

Date of Hearing: March 25, 2026

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Juan Carrillo, Chair

AB 1625 (Nguyen) – As Introduced January 22, 2026

SUBJECT: Sacramento Regional Transit District: board compensation.

SUMMARY: Makes changes to the meeting compensation for the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) Board. Specifically, **this bill:**

- 1) Increases the amount a member of the SacRT Board shall be compensated for attendance at a noticed meeting of the Board from \$100 to \$200.
- 2) Reduces the number of noticed meetings a SacRT Board member may be compensated for attending from four a month to three a month.
- 3) Provides that if the Commission on State mandates determines that this bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made.

EXISTING LAW:

- 1) Establishes the SacRT Act, which governs the powers and functions of SacRT; establishes SacRT's territory, and planning duties; and, authorizes SacRT to issue general obligation bonds and revenue bonds, as specified. [Public Utilities Code (PUC) § 102000 et. Seq.]
- 2) Provides that each appointee to the SacRT Board shall serve a four-year term, unless earlier removed (PUC § 102100.1).
- 3) Establishes the SacRT Board and the process for adding members to the Board (PUC § 102100.2).
- 4) Provides that each member of the Board shall receive the sum of \$100 for each attendance at up to four noticed meetings of the Board per month, and shall be allowed actual necessary traveling expenses incurred in the discharge of the member's duties (PUC § 102106).

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill is keyed fiscal and contains a state mandated local program.

COMMENTS:

- 1) **Sacramento Regional Transit District.** SacRT was established by SB 1477 (Rodda), Chapter 1374, Statutes of 1971. SacRT serves citizens in the County of Sacramento and the Cities of Sacramento, Citrus Heights, Elk Grove, Folsom, and Rancho Cordova, by operating over 82 bus routes (fixed-route, microtransit, and dial-a-ride), 43 miles of light rail serving 53 light rail stations and ADA paratransit services across an approximately 440 square-mile service area.

SacRT is governed by an 11-member Board of Directors comprised of directors that are appointed by the different jurisdictions: three members by Sacramento County, three members by the City of Sacramento, two members by the City of Elk Grove, and one

member each from the cities of Citrus Heights, Folsom, and Rancho Cordova. Areas currently authorized to join, but have yet to, are the cities of Davis, Galt, Isleton, Roseville, West Sacramento, and Woodland, and specified parts of Sacramento and Yolo Counties.

The last measure to increase the board member compensation was AB 2137 (Niello), Chapter 272, Statutes of 2006, which was increased from \$50 to \$100 per meeting. Prior to 2006, SB 1866 (Rodda), Chapter 648, Statutes of 1980, increased the board member compensation from \$20 to \$50 per meeting.

- 2) **Bill Summary and Author's Statement.** This bill increases the amount of compensation a member of the Board receives for attending a noticed meeting from \$100 to \$200, and it reduces the number of noticed meetings a SacRT board member may be compensated for from four a month to three a month. SacRT is the sponsor of this bill.

According to the author, "The board of directors for the Sacramento Regional Transit District is comprised of local council members, who play an important role in improving and maintaining access to public transportation throughout the Sacramento region. On top of their responsibilities as council members, the board of directors is responsible for charting the agencies course and approving its operational budget. AB 1625 increases compensation per board meeting, which has remained stagnant since 2006, from \$100 to \$200, while also reducing the number of times the board can meet per month, from four times to three. In making these updates, AB 1615 ensures the Sacramento Transit District continues to operate as an efficient agency."

- 3) **Previous Legislation.** AB 2137 (Niello), Chapter 272, Statutes of 2006, created a weighted voting system for SacRT based on each voting entity's financial contribution, increased the compensation of the directors from \$50 to \$100 per meeting, and made other various changes.

AB 709 (McCarty), Chapter 522, Statutes of 2018, made numerous changes to the SacRT Act, including clarifying SacRT's geographic area and adding a one-eighth of one percent sales tax-rate increment to SacRT's taxation authority.

AB 1196 (Cooley), Chapter 272, Statutes of 2021, changed the voting structure for SacRT from a weighted voting structure to a "one member, one vote" voting structure. This bill also removed the code sections pertaining to the weighted voting structure and made other technical and clarifying changes.

AB 2015 (Cooley), Chapter 182, Statutes of 2022, increased, from \$100,000 to \$125,000, the bid threshold for SacRT's purchase of supplies, equipment, and materials. This bill also specified that if SacRT establishes a retirement board for the retirement system, board members and employees of the district may serve on its retirement board, and deleted obsolete language in the SacRT Act.

AB 354 (Nguyen), Chapter 35, Statutes of 2023, authorized the City of Elk Grove to appoint two members to the SacRT Board instead of one.

AB 1052 (McCarty), Chapter 674, Statutes of 2023, made changes to the taxing authority for SacRT.

AB 1924 (Ngyuen), Chapter 92, Statutes of 2024, allowed the SacRT to expand its service area to any city within Sacramento County and any other portion of the unincorporated territory within the boundaries of Sacramento County where the county has declared a need for the district to operate, and reduce the number of board members that may be appointed by the City of Sacramento from four to three.

- 4) **Arguments in Support.** According to SacRT, “AB 1625 proposes a modest adjustment to the compensation for SacRT Board members (from \$100 to \$200 per meeting). The legislation also reduces the number of meetings per month (from four to three) for which a board member can receive compensation. It should also be noted that while the Board sometimes met twice per month in the past, the members recently adopted a 2026 meeting schedule with one meeting per month moving forward.

“It has been 20 years since SacRT last increased Board member compensation, even as the scope and complexity of our operations have grown significantly. Today, SacRT serves over 1.5 million residents across a 400-square-mile service area, operating bus, light rail, and ADA paratransit services that provide nearly 20 million annual passenger trips.

“Our Board members, all locally elected City Council Members or County Supervisors, are responsible for guiding policy, approving budgets, and making decisions that impact the mobility, economy, and quality of life for the entire Sacramento region. These duties require substantial time, expertise, and engagement with the community. Updating compensation is a reasonable step to reflect the value of this commitment and ensure continued strong governance for one of California’s largest transit agencies.”

- 5) **Arguments in Opposition.** None on file.

REGISTERED SUPPORT / OPPOSITION:

Support

Sacramento Regional Transit District [SPONSOR]

Opposition

One Individual

Analysis Prepared by: Jimmy MacDonald / L. GOV. / (916) 319-3958