



June 20, 2025

The Honorable Monique Limon  
 Chair, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee  
 1021 O Street, Room 3220  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: AB 996 (Pellerin) Public Resources: sea level rise plans.**  
**Notice of SUPPORT** (As Amended May 23, 2025)

Dear Senator Limon,

The League of California Cities (Cal Cities), the California State Association of Counties (CSAC), and the following cities and counties are pleased to **support AB 996 (Pellerin)**, which would provide local governments tools as they develop plans that incorporate the best available science to mitigate and adapt to impacts of sea level rise.

In 2023, SB 272 (Laird) was chaptered into law, which requires coastal and bay cities and counties to develop sea level rise plans by 2034 and receive approval from the state in both the bay area and the coastal zone. Bay jurisdictions are tasked with developing sub-regional shoreline adaptation plans for approval by the Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC), and coastal jurisdictions are required to incorporate the sea level rise plan into their local coastal programs (LCPs) for approval by the California Coastal Commission (Commission). For the coastal cities and counties, their LCPs are comprised of a Land Use Plan and Implementation Plan and when they receive certification from the Commission, the local government retains its permitting authority for coastal development permits (CDPs).

AB 996 would provide supportive tools for local governments in the development of a sea level rise plan. The bill would provide that existing sea level rise information or plans

that a local government has prepared may satisfy one or all of the components of the sea level rise plans. Some coastal cities and counties have done extensive work to assess sea level rise vulnerability. This provision would clarify that a local government does not need to do duplicative planning, if the existing materials can satisfy the sea level rise plan requirements. The bill would also create an early consultation process for the cities and counties in the coastal zone to engage and consult with the Commission, about the preparation of new or amended LCPs to ensure formal submission of sea level rise plan materials are sufficient for a complete review. Early consultation is intended to provide enhanced communication between the Commission and local governments and provides opportunity for the Commission to written recommendations to local governments to ensure an efficient and timely submission and approval processes.

For these reasons, Cal Cities, CSAC, and the following cities and counties **support AB 996 (Pellerin)** and respectfully requests your 'aye' vote when the bill is heard in committee. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the sponsor of the bill, Cal Cities Environmental Quality Legislative Advocate Melissa Sparks-Kranz at [msparkskranz@calcities.org](mailto:msparkskranz@calcities.org) at 916-658-8232.

Sincerely,

League of California Cities (sponsor)  
California State Association of Counties  
City of Arcata  
City of San Rafael  
City of Pismo Beach  
City of Suisun City  
City of Petaluma  
City of Santa Barbara  
City of South San Francisco  
City of Milpitas  
City of Mountain View  
City of Fairfield  
City of Benicia  
City of Sunnyvale  
The Town of Corte Madera  
City of Pacifica  
City of Redondo Beach  
City of Newark  
City of Long Beach  
City of Carlsbad  
City of Manhattan Beach  
City of Marina  
City of Santa Cruz

cc: The Honorable Gail Pellerin  
Members, Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee



June 30, 2025

The Honorable Anna Caballero  
 Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee  
 State Capitol, Room 412  
 Sacramento, CA 95814

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City of Long Beach  
City of Carlsbad  
City of Manhattan Beach

City of Marina  
City of Santa Cruz  
City of Sausalito  
City of Avalon

cc: The Honorable Gail Pellerin  
Members, Senate Appropriations Committee