Controller's
4 claiming instructions, requests for mandate redetermination, and a legislatively
5 determined mandate which are all subject to article 7 of these regulations.

6 (k) "New filing" means a test claim, incorrect reduction claim, request to amend
7 parameters and guidelines, joint request for reasonable reimbursement methodology
8 and statewide estimate of costs, request for review of claiming instructions, request for
9 removal or inclusion of a program in the State Mandates Apportionment System,
10 request for review of the apportionment or base year entitlement of a program in the
11 State Mandates Apportionment System, request for mandate redetermination, or a
12 legislatively determined mandate.

13 (l) "Party" includes a party's representative of record who is expressly authorized in
14 writing to act on the party's behalf. A party's representative may be an individual, firm or
15 organization. When a party authorizes a firm or organization to represent them in
16 writing, any current member of the firm or organization may act on the party's behalf
17 without requiring a separate authorization. Party means the following for each matter as
18 specified below:

19 (1) "Party to a Test Claim" means the test claimant, the Department of Finance, and
20 other affected state agencies.

21 (2) "Party to an Incorrect Reduction Claim" means the claimant and the Office of State
22 Controller.

23 (3) "Party to a Request to Amend Parameters and Guidelines" means the requester, the
24 Department of Finance, the Office of State Controller, affected state and local agencies,
25 and affected school districts.

26 (4) "Party to a Joint Request for Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology" and "Party
27 to a Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement
28 Methodology" means the test claimant and the Department of Finance.

29 (5) "Party to a Request for Review of Claiming Instructions" means the requester and
30 the Office of State Controller.

31 (6) "Party to a Request for Removal or Inclusion in State Mandates Apportionment
32 System" and "Party to a Request for Review of the Apportionment or Base Year
33 Entitlement of a Program in the State Mandates Apportionment System" means the
34 requester, the Department of Finance, and the Office of State Controller.

35 (7) "Party to a Request for Mandate Redetermination" means the requester, the
36 Department of Finance, the Office of State Controller, affected state and local agencies,
37 and affected school districts.

38 ~~(m) "Real Party in Interest" means any person or entity whose interest will be directly~~
39 ~~affected by the resolution of the matter. "Requester" means the local agency, school~~
40 ~~district, or state agency filing a request to amend parameters and guidelines, joint~~
41 ~~request for reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs,~~
42 ~~request for review of claiming instructions, request for removal or inclusion of a program~~

1 in the State Mandates Apportionment System, request for review of the apportionment
2 or base year entitlement of a program in the State Mandates Apportionment System,
3 request for mandate redetermination, or a legislatively determined mandate.

4 (n) "Rulemaking proceeding" means any hearing designed to adopt, amend, or repeal
5 any rule, regulation, or standard of general application that implements, interprets, or
6 makes specific any provision of Title 2, Division 4, Part 7, beginning with Government
7 Code section 17500 or any other statute enforced or administered by the Commission.

8 (o) "Statewide cost estimate" means the approximate sum of money that local agencies
9 or school districts may have incurred to implement a state-mandated program or any
10 increased level of service of an existing mandated program. A statewide cost estimate
11 prepared by a test claimant pursuant to Government Code section 17553(b)(1)(E) shall
12 be an estimate of the first full fiscal year of actual or estimated costs based on the
13 statutes and executive orders alleged in a test claim. In adopting a statewide cost
14 estimate pursuant to Government Code section 17553(a), which shall be an estimate for
15 the initial period of reimbursement to be reported to the Legislature, the Commission
16 may consider the statewide cost estimate prepared by the test claimant, the initial
17 reimbursement claim data, and other relevant information regarding potential mandated
18 local costs, as applicable.

19 (p) "Statewide estimate of costs" is based on a joint reasonable reimbursement
20 methodology proposed by a test claimant and the Department of Finance pursuant to
21 Government Code section 17557.1, that is adopted by the Commission and reported to
22 the Legislature pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2.

23 (q) "Subsequent change in law" pursuant to Government Code 17570 means a change
24 in law that requires a finding that an incurred cost is a cost mandated by the state, as
25 defined by Government Code section 17514, or is not a cost mandated by the state
26 pursuant to Government Code section 17556, or a change in mandates law.
27 Amendments to article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution that were approved
28 by the voters on November 2, 2004 and changes in the statutes or executive orders that
29 impose new state-mandated activities and require a finding pursuant to Government
30 Code section 17551(a) are not a "subsequent change in law."

31 ~~(r) "Teleconference" means a conference of individuals in different locations, connected~~
32 ~~by electronic means, through audio, video, or both.~~

33 ~~(s)~~ "Test claim" means the first claim filed with the Commission alleging that a particular
34 statute or executive order imposes costs mandated by the state pursuant to
35 Government Code section 17521 and also includes a claim filed on a legislatively
36 determined mandate pursuant to Government Code section 17574(c). The test claim
37 procedure functions similarly to a class action and has been established to expeditiously
38 resolve disputes affecting multiple agencies.

39 ~~(st)~~ "Written material" means any paper or electronic document relevant to a matter that
40 is filed with the Commission except that "written material" does not include a "new filing"
41 as defined in subdivision (k) of this section.

42 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.
43 Reference: Sections 11020(a), 11123, 17516-17521, 17527(c), 17529, 17530, 17531,

1 17551, 17553, 17555, 17557, 17557.1, 17557.2, 17558, 17558.5, 17558.7, 17558.8,
2 17559, 17561, 17561.5, 17570, 17572, 17573, 17600 and 17612, Government Code;
3 *Redevelopment Agency v. Commission on State Mandates* (1996) 43 Cal.App.4th 1188;
4 and *City of San Jose v. State of California* (1996) 45 Cal.App.4th 1802.

5 **§ 1181.3. Certification, Formatting, Filing, and Service of Written Materials and**
6 **New Filings.**

7 (a) Certification. Filers will certify compliance with subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) as part of
8 electronic filing (or e-filing) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system,
9 available on the Commission's website~~All new filings and written materials filed with the~~
10 ~~Commission shall be signed at the end of the document, under penalty of perjury, with~~
11 ~~the declaration that the filing is true and correct to the best of the declarant's personal~~
12 ~~knowledge, information, or belief. The date of signing, the declarant's title, address,~~
13 ~~telephone number, and email address, if applicable, shall be included.~~

14 (b) Personal Identifying Information. Documents filed with the Commission shall not
15 contain personal identifying information that violates state or federal privacy laws,
16 including, but not limited to California Civil Code section 1798 et seq.

17 (c) Signatures. Any document requiring a signature may be signed by any mechanism
18 that does not result in a locked PDF. Commission forms shall be digitally signed, using
19 the digital signature technology and authentication process contained within the
20 Commission forms. The completed digital form shall not be converted to PDF and shall
21 be e-filed separately from any accompanying documents.

22 ~~(d) Formatting, Filing, and Service.~~ New filings and written materials shall be filed as
23 described in this subdivision.

24 (1) Formatting For All New Filings and Written Materials. ~~All new filings and written~~
25 ~~materials, except for supporting documents that were either not created by the party or~~
26 ~~were originally created by the party for a purpose other than providing evidence to the~~
27 ~~Commission.~~ All documents created by the filer for the purpose of providing evidence to
28 the Commission shall conform to all of the following accessibility~~document formatting~~
29 requirements.

30 (A) All text shall be written in a sans-serif font with a~~Arial font~~, minimum 12-point font
31 size. The use of Arial font is strongly encouraged.

32 (B) Color is strongly discouraged, and shall not be used as the sole means to
33 emphasize or convey information. If color is used to emphasize or convey information,
34 there shall be additional distinguishing marks, such as underlining or asterisks, to
35 differentiate areas where color is used.

36 (C) Lists shall use an ordered or unordered formatting style such as bullet points,
37 letters, or ~~numbering, or an ordered list.~~

38 (D) Headings shall use heading styles to identify the headings' correct order of
39 diminishing hierarchy.

1 (E) Hard returns shall not be used to break up lines of text. Instead, space between
2 lines of text shall be made using paragraph spacing or the space after paragraph
3 function.

4 (F) If columns are used, the columns shall be formatted using the word processing
5 software's columns function.

6 (G) Tables shall use a simple table structure without split or merged cells, nested tables,
7 or blank columns or rows. Rows shall not be broken across multiple pages. One table
8 header row is allowed per table, which shall be repeated at the top of each page if the
9 table spans multiple pages.

10 (H) Hyperlinks shall be named in a manner that is clear, concise and meaningful out of
11 context. Bare URLs are not allowed, except as part of a formal citation to a web-based
12 source.

13 (I) Images shall include alternative text that describes the image, unless the image has
14 no informational value because it is purely decorative or the information it provides is
15 redundant to the main body of text.

16 (2) Formatting For All E-Filed Documents~~E-Filing. Except as provided in subdivision~~
17 ~~(c)(3) of this section, a~~All e-filed documents including new filings, and written materials,
18 ~~and shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-~~
19 ~~filing system, available on the Commission's website. S~~supporting documents that were
20 not created by the filer~~party~~ or were created for a different purpose than to provide
21 evidence to the Commission shall: ~~still be required to follow the formatting requirements~~
22 ~~found in subdivisions (c)(2)(B)(i)-(iii) of this section.~~

23 (A) be in unlocked PDF file format, to allow Commission staff to process the filing;
24 ~~and Any new filing required to be filed on a form prescribed by the Commission shall be~~
25 ~~digitally signed, using the digital signature technology and authentication process~~
26 ~~contained within the Commission forms. The completed digital form shall not be~~
27 ~~converted to PDF and shall be e-filed separately from any accompanying documents.~~
28 ~~Accompanying documents shall be e-filed together in accordance with the requirements~~
29 ~~of subdivisions (c)(2)(B) and (C) of this section.~~

30 ~~(B) Documents e-filed with the Commission. All e-filed documents, other than forms~~
31 ~~prescribed by the Commission, shall:~~

32 ~~(i) be in unlocked PDF file format, to allow Commission staff to electronically date stamp~~
33 ~~the document and append additional pages for posting on the Commission's website~~
34 ~~with a proof of service for e-service by the Commission, in lieu of the filer serving the~~
35 ~~document to the entire mailing list for the matter; and~~

36 ~~(ii) include a scanned copy of the signed signature page, rather than a digitally signed~~
37 ~~document. The scanned copy shall be in black and white (not gray scale or color).~~

38 ~~(iii) be in a legible and searchable format using a "true PDF" (i.e., documents digitally~~
39 ~~created in PDF, converted to PDF or printed to PDF) or optical character recognition~~
40 ~~(OCR) function, as necessary.~~

41 (eG) E-Filing Large Documents. E-filed documents larger than 500 megabytes shall be
42 e-filed in multiple volumes and labeled as such (i.e., "Volume I, Volume II" etc.) and

1 shall, in that case, include a table of contents with electronic bookmarks which at
2 minimum link to each document within the exhibits, and for documents created for the
3 purpose of filing with the Commission also link to each heading, subheading, and
4 component (including but not limited to the table of contents, declarations, exhibits,
5 proof of service) of the document. ~~Filing of color documents is strongly discouraged.~~
6 ~~However, if a color image(s) is necessary for readability or comprehension, the color~~
7 ~~image(s) shall be e-filed in a separate and final volume of exhibits. Documents not~~
8 ~~available or obtainable in electronic form may be scanned and OCR'd and filed in a~~
9 ~~separate volume, however it is prohibited to e-file scanned documents that are available~~
10 ~~or obtainable electronically. E-filed documents that must be scanned, shall be scanned~~
11 ~~in black and white (not gray scale or color).~~

12 (f) E-Filing. Except as provided in subdivision (j) of this section, all new filings and
13 written materials shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the
14 Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website.

15 ~~(1D)~~ The filer is responsible for maintaining the signed original new filing or written
16 material for the duration of the process for the matter, including any period of appeal
17 ~~(this may be an electronic document, depending on how the filer creates and maintains~~
18 ~~its records).~~

19 ~~(2E)~~ An automated notice that the document was successfully sent is immediately
20 available to the filer using the Commission's e-filing system and should be saved or
21 printed for the filer's records.

22 (3) Commission staff shall also reply by e-mail confirming actual receipt of the legible,
23 searchable document by the Commission within two business days of receipt. In the
24 absence of a confirmation e-mail from Commission staff, it is the responsibility of the
25 filer to obtain confirmation that the Commission actually received the filing.

26 (4) "Failure of e-filing" occurs when the filer receives notification, in any manner, of non-
27 receipt of an e-filed document or of any other inability of Commission staff to access the
28 document, including the failure to meet the requirements of subdivisions (b), (c), and (d)
29 of this section.

30 ~~(5F)~~ ~~By using e-filing, the filer agrees, in the event of failure of e-filing, the filer shall to~~
31 ~~re-file the document no later than the business day after the business day on which~~
32 ~~notice of the failure of e-filing is received by the filer. The filer may re-file by any means~~
33 ~~authorized by these rules, in order to maintain the original filing date. "Failure of e-filing"~~
34 ~~occurs when the filer receives notification, in any manner, of non-receipt of an e-filed~~
35 ~~document or of any other inability of Commission staff to access the document,~~
36 ~~including the failure to meet the requirements of subdivisions (c)(2)(B)(i)-(iii) of this~~
37 ~~section.~~

38 ~~(G)~~ Documents e-filed with the Commission are served by Commission staff to persons
39 who have provided an e-mail address for the mailing list for the matter in accordance
40 with section 1181.4 of these regulations. E-filed documents do not need to be served by
41 the filer and proof of service does not need to be provided by the filer for persons who
42 have provided an e-mail address for the mailing list in accordance with section 1181.4.
43 Nothing in this regulation excuses a filer from serving hard copies of written material on

persons who appear on the mailing list and have not provided an e-mail address for the mailing list, or from providing a proof of service with the e-filing to the Commission for the service of the document on those persons.

(g) Time of Filing. New filings or written materials filed with the Commission before midnight are deemed filed on that business day. New filings or written materials filed with the Commission on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, are deemed filed on the following business day.

(h) Review.

(1) All new filings and written materials filed with the Commission will be deemed received until reviewed for compliance with the ban against containing personal identifying information pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section. If personal identifying information is found in the filings or written materials, they will be rejected and no filing date will be assigned.

(2) All new filings and written materials filed with the Commission that have been found to comply with subdivision (b) of this section will be reviewed for compliance with subdivisions (c) and (d) of this section. If the filings or written materials do not comply, they will be deemed to be a failure of e-filing pursuant to subdivision (f)(4) and the filer may correct and refile pursuant to subdivision (f)(5) of this section.

(3) All new filings filed with the Commission that have been found to comply with subdivisions (c) and (d) of this section, will be reviewed for completeness pursuant to these regulations. Any filing deemed incomplete will be returned to the filer who may correct and refile within 30 calendar days to retain the original filing date.

(4) Commission staff will issue its notice of complete filing to the filer for all new filings that have been found to comply with subdivisions (b), (c) and (d) and which have been found to be complete.

(i) Service.

~~(1H)~~ Upon ~~confirmation of actual receipt~~ review of the e-filed document pursuant to subdivision (h) of this section, Commission staff shall ~~serve~~ notify all persons who have provided an e-mail address for the mailing list for the matter in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations ~~that written material may be viewed on the Commission's website.~~

(2) For all "new filings" as defined by section 1181.2(k) of these regulations, Commission staff shall notify all persons on the mailing list, prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations, of the availability of those filings on the Commission's website when Commission staff issues its notice of complete filing to the filer.

~~(3)~~ The Commission may serve any document by e-mail service, or by making it available at a particular URL, unless doing so would be contrary to state or federal law.

~~(4)~~ The executive director may issue any order consistent with these rules to govern e-mail service for a particular matter.

~~(j)~~ Hard Copy Filing and Service in Cases of Undue Hardship or Significant Prejudice.

1 If e-filing legible and searchable PDF documents, as described in subdivision (de)(2) of
2 this section, would cause the filer undue hardship or significant prejudice, filing may
3 occur as provided below: by first class mail, overnight delivery or personal service only
4 upon approval of a written request to the executive director.

5 (1) Request. The filer shall request permission from the executive director to hard copy
6 file and include a description of the undue hardship or significant prejudice e-filing would
7 cause the filer.

8 (2A) Filing. If the executive director authorizes hard copy filing, the filer shall file the
9 unbound original document with the Commission by first class mail, overnight delivery,
10 or personal service, ~~the filer shall file the unbound original document with the~~
11 ~~Commission.~~

12 (3B) Service. All hard copy filings will be served by Commission staff in accordance with
13 subsection (i) of this section ~~If written materials are filed in hard copy, the filing shall~~
14 ~~simultaneously be served on everyone on the mailing list using the same method used~~
15 ~~for the filing. Unless otherwise provided in this section, a proof of service shall be~~
16 ~~included with any written material filed with the Commission. Proof of personal service~~
17 ~~requires a declaration of the messenger of the time and place that the written material~~
18 ~~was served. Service is not required for new filings because mailing lists for matters are~~
19 ~~only prepared, pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations, after a new filing is~~
20 ~~deemed complete. Completed new filings will be served on the mailing list by~~
21 ~~Commission staff with the Notice of Complete Filing.~~

22 ~~(4) Time of Filing. New filings or written materials filed with the Commission no later~~
23 ~~than 5 p.m. on a business day (i.e., Monday through Friday, except state holidays) are~~
24 ~~deemed filed on that business day. New filings or written materials filed with the~~
25 ~~Commission after 5 p.m. on a business day, or on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday,~~
26 ~~are deemed filed on the following business day.~~

27 Note: Authority cited: Sections 16.5, 17527(g), 17553(a), 17570(d) and 11104.5,
28 Government Code. Reference: Sections 1633.1 et seq., 1798 et seq., Civil Code; and
29 Sections 7405, 11020(a), 17530, 17551, 17557(d), 17558.7, 17570, 17573(b), 17574(c)
30 and 17573(g), Government Code.

31 **§ 1181.4. Mailing Lists and Numbering of Matters.**

32 (a) For all matters deemed complete, Commission staff shall prepare a mailing list of the
33 names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of ~~anyone the parties,~~
34 ~~interested parties, and interested persons who have requested inclusion on the mailing~~
35 ~~list. The mailing list will be uploaded to the Commission's website and an e-mail~~
36 ~~notification of its availability will be sent to all personseveryone on the list who have~~
37 ~~provided an e-mail address. A hard copy will be provided by Commission staff to~~
38 ~~persons on the mailing list who have not provided an e-mail address and to any person~~
39 ~~who requests a hard copy.~~

40 (b) By providing an e-mail address for the mailing list for a matter, a person consents to
41 e-mail service of documents for that matter.

(c) For the following new filings ~~filed with~~received by the Commission, the executive director shall issue sequential matter numbers, by fiscal year, as follows:

(1) Test Claim (TC)

(2) Incorrect Reduction Claim (I)

(3) Request to Amend Parameters and Guidelines (PGA)

(4) Joint Request for Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs (RRM)

(5) Request for Review of Claiming Instructions (RCI)

(6) Request for Removal, Inclusion, or Review of the Apportionment or Base Year Entitlement of a Program in State Mandates Apportionment System (SMAS)

(7) Legislatively Determined Mandate (LDM)

(8) Request for Mandate Redetermination (MR)

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a), 17570(d) and 11104.5, Government Code. Reference: Sections 17530, 17551, 17557, 17557.1, 17571, 17557.2, 17570, 17573(b), 17573(g), 17574(c) and 17615.1, Government Code.

§ 1181.6. Development and Approval of Commission Forms.

(a) In consultation with anyone who expresses an interest in the Commission's process~~interested parties~~ and in accordance with applicable law and these regulations, the executive director shall develop the test claim form, incorrect reduction claim form, mandate redetermination form, and other forms, to simplify and improve the efficiency of the Commission's processes.

(b) The executive director shall conduct at least one workshop with anyone who expresses an interest in the Commission's process~~interested parties~~, Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, and other affected state agencies,~~and interested persons~~ before approval of a form.

(c) Upon development of a new form, the executive director shall notice all persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~notify claimants, interested parties, affected state agencies, and interested persons~~, and shall disseminate copies at least 10 days before the operative date of a form.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17530, 17553, 17558.7(c), 17558.7(e) and 17570(d)(1), Government Code.

§ 1181.8. Commission Meeting Quorum and Voting Requirements.

(a) A majority of the existing membership of the Commission shall constitute a quorum.

(b) All actions of the Commission, with the exception of requests to reconsider a prior final decision as provided in section 1187.15, shall require the affirmative vote of at least a majority of the existing membership of the Commission.

(c) In the case of a tie vote, the Commission may:

1 (1) Re-hear the item when the membership of the Commission changes or when an
2 abstaining member completes review of the administrative record; or

3 (2) For a "matter" ~~as defined by 1187.1:~~

4 (A) Assign the matter to a hearing panel or to a hearing officer, pursuant to section
5 1187.2 et seq., for hearing and preparation of a proposed decision for consideration by
6 the Commission. If the Commission assigns the matter to a hearing panel, the selection
7 of the hearing panel shall be by lot, or other means of random and impartial selection. A
8 majority of the votes cast by the members assigned to a hearing panel is required for
9 the approval of a preliminary decision on matters and applications for a finding of
10 significant financial distress; or

11 (B) Direct staff to prepare another proposed decision, based on an interpretation of the
12 law and evidence in the record, for consideration by the Commission.

13 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
14 Sections 17525, 17527(c) and 17532, Government Code; and Section 17000.6, Welfare
15 and Institutions Code.

16 **§ 1181.9. Commission Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Consent Calendar.**

17 (a) Time and distribution. Notices and agendas of meetings shall be ~~provided~~given to all
18 members, to all parties and ~~interested parties~~to proceedings on the agenda, and to all
19 persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these
20 regulations~~who request them in writing~~. The notice and agenda shall be ~~provided~~issued
21 and posted on the Commission's website no less than 10 days prior to the scheduled
22 meeting.

23 (b) Agenda. The meeting agenda shall be prepared by the executive director and shall
24 include any item proposed by any member, or the executive director.

25 (c) The agenda may include an item designated "the consent calendar."

26 (1) The consent calendar shall include those matters for which there is no known
27 opposition by any of the parties or interested parties.

28 (2) At the request of any member, party or interested party, any matter shall be removed
29 from the consent calendar and may be considered at the same meeting as a separate
30 item of business.

31 (3) The chairperson may also remove any matter from a duly noticed meeting agenda
32 and place it on the consent calendar, provided there is no objection from the parties,
33 interested parties, any Commission member, or person present and wishing to
34 comment on the matter.

35 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
36 Sections 11125, 11125.1, 17527(b), 17527(c) and 17530, Government Code.

1 **§ 1181.10. Commission Meeting Procedures.**

2 (a) Presiding Member. The chairperson shall preside over all meetings of the
3 Commission when present. In the chairperson's absence, the vice chairperson shall
4 preside. If neither the chairperson nor the vice chairperson is in attendance, the
5 member present who has the greatest seniority on the Commission shall preside. The
6 presiding member may yield the chair.

7 (b) Public Comments.

8 (1) Comments in Writing. Any person may submit comments in writing on any agenda
9 item by ~~certifying, filing, and serving~~ them in accordance with 1181.3 of these
10 regulations. ~~To be included as a part of the administrative record for the matter,~~
11 ~~comments must be provided to the Commission members and be made available for~~
12 ~~public review either before or at the Commission hearing on the matter.~~

13 (A) Comments filed/received at least 15 days in advance of the meeting shall be
14 included in the Commission's meeting binders, a copy of which is available for public
15 viewing at the Commission meeting.

16 (B) Comments filed/received more than five days in advance of the meeting shall be
17 included in the Commission's meeting binders, if feasible, or shall be provided to the
18 Commission when the item is called, unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission or
19 the executive director.

20 (C) For written comments filed/received less than five days in advance of the meeting,
21 ~~the commenter shall provide 12 copies to Commission staff at the in-person meeting. In~~
22 ~~the case of participation via teleconference, a PDF copy shall be filed via electronically~~
23 ~~filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on~~
24 ~~the Commission's website, the Commission's dropbox at least 24 hours prior to the~~
25 meeting. Commission staff shall provide copies of the comments to the Commission
26 and shall place a copy on a table for public review when the item is called or, in the
27 case of participation via teleconference, shall provide an electronic copy to the
28 Commission and post a copy on the Commission's website, and may share the
29 document with the Commission and the public using the "share-screen" function.

30 (2) Oral Comments. Any person present and so desiring shall be given an opportunity to
31 make oral comments on any agenda item, provided, however, that the presiding
32 member may limit or preclude comments as necessary for the orderly conduct of
33 business.

34 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
35 Sections 11125.7, 17525 and 17526-17528, Government Code.

36 **§ 1181.13. Commission Meeting by Teleconference.**

37 The Commission may hold an open or closed meeting by teleconference ~~if it is difficult~~
38 ~~or impossible for the Commission to achieve a quorum. A meeting held by~~
39 ~~teleconference shall comply in compliance~~ with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act,
40 including the requirements to provide notice of the teleconference locations and make
41 them open to the public.

~~The Commission may also hold an open or closed meeting by teleconference under alternative provisions of the Act, with some members participating remotely from remote locations (which are not disclosable or open to the public) while a quorum of its members are physically present at the same teleconference location.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 11123, 11123.2, 17526, 17527(b) and 17527(c), Government Code.

Article 3. Test Claims

§ 1183.1. Test Claim Filing.

(a) In order to obtain a mandate determination, a local agency or school district shall file a test claim with the Commission pursuant to Government Code sections 17551 and 17553 as follows:

(1) A county auditor, auditor-controller, or director of finance who has assumed the duties of controller, may file on behalf of a county.

(2) A city manager, director of finance, or other officer with a delegation by ordinance or resolution from the city council, may file on behalf of a city.

(3) A district superintendent may file on behalf of a school district.

(4) A chancellor, vice chancellor, director of finance, or other officer with authority delegated by the governing body by ordinance or resolution, may file on behalf of a community college district.

(5) A general manager or other officer with authority delegated by the governing body by ordinance or resolution may file on behalf of a special district.

(b) Claimants may agree to file a test claim as a joint effort if the claimants attest to all of the following in the test claim filing:

(1) The claimants allege state-mandated costs result from the same statute or executive order;

(2) The claimants agree on all issues of the test claim; and

(3) The claimants have designated one person to act as the sole representative for all claimants.

~~(c) Otherwise, the first claim filed on a statute or executive order by a similarly situated claimant is the test claim and no duplicate test claims will be accepted by the Commission. Other similarly situated affected agencies may participate in the process by filing comments in writing on any agenda item as provided in section 1181.10 of these regulations, and may attend any Commission hearing on the test claim and provide written or oral comments to the Commission. Interested parties whose agencies that are not similarly situated, meaning subvention rights under article XIIB, section 6, of the California Constitution are not protected by the test claim filing that test claim statutes affect them differently, may file a test claim on the same statute or executive order as the first claim, but shall must demonstrate in their filing how and why their subvention rights are not protected by the first test claim they are affected differently.~~

(de) Except as provided in Government Code sections 17573 and 17574, any test claim or amendment filed with the Commission ~~shall~~ must be filed not later than 12 months (365 days) following the effective date of a statute or executive order, or within 12 months (365 days) of first incurring increased costs as a result of a statute or executive order, whichever is later.

(ed) All test claims, or amendments thereto, shall be filed on a form developed by the executive director and shall contain all of the elements and supplemental documents required by statute, regulation and the form. When an omnibus bill is pled, claimant shall file only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory changes at issue.

~~(fe) A test claim, or test claim amendment thereto, and accompanying documents shall be signed at the end of the document, under penalty of perjury by the claimant or its authorized representative, with the declaration that the test claim is true and complete to the best of the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date of signing, the declarant's title, address, telephone number, facsimile machine telephone number, and electronic mail address shall be included. A test claim, or test claim amendment, shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.~~

(gf) Within 10 days of receipt of a test claim, or amendment thereto, Commission staff shall notify the claimant if the test claim is complete or incomplete. Test claims will be considered incomplete if any of the requirements of Government Code section 17553 or this section are illegible, not included, or are not met. If a complete test claim is not received within 30 calendar days from the date the incomplete test claim was returned, the executive director may disallow the original test claim filing date. ~~A and a new test claim may be accepted on the same statute or executive order alleged to impose a reimbursable state-mandated program.~~

(hg) Any test claim, or portion of a test claim, that the Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear for any reason, including that the test claim was not filed within the period of limitation required by subdivision (c) of this section, may be rejected or dismissed by the executive director with a written notice stating the reason therefor. However, for an otherwise timely and complete test claim over which the Commission would have jurisdiction, except that it was filed by a local agency that is not eligible to seek reimbursement because it is not subject to the taxing and spending limitations of articles XIII A and B of the California Constitution, the Commission shall follow the process outlined in section 1187.14(b).

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553, Government Code. Reference: Sections 17521, 17530, 17551, 17553, 17557(e), 17573, 17574, 24000, 24300.5, 26881, 26900, 26970, 26972, 34852, 37209, 40805.5 and 56723, Government Code; and Sections 35034 and 35035, Education Code.

§ 1183.2. Review of Test Claim.

(a) Within 10 days of receipt of a completed test claim, or amendment thereto, Commission staff shall ~~serve~~ make a copy of the test claim or amendment available to

1 ~~those named to all persons~~ on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section
2 1181.4 of these regulations and shall post it on the Commission's web-site.

3 (b) Written comments concerning the test claim may be filed by anyone~~shall be certified,~~
4 ~~filed, and served~~ within 30 days from the date the test claim or amendment is issued for
5 comment and in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

6 (c) Content and Form. Written comments on the test claim shall contain the following
7 documentary evidence, if applicable:

8 (1) If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or
9 testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

10 (2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state~~
11 ~~constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of~~
12 ~~administrative decisions and court decisions that may impact the alleged mandate,~~
13 ~~unless the authorities are also cited in the test claim. The specific statutes and chapters,~~
14 ~~articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers shall be~~
15 ~~identified. Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the~~
16 ~~Board of Control and the Commission on State Mandates, article XIII B, section 6 of the~~
17 ~~California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from~~
18 ~~the requirements of this subdivision.~~

19 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
20 Sections 17530 and 17553(a), Government Code.

21 **§ 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal.**

22 (a) Written rebuttals to ~~written comments concerning~~filed on a test claim, may be filed
23 by parties or interested parties, ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance
24 with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written
25 comments.

26 (b) Content and Form.

27 (1) If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or
28 testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

29 (2) Include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online
30 ~~state constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of~~
31 ~~administrative decisions and court decisions that are cited in the rebuttal, unless the~~
32 ~~authorities are also cited in the test claim or any opposition thereto. Published court~~
33 ~~decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the~~
34 ~~Commission on State Mandates, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution,~~
35 ~~and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirement to~~
36 ~~include a copy. The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory~~
37 ~~registers, case law citations, and page numbers of the~~all authorities relied upon shall be
38 identified ~~in the written rebuttal.~~

39 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
40 Sections 17530 and 17553(a), Government Code.

1 **§ 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.**

2 Within 30 days of the filing date of a test claim deemed complete, a claimant may file a
3 motion with the executive director to consolidate part or all of any test claim with another
4 test claim, or to sever any part of any test claim, if necessary to ensure the complete,
5 fair, or timely consideration of any test claim.

6 (a) Any motion to consolidate or to sever shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in
7 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of
8 relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the
9 specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations,
10 and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If written representations of fact are
11 made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance
12 with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

13 (b) Within 30 days after receipt of a motion to consolidate or sever, the executive
14 director will grant or deny the motion with a written notice stating the reason therefor
15 and will make any necessary changes to the names or numbering of the affected test
16 claims~~may consolidate or sever any test claim.~~

17 Note: Authority cited: Section 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
18 Sections 17530, 17553 and 17554, Government Code.

19 **§ 1183.5. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.**

20 (a) The executive director may consolidate part or all of any test claim with another test
21 claim or sever a test claim, if necessary to ensure the complete, fair, or timely
22 consideration of any test claim.

23 (b) At least 10 days before the action is taken, the executive director shall
24 simultaneously serve on the parties and ~~all persons~~interested parties on the mailing list
25 described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and post on the Commission's
26 website, a notice of any proposed action to consolidate or sever.

27 Note: Authority cited: Section 17527(g), 17553 and 17554, Government Code.
28 Reference: Sections 17530, 17553 and 17554, Government Code.

29 **§ 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision.**

30 ~~(a) Before the hearing on the test claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed~~
31 ~~decision for the test claim, which shall include a review of the written comments filed.~~
32 ~~The proposed decision shall describe and analyze the test claim to assist the~~
33 ~~Commission in determining whether the alleged statutes or executive orders contain a~~
34 ~~reimbursable state-mandated program under article XIII B, section 6 of the California~~
35 ~~Constitution.~~

36 ~~(b) At least eight weeks before the hearing, or at a time required by the executive~~
37 ~~director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed~~
38 ~~decision and distribute it to the parties, interested parties, and~~serve it on all
39 persons~~these~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and
40 shall post it on the Commission's website.

(be) Anyone may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the test claim.~~

(c) Before the hearing on the test claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision, which shall include a review of the entire record. The proposed decision shall describe and analyze the test claim to assist the Commission in determining whether the alleged statutes or executive orders contain a reimbursable state-mandated program under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.

~~(d) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (c) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553, Government Code. Reference: Sections 17514, 17530, 17551 and 17553, Government Code.

§ 1183.7. Content of Parameters and Guidelines.

The parameters and guidelines shall describe the claimable reimbursable costs and contain the following information:

(a) Summary of the Mandate. A summary of the Commission's findings and identification of reimbursable state mandated activities~~mandate identifying the statutes or executive orders that contain the mandate and the increased level of service and activities found to be required under those statutes or executive orders.~~

(b) Eligible Claimants. A description of the local governmental entities eligible to file for reimbursement.

(c) Period of Reimbursement. A description of the period of reimbursement specifying the beginning and ending (if applicable) of the reimbursement period.

(d) Reimbursable Activities. A description of the specific costs and types of costs that are reimbursable, including one-time costs and on-going costs, and reasonably necessary activities required to comply with the mandate. "Reasonably necessary activities" are those activities necessary to comply with the statutes, regulations and other executive orders found to impose a state-mandated program. Activities required by statutes, regulations and other executive orders that were not pled in the test claim may only be used to define reasonably necessary activities to the extent that

1 compliance with the approved state-mandated activities would not otherwise be
2 possible. Whether an activity is reasonably necessary is a mixed question of law and
3 fact. All representations of fact to support any proposed reasonably necessary activities
4 shall be supported by documentary evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of
5 these regulations.

6 (e) Claim Preparation. Instruction on claim preparation, including instructions for direct
7 and indirect cost reporting for actual costs incurred, or application of a reasonable
8 reimbursement methodology.

9 (f) Record Retention. Notice of the Office of the State Controller's authority to audit
10 claims and the amount of time supporting documents ~~shall~~ must be retained during the
11 period subject to audit.

12 (g) Any Offsetting Revenues and Reimbursements that reduce the cost of any
13 reimbursable activity, including the identification of:

14 (1) Any offsetting revenue the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of
15 the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate~~Dedicated state and~~
16 ~~federal funds appropriated for this program.~~

17 (2) Any reimbursement for this mandate from any source, including but not limited to,
18 state and federal funds, any service charge, fee, or assessment authority to offset all or
19 part of the costs of this program, and any other funds that are not the claimant's
20 proceeds of taxes~~Non-local agency funds dedicated for this program.~~

21 ~~(3) Local agency's general purpose funds for this program.~~

22 ~~(4) Service charge, fee, or assessment authority to offset part of the costs of this~~
23 ~~program.~~

24 (h) Any Offsetting Savings. Identification of any offsetting savings provided by the test
25 claim statute or executive order, or other statute or executive order, which decreases
26 the cost of any reimbursable activity and permits or requires the discontinuance or
27 reduction in the level of service of the program.

28 (i) Claiming Instructions. Notice of the Office of the State Controller's duty to issue
29 claiming instructions, which constitutes notice of the right of local agencies and school
30 districts to file reimbursement claims, based upon the decision and parameters and
31 guidelines adopted by the Commission.

32 (j) Remedies Before the Commission. Instructions for filing requests to review claiming
33 instructions and requests to amend parameters and guidelines with the Commission.

34 (k) Legal and Factual Basis. Notice that the legal and factual basis for the parameters
35 and guidelines are found in the administrative record for the test claim, which is on file
36 with the Commission.

37 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17517.5, 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code.
38 Reference: Sections 17518.5, 17530, 17553, 17556(e), 17557 and 17558, Government
39 Code.

§ 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments.

(a) Within 30 days of adoption of the decision on a test claim, or the early termination or expiration of a reasonable reimbursement methodology, the successful test claimant shall file with the Commission proposed parameters and guidelines, pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a). Proposed parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(b) If any of the elements described in section 1183.7 are missing or are not adequately addressed, Commission staff shall, within 10 days of receipt, deem the proposed parameters and guidelines incomplete and shall return the proposal to the claimants with a description of the subjects that are to be redrafted or supplemented.

(c) Within 10 days of receipt of completed proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons ~~those who are~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the Commission's website.

(d) Commission staff shall notify all persons on the mailing list ~~recipients~~ that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments concerning the proposed parameters and guidelines within 15 days of service.

(e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(f) Within 15 days of service of the comments, ~~anyone parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ may file written rebuttals with the Commission. ~~Rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17530, 17553(a), 17557 and 17557.2, Government Code.

§ 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines.

(a) After adoption of a decision on a test claim, but before claimant files proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff may expedite the parameters and guidelines process by preparing and issuing draft expedited parameters and guidelines to assist the claimant. The draft expedited parameters and guidelines shall be served to

1 ~~all persons~~everyone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations,
2 and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

3 In lieu of filing an original proposal pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a), the
4 successful test claimant may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and
5 guidelines with the Commission which may include proposed modifications. Such
6 comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of
7 these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not
8 readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles,
9 sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities
10 relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by
11 documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
12 regulations.

13 (b) ~~Anyone~~Parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file comments on the
14 draft expedited parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service of Commission
15 staff's draft proposal. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance
16 with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of
17 any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and
18 chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers
19 of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported
20 by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
21 regulations.

22 (c) Within 15 days of service of the comments filed pursuant to subdivision (b) of this
23 section, ~~anyone~~parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file and ~~serve~~
24 ~~rebuttals. Such rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section
25 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any
26 documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and
27 chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers
28 of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported
29 by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
30 regulations.

31 (d) If no comments are filed on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines that raise
32 substantive issues regarding any of the elements described in section 1183.7, a draft
33 proposed decision in accordance with section 1183.13(a) of these regulations need not
34 be prepared and the executive director may schedule the proposed decision and
35 parameters and guidelines for adoption at the next regularly scheduled hearing in
36 accordance with section 1183.13(d) of these regulations.

37 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17517.5, 17527(g), 17530 and 17553(a), Government
38 Code. Reference: Sections 17553(a), 17556(e) and 17557, Government Code.

39 **§ 1183.10. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology.**

40 (a) Government Code section 17518.5 defines a "reasonable reimbursement
41 methodology" as a formula for reimbursing local agencies and school districts for costs
42 mandated by the state, as defined in Section 17514.

(b) For purposes of developing a reasonable reimbursement methodology pursuant to Government Code sections 17557 or 17557.1, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Costs to implement the mandate in a cost-efficient manner" include only those costs for the activities that were determined to be reimbursable by the Commission in the decision on the test claim, and the costs of reasonably necessary activities to comply with the mandate pursuant to section 1183.7(d) of these regulations.

(2) When surveying or otherwise gathering cost data to develop a formula, "representative sample of claimants" does not include eligible claimants that do not respond to surveys or otherwise participate in submitting cost data.

(c) An interested party may file cost information or other cost projections that can be the basis of a reasonable reimbursement methodology, and letters in support of a draft reasonable reimbursement methodology proposed pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1. Such information shall be ~~certified, filed and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17518.5, 17557 and 17557.1, Government Code.

§ 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs.

(a) Notwithstanding Government Code section 17557, within 30 days of the adoption of a decision on a test claim, the successful test claimant and the Department of Finance may notify the executive director in writing of their intent to follow the process described in Government Code sections 17557.1-17557.2 to develop a reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs.

(b) The written notification shall provide all information and filing dates, as specified in Government Code section 17557.1(a), and shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(c) At the request of the test claimant and the Department of Finance, the executive director may provide for up to four extensions of the 180-day period to file the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and proposed statewide estimate of costs for the initial claiming period and budget year. Any request shall~~must~~ be based on good cause as described in section 1187.9 and also include an update of all information and filing dates provided in the original written notification filed pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1(a). If no draft has been filed and no request for an extension has been made by the filing date specified in the notice of intent to develop a reasonable reimbursement methodology, or if all extensions have been exhausted, the executive director shall issue a letter notifying the test claimant of the duty to file proposed parameters and guidelines within 30 days under Government Code section 17557(a).

1 (d) The test claimant and Department of Finance shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ any filings
2 made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1 in accordance with section 1181.3
3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not
4 readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles,
5 sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities
6 relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by
7 documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
8 regulations.

9 (e) Commission staff shall notify all recipients that they shall have the opportunity to file
10 written comments concerning the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and
11 proposed statewide estimate of costs within 15 days of service.

12 (f) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section
13 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any
14 documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and
15 chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers
16 of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported
17 by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
18 regulations.

19 (g) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and
20 Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and~~
21 ~~served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a
22 copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify
23 the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law
24 citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are
25 made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance
26 with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

27 (h) At least 10 days prior to the next hearing, Commission staff shall review comments
28 and issue a staff recommendation on whether the Commission should approve the draft
29 reasonable reimbursement methodology and adopt the proposed statewide estimate of
30 costs pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2.

31 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
32 Sections 17557, 17557.1 and 17557.2, Government Code.

33 **§ 1183.12. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology, Included in Parameters and**
34 **Guidelines.**

35 (a) If the claimant indicates in the proposed parameters and guidelines or comments
36 that a reasonable reimbursement methodology, as defined in Government Code section
37 17518.5, should be considered for inclusion in the parameters and guidelines, or if the
38 Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, any affected state agency, or
39 eligible claimant proposes consideration of a reasonable reimbursement methodology,
40 Commission staff may schedule an informal conference in accordance with section
41 1187.4 of these regulations to discuss the methodology and plan for proposing a
42 reasonable reimbursement methodology.

1 (b) A proposed reasonable reimbursement methodology, as described in Government
2 Code section 17518.5, shall include any documentation or assumption relied upon to
3 develop the proposed methodology.

4 (c) Commission staff shall notify all recipients that they shall have the opportunity to file
5 written comments concerning the proposed reasonable reimbursement methodology
6 within 15 days of service.

7 (d) Proposed reasonable reimbursement methodologies and comments regarding those
8 proposals shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
9 regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily
10 available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections,
11 regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon.
12 If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or
13 testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

14 (e) Within 15 days of service of the written comments prepared by other parties and
15 interested parties, the party that proposed the reasonable reimbursement methodology
16 may file a written rebuttal ~~with the Commission, and shall certify, file, and serve the~~
17 ~~rebuttal~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a
18 copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify
19 the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law
20 citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are
21 made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance
22 with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

23 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
24 Sections 17518.5, 17557, 17557.1 and 17557.2, Government Code.

25 **§ 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines.**

26 (a) Except as provided in section 1183.9(d) of these regulations, after review of the
27 ~~entire record test claim decision, claimant's proposed parameters and guidelines or draft~~
28 ~~expedited parameters and guidelines, and written comments and rebuttals,~~ Commission
29 staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.
30 Commission staff's recommendation may include a reasonable reimbursement
31 methodology developed pursuant to Government Code section 17518.5 and proposed
32 pursuant to section 1183.12 of these regulations.

33 (b) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines
34 shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
35 regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of
36 relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the
37 specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations,
38 and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments
39 shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters
40 pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they
41 shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section
42 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by~~

Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.

(c) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (b) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines after the comment period expires.

(d) The Commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these regulations before adoption of the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.

(de) Within 10 days after the adoption of the decision and parameters and guidelines, the executive director shall issue it to the Office of the State Controller and to all personseveryone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post a copy on the Commission's website.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17518.5, 17530, 17553(a) and 17557, Government Code.

§ 1183.15. Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology.

(a) The test claimant and the Department of Finance may file a joint request, in accordance with Government Code section 17557.2(e), for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology adopted pursuant to Government Code sections 17557.1 and 17557.2, which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(b) Commission staff shall notify all recipients that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments on the joint request for early termination of a reasonable reimbursement methodology within 15 days of service.

(c) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(d) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(e) At least 10 days prior to the next hearing, Commission staff shall review comments and issue a recommendation on whether the Commission should approve the joint

request for early termination of a reasonable reimbursement methodology pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2(e).

(f) If the Commission approves a joint request for early termination, the Commission shall notify the test claimant of the duty to file proposed parameters and guidelines to the Commission pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a), and section 1183.13 of these regulations or request that Commission staff prepare expedited parameters and guidelines pursuant to section 1183.9 of these regulations to replace the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Section 17557.2, Government Code.

§ 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology.

(a) At least one year before the expiration of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology adopted pursuant to Government Code sections 17557.1 and 17557.2, Commission staff shall issue a notice to the test claimant and the Department of Finance, which shall also be served to ~~all personseveryone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and posted on the Commission's website, that the test claimant and Department of Finance may do one of the following within 60 days:

(1) Jointly propose amendments to the reasonable reimbursement methodology by filing: (A) the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology, (B) a description of the steps the test claimant and the Department of Finance undertook to determine the level of support by local agencies or school districts for the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology, (C) an agreement that the reasonable reimbursement methodology developed and approved under Government Code section 17557.2 shall be in effect for a period of five years unless a different term is approved by the Commission, and (D) an estimate of the mandate's annual cost for the subsequent budget year.

(2) Jointly propose that the reasonable reimbursement methodology remain in effect.

(3) Allow the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology to expire and notify the Commission that the test claimant will file proposed parameters and guidelines to the Commission pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a) and section 1183.8 of these regulations or request that Commission staff prepare expedited parameters and guidelines pursuant to section 1183.9 of these regulations to replace the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology.

(b) Copies of the proposals filed under subdivision (a) shall be filed ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(c) The test claimant and the Department of Finance may jointly propose amendments to the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology or the continuation of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology by filing a request made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2(f), which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made,

1 they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with
2 section 1187.5 of these regulations.

3 (d) Commission staff shall notify ~~all personseveryone~~ on the mailing list described in
4 section 1181.4 of these regulations that they shall have the opportunity to file written
5 comments on the jointly proposed amendments or request for continuation of the joint
6 reasonable reimbursement methodology within 30 days of service, and shall post a
7 copy of the notice on the Commission's website.

8 (e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section
9 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any
10 documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and
11 chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers
12 of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported
13 by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
14 regulations.

15 (f) Within 15 days of service of the written comments filed by other parties and
16 interested parties, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals
17 ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
18 regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily
19 available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections,
20 regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon.
21 If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or
22 testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

23 (g) At least 10 days prior to the next hearing, Commission staff shall review the
24 comments and issue a recommendation on whether the Commission should approve
25 the jointly proposed amendments or the continuation of a joint reasonable
26 reimbursement methodology pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2(g).

27 (h) Within 10 days of the adoption of the jointly proposed amendment or continuation of
28 a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, the executive director shall issue the
29 decision to the Office of the State Controller and to ~~all personseveryone~~ on the mailing
30 list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the
31 Commission's website.

32 (i) If the test claimant or the Department of Finance fails to respond within 60 days to
33 the notice described in subdivision (a) of this section, Commission staff shall prepare
34 and issue draft expedited parameters and guidelines, pursuant to Government Code
35 section 17557(a) and section 1183.9 of these regulations, within 30 days of the parties'
36 failure to respond.

37 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
38 Sections 17557, 17557.1 and 17557.2, Government Code.

39 **§ 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines.**

40 (a) All requests pursuant to Government Code section 17557 to amend parameters and
41 guidelines shall include the proposed language for the specific sections of the existing

parameters and guidelines that are to be changed, and include a narrative explaining why the amendment is required.

A request to amend parameters and guidelines may be filed to make any of the following changes to the parameters and guidelines:

(1) Delete any reimbursable activity that is repealed by statute or executive order after the adoption of the original or last amended parameters and guidelines.

(2) Update offsetting revenue and offsetting savings that apply to the mandated program and do not require a new legal finding that there are "no costs mandated by the state" under Government Code section 17556(e).

(3) Include a reasonable reimbursement methodology for all or some of the reimbursable activities in accordance with Government Code section 17518.5. Any request to include a reasonable reimbursement methodology based on, in whole or in part, costs that have been included in claims submitted to the Controller, shall include a statement to this effect on the cover or first page of the request.

(4) Clarify reimbursable activities consistent with the original decisions on the test claim and parameters and guidelines.

(5) Add new reimbursable activities that are reasonably necessary for the performance of the original state-mandated program pursuant to section 1183.7(d) of these regulations.

(6) Define what is not reimbursable consistent with the original decisions on the test claim and parameters and guidelines.

(7) Consolidate the parameters and guidelines for two or more programs.

(8) Amend the "boilerplate" language.

(b) For purposes of this section, "boilerplate" language is defined as the language in the parameters and guidelines that is not unique to the state-mandated program that is the subject of the parameters and guidelines.

(c) The addition or substitution of requesters and supporting declarations based on the original facts alleged in an existing parameters and guidelines amendment request is not an "amendment." However, new proposals for amendments shall ~~must~~ be filed as a new parameters and guidelines amendment request.

(d) A claimant or state agency requesting an amendment to existing parameters and guidelines shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the request in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(e) Within 10 days of receipt of a request to amend parameters and guidelines, Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons ~~those who are~~ on the mailing list

described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post the request on the Commission's website.

(f) Commission staff shall notify ~~all persons~~~~those who are~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments concerning the proposed amendment of the parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service, and shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website.

(g) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments on the request to amend the parameters and guidelines ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(h) ~~Parties and interested parties may file w~~Written rebuttals to the comments may be filed within 21 days of service of the comments. ~~Written rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(i) After review of the ~~entire record~~~~proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines, written comments, and rebuttals filed~~, Commission staff shall prepare and issue for comment a draft proposed decision recommending whether the requester's proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines should be adopted.

(j) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines.~~

(k) ~~It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (j) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not~~

1 ~~respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft~~
2 ~~proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

3 ~~(f)~~ An amendment shall be made only after the Commission has conducted a hearing in
4 accordance with article 7 of these regulations.

5 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
6 Sections 17518.5, 17530, 17553 and 17557, Government Code.

7 **Article 4. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions**

8 **§ 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions.**

9 (a) Upon request of a local agency or school district, the Commission shall review
10 claiming instructions issued by the Office of State Controller.

11 (b) A request to review claiming instructions shall include the following:

12 (1) A copy of the disputed claiming instructions issued by the Office of the State
13 Controller pursuant to Government Code section 17558(b).

14 (2) If available, correspondence or other documentation that verifies the local agency or
15 school district sought to resolve the dispute through the Office of State Controller.

16 (3) A narrative that details the suggested changes and the reasons why the local
17 agency or school district finds the claiming instructions need to be modified to conform
18 to the parameters and guidelines in accordance with Government Code section 17571.

19 (4) The name, address, telephone number, and e-mail address of the agency contact
20 person.

21 (c) An original request to review claiming instructions shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~
22 in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of
23 relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the
24 specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations,
25 and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made,
26 they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with
27 section 1187.5 of these regulations.

28 (d) Within 10 days of receipt of a request to review claiming instructions, Commission
29 staff shall notify the local agency or school district that filed the request if the filing is
30 complete or incomplete. A request to review the claiming instructions shall be
31 considered incomplete if any of the elements required in subdivision (b) or (c) of this
32 section are illegible or not included. Incomplete requests shall be returned to the local
33 agency or school district. If a complete request is not received by the Commission within
34 30 days from the date the incomplete request was returned, the executive director may
35 deem the request withdrawn.

36 (e) Within 10 days of receipt of a complete request to review claiming instructions,
37 Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons ~~who are on~~ the mailing list described
38 in section 1181.4 of these regulations. Commission staff shall provide notice that written
39 comments concerning the request to review claiming instructions may be filed within 30

1 days of service of the notice of complete filing. A copy of the notice shall also be posted
2 on the Commission's website.

3 ~~(f) Anyone may file written comments on the request.~~ Written comments shall be certified,
4 ~~filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall
5 include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and
6 shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers,
7 case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of
8 fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in
9 accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

10 (g) Within 30 days of service of the written comments, ~~parties or interested parties~~
11 ~~requester~~ may file a written rebuttal ~~to the Commission which shall be certified, filed,~~
12 ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include
13 a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall
14 identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case
15 law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact
16 are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in
17 accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

18 (h) Before hearing a request to review claiming instructions, Commission staff shall
19 prepare a draft proposed decision that shall include a review of the entire record
20 ~~request~~ ~~and any comments filed~~, and a staff recommendation on whether the request should be
21 approved or denied.

22 (i) ~~Anyone~~ ~~The requester and any state agency, or interested party~~ may file written
23 comments on the draft proposed decision. ~~Written comments shall be certified, filed,~~
24 ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date
25 determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant
26 portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific
27 statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and
28 page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they
29 shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section
30 1187.5 of these regulations. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject
31 to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government
32 Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission~~
33 ~~staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision on the request to review and~~
34 ~~modify the claiming instructions.~~

35 (j) ~~It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments,~~
36 ~~exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in~~
37 ~~subdivision (i) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not~~
38 ~~respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft~~
39 ~~proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

40 ~~(k)~~ The Commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these
41 regulations on the request to review claiming instructions.

1 (k/) If the Commission determines that the claiming instructions need to be modified, the
2 Commission shall direct the Office of State Controller to modify the claiming instructions
3 to conform to the parameters and guidelines.

4 (~~lm~~) An approved change to the claiming instructions shall be subject to the following
5 schedule:

6 (1) A request for review filed before the deadline for initial claims as specified in the
7 claiming instructions shall apply to all years eligible for reimbursement as defined in the
8 original parameters and guidelines.

9 (2) A request for review filed after the initial claiming deadline ~~shall~~must be filed on or
10 before the annual reimbursement claim filing deadline set out in Government Code
11 section 17560 following a fiscal year to establish eligibility for reimbursement for that
12 fiscal year.

13 (~~mn~~) A request to review claiming instructions may be withdrawn by written application
14 to the executive director any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at
15 the time of hearing. The requesters shall file ~~and serve~~ the written application in
16 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Commission staff shall post a copy
17 of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the request
18 to review claiming instructions. If no other local agency or school district takes over the
19 request to review claiming instructions by substitution of parties within 60 days of
20 service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a
21 letter to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these
22 regulations dismissing the request to review claiming instructions and shall post the
23 letter on the Commission's website.

24 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17527(h), Government Code. Reference:
25 Sections 17530, 17558(b), 17560 and 17571, Government Code.

26 **Article 5. Incorrect Reduction Claims**

27 **§ 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing.**

28 (a) To obtain a determination that the Office of State Controller incorrectly reduced a
29 reimbursement claim, a claimant shall file an "incorrect reduction claim" with the
30 Commission as follows:

31 (1) A county auditor, auditor-controller, or director of finance who has assumed the
32 duties of controller, may file on behalf of a county.

33 (2) A city manager, director of finance, or other officer with a delegation by ordinance or
34 resolution from the city council, may file on behalf of a city.

35 (3) A district superintendent may file on behalf of a school district.

36 (4) A chancellor, vice chancellor, director of finance, or other officer with authority
37 delegated by the governing body by ordinance or resolution, may file on behalf of a
38 community college district.

39 (5) A general manager or other officer with authority delegated by the governing body
40 by ordinance or resolution may file on behalf of a special district.

(b) If a claimant intends to pursue an incorrect reduction claim on behalf of a class of claimants, it ~~shall~~must notify the Commission of its intent to do so at the time it files its incorrect reduction claim and meet the requirements of section 1185.3 of these regulations.

(c) All incorrect reduction claims and amendments thereto shall be filed with the Commission no later than three years following the date a claimant first receives from the Office of State Controller a final state audit report, letter, or other written notice of adjustment to a reimbursement claim, which complies with Government Code section 17558.5(c) by specifying the claim components adjusted, the amounts adjusted, interest charges on claims adjusted to reduce the overall reimbursement to the claimant, and the reason for the adjustment. The filing shall be returned to the claimant for lack of jurisdiction if this requirement is not met.

(d) An incorrect reduction claim shall pertain to alleged incorrect reductions in a reimbursement claim filed by one claimant. The incorrect reduction claim may be for more than one fiscal year.

(e) All incorrect reduction claims, or amendments thereto, shall be filed on a form provided by the Commission.

(f) All incorrect reduction claims, or amendments thereto, shall contain at least the following elements and documents:

(1) A copy of the Office of State Controller's claiming instructions that were in effect during the fiscal years of the reimbursement claims.

(2) A written detailed narrative that describes the alleged incorrect reductions. The narrative shall include a comprehensive description of the reduced or disallowed areas of costs and identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon.

(3) All representations of fact shall be supported by testimonial or documentary evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(4) A copy of any final state audit report, letter, or other written notice of adjustment from the Office of State Controller that explains the claim components adjusted, amounts reduced, and the reasons for the reduction or disallowance.

(5) A copy of the subject reimbursement claims the claimant submitted to the Office of State Controller.

(g) An incorrect reduction claim, or amendment thereto, and any accompanying documents, shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17530, 17551(d), 17553(d), 17558.5(c) and 17558.7(a), Government Code.

§ 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims.

(a) Within 10 days of receipt of an incorrect reduction claim, Commission staff shall notify the claimant if the incorrect reduction claim is complete or incomplete. Incorrect reduction claims will be considered incomplete if any of the requirements of section

1 1185.1 are illegible or not included or if the requirements of those subdivisions are not
2 met. Incomplete incorrect reduction claims shall be returned to the claimant. If a
3 complete incorrect reduction claim is not received by the Commission within 30 days
4 from the date the incomplete claim was returned to the claimant, the executive director
5 shall deem the filing to be withdrawn.

6 (b) Any incorrect reduction claim, or portion of an incorrect reduction claim, that the
7 Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear for any reason, including that the incorrect
8 reduction claim was not filed within the period of limitation required by section 1185.1(c)
9 of these regulations, may be rejected or dismissed by the executive director with a
10 written notice stating the reason therefor.

11 (c) Within 10 days of receipt of a complete incorrect reduction claim, Commission staff
12 shall provide a copy of the claim to the Office of State Controller.

13 (d) Commission staff shall notify the Office of State Controller that written comments
14 and supporting documentation in connection with an incorrect reduction claim shall be
15 filed no more than 90 days from the date the copy of the claim is provided to the Office
16 of State Controller. Written comments and supporting documentation shall be ~~certified,~~
17 ~~filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall
18 include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and
19 shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers,
20 case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of
21 fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in
22 accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

23 (e) Written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's written comments may be filed by
24 the claimant or interested persons in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
25 regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments, and shall include a copy
26 of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the
27 specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations,
28 and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. ~~The claimant and interested parties may~~
29 ~~file written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's comments within 30 days of~~
30 ~~service of the Office of State Controller's comments. Written rebuttals and supporting~~
31 ~~documentation shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of~~
32 ~~these regulations.~~ If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by
33 documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
34 regulations.

35 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
36 Sections 17551(d), 17553(d), 17558.5(c) and 17558.7(a), Government Code.

37 **§ 1185.4. Joining a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim.**

38 (a) Within 30 days of receipt of the Commission's notice regarding the original
39 claimant's notice of intent to consolidate an incorrect reduction claim, any other eligible
40 claimant may, on a form provided by the Commission, file a notice of intent to join the
41 consolidated incorrect reduction claim.

42 (b) All notices of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim shall comply with
43 section 1185.1(c) and contain at least the following elements and documents:

1 (1) A copy of the final state audit report, letter, or other written notice of adjustment from
2 the Office of State Controller that explains the claim components adjusted, amounts
3 reduced, and the reasons for the reduction.

4 (2) A copy of the subject reimbursement claims submitted to the Office of State
5 Controller.

6 ~~(3) A notice of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim shall include a~~
7 certification by the joining claimant authorizing the original claimant to act as its
8 representative in the consolidated incorrect reduction claim, and a declaration under
9 penalty of perjury that the filing is true and complete to the best of the declarant's
10 personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date signed, the declarant's title,
11 address, telephone number, and e-mail address shall be included. All representations of
12 fact shall be supported by testimonial or documentary evidence in accordance with
13 section 1187.5 of these regulations.

14 ~~(c4)~~ The joining claimant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ one original notice of intent to join
15 and accompanying documents in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

16 ~~(de)~~ Within 10 days of receipt of a notice of intent to join a consolidated incorrect
17 reduction claim, Commission staff shall notify the joining claimant if the notice of intent
18 to join is complete or incomplete. Notices of intent to join a consolidated incorrect
19 reduction claim will be considered incomplete if any of the elements required in
20 subdivision (b) of this section are illegible or not included. Incomplete notices of intent
21 shall be returned to the joining claimant. If a complete notice of intent to join a
22 consolidated incorrect reduction claim is not received by the Commission within 30 days
23 from the date the incomplete notice of intent was returned to the joining claimant, the
24 executive director may deem the filing withdrawn.

25 ~~(ed)~~ Any notice of intent to join the consolidated incorrect reduction claim, or portion
26 thereof, that the Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear for any reason, including that the
27 notice was not filed within the period of limitation required by section 1185.1(c) of these
28 regulations, may be rejected or dismissed by the executive director with a written notice
29 stating the reason therefor.

30 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17558.7(g), Government Code.
31 Reference: Sections 17558.5(c) and 17558.7, Government Code.

32 **§ 1185.5. Opting Out of a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim.**

33 Pursuant to Government Code section 17558.7(f), each claimant that files a notice of
34 intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim may opt out and not be bound by
35 any determination made on the consolidated claim.

36 (a) To opt out of a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, claimants shall file a written
37 notice with the Commission within 15 days of service of the Office of State Controller's
38 comments. A copy of the notice ~~shall~~must be served in accordance with section 1181.3
39 of these regulations.

40 (b) No later than one year after opting out, or within the period of limitation under section
41 1185.1(c) of these regulations, whichever is later, a claimant that opts out of a
42 consolidated claim shall file an individual incorrect reduction claim in accordance with

1 section 1185.1 of these regulations in order to preserve its right to challenge a reduction
2 made by the Controller on that same mandate.

3 (c) If a claimant opts out of a consolidated incorrect reduction claim and an individual
4 incorrect reduction claim for that entity is already on file with the Commission, the
5 individual filing is automatically reinstated.

6 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17558.7(g), Government Code.
7 Reference: Sections 17558.5 and 17558.7, Government Code.

8 **§ 1185.6. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Incorrect**
9 **Reduction Claims.**

10 The executive director may consolidate or sever any incorrect reduction claim in part or
11 whole, when necessary to ensure the complete, fair, or timely consideration of any
12 incorrect reduction claim.

13 (a) At least 30 days before the action is taken, the executive director shall
14 simultaneously serve on all persons on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of
15 these regulations a notice of any proposed action to consolidate or sever and shall post
16 the notice on the Commission's website.

17 (b) During the 30-day notice period, a claimant may file a written request that an
18 individual incorrect reduction claim be severed from a proposed consolidation, which
19 shall be filed ~~and served~~, in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and
20 shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online
21 and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory
22 registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. Timely
23 requests to sever shall be approved by the executive director.

24 (c) Late requests for severing an individual incorrect reduction claim shall be denied.

25 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17558.8(b), Government Code.
26 Reference: Sections 17530, 17554 and 17558.8, Government Code.

27 **§ 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of**
28 **Proposed Decision.**

29 (a) The Commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these
30 regulations before adopting a decision on an individual or consolidated incorrect
31 reduction claim.

32 (b) Before hearing an individual or consolidated incorrect reduction claim, Commission
33 staff shall prepare a proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim that shall
34 include a review of the entire record ~~incorrect reduction claim, comments and rebuttals~~
35 ~~filed on the claim and, to the extent that it is relevant to the claim, a review of the test~~
36 ~~claim decision and decision and parameters and guidelines.~~ The proposed decision
37 shall also include a staff recommendation on whether the claimant's reimbursement
38 claim was incorrectly reduced.

39 (c) At least eight weeks before the hearing or at a time required by the executive
40 director or stipulated to by the claimant and the Office of State Controller, Commission

1 staff shall issue the draft proposed decision to all personsthese on the mailing list
2 described in section 1181.4 of these regulations.

3 (d) A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's
4 authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. Written
5 comments may be filed ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with
6 section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the
7 executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not
8 readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles,
9 sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities
10 relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by
11 documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
12 regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and~~
13 ~~may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim.~~

14 ~~(e) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments,~~
15 ~~exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in~~
16 ~~subdivision (d) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not~~
17 ~~respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft~~
18 ~~proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

19 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
20 Sections 17530 and 17551(d), Government Code.

21 **§ 1185.8. Withdrawal of Incorrect Reduction Claims.**

22 (a) An incorrect reduction claim, except for a claim by the original claimant in a
23 consolidated incorrect reduction claim, may be withdrawn by written application any
24 time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. If an
25 application is made, the executive director shall issue a letter to the claimant and the
26 State Controller dismissing the claim.

27 (b) An incorrect reduction claim, by the original claimant in a consolidated incorrect
28 reduction claim, may be withdrawn by written application any time before a decision is
29 adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The original claimant shall ~~certify,~~
30 ~~file, and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
31 regulations and Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's
32 website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the incorrect reduction claim. If one of the joint
33 claimants takes over the claim, it shall, within 60 days of providing notice of its intent to
34 take over the claim, perfect the filing by filing the written narrative as required by section
35 1185.1 of these regulations. If none of the joint claimants takes over the claim by
36 substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to
37 withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all personseveryone on the
38 mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the claim and
39 providing the joint claimants with an opportunity to perfect their individual claims within
40 60 days of service by filing the written narrative as required by section 1185.1 of these
41 regulations. The letter shall be posted on the Commission's website.

42 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
43 Section 17551(d), Government Code.

Article 6. State Mandates Apportionment System

§ 1186.2. Request for Inclusion.

(a) Any local agency, school district, the Department of Finance or the State Controller's Office may request that the Commission review a mandated cost program for possible inclusion in the State Mandates Apportionment System in accordance with Government Code section 17615.1.

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding inclusion in the system, a local agency, school district or state agency ~~shall must certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Inclusion" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(c) The request for inclusion ~~shall must~~ contain at least the following:

(1) The chapter number of the law that established the mandated cost program(s).

(2) A detailed narrative describing the mandated cost program with an explanation of the reasons why the mandated cost program should be included in the State Mandates Apportionment System.

(3) Any other pertinent information that will substantiate the request or that would have a bearing on the decision of the Commission in this matter.

(d) The Commission shall consider the recommendation of the Controller for each new mandate proposed for inclusion in the State Mandates Apportionment System in accordance with Government Code section 17615.4(c).

(e) Requests for inclusion will be considered incomplete if any of the elements or documents required in subdivision (c) of this section are illegible or not included. Incomplete requests for inclusion shall be returned to the requester for completion.

(f) Requests for inclusion filings and any state agency recommendations shall be subject to the requirements of article 7 of these regulations beginning at section 1187.1. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17615 and 17615.1, Government Code.
Reference: Sections 17615, 17615.1 and 17615.4, Government Code.

§ 1186.4. Request for Removal.

(a) Any local agency, school district, or state agency may request that the Commission review a mandated program included in the State Mandates Apportionment System that has been modified or amended by the Legislature or an executive order for possible removal of the program from the system in accordance with Section 17615.7 of the Government Code.

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding removal of a program from the system, a local agency, school district, or state agency ~~shall must certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Removal" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

(c) The request for removal ~~shall must~~ contain at least the following elements:

1 (1) The chapter number or executive order of the law that established the mandated
2 cost program.

3 (2) The chapter number of the law or the executive order which significantly modified or
4 amended the costs of the program or a detailed description of the circumstances or
5 events which have caused the changes.

6 (3) A detailed narrative describing the mandated cost program with an explanation of
7 the reasons the mandated program should no longer be included in the State Mandates
8 Apportionment System.

9 (4) Any other information that will substantiate the request or that would have a bearing
10 on the decision of the Commission in this matter.

11 (d) Requests for removal will be considered incomplete if any of the elements or
12 documents required in subdivision (c) of this section are illegible or not included.
13 Incomplete requests for removal shall be returned to the requester for completion.

14 (e) Request for removal filings and any state agency recommendations shall be subject
15 to the requirements of article 7 of these regulations beginning at section 1187. If
16 representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial
17 evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

18 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17615.7, Government Code. Reference:
19 Section 17615.7, Government Code.

20 **§ 1186.6. Request for Review of an Apportionment or Base Year Entitlement.**

21 (a) Upon request of a local agency, school district or state agency the Commission shall
22 review the apportionment or base year entitlement pursuant to Government Code
23 section 17615.8(a).

24 (b) In order to obtain a review of an apportionment or base year entitlement a "Request
25 for Review" shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of
26 these regulations.

27 (c) The request for review shall contain at least the following elements:

28 (1) Identification of the mandated program that is alleged to require review.

29 (2) A detailed narrative describing the need to modify the apportionment or base year
30 entitlement.

31 (3) A statement to the effect that the other mandated programs included in the local
32 agency or school district's apportionment are not overfunded in an amount sufficient to
33 offset any underfunding.

34 (4) Cost information that outlines the amount of the funding for the total apportionment
35 and the calculations necessary to show that the program needing modification either
36 under or over reimburse the local agency or school district's actual costs by 20 percent
37 or by \$1,000, whichever is less.

38 (d) Requests for review will be considered incomplete if any of the elements required in
39 subdivision (c) of this section are illegible or not included. Incomplete requests for
40 review shall be returned to the requester for completion. If a complete request is not

received by the Commission within 30 days from the date the incomplete request was returned, the Commission shall deem the request to be withdrawn.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17615.8(a), Government Code. Reference: Section 17615.8, Government Code.

Article 7. Quasi-Judicial Hearing Procedures and Decisions

§ 1187.1. Scheduling and Noticing the Hearing.

~~(a) A "matter," subject to hearings and decisions under article 7 of these regulations, shall include test claims, proposed parameters and guidelines, requests to amend parameters and guidelines, incorrect reduction claims, requests to approve a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs, joint requests for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, requests for inclusion or removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of apportionment or base year entitlement for programs included in the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of the Office of State Controller's claiming instructions, and requests for mandate redetermination.~~

~~(b) A matter is set for hearing when Commission staff issues its draft proposed decision. A written notice of the date, time, and place of hearing shall be issued to all ~~personseveryone~~ on the mailing list as described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and shall be posted on the Commission's website.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a), 17558.7(g) and 17558.8(b), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17551, 17553(a), 17557, 17571, 17615.1, 17615.4, 17615.7, 17615.8 and 17615.9, Government Code.

§ 1187.4. Informal Conference.

(a) An informal conference may be scheduled by the Commission or the executive director of their own accord or by request of a party or interested party to the matter in question. All persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~The parties and interested parties to the matter~~ shall be invited to participate. With the consent of the parties, the informal conference may be a teleconference.

(b) At least 10 days before any informal conference, Commission staff shall serve notice of the conference to those on the mailing list for the matter in question as established pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

(c) The purpose of an informal conference may be to:

(1) Set dates for receiving comments or rebuttal comments; completing the proposed decision; and hearing the matter.

(2) Give the claimant or requester the opportunity to present the matter and to respond to questions from Commission staff and parties and interested parties for the purpose of resolving or clarifying issues of fact or law.

(3) Consider whether a reasonable reimbursement methodology may be developed and included in the parameters and guidelines.

(4) Review a draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and proposed statewide estimate of costs that are jointly prepared by the test claimant and the Department of Finance pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1.

(5) Identify issues and determine methods of resolving those issues.

~~(d) Any party may notify the executive director of any interested parties who should be invited to attend an informal conference.~~

~~(e) Anything said, any document disclosed, and any new representations of fact made during an informal conference shall not be made part of the administrative record of a matter unless properly admitted into the record through the submission of an amendment to a matter, written comment, rebuttal, or public testimony.~~

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17518.5, 17530, 17551, 17553(a) and 17557.1, Government Code.

§ 1187.5. Evidence Submitted to the Commission.

(a) The hearings will not be conducted according to technical rules relating to evidence and witnesses. Any relevant non-repetitive evidence shall be admitted if it is the sort of evidence on which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs. Irrelevant and unduly repetitious evidence shall be excluded. Hearsay evidence may be used for the purpose of supplementing or explaining other evidence but shall not be sufficient in itself to support a finding unless it would be admissible over objection in civil actions.

(b) Oral or written representations of fact offered by any person at an article 7 hearing shall be under oath or affirmation. All written representations of fact submitted to the Commission ~~shall~~must be signed under penalty of perjury by persons who are authorized and competent to do so and ~~shall~~must be based upon the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief.

(c) Official notice may be taken in the manner and of the information described in Government Code Section 11515.

(d) Each party shall have the right to present witnesses, introduce exhibits, and propose to the chairperson questions for opposing witnesses. Evidence may be submitted to support or rebut any issue. If declarations are to be used in lieu of testimony, the party proposing to use the declaration shall comply with Government Code Section 11514 as follows:

(1) At least ten days before the hearing, the party proposing to use a declaration in lieu of testimony shall file in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, a copy of any declaration which the party proposes to introduce in evidence, together with a notice as provided in subdivision (d)(2).

(2) The notice referred to in subdivision (d)(1) shall be substantially in the following form:

The accompanying declaration of (here insert name of declarant) will be introduced as evidence at the hearing in the matter of (here insert matter and case number). (Here insert name of declarant) will not be called to testify orally and you will not be entitled to

1 propose to the chairperson questions for the opposing witness unless you file in
2 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations a request to cross-examine the
3 declarant (here insert a date seven days after the date of filing and serving the
4 declaration).

5 (3) Unless the opposing party, within seven days after service, files in accordance with
6 section 1181.3 of these regulations a request to cross-examine the declarant, the
7 opposing party's right to cross-examine the declarant is waived and the declaration, if
8 introduced in evidence, shall be given the same effect as if the declarant had testified
9 orally.

10 (4) If, however, notice in accordance with subdivision (d)(1) is not provided by the party
11 proposing to use a declaration in lieu of testimony and an opportunity to cross-examine
12 a declarant is not afforded to the opposing party, the declaration may be introduced in
13 evidence but shall be given only the same effect as other hearsay evidence. In such
14 cases, the declaration shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via
15 the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website.

16 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(e), 17527(g), 17553, 17558.7, 17570, 17615.1
17 and 17615.8, Government Code; and Section 17000.6, Welfare and Institutions Code.
18 Reference: Sections 11514, 11515, 17518.5, 17527(e), 17551, 17553, 17557, 17557.2,
19 17559, 17570, 17571 and 17615.7, Government Code.

20 **§ 1187.6. Conduct of Hearing.**

21 (a) Each party shall have the right to present witnesses, to introduce exhibits, and to
22 propose to the chairperson questions for opposing witnesses in support or rebuttal of
23 any matter relevant to the issues even if that matter was not covered in the direct
24 examination. The Commission chairperson or hearing officer, however, may limit the
25 length of testimony to a specific amount of time, or limit the time for each party or
26 witness.

27 (b) The ~~presiding member~~, Commission members, hearing panel member or hearing
28 officer may question any party or witness and may admit any relevant and material
29 evidence.

30 (c) The taking of evidence in a hearing shall be controlled by the Commission, hearing
31 panel, or hearing officer in the manner best suited to ascertain the facts and safeguard
32 the rights of the parties. Prior to taking evidence, the issues and the order of presenting
33 evidence will be explained.

34 (d) The hearing will ordinarily proceed in the following manner. Commission staff will
35 summarize the matter. The claimant or requester and aligned parties and interested
36 parties will state their positions and present evidence. Opposing parties or interested
37 parties will thereafter state their positions and present evidence. The claimant or
38 requester will then be given an opportunity to reply.

39 (e) The Commission or hearing officer may call a party, or any other person who is
40 present, to testify under oath or affirmation. Any member of the Commission, its
41 executive director, or hearing officer may question witnesses.

1 (f) The Commission or the executive director may require that prepared written
2 testimony, declarations, or other evidence be filed in advance of any hearing to facilitate
3 the orderly consideration of issues at the hearing. A PDF copy of any prepared written
4 testimony, declaration, or other documentary evidence shall be electronically filed (or e-
5 filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the
6 Commission's website, at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to be part of the record and
7 considered by the Commission.

8 (g) Commission public hearings shall be recorded by stenographic reporter or electronic
9 recording or both. The transcript or recordings shall be kept for the period of time
10 required by applicable law governing the retention of records of state agency public
11 proceedings, or until the conclusion of administrative or judicial proceedings, whichever
12 is later.

13 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
14 Sections 11125.7, 17527(c), 17532, 17551 and 17553(a), Government Code.

15 **§ 1187.8. Representation at Hearing.**

16 (a) A party may appear in person or through an authorized representative. An
17 authorized representative may be an individual, firm, or organization. When using an
18 authorized representative, a party shall designate in writing the authorized
19 representative to act as its sole representative and shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ written
20 notice identifying the authorized representative in accordance with section 1181.3 of
21 these regulations.

22 (b) A representative of a party shall be deemed to control all matters respecting the
23 interest of that party in the proceeding. All correspondence and communications shall
24 be issued to the authorized representative. Any current member of a designated firm or
25 organization may appear as the party's representative, without requiring the party
26 withdraw the designation and designate a new representative.

27 (c) Withdrawal of appearance of any representative may be effected by ~~certifying, filing,~~
28 ~~and serving~~ a written notice of withdrawal in accordance with section 1181.3 of these
29 regulations. Any change in representation shall be authorized by the party in writing and
30 ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

31 Note: Authority cited: 17527(c), 17527(g), 17553(a), 17558.7, 17570, 17615.1 and
32 17615.8, Government Code; and Section 17000.6, Welfare and Institutions Code.
33 Reference: Sections 17527(c), 17551, 17553, 17557, 17557.2, 17570, 17571 and
34 17615.7, Government Code.

35 **§ 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements** 36 **and Continuances of Hearings.**

37 (a) Requests for Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals

38 (1) Any party or interested party to a matter may request an extension of time. Parties
39 are encouraged to meet and confer prior to requesting an extension to obtain a
40 stipulation or to permit the granting of extensions for more than one party at a time. A
41 request for an extension of time shall be made by filing a request with the executive
42 director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with Commission staff on

1 that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the extension, propose a new
2 date for filing, and be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of
3 these regulations. ~~If so long as~~ a postponement of a hearing would not be required,
4 there is no prejudice to any party ~~or interested party~~, and there is no other good reason
5 for denial, the request shall be approved. A party to a matter may request an extension
6 of time that would necessitate rescheduling a hearing, but shall also include a request
7 for postponement of the hearing, pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section. Within two
8 business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether
9 the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant
10 to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

11 (2) An interested party to a matter may request an extension of time by filing a request
12 with the executive director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with
13 Commission staff on that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the
14 extension, propose a new date for filing, and be filed in accordance with section 1181.3
15 of these regulations. If a postponement of a hearing would not be required, there is no
16 prejudice to any party and there is no other good reason for denial, the request shall be
17 approved. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director
18 shall determine whether the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the
19 mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

20 (b) Requests for Postponement of Hearing

21 A party to ~~an article 7~~ matter may request a postponement of a hearing on that matter,
22 until the next regularly scheduled hearing. Although postponements of hearings are
23 disfavored, each request for a postponement ~~shall~~ must be considered on its own merits.
24 The request shall fully explain the reasons for the postponement, and be ~~certified, filed,~~
25 ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Within two business
26 days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the
27 postponement will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared
28 pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations. The executive director may postpone
29 the matter only on an affirmative showing of good cause.

30 (1) Circumstances that may indicate good cause include:

31 (A) The unavailability of a party, party representative, or witness because of death,
32 illness, or other excusable circumstances;

33 (B) The substitution of a party representative, but only where there is an affirmative
34 showing that the substitution is required in the interests of justice;

35 (C) The addition of a new party if:

- 36 1. The new party has not had a reasonable opportunity to prepare for hearing; or
- 37 2. The other parties have not had a reasonable opportunity to prepare for hearing in
38 regard to the new party's involvement in the matter;

39 (D) A party's excused inability to obtain essential testimony, documents, or other
40 material evidence despite diligent efforts;

41 (E) A significant, unanticipated change in the status of the matter as a result of which
42 the matter is not ready for hearing; or

- 1 (F) The number and complexity of the issues.
- 2 (2) Other factors to be considered: In determining whether to grant a postponement, the
3 executive director shall consider the facts and circumstances that are relevant to the
4 determination. These may include:
- 5 (A) The proximity of the hearing date;
- 6 (B) Whether there was any previous postponement, extension of time, or delay of
7 hearing due to any party;
- 8 (C) The length of the postponement requested;
- 9 (D) The availability of alternative means to address the problem that gave rise to the
10 request for a postponement;
- 11 (E) The prejudice that parties or witnesses will suffer as a result of the postponement;
- 12 (F) If the matter was granted expedited scheduling, the reasons for that status and
13 whether the need for a postponement outweighs the need to avoid delay;
- 14 (G) The Commission's backlog of matters and the impact of granting a postponement
15 on other pending matters;
- 16 (H) Whether the claimant or requester representative is engaged in a trial or other
17 hearing that conflicts with the Commission hearing;
- 18 (I) Whether, pursuant to Government Code 17554, all parties have stipulated to a
19 postponement; and
- 20 (J) Whether the interests of justice are best served by a postponement, by moving
21 forward with the hearing on the matter, or by imposing conditions on the postponement.
- 22 (3) Approval of Requests for Postponement
- 23 (A) A request filed by a party~~the claimant or requester~~ at least 15 days before the
24 hearing shall be approved by the executive director for good cause.
- 25 (B) A request filed by stipulation of the parties,~~including the claimant or requester~~, shall
26 be approved by the executive director for good cause.
- 27 (C) A request filed by a party~~the claimant or requester~~ less than 15 days before the
28 hearing may be approved by the executive director for good cause.
- 29 ~~(D) A request filed by an interested party may be approved by the executive director for~~
30 ~~good cause. If a state agency makes a request before filing comments on the test claim,~~
31 ~~that request shall be accompanied by a notice of intent to oppose the test claim in whole~~
32 ~~or in part.~~
- 33 (4) Postponement on Commission Staff's Own Motion: The executive director may
34 postpone a hearing on a matter for good cause and shall notify all persons on the
35 mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.
- 36 (c) Continuance of a Hearing
- 37 (1) Prior to the adoption of its written decision on the matter being heard, the
38 Commission on its own motion, or upon a clear showing of good cause at the request of

1 a party, may continue a hearing to another time or place. Written notice of the time and
2 place of the continued hearing, except as provided herein, shall be in accordance with
3 section 1187.1 of these regulations. When a continuance is ordered during a hearing,
4 oral notice of the time and place of the continued hearing may also be given to each
5 party present at the hearing.

6 (2) Continuances will be granted only upon a clear showing of good cause as described
7 in subdivision (b). In determining whether there is good cause for a continuance the
8 following policy should be taken into consideration: Continuances are not favored by the
9 Commission. The parties are expected to submit for decision all matters in controversy
10 at a single hearing and to produce at the hearing all necessary evidence, including
11 witnesses, documents and anything considered essential in the proof of a party's
12 allegations.

13 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
14 Sections 17527, 17551 and 17553(a), Government Code; and California Rules of Court,
15 Rule 3.1332.

16 **§ 1187.10. Decision; Action on Proposed Decision.**

17 (a) The Commission shall adopt a decision for all matters subject to hearings and
18 decisions under article 7 of these regulations.

19 (b) If a matter is heard before the Commission itself, the Commission may adopt the
20 proposed decision on the same day as the hearing.

21 (c) If a matter is heard by a hearing panel or a hearing officer alone, the panel or
22 hearing officer shall prepare a proposed decision that may be adopted as the decision
23 of the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

24 (d) A copy of the proposed decision shall be served filed by Commission staff ~~as a public~~
25 ~~record and a copy of the proposed decision shall be served by Commission staff on~~
26 ~~each party to all persons on the mailing list.~~ The Commission ~~itself~~ may adopt the
27 proposed decision or decide the case itself, provided that the Commission ~~itself~~ shall
28 decide no matters provided for in this subdivision without affording the parties the
29 opportunity to present either oral or written argument before the Commission.

30 (e) If the proposed decision of Commission staff is not adopted by the Commission, as
31 provided in subdivisions ~~sections~~ (b) or (c), the Commission shall direct appropriate
32 modification of the proposed decision and thereafter adopt it as the Commission's
33 decision.

34 (f) Except as provided for in subdivision (b), the proposed decision shall be prepared
35 within a reasonable time following submission of the matter to the hearing officer or
36 panel, and within a reasonable time after the evidentiary hearing, and served by
37 Commission staff to all persons on the mailing list. ~~It shall be served on the parties~~
38 ~~promptly thereafter.~~

39 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
40 Sections 17532, 17551 and 17553(a), Government Code.

1 **§ 1187.12. Withdrawal of a Matter.**

2 A matter, or any portion of a matter, other than a test claim, may be withdrawn by
3 written application of the claimant or requester any time before a decision is adopted, or
4 by oral application at the time of hearing. A test claim, or portion thereof, may be
5 withdrawn by the claimant upon written application to the executive director any time
6 before a decision is adopted or after enactment of a legislatively determined mandate
7 on the same statute or executive order pursuant to Government Code section 17574.
8 The claimant or requester shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the written application in
9 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Dismissal of items withdrawn
10 pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the procedures described in section
11 1187.14 of these regulations.

12 Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code. Reference:
13 Sections 17551 and 17553, Government Code.

14 **§ 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter.**

15 (a) A matter, other than a test claim, that has been withdrawn in accordance with
16 section 1187.12 or deemed abandoned in accordance with section 1187.13, may be
17 dismissed by the executive director. Commission staff shall issue a written notice of
18 dismissal to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list for the matter to be dismissed.

19 (b) A test claim that has been withdrawn or deemed abandoned may be dismissed by
20 the Commission on its own motion or by a motion of a party after notice and an
21 opportunity to be heard has been provided ~~to the claimant, parties and interested~~
22 ~~parties as provided below.~~

23 (1) For test claims that are withdrawn, deemed abandoned, or filed by an agency that is
24 not eligible to seek reimbursement because it is not subject to the taxing and spending
25 limitations of article XIII A and B of the California Constitution, Commission staff shall
26 serve written notice to initiate dismissal of the test claim to all persons~~everyone~~ on the
27 mailing list for the matter. The notice shall announce that another local agency or school
28 district may take over the claim by substitution of parties within 60 days of the issuance
29 of the notice. The notice shall also announce the opportunity to file written comments on
30 the proposed dismissal of the test claim. A copy of the notice shall also be posted on
31 the Commission's website.

32 (2) Anyone may file w~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in~~
33 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of
34 relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the
35 specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations,
36 and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made,
37 they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with
38 section 1187.5 of these regulations.

39 (3) ~~If no interested party~~other local agency or school district takes over the test claim by
40 substitution of parties within 60 days of the issuance of the notice, the Commission shall
41 hear the proposed dismissal of the test claim.

(4) The hearing on a dismissal of a test claim shall be conducted in accordance with article 7 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(c), 17527(g) and 17553(a), Government Code.
Reference: Sections 17551 and 17553(a), Government Code.

§ 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim.

(a) Notwithstanding section 1187.11(b) of these regulations, the Commission may order a reconsideration or amend all or part of an adopted decision on a test claim (including a new test claim decision adopted pursuant to a mandate redetermination) or incorrect reduction claim on petition of any party, interested party, or Commission member only upon a showing of new or different facts, circumstances, or law, or a clerical error. The power to order a reconsideration or amend an adopted decision on a test claim or incorrect reduction claim shall expire 30 days after the adopted decision is served on the claimant or requester. If additional time is needed to evaluate a petition for reconsideration filed before the expiration of the 30-day period, the Commission may grant a stay of that expiration for no more than 30 days, solely for the purpose of considering the petition. A request for reconsideration shall be deemed automatically stayed for the 30-day period. If no action is taken on a petition within the time allowed for ordering reconsideration, the petition shall be deemed denied.

(b) All requests for reconsideration from any party or interested party shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and shall contain the following:

(1) The name and address of the requester;

(2) A copy of the Commission's adopted decision;

(3) A detailed statement of the clerical error or the new or different facts, circumstances, or law supporting the request, and all documentation ~~to support the request~~ identifying the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. For the purposes of this section, an alleged new or different law shall not include a later enacted statute without a retroactive application.

(4) A description of the proposed amendment to the decision on the test claim or incorrect reduction claim; and

(5) If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(c) Commission member requests may be made orally during a regularly scheduled Commission meeting. Commission staff shall prepare the written request based on the elements specified in subsections (b)(1-5) above.

(d) Any signatory to a written agreement that settles a matter may not request reconsideration of that matter if the matter is settled with prejudice.

(e) Before the Commission considers the request for reconsideration, Commission staff shall prepare a written analysis that includes a review of the entire record ~~request and~~

1 ~~written comments filed by other state agencies, interested parties, and the requester.~~

2 The written analysis shall address whether the request for reconsideration is timely,
3 complete, diligent, and is based on a clerical error or new or different facts,
4 circumstances, or law that is likely to support an amendment to the findings or
5 conclusions in the adopted decision on the test claim or incorrect reduction claim, and
6 include a recommendation on whether or not the request for reconsideration should be
7 granted. The Commission shall consider the request for reconsideration and the written
8 staff analysis at a scheduled meeting. Five affirmative votes shall be required to grant
9 the request for reconsideration and schedule the request for a second hearing on the
10 merits.

11 (f) If the Commission grants the request for reconsideration, a second hearing shall be
12 conducted to determine if the adopted decision on a test claim or incorrect reduction
13 claim ~~shall~~ must be amended based on a clerical error or new or different facts,
14 circumstances, or law.

15 (1) The following procedures shall govern the Commission's reconsideration of the
16 adopted decision:

17 (A) At least eight weeks before the Commission is scheduled to reconsider an adopted
18 decision, or at another time determined by the executive director, Commission staff
19 shall prepare a draft proposed decision and issue it to those on the mailing list for the
20 matter established pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

21 (B) Anyone may file w~~Written comments may be filed with the Commission~~ on the draft
22 proposed decision. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or
23 testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written
24 comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of
25 these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not
26 readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles,
27 sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities
28 relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive
29 director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530.
30 All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be
31 incorporated into the proposed decision presented to the Commission.

32 (2) The procedures set forth in article 7 shall govern the Commission's hearings and
33 decisions process, except that five affirmative votes shall be required to amend an
34 adopted decision on a test claim or incorrect reduction claim.

35 (g) If the Commission changes an adopted decision on a test claim, the procedures set
36 forth in Sections 1183.7 through 1183.14 of these regulations shall govern the adoption
37 of parameters and guidelines or amended parameters and guidelines, and the statewide
38 cost estimate, if applicable.

39 (h) Failure to seek Commission reconsideration of an adopted decision shall not affect a
40 party's right to seek judicial review pursuant to Government Code section 17559(b).

41 (i) This section only applies to reconsiderations requested pursuant to Government
42 Code section 17559(a); it does not apply to remands or reconsiderations directed by the
43 courts or by statute.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(c), 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17559(a), Government Code. Reference: Sections 17532, 17551 and 17559, Government Code.

Article 8. Rulemaking and Informational Hearings

§ 1188.1. Scheduling and Noticing of an Informational Hearing

(a) The Commission may, upon its own motion, set an informational hearing on any subject within its jurisdiction. Matters subject to informational hearings under article 8 of these regulations include: a proposed assignment of an article 7 matter to a hearing officer, a rulemaking proceeding, the adoption of a statewide cost estimate, and any other subject that meets the definition of "informational hearing" in section 1181.2 of these regulations and is not subject to hearings under article 7 of these regulations.

(b) An article 8 matter is set for hearing when Commission staff issues its notice and agenda providing the date, time, and place of the hearing to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations.

(c) Commission staff shall issue notice of an informational hearing in accordance with Government Code section 11120 et seq. The notice shall include the following:

(1) A statement of the authority pursuant to which the hearing is ordered, and a reference to any code sections or other provisions of law pursuant to which the information is to be gathered or disseminated;

(2) A statement of the nature and purpose of the proceedings;

(3) A statement requiring the presence and participation of any persons the Commission may direct, consistent with the nature and purpose of the proceedings;

(4) A statement indicating the time during which written comments will be received and the manner by which the comments shall be filed;

(5) A statement that any person may make oral comments on the subject of the hearing; and

(6) A statement setting forth additional procedures deemed necessary by the Commission and not inconsistent with these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(c) and 17527(g), Government Code. Reference: Sections 11125, 17527(c) and 17532, Government Code.

§ 1188.2. Rulemaking.

(a) Petitions:

(1) Any person may petition the Commission to request rulemaking hearings. The petition shall be filed ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and shall include:

(A) The name, address, and telephone number of the petitioner;

(B) The substance or nature of the regulation, amendment, or repeal requested;

(C) The reasons for the request; and

(D) Reference to the authority of the Commission to take the action requested.

1 (2) The petition shall be filed with the executive director who shall, within seven days
2 after its filing, determine whether the petition contains the information specified in
3 subsection (a)(1) of this section.

4 (A) If the executive director determines that the petition is complete, it shall be certified
5 in writing as complete and the petitioner shall be so notified.

6 (B) If the executive director determines that the petition is not complete, it shall be
7 returned to the petitioner accompanied by a statement of its defects. The petitioner may
8 correct the petition and resubmit it at any time.

9 (3) Upon certification by the executive director, the Commission shall, within 60 days
10 from the filing of the petition, deny the petition, stating the reason for the denial in
11 writing, or grant the petition, directing staff to prepare an appropriate order pursuant to
12 subdivision (b) of this section.

13 (b) Commission Order to Initiate a Rulemaking Proceeding. The Commission may, upon
14 its own motion or upon granting a petition filed pursuant to subdivision (a) of this
15 section, adopt an order to initiate a rulemaking proceeding in accordance with the
16 procedures of Government Code sections 11346.2, 11346.4, 11346.8, and 11346.9.

17 (c) Notice.

18 (1) Notice of a rulemaking proceeding shall be given in accordance with Government
19 Code section 11346.4.

20 (2) At least 10 days prior to the first hearing in a proceeding ordered pursuant to
21 subdivision (b) of this section, the executive director shall cause notice of the hearing to
22 be issued to every person requested to participate in the proceedings, and to any
23 person who the executive director determines to be concerned with the subject matter
24 of the proceeding, and shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website.

25 (3) In addition to the requirements of subsections (c)(1) and (2) of this section, notice of
26 additional hearing shall be required at least 10 days prior to the commencement of the
27 hearing unless continuation is orally announced in a public hearing.

28 (4) Nothing in this section shall preclude the Commission from publishing notice in
29 additional forms or media as the executive director may prescribe.

30 (5) A copy of the order adopted pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section shall
31 accompany the initial notice prepared and issued pursuant to this section, unless a copy
32 of the order has been previously issued to those persons who would receive the notice.

33 Note: Authority cited: Section 17527(g), Government Code. Reference: Sections
34 11340.6, 11346.2, 11346.4, 11346.8, 11346.9, 17527(c), 17527(g), 17530, 11346.4 and
35 17551, Government Code.

36 **Article 10. Mandate Redetermination Process**

37 **§ 1190.1. Filing a Request to Adopt a New Test Claim Decision.**

38 (a) A local agency or a school district, statewide association of local agencies or school
39 districts, the Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, or other affected
40 state agency, may file a request to adopt a new test claim decision to supersede a

1 previously adopted test claim decision by making a showing that the state's liability
2 pursuant to Article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution for the previously
3 adopted test claim decision has been modified based on a "subsequent change in law"
4 as defined by Government Code section 17570(a)(2). Such a request is known as a
5 "request for mandate redetermination."

6 (b) All requests for mandate redetermination shall be filed on a form developed by the
7 executive director and shall contain a detailed analysis of how and why the state's
8 liability for mandate reimbursement has been modified pursuant to article XIII B, section
9 6(a) of the California Constitution and all of the elements and accompanying documents
10 required by the form and Government Code section 17570(d). If representations of fact
11 are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in
12 accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

13 (c) The detailed analysis of how and why the state's liability for mandate reimbursement
14 has been modified pursuant to article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution
15 based on a "subsequent change in law" as defined by Government Code section 17570
16 requires more than a written narrative or simple statement of the facts and law. It
17 requires the application of the law (Gov. Code § 17570 (a) and (b)) to the facts (i.e. the
18 alleged subsequent change in law) discussing, for each activity addressed in the prior
19 test claim decision, how and why the state's liability for that activity has been modified.
20 Specific references shall be made to statutes and chapters, articles, sections, and page
21 numbers that are alleged to impose or not impose a reimbursable state-mandated
22 program.

23 (d) A request for mandate redetermination and accompanying documents shall be
24 ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

25 (e) Within 10 days of receipt of a request for mandate redetermination, Commission
26 staff shall notify the requester if the request is complete or incomplete and refer the
27 requester to these regulations. Requests for mandate redetermination shall be
28 considered incomplete if any of the elements required in subdivisions (b), (c), or (d) of
29 this section are illegible or are not included. If a complete request for mandate
30 redetermination is not received within 30 calendar days from the date the incomplete
31 request was returned, the executive director shall disallow the original request filing
32 date. New requests for mandate redetermination may be accepted on the same
33 subsequent change in law alleged to modify the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B,
34 section 6(a) of the California Constitution.

35 (f) A request for mandate redetermination shall be filed on or before June 30 following a
36 fiscal year in order to establish eligibility for reimbursement or loss of reimbursement for
37 that fiscal year.

38 (g) A requester may not add a new subsequent change in law to a request for mandate
39 redetermination after the request has been deemed complete.

40 (h) Any request for mandate redetermination that fails to allege a "subsequent change in
41 law," as defined by Government Code section 17570, shall be returned by the executive
42 director with a written notice stating the reason that the request is being returned. These
43 filings may include, but are not limited to, requests that meet the requirements for a

proposed parameters and guidelines amendment or a new test claim filing.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.

Reference: Sections 17530 and 17570, Government Code.

§ 1190.2. Review and Response.

(a) Within 10 days of receipt of a complete request for mandate redetermination, Commission staff shall issue a written notice to the Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, any affected state agency, the original test claimant, and any known interested party, that:

(1) A copy of the request for mandate redetermination has been posted on the Commission's website, and

(2) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments concerning the request for mandate redetermination ~~may be filed~~ within 30 days ~~of the issuance of the notice and evidence~~ may also be presented at the hearing on the request for mandate redetermination.

(b) Content and Form. Written comments on the request for mandate redetermination shall contain the following documentary evidence, if applicable:

(1) If representations of fact are made, they ~~shall must~~ be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(2) A copy of relevant portions of ~~any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, state and federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that may impact the alleged mandate, unless the authorities are also cited in the request to adopt a new test claim decision. The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon shallmust be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. When an omnibus bill is relevant to the response, only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory amendments at issue shall be filed.~~

(c) Filing. Written comments and supporting documentation concerning a request for mandate redetermination shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with Section 1181.3 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.

Reference: Section 17570, Government Code.

§ 1190.3. Rebuttal.

(a) Parties and interested parties shall be given an opportunity to rebut written comments concerning a request for mandate redetermination by filing written rebuttals within 30 days of service of the comments.

(b) Content and Form. A written rebuttal shall contain the following documentary evidence, if applicable:

(1) If representations of fact are made, they ~~shall~~must be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

(2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online ~~state constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that are cited in the rebuttal, unless the authorities are also cited in the request to adopt a new test claim decision or any response thereto.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon shall be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. When an omnibus bill is relevant to the rebuttal, only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory amendments at issue shall be filed.~~

(c) The rebuttal to a comment concerning a request for mandate redetermination shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.
Reference: Section 17570, Government Code.

§ 1190.4. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate Requests for Mandate Redetermination.

(a) The executive director may consolidate two or more requests for mandate redetermination for the second hearing, if some or all of the same statutes, regulations or executive orders are at issue, if necessary to ensure the complete, fair, or timely consideration of any request for mandate redetermination.

(b) At least 10 days before the action is taken, the executive director shall serve on ~~the parties and interested parties~~ all persons on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and post on the Commission's website, a notice of any proposed action to consolidate.

Note: Authority cited: Section 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.
Reference: Sections 17530, 17554 and 17570, Government Code.

§ 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

Notwithstanding any other provision of these regulations, mandate redetermination process hearings and decisions shall be subject to article 7 of these regulations. There shall be a two-step hearing process for requests to adopt a new test claim decision as follows:

(a) The First Hearing:

(1) The first hearing shall be limited to the issue of whether the requester has made an adequate showing that identifies a subsequent change in law as defined by Government Code section 17570, material to the prior test claim decision, which may modify the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution. The Commission shall find that the requester has made an adequate showing if it finds that

1 the request, when considered in light of all of the written comments and supporting
2 documentation in the record of this request, has a substantial possibility of prevailing at
3 the second hearing.

4 (2) At least eight weeks before the hearing or at another time required by the executive
5 director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed
6 decision and issue it to all persons on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of
7 these regulations~~the parties, interested parties, and any person who requests a copy,~~
8 and shall post it on the Commission's website. A request for mandate redetermination is
9 set for the first hearing when Commission staff issues its draft proposed decision. A
10 written notice of the date, time, and place of the first hearing shall be served on all
11 persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations
12 and posted on the Commission's website.

13 (3) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments concerning the draft proposed decision may be
14 ~~filed with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in~~
15 accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and
16 noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any
17 documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and
18 chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers
19 of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject
20 to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government
21 Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by
22 documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these
23 regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and~~
24 ~~may be incorporated into the proposed decision of the request to adopt a new test claim~~
25 ~~decision.~~

26 (A) ~~It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments,~~
27 ~~exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in~~
28 ~~subdivision (a)(3) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not~~
29 ~~respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft~~
30 ~~proposed decision.~~

31 (4) Before the first hearing on the request for mandate redetermination, Commission
32 staff shall prepare a proposed decision limited to the issue of whether the requester has
33 made a showing that identifies a subsequent change in law, material to the prior test
34 claim decision, which may modify the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B, section
35 6(a) of the California Constitution. This proposed decision shall consider the entire
36 record~~request, written comment, rebuttals and supporting documentation filed by the~~
37 ~~parties and interested parties.~~ The proposed decision for the first hearing shall find that
38 the requester has made an adequate showing if staff finds that the request, when
39 considered in light of all of the written comments and supporting documentation in the
40 record of this request, has a substantial possibility of prevailing at the second hearing.

41 (5) If, at the first hearing, the Commission finds that:

42 (A) The requester has not made an adequate showing, when considered in light of all of
43 the written comments, rebuttals and supporting documentation in the record and
44 testimony at the hearing, that the request for mandate redetermination has a substantial

possibility of prevailing at the second hearing, the Commission shall issue a decision denying the request for mandate redetermination.

(B) The requester has made an adequate showing, when considered in light of all of the written comments, rebuttals, and supporting documentation in the record and testimony at the hearing, the Commission shall issue a decision finding that an adequate showing has been made and setting the second hearing on whether the Commission shall adopt a new test claim decision to supersede the previously adopted test claim decision.

(6) ~~All persons~~Everyone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations shall be issued written notice that the Commission's decision has been posted on the Commission's website and, if applicable, that the date, time, and place of the second hearing have also been posted on the Commission's website.

(b) The Second Hearing:

(1) If the Commission proceeds to the second hearing, it shall consider whether the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution has been modified based on the subsequent change in law alleged by the requester, thus requiring adoption of a new test claim decision to supersede the previously adopted test claim decision. If the Commission finds that the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution has been modified based on the subsequent change in law alleged by the requester, it shall adopt a new decision that reflects the modified liability of the state.

(2) Before the second hearing, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision. At least eight weeks before the hearing or at another time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and issue it to ~~all persons~~everyone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and post it on the Commission's website. The proposed decision shall consider the request, and any written comments and rebuttals and supporting documentation filed.

(3) ~~Anyone~~any party or interested party may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision ~~with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision.~~

~~(A) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (b)(3) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not~~

1 ~~respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft~~
2 ~~proposed decision.~~

3 (4) If, at the second hearing, the Commission finds that the state's liability pursuant to
4 article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution:

5 (A) has not been modified based on a subsequent change in law as defined by
6 Government Code section 17570(a)(2), the Commission shall issue a decision denying
7 the request.

8 (B) has been modified based on a subsequent change in law, as defined by
9 Government Code section 17570(a)(2) the Commission shall adopt a new decision to
10 supersede the prior decision. The new decision shall be prepared in writing, based on
11 the record, and shall include a statement of reasons for the decision, findings, and
12 conclusions.

13 (5) ~~All persons~~Everyone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these
14 regulations shall be issued written notice that a copy of the decision has been posted on
15 the Commission's website.

16 (6) After a decision or proposed decision has been served or posted on the
17 Commission's website, it shall not be changed except to correct clerical errors, in which
18 case a corrected decision or proposed decision shall be prepared and posted on the
19 Commission's website. ~~All persons~~Everyone on the mailing list described in section
20 1181.4 of these regulations shall be issued written notice that a copy of the revised
21 decision has been posted on the Commission's website.

22 (7) If a new decision is adopted that finds that the State's liability under article XIII B,
23 section 6(a) of the California Constitution has been modified, the amount and method of
24 reimbursement shall be determined in accordance with article 3 of these regulations.

25 Note: Authority cited: Section 17527(g), 17553(a) and 17570(d), Government Code.
26 Reference: Sections 17530 and 17570, Government Code.

TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION 2. FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
CHAPTER 2.5. COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The Commission on State Mandates (Commission) proposes to adopt the regulations described below after considering all comments, objections, and recommendations regarding the proposed action.

PUBLIC HEARING

The Commission has not scheduled a public hearing for this proposed action. However, if it receives a written request for a public hearing from any interested person or their authorized representative no later than 15 days before the close of the written comment period, by September 8, 2025, the Commission will conduct a public hearing on this proposed action on September 26, 2025, and will notify all persons of the date, time, and location of the hearing pursuant to Government Code section 11346.8(a).

WRITTEN COMMENT PERIOD

Any interested person or their authorized representative, may submit written comments relevant to the proposed regulatory action to the Commission. The comment period closes on **September 22, 2025**. The Commission will only consider written comments received at the Commission offices by that time. Commenters are strongly encouraged to submit their written comments electronically, if possible, via the Commission website “dropbox” at: <https://www.csm.ca.gov/dropbox.shtml>. Written comments may also be submitted to:

Jill Magee, Program Analyst
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
Phone: (916) 323-3562

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

Government Code section 17527(g) authorizes the Commission to adopt the proposed regulations. Reference citations: Government Code sections 11123, 11346.4, 11347, 11347.1, and 17500 et seq.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

The Commission is a seven-member quasi-judicial body created by the Legislature to resolve disputes regarding the existence of state-mandated local programs (Government Code section 17500 et seq.) and to hear matters involving county applications for a finding of significant financial distress (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 17000.6).

The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure that the regulations provide clear and concise direction, use consistent terminology, and provide transparency to the Commission process. The proposed regulations: (1) clarify definitions; (2) clarify the requirements for certification, filing, service, and formatting documents; (3) clarify the holding of teleconferenced meetings; (4) clarify the filing of a second test claim on the

same statute or executive order; (5) clarify the requirements for citations and providing documents relied upon in a filing; (6) clarify the Commission's process on the granting or denial of a motion to consolidate or sever test claims; (7) clarify the processing of test claims; (8) clarify who may participate in the processing of claims and development of commission forms; (9) clarify requirements for the contents of parameters and guidelines; (10) clarify the requirements for requests for review of state controller's claiming instructions; (11) clarify requirements for the filing of declarations to be used in lieu of testimony; (12) add new requirements for the timing of filing written testimony, declarations, and other evidence; (13) clarify the process for requesting an extension of time to file comments and rebuttals and to request a postponement of a hearing; and (14) to make minor, non-substantive edits and corrections.

Therefore, the Commission proposes revised language and citations in Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 2, Title 2, Chapter 2.5, Sections 1181.1, 1181.2, 1181.3, 1181.4, 1181.6, 1181.8, 1181.9, 1181.10, 1181.13, 1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.5, 1183.6, 1183.7, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.5, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.1, 1187.4, 1187.5, 1187.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.1, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, 1190.4, and 1190.5 with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2026, if no public hearing is requested, or April 1, 2026, if a public hearing is requested.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Regulations

The proposed regulations will result in updated and consistent terminology, accurate and chronological directions, and transparency of Commission processes; clarification that the Commission follows the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act for teleconferenced meetings; a clear statement of the circumstances under which the Commission will accept a second test claim on the same statute or executive order; clear instruction to filers on the required documentation for filing and remove an undue burden on filers to provide copies of documents readily available online; notice to the claimant as to whether its motion to consolidate or sever test claims has been granted or denied; clear statements addressing which persons and agencies may file comments and rebuttals or participate in other parts of the Commission process; specific directions regarding what information is necessary and relevant to be provided to the Commission for the adoption of the parameters and guidelines; a clear list of the requirements for requests for review of claiming instructions; a clear statement of the process for the filing of declarations to be used in lieu of testimony; a consistent timeline for the filing of documentary evidence to ensure that all parties and the Commission members may review it prior to the hearing; a detailed process for the handling of requests for extensions of time and postponements of hearings; and make various minor non-substantive edits for clarity.

Consistency and Compatibility with Existing State Regulations

After conducting a review of existing regulations, the Commission has concluded that California Code of Regulations, title 2, sections 1181.1 et seq., are the only regulations concerning the Commission's process. Therefore, the proposed regulations are consistent and compatible with existing state regulations.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

I. Clarification of Definitions.

Sections 1181.2. Definitions; 1181.1. Delegation of Certain Functions; Executive Director Appeals; and 1187.1. Scheduling and Noticing the Hearing.

Section 1181.2 of the regulations defines terms in the Government Code and the Commission's regulations. The proposed amendments add language to section 1181.2 to define "test claimant" and "requester," which are terms used throughout the regulations, but which had not been defined. The proposed amendments remove the five o'clock cutoff time in the definition of "filing date" to align with the changes in sections 1183.1 as proposed (see section IV, below) and 1181.3 as proposed (see section II, below), respectively, because the cutoff is no longer necessary as all filings are made to an online drop box and do not require that staff be present in the office. The proposed amendments also clarify the definitions of "interested person" and "interested party" to better align with the California Constitution as well as the rights and roles set forth throughout the regulations for interested persons and parties. The definition of "completed" is proposed to be deleted as completeness is defined in other sections of the regulations specific to the type of filing and its contents. The definition of "real party in interest" is proposed to be deleted as the term "real party in interest" is eliminated in regulations in favor of "interested party" which, as redefined, is a more accurate description of the parties. The definition of "teleconference" is proposed to be deleted since the term is proposed to be eliminated from section 1181.13 (see section III, below) to provide a more general statement regarding compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act. The proposed amendments also move the definition of "matter" from section 1187.1 into section 1181.2 to ensure all definitions are in one regulation. These changes require renumbering some subsections of section 1181.2. In addition, the proposed regulations require consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1181.8, and 1187.1. Section 1187.1 also requires a minor, non-substantive edit (see section XIII, below).

II. Clarification of the Requirements for Certification, Filing, Service, and Formatting Filings.

Sections 1181.3. Certification, Formatting, Filing, and Service of Written Materials and New Filings; 1181.1. Delegation of Certain Functions; Executive Director Appeals; 1183.1. Test Claim Filing; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.10. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.12. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology, Included in Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.15. Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.1.

Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.4. Joining a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.6. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1185.8. Withdrawal of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1186.2. Request for Inclusion; 1186.4. Request for Removal; 1186.6. Request for Review of an Apportionment or Base Year Entitlement; 1187.8. Representation at Hearing; 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings; 1187.10. Decision; Action on Proposed Decision; 1187.12. Withdrawal of a Matter; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1188.2. Rulemaking; 1190.1. Filing a Request to Adopt a New Test Claim Decision; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

Section 1181.3 addresses the certification, formatting, and filing of documents with the Commission and service of those documents. In 2023, the Commission updated section 1181.3 to address the formatting of documents to ensure compliance with state and federal accessibility requirements. After implementation, the need for some clarifications came to light. In addition, certification of all new filings has been removed in favor of a certification that the requirements of this section have been met as a prerequisite for filing. Finally, the subdivisions require reordering to provide clarity and to address the process in a step-by-step fashion.

The proposed regulations amend section 1181.3(a) to remove the current language regarding the certification of all filings as, according to Government Code section 17553(b)(4), only test claims require certification which is addressed under section 1183.1 of the regulations which is proposed to be updated to clarify the certification requirements. The language is replaced with new requirements for certification of compliance with formatting and filing requirements as part of e-filing. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(b) adds a heading for clarification. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(c) places all information regarding signature under one subdivision including language regarding the signing of forms formerly part of subdivision (c)(2)(A) and new language to clarify acceptable methods for signing filings which has not been addressed in the regulations. The proposed changes to section 1181.3(d)(1) address the formatting requirements formerly under subdivision (c)(1) to clarify that the purpose behind the subdivision is for accessibility of documents, that the font must be sans serif but that Arial font is strongly encouraged, and that ordered lists can be numbered or alphabetized. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(d)(2) relabels the subdivision, ensures that the additional formatting requirements for all filings are clearly stated, and reflects the current requirements for e-filing. The proposed amendment to create section 1181.3(e) from former (c)(2)(C) adds a new heading and deletes unnecessary requirements for filing color documents. The proposed amendment to 1181.3(f) groups together the e-filing requirements formerly part of subdivisions (c)(2)(D), (E), and (F). Section 1181.3(c)(2)(G) is proposed for deletion because the information is repetitive of section 1181.4 and unnecessary. Subdivision (c)(4) is proposed to be moved to section 1181.3(g) and the references to the five o'clock cutoff time for filing are proposed to be deleted because the cutoff is no longer necessary as all filings are made to an online drop box and do not require that staff be present in the

office. The proposed addition of section 1181.3(h) sets forth the Commission's review process for filed materials, which had not been included in the regulations, to promote transparency. The proposed amendment of section 1181.3(i) sets forth the steps of the e-filing process formerly in subdivisions (c)(2)(H), (I), and (J) and which includes the Commission's service of process on all filings. The changes to subdivisions (i) and (a) necessitate consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.6, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, and 1190.5. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(j), former subdivision (c)(3), includes clarification of the hard copy filing process and deletion of service of hard copy filings in favor of the service provided with e-filing in subdivision (i).

These proposed amendments to section 1181.3 necessitate reordering some subdivisions. In addition, the proposed regulations require consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.6, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, and 1190.5. Section 1185.2 requires the language be rewritten to allow for easy insertion of the proposed amendment.

III. Clarification of Teleconferencing Regulation

Section 1181.13. Commission Meeting by Teleconference.

Section 1181.13 provides specific information concerning the Commission's ability to address quorum issues by holding meetings via teleconference that are compliant with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The proposed amendment simplifies the regulation by limiting the language to compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

IV. Clarification of the Requirements for Filing a Second Test Claim on the Same Statute or Executive Order.

Section 1183.1. Test Claim Filing.

Section 1183.1 sets forth the process for the filing of test claims. Pursuant to Government Code section 17521, there can be only one test claim filed on behalf of all eligible claimants in the state on any statute or executive order. The test claim functions as a class action for all other local government interested parties and, generally, duplicate test claims cannot be filed and accepted by the Commission. However, there may be times when the test claim filing affects the subvention rights of an interested party differently from the test claimant and the interested party may file a separate, second test claim on the same statute or executive order. The proposed amendments clarify when the Commission can accept a second test claim filing. The proposed amendment to section 1183.1(c) necessitates reordering the subdivisions that follow. Section 1183.1(f) includes proposed consistency changes to align it with the amendment proposed to address certification of test claims (see section II, above).

V. Clarification of the Requirements for Citations and Providing Documents Relied Upon in Comments and Rebuttals.

Sections 1183.2. Review of Test Claims; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.10. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.12. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology, Included in Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.15. Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.6. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

The regulations addressing the filing of comments and rebuttals on test claims (sections 1183.2 and 1183.3) and on requests for mandate redeterminations (sections 1190.2 and 1190.3) include directive language to provide or cite to the documents relied upon by the filer. However, this language was not included in regulations on other types of matters that also involve comments, rebuttals, and narratives. These proposed amendments correct this by including that language throughout the regulations addressing the filing of comments, rebuttals, and narratives. Also, because many of the types of documents that are listed are readily available online, there is no need for filers to provide them with comments and rebuttals. Thus, to limit the burden on filers, the proposed amendments limit the types of documents to be provided to only those documents that Commission staff or the public cannot access online. Finally, the proposed amendment adds case law citations to the list of items to be cited in comments and rebuttals to assist Commission staff to see the non-statutory legal basis for any issues or arguments raised by the filer.

VI. Clarification of the Granting or Denial of a Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.

Section 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.

Section 1183.4 addresses the process for a motion for consolidation or severance of test claims. However, the step in the procedure where the executive director provides notice to the claimant regarding whether the motion was granted or denied was not included in the regulations. The proposed change corrects this.

VII. Clarification of the Processing of Test Claims.

1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision.

Section 1183.6 addresses the process for Commission staff to issue a draft proposed decision on a test claim eight weeks before a Commission hearing and then a proposed decision just before the hearing. The proposed amendments reorder the subdivisions to ensure that the steps are presented in chronological order.

The text of section 1183.6(a) is proposed to be deleted and moved to the new subdivision (c) as it is out of chronological order. This deletion results in subdivisions (b) and (c) being renumbered as subdivisions (a) and (b), respectively. The newly proposed subdivision (c) now contains the text of former subdivision (a) and includes proposed amendments to remove an unnecessary reference to “test claim” as this section only addresses test claims. Finally, subdivision (d) is proposed to be deleted in compliance with proposed amendments addressing the timing of filing documentary evidence (see section XI, below).

VIII. Clarification of Who May Participate in the Processing of Claims and Development of Commission Forms.

Section 1181.4. Mailing Lists and Numbering of Matters; 1181.6. Development and Approval of Commission Forms; 1181.9. Commission Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Consent Calendar; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant’s Rebuttal; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller’s Claiming Instructions; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision

Reviewing the impact of the proposed clarifying changes in the definitions of interested parties and interested persons, it was clear that the regulations do not consistently designate who can file comments and rebuttals. These proposed amendments correct this by including that language throughout the regulations addressing the filing of comments and rebuttals. In addition, the proposed amendments to section 1181.6 provide a better explanation of the persons involved in the Commission process for the creation of new forms.

While the proposed amendments generally restate the existing language with more clarity, some sections alter the prior language by increasing or decreasing those who may file comments or rebuttals. Specifically, the amendments to sections 1184.1(i), and 1187.14(b) and (b)(2) are proposed to expand the ability to file comments to include interested persons. The amendments to sections 1183.3(a) and 1184.1(g) are proposed to no longer limit rebuttals to claimants and requesters, respectively. The ability to file rebuttals is proposed to be expanded to include parties and interested parties. The proposed amendments to section 1185.2(e) will expand those who may file rebuttals to the State Controller’s comments on an incorrect reduction claim from parties and interested parties to parties and interested persons. Finally, the proposed amendment to section 1183.17(h) limits the ability to file rebuttals on proposed amendments to parameters and guidelines to only parties and interested parties.

IX. Clarification of the Requirements for the Contents of Parameters and Guidelines.

Section 1183.7. Content of Parameters and Guidelines.

Section 1183.7 addresses the information that must be included in any parameters and guidelines filed with or created by Commission staff. The proposed amendment to subdivision (a) clarifies what shall be included in the summary of the mandate and the proposed amendment to subdivision (g) clarifies the off-setting revenues language.

X. Clarification of Requests for Review of State Controller's Claiming Instructions.

Section 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions.

Section 1184.1(b) addresses requests for review of claiming instructions issued by the State Controller. The proposed amendments add clarifying language to subdivisions (b)(1) and (b)(3) explaining precisely what a request to review claiming instructions shall include for the Commission's review.

XI. Clarification of the Requirements for the Filing of Declarations To Be Used in Lieu of Testimony.

Section 1187.5. Evidence Submitted to the Commission.

Section 1187.5 addresses the submission of evidence to the Commission for consideration. While the regulation has always required compliance with Government Code section 11514, the specific requirements of that section were not included in the regulation. The proposed amendment adds language to section 1187.5 explaining the requirements for the Commission's process for using declarations in lieu of testimony consistent with Government Code section 11514.

XII. New Requirements for the Timing of Filing Written Testimony, Declarations, or Other Evidence at Teleconferenced Meetings.

Sections 1187.6. Conduct of Hearing; 1181.10. Commission Meeting Procedures; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision.

Section 1187.6 addresses, among other hearing procedures, the filing of written testimony or other evidence in advance of a hearing. Under the current regulation, there is no specific time when the filing needs to be received by the Commission to be considered at the hearing. The proposed amendment adds language to section 1187.6(f) clarifying that declarations may be filed in advance of a hearing and that the filing must be done via e-filing at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to allow time for the evidence to be included in the Commission's record. Because filing can occur as little as 24 hours before the hearing, language regarding late filings and whether Commission staff will review them in other parts of the regulations can be deleted. Finally, the process for the filing of public comments was amended to align it with the proposed changes to section 1187.6.

XIII. Clarify the Requesting and Granting of Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings

Section 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings.

Section 1187.9 addresses the process for parties and interested parties to request an extension of time to file comments or rebuttals and the process for parties to request the postponement of a hearing. The proposed amendment to the title of subdivision (a) clarifies that the extensions of time are for the filing of comments and rebuttals. Also, while the current regulation combines parties and interested parties in the same subdivision, the proposed amendments clarify the differences between a request by a party and a request by an interested party by separating the two types of requests in two new subdivisions of section 1187.9(a). The proposed amendments to subdivision (a)(1) include new meet and confer language for parties to make the request process more coordinated, consistent, and efficient. Also, the proposed amendments to subdivision (a)(1) replace “so long as” with “if” for greater clarity. The proposed amendments to subdivisions (b)(3)(A) and (b)(3)(C) allow any party – not just a claimant or requester – to request a postponement of a hearing which confirms that state agencies may now seek a postponement. Also, subdivision (b)(3)(B) contains the language “parties, including the claimant or requester.” Since the claimant or requester is a party, the phrase “including the claimant or requester” is redundant and proposed for deletion. Finally, subdivision (b)(3)(D) is proposed to be deleted for two reasons. First, interested parties are no longer permitted to seek the postponement of a hearing. While interested parties have subvention rights at issue in the matter, they are not claimants or requesters who are responsible for putting forward their position on the matter and moving it to decision and should, along with state agencies, be solely able to request a postponement of a hearing. Second, since the state agencies are treated the same as the claimant or requester when requesting an extension of time or a postponement, the requirement for a notice of intent is no longer necessary.

XIV. Amendments to the Regulations to Make Minor, Non-substantive Changes.

Sections 1181.4. Mailing Lists and Numbering of Matters; 1181.6. Development and Approval of Commission Forms; 1181.9. Commission Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Consent Calendar; 1181.10. Commission Meeting Procedures; 1183.1. Test Claim Filing; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant’s Rebuttal; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.7. Content of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller’s Claiming Instructions; 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.4. Joining a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.5. Opting Out of a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims

and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1185.8. Withdrawal of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1186.2. Request for Inclusion; 1186.4. Request for Removal; 1187.1. Scheduling and Noticing the Hearing; 1187.4 Informal Conference; 1187.5. Evidence Submitted to the Commission; 1187.6. Conduct of Hearing; 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings; 1187.10. Decision; Action on Proposed Decision; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1188.1. Scheduling and Noticing of an Informational Hearing; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.4. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate Requests for Mandate Redetermination; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

The proposed regulations make minor, non-substantive amendments to improve readability and ensure clarity and consistency.

Section 1181.4 addresses the numbering of filed matters and Section 1181.10 addresses Commission meeting procedures. The language in both, however, refers to filings as “received” rather than “filed.” The proposed amendments correct this terminology.

Sections 1181.4 addresses the numbering of filed matters, 1183.2 addresses the service of test claims, 1183.5 addresses service of consolidation or severance of test claims; 1183.6 addresses the review of a completed test claim, 1183.8 addresses the filing and review of proposed parameters and guidelines, 1183.9 addresses service of proposed decisions, 1183.13 addresses the adoption of parameters and guidelines, 1183.16 addresses the expiration of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.7 addresses the review of completed incorrect reduction claims, 1185.8 addresses the withdrawal of an incorrect reduction claim, 1187.1 addresses scheduling and noticing a hearing, 1187.4 addresses informal conferences, 1187.10 addresses service of decisions and proposed decisions, 1187.14 addresses withdrawal of matters, 1188.1 addresses rulemaking. 1190.4 addresses consolidation of requests for mandate redetermination, and 1190.5 addresses the hearing process. Each of these sections uses inconsistent language regarding service on or notice to individuals on the mailing list which is proposed to be changed to “all persons” and is accompanied by other language necessary to fit the existing sentence structure.

Section 1181.9 addresses the distribution of agenda but the language used does not mirror the language in the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act nor does it address the Commission’s process for posting its agenda.

Section 1181.10 addresses the timing of written comments and uses the incorrect term “share screen” function. The proposed amendment corrects the term to “share” function which mirrors the website’s terminology.

Sections 1183.1 addresses the process for the filing of test claims, 1183.7 addresses the information that must be included in any parameters and guidelines filed with or created by Commission staff, 1183.11 address the process for proposing a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the

parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.1 addresses filing an incorrect reduction claim, 1185.5 addresses opting out of a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, 1186.2 addresses requests for inclusion into the State Mandates Apportionment System, 1186.4 addresses requests for removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, 1187.5 addresses the submission of evidence to the Commission for consideration, 1187.9 requests for postponement of a hearing, 1187.15 addresses the reconsideration process, 1190.2 addresses filing requests in the mandate redetermination process, and 1190.3 addresses the filing of rebuttals in the mandate redetermination process. Each of these sections uses the term “must.” To ensure consistency, “shall” is proposed to replace “must.”

Section 1183.2 addresses the service of test claims and uses the incorrect term “web-site.” The proposed amendment correct the term to “website” making it consistent throughout the regulations.

Section 1183.3 addresses the filing of rebuttals and includes the unnecessary term “written” regarding comments and the unclear term “concerning” which is proposed to be amended to “filed on.”

Sections 1183.6 addresses the review of a completed test claim, 1183.13 addresses the adoption of parameters and guidelines, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.7 addresses the review of completed incorrect reduction claims, 1187.15 addresses the reconsideration process, and 1190.5 addresses the hearing process. Each of these sections lists the documents to be reviewed by staff as part of its analysis. However, as the lists are incomplete, the proposed amendments replace the lists with “entire record” making the regulation clear and consistent.

Section 1185.4 addresses how parties would join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim. Subdivision (b) lists the contents of a notice of intent to join. The language is repeated unnecessarily under subdivision (b)(3) and is proposed to be deleted. Also, subdivision (b)(4) is not part of the list and is proposed to be renumbered to subdivision (c) necessitating the renumbering of other subdivisions.

Section 1187.9 addresses requests for postponement of a hearing and includes the repetitive term “article 7” matter. However, due to the fact that the term “matter” includes only those items in article 7, the term “article 7” is proposed to be deleted.

Section 1187.6 addresses the conduct of the hearing. The terminology for the chairperson and presiding member are incorrect and no including a hearing panel is inconsistent with Section 1187.3. The proposed changes address these.

Section 1187.10 addresses decisions and misidentifies a subdivision as a section. The proposed change remedies this.

Section 1190.2 addresses the mandate redetermination process and the proposed amendment clarifies that the 30 days runs from the issuance of the notice.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND/OR EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORTS, OR DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON TO DEVELOP REGULATIONS

Commission staff did not rely on any technical, theoretical, or empirical studies or reports in proposing the adoption of these regulations. The Commission also relied upon the statutes and cases cited in the authority and reference sections for the regulations.

DISCLOSURES REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Commission has made the following initial determinations:

Mandate on local agencies and school district:	None
Cost or savings to any state agency:	None
Cost to any local agency or school district which must be reimbursed in accordance with Government Code sections 17500 through 17630:	None
Other non-discretionary cost or savings imposed on local agencies:	None
Cost or savings in federal funding to the state:	None
Significant, statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting business, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states:	None
Significant effect on housing costs:	None
Cost impacts on a representative private person or business: The Commission is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.	

Results of the Economic Impact Analysis/Assessment

The Commission concludes that the proposal will: (1) not create or eliminate jobs within California; (2) not create new businesses or eliminate existing businesses within California; and (3) not affect the expansion of businesses currently doing business within California.

Small Business Determination

Because the Commission has no jurisdiction over small businesses and small businesses are not parties before the Commission, the proposed regulatory action will have no impact on small businesses.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Government Code section 11346.5(a)(13), the Commission must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered or that has otherwise been identified and brought to the attention of the Commission would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost-effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.

The Commission invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written comment period.

CONTACT PERSONS

Inquiries concerning the proposed administrative action may be directed to:

Jill Magee, Program Analyst
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
Telephone: (916) 323-3562
(jill.magee@csm.ca.gov)

The backup contact person for these inquiries is:

Dennis Supachana, Assistant Executive Director
Commission on State Mandates
980 Ninth Street, Suite 300
Sacramento, CA 95814
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Please direct requests for copies of the proposed text (the “express terms”) of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons, the modified text of the regulations, if any, or other information on which the rulemaking is based to Ms. Jill Magee (see contact information above) or download it from the Commission's website at <https://www.csm.ca.gov/rulemaking.shtml>.

AVAILABILITY OF STATEMENT OF REASONS AND TEXT OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS

The Commission will have the entire rulemaking file available for inspection and copying throughout the rulemaking process at its office at the above address. As of the date this notice is published in the Notice Register, the rulemaking file consists of this notice, the proposed text of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons, and the Commission order to initiate rulemaking proceedings.

Copies may be obtained on the Commission's website (see below) or by contacting Ms. Jill Magee (see contact information above). All persons on the Commission's interested persons mailing list will be provided a copy of the rulemaking file by making it available on the Commission's website and providing notice of how to locate it.

AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT AND DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON

After considering all timely and relevant comments received and holding a public hearing, if necessary, the Commission may adopt the proposed regulations substantially as described in this notice. If the Commission makes modifications which are sufficiently related to the originally proposed text, it will make the modified text (with the changes clearly indicated) and any documents relied upon available to the public for at least 15 days before the Commission adopts the regulations as revised. Please send requests for copies of any modified regulations or documents relied upon to the

attention of Ms. Jill Magee (see contact information above). The Commission will accept written comments on the modified regulations for 15 days after the date on which they are made available.

AVAILABILITY OF THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, copies of the Final Statement of Reasons and any Documents Relied Upon may be obtained by contacting Ms. Jill Magee at the address, phone number, or email address listed above.

AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS ON THE INTERNET

Copies of the Notice of Proposed Action, the Initial Statement of Reasons, and the text of the regulations in underline and strikeout can be accessed through the Commission's website at <https://www.csm.ca.gov/rulemaking.shtml>.

**INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS
CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS**

**TITLE 2. ADMINISTRATION
DIVISION 2. FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
CHAPTER 2.5. COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES**

GENERAL CLEANUP

ARTICLES 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 AND 10

SECTIONS 1181.1, 1181.2, 1181.3, 1181.4, 1181.6, 1181.8, 1181.9, 1181.10, 1181.13, 1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.5, 1183.6, 1183.7, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.5, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.1, 1187.4, 1187.5, 1187.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.1, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, 1190.4 AND 1190.5.

SPECIFIC PURPOSE OF THE REGULATIONS

The Commission on State Mandates (Commission) is a seven-member quasi-judicial body created by the Legislature to resolve disputes regarding the existence of state-mandated local programs (Gov. Code, § 17500 et seq.) and to hear matters involving county applications for a finding of significant financial distress (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 17000.6).

The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure that the regulations provide clear and concise direction, use consistent terminology, and provide transparency to the Commission process. The proposed regulations: (1) clarify definitions; (2) clarify the requirements for certification, filing, service, and formatting documents; (3) clarify the holding of teleconferenced meetings; (4) clarify the filing of a second test claim on the same statute or executive order; (5) clarify the requirements for citations and providing documents relied upon in a filing; (6) clarify the Commission's process on the granting or denial of a motion to consolidate or sever test claims; (7) clarify the processing of test claims; (8) clarify who may participate in the processing of claims and development of commission forms; (9) clarify requirements for the contents of parameters and guidelines; (10) clarify the requirements for requests for review of state controller's claiming instructions; (11) clarify requirements for the filing of declarations to be used in lieu of testimony; (12) add new requirements for the timing of filing written testimony, declarations, and other evidence; (13) clarify the process for requesting an extension of time to file comments and rebuttals and to request a postponement of a hearing; and (14) to make minor, non-substantive edits and corrections.

Therefore, the Commission proposes revised language and citations in Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 of the California Code of Regulations, Division 2, Title 2, Chapter 2.5, Sections 1181.1, 1181.2, 1181.3, 1181.4, 1181.6, 1181.8, 1181.9, 1181.10, 1181.13, 1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.5, 1183.6, 1183.7, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.5, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.1, 1187.4, 1187.5, 1187.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.1, 1188.2,

1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, 1190.4 and 1190.5 with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2026, if no public hearing is requested or April 1, 2026, if a public hearing is requested.

I. Clarification of Definitions.

Sections 1181.2. Definitions; 1181.1. Delegation of Certain Functions; Executive Director Appeals; 1181.8. Commission Meeting Quorum and Voting Requirements; and 1187.1. Scheduling and Noticing the Hearing.

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

Section 1181.2 of the regulations defines terms in the Government Code and the Commission's regulations. The proposed amendments add language to section 1181.2 to define "test claimant" and "requester," which are terms used throughout the regulations, but which had not been defined. The proposed amendments remove the five o'clock cutoff time in the definition of "filing date" to align with the changes in sections 1183.1 as proposed (see section IV, below) and 1181.3 as proposed (see section II, below), respectively, because the cutoff is no longer necessary as all filings are made to an online drop box and do not require that staff be present in the office. The proposed amendments also clarify the definitions of "interested person" and "interested party" to better align with the California Constitution as well as the rights and roles set forth throughout the regulations for interested persons and parties. The definition of "completed" is proposed to be deleted as completeness is defined in other sections of the regulations specific to the type of filing and its contents. The definition of "real party in interest" is proposed to be deleted as the term "real party in interest" is eliminated in regulations in favor of "interested party" which, as redefined, is a more accurate description of the parties. The definition of "teleconference" is proposed to be deleted since the term is proposed to be eliminated from section 1181.13 (see section III, below) to provide a more general statement regarding compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act. The proposed amendments also move the definition of "matter" from section 1187.1 into section 1181.2 to ensure all definitions are in one regulation. These changes require renumbering some subsections of section 1181.2. In addition, the proposed regulations require consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1181.8, and 1187.1. Section 1187.1 also requires a minor, non-substantive edit (see section XIII, below).

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(c):

(c) "Claimant" means the local agency or school district filing a test claim or incorrect reduction claim. "Test claimant" means the local agency or school district filing a test claim.

Section 1181.2(e) is proposed to be deleted as follows:

~~(e) "Completed" means that all general and specific requirements for a new filing have been satisfied by the claimant or requester.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(f):

~~(f) "Filing date" means the date a filing is received at the Commission's office during normal business hours by any of the methods provided that it is found to~~

not contain personal identifying information as described in section 1181.3 of these regulations. "Normal business hours" means from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. of each day from Monday to Friday, inclusive, other than state holidays, as provided by Government Code section 11020(a).

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(i):

(hi) "Interested party" means a local agency, or school district, or state agency, with subvention rights in the matter under article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution~~a beneficial interest in the matter.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(j):

(ij) "Interested person" means anyone~~individual, local agency, school district, state agency, corporation, partnership, association, or other type of entity, who has an interest in a matter before the Commission, but is not a party or interested party with respect to that matter.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(j):

(j) "Matter" means test claims, proposed parameters and guidelines, requests to amend parameters and guidelines, incorrect reduction claims, requests to approve a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs, joint requests for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, requests for inclusion or removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of apportionment or base year entitlement for programs included in the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of the Office of State Controller's claiming instructions, requests for mandate redetermination, and a legislatively determined mandate which are all subject to article 7 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(m):

(m) "Real Party in Interest" means any person or entity whose interest will be directly affected by the resolution of the matter. "Requester" means the local agency, school district, or state agency filing a request to amend parameters and guidelines, joint request for reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs, request for review of claiming instructions, request for removal or inclusion of a program in the State Mandates Apportionment System, request for review of the apportionment or base year entitlement of a program in the State Mandates Apportionment System, request for mandate redetermination, or a legislatively determined mandate.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(r):

(r) "Teleconference" means a conference of individuals in different locations, connected by electronic means, through audio, video, or both.

(s) "Test claim" means the first claim filed with the Commission alleging that a particular statute or executive order imposes costs mandated by the state pursuant to Government Code section 17521 and also includes a claim filed on a legislatively determined mandate pursuant to Government Code section

17574(c). The test claim procedure functions similarly to a class action and has been established to expeditiously resolve disputes affecting multiple agencies.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(t):

(st) "Written material" means any paper or electronic document relevant to a matter that is filed with the Commission except that "written material" does not include a "new filing" as defined in subdivision (k) of this section.

Renumbering Section 1181.2:

The proposed amendments and deletions above require renumbering the existing subdivisions (g) and (h) as (f) and (g), respectively.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(g):

(fg) "Incorrect reduction claim" means a claim alleging that the Office of State Controller incorrectly reduced the reimbursement claim of a local agency or school district.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.2(h):

(gh) "Informational hearing" means any hearing designed to gather and assess information to assist the Commission in formulating policies, informing the public of Commission actions, or obtaining public comment and opinion.

Consistency Changes in Other Regulations:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.1(c):

(c) A party or interested parties~~real party in interest~~ to a matter may appeal to the Commission for review of the actions and decisions of the executive director on that matter.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.8(c)(2):

(2) For a "matter" ~~as defined by 1187.1:~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.1:

(a) ~~A "matter," subject to hearings and decisions under article 7 of these regulations, shall include test claims, proposed parameters and guidelines, requests to amend parameters and guidelines, incorrect reduction claims, requests to approve a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology and statewide estimate of costs, joint requests for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, requests for inclusion or removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of apportionment or base year entitlement for programs included in the State Mandates Apportionment System, requests for review of the Office of State Controller's claiming instructions, and requests for mandate redetermination.~~

(~~b~~) A matter is set for hearing when Commission staff issues its draft proposed decision. A written notice of the date, time, and place of hearing shall be issued to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list as described in

section 1181.4 of these regulations and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

These amendments are necessary to ensure that all important terms are defined, and the definitions are updated, precise, consistent, and located in one section of the regulations. These proposed changes will provide clarity and ease of use to all who refer to the regulations.

II. Clarification of the Requirements for Certification, Filing, Service, and Formatting Filings.

Sections 1181.3. Certification, Formatting, Filing, and Service of Written Materials and New Filings; 1181.1. Delegation of Certain Functions; Executive Director Appeals; 1183.1. Test Claim Filing; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.10. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.12. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology, Included in Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.15. Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.4. Joining a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.6. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1185.8. Withdrawal of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1186.2. Request for Inclusion; 1186.4. Request for Removal; 1186.6. Request for Review of an Apportionment or Base Year Entitlement; 1187.8. Representation at Hearing; 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings; 1187.10. Decision; Action on Proposed Decision; 1187.12. Withdrawal of a Matter; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1188.2. Rulemaking; 1190.1. Filing a Request to Adopt a New Test Claim Decision; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1181.3 addresses the certification, formatting, and filing of documents with the Commission and service of those documents. In 2023, the Commission updated section 1181.3 to address the formatting of documents to ensure compliance with state and federal accessibility requirements. After implementation, the need for some clarifications came to light. In addition, certification of all new filings has been removed in favor of a certification that the requirements of this section have been met as a prerequisite for

filing. Finally, the subdivisions require reordering to provide clarity and to address the process in a step-by-step fashion.

The proposed regulations amend section 1181.3(a) to remove the current language regarding the certification of all filings as, according to Government Code section 17553(b)(4), only test claims require certification which is addressed under section 1183.1 of the regulations which is proposed to be updated to clarify the certification requirements. The language is replaced with new requirements for certification of compliance with formatting and filing requirements as part of e-filing. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(b) adds a heading for clarification. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(c) places all information regarding signature under one subdivision including language regarding the signing of forms formerly part of subdivision (c)(2)(A) and new language to clarify acceptable methods for signing filings which has not been addressed in the regulations. The proposed changes to section 1181.3(d)(1) address the formatting requirements formerly under subdivision (c)(1) to clarify that the purpose behind the subdivision is for accessibility of documents, that the font must be sans serif but that Arial font is strongly encouraged, and that ordered lists can be numbered or alphabetized. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(d)(2) relabels the subdivision, ensures that the additional formatting requirements for all filings are clearly stated, and reflects the current requirements for e-filing. The proposed amendment to create section 1181.3(e) from former (c)(2)(C) adds a new heading and deletes unnecessary requirements for filing color documents. The proposed amendment to 1181.3(f) groups together the e-filing requirements formerly part of subdivisions (c)(2)(D), (E), and (F). Section 1181.3(c)(2)(G) is proposed for deletion because the information is repetitive of section 1181.4 and unnecessary. Subdivision (c)(4) is proposed to be moved to section 1181.3(g) and the references to the five o'clock cutoff time for filing are proposed to be deleted because the cutoff is no longer necessary as all filings are made to an online drop box and do not require that staff be present in the office. The proposed addition of section 1181.3(h) sets forth the Commission's review process for filed materials, which had not been included in the regulations, to promote transparency. The proposed amendment of section 1181.3(i) sets forth the steps of the e-filing process formerly in subdivisions (c)(2)(H), (I), and (J) and which includes the Commission's service of process on all filings. The changes to subdivisions (i) and (a) necessitate consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.6, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, and 1190.5. The proposed amendment to section 1181.3(j), former subdivision (c)(3), includes clarification of the hard copy filing process and deletion of service of hard copy filings in favor of the service provided with e-filing in subdivision (i).

These proposed amendments to section 1181.3 necessitate reordering some subdivisions. In addition, the proposed regulations require consistency changes in sections 1181.1, 1183.1, 1183.2, 1183.3, 1183.4, 1183.6, 1183.8, 1183.9, 1183.10, 1183.11, 1183.12, 1183.13, 1183.15, 1183.16, 1183.17, 1184.1, 1185.1, 1185.2, 1185.4, 1185.6, 1185.7, 1185.8, 1186.2, 1186.4, 1186.6, 1187.8, 1187.9, 1187.10, 1187.12, 1187.14, 1187.15, 1188.2, 1190.1, 1190.2, 1190.3, and 1190.5. Section

1185.2 requires the language be rewritten to allow for easy insertion of the proposed amendment.

Several sections quoted below include proposed amendments addressed in other sections of this Statement.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(a):

(a) Certification. Filers will certify compliance with subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) as part of electronic filing (or e-filing) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website.~~All new filings and written materials filed with the Commission shall be signed at the end of the document, under penalty of perjury, with the declaration that the filing is true and correct to the best of the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date of signing, the declarant's title, address, telephone number, and email address, if applicable, shall be included.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(b):

(b) Personal Identifying Information. Documents filed with the Commission shall not contain personal identifying information that violates state or federal privacy laws, including, but not limited to California Civil Code section 1798 et seq.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(c):

(c) Signatures. Any document requiring a signature may be signed by any mechanism that does not result in a locked PDF. Commission forms shall be digitally signed, using the digital signature technology and authentication process contained within the Commission forms. The completed digital form shall not be converted to PDF and shall be e-filed separately from any accompanying documents.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d):

~~(d) Formatting, Filing, and Service. New filings and written materials shall be filed as described in this subdivision.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(1):

(1) Formatting For All New Filings and Written Materials. All new filings and written materials, except for supporting documents that were either not created by the party or were originally created by the party for a purpose other than providing evidence to the Commission, All documents created by the filer for the purpose of providing evidence to the Commission shall conform to all of the following accessibility document formatting requirements.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(1)(A):

(A) All text shall be written in a sans-serif font with a Arial font, minimum 12-point font size. The use of Arial font is strongly encouraged.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(1)(C):

(C) Lists shall use an ordered or unordered formatting style such as bullet points, letters, or numbering, ~~or an ordered list.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(2):

~~(2) Formatting For All E-Filed Documents~~E-Filing. ~~Except as provided in subdivision (c)(3) of this section, a~~All e-filed documents including new filings, and written materials, and shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website. S~~supporting documents that were not created by the filer party or were created for a different purpose than to provide evidence to the Commission shall: still be required to follow the formatting requirements found in subdivisions (c)(2)(B)(i)-(iii) of this section.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(2)(A):

~~(A) be in unlocked PDF file format, to allow Commission staff to process the filing; and Any new filing required to be filed on a form prescribed by the Commission shall be digitally signed, using the digital signature technology and authentication process contained within the Commission forms. The completed digital form shall not be converted to PDF and shall be e-filed separately from any accompanying documents. Accompanying documents shall be e-filed together in accordance with the requirements of subdivisions (c)(2)(B) and (C) of this section.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(d)(2)(B):

~~(B) Documents e-filed with the Commission. All e-filed documents, other than forms prescribed by the Commission, shall:~~

~~(i) be in unlocked PDF file format, to allow Commission staff to electronically date stamp the document and append additional pages for posting on the Commission's website with a proof of service for e-service by the Commission, in lieu of the filer serving the document to the entire mailing list for the matter; and~~

~~(ii) include a scanned copy of the signed signature page, rather than a digitally signed document. The scanned copy shall be in black and white (not gray scale or color).~~

~~(iii) be in a legible and searchable format using a "true PDF" (i.e., documents digitally created in PDF, converted to PDF or printed to PDF) or optical character recognition (OCR) function, as necessary.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(e):

~~(eG) E-Filing Large Documents.~~ E-filed documents larger than 500 megabytes shall be e-filed in multiple volumes and labeled as such (i.e., "Volume I, Volume II" etc.) and shall, in that case, include a table of

contents with electronic bookmarks which at minimum link to each document within the exhibits, and for documents created for the purpose of filing with the Commission also link to each heading, subheading, and component (including but not limited to the table of contents, declarations, exhibits, proof of service) of the document. ~~Filing of color documents is strongly discouraged. However, if a color image(s) is necessary for readability or comprehension, the color image(s) shall be e-filed in a separate and final volume of exhibits. Documents not available or obtainable in electronic form may be scanned and OCR'd and filed in a separate volume, however it is prohibited to e-file scanned documents that are available or obtainable electronically. E-filed documents that must be scanned, shall be scanned in black and white (not gray scale or color).~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f):

(f) E-Filing. Except as provided in subdivision (j) of this section, all new filings and written materials shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f)(1):

~~(1D)~~ The filer is responsible for maintaining the signed original new filing or written material for the duration of the process for the matter, including any period of appeal ~~(this may be an electronic document, depending on how the filer creates and maintains its records).~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f)(2):

~~(2E)~~ An automated notice that the document was successfully sent is immediately available to the filer using the Commission's e-filing system and should be saved or printed for the filer's records.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f)(3):

(3) Commission staff shall also reply by e-mail confirming actual receipt of the legible, searchable document by the Commission within two business days of receipt. In the absence of a confirmation e-mail from Commission staff, it is the responsibility of the filer to obtain confirmation that the Commission actually received the filing.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f)(4):

(4) "Failure of e-filing" occurs when the filer receives notification, in any manner, of non-receipt of an e-filed document or of any other inability of Commission staff to access the document, including the failure to meet the requirements of subdivisions (b), (c), and (d) of this section.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(f)(5):

~~(5F)~~ ~~By using e-filing, the filer agrees, i~~n the event of failure of e-filing, the filer shall re-file the document no later than the business day after the business day on which notice of the failure of e-filing is received by the

filer. The filer may re-file by any means authorized by these rules, in order to maintain the original filing date. ~~"Failure of e-filing" occurs when the filer receives notification, in any manner, of non-receipt of an e-filed document or of any other inability of Commission staff to access the document, including the failure to meet the requirements of subdivisions (c)(2)(B)(i)-(iii) of this section.~~

Subdivision (c)(2)(G) is proposed to be deleted as follows:

~~(G) Documents e-filed with the Commission are served by Commission staff to persons who have provided an e-mail address for the mailing list for the matter in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations. E-filed documents do not need to be served by the filer and proof of service does not need to be provided by the filer for persons who have provided an e-mail address for the mailing list in accordance with section 1181.4. Nothing in this regulation excuses a filer from serving hard copies of written material on persons who appear on the mailing list and have not provided an e-mail address for the mailing list, or from providing a proof of service with the e-filing to the Commission for the service of the document on those persons.~~

Section 1181.3(g) is proposed to be added as follows:

(g) Time of Filing. New filings or written materials filed with the Commission before midnight are deemed filed on that business day. New filings or written materials filed with the Commission on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, are deemed filed on the following business day.

Section 1181.3(h) is proposed to be added as follows:

(h) Review.

(1) All new filings and written materials filed with the Commission will be deemed received until reviewed for compliance with the ban against containing personal identifying information pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section. If personal identifying information is found in the filings or written materials, they will be rejected and no filing date will be assigned.

(2) All new filings and written materials filed with the Commission that have been found to comply with subdivision (b) of this section will be reviewed for compliance with subdivisions (c) and (d) of this section. If the filings or written materials do not comply, they will be deemed to be a failure of e-filing pursuant to subdivision (f)(4) and the filer may correct and refile pursuant to subdivision (f)(5) of this section.

(3) All new filings filed with the Commission that have been found to comply with subdivisions (c) and (d) of this section, will be reviewed for completeness pursuant to these regulations. Any filing deemed incomplete will be returned to the filer who may correct and refile within 30 calendar days to retain the original filing date.

(4) Commission staff will issue its notice of complete filing to the filer for all

new filings that have been found to comply with subdivisions (b), (c) and (d) and which have been found to be complete.

Section 1181.3(i) is proposed to be added as follows:

(i) Service.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(i)(1):

~~(1H) Upon confirmation of actual receipt~~review of the e-filed document pursuant to subdivision (h) of this section, Commission staff shall ~~serve~~notify all persons who have provided an e-mail address for ~~on~~ the mailing list for the matter in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~that written material may be viewed on the Commission's website.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(i)(2):

(2) For all "new filings" as defined by section 1181.2(k) of these regulations, Commission staff shall notify all persons on the mailing list, prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations, of the availability of those filings on the Commission's website when Commission staff issues its notice of complete filing to the filer.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(j):

~~(j3)~~ Hard Copy Filing and Service in Cases of Undue Hardship or Significant Prejudice. If e-filing legible and searchable PDF documents, as described in subdivision ~~(de)~~(2) of this section, would cause the filer undue hardship or significant prejudice, filing may occur as provided below: ~~by first class mail, overnight delivery or personal service only upon approval of a written request to the executive director.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(j)(1):

(1) Request. The filer shall request permission from the executive director to hard copy file and include a description of the undue hardship or significant prejudice e-filing would cause the filer.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(j)(2):

(2A) Filing. If the executive director authorizes hard copy filing, the filer shall file the unbound original document with the Commission by first class mail, overnight delivery, or personal service,~~the filer shall file the unbound original document with the Commission.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(j)(3):

(3B) Service. All hard copy filings will be served by Commission staff in accordance with subsection (i) of this section~~If written materials are filed in hard copy, the filing shall simultaneously be served on everyone on the mailing list using the same method used for the filing. Unless otherwise provided in this section, a proof of service shall be included with any written material filed with the Commission. Proof of personal service~~

~~requires a declaration of the messenger of the time and place that the written material was served. Service is not required for new filings because mailing lists for matters are only prepared, pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations, after a new filing is deemed complete. Completed new filings will be served on the mailing list by Commission staff with the Notice of Complete Filing.~~

Renumbering Section 1181.3:

The proposed amendments and deletions above require renumbering the existing subdivisions (c)(2)(I) and (c)(2)(J) as (i)(3) and (i)(4), respectively.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(i)(3):

(~~3~~) The Commission may serve any document by e-mail service, or by making it available at a particular URL, unless doing so would be contrary to state or federal law.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.3(i)(4):

(~~4~~) The executive director may issue any order consistent with these rules to govern e-mail service for a particular matter.

Consistency Changes in Other Regulations:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.1(c)(2):

(2) The appellant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the appeal in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.1(c)(5):

(5) Other parties may file comments on an appeal, which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(f):

(~~f~~) A test claim, or test claim amendment thereto, and accompanying documents shall be signed at the end of the document, under penalty of perjury by the claimant or its authorized representative, with the declaration that the test claim is true and complete to the best of the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date of signing, the declarant's title, address, telephone number, facsimile machine telephone number, and electronic mail address shall be included. A test claim, or test claim amendment, shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.2(b):

(b) Written comments concerning the test claim may be filed by anyone~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ within 30 days from the date the test claim or amendment is issued for comment and in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.3(a):

(a) Written rebuttals to ~~written comments concerning~~filed on a test claim, may be filed by parties or interested parties, ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.4(a):

(a) Any motion to consolidate or to sever shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If written representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(c):

~~(b)~~ Anyone may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the test claim.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(a):

(a) Within 30 days of adoption of the decision on a test claim, or the early termination or expiration of a reasonable reimbursement methodology, the successful test claimant shall file with the Commission proposed parameters and guidelines, pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a). Proposed parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(e):

(e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall

identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(f):

(f) Within 15 days of service of the comments, ~~anyone parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ may file written rebuttals with the Commission. ~~Rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(a):

(a) After adoption of a decision on a test claim, but before claimant files proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff may expedite the parameters and guidelines process by preparing and issuing draft expedited parameters and guidelines to assist the claimant. The draft expedited parameters and guidelines shall be served to all person~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

In lieu of filing an original proposal pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a), the successful test claimant may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines with the Commission which may include proposed modifications. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(b):

(b) ~~Anyone Parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service of Commission staff's draft proposal. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law

citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(c):

(c) Within 15 days of service of the comments filed pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section, ~~anyone parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ may file ~~and serve~~ rebuttals. ~~Such rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.10(c):

(c) An interested party may file cost information or other cost projections that can be the basis of a reasonable reimbursement methodology, and letters in support of a draft reasonable reimbursement methodology proposed pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1. Such information shall be ~~certified, filed and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(b):

(b) The written notification shall provide all information and filing dates, as specified in Government Code section 17557.1(a), and shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(d):

(d) The test claimant and Department of Finance shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ any filings made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1 in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(f):

(f) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(g):

(g) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.12(d):

(d) Proposed reasonable reimbursement methodologies and comments regarding those proposals shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.12(e):

(e) Within 15 days of service of the written comments prepared by other parties and interested parties, the party that proposed the reasonable reimbursement methodology may file a written rebuttal ~~with the Commission, and shall certify, file, and serve the rebuttal~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(b):

(b) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.15(a):

(a) The test claimant and the Department of Finance may file a joint request, in accordance with Government Code section 17557.2(e), for early termination of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology adopted pursuant to Government Code sections 17557.1 and 17557.2, which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.15(c):

(c) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.15(d):

(d) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(b):

(b) Copies of the proposals filed under subdivision (a) shall be filed ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(c):

(c) The test claimant and the Department of Finance may jointly propose amendments to the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology or the continuation of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology by filing a request made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2(f), which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(e):

(e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(f):

(f) Within 15 days of service of the written comments filed by other parties and interested parties, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(d):

(d) A claimant or state agency requesting an amendment to existing parameters and guidelines shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the request in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be

supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(g):

(g) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments on the request to amend the parameters and guidelines ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(h):

(h) ~~Parties and interested parties may file w~~Written rebuttals ~~to the comments may be filed~~ within 21 days of service of the comments. ~~Written rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(j):

(j) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(c):

(c) An original request to review claiming instructions shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily

available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(f):

(f) ~~Anyone may file written comments on the request. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(g):

(g) Within 30 days of service of the written comments, ~~parties or interested parties~~the requester may file a written rebuttal ~~to the Commission which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(i):

(i) ~~Anyone~~The requester and any state agency or interested party may file written comments on the draft proposed decision. ~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision on the request to review and modify the claiming instructions.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(m):

(~~mn~~) A request to review claiming instructions may be withdrawn by written application to the executive director any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The requesters shall file ~~and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the request to review claiming instructions. If no other local agency or school district takes over the request to review claiming instructions by substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the request to review claiming instructions and shall post the letter on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.1(g):

(g) An incorrect reduction claim, or amendment thereto, and any accompanying documents, shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.2(d):

(d) Commission staff shall notify the Office of State Controller that written comments and supporting documentation in connection with an incorrect reduction claim shall be filed no more than 90 days from the date the copy of the claim is provided to the Office of State Controller. Written comments and supporting documentation shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.2(e):

(e) Written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's written comments may be filed by the claimant or interested persons in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. ~~The claimant and interested parties may file written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's comments within 30 days of service of the Office of State Controller's comments. Written rebuttals and supporting documentation shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by~~

documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.4(c):

~~(c4)~~ The joining claimant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ one original notice of intent to join and accompanying documents in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.6(b):

(b) During the 30-day notice period, a claimant may file a written request that an individual incorrect reduction claim be severed from a proposed consolidation, which shall be filed ~~and served~~, in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. Timely requests to sever shall be approved by the executive director.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.7(d):

(d) A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. Written comments may be filed ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.8(b):

(b) An incorrect reduction claim, by the original claimant in a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, may be withdrawn by written application any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The original claimant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the incorrect reduction claim. If one of the joint claimants takes over the claim, it shall, within 60 days of providing notice of its intent to take over the claim, perfect the filing by filing the written narrative as required by section 1185.1 of these regulations. If none of the joint claimants takes over the claim by substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all

~~personseveryone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the claim and providing the joint claimants with an opportunity to perfect their individual claims within 60 days of service by filing the written narrative as required by section 1185.1 of these regulations. The letter shall be posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.2(b):

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding inclusion in the system, a local agency, school district or state agency ~~shall~~must ~~certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Inclusion" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.4(b):

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding removal of a program from the system, a local agency, school district, or state agency ~~shall~~must ~~certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Removal" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.6(b):

(b) In order to obtain a review of an apportionment or base year entitlement a "Request for Review" shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.8(a):

(a) A party may appear in person or through an authorized representative. An authorized representative may be an individual, firm, or organization. When using an authorized representative, a party shall designate in writing the authorized representative to act as its sole representative and shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ written notice identifying the authorized representative in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.8(c):

(c) Withdrawal of appearance of any representative may be effected by ~~certifying, filing, and serving~~ a written notice of withdrawal in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Any change in representation shall be authorized by the party in writing and ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(a):

(a) Requests for Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals

(1) Any party or interested party to a matter may request an extension of time. Parties are encouraged to meet and confer prior to requesting an extension to obtain a stipulation or to permit the granting of extensions for more than one party at a time. A request for an extension of time shall be made by filing a request with the executive director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with Commission staff on that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the extension, propose a new

date for filing, and be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. ~~If so long as~~ a postponement of a hearing would not be required, there is no prejudice to any party ~~or interested party~~, and there is no other good reason for denial, the request shall be approved. A party to a matter may request an extension of time that would necessitate rescheduling a hearing, but shall also include a request for postponement of the hearing, pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

(2) An interested party to a matter may request an extension of time by filing a request with the executive director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with Commission staff on that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the extension, propose a new date for filing, and be filed in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If a postponement of a hearing would not be required, there is no prejudice to any party and there is no other good reason for denial, the request shall be approved. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b):

(b) Requests for Postponement of Hearing

A party to an ~~article 7~~ matter may request a postponement of a hearing on that matter, until the next regularly scheduled hearing. Although postponements of hearings are disfavored, each request for a postponement ~~shall~~ must be considered on its own merits. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the postponement, and be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the postponement will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations. The executive director may postpone the matter only on an affirmative showing of good cause.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.10(d):

(d) A copy of the proposed decision shall be ~~served~~ filed by Commission staff ~~as a public record and a copy of the proposed decision shall be served by Commission staff on each party~~ to all persons on the mailing list. The Commission ~~itself~~ may adopt the proposed decision or decide the case itself, provided that the Commission ~~itself~~ shall decide no matters provided for in this subdivision without affording the parties the opportunity to present either oral or written argument before the Commission.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.10(f):

(f) Except as provided for in subdivision (b), the proposed decision shall be prepared within a reasonable time following submission of the matter to the hearing officer or panel, and within a reasonable time after the evidentiary hearing, and served by Commission staff to all persons on the mailing list. ~~It shall be served on the parties promptly thereafter.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.12:

A matter, or any portion of a matter, other than a test claim, may be withdrawn by written application of the claimant or requester any time before a decision is adopted, or by oral application at the time of hearing. A test claim, or portion thereof, may be withdrawn by the claimant upon written application to the executive director any time before a decision is adopted or after enactment of a legislatively determined mandate on the same statute or executive order pursuant to Government Code section 17574. The claimant or requester shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Dismissal of items withdrawn pursuant to this section shall be in accordance with the procedures described in section 1187.14 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b)(2):

(2) Anyone may file w~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(b):

(b) All requests for reconsideration from any party or interested party shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and shall contain the following:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(f)(1)(B):

(B) Anyone may file w~~Written comments may be filed with the Commission~~on the draft proposed decision. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all

matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision presented to the Commission.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1188.2(a)(1):

(1) Any person may petition the Commission to request rulemaking hearings. The petition shall be filed ~~and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and shall include:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.1(d):

(d) A request for mandate redetermination and accompanying documents shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(c):

(c) Filing. Written comments and supporting documentation concerning a request for mandate redetermination shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with Section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.3(c):

(c) The rebuttal to a comment concerning a request for mandate redetermination shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(3):

(3) ~~Anyone may file with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision of the request to adopt a new test claim decision.~~ Written comments concerning the draft proposed decision shall be filed with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(3):

(3) ~~Anyone party or interested party may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not~~ Any party or interested party may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not

readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are necessary to provide clear, accurate, and concise step-by-step direction using consistent language for the certification, signing, formatting, filing, review, and service of documents in electronic format as well as clarifying the process for filing hard copy documents. These proposed changes will benefit the parties, interested parties, and interested persons by making the Commission process more transparent and the reorganization which reflects the chronology of the Commission process will provide ease of use to all filers.

III. Clarification of Teleconferencing Regulation

Section 1181.13. Commission Meeting by Teleconference.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1181.13 provides specific information concerning the Commission's ability to address quorum issues by holding meetings via teleconference that are compliant with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. The proposed amendment simplifies the regulation by limiting the language to compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.13:

~~The Commission may hold an open or closed meeting by teleconference if it is difficult or impossible for the Commission to achieve a quorum. A meeting held by teleconference shall comply in compliance with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, including the requirements to provide notice of the teleconference locations and make them open to the public.~~

~~The Commission may also hold an open or closed meeting by teleconference under alternative provisions of the Act, with some members participating remotely from remote locations (which are not disclosable or open to the public) while a quorum of its members are physically present at the same teleconference location.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

The proposed amendment is necessary to ensure a clear statement that the Commission will follow the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act for teleconferenced meetings and to prevent the need for continual updating of the regulation to align it with

any future changes to the Act's teleconferencing requirements. This proposed change will ensure continued clarity regarding the Commission's teleconferenced meetings whenever the Act is amended.

IV. Clarification of the Requirements for Filing a Second Test Claim on the Same Statute or Executive Order.

Section 1183.1. Test Claim Filing.

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

Section 1183.1 sets forth the process for the filing of test claims. Pursuant to Government Code section 17521, there can be only one test claim filed on behalf of all eligible claimants in the state on any statute or executive order. The test claim functions as a class action for all other local government interested parties and, generally, duplicate test claims cannot be filed and accepted by the Commission. However, there may be times when the test claim filing affects the subvention rights of an interested party differently from the test claimant and the interested party may file a separate, second test claim on the same statute or executive order. The proposed amendments clarify when the Commission can accept a second test claim filing. The proposed amendment to section 1183.1(c) necessitates reordering the subdivisions that follow. Section 1183.1(f) includes proposed consistency changes to align it with the amendment proposed to address certification of test claims (see section II, above).

Proposed Changes

Section 1183.1(c) is proposed to be added as follows:

(c) Otherwise, if The first claim filed on a statute or executive order by a similarly situated claimant is the test claim and no duplicate test claims will be accepted by the Commission. ~~Other similarly situated affected agencies may participate in the process by filing comments in writing on any agenda item as provided in section 1181.10 of these regulations, and may attend any Commission hearing on the test claim and provide written or oral comments to the Commission.~~ Interested parties whose ~~Affected agencies that are not similarly situated, meaning~~ subvention rights under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution are not protected by the test claim filing that test claim statutes affect them differently, may file a test claim on the same statute or executive order as the first claim, but ~~shall~~ must demonstrate in their filing how and why their subvention rights are not protected by the first test claim ~~they are affected differently.~~

Renumbering Section 1183.1:

The proposed amendment above requires renumbering the existing subdivisions (c), (d), (f), and (g) as (d), (e), (g), and (h), respectively.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(c):

~~(d)~~ (e) Except as provided in Government Code sections 17573 and 17574, any test claim or amendment filed with the Commission ~~shall~~ must be filed not later than 12 months (365 days) following the effective date of a statute or executive order, or within 12 months (365 days) of first incurring

increased costs as a result of a statute or executive order, whichever is later.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(d):

(~~ed~~) All test claims, or amendments thereto, shall be filed on a form developed by the executive director and shall contain all of the elements and supplemental documents required by statute, regulation and the form. When an omnibus bill is pled, claimant shall file only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory changes at issue.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(f):

(~~gf~~) Within 10 days of receipt of a test claim, or amendment thereto, Commission staff shall notify the claimant if the test claim is complete or incomplete. Test claims will be considered incomplete if any of the requirements of Government Code section 17553 or this section are illegible, not included, or are not met. If a complete test claim is not received within 30 calendar days from the date the incomplete test claim was returned, the executive director may disallow the original test claim filing date. ~~A and a~~ new test claim may be accepted on the same statute or executive order alleged to impose a reimbursable state-mandated program.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(g):

(~~hg~~) Any test claim, or portion of a test claim, that the Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear for any reason, including that the test claim was not filed within the period of limitation required by subdivision (c) of this section, may be rejected or dismissed by the executive director with a written notice stating the reason therefor. However, for an otherwise timely and complete test claim over which the Commission would have jurisdiction, except that it was filed by a local agency that is not eligible to seek reimbursement because it is not subject to the taxing and spending limitations of articles XIII A and B of the California Constitution, the Commission shall follow the process outlined in section 1187.14(b).

Consistency Changes in Other Regulations

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(e):

(~~fe~~) A test claim, or test claim amendment thereto, ~~and accompanying documents shall be signed at the end of the document, under penalty of perjury by the claimant or its authorized representative, with the declaration that the test claim is true and complete to the best of the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date of signing, the declarant's title, address, telephone number, facsimile machine telephone number, and electronic mail address shall be included. A test claim, or test claim amendment, shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. All representations of~~

fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

The proposed amendment is necessary to clear up any confusion regarding the filing of second test claims on the same statute or executive order and to ensure that the Commission's acceptance or rejection of a second test claim filing is easily explained and the regulation is consistently applied. The changes will benefit all local governmental entities seeking to file test claims by providing clear instruction on when a second test claim filing can be accepted.

V. Clarification of the Requirements for Citations and Providing Documents Relied Upon in Comments and Rebuttals.

Sections 1183.2. Review of Test Claims; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.10. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.12. Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology, Included in Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.15. Jointly Proposed Request for Early Termination of Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.6. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate or Sever Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

The regulations addressing the filing of comments and rebuttals on test claims (sections 1183.2 and 1183.3) and on requests for mandate redeterminations (sections 1190.2 and 1190.3) include directive language to provide or cite to the documents relied upon by the filer. However, this language was not included in regulations on other types of matters that also involve comments, rebuttals, and narratives. These proposed amendments correct this by including that language throughout the regulations addressing the filing of comments, rebuttals, and narratives. Also, because many of the types of documents that are listed are readily available online, there is no need for filers to provide them with comments and rebuttals. Thus, to limit the burden on filers, the proposed amendments limit the types of documents to be provided to only those documents that Commission staff or the public cannot access online. Finally, the proposed amendment adds case law citations to the list of items to be cited in

comments and rebuttals to assist Commission staff to see the non-statutory legal basis for any issues or arguments raised by the filer.

Several sections quoted below include proposed amendments addressed in other sections of this Statement.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.2(c)(2):

(2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that may impact the alleged mandate, unless the authorities are also cited in the test claim.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers shall be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission on State Mandates, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subdivision.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.3(b)(2):

(2) Include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that are cited in the rebuttal, unless the authorities are also cited in the test claim or any opposition thereto.~~ ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission on State Mandates, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirement to include a copy.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of ~~the~~all authorities relied upon shall be identified ~~in the written rebuttal.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.4(a):

(a) Any motion to consolidate or to sever shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If written representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(c):

~~(b)~~ Anyone may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by

documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the test claim.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(e):

(e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(f):

(f) Within 15 days of service of the comments, ~~anyone parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ may file written rebuttals with the Commission. ~~Rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(a):

(a) After adoption of a decision on a test claim, but before claimant files proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff may expedite the parameters and guidelines process by preparing and issuing draft expedited parameters and guidelines to assist the claimant. The draft expedited parameters and guidelines shall be served to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

In lieu of filing an original proposal pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a), the successful test claimant may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines with the Commission which may

include proposed modifications. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(b):

(b) ~~Anyone~~Parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service of Commission staff's draft proposal. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(c)

(c) Within 15 days of service of the comments filed pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section, ~~anyone~~parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file ~~and serve~~ rebuttals. ~~Such rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.10(c):

(c) An interested party may file cost information or other cost projections that can be the basis of a reasonable reimbursement methodology, and letters in support of a draft reasonable reimbursement methodology proposed pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1. Such information shall be ~~certified, filed and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(d):

(d) The test claimant and Department of Finance shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ any filings made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1 in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(f):

(f) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(g):

(g) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.12(d):

(d) Proposed reasonable reimbursement methodologies and comments regarding those proposals shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.12(e):

(e) Within 15 days of service of the written comments prepared by other parties and interested parties, the party that proposed the reasonable

reimbursement methodology may file a written rebuttal ~~with the Commission, and shall certify, file, and serve the rebuttal~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(b):

(b) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.15(c):

(c) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.15(d):

(d) Within seven days of service of the written comments, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(c):

(c) The test claimant and the Department of Finance may jointly propose amendments to the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology or the continuation of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology by filing a request made pursuant to Government Code section 17557.2(f), which shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(e):

(e) Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(f):

(f) Within 15 days of service of the written comments filed by other parties and interested parties, the test claimant and Department of Finance may file written rebuttals ~~which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(d):

(d) A claimant or state agency requesting an amendment to existing parameters and guidelines shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the request in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(g):

(g) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments on the request to amend the parameters and guidelines ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(h):

(h) ~~Parties and interested parties may file w~~Written rebuttals ~~to the comments may be filed within 21 days of service of the comments. Written rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(j):

(j) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(c):

(c) An original request to review claiming instructions shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page

numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(f):

(f) ~~Anyone may file written comments on the request~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(g):

(g) Within 30 days of service of the written comments, ~~parties~~parties or interested parties~~the requester may file a written rebuttal to the Commission which shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(i):

(i) ~~Anyone~~The requester and any state agency, or interested party may file written comments on the draft proposed decision. ~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision on the request to review and modify the claiming instructions.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.1(f)(2)

(2) A written detailed narrative that describes the alleged incorrect reductions. The narrative shall include a comprehensive description of the

reduced or disallowed areas of costs and identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.2(d):

(d) Commission staff shall notify the Office of State Controller that written comments and supporting documentation in connection with an incorrect reduction claim shall be filed no more than 90 days from the date the copy of the claim is provided to the Office of State Controller. Written comments and supporting documentation shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.2(e):

(e) Written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's written comments may be filed by the claimant or interested persons in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. ~~The claimant and interested parties may file written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's comments within 30 days of service of the Office of State Controller's comments. Written rebuttals and supporting documentation shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.~~ If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.6(b):

(b) During the 30-day notice period, a claimant may file a written request that an individual incorrect reduction claim be severed from a proposed consolidation, which shall be filed ~~and served~~, in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. Timely requests to sever shall be approved by the executive director.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.7(d):

(d) A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to

Government Code section 17530. Written comments may be filed ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b)(2):

(2) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(b)(3):

(3) A detailed statement of the clerical error or the new or different facts, circumstances, or law supporting the request, and all documentation ~~to support the request~~ identifying the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. For the purposes of this section, an alleged new or different law shall not include a later enacted statute without a retroactive application.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(f)(1)(B):

(B) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments ~~may be filed with the Commission on the draft proposed decision.~~ All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision presented to the Commission.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(b)(2):

(2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, state and federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that may impact the alleged mandate, unless the authorities are also cited in the request to adopt a new test claim decision.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon shall ~~must~~ be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. When an omnibus bill is relevant to the response, only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory amendments at issue shall be filed.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.3(b)(2):

(2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that are cited in the rebuttal, unless the authorities are also cited in the request to adopt a new test claim decision or any response thereto.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon shall be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. When an omnibus bill is relevant to the rebuttal, only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory amendments at issue shall be filed.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(3):

(3) Anyone may file w~~Written~~ comments concerning the draft proposed decision ~~may be filed with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director,~~ which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision of the request to adopt a new test claim decision.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(3):

(3) ~~Any one party or interested party~~ may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision ~~with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are necessary to lessen the burden on filers to provide documents that the Commission staff can readily access online for comments and rebuttals on test claims (sections 1183.2 and 1183.3) and on requests for mandate redetermination (sections 1190.2 and 1190.3). The proposed amendments are also necessary to increase communication between the filers and Commission staff by clarifying the documentation required. The changes will benefit all filers of comments, rebuttals, and narratives by providing clear instruction and consistency in filed documents.

VI. Clarification of the Granting or Denial of a Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.

Section 1183.4. Claimant's Motion to Consolidate or Sever Test Claims.

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

Section 1183.4 addresses the process for a motion for consolidation or severance of test claims. However, the step in the procedure where the executive director provides notice to the claimant regarding whether the motion was granted or denied was not included in the regulations. The proposed change corrects this.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.4(b):

(b) Within 30 days after receipt of a motion to consolidate or sever, the executive director will grant or deny the motion with a written notice stating the reason therefor and will make any necessary changes to the names or numbering of the affected test claims~~may consolidate or sever any test claim.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendment is necessary to address an oversight in these regulations. The proposed amendment ensures that the claimant is provided notice as to whether the motion has been granted or denied. The inclusion of this notice will benefit the parties, interested parties, and interested persons by making the Commission process more transparent.

VII. Clarification of the Processing of Test Claims.

1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision.

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

Section 1183.6 addresses the process for Commission staff to issue a draft proposed decision on a test claim eight weeks before a Commission hearing and then a proposed decision just before the hearing. The proposed amendments reorder the subdivisions to ensure that the steps are presented in chronological order.

The text of section 1183.6(a) is proposed to be deleted and moved to the new subdivision (c) as it is out of chronological order. This deletion results in subdivisions (b) and (c) being renumbered as subdivisions (a) and (b), respectively. The newly proposed subdivision (c) now contains the text of former subdivision (a) and includes proposed amendments to remove an unnecessary reference to “test claim” as this section only addresses test claims. Finally, subdivision (d) is proposed to be deleted in compliance with proposed amendments addressing the timing of filing documentary evidence (see section XI, below).

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(a):

~~(a) Before the hearing on the test claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision for the test claim, which shall include a review of the written comments filed. The proposed decision shall describe and analyze the test claim to assist the Commission in determining whether the alleged statutes or executive orders contain a reimbursable state-mandated program under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.~~

~~(b) At least eight weeks before the hearing, or at a time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and distribute it to the parties, interested parties, and serve it on all persons~~ those on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(c):

~~(b)~~ Anyone may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and

shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the test claim.~~

Section 1183.6(c) is proposed to be added, as follows:

(c) Before the hearing on the test claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision, which shall include a review of the entire record. The proposed decision shall describe and analyze the test claim to assist the Commission in determining whether the alleged statutes or executive orders contain a reimbursable state-mandated program under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.

Section 1183.6(d) is proposed to be deleted, as follows:

~~(d) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (c) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendment is necessary to provide clear, chronological steps that will benefit any parties, interested parties, or interested persons consulting these regulations.

VIII. Clarification of Who May Participate in the Processing of Claims and Development of Commission Forms.

Section 1181.4. Mailing Lists and Numbering of Matters; 1181.6. Development and Approval of Commission Forms; 1181.9. Commission Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Consent Calendar; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.2. Review of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision

Specific Purpose of the Regulations

Reviewing the impact of the proposed clarifying changes in the definitions of interested parties and interested persons, it was clear that the regulations do not consistently designate who can file comments and rebuttals. These proposed amendments correct this by including that language throughout the regulations addressing the filing of comments and rebuttals. In addition, the proposed amendments to section 1181.6

provide a better explanation of the persons involved in the Commission process for the creation of new forms.

While the proposed amendments generally restate the existing language with more clarity, some sections alter the prior language by increasing or decreasing those who may file comments or rebuttals. Specifically, the amendments to sections 1184.1(i), and 1187.14(b) and (b)(2) are proposed to expand the ability to file comments to include interested persons. The amendments to sections 1183.3(a) and 1184.1(g) are proposed to no longer limit rebuttals to claimants and requesters, respectively. The ability to file rebuttals is proposed to be expanded to include parties and interested parties. The proposed amendments to section 1185.2(e) will expand those who may file rebuttals to the State Controller's comments on an incorrect reduction claim from parties and interested parties to parties and interested persons. Finally, the proposed amendment to section 1183.17(h) limits the ability to file rebuttals on proposed amendments to parameters and guidelines to only parties and interested parties.

Several sections quoted below include proposed amendments addressed in other sections of this Statement.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.4(a):

(a) For all matters deemed complete, Commission staff shall prepare a mailing list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of anyone~~the parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~ who ~~have~~ requested inclusion on the mailing list. The mailing list will be uploaded to the Commission's website and an e-mail notification of its availability will be sent to all persons~~everyone~~ on the list who has~~have~~ provided an e-mail address. A hard copy will be provided by Commission staff to persons on the mailing list who have not provided an e-mail address and to any person who requests a hard copy.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.6(a):

(a) In consultation with anyone who expresses an interest in the Commission's process~~interested parties~~ and in accordance with applicable law and these regulations, the executive director shall develop the test claim form, incorrect reduction claim form, mandate redetermination form, and other forms, to simplify and improve the efficiency of the Commission's processes.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.6(b):

(b) The executive director shall conduct at least one workshop with anyone who expresses an interest in the Commission's process~~interested parties~~, Department of Finance, Office of the State Controller, and other affected state agencies,~~and interested persons~~ before approval of a form.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.9(a):

(a) Time and distribution. Notices and agendas of meetings shall be provided~~given~~ to all members, to all parties ~~and interested parties~~ to

proceedings on the agenda, and to all persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations who request them in writing. The notice and agenda shall be provided~~issued~~ and posted on the Commission's website no less than 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.2(b):

(b) Written comments concerning the test claim may be filed by anyone~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ within 30 days from the date the test claim or amendment is issued for comment and in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.3:

1183.3. ~~Claimant's~~ Rebuttal

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.3(a):

(a) Written rebuttals to ~~written comments concerning~~filed on a test claim, may be filed by parties or interested parties, ~~and shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(f), regarding rebuttals on proposed Parameters and Guidelines:

(f) Within 15 days of service of the comments, ~~anyone~~parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file written rebuttals with the Commission. ~~Rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(b):

(b) ~~Anyone~~Parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service of Commission staff's draft proposal. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(c):

(c) Within 15 days of service of the comments filed pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section, ~~anyone parties, interested parties, and interested persons may file and serve rebuttals. Such rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(g):

(g) Anyone may file w~~Written~~ comments on the request to amend the parameters and guidelines ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(h), regarding rebuttals on proposed amendments to Parameters and Guidelines:

(h) Parties and interested parties may file w~~Written~~ rebuttals ~~to the comments may be filed within 21 days of service of the comments. Written rebuttals shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(f), regarding comments on a request to review the Controller's claiming instructions:

(f) Anyone may file written comments on the request~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(g), regarding rebuttals on a request to review the Controller's claiming instructions:

(g) Within 30 days of service of the written comments, parties or interested parties~~the requester~~ may file a written rebuttal to the Commission which ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(i):

(i) ~~Anyone~~~~The requester and any state agency, or interested party~~ may file written comments on the draft proposed decision. ~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director,¹ which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision on the request to review and modify the claiming instructions.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.2(e) regarding who may file rebuttals to the State Controller's comments on an incorrect reduction claim:

(e) Written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's written comments may be filed by the claimant or interested persons in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon.~~The claimant and interested parties may file written rebuttals to the Office of State Controller's comments within 30 days of service of the Office of State Controller's comments. Written rebuttals and supporting documentation shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.~~ If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b), regarding substitution of parties and dismissal of a matter:

(b) A test claim that has been withdrawn or deemed abandoned may be dismissed by the Commission on its own motion or by a motion of a party after notice and an opportunity to be heard has been provided to the claimant, ~~parties and interested parties as provided below.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b)(2):

(2) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments ~~shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b)(3):

(3) If no ~~interested party~~ ~~either local agency or school district~~ takes over the test claim by substitution of parties within 60 days of the issuance of the notice, the Commission shall hear the proposed dismissal of the test claim.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(a)(2), regarding the mandate redetermination process:

(2) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments concerning the request for mandate redetermination ~~may be filed within 30 days of the issuance of the notice~~ and evidence may also be presented at the hearing on the request for mandate redetermination.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(3):

(3) ~~Anyone may file w~~Written comments concerning the draft proposed decision ~~may be filed with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision of the request to adopt a new test claim decision.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(3):

(3) ~~Any one party or interested party~~ may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision ~~with the Commission. Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are necessary to clearly state which persons and agencies may file comments and rebuttals or participate in other parts of the Commission process. This clarity will benefit all filers of comments and rebuttals as well as all persons participating in the Commission processes.

IX. Clarification of the Requirements for the Contents of Parameters and Guidelines.

Section 1183.7. Content of Parameters and Guidelines.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1183.7 addresses the information that must be included in any parameters and guidelines filed with or created by Commission staff. The proposed amendment to subdivision (a) clarifies what shall be included in the summary of the mandate and the proposed amendment to subdivision (g) clarifies the off-setting revenues language.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.7(a):

(a) Summary of the Mandate. A summary of the Commission's findings and identification of reimbursable state mandated activities~~mandate identifying the statutes or executive orders that contain the mandate and the increased level of service and activities found to be required under those statutes or executive orders.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.7(g):

(g) Any Offsetting Revenues and Reimbursements that reduce the cost of any reimbursable activity, including the identification of:

(1) Any offsetting revenue the claimant experiences in the same program as a result of the same statutes or executive orders found to contain the mandate~~Dedicated state and federal funds appropriated for this program.~~

~~(2) Any reimbursement for this mandate from any source, including but not limited to, state and federal funds, any service charge, fee, or assessment authority to offset all or part of the costs of this program, and any other funds that are not the claimant's proceeds of taxes~~
~~Non-local agency funds dedicated for this program.~~

~~(3) Local agency's general purpose funds for this program.~~

~~(4) Service charge, fee, or assessment authority to offset part of the costs of this program.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are necessary to ensure that all successful claimants have clear and specific directions regarding what information is necessary and relevant to be provided to the Commission for the adoption of the parameters and guidelines. And, since the parameters and guidelines, once adopted, become the basis for claiming instructions, the inclusion of this language will also ensure that relevant information is provided to the State Controller's Office for the creation of the claiming instructions which will benefit all local agencies that file claims on the program.

X. Clarification of Requests for Review of State Controller's Claiming Instructions.

Section 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions.

Section 1184.1(b) addresses requests for review of claiming instructions issued by the State Controller. The proposed amendments add clarifying language to subdivisions (b)(1) and (b)(3) explaining precisely what a request to review claiming instructions shall include for the Commission's review.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(b)(1):

(1) A copy of the disputed claiming instructions issued by the Office of the State Controller pursuant to Government Code section 17558(b).

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(b)(3):

(3) A narrative that details the suggested changes and the reasons why the local agency or school district finds the claiming instructions need to be modified to conform to the parameters and guidelines in accordance with Government Code section 17571.

The following amendment is proposed for the Note to section 1184.1:

Note: Authority cited: Sections 17527(g) and 17527(h), Government Code.
Reference: Sections 17530, 17558(b), 17560 and 17571, Government Code.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

These amendments are necessary to clarify the requirements for requests for review of claiming instructions to assist both parties and the Commission with understanding the nature and extent of the issues raised by the requester.

XI. Clarification of the Requirements for the Filing of Declarations To Be Used in Lieu of Testimony.

Section 1187.5. Evidence Submitted to the Commission.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1187.5 addresses the submission of evidence to the Commission for consideration. While the regulation has always required compliance with Government Code section 11514, the specific requirements of that section were not included in the regulation. The proposed amendment adds language to section 1187.5 explaining the requirements for the Commission's process for using declarations in lieu of testimony consistent with Government Code section 11514.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.5(d):

(d) Each party shall have the right to present witnesses, introduce exhibits, and propose to the chairperson questions for opposing witnesses. Evidence may be submitted to support or rebut any issue. If declarations are to be used in lieu of testimony, the party proposing to use the declaration shall comply with Government Code Section 11514 as follows:

(1) At least ten days before the hearing, the party proposing to use a declaration in lieu of testimony shall file in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, a copy of any declaration which the party proposes to introduce in evidence, together with a notice as provided in subdivision (d)(2).

(2) The notice referred to in subdivision (d)(1) shall be substantially in the following form:

The accompanying declaration of (here insert name of declarant) will be introduced as evidence at the hearing in the matter of (here insert matter and case number). (Here insert name of declarant) will not be called to testify orally and you will not be entitled to propose to the chairperson questions for the opposing witness unless you file in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations a request to cross-examine the declarant (here insert a date seven days after the date of filing and serving the declaration).

(3) Unless the opposing party, within seven days after service, files in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations a request to cross-examine the declarant, the opposing party's right to cross-examine the declarant is waived and the declaration, if introduced in evidence, shall be given the same effect as if the declarant had testified orally.

(4) If, however, notice in accordance with subdivision (d)(1) is not provided by the party proposing to use a declaration in lieu of testimony and an opportunity to cross-examine a declarant is not afforded to the opposing party, the declaration may be introduced in evidence but shall be given only the same effect as other hearsay evidence. In such cases, the

declaration shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

This amendment is necessary to set forth the rules under Government Code section 11514. The Commission process does not require that the parties are represented by counsel and so the process must be stated clearly to ensure fair access to all. This new language will assist both parties and the Commission with understanding the rights and obligations of parties that submit declarations in lieu of testimony for Commission hearings and how the evidence should be treated.

XII. New Requirements for the Timing of Filing Written Testimony, Declarations, or Other Evidence at Teleconferenced Meetings.

Sections 1187.6. Conduct of Hearing; 1181.10. Commission Meeting Procedures; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1187.6 addresses, among other hearing procedures, the filing of written testimony or other evidence in advance of a hearing. Under the current regulation, there is no specific time when the filing needs to be received by the Commission to be considered at the hearing. The proposed amendment adds language to section 1187.6(f) clarifying that declarations may be filed in advance of a hearing and that the filing must be done via e-filing at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to allow time for the evidence to be included in the Commission's record. Because filing can occur as little as 24 hours before the hearing, language regarding late filings and whether Commission staff will review them in other parts of the regulations can be deleted. Finally, the process for the filing of public comments was amended to align it with the proposed changes to section 1187.6.

Several sections quoted below include proposed amendments addressed in other sections of this Statement.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.6(f):

(f) The Commission or the executive director may require that prepared written testimony, declarations, or other evidence be filed in advance of any hearing to facilitate the orderly consideration of issues at the hearing. A PDF copy of any prepared written testimony, declaration, or other documentary evidence shall be electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website, at least 24 hours prior to the hearing to be part of the record and considered by the Commission.

Consistency Changes in Other Regulations:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.10(b)(1):

(1) Comments in Writing. Any person may submit comments in writing on any agenda item by ~~certifying, filing, and serving~~ them in accordance with 1181.3 of these regulations. ~~To be included as a part of the administrative record for the matter, comments must be provided to the Commission members and be made available for public review either before or at the Commission hearing on the matter.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.10(b)(1)(C):

(C) For written comments ~~filed~~received less than five days in advance of the meeting, ~~the commenter shall provide 12 copies to Commission staff at the in-person meeting. In the case of participation via teleconference, a PDF copy shall be filed via~~electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website, the Commission's dropbox at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Commission staff shall provide copies of the comments to the Commission and shall place a copy on a table for public review when the item is called or, in the case of participation via teleconference, shall provide an electronic copy to the Commission and post a copy on the Commission's website, and may share the document with the Commission and the public using the "share-screen" function.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(c):

(~~be~~) Anyone may file written comments concerning the draft proposed decision. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the test claim.~~

Section 1183.6(d) is proposed to be deleted as follows:

~~(d) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (c) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(b):

(b) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(c):

~~(c) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (b) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines after the comment period expires.~~

~~(d) The Commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these regulations before adoption of the proposed decision and parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(j):

(j) Written comments on the draft proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date noticed by the executive director, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision and recommendation on the proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(k):

~~(k) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment~~

~~period described in subdivision (j) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

~~(f)~~ An amendment shall be made only after the Commission has conducted a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(i):

~~(i) Anyone~~ The requester and any state agency, or interested party may file written comments on the draft proposed decision. ~~Written comments shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director,~~ which shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. ~~All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision on the request to review and modify the claiming instructions.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(j):

~~(j) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (i) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

~~(k)~~ The Commission shall conduct a hearing in accordance with article 7 of these regulations on the request to review claiming instructions.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.7(d):

~~(d) A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. Written comments may be filed and shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, by the date determined and noticed by the executive director,~~ and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. ~~All written comments~~

~~timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim.~~

Section 1185.7(e) is proposed to be deleted as follows:

~~(e) It is the Commission's policy to discourage the introduction of late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed after the three-week comment period described in subdivision (d) of this section. The Commission need not rely on, and staff need not respond to, late comments, exhibits, or other evidence filed in response to a draft proposed decision after the comment period expires.~~

The proposed amendment above requires renumbering the existing sections 1183.13(e), 1184.1(l) 1184.1(m), and 1184.1(n) as 1183.13(d), 1184.1(k) 1184.1(l), and 1184.1(m), respectively.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(e):

~~(de)~~ Within 10 days after the adoption of the decision and parameters and guidelines, the executive director shall issue it to the Office of the State Controller and to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post a copy on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(l):

~~(kl)~~ If the Commission determines that the claiming instructions need to be modified, the Commission shall direct the Office of State Controller to modify the claiming instructions to conform to the parameters and guidelines.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(m):

~~(lm)~~ An approved change to the claiming instructions shall be subject to the following schedule:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(n):

~~(mn)~~ A request to review claiming instructions may be withdrawn by written application to the executive director any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The requesters shall file ~~and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the request to review claiming instructions. If no other local agency or school district takes over the request to review claiming instructions by substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the request to review claiming instructions and shall post the letter on the Commission's website.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefits

The proposed amendment is necessary to allow sufficient time for documentary evidence to be received by the Commission and to be distributed to the members, parties, interested parties, and interested persons to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to review the evidence. The proposed amendment will benefit participants in the hearing process by ensuring an opportunity for a full discussion and consideration of the documentary evidence at the hearing.

XIII. Clarify the Requesting and Granting of Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings

Section 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

Section 1187.9 addresses the process for parties and interested parties to request an extension of time to file comments or rebuttals and the process for parties to request the postponement of a hearing. The proposed amendment to the title of subdivision (a) clarifies that the extensions of time are for the filing of comments and rebuttals. Also, while the current regulation combines parties and interested parties in the same subdivision, the proposed amendments clarify the differences between a request by a party and a request by an interested party by separating the two types of requests in two new subdivisions of section 1187.9(a). The proposed amendments to subdivision (a)(1) include new meet and confer language for parties to make the request process more coordinated, consistent, and efficient. Also, the proposed amendments to subdivision (a)(1) replace “so long as” with “if” for greater clarity. The proposed amendments to subdivisions (b)(3)(A) and (b)(3)(C) allow any party – not just a claimant or requester – to request a postponement of a hearing which confirms that state agencies may now seek a postponement. Also, subdivision (b)(3)(B) contains the language “parties, including the claimant or requester.” Since the claimant or requester is a party, the phrase “including the claimant or requester” is redundant and proposed for deletion. Finally, subdivision (b)(3)(D) is proposed to be deleted for two reasons. First, interested parties are no longer permitted to seek the postponement of a hearing. While interested parties have subvention rights at issue in the matter, they are not claimants or requesters who are responsible for putting forward their position on the matter and moving it to decision and should, along with state agencies, be solely able to request a postponement of a hearing. Second, since the state agencies are treated the same as the claimant or requester when requesting an extension of time or a postponement, the requirement for a notice of intent is no longer necessary.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(a):

(a) Requests for Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals

(1) Any party or interested party to a matter may request an extension of time. Parties are encouraged to meet and confer prior to requesting an extension to obtain a stipulation or to permit the granting of extensions for more than one party at a time. A request for an extension of time shall be

made by filing a request with the executive director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with Commission staff on that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the extension, propose a new date for filing, and be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If so long as a postponement of a hearing would not be required, there is no prejudice to any party or interested party, and there is no other good reason for denial, the request shall be approved. A party to a matter may request an extension of time that would necessitate rescheduling a hearing, but shall also include a request for postponement of the hearing, pursuant to subdivision (b) of this section. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

(2) An interested party to a matter may request an extension of time by filing a request with the executive director before the date set for filing of comments or rebuttals with Commission staff on that matter. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the extension, propose a new date for filing, and be filed in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. If a postponement of a hearing would not be required, there is no prejudice to any party and there is no other good reason for denial, the request shall be approved. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the extension will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b):

(b) Requests for Postponement of Hearing

A party to an ~~article 7~~ matter may request a postponement of a hearing on that matter, until the next regularly scheduled hearing. Although postponements of hearings are disfavored, each request for a postponement ~~shall~~ must be considered on its own merits. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the postponement, and be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Within two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the postponement will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations. The executive director may postpone the matter only on an affirmative showing of good cause.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b)(3)(A):

(3) Approval of Requests for Postponement

(A) A request filed by a party ~~the claimant or requester~~ at least 15 days before the hearing shall be approved by the executive director for good cause.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b)(3)(B)

(B) A request filed by stipulation of the parties, ~~including the claimant or requester~~, shall be approved by the executive director for good cause.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b)(3)(C):

(C) A request filed by a party ~~the claimant or requester~~ less than 15 days before the hearing may be approved by the executive director for good cause.

Section 1187.9(b)(3)(D) is proposed to be deleted as follows:

~~(D) A request filed by an interested party may be approved by the executive director for good cause. If a state agency makes a request before filing comments on the test claim, that request shall be accompanied by a notice of intent to oppose the test claim in whole or in part.~~

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are necessary to clear up any confusion regarding how parties and interested parties request an extension of time to file comments or rebuttals and ensures that the regulation is consistently applied. The proposed amendments also ensure that all parties, whether local government, school districts, or state agencies, are treated the same when requesting a postponement of a hearing. These proposed changes will benefit all parties seeking more time during the Commission processes.

XIV. Amendments to the Regulations to Make Minor, Non-substantive Changes.

Sections 1181.4. Mailing Lists and Numbering of Matters; 1181.6. Development and Approval of Commission Forms; 1181.9. Commission Meeting Notice, Agenda, and Consent Calendar; 1181.10. Commission Meeting Procedures; 1183.1. Test Claim Filing; 1183.2. Review of Test Claim; 1183.3. Claimant's Rebuttal; 1183.6. Review of Completed Test Claim and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1183.7. Content of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.8. Filing and Review of Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; Filing of Comments; 1183.9. Expedited Process for Proposed Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.11. Alternative Process: Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology and Statewide Estimate of Costs; 1183.13. Adoption of Parameters and Guidelines; 1183.16. Expiration of a Joint Reasonable Reimbursement Methodology; 1183.17. Amendments to Parameters and Guidelines; 1184.1. Review of Office of State Controller's Claiming Instructions; 1185.1. Incorrect Reduction Claim Filing; 1185.4. Joining a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.5. Opting Out of a Consolidated Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1185.7. Review of Completed Incorrect Reduction Claims and Preparation of Proposed Decision; 1185.8. Withdrawal of Incorrect Reduction Claims; 1186.2. Request for Inclusion; 1186.4. Request for Removal; 1187.1. Scheduling and Noticing the Hearing; 1187.4. Informal Conference; 1187.5. Evidence Submitted to the Commission; 1187.6. Conduct of Hearing; 1187.9. Extensions of Time to File Comments or Rebuttals and Postponements and Continuances of Hearings; 1187.10. Decision; Action on Proposed Decision; 1187.14. Substitution of Parties and Dismissal of a Matter; 1187.15. Reconsideration of an Adopted Decision on a Test

Claim or Incorrect Reduction Claim; 1188.1. Scheduling and Noticing of an Informational Hearing; 1190.2. Review and Response; 1190.3. Rebuttal; 1190.4. Executive Director's Authority to Consolidate Requests for Mandate Redetermination; 1190.5. Hearing Process and Form of Decision.

Specific Purpose of the Regulation

The proposed regulations make minor, non-substantive amendments to improve readability and ensure clarity and consistency.

Section 1181.4 addresses the numbering of filed matters and Section 1181.10 addresses Commission meeting procedures. The language in both, however, refers to filings as “received” rather than “filed.” The proposed amendments correct this terminology.

Sections 1181.4 addresses the numbering of filed matters, 1183.2 addresses the service of test claims, 1183.5 addresses service of consolidation or severance of test claims; 1183.6 addresses the review of a completed test claim, 1183.8 addresses the filing and review of proposed parameters and guidelines, 1183.9 addresses service of proposed decisions, 1183.13 addresses the adoption of parameters and guidelines, 1183.16 addresses the expiration of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.7 addresses the review of completed incorrect reduction claims, 1185.8 addresses the withdrawal of an incorrect reduction claim, 1187.1 addresses scheduling and noticing a hearing, 1187.4 addresses informal conferences, 1187.10 addresses service of decisions and proposed decisions, 1187.14 addresses withdrawal of matters, 1188.1 addresses rulemaking. 1190.4 addresses consolidation of requests for mandate redetermination, and 1190.5 addresses the hearing process. Each of these sections uses inconsistent language regarding service on or notice to individuals on the mailing list which is proposed to be changed to “all persons” and is accompanied by other language necessary to fit the existing sentence structure.

Section 1181.9 addresses the distribution of agenda but the language used does not mirror the language in the Bagley-Keene Open Meetings Act nor does it address the Commission’s process for posting its agenda.

Section 1181.10 addresses the timing of written comments and uses the incorrect term “share screen” function. The proposed amendment corrects the term to “share” function which mirrors the website’s terminology.

Sections 1183.1 addresses the process for the filing of test claims, 1183.7 addresses the information that must be included in any parameters and guidelines filed with or created by Commission staff, 1183.11 address the process for proposing a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.1 addresses filing an incorrect reduction claim, 1185.5 addresses opting out of a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, 1186.2 addresses requests for inclusion into the State Mandates Apportionment System, 1186.4 addresses requests for removal from the State Mandates Apportionment System, 1187.5 addresses the submission of

evidence to the Commission for consideration, 1187.9 requests for postponement of a hearing, 1187.15 addresses the reconsideration process, 1190.2 addresses filing requests in the mandate redetermination process, and 1190.3 addresses the filing of rebuttals in the mandate redetermination process. Each of these sections uses the term “must.” To ensure consistency, “shall” is proposed to replace “must.”

Section 1183.2 addresses the service of test claims and uses the incorrect term “web-site.” The proposed amendment correct the term to “website” making it consistent throughout the regulations.

Section 1183.3 addresses the filing of rebuttals and includes the unnecessary term “written” regarding comments and the unclear term “concerning” which is proposed to be amended to “filed on.”

Sections 1183.6 addresses the review of a completed test claim, 1183.13 addresses the adoption of parameters and guidelines, 1183.17 addresses amendments to the parameters and guidelines, 1184.1 addresses the review of claiming instructions, 1185.7 addresses the review of completed incorrect reduction claims, 1187.15 addresses the reconsideration process, and 1190.5 addresses the hearing process. Each of these sections lists the documents to be reviewed by staff as part of its analysis. However, as the lists are incomplete, the proposed amendments replace the lists with “entire record” making the regulation clear and consistent.

Section 1185.4 addresses how parties would join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim. Subdivision (b) lists the contents of a notice of intent to join. The language is repeated unnecessarily under subdivision (b)(3) and is proposed to be deleted. Also, subdivision (b)(4) is not part of the list and is proposed to be renumbered to subdivision (c) necessitating the renumbering of other subdivisions.

Section 1187.9 addresses requests for postponement of a hearing and includes the repetitive term “article 7” matter. However, due to the fact that the term “matter” includes only those items in article 7, the term “article 7” is proposed to be deleted.

Section 1187.6 addresses the conduct of the hearing. The terminology for the chairperson and presiding member are incorrect and no including a hearing panel is inconsistent with Section 1187.3. The proposed changes address these.

Section 1187.10 addresses decisions and misidentifies a subdivision as a section. The proposed change remedies this.

Section 1190.2 addresses the mandate redetermination process and the proposed amendment clarifies that the 30 days runs from the issuance of the notice.

Several sections quoted below include proposed amendments addressed in other sections of this Statement.

Proposed Changes

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.4(a):

- (a) For all matters deemed complete, Commission staff shall prepare a mailing list of the names, addresses, phone numbers and e-mail addresses of anyone~~the parties, interested parties, and interested persons~~

who ~~have~~ requested inclusion on the mailing list. The mailing list will be uploaded to the Commission's website and an e-mail notification of its availability will be sent to all persons~~everyone~~ on the list who have~~has~~ provided an e-mail address. A hard copy will be provided by Commission staff to persons on the mailing list who have not provided an e-mail address and to any person who requests a hard copy.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.4(c):

(c) For the following new filings filed with~~received by~~ the Commission, the executive director shall issue sequential matter numbers, by fiscal year, as follows:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.6(c):

(c) Upon development of a new form, the executive director shall notice all persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~notify claimants, interested parties, affected state agencies, and interested persons~~, and shall disseminate copies at least 10 days before the operative date of a form.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.9(a):

(a) Time and distribution. Notices and agendas of meetings shall be provided~~given~~ to all members, to all parties ~~and interested parties~~ to proceedings on the agenda, and to all persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~who request them in writing~~. The notice and agenda shall be provided~~issued~~ and posted on the Commission's website no less than 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.10(b)(1)(A):

(A) Comments filed~~received~~ at least 15 days in advance of the meeting shall be included in the Commission's meeting binders, a copy of which is available for public viewing at the Commission meeting.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.10(b)(1)(B):

(B) Comments filed~~received~~ more than five days in advance of the meeting shall be included in the Commission's meeting binders, if feasible, or shall be provided to the Commission when the item is called, unless otherwise agreed to by the Commission or the executive director.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1181.10(b)(1)(C):

(C) For written comments filed~~received~~ less than five days in advance of the meeting, ~~the commenter shall provide 12 copies to Commission staff at the in-person meeting. In the case of participation via teleconference, a PDF copy shall be filed via electronically filed (or e-filed) with the Commission via the Commission's e-filing system, available on the Commission's website, the Commission's dropbox~~ at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Commission staff shall provide copies of the comments to

the Commission and shall place a copy on a table for public review when the item is called or, in the case of participation via teleconference, shall provide an electronic copy to the Commission and post a copy on the Commission's website, and may share the document with the Commission and the public using the "share-screen" function.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.1(c):

~~(c) Otherwise, if~~ The first claim filed on a statute or executive order by a similarly situated claimant is the test claim and no duplicate test claims will be accepted by the Commission. ~~Other similarly situated affected agencies may participate in the process by filing comments in writing on any agenda item as provided in section 1181.10 of these regulations, and may attend any Commission hearing on the test claim and provide written or oral comments to the Commission. Interested parties whose~~ Affected agencies that are not similarly situated, meaning subvention rights under article XIII B, section 6, of the California Constitution are not protected by the test claim filing that test claim statutes affect them differently, may file a test claim on the same statute or executive order as the first claim, but shall must demonstrate in their filing how and why their subvention rights are not protected by the first test claim they are affected differently.

~~(d)~~ Except as provided in Government Code sections 17573 and 17574, any test claim or amendment filed with the Commission shall must be filed not later than 12 months (365 days) following the effective date of a statute or executive order, or within 12 months (365 days) of first incurring increased costs as a result of a statute or executive order, whichever is later.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.2(a):

(a) Within 10 days of receipt of a completed test claim, or amendment thereto, Commission staff shall serve make a copy of the test claim or amendment ~~available to those named~~ to all persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations and shall post it on the Commission's web-site.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.3(a):

(a) Written rebuttals to ~~written comments concerning~~ filed on a test claim, may be filed by parties or interested parties, and shall be certified, filed, and served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations within 30 days of service of the written comments.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.5(b):

(b) At least 10 days before the action is taken, the executive director shall simultaneously serve on the parties and all persons ~~interested parties~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and post on the Commission's website, a notice of any proposed action to consolidate or sever.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.6(a):

~~(a) Before the hearing on the test claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision for the test claim, which shall include a review of the written comments filed. The proposed decision shall describe and analyze the test claim to assist the Commission in determining whether the alleged statutes or executive orders contain a reimbursable state-mandated program under article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution.~~

~~(b) At least eight weeks before the hearing, or at a time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and distribute it to the parties, interested parties, and serve it on all persons~~ those on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.7(f):

(f) Record Retention. Notice of the Office of the State Controller's authority to audit claims and the amount of time supporting documents ~~shall~~ must be retained during the period subject to audit.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(c):

(c) Within 10 days of receipt of completed proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons ~~those who are~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.8(d):

(d) Commission staff shall notify all persons on the mailing list ~~recipients~~ that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments concerning the proposed parameters and guidelines within 15 days of service.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.9(a):

(a) After adoption of a decision on a test claim, but before claimant files proposed parameters and guidelines, Commission staff may expedite the parameters and guidelines process by preparing and issuing draft expedited parameters and guidelines to assist the claimant. The draft expedited parameters and guidelines shall be served to all persons ~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

In lieu of filing an original proposal pursuant to Government Code section 17557(a), the successful test claimant may file comments on the draft expedited parameters and guidelines with the Commission which may include proposed modifications. Such comments shall be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page

numbers of all authorities relied upon. If representations of fact are made, they shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.11(c):

(c) At the request of the test claimant and the Department of Finance, the executive director may provide for up to four extensions of the 180-day period to file the draft reasonable reimbursement methodology and proposed statewide estimate of costs for the initial claiming period and budget year. Any request ~~shall~~must be based on good cause as described in section 1187.9 and also include an update of all information and filing dates provided in the original written notification filed pursuant to Government Code section 17557.1(a). If no draft has been filed and no request for an extension has been made by the filing date specified in the notice of intent to develop a reasonable reimbursement methodology, or if all extensions have been exhausted, the executive director shall issue a letter notifying the test claimant of the duty to file proposed parameters and guidelines within 30 days under Government Code section 17557(a).

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(a):

(a) Except as provided in section 1183.9(d) of these regulations, after review of the ~~entire record test claim decision, claimant's proposed parameters and guidelines or draft expedited parameters and guidelines, and written comments and rebuttals,~~ Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and parameters and guidelines. Commission staff's recommendation may include a reasonable reimbursement methodology developed pursuant to Government Code section 17518.5 and proposed pursuant to section 1183.12 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.13(e):

~~(e)~~ Within 10 days after the adoption of the decision and parameters and guidelines, the executive director shall issue it to the Office of the State Controller and to ~~all personseveryone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post a copy on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(a):

(a) At least one year before the expiration of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology adopted pursuant to Government Code sections 17557.1 and 17557.2, Commission staff shall issue a notice to the test claimant and the Department of Finance, which shall also be served to ~~all personseveryone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and posted on the Commission's website, that the test claimant and Department of Finance may do one of the following within 60 days:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(d):

(d) Commission staff shall notify ~~all persons~~~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments on the jointly proposed amendments or request for continuation of the joint reasonable reimbursement methodology within 30 days of service, and shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.16(h):

(h) Within 10 days of the adoption of the jointly proposed amendment or continuation of a joint reasonable reimbursement methodology, the executive director shall issue the decision to the Office of the State Controller and to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post it on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(c):

(c) The addition or substitution of requesters and supporting declarations based on the original facts alleged in an existing parameters and guidelines amendment request is not an "amendment." However, new proposals for amendments ~~shall~~must be filed as a new parameters and guidelines amendment request.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(e):

(e) Within 10 days of receipt of a request to amend parameters and guidelines, Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons~~those who are~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and shall post the request on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(f):

(f) Commission staff shall notify all persons~~those who are~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations that they shall have the opportunity to file written comments concerning the proposed amendment of the parameters and guidelines within 21 days of service, and shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1183.17(i):

(i) After review of the entire record~~proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines, written comments, and rebuttals filed~~, Commission staff shall prepare and issue for comment a draft proposed decision recommending whether the requester's proposed amendment to the parameters and guidelines should be adopted.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(e):

(e) Within 10 days of receipt of a complete request to review claiming instructions, Commission staff shall issue a copy to all persons ~~who are on~~ the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations. Commission staff shall provide notice that written comments concerning the request to review claiming instructions may be filed within 30 days of

service of the notice of complete filing. A copy of the notice shall also be posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(h):

(h) Before hearing a request to review claiming instructions, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision that shall include a review of the entire record~~request and any comments filed~~, and a staff recommendation on whether the request should be approved or denied.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(m)(2):

~~(m)~~(2) A request for review filed after the initial claiming deadline ~~shall~~must be filed on or before the annual reimbursement claim filing deadline set out in Government Code section 17560 following a fiscal year to establish eligibility for reimbursement for that fiscal year.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1184.1(n):

~~(m)~~A request to review claiming instructions may be withdrawn by written application to the executive director any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The requesters shall file and serve the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the request to review claiming instructions. If no other local agency or school district takes over the request to review claiming instructions by substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the request to review claiming instructions and shall post the letter on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.1(b):

(b) If a claimant intends to pursue an incorrect reduction claim on behalf of a class of claimants, it ~~shall~~must notify the Commission of its intent to do so at the time it files its incorrect reduction claim and meet the requirements of section 1185.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.4(b)(3):

~~(3) A notice of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim shall include a certification by the joining claimant authorizing the original claimant to act as its representative in the consolidated incorrect reduction claim, and a declaration under penalty of perjury that the filing is true and complete to the best of the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief. The date signed, the declarant's title, address, telephone number, and e-mail address shall be included. All representations of fact shall be supported by testimonial or documentary evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.4.(c):

(c4) The joining claimant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ one original notice of intent to join and accompanying documents in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The proposed amendment above requires renumbering the existing sections 1185.4(c) and 1185.4(d) as 1185.4(d) and 1185.4(e), respectively:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.4.(c):

(~~d~~e) Within 10 days of receipt of a notice of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, Commission staff shall notify the joining claimant if the notice of intent to join is complete or incomplete. Notices of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim will be considered incomplete if any of the elements required in subdivision (b) of this section are illegible or not included. Incomplete notices of intent shall be returned to the joining claimant. If a complete notice of intent to join a consolidated incorrect reduction claim is not received by the Commission within 30 days from the date the incomplete notice of intent was returned to the joining claimant, the executive director may deem the filing withdrawn.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.4.(d):

(~~e~~d) Any notice of intent to join the consolidated incorrect reduction claim, or portion thereof, that the Commission lacks jurisdiction to hear for any reason, including that the notice was not filed within the period of limitation required by section 1185.1(c) of these regulations, may be rejected or dismissed by the executive director with a written notice stating the reason therefor.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.5(a):

(a) To opt out of a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, claimants shall file a written notice with the Commission within 15 days of service of the Office of State Controller's comments. A copy of the notice ~~shall~~must be served in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.7(b):

(b) Before hearing an individual or consolidated incorrect reduction claim, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision for the incorrect reduction claim that shall include a review of the entire record~~incorrect reduction claim, comments and rebuttals filed on the claim and, to the extent that it is relevant to the claim, a review of the test claim decision and decision and parameters and guidelines~~. The proposed decision shall also include a staff recommendation on whether the claimant's reimbursement claim was incorrectly reduced.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.7(c):

(c) At least eight weeks before the hearing or at a time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the claimant and the Office of State Controller, Commission staff shall issue the draft proposed decision to all

~~personsthe~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1185.8(b):

(b) An incorrect reduction claim, by the original claimant in a consolidated incorrect reduction claim, may be withdrawn by written application any time before a decision is adopted or by oral application at the time of hearing. The original claimant shall ~~certify, file, and serve~~ the written application in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations and Commission staff shall post a copy of the notice on the Commission's website for 60 days prior to dismissal of the incorrect reduction claim. If one of the joint claimants takes over the claim, it shall, within 60 days of providing notice of its intent to take over the claim, perfect the filing by filing the written narrative as required by section 1185.1 of these regulations. If none of the joint claimants takes over the claim by substitution of parties within 60 days of service and posting of the application to withdraw, the executive director shall issue a letter to all personseveryone on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations dismissing the claim and providing the joint claimants with an opportunity to perfect their individual claims within 60 days of service by filing the written narrative as required by section 1185.1 of these regulations. The letter shall be posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.2(b):

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding inclusion in the system, a local agency, school district or state agency ~~shall must certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Inclusion" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.2(c):

(c) The request for inclusion ~~shall must~~ contain at least the following:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.4(b):

(b) In order to obtain a review and determination regarding removal of a program from the system, a local agency, school district, or state agency ~~shall must certify, file, and serve~~ a "Request for Removal" in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1186.4(c):

(c) The request for removal ~~shall must~~ contain at least the following elements:

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.1(b):

~~(b)~~ A matter is set for hearing when Commission staff issues its draft proposed decision. A written notice of the date, time, and place of hearing shall be issued to all personseveryone on the mailing list as described in

section 1181.4 of these regulations and shall be posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.4(a):

(a) An informal conference may be scheduled by the Commission or the executive director of their own accord or by request of a party or interested party to the matter in question. All persons on the mailing list prepared in accordance with section 1181.4 of these regulations~~The parties and interested parties to the matter~~ shall be invited to participate. With the consent of the parties, the informal conference may be a teleconference.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.5(b):

(b) Oral or written representations of fact offered by any person at an article 7 hearing shall be under oath or affirmation. All written representations of fact submitted to the Commission ~~shall~~must be signed under penalty of perjury by persons who are authorized and competent to do so and ~~shall~~must be based upon the declarant's personal knowledge, information, or belief.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.6(a):

(a) Each party shall have the right to present witnesses, to introduce exhibits, and to propose to the chairperson questions for opposing witnesses in support or rebuttal of any matter relevant to the issues even if that matter was not covered in the direct examination. The Commission chairperson or hearing officer, however, may limit the length of testimony to a specific amount of time, or limit the time for each party or witness.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.6(b):

(b) ~~The presiding member,~~ Commission members, hearing panel member or hearing officer may question any party or witness and may admit any relevant and material evidence.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.6(c):

(c) The taking of evidence in a hearing shall be controlled by the Commission, hearing panel, or hearing officer in the manner best suited to ascertain the facts and safeguard the rights of the parties. Prior to taking evidence, the issues and the order of presenting evidence will be explained.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.9(b):

(b) Requests for Postponement of Hearing

A party to an ~~article 7~~ matter may request a postponement of a hearing on that matter, until the next regularly scheduled hearing. Although postponements of hearings are disfavored, each request for a postponement ~~shall~~must be considered on its own merits. The request shall fully explain the reasons for the postponement, and be ~~certified, filed, and served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations. Within

two business days of receipt of the request, the executive director shall determine whether the postponement will be granted and notify all persons on the mailing list prepared pursuant to section 1181.4 of these regulations. The executive director may postpone the matter only on an affirmative showing of good cause.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.10(d):

(d) A copy of the proposed decision shall be ~~served~~filed by Commission staff ~~as a public record and a copy of the proposed decision shall be served by Commission staff on each party~~to all persons on the mailing list. The Commission ~~itself~~ may adopt the proposed decision or decide the case itself, provided that the Commission ~~itself~~ shall decide no matters provided for in this subdivision without affording the parties the opportunity to present either oral or written argument before the Commission.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.10(e):

(e) If the proposed decision of Commission staff is not adopted by the Commission, as provided in ~~subdivisions~~sections (b) or (c), the Commission shall direct appropriate modification of the proposed decision and thereafter adopt it as the Commission's decision.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.10(f):

(f) Except as provided for in subdivision (b), the proposed decision shall be prepared within a reasonable time following submission of the matter to the hearing officer or panel, and within a reasonable time after the evidentiary hearing, and served by Commission staff to all persons on the mailing list. ~~It shall be served on the parties promptly thereafter.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(a):

(a) A matter, other than a test claim, that has been withdrawn in accordance with section 1187.12 or deemed abandoned in accordance with section 1187.13, may be dismissed by the executive director. Commission staff shall issue a written notice of dismissal to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list for the matter to be dismissed.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.14(b)(1):

(1) For test claims that are withdrawn, deemed abandoned, or filed by an agency that is not eligible to seek reimbursement because it is not subject to the taxing and spending limitations of article XIII A and B of the California Constitution, Commission staff shall serve written notice to initiate dismissal of the test claim to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list for the matter. The notice shall announce that another local agency or school district may take over the claim by substitution of parties within 60 days of the issuance of the notice. The notice shall also announce the opportunity to file written comments on the proposed dismissal of the test claim. A copy of the notice shall also be posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(e):

(e) Before the Commission considers the request for reconsideration, Commission staff shall prepare a written analysis that includes a review of the entire record~~request and written comments filed by other state agencies, interested parties, and the requester~~. The written analysis shall address whether the request for reconsideration is timely, complete, diligent, and is based on a clerical error or new or different facts, circumstances, or law that is likely to support an amendment to the findings or conclusions in the adopted decision on the test claim or incorrect reduction claim, and include a recommendation on whether or not the request for reconsideration should be granted. The Commission shall consider the request for reconsideration and the written staff analysis at a scheduled meeting. Five affirmative votes shall be required to grant the request for reconsideration and schedule the request for a second hearing on the merits.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(f):

(f) If the Commission grants the request for reconsideration, a second hearing shall be conducted to determine if the adopted decision on a test claim or incorrect reduction claim shall~~must~~ be amended based on a clerical error or new or different facts, circumstances, or law.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1187.15(f)(1)(B):

(B) Anyone may file w~~Written comments may be filed with the Commission~~ on the draft proposed decision. All representations of fact shall be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations. Written comments shall be ~~certified,~~ filed, and ~~served~~ in accordance with section 1181.3 of these regulations, and shall include a copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online and shall identify the specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, regulatory registers, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon. A three-week period for comments shall be given, subject to the executive director's authority to expedite all matters pursuant to Government Code section 17530. All written comments timely filed shall be reviewed by Commission staff and may be incorporated into the proposed decision presented to the Commission.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1188.1(b):

(b) An article 8 matter is set for hearing when Commission staff issues its notice and agenda providing the date, time, and place of the hearing to all person~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(a)(2):

(2) Anyone may file w~~Written comments concerning the request for mandate redetermination may be filed within 30 days of the issuance of the notice~~ and evidence may also be presented at the hearing on the

request for mandate redetermination.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(b)(1):

(1) If representations of fact are made, they ~~shall~~must be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.2(b)(2):

(2) A copy of relevant portions of any documents not readily available online~~state constitutional provisions, state and federal statutes, and executive orders, and a copy of administrative decisions and court decisions that may impact the alleged mandate, unless the authorities are also cited in the request to adopt a new test claim decision.~~ The specific statutes and chapters, articles, sections, case law citations, and page numbers of all authorities relied upon shall~~must~~ be identified. ~~Published court decisions arising from state mandate determinations by the Board of Control and the Commission, article XIII B, section 6 of the California Constitution, and Government Code sections 17500 et seq., are exempt from the requirements of this subsection. When an omnibus bill is relevant to the response, only the relevant pages of the statute, including the Legislative Counsel's Digest and the specific statutory amendments at issue shall be filed.~~

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.3(b)(1):

(1) If representations of fact are made, they ~~shall~~must be supported by documentary or testimonial evidence in accordance with section 1187.5 of these regulations.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.4(b):

(b) At least 10 days before the action is taken, the executive director shall serve on ~~the parties and interested parties~~all persons on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations, and post on the Commission's website, a notice of any proposed action to consolidate.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(2):

(2) At least eight weeks before the hearing or at another time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and issue it to all persons on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations~~the parties, interested parties, and any person who requests a copy,~~ and shall post it on the Commission's website. A request for mandate redetermination is set for the first hearing when Commission staff issues its draft proposed decision. A written notice of the date, time, and place of the first hearing shall be served on all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(4):

(4) Before the first hearing on the request for mandate redetermination, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision limited to the issue of whether the requester has made a showing that identifies a subsequent change in law, material to the prior test claim decision, which may modify the state's liability pursuant to article XIII B, section 6(a) of the California Constitution. This proposed decision shall consider the entire record~~request, written comment, rebuttals and supporting documentation filed by the parties and interested parties~~. The proposed decision for the first hearing shall find that the requester has made an adequate showing if staff finds that the request, when considered in light of all of the written comments and supporting documentation in the record of this request, has a substantial possibility of prevailing at the second hearing.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(a)(6):

(6) All persons~~Everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations shall be issued written notice that the Commission's decision has been posted on the Commission's website and, if applicable, that the date, time, and place of the second hearing have also been posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(2):

(2) Before the second hearing, Commission staff shall prepare a proposed decision. At least eight weeks before the hearing or at another time required by the executive director or stipulated to by the parties, Commission staff shall prepare a draft proposed decision and issue it to all persons~~everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations and post it on the Commission's website. The proposed decision shall consider the request, and any written comments and rebuttals and supporting documentation filed.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(5):

(5) All persons~~Everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations shall be issued written notice that a copy of the decision has been posted on the Commission's website.

The following amendment is proposed for section 1190.5(b)(6):

(6) After a decision or proposed decision has been served or posted on the Commission's website, it shall not be changed except to correct clerical errors, in which case a corrected decision or proposed decision shall be prepared and posted on the Commission's website. All persons~~Everyone~~ on the mailing list described in section 1181.4 of these regulations shall be issued written notice that a copy of the revised decision has been posted on the Commission's website.

Necessity and Anticipated Benefit

The proposed amendments are minor, non-substantive changes making the regulatory language more clear, concise, and consistent without changing the regulation's effect.

The benefit of doing so is that clear and concise language is easier to read and comprehend for all who consult the regulations.

TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, AND/OR EMPIRICAL STUDY, REPORTS, OR DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON TO DEVELOP REGULATIONS

Commission staff did not rely on any technical, theoretical, or empirical studies or reports in proposing the adoption of these regulations. The Commission relied upon the statutes and cases cited in the authority and reference sections for the regulations.

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT/ANALYSIS

Creation or Elimination of Jobs within the State of California

The regulations are designed to increase clarity for local governments, school districts, state agencies, and other interested parties and persons who participate in the Commission's processes, and to make minor technical corrections. No jobs in California will be created or eliminated as a result of these regulations.

Creation of New or Elimination of Existing Businesses within the State of California

The Commission has no jurisdiction over small or any other businesses and businesses are not parties before the Commission. Therefore, no new businesses in California will be created nor will existing businesses be eliminated.

Expansion of Businesses or Elimination of Existing Businesses within the State of California

The Commission has no jurisdiction over small or any other businesses and businesses are not parties before the Commission. Therefore, no existing businesses in California will be expanded or eliminated.

Benefits of the Regulations

The regulations are designed to increase clarity and accessibility for local governments, school districts, state agencies, and other interested parties and persons who participate in the Commission's processes, and to make minor technical corrections. These regulations may indirectly benefit the health and welfare of California residents by clarifying participation in the Commission's processes, which increases openness and transparency in government.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE REGULATIONS AND THE AGENCY'S REASONS FOR REJECTING THOSE ALTERNATIVES

No other alternatives have been presented to or considered by the Commission.

REASONABLE ALTERNATIVES TO THE PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION THAT WOULD LESSEN ANY ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL OR OTHER BUSINESSES

The Commission has no jurisdiction over small or any other businesses and businesses are not parties before the Commission. Therefore, there is no adverse impact on small or other businesses.

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON ANY BUSINESS

There are no businesses that are parties or interested parties in matters before the Commission.

**Commission on State Mandates - Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Regulations
Consolidated Comments from County Governments and Associations**

RECEIVED
May 05, 2025
*Commission on
State Mandates*

Exhibit E

	Section #	Page #	Line #	Requested Change, Question, or General Feedback	Explanation of Change and Comments
1	§ 1184.1.	40	26	(i) The requester and any state agency or interested party or interested person may file written comments on the draft proposed decision.	Please add "interested person" to the entities that are eligible to file written comments regarding the SCO's claiming instructions. This provides clarity that associations may file written comments.
2	§ 1182.1(f)	2	20-24	"Filing date means the date a filing is received at the Commission's office, provided that it is found to not contain personal identifying information as described in section 1181.3 of these regulations."	The day the CSM received the filing and the day it determines there is no PII can be two different days.
3	§ 1182.1(h)	2	30-31	Delete the definition of "interested party" and substitute "interested person" or "party or interested person" throughout the regulations wherever the term is deleted.	The term "interested party" is rarely used in the regulations and where it is used it raises confusion about the legal significance of the distinction between an "interested party" and an "interested person." The terms "interested person" and "party" (including associated terms like "party to a test claim") capture the two relevant types of entities that appear before the CSM. This change also promotes consistency with the statutory scheme.
4	§ 1181.11(b)	13	10-14	Insert after first sentence: "The transcript and electronic recording for each public meeting shall be posted to the Commission's website within 60 days of the public meeting."	Posting recordings will promote transparency. This practice is also consistent with other state and local bodies, such as the Courts of Appeal and the California Supreme Court. Posting the electronic recording helps parties eager to testify before the Commission understand what to expect.
5	§ 1183.2(a)	23	9-12	Add before first sentence or as a standalone subdivision: "Within 10 days of receipt of a test claim, the Commission shall post it on the Commission's website, along with an incomplete notice, if any."	Posting incomplete test claims promotes transparency and offers the opportunity for interested persons and other potential parties to assist the would-be claimant. This is especially helpful where multiple parties may be inadvertently developing test claims on the same alleged mandate.
6	§ 1183.2(b)	23	13-15	Add to the end: "Written comments may be filed by parties or interested persons."	This suggestion clarifies who may submit comments.

**Commission on State Mandates - Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Regulations
Consolidated Comments from County Governments and Associations**

	Section #	Page #	Line #	Requested Change, Question, or General Feedback	Explanation of Change and Comments
7	§ 1183.2(c)(2)	23	20-27	Recommend deleting this provision.	Unless the Commission lacks access to legal research resources and the internet, the obligation to append comments and test claims with copies of cited authorities is burdensome for filers.
8	§ 1183.3(a)	23	31-33	Add to the end: "Written rebuttals may be filed by parties or interested persons."	This suggestion clarifies who may submit rebuttals.
9	§ 1183.3(b)(2)	23-24	37-4	Recommend deleting this provision.	Unless the Commission lacks access to legal research resources and the internet, the obligation to append comments and test claims with copies of cited authorities is burdensome for filers.
10	§ 1183.6(a)	24	35	Edit "written comments filed" to "written comments and rebuttals filed" .	The provision seems to inadvertently absolve the CSM staff from reviewing rebuttals to comments.
11	§ 1183.6(c)	25	10-12	Restore language that is proposed for deletion.	The original version of this regulation is prudent and consistent with the legal standard that the Commission's decisions be supported by substantial evidence.
12	Note			The requested change on line 11 above should apply to all areas where this deletion is proposed.	
13	§ 1182.1(j)	2 to 3	36-3	"Matter" means an administrative proceeding assigned a single matter number that may include related test claims, proposed parameters and guidelines ..."	Definition as written suggests any of the listed documents might itself be a "matter." But it appears the "matter" is the proceeding assigned a TC number that incorporates the listed documents on its docket.
14	§ 1187.9(a)	57	2 to 4		Recommending that a party requesting extension of time for filing of a comment be encouraged to seek stipulation of or response from the original filer. It is unclear on what grounds the Commission determines that there is "no prejudice to any party or interested party," and a filer might have cause to argue that prejudice does exist or to seek a corresponding extension of time to respond.

**Commission on State Mandates - Proposed Amendments to the Commission's Regulations
Consolidated Comments from County Governments and Associations**

	Section #	Page #	Line #	Requested Change, Question, or General Feedback	Explanation of Change and Comments
15	§ 1181.3(b)	6	25-26		In place of deleted requirement of a scanned copy of a signed signature page, it would be helpful to add language stating what form of e-signature or signing software is permitted for declarations and other signed documents incorporated into filings. For example, some courts permit pasted pen signatures while others permit typed e-signatures. The purpose is to avoid an incomplete letter for an improper e-signature.
16	§ 1183.7(g)(1)	26	9-11	Proposed alternative language: " Any offsetting revenue or savings that claimant incurs from a statute, executive order, or an appropriation in a Budget Act or other bill that was specifically intended to fund the costs of the state mandate. "	This alternative languages hues more closely to the relevant provision in the statutory scheme, located at Government Code section 17556, subd. (e).
17	§ 1183.7(g)(2)	26	12-15	Recommend deleting this provision, including the prior language.	Neither the constitutional right nor the statutory scheme preclude reimbursement if there are revenue sources beyond the State, with the exception of local fee authority. In the alternative, this provision should be consistent with the statutory scheme, which ties such revenue and offsetting savings to sources "specifically intended to fund the costs of the state mandate."
18	§ 1183.18(a)(2)	36	12-14	Days representing extensions of time and postponements of hearings requested by the parties shall be tolled and may not be counted toward the date on which a statewide cost estimate must be adopted by the Commission.	This change makes clearer that the extensions and postponements came from the parties themselves.
19	§ 1183.18(a)(3)	36	15-19	To account for the Commission's 10-day test claim review period and the test claimant's 30-day period to cure an incomplete notice pursuant to § 1183.1, subd. (g), no more than 45 days shall be tolled for each incompleteness finding and may not be counted toward the date on which a statewide cost estimate must be adopted by the Commission.	This proposed change clarifies the upper bound of the tolled period for incomplete test claims consistent with the Commission's regulations for test claim review and incompleteness curing time periods.

BEFORE THE
COMMISSION ON STATE MANDATES
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of:
Amendments to California Code of
Regulations, Title 2, Division 2, Chapter
2.5,
Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10

No. 25-01
ORDER TO ADOPT PROPOSED
RULEMAKING
General Cleanup

On September 26, 2025, at a duly noticed public hearing, the Commission on State Mandates (Commission) adopted the proposed regulatory action after close of the public comment period.

PROPOSED REGULATORY ACTION. The Commission proposes revised language, punctuation, and citations in Articles 1, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 10 of the California Code of Regulations, Title 2, Division 2, Chapter 2.5, with a proposed effective date of January 1, 2026.

The purpose of this rulemaking is to ensure that the regulations provide clear and concise direction, use consistent terminology, and provide transparency to the Commission process. The proposed regulations: (1) clarify definitions; (2) clarify the requirements for certification, filing, service, and formatting documents; (3) clarify the holding of teleconferenced meetings; (4) clarify the filing of a second test claim on the same statute or executive order; (5) clarify the requirements for citations and providing documents relied upon in a filing; (6) clarify the Commission's process on the granting or denial of a motion to consolidate or sever test claims; (7) clarify the processing of test claims; (8) clarify who may participate in the processing of claims and development of commission forms; (9) clarify requirements for the contents of parameters and guidelines; (10) clarify the requirements for requests for review of state controller's claiming instructions; (11) clarify requirements for the filing of declarations to be used in lieu of testimony; (12) add new requirements for the timing of filing written testimony, declarations, and other evidence; (13) clarify the process for requesting an extension of time to file comments and rebuttals and to request a postponement of a hearing; and (14) to make minor, non-substantive edits and corrections.

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE. Government Code section 17527(g) authorizes the Commission to adopt the proposed regulations.

Date: _____

By: _____

Juliana F. Gmur, Executive Director

FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

**NO COMMENTS WERE RECEIVED DURING THE INITIAL NOTICE PERIOD OF
AUGUST 8, 2025 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 22, 2025**

The Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, Proposed Text, and the Initial Statement of Reasons (ISOR) were posted on the Commission on State Mandates' (Commission's) website on July 29, 2025 and served on the regulatory mailing list on July 29, 2025. The Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action was published in the California Regulatory Notice Register 2025, Number 32-Z, on August 8, 2025 and was available to the public through September 22, 2025, for the 45-day comment period. The Commission did not receive any comments on the Proposed Text or a request for a public hearing. The Commission adopts all originally proposed regulatory changes without modification.

LOCAL MANDATE DETERMINATION

The proposed regulations do not impose any mandate on local agencies or school districts.

**TECHNICAL, THEORETICAL, OR EMPIRICAL STUDIES, REPORTS, OR
DOCUMENTS RELIED UPON TO DEVELOP REGULATIONS**

Commission staff did not rely on any technical, theoretical, or empirical studies or reports in proposing the adoption of these regulations. The Commission also relied upon the statutes and cases cited in the authority and reference sections for the regulations.

**REASONS FOR REJECTING PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES THAT WOULD LESSEN
ADVERSE ECONOMIC IMPACT ON SMALL BUSINESS**

Small Business Determination

Because the Commission has no jurisdiction over small businesses and small businesses are not parties before the Commission, the proposed regulatory action will have no impact on small businesses.

ALTERNATIVES DETERMINATION

The Commission has determined that no alternative would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the regulations are proposed, would be as effective as and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulations, or would be more cost effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law.