



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

CITY HALL

CITY OF SONORA 94 N. WASHINGTON STREET, SONORA, CA 95370 P: (209) 532-4541

SERVICE, INNOVATION, INTEGRITY, COLLABORATION, RESPECT, LEADERSHIP

DATE: June 15, 2026

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

FROM: Chris Gorsky, City Administrator

SUBJECT: Implementation of Assembly Bill 2561, Local Public Employees: Vacant Positions

RECOMMENDATION:

Receive a Report Regarding the Implementation of Assembly Bill 2561 (AB 2561) – Local Public Employees Vacant Positions.

BACKGROUND:

On September 22, 2024, Governor Gavin Newsom signed AB 2561 into law, amending the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act (MMBA) by adding Section 3502.3 to the California Government Code. The legislation addresses the issue of high vacancy rates within local public agencies and aims to enhance transparency and collaboration between public agencies and recognized employee organizations concerning recruitment and retention efforts.

DISCUSSION / ANALYSIS:

Key Provisions of AB 2561:

1. Annual Public Hearing Requirement:

- Public agencies are mandated to present the status of vacancies, recruitment, and retention efforts at a public hearing before the governing body at least once per fiscal year.
- If the agency adopts an annual or multiyear budget during the fiscal year, the presentation must occur prior to the adoption of the final budget.

2. Employee Organization Participation:

- Recognized employee organizations are entitled to make presentations during the public hearing concerning vacancies and related efforts within their respective bargaining units.

3. Additional Reporting for High Vacancy Rates:

- If vacancies within a single bargaining unit meet or exceed 20% of the total authorized full-time positions, and upon request from the recognized employee organization, the agency must provide:
 - The total number of job vacancies and applicants within the bargaining unit.
 - The average number of days to complete the hiring process from the posting of the position.
 - Opportunities to improve compensation and other working conditions.

As of the current reporting period, none of the City of Sonora's recognized bargaining units have vacancy rates exceeding twenty percent (20%) of their total authorized full-time positions. Therefore, the City is not subject to the additional reporting provisions outlined in Government Code Section 3502.3(d) under Assembly Bill 2561.



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FISCAL IMPACT:

While AB 2561 does not provide state funding for implementation, the legislation imposes an additional state-mandated administrative requirement on local agencies. Compliance will require staff time and resources for data collection, analysis, public noticing, reporting, and the facilitation of required public hearings. At this time, these responsibilities are anticipated to be absorbed within existing departmental budgets; however, staff will continue to monitor workload and associated costs and will report any significant fiscal impacts that may arise in the future.

CORE COUNCIL PRIORITIES:

Fiscal Responsibility and Stability, Infrastructure and Engineering, Public Safety and Disaster Preparedness, Economic Development/Growth and General Plan, Homelessness Issues, Staffing - Salary, Benefits, Training, and Retention