



State of California

LITTLE HOOVER COMMISSION

July 8, 2015

The Honorable Bob Wieckowski
Member, California State Senate
State Capitol, Room 3086
Sacramento, CA 95814

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Carole D'Elia
Executive Director

RE: SUPPORT FOR SENATE BILL 246

Dear Senator Wieckowski,

The Little Hoover Commission supports Senate Bill 246, the measure you have authored that would establish the Climate Adaptation & Resiliency Program (CARP) within the Office of Planning Research (OPR) to coordinate adaptation efforts among state, regional and local entities. The bill also would establish a 15-member advisory council to OPR to support coordination of adaptation efforts and establish a clearinghouse to provide a centralized, regularly-updated information source to plan for and implement climate adaptation efforts. The Commission supports this measure based on recommendations made in its July 2014 report, *Governing California Through Climate Change*.

In its 2014 report, the Commission found California's state government has no single-stop administrative structure in place to govern the state's response to climate change impacts. Many state adaptation initiatives continue to be scattered among individual departments, agencies, commissions and councils, and remain advisory in nature. The Commission also found there is no single authoritative source of standardized information about climate risks in California currently within state government. Cities, counties, regional governing agencies and even the state lack reliable, consistent information to guide decision-making, particularly regarding long-range infrastructure investments and land-use choices.

The Commission stressed the need for a more unified approach to guide California's climate change adaptation efforts and recommended establishing an authoritative statewide source - backed by an appointed advisory panel of experts - to coordinate climate adaptation planning, action and education. A single reliable source of standardized information could create conditions for better responses at all levels of California government.

Senate Bill 246 would implement the Commission's recommendations and as a result, the Commission supports this measure. If you have any questions, or if I can be of any further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Carole D'Elia
Executive Director

c: Commissioners, Little Hoover Commission