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February 25, 2025

The Honorable Juan Carrillo
Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814
Transmitted via Electronic Mail

RE: AB 259 (Rubio) Brown Act - SUPPORT

Dear Chair Carrillo:

On behalf of the City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County, I write in **SUPPORT** of AB 259 (Rubio), which would extend the provisions of AB 2449 (Rubio, 2022) indefinitely allowing members of local legislative bodies to participate remotely under specific circumstances and if certain procedures are followed.

Since the passage of AB 2449 (Rubio), C/CAG has relied on the permissive nature of the statutes to facilitate remote participation for members of its board of directors and members of its various committees. C/CAG has one Board of Directors (with 21 voting members) and nine standing committees with a total of 76 regularly scheduled Brown Act meetings each year. C/CAG Board members and committee members use AB 2449 to balance emergency circumstances and participate in meetings. In 2024, the C/CAG Board members used AB 2449 six times under emergency circumstances to ensure that they could continue to advise and take positions on critical matters while sick or serving in a caregiving role.

For these reasons, C/CAG respectfully asks that you please support AB 259 when it is heard in your committee. Thank you for your consideration and please contact Sean Charpentier, C/CAG Executive Director at scharpentier@smcgov.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Adam Rak, Chair

City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County