



## SENATE FLOOR LETTER

July 25, 2024

To: Members, California State Senate

From: Jean Kinney Hurst, UCC  
Sarah Dukett, RCRC  
Eric Lawyer, CSAC

Re: **AB 2715 (Boerner): Ralph M. Brown Act: closed sessions  
As amended 4/24/24 - SUPPORT**

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On behalf of the Urban Counties of California (UCC), Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC), and the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), we respectfully urge your “aye” vote on Assembly Bill 2715, Assembly Member Tasha Boerner’s measure that would authorize local agency governing bodies to convene a closed session to consider or evaluate matters related to cybersecurity.

Local agencies are subject to a wide range of cybersecurity risks, from elections and patient data to critical infrastructure and emergency communications. The extensive range of risks and the increasing sophistication of cyber-criminals makes us exceptionally vulnerable to a security breach. Existing law is unclear about whether current exemptions can be used to hold a closed session discussion about a local agency’s cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities when a cyber-attack is not imminent or underway. Therefore, local agencies do not currently have a method of privately discussing their cybersecurity, which increases local agencies’ vulnerability to such attacks.

Our obligations to sustain reliable and effective services that protect the health and safety of the public are paramount. Allowing discussion of cybersecurity in closed session helps facilitate discussion of effective and safe mechanisms to ensure the safety of public information and infrastructure. As exists for current closed session items, any decision that results from such a closed session must be disclosed in an open session, ensuring the public is aware of the decision that has been made.

AB 2715 represents an important modernization of the Brown Act and, as such, we are supportive of the measure and respectfully request your “aye” vote.

cc: The Honorable Tasha Boerner, California State Assembly

