

Legislative and Communications Committee



Update on Eastern Municipal Water District's proposed amendment to the MWD Act to allow alternate board members

Item 6b

February 10, 2025

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Subject

Report on legislative proposal sponsored by Eastern Municipal Water District

Purpose

To educate the Board on active legislation affecting the Metropolitan Water District Act and its Board of Directors.

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Summary

Author: Assemblymember Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks)

Sponsor: Eastern Municipal Water District

Summary: Amends the Metropolitan Water District Act to allow for the appointment of alternate board members to the Metropolitan Board of Directors.

Five-year sunset which would expire January 1, 2031.

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Purpose

For member agencies with more than one representative, any individual representative may cast the entirety of the weighted votes allotted to that member agency. But agencies with only one member lose their entire vote when their representative is absent.

This bill would allow each member agency that only has one representative to appoint an alternate board member. The alternate shall serve for the limited purpose of participating in a meeting of the Board when the primary board member will be absent.

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Specific Provisions

Participation of the alternate does not include assuming any board officer positions.

Alternate participation requires 5 business days advanced notice.

The member agency is responsible for additional costs related to alternate participation.

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Additional Considerations

The alternates will not have any roles or responsibilities separate from the standing board members.

The addition of alternates does not change the weighted vote structure of the Board.

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Legislative History

AB 885 (Calderon) – 2008

Sponsored by: Central Basin MWD

This bill would have authorized a member public agency to appoint a proxy to attend, participate, and vote at a meeting if its representative appointed or selected pursuant to existing law cannot attend the meeting.

Vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger

Eastern MWD Legislative Proposal

Next Steps

Agendize action item for March 2025 Legislative and Communications committee and board meeting.

