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AB 2620 California Commission on Aging

BILL SUMMARY:

AB 2620 (Baines) reduces the number on the California Commission on Aging from 25 to 18, and requires Commissioners to have professional, lived or academic expertise relating to aging.

Defines the Commission as an “advisory body” relating to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and allows the Commission to engage in federal advocacy efforts.

It also modernizes term of use throughout the impacted code section.

BACKGROUND:

California’s aging population is growing faster than any other age group. By 2030, over 25 percent of the population in California will be 60 and older.¹ The population in the state is becoming more racially and ethnically diverse, and yet the COVID-19 pandemic impacted Californians disparately.

In January of 2021, the Governor released his Master Plan for Aging (MPA). The MPA prioritizes the health and well-being of older Californians and the need for policies that promote healthy aging. The MPA serves as a 10 year blueprint for state government, local government, the private sector, and philanthropy to prepare the state for the coming demographic changes and continue California’s leadership in aging, disability, and equity.²

As we build towards a future with a rapidly increasing population of older Californians, we need a Commission that is ever more engaged and reflective of the needs of those aging in the state. Modernizing the Commission is important for the state and its population at all ages.

PROBLEM:

The Commission has had a statutory composition of 25 members since its inception. During its existence, it has never had all Commission seats appointed. However, quorum is dictated by the number of those comprised to serve (including vacancies), making it difficult to conduct business.

SOLUTION:

Reducing the number of serving Commissioners allows the Commission to more effectively establish a quorum and conduct business.

Requiring expertise related to aging for all future appointees allows for more meaningful advocacy moving forward.

Redefining the Commission as an advisory body allows for flexibility in the ways in which Commissioners may participate in meetings and will likely allow for more geographic diversity on the Commission.

SPONSOR:

California Commission on Aging

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¹ [Projections | Department of Finance \(ca.gov\)](#)

² [Master Plan for Aging \(ca.gov\)](#)