

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE BILL ANALYSIS

AMENDMENT DATE: July 12, 2011
POSITION: Oppose

BILL NUMBER: SB 103
AUTHOR: C. Liu

BILL SUMMARY: State Government: Meetings

This bill would require a state body to hold a meeting by teleconference upon request of a state body member, as specified, and require a state body to provide a supplemental live audio or video broadcast on its Internet Web site of its meetings that are open to the public.

FISCAL SUMMARY

To the extent that state bodies must purchase equipment (such as webcams) to facilitate live audio and video streaming, this bill would result in unknown costs to the state. While costs to purchase this equipment could be minor, state bodies may also need information technology personnel and/or services to implement the provisions of this bill.

COMMENTS

The Department of Finance opposes this bill because it likely would result in additional costs that are not included in the 2011-12 Budget. Additionally, this bill is unnecessary as state bodies already have the authority to hold meetings by teleconference.

Existing law provides for public audio and visual teleconference meetings for the benefit of the public and state bodies.

This bill would:

Require a state body to (1) hold an open or closed meeting by teleconference upon request of a state body member (unless the state body determines that teleconferencing would be more costly), and (2) provide a supplemental live audio or video broadcast on its Internet Web site of its meetings that are open to the public. This bill would stipulate that a technical failure that prevents the state body from providing a live broadcast does not constitute a violation of law or prevent the meeting from taking actions, as specified.

Code/Department Agency or Revenue Type	(Fiscal Impact by Fiscal Year)								Fund Code
	SO	(Dollars in Thousands)							
	LA	CO	PROP	FC	2011-2012	FC	2012-2013	FC	
9901/Var Depts	SO	No	-----	See Fiscal Summary	-----	-----	-----	-----	0001
9901/Var Depts	SO	No	-----	See Fiscal Summary	-----	-----	-----	-----	0494

Fund Code	Title
0001	General Fund
0494	Other - Unallocated Special Funds

Analyst/Principal (0221) J. Fitzpatrick	Date	Program Budget Manager Lisa Ann L. Mangat	Date
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Department Deputy Director	Date
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Governor's Office:	By:	Date:	Position Approved _____
			Position Disapproved _____

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