



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/24/2020

Agenda Placement: 6A

Napa County Legislative Subcommittee Board Agenda Letter

TO: Napa County Legislative Subcommittee

FROM: Molly Rattigan for Minh Tran - County Executive Officer
County Executive Office

REPORT BY: Nelson Cortez, Staff Assistant-BOS - 7072991478

SUBJECT: SB 884 (Dodd) - Education finance: emergencies: public safety power shutoffs

RECOMMENDATION

County Executive Officer, on behalf of Senator Bill Dodd, requests discussion and possible action on SB 884 (Dodd) which would establish a voluntary Disaster Relief Instructional Recovery Program for school districts that lose five or more days because of a PSPS and adds PSPS to the list of eligible emergencies that are exempt from the State's requirements to maintain at least 175 days of regular school days when determining funding allocations.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

SB 884 (Dodd) adds PSPS to the law that exempts schools from the requirement to maintain at least 175 days of regular school days for purposes of funding if there is a specified emergency and creates the Disaster Relief Instructional Recovery Program, as specified.

Mitigating impacts of PSPS is a major priority of the Board of Supervisors.

Staff is requesting discussion and action consistent with the 2020 State and Regulatory Platform.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? No

County Strategic Plan pillar addressed:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION**Synopsis**

SB 884 by Senator Bill Dodd would add public safety power shutoffs (PSPS) to the law that exempts schools districts, county office of education, or charter schools from the requirement to maintain at least 175 days of regular school days for purposes of funding if there is an emergency or other extraordinary condition, as specified. The bill would also establish the Disaster Relief Instructional Recovery Program for the purpose of allocating funding to eligible local educational agencies to make up instructional days lost due to emergency or other extraordinary conditions.

Background

According to the author, in the 2018-19 school year, wildfires, PSPS, and smoke pollution kept more than 1.1 million of the state's 6 million public school students out of school, setting an unprecedented record for student absences.

Current law prohibits a school district from receiving state funding unless it has maintained at least 175 of regular school days. Current law exempts from this prohibition a school district, county office of education, or charter school that is prevented from maintaining its schools open for at least 175 days because of a specified emergency or other extraordinary condition.

Status

Introduced, referred to the Senate Committee on Education.

Support and Opposition

CSAC: no action

RCRC: no action

NACo: n/a

Local: n/a

STAFF COMMENTS**Platform: YES**

Federal: n/a

State: Public Safety Power Shutoff – Page 2

Implications to Napa County and/or Departments

While Napa County operations/departments wont be directly impacted by this legislation, PSPS has widespread indirect impacts to the County. The domino effect of schools closing has impacts to County employees with school-aged children, and services that serve youth. The Board of Supervisors has made mitigating the impacts of PSPS a major priority in the 2020 State Legislative and Regulatory Platform (Platform).

Recommendation

Because PSPS is a major issue for Napa County and a priority of the Board of Supervisors in the Platform, direct

staff to transmit a letter of support.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

A . SB 884 (Dodd)

Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Molly Rattigan