CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY SERVICES AND DEVELOPMENT

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING ACTION FOR THE COMMUNITY SERVICES BLOCK GRANT (CSBG) BOARD REQUIREMENTS

The Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) proposes to amend Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations Section 100605 as described below in the Informative Digest.

PUBLIC HEARING

A public hearing is not scheduled. Pursuant to Government Code Section 11346.8, any interested person, or their duly authorized representative, may request a public hearing. CSD must receive the written request no later than 15 days prior to the closing of the public comment period. Requests for public hearing should be sent to:

Department of Community Services and Development
Attention: Legal
2389 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95833
Email: Web.Info@csd.ca.gov

SUBMISSION OF COMMENTS

Statements or arguments relating to the proposals may be submitted in writing or via email to the address/email listed above. All comments must be received by December 21, 2026.

It is requested that all comments contain the regulation package identifier "**CSBG Board Requirements**" in the subject line to facilitate timely identification and review.

Please note: Public comments should not include any personal or medical information, as your written and oral comments, and attachments become part of the public record and can be released to the public upon request under the California Public Records Act (Gov. Code, § 6250 et seq.).

AUTHORITY AND REFERENCE

This proposal is made pursuant to the authority vested in CSD by Sections 12087, 12735, 12738, and 12781 of the Government Code. This proposal is intended to interpret, implement, and make specific Government Code Section 12751, and Section 9910 of Title 42 of the United States Code.

INFORMATIVE DIGEST/POLICY STATEMENT OVERVIEW

Congress adopted the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) Act (Sections 9901 to 9926 of Title 42 of the United States Code (42 U.S.C.)) to provide assistance to State and local communities through community action agencies and other neighborhood-based organizations to reduce poverty, revitalize low-income communities, and empower low-income families and communities to become fully self-sufficient. Under California Government Code (GOV) Section 12735(c), the Department of Community Services and Development (CSD) is the administering agency for the federally funded CSBG Program. Under GOV Section 12738, CSD has the authority to create regulations necessary to administer the CSBG.

Community Action Agencies (CAAs) are the primary subrecipients of California's CSBG funds. These CAAs use CSBG funds to provide a range of services to lessen the causes of poverty in their communities. GOV Section 12751 and 42 U.S.C. Section 9910, require each CAA to have a tripartite board of directors. Under Section 12751, one-third of the members of the board of directors need to be elected public officials, one-third need to be democratically selected to represent the local low-income populations, and one-third need to be members of major groups with interests in the community.

Currently, Section 100605 of Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations (22 CCR) requires each CAA's tripartite board of directors to have at least twelve, and at most thirty, members. Many CAAs in the State struggle to keep the minimum of 12 board members. Filling seats requires advertising for board member applicants, screening applicants, and training new board members. The proposed changes would allow CAAs to have smaller, nine-member, tripartite boards, so that they can focus their agencies' time and CSBG funds on providing services to their community.

Similarly, Division 11 of Tittle 22 of the California Code of Regulations does not require that CAAs update CSD on their board composition, and alert CSD if anyone has left the board. Nor do the regulations explain how quickly a CAA would need to fill any vacancies in their board. The proposed changes would require CAAs to give CSD basic information about their tripartite board's makeup, and tell CSD, within thirty days, if there is a change to the board's composition. The proposed language would also establish clear standards for CAAs to comply with when filling board vacancies.

Anticipated Benefits of the Proposed Amendments

The proposed amendment to the regulations will decrease the administrative burden on CAAs and establish clear standards for enforcement of board composition requirements.

FORMS/DOCUMENTS INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE

There are no forms or documents incorporated by reference in this proposed action.

EVALUATION OF INCONSISTENCY OR INCOMPATIBILITY WITH EXISTING STATE REGULATIONS (GOV. CODE, § 11346.5(A)(3)(D)):

During the development of this proposed regulatory action, the Department conducted a search of any similar regulations on this topic and concluded these regulations are neither inconsistent nor incompatible with existing state regulations.

MANDATED BY FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATIONS (Gov. Code, §§ 11346.2 & 11346.9): Not Applicable.

OTHER STATUTORY REQUIREMENTS (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(4)): None.

DISCLOSURE REGARDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

The Community Services Block Grant has no state or local matching of administrative funds. The grant award to the State and subsequently the subrecipients, is all formula based. These regulations will not impact the formula or the award amounts. Based on this, CSD has made the following initial determinations:

Local Mandate (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(5)):

Under Government Code sections 11346.5, subdivision (a)(5), the Department has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not impose a mandate on any local agency or school district that requires reimbursement by the State under Government Code, title 2, division 4, part 7 (commencing with section 17500).

Fiscal Impacts (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(6)):

The determination of the Department concerning the costs or savings incurred by public agencies and private persons and businesses in reasonable compliance with the proposed regulatory action are presented below.

Cost to any local agency or school district requiring reimbursement under section 17500 et seq.:
The Department has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings to any local agency or school district.

Cost or savings to any state agency:

The Department has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings to any state agency.

Other non-discretionary costs or savings on local agencies:
The Department has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings to any other nondiscretionary cost or savings to state or local agencies.

Cost or savings in Federal funding to the State:
The Department has determined that the proposed regulatory action would not create costs or savings in federal funding to the State.

Housing Costs (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(12)):

In accordance with Government Code Section 11346.5, subdivision (a)(12), the Department has made the initial determination that the proposed regulatory action will not have a significant effect on housing costs.

Significant Statewide Adverse Economic Impact Directly Affecting Business, Including Ability to Compete with Business in Other States (Gov. Code, §§ 11346.3(A), 11346.5(A)(7), and 11346.5(A)(8)):

The Department has made an initial determination that the proposed regulatory action would not have a significant statewide adverse economic impact directly affecting businesses, including the ability of California businesses to compete with businesses in other states.

STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF THE ECONOMIC IMPACT ANALYSIS/ASSESSMENT (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(10)):

(A) The creation of jobs within the State of California.
The Department does not anticipate that this regulatory action would have an impact on the creation of jobs within the State of California.

(B) The elimination of jobs within the State of California.
The Department does not anticipate that this regulatory action would have an impact on the elimination of jobs within the State of California.

(C) The creation of new business within the State of California.
The Department anticipates that this regulatory action would have an impact on the creation of new business within the State of California.

(D) The elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.
The Department does not anticipate that this regulatory action would have an impact on the elimination of existing businesses within the State of California.

(E) The expansion of businesses currently doing business within the State of California.
The Department does anticipate that this regulatory action would have an impact on the expansion of business within the State of California.

(F) The benefits of the regulation to the health and welfare of California residents, worker safety, and the state's environment.
The Department anticipates that this regulatory action would contribute to the health and welfare of California residents receiving CSBG services. Ensuring compliant board governance for CAAs and reducing burden on staff will support CAAs in accomplishing their CSBG service goals.

COST IMPACTS ON REPRESENTATIVE PRIVATE PERSONS OR BUSINESS (Gov. Code, § 11346.5(a)(9)):

In developing this regulatory proposal, Department staff evaluated the potential economic impacts on representative private persons or business. The Department is not aware of any cost impacts that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action.

BUSINESS REPORT (Gov. Code, §§ 11346.5(a)(11); 11346.3(d)):

In accordance with Government Code sections 11346.5, subdivisions (a)(11) and 11346.3, subdivision (d), the Department finds that any reporting requirements of the proposed regulatory action which may apply to businesses are necessary for the health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of California.

EFFECT ON SMALL BUSINESS (1 CCR § 4(a) and (b)):

The Department has determined under California Code of Regulations, title 1, section 4, that the proposed regulatory action would not affect small businesses. CAAs are either local governments or nonprofit organizations and therefore do not meet the definition of a small business.

CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVES

In accordance with Gov. Code § 11346.5, subdivision (a)(13), CSD must determine that no reasonable alternative it considered, or that has otherwise been identified and brought to its attention, would be more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed, or would be as effective and less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed action, or would be more cost–effective to affected private persons and equally effective in implementing the statutory policy or other provision of law than the proposed action. CSD invites interested persons to present statements or arguments with respect to alternatives to the proposed regulations during the written

comment period or at any hearing scheduled to take statements or arguments that are relevant to the proposed action.

CONTACT PERSONS

Questions regarding this proposed regulatory action may be directed to the Department's representatives at 2389 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833:
Amy Barnett, Chief Counsel, 916-550-3235
Patrick DaSilva Telles, Staff Counsel, 916-570-7146

TEXT OF PROPOSAL

Individuals may request copies of the proposed text (the "express terms") of the regulations, the initial statement of reasons, the modified text of the regulations, if any, or other information upon which the rulemaking is based to, CSD, 2389 Gateway Oaks Drive, Suite 100, Sacramento, CA 95833. These documents are also located on the CSD Website at https://www.csd.ca.gov/Pages/CSBGProgram.aspx.

ADOPTION OF PROPOSED REGULATIONS/AVAILABILITY OF CHANGED OR MODIFIED TEXT

Following the public comment period, the CSD may adopt the proposal substantially as set forth without further notice, or the CSD may modify the proposal if such modifications remain sufficiently related to the text as described in the Informative Digest. If the Commission makes changes to the language before the date of adoption, the text of any modified language, clearly indicated, will be made available at least 15 days before adoption to all persons whose comments were received by CSD during the public comment period and to all persons who request notification from CSD of the availability of such changes. A request for the modified text should be addressed to the agency official designated in this notice. CSD will accept written comments on the modified text for 15 days after the date that the revised text is made available.

AVAILABILITY AND LOCATION OF THE RULEMAKING FILE AND THE FINAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Upon its completion, Final Statement of Reasons (FSOR) shall be available, and copies may be requested from the agency contact persons in this notice or may be accessed on the Department's Internet web site listed below.

INTERNET ACCESS

This notice, the ISOR, the proposed regulation text, and all subsequent regulatory documents, including the FSOR, when completed, are available on the Department's website for this rulemaking https://www.csd.ca.gov/Pages/CSBGProgram.aspx.