This brief is being provided to inform the Board, staff and public of the details of an agenda item that requires action from the Board. The President of the Board will provide board members, staff, and the public the opportunity to ask questions about this topic when this agenda item is announced.

**Date:**March 9, 2021

**Originator:** Cary Curtis

**Purpose**: Proposed Policy - 1055 Legislative Advocacy Policy

**Supporting Documents Included: Yes**  - Proposed Policy 1055

**Desired Action by the Board:**  First reading by the board of new Policy #1055 Legislative Advocacy Policy. The board may choose to waive the second reading and adopt recommendation as presented. Current policy requires a 3/5th majority affirmative vote of the entire membership of the board to adopt this policy.

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1. **Description:**

This new policy is intended to guide Gold Mountain CSD officials and staff in considering legislative advocacy for proposals that are likely to have an impact on the District. The Policy was drafted verbatim from the current CSDA Policy template, with minor amendments from GM CSD Staff.

1. **Reason for Recommended Board Action -** (*Consider compliance, cost savings, fixing a problem*):

There is currently no GM CSD Policy on this topic and the Policy Committee recommends that one is

adopted to ensure appropriate response to advocacy requests.

1. **Anticipated Impacts to the District (negative and/or positive) -** (*Consider financial impact, change in procedures, customer and staff communication and effect if recommendations are not adopted*):

Minor impact to administrative procedures.

1. **Anticipated Impacts to the Customer –** *Standby, Residential, Commercial***:**

None anticipated.

1. **Recommendation (s):**

Review new Policy #1055 with a recommendation that the board accept the new Policy.

**POLICY TITLE: Legislative Advocacy Policy**

**POLICY NUMBER: 1055**

1055 Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to guide Gold Mountain CSD officials and staff in considering legislative or regulatory proposals that are likely to have an impact on the District, and to allow for a timely response to important legislative issues. Although the expenditure of public funds for the purpose of supporting or opposing a ballot measure or candidate is prohibited, the expenditure of public funds is allowed to advocate for or against proposed legislation or regulatory actions which will affect the public agency expending the funds.

1055.1 Legislative Advocacy Goals and Priorities

The purpose for identifying Legislative Advocacy Goals and Priorities is to provide clear direction to Gold Mountain CSD staff with regard to monitoring and acting upon bills during state and federal legislative sessions. Adherence to Legislative Advocacy Goals will ensure that legislative inquiries and responses will be administered consistently with “one voice” to the identified Advocacy Priorities adopted by the Board of Directors. The Legislative Advocacy Goals and Priorities provides the Gold Mountain CSD General Manager and the Executive Committee of the Board of Directors discretion to advocate in Gold Mountain CSD’s best interests on proposed legislation consistent with the goals and priorities adopted by the Board of Directors. This policy is intended to be manageable, consistent, and tailored to the specific needs and culture of Gold Mountain CSD.

Goals and Priorities:

* Advocate the Gold Mountain CSD legislative interests at the State, County, and Federal levels.
* Inform and provide information to the Board of Directors and district staff on key issues and legislation that could have a potential impact on the district.
* Serve as an active participant with other local governments, the California Special Districts Association, and local government associations on legislative and regulatory issues that are important to the district and the region, such as Labor Practices for Small Districts, Water Quality and Usage, Fire Protection and Wastewater Management.
* Seek grant and funding assistance for Gold Mountain CSD projects, services, and programs to enhance services for the community.
* The decision to advocate for or against legislative must be related to, and in alignment with, GM CSD’s ability to provide services as described by the District charter.