

Assembly Bill No. 303

CHAPTER 164

An act to add and repeal Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 23345) of Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 3 of the Government Code, relating to local governmental agencies.

[Approved by Governor August 2, 1997. Filed with
Secretary of State August 4, 1997.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 303, Runner. Local governmental agencies: Los Angeles County.

Existing law provides for the establishment of various local governmental agencies.

This bill would, upon the adoption of resolutions by the governing bodies of one or more local agencies, as defined, that have an aggregate population of 2,000,000 or more, create a local agency known as the Los Angeles County Division Commission.

The commission board would consist of representatives appointed by the governing boards of participating local agencies. The commission would be required to issue a report with recommendations to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, the Governor, and the Legislature by January 1, 2001. The report would be required to include, but not be limited to, analyses of the fiscal health and the capability and efficiency of service delivery by the County of Los Angeles, whether the division of the county into 2 or more smaller counties would result in enhanced fiscal health of the county and increased capability and efficiency in service delivery, and whether the division would be detrimental to the fiscal health or capability and efficiency of service delivery of any territory affected by the division.

The bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2001.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 23345) is added to Chapter 3 of Division 1 of Title 3 of the Government Code, to read:

Article 3.5. Los Angeles County Division Commission

23345. (a) The Legislature finds and declares the necessity to study the fiscal health of Los Angeles County and the capability and efficiency of service delivery by Los Angeles County.



(b) As used in this section, “local agency” means any city within the boundaries of Los Angeles County, or the County of Los Angeles.

23346. (a) There may be created a commission called the Los Angeles County Division Commission.

(b) On or before January 1, 1999, the governing body of any local agency within and including Los Angeles County may adopt a resolution declaring its intent to form the commission. The governing body of each local agency shall immediately transmit a copy of its resolution to the county clerk of the County of Los Angeles. As soon as feasible after receiving resolutions from one or more local agencies that have an aggregate population of 2,000,000 or more people, the county clerk shall declare the commission duly formed pursuant to this article.

(c) Each local agency that has adopted a resolution declaring its intent to form the commission shall contribute funding to the commission in proportion to the number of its representatives on the commission board.

23347. (a) The governing body of each local agency that adopted a resolution pursuant to Section 23346 shall appoint, by resolution, one representative to the commission board and shall appoint, by resolution, an additional representative for each 100,000 citizens within its territory. In the case of Los Angeles County, for the purpose of determining the number of representatives, the population shall be the total population of the unincorporated areas of the county. Representatives shall serve at the pleasure of the local agency the person represents. Each appointing authority shall endeavor to appoint members who reflect the geographic, ethnic, racial, gender, and cultural diversity of its territory. Each appointing authority shall appoint members who have demonstrated an interest and have proven academic or professional ability in one or more of the fields of demography, urban economics, land use planning, public finance, and the legal aspects of local agency organization and boundaries.

(b) The commission shall select a chair and vice chair from among its own respective membership.

(c) The commission shall conduct public meetings to solicit the views and advice of the public, including elected and appointed officials, regarding the fiscal health and service delivery capabilities of Los Angeles County.

(d) The members of the commission may be reimbursed for their actual and necessary expenses for attending the meetings of the commission, except for members of the commission who are elected officials, officers, or employees of a local agency. The commission may authorize a payment of a per diem not to exceed one hundred dollars (\$100) to the members of the commission for each day while they are in attendance at meetings of the commission. The per diem may be in addition to the reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the cost of the



quarters, equipment, supplies, and operating expenses incurred by the commission shall not be a county charge but shall be paid from the funding made by the act which added this section. The commission shall not charge fees.

(e) The commission may appoint employees, including counsel, define their qualifications and duties, and provide compensation for the performance of their duties.

(f) The commission may contract with any other public or private agency for any services necessary to carry out the purposes of this section.

23348. Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, the commission shall issue a report with recommendations to the Board of Supervisors of the County of Los Angeles, the Governor, and the Legislature by January 1, 2001. The report shall include, but not be limited to:

(a) A comprehensive analysis of the fiscal health of Los Angeles County.

(b) A comprehensive analysis of the capability and efficiency of service delivery by the County of Los Angeles.

(c) Whether or not a division of the County of Los Angeles into two or more smaller counties would result in enhanced fiscal health of the county and increased capability and efficiency in the delivery of services, and whether or not such a division would be detrimental to the fiscal health or capability and efficiency of service delivery of any territory that would be affected by the division.

(d) As part of its determination in subdivision (c), the commission may prescribe boundaries for any proposed division.

(e) Any other matters that the special commission deems relevant.

23349. This article shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2001, and as of that date is repealed, unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2001, deletes or extends that date.

