

SACOG Advocacy Procedures

Purpose of Advocacy Procedures

The purpose of this policy is to guide the SACOG Board of Directors and staff in considering state and federal legislative and regulatory proposals that are likely to have an impact on SACOG, and to allow for a timely response to important policy issues.

The Role of SACOG Board Adopted Advocacy Principles

The Advocacy Principles adopted by the SACOG Board of Directors outline the policy issues for staff to either actively pursue, bring to the board for consideration, or simply track and monitor. At times, time constraints may arise which may make board approval of positions on specific state and federal legislative and regulatory proposals impossible, the following “normal” and “urgency” procedures shall be followed by board members and staff:

Issues Covered by SACOG Board Adopted Advocacy Principles

- **Positions on Legislation/Administrative Actions (Normal)**

The executive director, or other designee, may adopt positions and advocate on state and federal policy proposals in a timely manner if they are consistent with SACOG’s Board Adopted Advocacy Principles. This provides SACOG the flexibility to respond to legislation and other proposals in a timely manner, while ensuring the Board of Directors provides policy guidance. The executive director will inform the board members of the position in a timely manner.

Issues Not Covered by SACOG Board Adopted Advocacy Principles

- **New Policy Issues (Normal)**

When policy issues outside of the scope of the board adopted advocacy principles arise, the executive director or board members will bring these issues to the Policy and Innovation Committee and then to the full board for action. This includes proposed amendments to the advocacy principles and positions on specific legislation or administrative actions.

- **New Policy Issues (Urgency)**

The executive director, or other designee, may only communicate a position or advocate on state and federal policy proposals not covered by the board adopted advocacy principles if: 1) the executive director reasonably believes that time does not permit board action, 2) the issue is critical to the well-being of SACOG or its member jurisdictions, and 3) the executive director secures approval from the board chair and the chair of the Policy and Innovation Committee. If the committee chair cannot be reached, the executive director must secure approval from the committee vice chair. The executive director will inform the board members of the position in a timely manner.