

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 760

Introduced by Assembly Member Solorio
(Coauthor: Senator Correa)

February 26, 2009

An act to add Chapter 17 (commencing with Section 26495) to Part 3 of Division 2 of Title 3 to the Government Code, relating to the Orange County Fire Authority.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 760, as introduced, Solorio. Orange County Fire Authority: Joint Forces Training Base.

Existing law authorizes the legislative body of a local agency, including a county, to contract with any other local agency for the performance of municipal services or functions, including firefighting services, within the other local agency's territory.

This bill would require the state, by July 1, 2010, to enter into a contract with the Orange County Fire Authority, as defined, to authorize the authority to provide fire protection services, paramedic services, aircraft rescue firefighting, dispatching services, fire prevention services, and all other related services to the Joint Forces Training Base in the City of Los Alamitos.

The bill would make a Legislative declaration regarding the need for a special statute.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. The Legislature finds and hereby declares all of
2 the following:

3 (a) The Joint Forces Training Base (JFTB) in Los Alamitos is
4 home to the California National Guard and Army Reserve.

5 (b) Located in the heart of Orange County, the Joint Forces
6 Training Base has become the “Hub of Homeland Defense” for
7 the Southern California Region and is the home to the California
8 Emergency Management Agency, the National Guard Support
9 Team 9, a 24 member weapons of mass destruction team, the
10 Mediterranean Fruit Fly Eradication Program, and the Civil Air
11 Patrol.

12 (c) In addition, the base is utilized by the Sheriff of Orange
13 County, the Sheriff of Los Angeles County, and the police of the
14 City of Los Angeles for terrorism and mass disaster training, with
15 plans underway for a multijurisdictional, state-of-the-art training
16 facility.

17 (d) The JFTB has performed its military-support role several
18 times, most notably during the 1984 Olympics in Los Angeles.

19 (e) In 1992, the JFTB was the site for the arrival and assembly
20 area for law enforcement, National Guard, and active Army
21 personnel involved in quelling the widespread rioting in Los
22 Angeles.

23 (f) The 1994 Northridge earthquake also brought local, state,
24 and federal disaster relief agencies to the JFTB.

25 (g) The JFTB is currently protected by a small seventeen
26 member fire department, providing a minimum level of fire, aircraft
27 rescue firefighting, emergency medical care, and fire prevention
28 services.

29 (h) The surrounding communities are protected by the Orange
30 County Fire Authority and enjoy the highest level of fire,
31 Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and other fire related services
32 with an economy of scale made possible only by its large size and
33 efficient management.

34 SEC. 2. Chapter 17 (commencing with Section 26495) is added
35 to Part 3 of Division 2 of Title 3 of the Government Code, to read:

1 CHAPTER 17. ORANGE COUNTY FIRE AUTHORITY

2
3 26495. For purposes of this section the following definitions
4 shall apply:

5 (a) “JFTB” means the Joint Forces Training Base located in the
6 City of Los Alamitos.

7 (b) “Orange County Fire Authority” means that agency of
8 Orange County that provides fire protection and related services
9 for 22 cities located in Orange County and the unincorporated area
10 of that county.

11 26496. (a) On or before July 1, 2010, the state shall enter into
12 a contract with the Orange County Fire Authority pursuant to this
13 chapter to authorize the Orange County Fire Authority to provide
14 fire protection services, paramedic services, aircraft rescue
15 firefighting services, dispatching services, fire prevention services,
16 and all other related services to the JFTB. The contract shall
17 authorize the Orange County Fire Authority to provide any
18 necessary state-of-the-art fire and emergency medical services to
19 the JFTB in the same manner as the authority provides to the
20 surrounding communities.

21 (b) The contract shall require that all fire protection and
22 emergency medical services at JFTB be transferred, managed, and
23 provided by the Orange County Fire Authority.

24 (c) The state shall, when entering into a contract pursuant to
25 this article, negotiate in good faith on behalf of the state and shall
26 conduct these negotiations in an expeditious manner, with both
27 parties working together to bring about a smooth and rapid
28 completion of negotiations and transition of services.

29 SEC. 3. The Legislature finds and declares that due to unique
30 circumstances regarding the Orange County Fire Authority and
31 the Joint Forces Training Base located in the City of Los Angeles,
32 a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning
33 of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution.

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