
CONSENT

Bill No: SB 1274
Author: Archuleta (D)
Amended: 4/13/26
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 4/22/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Industrial cities

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill defines the term industrial cities.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Allows cities and counties to make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws.
- 2) Allows cities and counties that adopt charters to control their own municipal affairs, and makes these laws supreme over all laws inconsistent therewith.

This bill defines industrial city to mean a city:

- 1) With a resident population under 25,000;
- 2) A majority of the city's land area is zoned for, or primarily devoted to, industrial, manufacturing, logistics, warehouses, energy production, or other employment-generating commercial uses, rather than residential use; and
- 3) Supports a daytime workforce that exceeds its resident population.

Background

Whether living in general law or charter cities, city residents receive a variety of municipal services including police and fire protection, libraries, parks and recreation, road maintenance, public transit, street trees, lighting and landscaping, water, sewers, planning and development. Full service cities provide these services themselves. Partial service and contract cities rely on special districts and counties to provide many of these services to their residents. Cities come in all shapes and sizes. The state's largest city is Los Angeles with nearly 3.9 million residents. The state's smallest city is Amador City with about 200 residents.

Comments

Purpose of this bill. According to the author, "California is home to a small number of unique cities that have a higher daytime workforce population than nighttime residential population. In these cities, the number of jobs exceeds the number of residents, industrial land use often dominates the municipal footprint, and freight and commercial traffic often represent a significant share of roadway demand. This phenomenon typically occurs when a city is primarily zoned for industrial use and is experiencing large numbers of workers commuting to and from the city every day. One of the many unique challenges faced by industrial cities is the lack of financial resources for infrastructure maintenance and transportation. Because many transportation funding formulas rely heavily upon a city's residential population, industrial cities in California are not receiving funding that reflects the reality of roadway wear, freight demand, and infrastructure usage in their jurisdictions."

Necessary? SB 1274 adds a definition of industrial city to state law, but does not do anything beyond define the term. The cities sponsoring the legislation indicate that this definition will allow them to craft future legislative efforts to consider their unique concerns. Is this sufficient to justify legislation?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/23/26)

City of Industry

City of Santa Fe Springs

City of Vernon

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/23/26)

None received

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
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