

Fiscal Estimate Narratives

DOA 3/17/2010

LRB Number	09-4409/1	Introduction Number	AB-0834	Estimate Type	Original
Description Comprehensive planning					

Assumptions Used in Arriving at Fiscal Estimate

Assembly Bill (AB) 834 amends the comprehensive planning statutes to delay the implementation of the consistency requirement for local governments if the local government meets certain requirements. Under the current law's consistency requirement, if a city, village, town, or county engages in zoning, subdivision regulations, or official mapping, those actions must be consistent with that local government's comprehensive plan beginning on January 1, 2010. The Department estimates that 90% of municipalities and 95% of counties that exercise the relevant land use regulations have either adopted a comprehensive plan or are currently developing one.

AB 834 delays the requirement of consistency between comprehensive plans and certain land use regulations until January 1, 2012, if the local governmental unit has not enacted a comprehensive plan before January 1, 2010 and if any of the following applies: (1) the local governmental unit has applied for but has not received a comprehensive planning grant and adopts a resolution committing to adopt a comprehensive plan by January 1, 2012; and (2) the local government has received a comprehensive planning grant and has received a grant period extension.

An estimated 1,600 counties and municipalities have either adopted plans or are developing plans. The Department has received 1,252 adopted plans from local governments and 208 local governments are developing plans with state grants. Based on self reported information from a 2009 study, an estimated 150 local governments are developing plans without any state grants. The 208 local governments developing plans with state grants could receive grant timeline extensions and, thereby, delay implementation of the consistency requirement for them.

One hundred and eight local governments have not adopted a plan and have applied for a grant and not received one. Of those 108 local governments, only about 60 exercise the relevant land use regulations.

AB 834 will not have a fiscal effect on the Department of Administration's (DOA) Comprehensive Planning Grant Program. The Department will continue to administer grants for communities developing comprehensive plans for the first time and anticipates that local governmental units that adopted comprehensive plans within the last 10 years will begin to apply once they are eligible for planning grants to update their local plans as required by current law.

The fiscal effect on local governments of AB 834 is indeterminate. A grant may provide more than 50% of a local government's planning costs. DOA estimates that there are about 25 local governments that exercise the relevant land use regulations, have not started planning, and have unsuccessfully applied for a grant. The Department does not know how many of these local governments would apply for or receive a grant.

Long-Range Fiscal Implications

Unknown.