



President's Message

Dear Fellow MISAC Members, Partners and Friends,

As MISAC advocates more actively for state and local municipal initiatives and information technology-related legislation—often in partnership with the League of California Cities (LOCC) and the California Special Districts Association (CSDA)—the Legislative Committee, chaired by Hong Sae (City of Roseville), has become an increasingly important resource.

Formed to educate and influence state and local decision makers to enact policies and supply the funding necessary to advance information systems as an integral part of municipalities' infrastructure, the committee enhances recognition of MISAC with executive and legislative leaders and positions MISAC as a key resource for local government information systems issues. Its activities include maintaining relationships with LOCC and CSDA lobbyists to represent our organization's concerns and issues, developing content so that all members may serve as advocates and exploring private-sector partnership opportunities.

The Legislative Committee's work empowers MISAC members to:

- Steward key initiatives
- Collaborate with like-minded organizations
- Serve as technical and advisory resources
- Cultivate professional advancement
- Foster high ethical standards
- Support high-quality service

MISAC's efforts to collaborate with not only fellow information technology professionals and city staff members but also the elected officials and legislative decision-makers with whom we engage and negotiate in Sacramento yielded benefits last October, when Governor Jerry Brown vetoed SB 649 (Hueso), which would have limited the authority of cities and counties to negotiate with telecommunications companies on the siting of wireless equipment in the public right-of-way and on public infrastructure. Past President Bryon Horn, Chief Information Officer for the City of Fresno, and Eric Forcey, Information Technology Manager for the City of Hanford, participated in a League of California Cities-sponsored press conference supporting the opposition movement.

This April, a robust cohort of MISAC members attended the League of California Cities' Legislative Action Day at the Sacramento Convention Center, where programming included updates from legislators, League leaders and lobbyists on topics ranging from pension sustainability and public safety to drones and economic development. The group then had the opportunity to meet with legislators and their staff in the Capitol prior to reconvening for a panel discussion on housing and homelessness.

When I met with the Legislative Committee in May, we discussed legislation geared at technology and the results of the committee's recent survey on municipal IT-related legislative matters. We appreciate those of you who shared your opinions on this inaugural research tool, which boasted a strong response rate from both cities and special districts.

Here are the survey results for the bills currently on the Legislative Committee's radar:

- [SB 1186](#): 93.1% watching or opposing (72.4% oppose the surveillance infrastructure information releases)
- [AB 1999](#): 92.9% watching or opposing (75.0% oppose the potential sales of government ISP infrastructure)
- [AB 2812](#) / [AB 2225](#): 96.4% watching or supporting (75.0% support the data protection bills and innovative technology fund)
- [SB 460](#) / [SB 822](#): 96.6% watching or supporting (82.8% support net privacy & neutrality act)
- [AB 608](#): 100% watching or supporting to put security freeze on consumer credit reporting agency

As Sae observed in his message to the listserv, of 5,446 bills introduced in the California Legislature for the 2017-2018 legislative session, 3,151—58 percent—are technology-related. We now are challenged to work with our partners to understand the bills, recommend amendments and educate key constituents. Proposed legislation changes—often quickly—and we value your continued insight and feedback.

Thank you, again, for this opportunity to serve as your president and to help develop MISAC's voice on legislative and policy issues.

</Tim Williamsen, P.E.>

P.S. Are you interested in supporting the Legislative Committee's advocacy efforts? [Contact MISAC Executive Director Brad Walker](#) for more information.

www.misac.org

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