



ASSEMBLY FLOOR ALERT

AB 1337 (Ward) – Information Practices Act of 1977

As Amended May 23, 2025 – **OPPOSE**

On behalf of a broad coalition of local government, health, welfare, and school associations, we urge you to **vote NO** on Assembly Bill 1337, which will impose significant costs and liability on the State and local governments and jeopardize essential service delivery without any clear benefits for the communities we serve. AB 1337 would:

- **Vastly expand legal liability for state and local agencies** by imposing the Information Practices Act upon local governments and revising its provisions in a way that invites vexatious litigation;
- **Complicate data sharing** among local governments and the State, creating unanswered questions about how local governments can conduct routine data sharing needed to coordinate resources and **undermines accountability** and oversight in how local agencies deliver essential services;
- **Risk loss of federal funds** by prohibiting data sharing with the federal government *unless authorized by state law*, which could compel the Legislature to enact several laws to clarify that data sharing can occur, or risk losing federal funds;
- **Restrict responses to unlawful activity** by requiring local agencies to obtain permission by a suspect before they could report them to law enforcement if they learned about the suspect's identity through provision of services;
- **Provide no resources or time to comply**, as the bill would take effect just a few months after enactment, with no appropriation or State support for local agencies; and
- **Is unnecessary** given the breadth of privacy laws which local governments are already required to comply, including election privacy, the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA) for Medi-Cal beneficiaries and those receiving care at public hospitals, California Penal Code § 111675 for case records related to child protective services claims, and, for school districts, the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), among an array of other laws, creating **potential conflicts and redundancies** with those laws.

Vote NO on AB 1337