

**SUNSHINE ORDINANCE  
TASK FORCE**



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SUNSHINE ORDINANCE TASK FORCE OPPOSES  
ANTI-SUNSHINE PROPOSALS IN STATE BUDGET**

June 13, 2013

San Francisco's Sunshine Ordinance Task Force is urging Gov. Jerry Brown and several key state legislators to remove from the state's 2013-14 budget a pair of proposals that would sharply diminish access to public records in the courts and in local governments.

The Task Force "is deeply troubled by proposals in the draft budget ... that would (1) impose fees for access to court records and (2) halt reimbursements to local entities, such as city and county governments, school districts and community college districts, for expenses incurred in complying with State-enacted public records mandates," Task Force Chair Kitt Grant said in the letter that went out.

"While balancing budgets is a daunting task for governments at all levels, history has repeatedly shown that sunshine effects net savings to taxpayers," she continued, "Moreover, the above-cited budgetary proposals would violate the spirit if not the letter of State Constitution Article I, Section 3, which enshrines into the State Constitution the right of the people to know about their governments' actions and policies and the underlying reasons thereof.

"The Task Force strongly urges that you withdraw the above-cited budgetary proposals."

Recipients besides Brown are Mark Leno (D-San Francisco), chair of the Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee; Noreen Evans (D-Santa Rosa), chair of the Senate Judiciary Committee; Sen. Leland Yee (D-San Francisco); Bob Blumenfeld (D-Santa Monica), chair of the Assembly Budget Committee; Bob Wieckowski (D-Fremont), chair of the Assembly Judiciary Committee; and Assemblymen Tom Ammiano and Phil Ting (both D-San Francisco).

The Task Force is an 11-member, all-volunteer body that monitors city policy and advisory bodies', departments' and agencies' compliance with state and city open meetings and public records laws, and advises San Francisco's Board of Supervisors on ways to make the city laws, known collectively as the Sunshine Ordinance, work as they should.

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