Mosquito and Vector Control as Special Districts: Opportunities and challenges

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Abstract

According to the 2017 National Association of County and City Health Officials (NACCHO) Report: *Mosquito Control Capabilities in the U.S.*, dedicated mosquito and vector control districts provide more competent mosquito control than local health departments and other city or local governmental agencies. Dedicated mosquito and vector control districts mean "special districts" with a board and staff focused exclusively on this issue. In California, most mosquito and vector control agencies are organized as independent special districts. My presentation will address several important questions: What makes this form of government so special? What threats do special districts face in our current political environment? And, how can special districts and other leaders promote their story and ensure the continued delivery of effective mosquito abatement and vector control?