



August 16, 2021

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The Honorable Lorena Gonzalez  
Chair, Assembly Appropriations Committee  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol, Room 2068  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: SB 99 (Dodd) Community Energy Resilience Act of 2021  
As Amended July 5, 2021 – SUPPORT  
Set for Hearing – August 19, 2021 Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Dear Assembly Member Gonzalez,

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is pleased to support SB 99 (Dodd) which would require the California Energy Commission to develop a grant program to support local governments in the development of community energy resilience plans. The bill would define community energy resilience plans as a planning document prepared by a local government or community choice aggregator that sets forth a strategy for maintaining a reliable supply of electricity during both scheduled and unintended outages.

California’s communities need reliable and continuous electricity service in order to support a strong economy and protect public safety. Local governments have been on the front lines of dealing with Public Safety Power Shutdowns (PSPS) for the past several years. PSPS are used as a tool to prevent accidental wildfire ignitions; however these shutdowns also have many negative impacts in our local communities. During PSPS events many counties were forced to purchase or rent diesel generators to run critical county infrastructure including jails and community centers. While using these generators was necessary, it was not ideal in helping California reach its greenhouse gas reduction and clean energy goals. We support efforts to provide better energy solutions to critical government facilities during outages.

SB 99 would help local governments and community-based organizations to develop projects that improve community energy resiliency during outages. This bill would support local governments and community-based organizations by providing financial resources and technical expertise to develop plans and implement distributed clean energy resources. It is for these reasons that we support SB 99. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please feel free to contact Catherine Freeman, CSAC’s legislative representative on Agriculture, Environment and Natural Resources issues at 916-662-6400 or at [cfreeman@counties.org](mailto:cfreeman@counties.org).

Sincerely,

Catherine Freeman  
Legislative Representative

CC: Members and Staff, Assembly Appropriations Committee