



**California Special
Districts Association**
Districts Stronger Together

CSDA Update

February 17, 2021
Rancho Murieta CSD Board Meeting



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CSDA Senior Public Affairs Field Coordinator
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About Me

- **First Field Coordinator hired in 2015**

- Cover Sierra Network for CSDA;
- Includes Sacramento County

- **Professional Background:**

- 2004-2009: State Assembly and Senate
- 2009-2012: Analyst for League of California Cities and City of Novato
- 2012-2015: Financial Analyst at Placer County Water Agency
- 2016-2020: Elected Board Member for my local water district

CSDA Overview

- **Our Purpose**

- California Special Districts Association was founded in 1969
- Promote good governance and best practices
- Protect local government funds, special district autonomy and core services in the community

- **CSDA Strategic Plan – focus on member needs**

- Legislative advocacy
- Quality educational offerings
- Timely information sharing
- Cost saving programs & services
- Regional opportunities



Advocacy & Public Affairs

- **CSDA: Districts Stronger Together**

- Only association representing special districts of all types, all sizes, all over the state
- Staff includes 4 in-house lobbyists, legislative analyst and public affairs specialist
- At the table with CSAC and League of CA Cities in local government discussions

- **Districts Make the Difference Campaign**

- Public facing campaign to raise awareness of special districts
- Toolkit for special districts: videos, fact sheets, logos
- www.districtsmakethedifference.org



Current Legislative Issues

- **HR 535/S.91- Support**

- CSDA sponsored bills in Congress;
- Association has lead efforts since April 2020;
- Requires states to distribute portion of future COVID-19 relief allocations to special districts;
- Special districts were not included in previous relief legislation;
- Includes definition of special districts in federal law.

- **TAKE ACTION**: Request RMCSD to submit support letter and join national coalition of special districts.



Current Legislative Issues

- **AB 361 (Rivas) - Support**

- CSDA sponsored bill with local government coalition (CMUA, LOC, CSAC)
- Codifies Governor's Executive Order;
- Allows local agencies to meet remotely during a declared state of emergency or a declared local emergency;
- Balance transparency and public access with ability of districts to conduct business during a legitimate emergency.

- **TAKE ACTION**: Request RMCSD to submit support letter and join statewide coalition of local agencies.



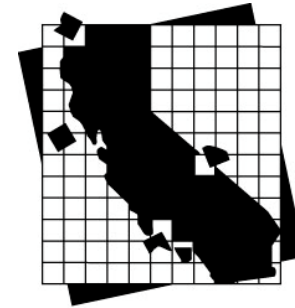
Opportunities to Get Involved

- **Follow CSDA eNews;**
- **Respond to Calls to Action;**
 - HR 535/S.91 and AB 361
- **Attend CSDA Virtual Legislative Days;**
 - May 18-19, 2021
 - [Event Information and Registration](#)
- **Complete Grassroots Mobilization Survey;**
 - Asks for your relationships with state elected officials (Assembly Member Ken Cooley and Senator Andreas Borgeas)
 - [30-second survey](#)



Districts Stronger Together

- **Sierra Network Contact**
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