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**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**  
**REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**

**NOTE THAT THIS MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY  
PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361 (“AB 361”), WHICH AMENDED  
GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 TO ALLOW LOCAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES  
TO HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCING**

**ACCORDINGLY, BOARD MEMBERS WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A CONFERENCE  
CALL NUMBER; THEY WILL NOT BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT IN ANY CHAMBERS.**

**PURSUANT TO AB 361, THE PUBLIC MAY PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT  
TELEPHONICALLY BY CALLING (669) 900-6833, 6476620089# OR (ZOOM  
MEETING ID: 647 662 0089).**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023**

**10:00 A.M.**

**A G E N D A**

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Board Members:      Alejandra Cortez, Vice Chair - *Bell Gardens*  
                                 Hugo Argumedo, Chair – *Commerce*  
                                 Emma Sharif, Treasurer – *Compton*  
                                 Martin Fuentes, Member – *Cudahy*  
                                 Victor Farfan, Secretary – *Hawaiian Gardens*

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

***Public participation is now open. The members of the audience now have the right to speak on agenda items and any item under the jurisdiction of the Authority. This***

***period will be limited to thirty minutes, with no more than three minutes for each speaker. Anyone desiring to speak during the public comment period must submit an email request [juan@sixheron.com](mailto:juan@sixheron.com), or to the Authority Secretary via Zoom prior to the close of public participation. Due to policy and Brown Act requirements, action will not be taken on any issues not on the Agenda.***

*Please state your name and address clearly.*

### **NEW BUSINESS – OPEN SESSION**

1. Consideration and possible action to approve the Minutes of the January 18, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board.
2. Consideration and possible action to receive and file Financial Summary and Warrant Register dated February 15, 2023.
3. Consideration and possible adoption of a resolution and related actions to approve facsimile signatures of the Chair, Treasurer and Executive Director on Authority Warrants.
4. Status update & report from California Advocacy, LLC with respect to legislative matters.
5. Consideration and Possible Action on Proposed State Legislation Related to a Moratorium on Cardrooms in the State of California.
6. Consideration and possible action regarding resumption of in-person meetings of the JPA Board of Directors.
7. Report of General Counsel  
  
Pursuant to Government Code § 54954.2 (a)(3) – A report to the Board of Directors and the public on General Counsel’s activities, including compliance efforts, approval of contracts as to form, receipt of notices, and requests to place matters on subsequent agendas (excluding any matters qualifying for closed session consideration).
8. Executive Director Report/Summary

### **NEW BUSINESS - CLOSED SESSION**

9. None

### **CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

***This is the time and place for the Chairman and Board Members to report on any other items of interest. Upon request by an individual Board Member, the Authority may choose to take action on any of the subject matters listed below.***

Member Fuentes (Cudahy)

Secretary Farfan (Hawaiian Gardens)

Treasurer Sharif (Compton)

Vice Chair Cortez (Bell Gardens)

Chair Argumedo (Commerce)

### **ADJOURN**

The next regular meeting of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority will be held on a date, time and location to be established on February 15, 2023 pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.



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**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY  
REGULAR SCHEDULED MEETING**

**CONDUCTED TELEPHONICALLY PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION  
54953 ALLOWING LOCAL LEGISLATIVE BODIES HOLD PUBLIC MEETINGS VIA  
TELECONFERENCING**

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 18, 2023**

**10:04 AM**

**MINUTES**

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**ROLL CALL**

Board Members Present:

*Alejandra Cortez, Vice Chair – Bell Gardens*  
*Victor Farfan, Secretary – Hawaiian Gardens*  
*Emma Sharif, Treasurer – Compton **(ABSENT)***  
*Ivan Altamirano, Alternate Member – Commerce*  
*Martin Fuentes, Alternate Member – Cudahy*

**PUBLIC ATTENDING MEETING**

Maria Teresa Del Rio, Linda Hollinsworth, Matthew Thompson, Jesse Alvarado, Liz Garcia, Stephanie Arechiga, Kian Kaeni, Marvin Pineda, Ernesto Marquez, Richard Iglesias, Leo Chu, Juan Garza

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS – OPEN SESSION**

1. Consideration and possible adoption of a resolution ratifying the proclamation of a State of Emergency by Governor Newsom on March 4, 2020 and authorizing

remote teleconference meetings of the Joint Powers Authority for the period from January 18, 2023 through February 17, 2023, pursuant to Brown Act provisions.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Secretary Farfan seconded to adopt resolution.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

2. Presentation to the Honorable Jesse Alvarado of the City of Hawaiian Gardens for his Service as a Board Member of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority Board.

Board members expressed their appreciation to Mr. Alvarado for his service and dedication to the JPA Board, including meetings with new Attorney General Rob Bonta, Speaker Anthony Rendon, Moratorium Discussions, Efforts to Defeat Proposition 26, and COVID-19. His leadership and guidance were invaluable.

Mr. Alvarado thanked the Board and Mr. Garza, he expressed the honor it was to serve on the JPA Board.

3. Consideration and possible action to approve the Minutes of the December 21, 2022 Regular Meeting of the Board.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Alternate Member Altamirano seconded to approve the Minutes.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

4. Consideration and possible action to receive and file Financial Summary and Warrant Register dated January 18, 2023.

Secretary Farfan moved and Alternate Member Altamirano seconded to receive and file Financial Summary and Warrant Register.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

5. Consideration and possible action to receive and file Board Meeting Dates for Calendar Year 2023.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Secretary Farfan seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

6. Status update & report from California Advocacy, LLC with respect to legislative matters.

Mr, Marvin Pineda provided a comprehensive report on moratorium legislation, upcoming efforts to engage Attorney General Rob Bonta's office (Director Yolanda Morrow) on player rotation regulations/interpretation, and an update on the state's budget.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Alternate Member Altamirano seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

7. Consideration and possible action regarding resumption of in-person meetings of the JPA Board of Directors.

With member city reorganizations now finalized and better assessment of board member availabilities within grasp, a full report from staff along with an accompanying resolution will now be presented at the February 15, 2023, Board meeting.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Secretary Farfan seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

8. Report of General Counsel

No report.

9. Executive Director Report/Summary

Executive Director Garza reported on:

- 1) COVID-19 Status in CA & LA County
- 2) Statewide Cardroom Moratorium Discussions / JPA Submittal of a Moratorium Position Letter?
- 3) February Cardrooms Sacramento Legislative Tour – February 7-8, 2023.

Vice Chair Cortez moved and Secretary Farfan seconded to receive and file the report.

The motion was approved by the following vote:

Bell Gardens	Yes
Commerce	Yes
Compton	Absent
Cudahy	Yes
Hawaiian Gardens	Yes

**NEW BUSINESS - CLOSED SESSION**

10. None

**CHAIRMAN AND BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

***This is the time and place for the Chairman and Board Members to report on any other items of interest. Upon request by an individual Board Member, the Authority may choose to take action on any of the subject matters listed below.***

Alternate Member Fuentes (Cudahy)

Alternate Member Altamirano (Commerce)

Secretary Farfan (Hawaiian Gardens)

Vice Chair Cortez (Bell Gardens)

**ADJOURN (10:54 AM)**

The next regular meeting of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority will be held at 10:00 am on Wednesday, February 15, 2023, telephonically and via Zoom pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Alejandra Cortez, Vice Chair

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Victor Farfan, Secretary





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**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE  
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY**

**WARRANT REPORT AND FINANCIAL  
SUMMARY – JANUARY 2023**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2023.**

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**BALANCE SHEET**

02/15/2023 JPA MEETING

Page: 1

2/10/2023

10:53 am

City of Hawaiian Gardens

As of: 1/31/2023

Balances

Fund: 50 - CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE

Assets

1000.0000 CASH

124,114.31

Total Assets

124,114.31

Liabilities

2100.0000 ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

15,303.90

2182.0000 UNEARNED REVENUE

0.01

Total Liabilities

15,303.91

Reserves/Balances

2900.0000 FUND BALANCE-UNASSIGNED

73,542.25

2920.0000 CHANGE IN FUND BALANCE

35,268.15

Total Reserves/Balances

108,810.40

Total Liabilities & Balances

124,114.31

**Edit List of Invoices - Summary**

02/15/2023 JPA MEETING

Date: 02/10/2023

Time: 9:52 am

Page: 1

City of Hawaiian Gardens

Ref. No.	Vendor Name	Invoice No.	Posting Date	PONumber	Invoice Date	Invoice Description	Invoice Amount
169631	IVAN ALTAMIRANO	2023-01-18	01/18/2023		01/18/2023	01.18.23 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>250.00</u>
169632	ALEJANDRA CORTEZ	2023-01-18	01/18/2023		01/18/2023	01.18.23 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>250.00</u>
169633	VICTOR FARFAN	2023-01-18	01/18/2023		01/18/2023	01.18.23 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>250.00</u>
169634	MARTIN U FUENTES	2022-12-21	01/01/2023		12/21/2022	12.21.22 MTG STIPEND	250.00
169635	MARTIN U FUENTES	2023-01-18	01/18/2023		01/18/2023	01.18.23 MTG STIPEND	250.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>500.00</u>
169636	CHRISTOPHER GARCIA	CRJPAMI1240	01/31/2023		02/07/2023	JAN 2023 SVCS	1,200.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>1,200.00</u>
169637	JUAN GARZA	2023-01-31	01/31/2023		01/31/2023	JAN 2023 SALARY	5,000.00
169638	JUAN GARZA	EI625972683US	01/10/2023		01/10/2023	EXPRESS MAIL 01/10/2023	27.90
						Vendor Total:	<u>5,027.90</u>
169639	GOVERNMENTAL FINANCIAL SVC	2023-01	01/31/2023		01/31/2023	JAN 2023 FY21/22 SCO FIN TRAN:	700.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>700.00</u>
169640	OLIVAREZ MADRUGA LAW	21329	01/31/2023		01/31/2023	JAN 2023 SVCS - BOARD MEETIN	240.00
169641	OLIVAREZ MADRUGA LAW	21330	01/31/2023		01/31/2023	JAN 2023 SVCS - GENERAL	220.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>460.00</u>
169642	EVELYN PINEDA	2023-01-26	01/26/2023		01/26/2023	JAN 2023 SVCS	6,666.00
						Vendor Total:	<u>6,666.00</u>
Grand Total:							15,303.90
Less Credit Memos:							<u>0.00</u>
Net Total:							15,303.90
Less Hand Check Total:							<u>0.00</u>
Outstanding Invoice Total:							15,303.90
<p>Total Invoices: 12</p>							

REVENUE/EXPENDITURE REPORT  
02/15/2023 JPA MEETING

City of Hawaiian Gardens

For the Period: 7/1/2022 to 1/31/2023	Original Bud.	Amended Bud.	YTD Actual	CURR MTH	Encumb. YTD	UnencBal	% Bud
Fund Type: SR SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS							
<b>Fund: 50 - CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE</b>							
Revenues							
Function:							
Dept: 0000 ASSETS							
Acct Class: REV REVENUE							
3742.0050 JPA MEMBERSHIP FUNDING	135,000.00	135,000.00	105,000.00	0.00	0.00	30,000.00	77.8
3742.0052 CASINO DONATIONS	100,000.00	100,000.00	35,000.00	0.00	0.00	65,000.00	35.0
REVENUE	235,000.00	235,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00	59.6
ASSETS	235,000.00	235,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00	59.6
Function:	235,000.00	235,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00	59.6
Revenues	235,000.00	235,000.00	140,000.00	0.00	0.00	95,000.00	59.6
Expenditures							
Function:							
Dept: 4908 JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY							
Acct Class: OPER OPERATING COSTS							
4200.0050 CONTRACT SVC-EX DIR JPA	80,925.00	80,925.00	35,000.00	5,000.00	0.00	45,925.00	43.2
4200.0052 COMMUNICATIONS	10,200.00	10,200.00	8,400.00	1,200.00	0.00	1,800.00	82.4
4202.0000 AUDIT SERVICES	8,000.00	8,000.00	700.00	700.00	0.00	7,300.00	8.8
4211.0000 MEETING STIPENDS	16,875.00	16,875.00	7,250.00	1,250.00	0.00	9,625.00	43.0
4213.0000 OTHER OPERATING COSTS	9,000.00	9,000.00	54.85	27.90	0.00	8,945.15	0.6
4250.0001 LEGISLATIVE ADVOCATE/JPA	80,000.00	80,000.00	46,662.00	6,666.00	0.00	33,338.00	58.3
4252.0000 SPECIAL COUNSEL - CONTRACT	30,000.00	30,000.00	6,665.00	460.00	0.00	23,335.00	22.2
OPERATING COSTS	235,000.00	235,000.00	104,731.85	15,303.90	0.00	130,268.15	44.6
JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY	235,000.00	235,000.00	104,731.85	15,303.90	0.00	130,268.15	44.6
Function:	235,000.00	235,000.00	104,731.85	15,303.90	0.00	130,268.15	44.6
Expenditures	235,000.00	235,000.00	104,731.85	15,303.90	0.00	130,268.15	44.6
Net Effect for CA CITIES FOR SELF RELIANCE	0.00	0.00	35,268.15	-15,303.90	0.00	-35,268.15	0.0
Change in Fund Balance:			35,268.15				
Net Effect for SPECIAL REVENUE FUNDS	0.00	0.00	35,268.15	-15,303.90	0.00	-35,268.15	
Grand Total Net Effect:	0.00	0.00	35,268.15	-15,303.90	0.00	-35,268.15	

California Cities for Self-Reliance  
Special Assessment Fund  
Balance as of January 31, 2023

Collected  
To Date  
01/31/23

Special Assessment:

City of Bell Gardens	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Commerce	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Compton	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Cudahy	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Gardena	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Hawaiian Gardens	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00
City of Inglewood	\$33,000.00	\$33,000.00

Total Revenues:	\$231,000.00	\$231,000.00
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Expended:

	Month	Paid	Year-to-Date 01/31/23
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Feb. 2019	\$2,857.12	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Mar. 2019	\$10,000.00	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Apr. 2019	\$10,000.00	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	May 2019	\$10,065.72	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Jun. 2019	\$10,042.48	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Jul. 2019	\$10,203.28	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Aug. 2019	\$10,127.25	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Sep. 2019	\$11,314.73	
Aprea & Micheli, Inc.	Oct. 2019	\$4,193.54	
Sub-Total			\$78,804.12

Reilly Consulting	Mar. 2019	\$4,903.23	
Reilly Consulting	Apr. 2019	\$8,000.00	
Reilly Consulting	May 2019	\$8,000.00	
Reilly Consulting	Jun. 2019	\$27,888.45	
Reilly Consulting	Jul. 2019	\$8,000.00	
Reilly Consulting	Aug. 2019	\$17,484.25	
Reilly Consulting	Sep. 2019	\$8,000.00	
Reilly Consulting	Oct. 2019	\$6,182.84	
Sub-Total			\$88,458.77

City of Inglewood	June 2020	9,105.30
City of Hawaiian Gardens	May 2022	9,105.30
City of Bell Gardens	May 2022	9,105.30
City of Commerce	May 2022	9,105.30
City of Compton	May 2022	9,105.30
City of Cudahy	May 2022	9,105.30
City of Gardena	May 2022	9,105.30
Total Expended:		\$230,999.99

**Balance Remaining To Date:**

**01/31/23**

**\$0.01**



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**TO:** Honorable Chair and Members of the Governing Board  
**FROM:** Victor Ponto, General Counsel  
**SUBJECT:** **Consideration and Adoption of a Resolution of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority Authorizing the Facsimile Signatures of the Chair, Treasurer, and Executive Director on All Authority Warrants**  
**DATE:** February 15, 2023

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### **RECOMMENDATION**

The Members of the Authority are recommended to adopt the attached Resolution of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority authorizing facsimile signatures of the Chair, Treasurer, and Executive Director on all Authority warrants.

### **BACKGROUND/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

Section 16 (Accounting and Reporting) of the Seventh Restated and Amended California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority (“Authority”) Agreement, states that the Authority must “establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by generally accepted accounting practices”, this includes the execution of checks;

The bank holding the applicable account with the Authority requires two (2) signatures on all warrants and permits the use of facsimile signatures. The Authority does not currently authorize facsimile signatures on warrants.

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

There is currently no fiscal impact on the Authority’s budget.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

Accordingly, it is recommended that the Authority approve the attached Resolution authorizing the facsimile signatures of the Chair, Treasurer, and Executive Director on all Authority warrants.

## **ATTACHMENT**

1. Resolution Number 23-02

## RESOLUTION NO. 23-02

### A RESOLUTION OF THE CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE JOINT POWERS AUTHORITY AUTHORIZING THE FACSIMILE SIGNATURES OF THE CHAIR, TREASURER, AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ON ALL AUTHORITY WARRANTS

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 16 (Accounting and Reporting) of the Seventh Restated and Amended California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority (“Authority”) Agreement, the Authority must “establish and maintain such funds and accounts as may be required by generally accepted accounting practices”, this includes the execution of checks;

**WHEREAS**, the bank holding the applicable account with the Authority requires two (2) signatures on all warrants;

**WHEREAS**, the bank holding the applicable account with the Authority permits the use of facsimile signatures;

**WHEREAS**, the Authority does not currently authorize facsimile signatures on warrants.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority as follows:**

**SECTION 1.** The above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated herein by reference.

**SECTION 2.** The Joint Powers Authority hereby authorizes the facsimile signatures of the Chair, Treasurer, and Executive Director on all authority warrants.

**SECTION 3.** The Chair or designee of the Joint Powers Authority are hereby authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of this Resolution.

**SECTION 4.** This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and shall be effective until the Joint Powers Authority adopts a resolution voiding the current action.

**SECTION 5.** All portions of this Resolution are severable. If any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase or portion of this Resolution is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of this Resolution.

**SECTION 6.** That the Chair shall certify to the adoption of this Resolution and that the same shall be in full force and effect.



**PASSED, APPROVED and ADOPTED** this 15<sup>th</sup> day of February 2023.

**CALIFORNIA CITIES FOR SELF-  
RELIANCE JOINT POWERS  
AUTHORITY**

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Hugo Argumedo, Chair

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

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Victor Ponto, General Counsel

## **ITEM 4**

11079th Street, Suite 420,

Sacramento, CA 95814

Phone:(916) 869-3685

[www.CaliforniaAdvocacy.com](http://www.CaliforniaAdvocacy.com)

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**February 15, 2023**

### **California Update: Agenda**

1. AB 341 (Ramos) – Gambling Moratorium
2. California Budget Update



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**TO:** Honorable Chairperson and Members of the Governing Board

**FROM:** Juan Garza, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** Consideration and Possible Action on Proposed State Legislation Related to a Moratorium on Cardrooms in the State of California.

**DATE:** February 15, 2023

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**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Long-time state statute had a moratorium in effect that limited the authorization of legal gaming in jurisdictions not authorized prior to January 1, 1996. In addition, the same moratorium limited the California Gambling Control Commission from issuing gambling licenses for any establishment that was not licensed to operate on December 31, 1999 unless an application to operate the establishment was on file prior to September 1, 2000. That moratorium was in effect until January 1, 2023.

JPA staff has been informed that there exists a possibility that a new moratorium is being considered for a multi-year extension via recently introduced and proposed upcoming legislation. Any proposed legislation, if introduced during this current legislative session, would most likely enact a moratorium from January 1, 2023 and be in effect for at least 20 years. The last day for legislation to be introduced for consideration is this coming Friday, February 17, 2023.

The JPA has historically supported a cardroom moratorium and is seeking Board guidance on taking a position and subsequent action(s) by JPA staff should already introduced and other potential legislative bills enacting a moratorium be introduced for consideration by Friday 17, 2023.

**RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD**

- 1) Consider and Support Legislation Enacting a Moratorium on Legal Gaming and Licenses, and Authorize JPA Staff to Take Necessary Actions to Support It; or
- 2) Alternatively, discuss and take other action related to this item.



February 15, 2023

Honorable James Ramos  
Assembly, District 45  
State Capitol  
P.O. Box 942849  
Sacramento, CA 94249

**RE: Support AB 341 (Ramos) - Extension of the Gaming Moratorium**

Dear Assemblymember Ramos:

On behalf of the California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority (JPA) and our member cities of Bell Gardens, Commerce, Compton, Cudahy and Hawaiian Gardens, we write to express our support for AB 341 which extends the cardroom moratorium on the expansion of gaming within California (BPC §19962/19963) until January 2043. Not having a moratorium in place severely harm our cities, our residents and our cardroom industry partners.

Extending the current moratorium via AB 341 would provide needed financial stability to our JPA member cities that rely upon revenue from licensed gambling, and it will continue the state's commitment to limit the number of gambling facilities operated in the state. Cardrooms based in our member cities are vital local economic engines that serve as the largest single source of total tax revenue that fund vital residents' services such as public safety, emergency services, fire, health care, homelessness programs, transportation, and other essential programs. In addition, our cardrooms serve as regional economic engines via their direct employment of not only local residents, but of residents from throughout our region that number well over 10,000 in Los Angeles County alone.

Within our membership, the revenue derived from Hawaiian Garden's casino to the City of Hawaiian Gardens represents 70% of that City's total general fund revenues. The City of Bell Gardens derives 50% of its general fund revenue from the Bicycle Casino, while the City of Commerce generates 40% of its general fund revenues from Commerce Casino. Also, the City of Compton derives substantial revenue for its general fund from Crystal Casino.

In sum, these local governments are not financially solvent without revenues derived from their respective cardrooms mentioned above; thus, it is crucial for the JPA to protect our communities which have historically struggled economically, and to ensure their continued fiscal stability through the extension of the current moratorium via AB 341.

Thank you for your consideration on behalf of our communities, our industry partners and their tens of thousands of employees.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'J. Garza', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Juan Garza  
Executive Director  
California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority

Cc: Members of the Senate Committee on Governmental Organization  
Members of the Assembly Committee on Government Organization

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 341**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member Ramos**

January 30, 2023

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An act to add Section 19961.07 to, and to add and repeal Sections 19962 and 19963 of, the Business and Professions Code, relating to gambling.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 341, as introduced, Ramos. Gambling: local moratorium.

Existing law, the Gambling Control Act, establishes the California Gambling Control Commission, which is responsible for licensing and regulating various gambling activities and establishments. Existing law requires the Department of Justice to investigate any violations of, and to enforce, the act. Under the act, a city, county, or city and county may authorize controlled gambling consistent with state law. Existing law, however, prohibits an ordinance that would result in an expansion of gambling in the city, county, or city and county from being valid unless the amendment is approved by a majority of the voters. Existing law requires an amendment to a city or county ordinance relating to a gambling establishment or the act to be submitted to the department for review and comment before the ordinance is adopted by the city or county.

Prior law, until January 1, 2023, prohibited the commission from issuing a gambling license for a gambling establishment that was not licensed to operate on December 31, 1999, except as specified.

This bill would reenact that prohibition until January 1, 2043, and would prohibit the commission from issuing a gambling license for a gambling establishment that was not licensed to operate on December

31, 2022, and that is pending before the commission as of January 1, 2024. The bill would also invalidate an application for a gambling license for a gambling establishment that was not licensed to operate on December 31, 2022, and that was approved between December 31, 2022, and January 1, 2024.

Prior law, until January 1, 2023, prohibited the governing body or board of electors of a city, county, or city and county that had not authorized legal gambling within its boundaries prior to January 1, 1996, from authorizing legal gambling, and prohibited an ordinance in effect on January 1, 1996, that authorized legal gambling within a city, county, or city and county from being amended to expand gambling in that jurisdiction beyond that permitted on January 1, 1996.

This bill would reenact those prohibitions until January 1, 2043. The bill, notwithstanding those provisions, would authorize a city, county, or city and county to amend its ordinance to increase the number of gambling tables that may be operated in a gambling establishment that operates 20 or fewer tables, by up to 2 additional tables the first year, and up to 2 additional tables every 4 years thereafter, as provided. The bill would require an ordinance that was approved by a majority of the voters in a city, county, or city and county that authorized an increase in the number of gambling tables at a gambling establishment, and that became operative on January 1, 2023, as the result of the repealed provisions above, to remain operative on and after January 1, 2024.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes. State-mandated local program: no.

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

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 19961.07 is added to the Business and
- 2 Professions Code, to read:
- 3 19961.07. (a) Notwithstanding Sections 19961 and 19962,
- 4 and except as provided in subdivision (b), a city, county, or city
- 5 and county may amend an ordinance to increase the number of
- 6 gambling tables that may be operated in a gambling establishment
- 7 as follows:
- 8 (1) The ordinance shall apply only to a gambling establishment
- 9 that operates 20 or fewer gambling tables.
- 10 (2) The ordinance shall allow a gambling establishment to
- 11 increase the number of gambling tables operated at the gambling
- 12 establishment by up to 2 additional tables within the first year after



1 the ordinance takes effect, and up to 2 additional tables every four  
2 years thereafter, not to exceed 10 additional tables above the  
3 number of tables operated at the gambling establishment on January  
4 1, 2023. A gambling establishment shall have all permitted  
5 gambling tables in operation and remain current in payment on all  
6 taxes and other applicable fees before an increase in gambling  
7 tables is allowed pursuant to this subdivision.

8 (b) (1) The authority provided in subdivision (a) shall be in  
9 addition to any authorization under any other law for a city, county,  
10 or city and county to increase the number of gambling tables that  
11 may be operated in a gambling establishment in the city, county,  
12 or city and county.

13 (2) Subdivision (a) does not apply to a city, county, or city and  
14 county that increased the number of gambling tables that may be  
15 operated in a gambling establishment, as described in paragraph  
16 (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 19962.

17 (c) A city, county, or city and county's jurisdictional limit may  
18 expand to accommodate the increase of gambling tables pursuant  
19 to this section.

20 SEC. 2. Section 19962 is added to the Business and Professions  
21 Code, to read:

22 19962. (a) The governing body or the electors of a city, county,  
23 or city and county that has not authorized legal gambling within  
24 its boundaries prior to January 1, 1996, shall not authorize legal  
25 gambling.

26 (b) (1) An ordinance in effect on January 1, 1996, that  
27 authorizes legal gambling within a city, county, or city and county  
28 shall not be amended to expand gambling in that jurisdiction  
29 beyond that permitted on January 1, 1996.

30 (2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), an ordinance that was  
31 approved by a majority of the voters in a city, county, or city and  
32 county that authorizes an increase in the number of gambling tables  
33 at a gambling establishment, and that became operative on January  
34 1, 2023, as the result of the repeal of former Section 19962, as  
35 amended by Chapter 1 of Section 744 of the Statutes of 2018, shall  
36 continue to be valid on and after January 1, 2024.

37 (c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2043,  
38 and as of that date is repealed.

39 SEC. 3. Section 19963 is added to the Business and Professions  
40 Code, to read:

- 1 19963. (a) In addition to any other limitation on the expansion  
2 of gambling imposed by Section 19962 or any provision in this  
3 chapter, the commission shall not issue a gambling license for a  
4 gambling establishment that was not licensed to operate on  
5 December 31, 1999, unless an application to operate that  
6 establishment was on file with the department prior to September  
7 1, 2000.
- 8 (b) An application for a gambling license for a gambling  
9 establishment that was not licensed to operate on December 31,  
10 2022, that is pending before the commission as of January 1, 2024,  
11 shall not be approved by the commission.
- 12 (c) An application for a gambling license for a gambling  
13 establishment that was not licensed to operate on December 31,  
14 2022, and that was approved between December 31, 2022, and  
15 January 1, 2024, shall be invalid.
- 16 (d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2043,  
17 and as of that date is repealed.



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500 SOUTH GRAND AVENUE ■ 12TH FLOOR ■ LOS ANGELES, CA 90071  
PHONE 213.744.0099 ■ FAX 213.744.0093

## **MEMORANDUM**

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To: California Cities for Self-Reliance Joint Powers Authority

From: General Counsel's Office

Date: October 18, 2022

Subject: **Overview of Assembly Bill 2449 Modifying Brown Act Teleconferencing Procedures**

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### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

On September 13, 2022, California Governor Gavin Newsom signed Assembly Bill 2449 (“AB 2449”) into law. Effective January 1, 2023, AB 2449 establishes four periods with differing options for remote access to, and member attendance of, local agency public meetings under the Ralph M. Brown Act (“Brown Act”).

- **From the present to January 1, 2023**, public agencies may choose between traditional, pre-COVID teleconferencing rules or, to the extent there is an ongoing declared state of emergency, the significantly relaxed rules afforded under AB 361.
- **From January 1, 2023 to January 1, 2024**, public agencies may also avail themselves of a set of new procedures established under AB 2449 which do not require a declared state of emergency but which are subject to certain requirements and restrictions, including limitations on the number of times a member may participate remotely and limitations on the types of circumstances under which a member is allowed to participate remotely. During this period, public agencies may continue to avail themselves of traditional pre-COVID teleconferencing rules and, to the extent there is an ongoing declared state of emergency, the relaxed rules of AB 361.
- **From January 1, 2024 to January 1, 2026**, public agencies may avail themselves of the traditional, pre-COVID procedures and the new procedures of AB 2449 only. The procedures of AB 361 will cease to be effective by this time.
- **After January 1, 2026**, public agencies will only be able to avail themselves of the traditional, pre-COVID teleconferencing rules.

This memorandum focuses on the rules unique to AB 2449 which more or less constitute a procedural middle-ground between what is required under traditional teleconferencing procedures and the significantly relaxed procedures permitted under AB 361 during a declared state of emergency.

### **OVERVIEW OF AB 2449 REMOTE PARTICIPATION PROCEDURES**

To avail itself of the teleconferencing rules established under AB 2449, a public agency must comply with the following meeting requirements:

- 1) A quorum of the members of the agency's legislative body must participate in person from a singular physical location identified on the agenda;
- 2) The legislative body must provide either (i) a two-way audiovisual platform, such as Zoom or WebEx, which allows the meeting to be viewed and heard from a remote location, or (ii) a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting, this requirement may be satisfied with any combination of platforms that allows the meeting to be viewed and heard from a remote location;
- 3) The agenda must give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment; and
- 4) The meeting must be paused (and no action may be taken), if the broadcasting platform, either audio or visual, is interrupted.

If a member of a legislative body wishes to participate remotely under the new procedures, all of the following requirements, (1) through (4), below, must apply:

- 1) The request to remotely participate must be on the basis of a circumstance that qualifies as a **“just cause”** or **“emergency”** circumstance within the meaning of AB 2449:
  - (i) **Just Cause Circumstance:** At the earliest opportunity possible (including at the start of a regular meeting), the requesting member must notify the legislative body that he/she has a **“just cause”** reason for participating remotely. The request must generally describe the specific circumstances that prevent in person participation. Under AB 2449, **“just cause”** is specifically defined to mean any of the following circumstances:
    - a. A childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely;
    - b. A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person;
    - c. A need related to certain statutorily defined forms of physical or mental disability;  
or
    - d. Travel while on official business of the public agency or for another state or local agency.

It is important to note that under AB 2449, members are limited to a maximum of two (2) times per calendar year to invoke the **“just cause”** exception to in-person participation.

- (ii) Emergency Circumstance: An “**emergency circumstance**” is defined to mean a “*physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending a meeting in person.*” To invoke the “**emergency circumstance**” exception, the requesting member, as soon as possible, must request that the legislative body allow him/her to participate remotely due to some specified “**emergency circumstance.**” In turn, the member’s legislative body must take action to approve the request at the earliest opportunity. The legislative body shall also request a general description (not exceeding 20 words) that describes the circumstances relating to the requesting members “*emergency.*” The requesting member is not, however, required to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is already exempt under existing law. The member must also make a separate request for each meeting in which he/she seeks to participate remotely under the “**emergency**” exception.

Participation via teleconference under the “**emergency circumstance**” exception *does not* count toward the two-meeting limitation applicable to the “**just cause**” exception to in-person participation.

- 2) The member must publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member’s relationship with any such individuals.
- 3) The member must participate through *both* audio and visual technology.
- 4) A member’s remote participation may not exceed (i) three consecutive months, or (ii) 20% of a legislative body’s regular meetings within a single calendar year. Also, if the legislative body regularly meets fewer than 10 times per calendar year, a member’s participation from a remote location cannot be for more than two meetings total.

### CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

AB 2449 establishes teleconferencing procedures that are not as stringent or involved as traditional, pre-COVID procedures but not as relaxed as those afforded under AB 361 when a declared state of emergency and other requirements of AB 361 are in place. It should be noted that AB 2449 does not do away with traditional teleconferencing procedures which survive all four phases of AB 2449 referenced in the Executive Summary above. AB 2449 does seem intended to eventually take the place of the procedures established under AB 361 but only until AB 361 expires under its own terms on January 1, 2024.

AB 2449 does not spell out how to resolve instances when multiple members wish to avail themselves of the “**just cause**” or “**emergency circumstance**” exceptions at the same time and in excess of the number members who may participate remotely at any one meeting. Accordingly, it may be advisable to establish polices for resolving these situations (e.g., establishing a “**first come first serve**” policy etc.).

If you have any further questions, please feel free to contact our office.



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**TO:** Honorable Chair and Members of the Governing Board

**FROM:** Juan Garza, Executive Director

**SUBJECT:** **Executive Director Report/Summary**

**DATE:** February 15, 2023

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- 1) COVID-19 Status in CA & LA County
- 2) Statewide Cardroom Moratorium Discussions
- 3) Upcoming Legislator Invitations/Briefings