

Brian Helmick  
Fire Chief



**SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF:**

Bethel Island  
Brentwood  
Byron

Discovery Bay  
Knightsen  
Morgan Territory  
Oakley

April 19, 2019

The Honorable Phil Ting  
California State Assembly  
State Capitol  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: Assembly Bill 1486 (Ting) – Oppose Unless Amended**

Dear Assembly Member Ting:

The East Contra Costa Fire Protection District is respectfully opposed to Assembly Bill 1486 unless it is amended to address our concerns. AB 1486 requires public agencies to offer their land for development before leasing their property.

AB 1486 requires special districts and other local agencies to offer the right of first refusal to affordable housing developers, schools, and parks before selling, leasing, or otherwise conveying their land. The new mandate in Assembly Bill 1486 would prevent prudent efforts to lease or otherwise protect land for important community purposes, such as buffer land surrounding a water or wastewater treatment facility, energy generation plant, or airport, as well as the long-term lease of district property that will be needed for future infrastructure, such as hospitals, parks, harbors, and cemeteries.

Under AB 1486, attempting to lease land in support of an agency's governmental function would trigger the requirements for the disposal of surplus land. As written, AB 1486 would require agencies to offer up property which may be incompatible for use for housing, schools, or parks. AB 1486 would also make it more difficult to protect an agency's land for a future governmental use.

We respectfully request AB 1486 be amended to limit the scope of the bill to the sale of surplus land and not include property for lease. Our opposition is not a challenge to the need for affordable housing, but a validation of the need for local flexibility when it comes to proper governmental land use management.

For these reasons, the East Contra Costa Fire Protection District respectfully opposes AB 1486 unless it is amended.

Sincerely,

**Brian Helmick**  
Fire Chief

CC: Tara Gamboa-Eastman, Office of Assembly Member Phil Ting  
Assemblymember Jim Frazier  
Senator Steve Glazer  
Rylan Gervase, Legislative Representative, California Special Districts Association