



November 18, 2022

Honorable Nancy Skinner, Chair  
Joint Legislative Budget Committee  
Senate Budget and Fiscal Review  
Committee

Honorable Phil Ting, Chair  
Assembly Budget Committee

Honorable Anthony Portantino, Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee

Honorable Chris R. Holden, Chair  
Assembly Appropriations Committee

### **Citizens Redistricting Commission—Legal Services Funding Request**

Pursuant to Provision 1 of Item 0911-490, 2021 Budget Act, the following report is respectfully submitted.

Item 0911-490 of the 2021 Budget Act reappropriates funds from Schedule 2 of Item 0911-001-0001 of the 2019 Budget Act, for costs related to activities after the adoption of the final set of maps adopted by the Citizens Redistricting Commission. The Commission is requesting the release of funds for legal services from the total appropriation provided for post-map activities. Specifically, the Commission requests \$43,000 for legal expenses already incurred from January 2022 through September 2022, and an additional \$157,000 to cover legal expenses through June 30, 2023. These legal services include contracting with outside counsel to be present at Commission meetings to answer legal questions and provide legal guidance on the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act.

The Department of Finance concurs with the request for additional resources, however, Finance is only approving the release of \$70,000 to cover legal expenses already incurred and to provide funding for legal services through December 31, 2022. Rather than use outside counsel to provide legal services, the Commission should consider working with the Attorney General's Office to provide legal services. Approval of \$70,000 for legal services results in a remaining balance of \$4,227,000 within the funds reappropriated for post-map activities.

Finance requests a waiver of the 30-day review period to support the Commission's post-map operational costs.

If you have any questions or need additional information regarding this matter, please call Timothy Weber, Principal Program Budget Analyst, at (916) 445-8913.

JOE STEPHENSHAW

Director

By:



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Chief Deputy Director

cc: Honorable Wendy Carrillo, Chair, Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4  
Honorable Sydney K. Kamlager, Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review  
Subcommittee No. 4  
Honorable Jim Nielsen, Vice Chair, Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee  
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