
CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1625
Author: Nguyen (D)
Introduced: 1/22/26
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez,
Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-1, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Sacramento Regional Transit District: board compensation

SOURCE: Sacramento Regional Transit District

DIGEST: This bill makes changes to the meeting compensation for the Sacramento Regional Transit District (SacRT) Board.

ANALYSIS:

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.
- 2) Provides that each appointee to the SacRT Board shall serve a four-year term, unless earlier removed.
- 3) Establishes the SacRT Board and the process for adding members to the Board.
- 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.

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.

Comments

Purpose of this bill. According to the author, "This bill, for the first time in 20 years, increases the per-meeting compensation for the members of the Sacramento Regional Transit District Board of Directors from \$100 to \$200. It also decreases, from four to three, the maximum number of meetings per month for which Board Members could be compensated. SacRT anticipates only conducting one meeting per month in 2026 and in future years."

SacRT. 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. They operate 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 provides nearly 20 million passenger trips annually.

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.

Board compensation needs an update. AB 1625 increases the amount of compensation a member of the Board receives for attending a noticed meeting from \$100 to \$200. Additionally, this bill reduces the number of noticed meetings a SacRT board member may be compensated for from four a month to three a month. According to SacRT, the Board recently decided to reduce the number of meetings from twice monthly to once a month, while still allowing for emergency or ad hoc meetings, if needed.

The last measure to increase the board member compensation was 20 years ago. Specifically, AB 2137 (Niello, Chapter 272, Statutes of 2006), increased compensation 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.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1924 (Ngyuen, Chapter 92, Statutes of 2024) – Allowed 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.

AB 2634 (McCarty, Chapter 111, Statutes of 2024) – Authorized SacRT to delegate to the appropriate officer the authority to order actions and procurements without competitive bidding in the case of an emergency. Exempted SacRT from a requirement that each transit operator that offers reduced fares to senior citizens must also offer reduced fares to disabled persons at the same rate established for senior citizens until January 1, 2027.

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

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 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 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 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 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.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Sacramento Regional Transit District (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing as the sponsors of AB 1625, SacRT states, “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.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-1, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom,

Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Melissa White / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
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