



State of California

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Milton Marks Commission on California State  
Government Organization and Economy

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February 9, 2022

The Honorable Bill Quirk  
1021 O Street, Suite 5120  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SUPPORT FOR ASSEMBLY BILL 1733**

Dear Assemblymember Quirk,

The Little Hoover Commission supports AB 1733, the measure you authored that would amend the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act to allow state boards and commissions to hold meetings entirely by teleconference, while providing a physical location from which members of the public can access the meeting. The bill would also enable board and commission members to participate in meetings remotely without disclosing the locations from which they are participating.

In its 2021 report, *The Government of Tomorrow: Online Meetings*, the Commission found that online access to public meetings benefits those who traditionally face obstacles in interacting with state government, such as low-income people, rural Californians, and people with physical disabilities. Additionally, remote participation by the members of boards and commissions saves taxpayer money and creates a state government that is more effective, inclusive and flexible. To increase access to government meetings and remove barriers to remote participation, the Commission recommended amending the Bagley-Keene Act to require boards and commissions to provide public access to their meetings in both a physical location and a teleconferencing option, and to allow for the remote participation of board and commission members without required public disclosure and public accessibility to those locations.

AB 1733 would carry out these recommendations. For this reason, the Little Hoover Commission supports this bill. If I, the Commission, or our staff can provide any further assistance as this proposal moves through the legislative process, please do not hesitate to ask.

Sincerely,

Pedro Nava  
Chairman

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