

Meeting Minutes
Fair Political Practices Commission
Law and Policy Committee Meeting
August 4, 2022
9:00 a.m.

The Law and Policy Committee meeting was called to order at 9:02 a.m.

1. Public Comment for items not on the agenda.

2. Approval of July 12, 2022, minutes.

MOTION: To approve July 12, 2022, Committee minutes. Moved by Commissioner Baker, seconded by Chair Miadich. The motion was approved 2-0.

3. Legislative Update.

Lindsey Nakano, Senior Legislative Counsel, presented updates to Commission sponsored bills and other Commission related bills.

Galena West, Executive Director, discussed AB 975 to share how the bill would reduce transparency by allowing officials to essentially erase gifts received. Dave Bainbridge, General Counsel, discussed the electronic SEI filing portion of the bill, the electronic filing requirement, and the prohibition of publishing SEIs. Mr. Bainbridge further stated that while it's not a practice by the Commission now, a prohibition would go against the original intent of the Act.

Commissioner Baker stated the Commission has continued to express concerns and encourage the author's office to amend the bill with little response.

MOTION: To recommend an oppose position for AB 975 to the Commission. Moved by Commissioner Baker, seconded by Chair Miadich. The motion was approved 2-0.

Ms. Nakano stated there may be amendments in the following days for SB 459 and SB 746. The Law and Policy Committee agreed to hold recommendations on the bills pending amendments.

Chair Miadich stated he found SB 794 to be solving a problem without removing transparency.

Commissioner Baker disclosed ex parte communications with Senator Glazer regarding SB 794. She further discussed how the bill is less narrow than the FEC.

MOTION: To recommend a support position for SB 794 to the Commission. Moved by Chair Miadich, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion was approved 2-0.

Commissioner Baker stated she was not inclined to take a position on SB 1352. Chair Miadich discussed previous amendments and stated he would like to hold a recommendation until the full Commission can discuss the language.

Ms. Nakano recommended the Commission maintain support positions for AB 1798, AB 2172, AB 2528, and SB 1360. The Committee agreed with this recommendation.

Chair Miadich asked if there was an update to AB 775. Ms. Nakano stated she believes amendments will be forthcoming in the following days. The amendments include an exclusion of certain organizations who collect membership from their members, the return of contributions found in violation of the bill by a certain timeframe, and a provision that outlines what constitutes a violation. Chair Miadich clarified whether a position letter is submitted to the Governor should a bill make it to their desk. Ms. Nakano confirmed this was current process.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting. Moved by Chair Miadich, seconded by Commissioner Baker. The motion was approved 2-0.

The meeting adjourned at 9:39 a.m.