

**County Executive**

Ann Edwards

**Governmental Relations and  
Legislative Officer**

Elisia De Bord

**County of  
Sacramento****Board of Supervisors**

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September 13, 2023

The Honorable Gavin Newsom  
Governor of California  
1021 O Street, Suite 9000  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Re: AB 534 (McCarty). Local Agencies: Airports: Customer Facility Charges – Request  
for Signature**

Dear Governor Newsom,

On behalf of the Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, I respectfully request that you sign AB 534 (McCarty). This bill preserves the ability of Sacramento International Airport and other airports across the state to continue making critical infrastructure investments that create jobs, improve customer service, modernize the airport experience, and facilitate the transition to low-carbon transportation alternatives across our state, and to do so without reliance on taxpayer funds.

Passage of AB 534 will eliminate the sunset date for the alternative airport rental car Customer Facility Charge (CFC) that requires airports to issue CFC-backed debt by January 1, 2024, or lose the ability to collect the CFC to fund Rental Car facilities. As the Airport and Aviation industries continue to recover from the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the removal of these restrictions are vital to ensure that airports and their rental car provider partners retain flexibility in the timing and structure of major investments.

**Facility Investments at Sacramento International Airport**

The Sacramento County Department of Airports recently announced plans for a series of significant investments at Sacramento International Airport totaling more than \$1.3 billion known as "SMForward", with a completion target of 2027. Sacramento International Airport is one of the fastest growing airports in the nation in terms of passenger volume, and has already exceeded pre-pandemic passenger counts. The airport serves as a key gateway to the state capital, and was named the best midsize airport in the nation by the Wall Street Journal in 2023.

The largest project of the SMForward program consists of a new, nearly \$400 million Consolidated Rental Car Facility. This facility will eliminate the need for shuttling of rental

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car customers to a location remote from the terminals, and will allow the Department to offer a higher level of service. Due to the project's complexity as well as the scale of enabling projects that precede it, passage of AB 534 will provide critical flexibility in timing to ensure that the Department is able to secure financing for the project at a time that ensures resources are put to their highest and best use.

AB 534 will provide airports with the ability to make efficient, local decisions that are consistent with individual airport capital project planning and ensure funds are spent wisely.

For these reasons, Sacramento County asks that you sign AB 534. Please feel free to contact me at (916) 874-4627 or [deborde@saccounty.gov](mailto:deborde@saccounty.gov).

Sincerely,



Elisia De Bord  
Governmental Relations and Legislative Officer

cc: Hon. Kevin McCarty  
Sacramento County Delegation  
Chair and Members, Sacramento County Board of Supervisors