



## Advocacy Update

### Receive and File

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**Attachments:** Yes

**Approved by:** James Corless

**Referring Committee:** Policy & Innovation

### 1. Issue:

Update on state and federal advocacy activities and the final disposition of SACOG's sponsored bill, AB 350 (Aguiar-Curry)

### 2. Recommendation:

None, this item is for information only.

### 3. Background/Analysis:

The federal government began a new budget year on October 1, with a continuing resolution in place to continue funding the government as a final budget deal is worked out in Congress. In Sacramento, on September 14, the Legislature adjourned the first year of the two year 2023- 2024 legislative session. This served as this year's deadline to send bills to the governor's desk. The governor now has until October 14, to sign or veto legislation.

### 4. Discussion/Analysis:

Congress had until September 30, to either pass a full year spending bill or a short-term continuing resolution to avoid a government shutdown. In the days leading up to this deadline, the House and Senate Committees had drafted committee versions of appropriation bills, but the various bills were far apart and neither the House nor the Senate had been able to clear any of the annual appropriation bills. With just hours left before the government shut down, Congress passed a continuing resolution that will fund the government into the middle of November. A few days later, there was a motion to vacate the Chair which ultimately removed Congressman McCarthy from Speaker. The House is now in uncharted territory. There has never been a successful attempt to vacate the Chair and there is no standing policy or procedure on when and how to move forward. Attachment A, the Federal Policy Monthly Report, has additional information about this, and federal funding and technical assistance opportunities.

In Sacramento, the focus remains SACOG's sponsored bill, AB 350 (Aguiar-Curry), which would extend the deadline for SACOG to adopt the Blueprint. On October 10, the governor signed AB 350. The bill previously passed out of the Senate by a 31-6 vote, with two Republicans abstaining and one Democrat absent, and on the last day of session, the Assembly concurred in the Senate amendments to AB 350 by a 74-0 vote with six Republicans abstaining. SACOG's state lobbyists and staff worked to bring on new supporters for AB 350 and are appreciative of all of the supporters who wrote to the Governor's Office in support of a signature on the

bill. Attachment B, written before the bill was signed, provides more information about AB 350 and additional bills that moved through the legislative process this year.

**5. Fiscal Impact/Grant Information:**

SACOG's advocacy activities and lobbying contracts are paid for through member dues.