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| |  | | --- | | **Tuesday, August 27, 2013 130827-1**  **In this Issue:**  **Legislation Requiring Labeling of Contract Services is Amended but Continues to Cause Concern for Metro**  **Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Acts on Measures Reducing Vote Threshold for Transportation Sales Taxes** | | |
| **Legislation Requiring Labeling of Contract Services is Amended but Continues to Cause Concern for Metro**  SB 556 (Corbett), which would require public agencies such as Metro to label vehicles and uniforms of contracted employees with a large font disclosure that specifically states: “THE OPERATOR OF THIS VEHICLE IS NOT A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE” and “NOT A GOVERNMENT EMPLOYEE,” respectively, has been amended. However, the bill, as amended, is still causing us concern because it continues to specify that the identification be the same size as the largest font of any government logo on the vehicle, equipment or personnel engaged in the service. The cost of installing these types of signs would be approximately $1 million per year for Metro alone and will cause significant costs to other transit and local government agencies. Additionally, Metro could face a loss of advertising revenue if advertising space is now used for the specified label. We will keep the Board apprised as details develop regarding this legislation.  **Senate Transportation and Housing Committee Acts on Measures Reducing Vote Threshold for Transportation Sales Taxes**  Today, the California Senate Transportation and Housing Committee approved two constitutional amendments, SCA 4 (Liu) and SCA 8 (Corbett). These measures would reduce the vote threshold requirements for all local sales taxes dedicated to transportation purposes from two thirds to 55% of the electorate. Both SCA 4 and SCA 8 are nearly identical, and will now be referred to the Rules committee for further consideration and reconciliation. The committee is recommending that the measures include amendments which would require that a portion of the funds be set aside for highway maintenance if the sales tax funds new highway projects and that a portion of the funds be dedicated to projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions. |
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