

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 266

Introduced by Assembly Member Ammiano

February 7, 2011

An act relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 266, as introduced, Ammiano. State government: sports authority.

Existing law exempts from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and specified local planning requirements the development, planning, design, site acquisition, subdivision, financing, leasing, construction, operation, or maintenance of a specified stadium complex and associated development, and infrastructure improvements associated with that stadium complex and associated development.

This bill would set forth the findings and declarations of the Legislature with respect to obtaining and retaining professional sports teams within the state, and state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that will create a Statewide Sports Authority for the purposes of eliminating intrastate conflicts in the procurement of sports teams, coordinating efforts to procure and retain professional sports teams within the state, and helping to finance sports arenas within the state.

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

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

- 1 SECTION 1. (a) The Legislature finds and declares all of the
2 following:

1 (1) California is home to five Major League Baseball teams,
2 three National Football League teams, and numerous other
3 professional sports teams, including soccer and hockey teams.

4 (2) The hosting of professional sports teams and large-scale
5 sports events brings in millions of dollars to local economies each
6 year, and California is in competition with the rest of the nation
7 to secure and keep professional sports teams, many of which have
8 become part of the state’s identity.

9 (3) Currently, California has several local sports authorities,
10 which sometimes work in competition with each other, and this
11 creates the possibility of the state losing out to other states for
12 sports arenas and team locations.

13 (b) It is the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that will
14 create a Statewide Sports Authority for the purposes of eliminating
15 intrastate conflicts in the procurement of sports teams, coordinating
16 efforts to procure and retain professional sports teams within the
17 state, and helping to finance sports arenas within the state.