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SENATE FLOOR ALERT

SB 137 (DODD) – Federal transportation funds: state exchange programs As Introduced on January 15, 2019 – SUPPORT Senate Third Reading File

The California State Association of Counties (CSAC) is proud to sponsor SB 137 by Senator Dodd. This bill would allow the state, regions, cities and counties to reduce the cost of transportation projects and provide for more projects to be completed with the same amount of revenue by expanding the existing Match Exchange Program to include eligibility for larger regions and for local safety and bridge projects. The existing program, which is limited to small regions, allows the exchange of federal funds for state funds to expedite project delivery by eliminating the need for additional federal review.

Counties have estimated that the federal aid process adds anywhere from fifteen to forty percent to the cost of a project; especially for smaller projects. This bill does not require, but authorizes, the state to expand the Match Exchange Program to the extent that state funds are available and that the additional exchanges would not compromise other state funded projects or activities.

For these reasons, CSAC respectfully asks for your **AYE** vote on SB 137. Should you have any questions regarding our position, please do not hesitate to contact Chris Lee at 916.650.8180 or clee@counties.org.