

City of Torrance Legislative Positions (Letters from October 1, 2010 -September 30, 2012)				
Support				
Letter Date	Title/Topic	Comments	Type	Status
December 14, 2010	Addition of the Alternative Fuels Tax Credit and Commuter Tax Benefit in the Final Tax Package	The City of Torrance strongly supports the Alternative Fuels Tax Credit and commuter Tax benefit. These Tax credits are essential for the operation of Torrance Transit and for CA commuters who use these services. Suggested that Representative Harman contact Representative Van Hollen and Representative Camp to urge them to retain these credits.		
March 8, 2011 (Simitian) April 25, 2011(Lieu)	SB 515 (Corbett) Battery Stewardship Act	The letter of support was addressed to CA State Senator Joe Simitian asking him to support SB 515. SB 515 will require battery manufacturers to create and implement a stewardship program that will manage used batteries. The aim of this piece of legislation is to shift the costs that local governments incur from recycling used batteries back to the manufacturer's of these batteries.	Failed Deadline	5/28/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5).
May 24, 2011	AB 208 (Fuentes): Land Use - Subdivision Map Expiration Dates	AB 208 would allow a one-time, 24-month time extension for any approved tentative map or vesting tentative map that has not expired as of the bill's effective date and will expire prior to January 1, 2014. Without a time extension, the difficulty of securing financing will result in the expiration of many projects that received map approval in the next few years, forcing developers to go through the entitlement approval process once again.	Passed	5/12/2011 Referred to Com. on GOV. & F. 7/15/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 88, Statutes of 2011
May 11, 2011	PA2011-12: Alternative Fuel Infrastructure Funding Opportunities Torrance Public Access CNG Station	The City of Torrance supports increasing access to compressed natural gas and believes that a having a CNG station on city property will benefit both the city and the public. The City is currently using over a million gallons annually and is anticipating more growth.		
June 16, 2011	AB 129 (Beall): Local Government Nuisance Abatement	The bill would provide local governments with an additional tool to recover costs associated with on going nuisances in their communities. The City could recover fines through lien or special assessment against the property on which the nuisance is located.	VETOED by Governor	8/30/2011 Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly 10/2/2011 Vetoes by Governor
Opposition				
Letter Date	Title/Topic	Comments	Type	Status
February 15, 2011	Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Funding	The letter urged the Congressman Jerry Lewis; Chairman, Committee on Appropriations to support \$3.99 billion for the Community Development Block Grant and not to reduce funding back to FY 2008 levels.	Active	Litigation Pending
February 2, 2011	Strong Opposition to Continued Taking of Redevelopment Funding to Balance State Budget	The city of Torrance has in recent years adopted severely reduced budgets that have cut local spending and have tried to generate more local revenue. These proposed cuts will greatly impact the Downtown Redevelopment Project Area. Letters were sent to the following people; Joan Buchanan, Michael Allen, Roger Dickinson, Dan Logue, Don Wagner, Darrell Steinberg, Bob Dutton, John A. Perez, Connie Conway, Jerry Brown.	Active	Litigation Pending
October 7, 2010	SB 848 Court of appeal districts.	OTC's collect TOTs on the price the customer pays for the room, but then the OTC's only remit the tax to the city based on the discounted rate they paid for the room originally. Sent to the Honorable Dennis Hollingsworth, CA State Senate	Failed Deadline	10/8/2010 S-THIRD READING 5/10/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2)
March 28, 2011	HR 1002: The Wireless Tax Fairness Act	In the City of Torrance the Utility Users Tax generates about \$32 million in revenue. Furthermore, the UUT generates about 20% of the City's general purpose revenue. A total of ten letters were sent out to the following members of Congress: Lungren, Berman, Issa, Gallegly, Lofgren, Waters, Chu, Sanchez, Boxer, and Feinstein.	Active	Introduced on March 10, 2011. House Committee on the Judiciary: Subcommittee Hearings Held on March 15, 2011. Status: This bill was considered in committee which has recommended it be considered by the House as a whole. Explanation: Although it has been placed on a calendar of business, the order in which legislation is considered and voted on is determined by the majority party leadership. Keep in mind that sometimes the text of one bill is incorporated into another bill, and in those cases the original bill, as it would appear here, would seem to be abandoned. [Last Updated: Jul 30, 2011 6:14AM]

March 30, 2011	SB 701 (Ron Calderon) Central Basin Municipal Water District: directors: report.	The City of Torrance is opposed to SB 701 for numerous reasons. First, the Central Basin Municipal Water District would be required to write and submit a report on a subject they have little to no expertise in. Furthermore, this is a task that has been assigned to the Water Replenishment District of Southern California which was established to protect the groundwater resources of both the Central and West Coast Groundwater Basins. SB 701 as written challenges the authority the Water Replenishment District of Southern California.	Failed Deadline	5/10/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 4/7/2011)	
March 30, 2011	AB 954 (Charles Calderon) Water replenishment districts	Would require separate assessments based on water purchase costs, clean water project costs, capital improvement costs, and administrative costs for each basin. As a result, AB 954 threatens the gains achieved over the past 50 years by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California. Water levels have improved and funding to halt sea water intrusion has been provided. Altering this proven structure would prove to be detrimental.	Failed Deadline	5/10/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/10/2011)	
April 18, 2011 June 2, 2011 August 29, 2011	AB 438 (Williams) County free libraries: withdrawal: use of private contractors	This bill would impose specified requirements if the board of trustees, common council, or other legislative body of a city or the board of trustees of a library district intends to withdraw from the county free library system and operate the city's or library district's library or libraries with private contract that will employ library staff to achieve cost savings, unless the library or libraries are funded only by the proceeds of a special tax imposed by the city library district.	10/8/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State Chapter Number 611, Statutes of 2011	6/3/2011 Read second time. Ordered to third hearing. Assembly Rule 63 suspended. Read third time. Passed. Ordered to Senate. 8/30/2011 Read second time. Ordered to third reading 10/8/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 611, Statutes of 2011	
May 27, 2011	AB 455 (Campos) Public Employment Local Public Employee Organizations Request for Veto	AB 455 removes the authority from local governments to appoint members to the personnel commissions they've established and gives it to labor organizations; has unintended consequences; and, changes should be at the local level.	VETOED by Governor	5/13/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3) 7/25/2011 Vetoeed by the Governor	
May 31, 2011	AB 400 (Ma)-Employment Sick Days	As a public sector employer, the City of Torrance believes that leave policies are part of total compensation and benefits packages that should be determined locally. State Senator Ted Lieu, Assembly Member Betsy Butler and Fiona Mia were sent copies of the opposition letter.	Failed Deadline	5/28/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5).	
May 31, 2011 August 29, 2011	AB 646 (Atkins): Local Public Employee Organizations: Impasse Procedures	In the event of an impasse, after the parties agree to a mediator and that mediator cannot effect a settlement within 15 days, the employee organization can request that the parties' differences be submitted to a fact-finding panel. The bill could provide a disincentive for employee organizations to negotiate in good faith when a subsequent option exists.	Passed	8/31/2011 Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly 8/31/2011 To Governor 10/9/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 680, Statutes of 2011	
June 21, 2011	SB 776 (DeSaulnier) Local Workforce Investments Boards: Funding	To require 40% of Workforce Investment Act funding to be spent on training would harm our workforce development strategy in Torrance through the Pacific Gateway WIB.	Failed Deadline	5/13/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3)	
July 8, 2011	AB 455 (Campos) Public Employment: Local Public Employee Organizations	AB 455 removes the authority from local governments to appoint members to the personnel commissions they've established and gives it to labor organizations; has unintended consequences; and, changes should be at the local level.	VETOED by Governor	5/10/2011 Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2) 7/25/2011 Vetoeed by the Governor	
August 29, 2011	AB 1220 (Alejo) Land Use & Planning Cause of Actions/Time Limitations	AB 1220, if passed, would leave the City of Torrance open to lengthy and costly lawsuits up to five years after adoption of an amendment to its housing element. This additional legal exposure is especially unwarranted at a time when cities are facing significant fiscal pressures and would also leave development projects subject to moratoriums.	VETOED by Governor	6/16/2011 Read second time. Ordered to third reading. 10/9/2011 Vetoeed by the Governor	
September 8, 2011	ABx1_ (Blumenfeld) and SBx1_4 (Committee on Budget)	Companion bills that require a new maintenance of effort (MOE) requirement on all frontline municipal police services in order for cities to receive COPS (Citizens' Options for Public Safety) funding	Chaptered by Secty of State	9/21/11 Chaptered by Secretary of State	

September 12, 2011	SB 469 (Vargas) Land Use - Superstores	SB 469 would require that the City prepare a costly 17-point economic impact analysis. This in-depth analysis would greatly impact the City's decision-making process for this type of project and would have a discriminatory effect and fundamentally undermine local land use discretion and authority.	VETOED by Governor	10/9/11 Vetoes by Governor	
September 13, 2011	AB 646 (Atkins) Imposes Compulsory Fact finding at Request of Employee Union	Bill provides that in the event of impasse only the employee organization can request fact finding. Specifically, in the event of impasse, after the parties agree to a mediator and that mediator cannot effect a settlement within 15 days, the employee organization can request that the parties' differences be submitted to a fact-finding panel. The bill requires that the costs for the fact-finding panel be split equally between the local agency and the employee organization	Chaptered by Secretary of State	10/9/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 680, Statutes of 2011	
September 16, 2011	SB 922 (Steinberg) Public contracts: public entities: project labor agreements	SB 922 would set standards for the use of project labor agreements (PLA) during public works projects and would prohibit public agencies from having a provision, initiative, or ordinance that bans the consideration of a PLA. In addition, SB 922 would withhold state funding for projects in charter cities that have such a ban on PLAs that would comply with the new standards.	Chaptered by Secretary of State	10/2/11 Chaptered by Secretary of State	
Septemer 16, 2011	SB 293 (Padilla) Public contracts: retention proceeds.	SB 293 will limit a local agency's ability to set retention rates to no more than 5% in public contracts.	Chaptered by Secretary of State	10/9/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 700, Statutes of 2011	
September 16, 2011	AB 1344 (Feuer) Local Governance	This bill requires a city charter or charter amendment, be submitted to the voters by a charter commission or the governing body of the city or city and county, be submitted at the next established statewide general, statewide primary, or regularly scheduled municipal election date, provided there are at least 95 days before the election.	Chaptered by Secretary of State	10/9/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 692, Statutes of 2011	
Septemer 16, 2011	AB 1220 (Alejo) Land Use & Planning Cause of Actions/Time Limitations	This measure would create significant uncertainty for local governments and property owners by increasing the statute of limitations for litigation on the adequacy of housing elements. Would leave COT open to lengthy and costly lawsuits up to three years after adoption of an amendment to its housing element.	VETOED by Governor	10-9 -11Vetoes by Governor	
Neutral					
Letter Date	Title/Topic	Comments	Type	Status	
April 21, 2011	SB 244 (Wolk) Disadvantaged Unincorporated Communities	The City of Torrance understands the need to address the concerns of the most disadvantaged communities. Therefore, the City of Torrance has changed positions from strongly opposing the General Plan requirements in SB 244 to remaining neutral on the bill.	Chaptered by Secretary of State	6/1/2011 In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk 8/31/2011 From Committee: Do Pass. (Ayes 6 Noes 3) 10/7/2011 Chaptered by the Secretary of State, Chapter Number 513, Statutes of 2011	