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News Clerks Should Know:

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GOVERNOR COMPLETES FINAL ACTIONS ON 2010-11 LEGISLATIVE BILLS:

Governor Jerry Brown completed his final decision on hundreds of bills on October 9, 2011. Despite statements earlier that he would be very aggressive in vetoing unnecessary legislation, the Governor's decisions mirrored his averages from his prior terms. According to the Governor's Office, the Governor signed 745 bills and vetoed 125 bills this year.

There are two bills of importance to CCAC members that were signed by the Governor. Information regarding these two bills are listed below.

SB 202 (Hancock) Elections: Ballot Measures

This bill amends Elections Code Section 9016, which applies to **state elections**. The bill provides that state initiatives and referendum measures that qualify for the ballot on or after July 1, 2011, must appear on the ballot only at the November statewide general election or at a statewide special election.

The bill also moves ACA 4 of the 2009-10 Regular Session from the June 2012 statewide primary ballot to the November 2014 statewide general election ballot and repeals a requirement that specified language be used for the ballot label and ballot title (the courts this year ruled that the AG must prepare the ballot label and ballot title summary for state ballot measures). ACA 4 proposes various changes to the state budget process and to the state's Budget Stabilization Fund.

SB 1344 (Feuer) Local Governance. Executive Contracts. Proposed Charters. Ralph M. Brown Act

Position: CCAC & League: Requested Governor Veto.

Result: Governor Signed

This bill does the following:

- Sets new standards on what can be included in executive manager and department-head contracts by prohibiting contracts from including automatic renewals, if they are linked to a salary increase above a cost-of-living adjustment and cash settlements that exceed already existing statutory limits. Additionally, the bill requires that specific abuse-of-office provisions be added to manager and department-head contracts.
- Requires that a proposed charter be presented to the voters at a statewide or general municipal election.
- Drastically alters the statutory requirement related to how cities and counties can put a proposed charter before the voters by requiring a 10-week process that includes two public hearings, one of which must be conducted outside of normal business hours; and
- Requires local agency agendas subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act be placed online.