

Resolution 2025- (2)

A Resolution for the Members of the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (CARCD) to Establish Minimum Standards for Conducting Association Business to Ensure Transparency and Accountability in Operations

WHEREAS, the California Association of Resource Conservation Districts (Association or CARCD) bylaws (Article I, Section 3, "Purposes") state that "the Association has the purposes for which it is authorized under Division 9 of the Public Resources Code of the State of California. The bylaws further state the CARCD is "an instrumentality of member districts in carrying out the natural resources and soil and water policies of the State of California, insofar as those functions have been delegated to the districts by statute; and

WHEREAS, the CARCD President has indicated that CARCD is not legally required to comply with the Brown Act's open meeting requirements because it is a statewide private corporation, not authorized by statute and not exercising delegated authority from its member districts;

WHEREAS, regardless of any legal mandate under the Brown Act, CARCD purports to represent all RCDs, which are local agencies subject to the Brown Act, and there is therefore an expectation that all RCDs should have opportunities to be informed of and provide feedback on issues affecting their districts and the constituencies they represent, including, but not limited to, legislation and funding opportunities, regardless of an RCD's membership in CARCD;

WHEREAS, CARCD's member districts expect to be informed of the CARCD's operations and initiatives so they can provide the essential feedback needed to guide the Association's actions and priorities consistent with the districts' powers and responsibilities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the CARCD Membership does hereby direct the CARCD Board of Directors to publish and notice all meetings, minutes, and records of the association.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that any RCD, regardless of membership, will be allowed to attend and provide comments at any meeting of the Association, including but not limited to meetings of the Board, Executive Committee, standing committees, special committees, and general membership.