

Essential Summary of the Little Hoover Commission's

SPECIAL DISTRICTS: RELICS OF THE PAST OR RESOURCES FOR THE FUTURE?

Findings

- Programs and budgets are largely “invisible” to the public
- Large reserves are “not integrated into regional and statewide plans”

Recommendations

- Improve public involvement and scrutiny
- Facilitate more consolidations
- More vigorous review of public resources
- Give LAFCOs a greater leadership role

Recommended Specific Budget Actions

- Financial information published in a standardized format
- Reserve plans and policies
- Trend analysis and future projections
- Tax contribution by property owners
- Visible benefits and compensation
- Performance measures developed
- Tax versus fee balance considered