



# County of Monterey

## Item No.6

### Board Report

Board of Supervisors  
Chambers  
168 W. Alisal St., 1st Floor  
Salinas, CA 93901

Legistar File Number: 26-272

March 30, 2026

**Introduced:** 3/18/2026

**Current Status:** Agenda Ready

**Version:** 1

**Matter Type:** General Agenda Item

- a. Receive a Presentation on the Brown Act Modernization Act - Senate Bill 707; and
- b. Approve implementation of Eligible Subsidiary Body remote participation option per Senate Bill 707 (See, Gov. Code § 54953.8.6).

#### RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Economic Development Committee:

- a. Receive a presentation on the Brown Act Modernization Act - Senate Bill 707; and
- b. Approve implementation on Eligible Subsidiary Body remote participation option per Senate Bill 707 (See, Gov. Code § 54953.8.6).

#### SUMMARY:

Senate Bill 707, signed into law in October 2025 and known as the Brown Act Modernization Act, updates California's Ralph M. Brown Act (Gov. Code § 54950 et seq.) to modernize open meeting requirements and expand public access. Key changes include enhanced remote participation options via telephonic or audiovisual platforms, guidance on addressing technical disruptions during remote meetings to maintain access and continuity, and enhanced outreach efforts and policies to promote broader and more equitable public engagement. It also reorganizes teleconferencing rules and adds specific provisions for alternative remote participation by eligible subsidiary bodies, among other entities, while maintaining core transparency and public access principles.

#### DISCUSSION:

This item seeks approval to implement the remote teleconference participation option for eligible subsidiary bodies under Government Code § 54953.8.6, as added by SB 707 (the Brown Act Modernization Act). This provision allows advisory subsidiary bodies—those that serve exclusively in an advisory capacity, take no final action on matters such as legislation, contracts, permits, entitlements, grants, or fund allocations, and lack primary jurisdiction over sensitive topics like elections, budgets, police oversight, privacy, library access restrictions, or taxes/spending—to conduct meetings via teleconference, subject to specific requirements. These include designating at least one physical location within the parent legislative body's boundaries for in-person attendance by non-remote members and the public (with staff present), requiring remote participants to appear on camera and audio, and obtaining necessary findings and approvals. The parent legislative body—the Monterey County Board of Supervisors—has already approved the authorization for eligible subsidiary bodies to utilize this teleconferencing option.

If the Economic Development Committee wishes to adopt this flexibility for (eligible) member attendance at future committee meetings, the committee will need to review and formally approve its use.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/COMMITTEE ACTIONS:

Staff consulted with Office of County Counsel.

FINANCING:

Receiving this report has no financial impact.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS:

*The opportunity for the Economic Development Committee to receive this presentation supports the Board approved strategic plan.*

Mark a check to the related Board of Supervisors Strategic Plan Goals:

This assists with attracting and retaining businesses that will improve the well-being of County residents.

- Well-Being and Quality of Life
- Sustainable Infrastructure for the Present and Future
- Safe and Resilient Communities
- Diverse and Thriving Economy

Link to the Strategic Plan:

<https://www.countyofmonterey.gov/home/showdocument?id=139569>

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