

California State Senate

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September 13, 2019

The Honorable Gavin Newsom
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, First Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Recommended Veto of AB 600 (Chu)

Dear Governor Newsom:

I respectfully write to request your veto of Assembly Bill 600, which makes changes to Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) requirements for approving specified annexations to disadvantaged unincorporated communities (DUCs).

Allowing residents to say they want services extended does not ensure the service provider will extend the services. Further, extending services without annexation disenfranchises an already disenfranchised community by creating a taxation without representation situation for them. Without annexation the residents have no say in who represents them on the Board of the service provider (via election), nor does it allow them to have a voice should rate issues appear on the ballot. It creates a situation in which they cannot be a full participant in the governance of their area.

Additionally, one of the primary statutory purposes of LAFCo is to ensure orderly growth. Extending services on an individual basis or by service category without annexation only serves to undermine the very purpose of jurisdictional boundaries and sphere of influence plans.

For these reasons, I respectfully request your veto.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Shannon Grove".

Shannon Grove
Senate Republican Leader