



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Monday, October 1, 2012

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## **Galgiani's Bill Allowing Transfer Of San Joaquin Valley Amtrak Management To A Valley Authority is Signed by the Governor**

### ***AB 1779 Will Allow Local Government Agencies From Sacramento to Bakersfield to Form a Joint Powers Authority Which Will Take Over Management of San Joaquin Valley Amtrak***

**Sacramento** – On Saturday, the “Intercity Passenger Rail Act of 2012” authored by Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani (D – Stockton) was signed by the Governor. Assembly Bill 1779 reauthorizes regional government agencies’ ability to form a Joint Powers Authority for the San Joaquin Corridor.

“I am so pleased the Governor signed this important bill”, expressed Galgiani. “Local and Regional Government and Transportation Agency officials from Bakersfield to Sacramento have been working together to make improvements to the service in the Valley by creating a structure to administer state supported intercity passenger service. This legislation will provide Valley communities with a stronger voice in advocating for service improvements and expansions, local decision-making that is more responsive and adaptive to passenger issues, better marketing and partnerships with local agencies and more local support.”

Following the model of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority, AB 1779 is permissive legislation which would enable regional governance/management of the existing San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service between Bakersfield-Fresno-Stockton-Sacramento-Oakland. The bill also protects existing sources of local or regional funding from being used to expand or maintain the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and requires that the transfer must result in administrative or operating cost reductions.

“As a Valley-managed corridor, the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service could result in expanded service, and increases in ridership and revenue – similar to the administration of the Capitol Corridor System under governance of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority,” declared Tony Boren, Executive Director for Fresno Council of Governments speaking on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, one of the sponsors of the legislation.

“In crafting this legislation a strong partnership was developed between the San Joaquin Valley, the East Bay, and the Sacramento region and an extensive coalition in the Central Valley in support of my bill”, stated Galgiani. “Increases in San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and ridership will result in more jobs, improved air quality, and will help promote sustainable development in the Valley. I am so proud of the hard work of my office and the sponsors of AB 1779. The whole coalition of sponsors and supporters for improvements for intercity rail service, in addition to the support of this Administration, will truly be a great asset to the state.”

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Thursday, April 26, 2012

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## **Assemblymember Galgiani's Intercity Rail Bill Passes Its Second Assembly Committee**

**Sacramento** – This week, the “Intercity Passenger Rail Act of 2012” authored by Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani (D – Stockton) passed the Assembly Local Government Committee on a bipartisan vote of 7-1. Assembly Bill 1779 reauthorizes regional government agencies’ ability to form a Joint Powers Authority for the San Joaquin Corridor and the time to execute a transfer agreement with the Department of Transportation to transfer the administrative responsibility of the San Joaquin Intercity Passenger Rail Service to this local Authority by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013. Last week, the bill unanimously passed out of the Assembly Transportation Committee.

“As a Valley managed corridor, the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service could result in expanded service, and increases in ridership and revenue – similar to the administration of the Capitol Corridor System under governance of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority,” declared Tony Boren, Executive Director for Fresno Council of Governments speaking on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council. “Increases in San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and ridership will result in more jobs, improved air quality, and will help promote sustainable development in the Valley.”

Following the model of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority, AB 1779 is permissive legislation which would enable regional governance/management of the existing San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service between Bakersfield-Fresno-Stockton-Sacramento-San Francisco Bay Area. The bill also protects existing sources of local or regional funding from being used to expand or maintain the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and requires that the transfer must result in administrative or operating cost reductions.

“Local and Regional Government and Transportation Agency officials from Bakersfield to Sacramento have been working together to make improvements to the service in the Valley by creating a structure to administer state supported intercity passenger service,” expressed Galgiani. “This would provide Valley communities with a stronger voice in advocating for service improvements and expansions, local decision-making that is more responsive and adaptive to passenger issues, better marketing and partnerships with local agencies and more local support.”

The bill is sponsored and supported by the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, Sacramento Regional Transit, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission, and the Central Valley Rail Working Group (made up of 20 agencies from Sacramento to Merced).

The bill now moves forward to the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
Wednesday, May 30, 2012

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## **Galgiani's Bill Allowing Transfer Of San Joaquin Valley Amtrak Management To A Valley Authority Passes the Assembly**

***AB 1779 Will Allow Local Government Agencies From Sacramento to Bakersfield to Form a Joint Powers Authority Which Will Take Over Management of San Joaquin Valley Amtrak***

**Sacramento** – Today the “Intercity Passenger Rail Act of 2012” authored by Assemblymember Cathleen Galgiani (D – Stockton) passed the Assembly Floor overwhelmingly on a bipartisan vote of 62-9. Assembly Bill 1779 reauthorizes regional government agencies’ ability to form a Joint Powers Authority for the San Joaquin Corridor and the time to execute a transfer agreement with the Department of Transportation to transfer the administrative responsibility of the San Joaquin Intercity Passenger Rail Service to this local Authority by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

“Local and Regional Government and Transportation Agency officials from Bakersfield to Sacramento have been working together to make improvements to the service in the Valley by creating a structure to administer state supported intercity passenger service,” expressed Galgiani. “This would provide Valley communities with a stronger voice in advocating for service improvements and expansions, local decision-making that is more responsive and adaptive to passenger issues, better marketing and partnerships with local agencies and more local support.”

Following the model of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority, AB 1779 is permissive legislation which would enable regional governance/management of the existing San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service between Bakersfield-Fresno-Stockton-Sacramento-Oakland. The bill also protects existing sources of local or regional funding from being used to expand or maintain the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and requires that the transfer must result in administrative or operating cost reductions.

“As a Valley-managed corridor, the San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service could result in expanded service, and increases in ridership and revenue – similar to the administration of the Capitol Corridor System under governance of the Capitol Corridor Joint Powers Authority,” declared Tony Boren, Executive Director for Fresno Council of Governments speaking on behalf of the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, one of the sponsors of the legislation. “Increases in San Joaquin intercity passenger rail service and ridership will result in more jobs, improved air quality, and will help promote sustainable development in the Valley.”

The bill is co-sponsored by the San Joaquin Valley Regional Policy Council, the Central Valley Rail Working Group, San Joaquin Regional Rail Commission and Sacramento Regional Transit, and additionally supported by numerous cities, counties and entities.

The bill now moves to the Senate.

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