



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407  
Santa Barbara, CA 93101  
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:  
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: CEO  
Department No.: 012  
For Agenda Of: 08/15/06  
Placement: Departmental  
Estimate Time: 20 minutes  
Continued Item: NO  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

---

**TO:** Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Department Director: Micheal F. Brown, County Executive Officer  
Contact Info: Jim Laponis, Deputy County Executive Officer 568-3404

**SUBJECT:** Legislative Program Committee Recommendations

---

**County Counsel Concurrence:**

As to form/legality:  Yes  No  N/A

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence:**

As to form:  Yes  No  N/A

**Recommended Action(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A. Consider whether to Support SB 426, Senator Joe Simitian and Assemblymember Fran Pavley, - State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: liquefied natural gas terminals. (Attachment A)
- B. Consider whether to Support AB 3056, Committee on Natural Resources – Beverage Containers Refund Value Increase. (Attachment B)
- C. Support a request from the Board of Directors of the Santa Barbara Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) for the Board of Supervisors to support the introduction of legislation to amend Section 95000, et. seq. of the Public Utilities Code, to expand the MTD Board from Five to Seven Members, and authorize the Chair of the Board to sign and send a letter of support for the expanded membership to the MTD Board of Directors. (Attachment C)

**Summary:**

On July 31, 2006, the Legislative Program Committee met and recommended that the Board of Supervisors consider the actions listed above. The 2006 Committee membership is as follows: Second District Supervisor Susan Rose, Third District Supervisor Brooks Firestone, County Executive Officer Michael F. Brown, Auditor-Controller Robert Geis, and County Counsel Shane Stark. All members were present at the meeting.

**SB 426 Senator Joe Simitian and Assemblymember Fran Pavley - State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: liquefied natural gas (LNG) terminals**

During the public comment portion of the Legislative Program Committee meeting of July 31, 2006, 2<sup>nd</sup> District Supervisor Rose requested the Committee consider supporting SB 426 which was not an agendized item for the meeting.

SB 426 is a two year bill, which the Committee considered on August 15, 2005, and voted to recommend that the Board take a support position. However, due to a timing issue in the State Legislature, the bill became inactive; thus, the Board was never asked to take a position. The bill has now become active and the Second District Supervisor would like the Board to consider supporting the bill.

SB 426 requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to evaluate and rank Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) terminal proposals based on the need for LNG to meet California's energy requirements. Further, SB 426 requires that the Governor veto any LNG terminal proposal that does not follow the recommendations of the CEC evaluation and ranking. The ranking would be based on criteria such as technology, project design, public health and safety, environmental footprint/impact, optimum locations, etc.

At present there are approximately 40 approved or pending LNG terminal proposals nationwide, including several in California—one in Oxnard, and another in Long Beach. The proposed LNG terminals differ significantly in terms of their technology, design, and location. Under the current system, there is no planning process to evaluate and rank proposed terminals to determine how many are needed, where they are best sited, what technology is the safest, cleanest, most efficient, etc. AB 426 would seek to establish a regulatory system to allow LNG terminal proposals to be evaluated, ranked, and permitted based on their ranking.

### **AB 3056 Committee on Natural Resources – Beverage Containers Refund Values**

First District Supervisor Carbajal requested the Committee consider supporting AB 3056 which would allow the Department of Conservation to pay out increased container refund values, for a six-month period of time, to encourage increased recycling of beverage containers. If passed, effective July 1, 2007 AB 3056 would increase the amount of the California Redemption Value (CRV) from \$0.04 to \$0.05 for containers up to 24 ounces and from \$0.08 to \$0.10 for containers 24 ounces or more. The Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act (Bottle Bill Program) is an existing program. AB 3056 would not change the program, but would increase the redemption amount for a six month period of time.

The Committee discussed AB 3056 and directed staff to forward the bill with no recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to consider on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

### **Metropolitan Transit District (MTD) Board expansion**

Attachment C is a letter from the MTD requesting the County Board of Supervisors support for legislation to allow the District to expand its Board from five members to seven members. The District intends to seek legislation in the upcoming year to amend the Public Utilities Code to allow for the expansion of its Board and is seeking support from impacted local jurisdictions. If successful, the MTD Board would include two new members—one appointed by the City of Carpinteria and one by the City of Goleta.

### **Other Issued Discussed**

#### **AB 2265 – MADDY Extension**

In addition to the above, the Committee received a brief report from Cliff Berg, Governmental Advocates on the status of AB 2265, the County's sponsored bill, which would extend by two years the sunset date, of December 31, 2006, for the collection of surcharges on certain court fines (MADDY funds) to provide partial payment to hospitals and physicians for uncompensated care provided to the uninsured and underinsured.

AB 2265 has passed the Assembly and Senate Policy Committees. The bill does not have an impact on State Funding so will proceed to the Senate Floor. If passed, as expected, the bill will move on to the Governor for his consideration. The proposed extension of the MADDY fund has been a very difficult process with opposition to

be overcome in every Committee. Governmental Advocates, with the assistance of our Public Health Emergency Medical Services Agency staff and Emergency Room Physicians have done an effective job of meeting with legislators and their staff to help them to understand the need and to overcome their opposition to the bill.

**Statewide and Local Ballot Initiatives**

The Legislative Committee also received a summary of the 13 Statewide Ballot Initiatives and the 7 Local Ballot Initiative which have qualified for the November 7, 2006 Ballot (Attachment D). The Committee requested staff provide an analysis and a recommended position on each of the on the Initiatives, emphasizing their direct impact on the County of Santa Barbara, and return with the analysis and recommendation to the Committee at its meeting of September 18, 2006.

**AB 32 Numez and Pavley – California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006**

At the request the Second District, the Committee received a brief report on AB 32, The California Global Warming Act of 2006. The Committee directed staff to watch AB 32, and did not recommend the Board take a position on the bill.

**HR 4794 – Federal Child Support Protection Act of 2006**

At the request of the Child Support Services Department, the Committee considered HR 4794, the Federal Child Support Protection Act of 2006. HR 4794 would repeal a provision of the Federal Budget Reduction Act of 2005, which enacted the end to Federal matching of State spending for Child Support Incentive Payments.

The Director of Child Support Services reported that Statewide approximately \$90 million in Child Support funding will be lost through the Federal Budget Reduction Act. The County is anticipating a loss of \$1 million as a result of passage of the Act.

At the conclusion of a discussion of HR 4794, the Committee directed staff to work directly with Congressman Gallegly to seek his support for HR 4794, prior to making a recommendation to the Committee.

**Background:**

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

There are no County fiscal or facility impacts associated with the recommended action.

Budgeted:  Yes  No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized Cost:</u>	<u>Total Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

Narrative:

**Legislative Program Committee Recommendations**

08/15/06

Page 4 of 4

**Staffing Impact(s):**

**Legal Positions:**

**FTEs:**

There are no County staffing impacts associated with the recommended actions.

---

**Attachments: (list all)**

- A. SB 426 Text, Analysis, and Fact Sheet
- B. AB 3056 Text, Analysis
- C. MTD Correspondence Dated June 1, 2006
- D. Summary of Statewide and Local Initiative qualified for the November 7, 2006 ballot

**Authored by:**

Lori Norton, Analyst 568-3421

**cc:**