

2025-26 SESSION

**SENATE
THIRD READING PACKET**

THURSDAY, JUNE 25, 2026



OFFICE OF SENATE FLOOR ANALYSES
651-4171

SENATE THIRD READING PACKET

Attached are analyses of bills on the Daily File for Thursday, June 25, 2026.

<u>Note</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Location</u>
	SCA 5	Cortese	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 89	Smallwood-Cuevas	Unfinished Business
	SCR 113	Grove	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 142	Becker	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 145	Weber Pierson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 182	Seyarto	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 184	Niello	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 185	Caballero	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 186	Grayson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 188	Pérez	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 189	Rubio	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 190	Cabaldon	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SJR 7	Cervantes	Unfinished Business
	SJR 16	Caballero	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 67	Blakespear	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 108	Hurtado	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 109	Menjivar	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 113	Choi	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 118	Niello	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 119	Caballero	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 120	Cabaldon	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 34	Patterson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 35	Alvarez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 96	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 110	Gabriel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 122	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 125	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 177	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 350	Bonta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 739	Jackson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 939	Schultz	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1377	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1448	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1526	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1551	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1562	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1573	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1587	Ta	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1601	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1632	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1637	Caloza	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1651	Dixon	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1653	Lackey	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1656	Davies	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1657	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

<u>Note</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Location</u>
	AB 1659	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1665	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1683	Committee on Insurance	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1713	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1736	Pellerin	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1766	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1792	Michelle Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1809	Fong	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1817	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1860	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1875	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1894	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1910	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1944	Lee	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1974	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1977	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2001	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2004	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2041	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2052	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2067	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2078	Rogers	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2090	Macedo	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2107	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2121	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2128	Haney	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2147	Schiavo	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2173	Wallis	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2179	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2180	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2233	Ta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2248	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2262	Michelle Rodriguez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2292	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2297	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2305	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2320	Ta	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2331	Nguyen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2402	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2421	Valencia	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2458	Bennett	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2476	Ellis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2503	Wallis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2532	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2561	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2568	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2636	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2641	Michelle Rodriguez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2652	Sharp-Collins	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2655	Valencia	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

<u>Note</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Location</u>
+	<u>AB 2663</u>	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2697</u>	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2713</u>	Wicks	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2731</u>	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2751</u>	Alvarez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2760</u>	Sharp-Collins	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2764</u>	Ahrens	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2789</u>	Committee on Judiciary	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	<u>AB 2791</u>	Committee on Natural Resources	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	<u>AB 2792</u>	Committee on Governmental Organization	Consent Calendar First Legislative Day
+	<u>AB 2793</u>	Committee on Governmental Organization	Consent Calendar First Legislative Day
	<u>ACR 107</u>	Bauer-Kahan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 149</u>	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 159</u>	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 165</u>	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 173</u>	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 176</u>	Elhawary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 191</u>	Stefani	Special Consent Calendar No.29
+	<u>ACR 193</u>	Aguiar-Curry	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 206</u>	Stefani	Special Consent Calendar No.29
	<u>ACR 211</u>	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 214</u>	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 215</u>	Petrie-Norris	Special Consent Calendar No.29
+	<u>ACR 219</u>	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 220</u>	Nguyen	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 223</u>	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AJR 27</u>	Harabedian	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	<u>AJR 29</u>	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCA 5
Author: Cortese (D)
Amended: 5/26/26
Vote: 27

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/3/26
AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ochoa Bogh

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/15/26
AYES: Cervantes, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NO VOTE RECORDED: Seyarto, Cabaldon, Dahle

SUBJECT: Education finance: Education Equalization Act: Equalization
Reserve Account

SOURCE: Silicon Valley Education Foundation

DIGEST: This constitutional amendment proposes a constitutional framework to establish the Equalization Reserve Account (ERA), a new state education endowment intended to increase per-pupil funding for non-basic aid school districts. This constitutional amendment requires annual transfers from the General Fund into the ERA in amounts equal to deposits made into the Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA), exclude ERA deposits and allocations from Proposition 98 and Gann Limit calculations, and restricts expenditures from the account to interest earnings used for equalization funding for non-basic aid districts.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes Proposition 98, approved by voters in 1988, which constitutionally guarantees a minimum annual funding level for K–14 education based on specified economic and fiscal conditions. (California Constitution, Article XVI, Section 8)
- 2) Establishes the PSSSA, approved by voters through Proposition 2 (2014), to stabilize education funding during economic downturns. (California Constitution, Article XVI, Section 21)
- 3) Requires deposits into the PSSSA under specified fiscal conditions, including when capital gains revenues exceed a specified threshold, Proposition 98 Test 1 applies, and maintenance factor obligations have been retired. (California Constitution, Article XVI, Section 21)
- 4) Establishes the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF), which allocates funding to school districts primarily based on average daily attendance (ADA) and student characteristics, including supplemental and concentration grants for districts serving higher proportions of low-income students, English learners, and foster youth. (Education Code (EC) § 42238.02)
- 5) Defines a “basic aid school district” or “excess tax entity” as a district whose local property tax revenues exceed its LCFF entitlement, resulting in no regular LCFF state aid apportionment. (EC § 42238.02)
- 6) Imposes annual state and local appropriations limits under Article XIII B of the California Constitution (commonly referred to as the Gann Limit), restricting growth in government spending based on population growth and inflation.

This constitutional amendment:

- 1) Establishes the ERA in the General Fund.
- 2) Requires the Controller, in any fiscal year in which Proposition 98 funding increases over the prior fiscal year, to transfer from the General Fund into the ERA an amount equal to the total amount transferred into the PSSSA for that fiscal year.
- 3) Requires the transfer calculation to include all reductions, suspensions, and adjustments applicable to the PSSSA.
- 4) Requires that if the constitutional provisions governing the PSSSA are amended after January 1, 2026, ERA transfers instead be calculated based on what the

PSSSA transfer would have been under the January 1, 2026 version of the Constitution.

- 5) Specifies that only interest earned on funds in the ERA may be appropriated.
- 6) Prohibits expenditure of principal deposited into the ERA.
- 7) Requires that appropriated interest earnings be used solely to increase per-pupil funding for non-basic aid school districts.
- 8) Requires the Legislature to allocate at least 80% of ERA interest earnings annually to increase per-pupil funding in non-basic aid school districts.
- 9) Defines “basic aid school district” as a district that did not receive LCFF state aid in any of the preceding three fiscal years.
- 10) Defines “non-basic aid school district” as a district that received LCFF state aid in any of the preceding three fiscal years.
- 11) Authorizes the Legislature to suspend required ERA transfers in years when average per-pupil funding in non-basic aid school districts equals or exceeds average per-pupil funding in basic aid school districts.
- 12) Excludes ERA transfers and allocations from Proposition 98 minimum funding calculations.
- 13) Excludes ERA transfers and allocations from state appropriations subject to limitation under Article XIII B of the California Constitution (Gann Limit).

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “SCA 5, the Education Equalization Act, is intended to help California move toward statewide equalization of per-pupil funding so that every student has a fair opportunity to succeed, thrive, and access the school resources they need. California has attempted to make progress toward school funding equity through the Local Control Funding Formula, but that progress remains incomplete, while students in different districts continue to experience growing differences in per-pupil support. Over the last 40-plus years, California’s school finance structure has allowed these per-pupil funding disparities to persist and grow, even as the state has adopted

reforms intended to make school funding more equitable. A student's access to opportunity should not depend on where they live.

"SCA 5 establishes the Equalization Reserve Account in the General Fund to provide supplemental funding to non-basic-aid school districts over time to narrow per-pupil funding gaps statewide. The measure does not reduce, redirect, or alter existing Proposition 98 funding. The goal is to build a constitutionally guaranteed, stable, and protected structure that helps bring California closer to equalized per-pupil funding while preserving existing school funding guarantees."

- 2) *The LCFF represented a major advancement in educational equity, though funding disparities remain.* Before the enactment of the LCFF in 2013, California's education finance system relied heavily on revenue limits and numerous categorical programs that created substantial funding disparities among school districts while limiting local flexibility. The LCFF represented a significant restructuring of California school finance by simplifying funding streams, increasing transparency, and directing additional resources toward districts serving higher concentrations of low-income students, English learners, and foster youth.

Research on the LCFF has generally found positive impacts on student outcomes. Recent analyses by the Learning Policy Institute (LPI) found that LCFF-related increases in per-pupil spending improved student achievement, graduation rates, college readiness, and other educational outcomes, particularly for students exposed to increased funding over longer periods of time.

At the same time, discussions regarding how to improve California's school finance system remain ongoing. Recent policy conversations have focused largely on issues such as base grant adequacy, concentration grant targeting, and transitioning from attendance-based funding to enrollment-based funding. Comparatively little recent research has focused specifically on funding disparities between basic aid and non-basic aid districts, despite the significant local property tax variations that exist across California.

- 3) *SCA 5 would create a constitutionally protected education equalization endowment.* While this measure characterizes the ERA as a reserve account, its structure more closely resembles a constitutionally protected endowment. Unlike traditional reserve structures intended to be expended during fiscal downturns or emergencies, this measure permanently prohibits expenditure of

ERA principal. Only interest earned on the account may be appropriated, and only for equalization funding for non-basic aid districts.

As a result, the measure would continuously transfer General Fund dollars into an account whose principal balance could grow indefinitely over time. The Legislature would retain no authority to spend those deposited funds for any other purpose, absent another constitutional amendment approved by the voters.

The Committee may wish to consider the long-term fiscal implications of permanently dedicating potentially significant General Fund resources in this manner, particularly given the state's existing obligations and competing non-Proposition 98 priorities.

- 4) *The measure effectively creates a second PSSSA-style funding obligation outside Proposition 98.* This measure creates what is effectively a parallel education reserve structure outside the Proposition 98 guarantee. Under existing law, qualifying fiscal conditions trigger mandatory deposits into the PSSSA using Proposition 98 resources. Under this measure, those same conditions would simultaneously trigger matching deposits from the non-Proposition 98 side of the General Fund into the ERA.

As a result, during strong economic years, the state could be required to make two substantial education-related reserve deposits: one within Proposition 98 through the PSSSA and one outside Proposition 98 through the ERA.

This “double payment” structure could significantly increase pressure on the non-Proposition 98 side of the state budget, which funds numerous other major state responsibilities, including health and human services, higher education, developmental services, corrections, and climate-related programs.

- 5) *Immediate fiscal obligations may significantly exceed near-term equalization benefits.* Because only interest earnings may be appropriated, there may be a substantial mismatch between the state's immediate fiscal obligations and the amount of near-term equalization funding generated by the ERA.

For example, a multi-billion-dollar ERA balance could initially generate comparatively modest annual investment earnings relative to the size of the required General Fund deposits needed to capitalize the account. While the long-term compounding effect of investment growth could eventually generate substantial equalization funding, the measure requires the state to permanently

commit large sums of General Fund resources long before those long-term benefits fully materialize.

The Committee may wish to consider whether permanently locking away substantial General Fund resources is the most effective mechanism for addressing school funding disparities.

- 6) *The measure relies heavily on constitutional exemptions from both Proposition 98 and the Gann Limit.* The measure excludes ERA transfers and allocations from both: (1) Proposition 98 minimum funding calculations; and (2) the Gann Limit.

These exclusions are central to the operation of the proposal. Without them, ERA deposits could increase Proposition 98 obligations or consume appropriations limit capacity, potentially creating unintended fiscal consequences and undermining the measure's intended structure.

The breadth of these constitutional exemptions reflects both the complexity and fiscal scale of the proposal. The Committee may wish to consider the long-term implications of creating a constitutionally protected funding structure operating largely outside the state's traditional budgetary constraints.

- 7) *The author has taken steps to better account for marginal basic aid districts, though the proposal still paints basic aid districts with a broad brush.* SB 743 (Cortese, 2025), the companion measure to this constitutional amendment, was amended to better account for districts near the basic aid threshold by defining non-basic aid districts as districts that received LCFF state aid in any of the preceding three fiscal years. This change addresses concerns regarding “basic aid flippers”—districts that move in and out of basic aid status due to relatively small changes in enrollment or local property tax revenues.

According to 2023-24 state funding data, 139 school districts were classified as basic aid. Of these, 16 exceeded their LCFF entitlement by less than 5%, and 32 exceeded it by less than 10%, indicating that a meaningful number of districts are only marginally above the basic aid threshold. Conversely, 20 non-basic aid districts received less than 5% of their LCFF entitlement from the state, and 40 received less than 10%, indicating similarly narrow margins on the non-basic aid side.

At the same time, substantial variation exists among basic aid districts themselves. While some districts generate local property tax revenues only modestly above their LCFF entitlement, others receive per-pupil funding levels many times greater than what they would otherwise receive under the LCFF. Recent statewide funding data show basic aid districts ranging from roughly \$11,000 per pupil to nearly \$100,000 per pupil in total funding.

As a result, while the author's most recent amendments reflect a more nuanced approach than earlier versions of the proposal, the measure still generally categorizes districts using a binary basic aid/non-basic aid framework despite the wide fiscal variation that exists among basic aid districts. The Committee may wish to consider whether additional differentiation among basic aid districts may be warranted if the goal of the measure is to address funding inequities in a more targeted and proportional manner.

- 8) *Relationship between SCA 5, companion measure SB 743, and future implementing legislation.* This measure and SB 743 (Cortese, 2025) operate together as companion measures. SCA 5 establishes the constitutional authority for the ERA, including the required General Fund transfers, the exclusion of ERA funds from Proposition 98 and Gann Limit calculations, and the restriction that only interest earnings may be appropriated for equalization purposes. SB 743 establishes the initial statutory framework implementing the ERA and conditions its operation on voter approval of this measure.

Together, these measures establish the constitutional and statutory foundation for a new education equalization funding structure. However, substantial future legislation would still be required to determine how the ERA would function in practice. Significant unresolved issues include how equalization funding would be distributed among eligible districts, how per-pupil funding disparities would be measured, what percentage of annual interest earnings would be appropriated, and how the state would determine when funding disparities between basic aid and non-basic aid districts have sufficiently narrowed to justify suspending future ERA deposits.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Silicon Valley Education Foundation (source)
Association of California School Administrators
Bay Area Tutoring Association

California School Employees Association
DJM Capital
East Side Education Foundation
East Side Union High School District
Hispanic Foundation of Silicon Valley
Latino Education Advancement Foundation
Legislative Action Committee - Santa Clara County School Boards Association
Milpitas Unified School District
Santa Clara County School Boards Association
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
SOMOS Mayfair
Two Individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

California Charter Schools Association
California Teachers Association
Charter Schools Development Center

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/16/26 16:43:09

**** **END** ****

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SCR 89
Author: Smallwood-Cuevas (D), et al.
Amended: 3/20/26
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-1, 7/8/25

AYES: Umberg, Allen, Arreguín, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Stern, Wahab,
Weber Pierson, Wiener

NOES: Niello

NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE FLOOR: 29-7, 2/19/26

AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon,
Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird,
Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NOES: Alvarado-Gil, Dahle, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Grove, Reyes, Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: Adopted via voice vote, 6/15/26

SUBJECT: Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution affirms the Legislature's commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) principles at a time when DEI efforts and programs are under attack.

Assembly Amendments added co-authors.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. (United States Constitution (U.S. Const.), 14th Amend., § 1.)
- 2) Provides that a person may not be denied the equal protection of the laws, and that a citizen or class of citizens may not be granted privileges or immunities not granted on the same terms to all citizens. (California Constitution (Cal. Const.), art. I, § 7.)
- 3) Provides that Congress shall make no law abridging the freedom of speech. (U.S. Const., 1st amend.)

This resolution:

- 1) Declares that:
 - a) The American Dream has been a beacon of hope for generations.
 - b) The American Dream embodies the ideals of opportunity, prosperity, and upward mobility, promising that every person should have the chance to achieve what they themselves define as success and fulfillment through hard work and determination.
 - c) Many today feel that their American Dream is unattainable.
 - d) The American Dream belongs to all of us.
 - e) Our highest accomplishments as a state and nation have been achieved when we harness the strengths of all people regardless of their identities to overcome our greatest challenges.
 - f) DEI is a centuries-old movement deeply rooted in America's founding principles and its subsequent legacy of civil rights and social justice efforts aimed at delivering the laws, policies, and initiatives that enable America to live up to our Constitution's promises.
 - g) DEI policies, from the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution to the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, among others, reflect the corrective legislative and legal actions taken across our nation's history to expand and guarantee access to the educational, economic, and civic obligations and capacities of our nation.

- h) California has been a leader in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within the California state service to achieve equitable work cultures.
- i) Governor Newsom signed an executive order directing state agencies and departments to take additional actions to embed equity analysis and considerations in their mission, policies, and practices and establishing the Racial Equity Commission.
- j) The California State Assembly passed a resolution to require the Assembly to explore methods to integrate equity more formally into its daily activities, including the potential adoption of an equity impact analysis into the existing committee and floor bill analysis process.
- k) DEI principles and policies promote equal access to opportunities, foster an environment of respect and belonging, and ensure that every individual—regardless of background—can fully participate in all aspects of society.
- l) DEI policies are intended not only to promote access, but to proactively dismantle systematic inequalities in education, employment, housing, health care, and civic participation that have disproportionately impacted communities of color, indigenous peoples, women, LGBTQ+ individuals, individuals with disabilities, and other historically excluded groups.
- m) DEI initiatives often include targeted recruitment, culturally competent workplace training, equity-focused budgeting, inclusive curriculum development, and disaggregated data reporting to address measurable disparities in outcomes.
- n) DEI is essential to creating a society where all individuals are valued, heard, and included.
- o) DEI is based on removing barriers to opportunity so our merits can speak for themselves.
- p) DEI is committed to widening pathways to the American Dream for every community so that all people can reap the benefits of shared prosperity in our nation.
- q) Freedom of speech and expression are fundamental constitutional rights, protecting the ability of individuals to voice their ideas and opinions without interference, punishment, or retaliation by the government.

- r) Retaliatory actions such as terminating, silencing, or marginalizing qualified public servants, educators, and professionals based on their advocacy for equity or their identities—including race, gender, or LGBTQ+ status—represent a dangerous erosion of civil liberties and a threat to representative leadership in public life.
 - s) Attempts to prohibit DEI practices diminish the diversity of perspectives that strengthen our society, and conflict with antidiscrimination laws.
 - t) The federal government under the Trump Administration and ongoing political actors have sought to dismantle DEI frameworks, including banning DEI training in federal agencies, attempting to eliminate race-conscious admissions policies, and threatening funding for universities that incorporate equity-related content.
 - u) These efforts not only undermine civil rights progress but contradict core democratic values enshrined in the United States Constitution and upheld through decades of precedent, such as *Brown v. Board of Education* and *Griggs v. Duke Power Co.*
 - v) Efforts to attack DEI are harmful to our country.
- 2) Resolves, by the Senate of the State of California and with the Assembly concurring:
- a) The Legislature affirms its commitment to DEI as an essential foundation for achieving the American Dream and fostering environments where all individuals have the freedom to be healthy, prosperous, and safe and have the opportunity to realize their full potential.
 - b) The Legislature encourages local, state, and federal policymakers, educational institutions, workplaces, and other organizations to adopt and uphold DEI principles that promote inclusivity, protect freedom of expression, remove barriers, and provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to pursue their dreams.
 - c) The Secretary of the Senate shall transmit copies of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

Comments

In the face of ongoing attacks on DEI and the dismantling of DEI programs, this resolution reaffirms the Legislature's commitment to DEI as a necessary

foundation for ensuring that all persons have the opportunity to realize their full potential. This resolution recites the history and purpose of DEI and California's leading role in promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion within state government and across the state. This resolution also recognizes that attempts to prohibit DEI practices and programs diminish the diversity of perspectives, which weakens, rather than strengthens, our society. This resolution states that these anti-DEI efforts are harmful to our country. Finally, this resolution states that the Legislature encourages local, state, and federal policymakers, educational institutions, workplaces, and other institutions to adopt and uphold DEI principles that promote inclusivity, protect freedom of expression, remove barriers, and provide equitable opportunities for all individuals to pursue their dreams.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

CleanEarth4Kids.org

University of California Student Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the University of California Student Association, "Across the University of California, and higher education institutions across the state and country, the federal administration has perpetuated hostile attacks against DEI initiatives that support students from all backgrounds¹ with access to a postsecondary degree, by arbitrarily withholding essential research dollars to world class institutions studying cures and treatments for cancer, diabetes, heart disease, organ transplants and so much more. The \$500 Million research cuts and \$1 Billion ransom against UCLA in August 2025² threatened the sanctity and success of our students, faculty, Medical Center and UC system to continue being the world class research enterprise that has championed breakthroughs in science. Scaling back of diversity program staff, equity centers and inclusivity measures across the UC that benefit ALL students while closing gaps in college access and degree attainment is dangerous to current and future students, and UCSA thanks the Senator for standing up."

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/17/26 16:28:22

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 113
Author: Grove (R)
Introduced: 1/16/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims September 27, 2026, as Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The history of Gold Star families began in the United States shortly after World War I to provide support for mothers who lost sons or daughters in the war.
- 2) The reference to the Gold Star comes from the custom of families of service members hanging a service flag in the window of their homes displaying a blue star for every living family member in the Armed Forces and a gold star for those who have perished.
- 3) Since 2009, the President of the United States has designated the last Sunday in September as Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day, continuing the tradition of honoring the sacrifice of these families. Supporting Gold Star families demonstrates the commitment of the American people to those families, now and in the future.
- 4) As a nation, we must continually look for new ways to support Gold Star families both in the days immediately following the tragedy and in the years that follow.

This resolution proclaims September 27, 2026, as Gold Star Mothers' and Families' Day in California.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 28 (Grove, Resolution Chapter 170, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 109 (Grove, 2024) – Adopted in the Senate.

SR 43 (Grove, 2023) – Adopted in the Senate.

SR 101 (Grove, 2022) – Adopted in the Senate.

ACR 7 (Salas, Resolution Chapter 131, Statutes of 2021)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 1/27/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 1/27/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171

1/28/26 15:45:15

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 142
Author: Becker (D), et al.
Introduced: 3/10/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: March4Water Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the month of March 2026 to be March4Water Month in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Communities across America face the dual challenge of aging water infrastructure and growing demand, requiring innovative solutions that balance affordability, public health protection, and economic development.
- 2) Water reuse systems, including graywater, blackwater, and rainwater catchment, can expand community water supply, protect drinking water sources, and reduce strain on wastewater treatment infrastructure.
- 3) California employs approximately 42,000 plumbers, pipefitters, and steamfitters, representing a vital segment of the state's skilled workforce essential for implementing water solutions that build community resilience.
- 4) March4Water Month serves as a platform for communities to raise awareness about water efficiency solutions, workforce development, and investments in infrastructure that support economic growth and community resilience.

This resolution declares the month of March 2026 to be March4Water Month in California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 3/13/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 3/13/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
3/18/26 13:52:52

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 145
Author: Weber Pierson (D)
Introduced: 3/11/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Mental Health Peer Appreciation Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes the 3rd week of May 2026 as Mental Health Peer Appreciation Week in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Peers, who are individuals with lived experiences of mental health or substance uses challenges, have unique perspectives on navigating the public behavioral health care system and can encourage, engage, and support other peers on their journey to recovery, health, and wellness.
- 2) Peers can provide voluntary support services that are cost-effective and Medi-Cal billable in a variety of settings that can help reduce and prevent incarceration, hospitalization, and institutionalization while uplifting people's health care autonomy.
- 3) Peer support is an evidence-based practice that is integrated into the delivery of mental health services provided by counties, including Assertive Community Treatment, Forensic Assertive Community Treatment, Coordinated Specialty Care for First Episode Psychosis, and Individual Placement and Support Supported Employment.
- 4) Peer services help reduce health disparities in underserved communities by empowering peers to work in the behavioral health industry, creating a workforce that is reflective of a community's diversity and health needs.

This resolution recognizes the third week of May 2026, during National Mental Health Awareness Month, as Mental Health Peer Appreciation Week in California.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 23 (Quirk-Silva, Resolution Chapter 87, Statutes of 2025)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 3/16/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 3/16/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
3/18/26 13:52:54

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 182
Author: Seyarto (R), et al.
Introduced: 5/28/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Purple Heart Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares August 7, 2026, as Purple Heart Day in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The Purple Heart is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who are killed or wounded in action.
- 2) To date, approximately 2 million Purple Heart Medals have been awarded. The award can be awarded retroactively as far back as 1917, allowing veterans from World War I to be eligible.
- 3) From 1942 to 1997, inclusive, civilians serving in, or affiliated with, the Armed Forces of the United States were eligible to receive the Purple Heart. Some of the earliest civilians to receive this honor were firefighters wounded or killed while fighting fires caused by the attack on Pearl Harbor.
- 4) Since California is home to more than 1.8 million veterans and more than 200,000 active and reserve members of the Armed Forces of the United States, it is especially appropriate for all Californians to honor those who have been awarded the Purple Heart.

This resolution encourages all Californians to honor those who have served in the Armed Forces of the United States, especially those who have been wounded and received the Purple Heart, and declares August 7, 2026, as Purple Heart Day in California.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 88 (Seyarto, Resolution Chapter 148, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 111 (Seyarto, Resolution Chapter 159, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 28 (Seyarto, Resolution Chapter 140, Statutes of 2023)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/8/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/8/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171

6/10/26 16:17:31

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 184
Author: Niello (R)
Introduced: 6/8/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the week of September 28, 2026, to October 4, 2026, inclusive, as Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The Association for Frontotemporal Degeneration (AFTD) reports that Frontotemporal Degeneration (FTD) is a terminal and incurable neurodegenerative disease affecting the frontal and temporal lobes, causing impairments to speech, personality, behavior, and motor skills that constitutes a major public health concern.
- 2) The California Master Plan for Aging incorporates recommendations from the Governor's Task Force on Alzheimer's (Disease) Prevention and Preparedness to help people and families living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementia.
- 3) Approximately 40% of people with FTD have a family history of FTD or a related condition such as Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS), with about one-half of those found to have an inherited form accounted for by mutations in the Progranulin (GRN), C9orf72, Tau/MAPT, and several other rarer genes.
- 4) While there has never been a global epidemiology study of FTD, it is estimated that more than 60,000 people are affected in the United States today.
- 5) It is imperative that there be greater awareness of this serious disease, and more must be done to increase activity at the local, state, and national levels.

This resolution declares the week of September 28, 2026, to October 4, 2026, inclusive, as Frontotemporal Degeneration Awareness Week.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 80 (Niello, Chapter 172, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 116 (Jones, Chapter 96, Statutes of 2024)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171

6/15/26 14:57:46

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 185
Author: Caballero (D)
Introduced: 6/11/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Probation Services Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes July 19-25, 2026, inclusive, as Probation Services Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Probation professionals play a unique and essential role in California's criminal and juvenile justice systems, keeping communities safe by providing justice-involved individuals with accountability, support, services, and tools necessary to safely and successfully reenter society.
- 2) California's probation officers are highly trained and dedicated professionals, with over 72 percent identifying as non-White and 51 percent as women, and the majority holding college degrees, reflecting the diversity and professionalism of the field.
- 3) Probation provides a cost-effective, evidence-based public safety strategy, effectively supervising individuals while also connecting them to critical services, such as workforce development, substance use treatment, mental health care, and education.
- 4) Probation fosters a safer, healthier California by ensuring that individuals serving their sentences within our communities or those reentering communities after incarceration are equipped with the tools, services, support, and supervision they need to be safe and successful.

This resolution recognizes and commends the critical role of California's probation professionals and celebrates July 19, 2026, to July 25, 2026, inclusive, as Probation

Services Week in honor of their ongoing dedication to justice, rehabilitation, and community safety.

Related/Prior Legislation

HR 122 (Nguyen, 2026, Introduced)
SCR 103 (Caballero, 2025, Held in Rules)
SR 44 (Caballero, 2024, Adopted)
HR 45 (Nguyen, 2023, Adopted)
SR 97 (Caballero, 2022, Adopted)
SR 50 (Caballero, 2021, Adopted)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:47

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 186
Author: Grayson (D)
Introduced: 6/15/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Thriving Families CA Foundation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes the Thriving Families CA Foundation's upcoming 50th anniversary.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) California's economic vitality depends on the ability of working families to access affordable, reliable, and high-quality childcare and early learning services.
- 2) That vision led to the creation of alternative payment programs and a statewide network of community-based organizations dedicated to supporting parental choice, family stability, workforce participation, and child development.
- 3) Over the past five decades, this network has evolved into a trusted system of family-focused partners serving communities in all 58 counties, connecting families to childcare, workforce supports, family resources, and opportunities that strengthen economic mobility and well-being.
- 4) The Thriving Families CA Foundation has served as the statewide voice for these community-based organizations, advancing policies that strengthen families, increase access to childcare, support parental choice, and ensure that public investments effectively reach children and families.

This resolution recognizes the Thriving Families CA Foundation's upcoming 50th Anniversary in 2027, and celebrates five decades of partnership, innovation, and service dedicated to helping California families thrive.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/22/26 14:47:28

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 188

Author: Pérez (D)

Introduced: 6/17/26

Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Electronic Dance Music Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the month of June 2026 as Electronic Dance Music Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Electronic dance music, or “EDM,” traces its roots back to the 1970s with the rise of disco and the innovative use of synthesizers in popular music.
- 2) EDM encompasses a wide array of subgenres, including, but not limited to, disco, synthpop, techno, house, trance, drum and bass, dubstep, trap, hardstyle, and many more.
- 3) EDM culture is rooted in the core values of Peace, Love, Unity, and Respect, commonly abbreviated as “PLUR”.
- 4) These values reflect the spirit of California, a state that celebrates diversity, inclusion, and creative expression.
- 5) California is home to some of the world’s most iconic EDM festivals, hosted in cities across the state, including the Cities of Los Angeles, San Francisco, San Diego, San Jose, San Bernardino, Bakersfield, Palm Springs, Coachella, and across the North Coast region.
- 6) These festivals not only serve as cultural landmarks, but also generate millions of dollars in economic impact for local communities and the state.

This resolution recognizes the profound cultural, social, and economic impact of EDM on the lives of Californians.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 216 (Gonzalez et. all, 2026, Held in Assembly Rules)

ACR 92 (Gonzalez, Resolution Chapter 144, Statutes of 2025)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171

6/22/26 14:47:28

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 189
Author: Rubio (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/17/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: I ♥ SGV Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates June 26, 2026, as I ♥ SGV Day and encourages all Californians to join in celebrating I ♥ SGV Day.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The San Gabriel Valley (SGV) is one of California’s most vibrant and diverse regions, encompassing 31 cities and unincorporated communities across more than 374 square miles in Los Angeles County and serving nearly two million residents.
- 2) The San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (SGVCOG), established in 1994, serves as the largest and most diverse subregional council of governments in Los Angeles County, representing 31 cities and unincorporated communities to advance regional collaboration and initiatives that improve the quality of life for residents throughout the San Gabriel Valley.
- 3) June 26, represented numerically as “6/26,” reflects the iconic 626 area code that has become synonymous with the San Gabriel Valley and serves as a source of pride and identity for residents throughout the region.
- 4) The SGVCOG launched the “I ♥ SGV Day” campaign as a positive and community-driven initiative to celebrate pride in the San Gabriel Valley, foster a shared regional identity, and highlight the people, places, cultures, businesses, and institutions that make the region a unique and cherished part of California.

This resolution designates June 26, 2026, as I ♥ SGV Day and encourages all Californians to join in celebrating I ♥ SGV Day.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/22/26 14:47:29

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 190
Author: Cabaldon (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/17/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Larry Itliong Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims October 25, 2026, as Larry Itliong Day in California and encourages all public schools and educational institutions to conduct exercises remembering his life, recognizing his accomplishments, and familiarizing pupils with the contributions he made to California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Activist and union organizer Modesto “Larry” Dulay Itliong was a prominent figure in the farmworkers movement, described as “one of the fathers of the West Coast labor movement”.
- 2) After immigrating to the United States in 1929, when he was 15 years old, Itliong began his work as a labor organizer in the State of Alaska, where he organized cannery and agricultural unions, and would later organize workers in the State of Washington, California, Montana, and South Dakota. His fluency in Ilocano, Pangasinense, Tagalog, English, Japanese, Cantonese, and Spanish complemented his oratory skills to galvanize workers, emboldening them with words of great encouragement, saying, “Let’s go, don’t be scared! I’ll be in the front, just follow me.”
- 3) In 1948, Itliong, along with Philip Vera Cruz and other labor leaders, participated in the 1948 asparagus strike in the City of Stockton. The asparagus strike was the first major United States. agricultural strike after World War II. In 1956, Itliong continued his organizing work with the Filipino Farm Labor Union in Stockton. Itliong was asked to organize for the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee (AWOC), a newly chartered union in the AFL-CIO in

1959. Though the union was largely Filipino, it included Mexican, Arab, Black, and White workers within its ranks.

- 4) On September 8, 1965, Filipino American agricultural labor leaders, including Itliong and Vera Cruz, organized more than 1,500 farmworkers from AWOC in the Delano Grape Strike of 1965, in partnership with Mexican American labor leaders of the National Farm Workers Association, sparking one of the greatest social, economic, and racial justice movements in the history of California and the United States and leading to the establishment of the United Farm Workers of America (UFW).
- 5) The first union contracts were signed on July 29, 1970, in a great victory for the farmworkers. It took five years of striking, plus an international boycott of table grapes, before growers signed contracts with UFW. Ninety-five percent of the strikers had lost their homes, cars, and most of their possessions. But in losing those things, they also had found themselves. Despite all the disagreements, a powerful bond existed across ethnic lines.
- 6) The contributions of Larry Itliong and the farmworkers, who were vital in pushing for farmworkers' rights in California, deserve proper recognition for their accomplishments and for paving the path for the betterment of the millions of workers.

This resolution proclaims October 25, 2026, as Larry Itliong Day in California and encourages all public schools and educational institutions to conduct exercises remembering his life, recognizing his accomplishments, and familiarizing pupils with the contributions he made to California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/22/26 14:47:30

**** END ****

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SJR 7
Author: Cervantes (D), et al.
Amended: 2/26/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 8-3, 6/30/25
AYES: Ashby, Archuleta, Arreguín, Grayson, Menjivar, Smallwood-Cuevas,
Umberg, Weber Pierson
NOES: Choi, Niello, Strickland

SENATE FLOOR: 26-9, 7/17/25
AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero,
Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón,
McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas,
Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland,
Valladares
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Becker, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-13, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Tariffs

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution urges President Donald J. Trump to rescind the increase in tariffs that he has imposed since taking office in January 2025 and refund the American people for the costs passed on to them by his tariffs and urges the United States Congress to enact a joint resolution to rescind President Trump's tariffs oppose all future unilateral and arbitrary tariff increases imposed by President Trump.

Assembly Amendments of 2/26/26 urge President Trump to refund the American people for tariff costs passed on to them. Add declarations related to the powers of

Congress, the consumer costs related to tariffs, and the Supreme Court decision related to tariffs. Make technical changes and add coauthors.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law authorizes the president, via the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA), to regulate international commerce after declaring a national emergency in response to any unusual and extraordinary threat to the United States which has a foreign source. It further authorizes the president to block transactions, freeze assets, and restrict imports and exports of certain goods or technologies to deal with the threat and requires the president to report to Congress every six months on the circumstances, threats and actions taken. In the event of an actual attack on the United States, the president can also confiscate property connected with a country, group, or person that aided in the attack. The act falls under the provisions of the National Emergencies Act and must be renewed annually to remain in effect. (Public Law 95-223; 50 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 1701-1705)

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) for the purpose of serving as the lead state entity for economic strategy and marketing of California on issues relating to business development, private sector investment and economic growth. (Government Code (GC) §§ 12096 – 12098.7)
- 2) Specifies that GO-Biz is the primary state agency authorized to attract foreign investments, cooperate in international public infrastructure projects, and support California businesses in accessing markets, and requires the Director of GO-Biz to develop an international trade and investment program (ITI Program) attracting employment-producing direct foreign investment to the state and providing support for California businesses in accessing international markets and increasing exports. (GC § 13996.41)

This resolution:

- 1) Urges President Donald J. Trump to rescind the increase in tariffs that he has imposed since taking office in January 2025 and refund the American people for the costs passed on to them by his tariffs and urges the United States Congress to enact a joint resolution to rescind President Trump's tariffs and to

oppose all future unilateral and arbitrary tariff increases imposed by President Trump.

- 2) Makes declarations related to the constitutional authority granted to Congress and its authority to “regulate commerce with foreign nations” and state that the constitutional power to tax and regulate foreign commerce is among the most consequential powers of Congress.
- 3) Makes various declarations about consensus relating to free trade and statements from Presidents Eisenhower and Reagan about free trade.
- 4) Highlights a 2022 address by Donald J. Trump to the Heritage Foundation and Heritage Foundation produced 2025 Presidential Transition Project, commonly known as Project 2025, which argues for the imposition of severe tariffs on foreign trade.
- 5) States that President Trump declared a national emergency on April 2, 2025, pursuant to IEEPA which allowed him to impose a 10% base tariff on all foreign goods imported from foreign countries into the United States and imposed even higher tariffs on 57 countries. States that after the tariff announcement, stock markets around the world engaged in panic selling, which caused the largest decline in global stock markets since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 6) States that low-income and middle-class American households have been hit hardest by the price increases caused by President Trump’s tariffs, with the price of essential goods like bananas, coffee, and toilet paper rising.
- 7) States that while California faces an ongoing housing crisis, the increase in prices caused by President Trump’s tariffs will raise the price of building materials, which will in turn make the cost of a new home rise by about \$9,200 according to the National Association of Home Builders based on data from March 2025.
- 8) States that California farmers exported more than \$23 billion worth of food in 2022, with almonds topping the list, followed by dairy products, pistachios, and wine. According to a 2024 study by the University of California Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics, if the United States imposed a 10% tariff on all goods from all countries and those countries responded similarly,

estimated annual export losses would be between \$3.1 billion and \$4.8 billion for California agribusiness.

- 9) States that due to the imposition of tariffs, shipping volume in May 2025 at the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach fell by up to 40 percent, imperiling the supply chain of goods from Asia into the United States, a development which President Trump called “a good thing.”
- 10) States that American consumers paid more than \$231 billion in tariff costs between February 2025 and January 2026, an average of approximately \$1,751 per household nationwide, with California households projected to lose between \$1,900 and \$2,000 due to the disproportionate impact of tariffs on the state.
- 11) States that President Trump’s tariffs have caused global chaos and threaten the strength of the United States’ longstanding relationships with foreign nations and longtime American allies like the United Kingdom, the European Union, Japan, and the Republic of Korea.
- 12) States that on February 20, 2026, in a 6 to 3 decision written by Chief Justice John Roberts, the United States Supreme Court ruled that President Trump exceeded his constitutional authority by wrongfully claiming emergency powers from the IEEPA to impose sweeping tariffs on nearly every trading partner of the United States, and illegally imposing the largest tax increase on working families and small businesses in our lifetime; and despite this rebuke by the Supreme Court, President Trump has invoked alternative statutory authority to continue imposing sweeping tariffs without congressional authorization, thereby prolonging the economic uncertainty plaguing the American and global economies, and further straining the limits of the separation of powers.
- 13) States President Trump’s agenda to impose tariffs on imports will harm working families by increasing the costs of everyday goods, increase inflation and derail the nation’s economic recovery from the recession caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, leave small businesses reeling from unpredictable periods of tariffs being imposed then paused without warning, and dangerously undermine the standing of the United States on the global stage.

Background

Currently, GO-Biz administers an International Affairs and Business Development Unit, which serves as California's primary point of contact for expanding international trade and investment relations. This unit focuses on foreign direct investment (services for foreign investors, foreign investment technical assistance, and the EB-5 Investor Visa Program), international trade promotion (STEP program, trade missions, export assistance, and the California-China Trade Office), and international agreements.

GO-Biz currently has authority for undertaking international trade and foreign investment activities. The *International Affairs and Trade Program* report prepared by GO-Biz in 2023 notes that the International Affairs and Trade team (IAT) advises the Governor on international affairs and trade issues, implements strategies to develop and grow partnerships and engagement with foreign partners, and provides recommendations to promote and expand California's trade and foreign direct investment. According to the report, IAT works with a robust network of international partners to promote California exports, support small businesses in accessing global markets, and attract inward investment that brings high-quality jobs to Californians. IAT executed several major international events, including a Clean Energy Trade Mission to Japan with over 100 delegates from California's public and private sectors, a climate-focused gubernatorial visit to China, and a California pavilion at the annual Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation Summit. IAT also successfully implemented trade missions to key markets such as Mexico, China, Japan, and Germany in a variety of strategic sectors, among other efforts and activities.

According to the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative, industrial goods encompass all non-agricultural goods and include products such as machinery, autos and transportation equipment, information technology products, minerals and metals, petroleum, chemicals, textiles and clothing, leather and footwear, consumer goods, wood products, and fish and fish products. Industrial tariffs are customs duties on non-agricultural merchandise imports, levied either as a percentage of the value or on a specific basis (e.g., \$1 per 100 pounds).

According to February 2025 information from the Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC), "In 2024, California's total merchandise trade reached \$675 billion—close to 16% of state GDP. California imports 2.7 times more goods than it exports, reflecting the purchasing power of the state's market. However, imports also include intermediate goods used in the manufacturing of California products

that could eventually be exported. In this way, tariffs on imported goods may have direct effects on consumers, producers, and exporters in the state. Manufactured goods dominate California exports at 87% (\$159 billion)—computer equipment, semiconductors, instruments, and aerospace products and parts are at the top of manufacturing exports. The state also leads the nation in agricultural exports (\$15 billion), with products like nuts, processed and fresh fruits, and processed vegetables generating an important revenue stream for California farmers.

PPIC noted that “tariffs imposed in 2018 and 2019 led to higher prices across the country for consumer goods—like washing machines and solar panels, and for intermediate goods—like aluminum and steel. Higher costs were largely paid by American consumers and firms. At the time, these higher prices didn’t necessarily impact overall prices—that is, inflation—in a major way. In manufacturing sectors, such as aluminum production and household appliances, lower employment and output in the short-term were due to rising costs of imported materials necessary for production and retaliatory tariffs.”

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/21/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/21/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-13, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Castillo, Davies, Flora, Patterson, Celeste
Rodriguez, Ward

Prepared by: Elissa Silva/Anna Billy/Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /916-651-4104
4/21/26 16:29:43

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SJR 16
Author: Caballero (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/7/26
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 9-3, 6/9/26

AYES: Cortese, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Wiener

NOES: Strickland, Dahle, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SUBJECT: Vehicles: commercial driver's license revocation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution urges the United States Congress and the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) to reevaluate certain regulations pertaining to commercial driver's licenses (CDL), as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Develops and administers via FMCSA at the federal level, CDL regulations that set nationwide standards relating to testing and licensing requirements, vehicle endorsements, and safety standards, as provided.
- 2) Declares, at the state level, that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) is responsible for issuing, renewing, and enforcing compliance with CDL requirements, as specified.

This resolution urges the United States Congress and FMCSA to review federal CDL disqualification policies and consider reforms that allow states greater flexibility related to the enforcement of federal disqualification policies, as specified.

Comments

Purpose of the resolution. According to the author, "California's commercial truck drivers are the backbone of our supply chain and a critical workforce that keeps our state and our nation moving. In March of this year, a federal rulemaking targeting immigrant drivers disenfranchised 13,000 commercial drivers in California, stripping them of their ability to earn a living, provide for their families, and contribute the essential logistical services our economy depends on. This action threatens California's working families. Commercial truck drivers cross the country for weeks at a time, often working under dangerous weather conditions, away from their loved ones, to deliver the goods that sustain our communities. SJR 16 calls on Congress to take action to reinstate the displaced drivers who lost their ability to operate commercial vehicles following this federal rulemaking, and to recognize the substantial economic contributions these workers make to California and to the nation. This resolution is an important step to stabilize our supply chain, protect working families, and ensure that the drivers who keep our economy moving are valued and supported."

FMCSA's Interim Final Rule. On September 29, 2025, FMCSA issued an Interim Final Rule to limit state's ability to issue and renew non-domiciled CDLs to certain individuals domiciled in foreign jurisdictions. Specifically, the Rule amends Title 49 within the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 383 and 384, narrowing individuals eligible for non-domiciled CDLs by imposing stricter eligibility limits, changing documentation requirements, and requiring states to verify immigration status via the Systematic Alien Verification for Entitlements (SAVE) database. The Interim Final Rule went into immediate effect, in turn, requiring DMV to notify certain CDL holders that their license would be revoked per new federal regulations. Currently, a stay has been issued by the United States Court of Appeals (D.C. Circuit) due to a number of lawsuits pending in regard to the Interim Final Rule leaving both the Rule and implementation of the Rule on pending.

This resolution urges the United States Congress and FMCSA to review the Interim Final Rule's CDL disqualification policies and further consider reforms that provide greater flexibility for states to ensure the jobs and economic well-being of thousands of commercial drivers in California and throughout the country are preserved.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/10/26)

California Federation of Labor Unions, Afl-cio
Teamsters California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/10/26)

None received

Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
6/10/26 16:52:23

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 67
Author: Blakespear (D), et al.
Introduced: 1/5/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: 250th Anniversary of the Declaration of Independence

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, honors the principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, and encourages all Californians to celebrate this milestone with pride.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) On July 4, 1776, the Continental Congress formally adopted the Declaration of Independence, proclaiming the birth of the United States of America, affirming that all people are endowed with certain unalienable rights, among them life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.
- 2) The year 2026 will mark the 250th anniversary of this historic occasion, offering an opportunity to reflect on the enduring ideals of liberty, democracy, and self-governance.
- 3) Although not one of the original 13 colonies, California has played a vital role in advancing and sustaining the American experiment, growing into the most populous and diverse state in the union and serving as a global leader in innovation, culture, and democratic engagement.
- 4) Commemorating the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence is not only an occasion to celebrate our shared history, but also a call to recommit ourselves to the ongoing and unfinished work of creating a more perfect union.

This resolution commemorates the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence, honors the principles of life, liberty, and the pursuit

of happiness, and encourages all Californians to celebrate this milestone with pride.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 1/13/25)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 1/13/25)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
1/14/26 15:44:35

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 108
Author: Hurtado (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/30/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: World Asthma Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes May 5, 2026, as World Asthma Day.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Asthma affects millions of Californians, with some communities across the state facing disproportionate rates due to poor air quality, environmental exposures, and limited health care access.
- 2) Communities throughout California face environmental burdens, including wildfire smoke, vehicle emissions, industrial pollution, and agricultural operations, that worsen asthma outcomes.
- 3) World Asthma Day, observed the first Tuesday in May, raises global awareness about asthma prevention, management, and research.

This resolution supports programs for asthma education, home-based interventions, and health care access in underserved communities statewide.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/11/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/11/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/13/26 16:28:15

****** END ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 109
Author: Menjivar (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/30/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Veterans

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution honors and recognizes the service and sacrifice of Korean American Vietnam War veterans residing in the State of California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) California is home to approximately 700 Korean American Vietnam War veterans, representing the largest concentration of those veterans in the United States.
- 2) Korean American Vietnam War veterans served alongside the Armed Forces of the United States during the Vietnam War in defense of freedom and democracy. Many of these veterans later became naturalized United States citizens and longtime residents of the State of California.
- 3) Many of these veterans are now in their late seventies and eighties and suffer from combat-related illnesses, including exposure to Agent Orange and post-traumatic stress disorder.
- 4) The overwhelming majority of veterans are Medicare or Medicaid beneficiaries and continue receiving medical care through community physicians, and therefore pose no significant fiscal burden to the State of California.
- 5) Their service represents a profound symbol of the enduring alliance between the United States and the Republic of Korea.

This resolution encourages continued cooperation between the United States and the Republic of Korea in matters concerning the welfare and dignity of these veterans.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/13/26 16:28:16

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 113
Author: Choi (R), et al.
Introduced: 5/11/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: International Day of Peace

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution encourages all Californians to observe the International Day of Peace by reaffirming their commitment to peace, nonviolence, mutual understanding, and respect for human dignity.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The International Day of Peace was established by the United Nations General Assembly through Resolution 36/67, adopted on November 30, 1981.
- 2) Since its establishment, the International Day of Peace has been observed annually by United Nations Member States, international organizations, educational institutions, and civil society worldwide.
- 3) The International Day of Peace serves as a global reminder that peace is not merely the absence of conflict, but the presence of justice, mutual respect, and cooperation.

This resolution encourages all Californians to observe the International Day of Peace by reaffirming their commitment to peace, nonviolence, mutual understanding, and respect for human dignity.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 13 (Jackson, Resolution Chapter 189, Statutes of 2025)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/18/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/18/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/20/26 14:08:07

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 118
Author: Niello (R)
Introduced: 6/11/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Prostate Cancer Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates September 2026 as Prostate Cancer Awareness Month in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Prostate cancer is the most commonly diagnosed nonskin cancer and the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths among men in the United States.
- 2) The risk of prostate cancer increases significantly after 50 years of age and is higher among individuals with a family history of the disease. Prostate cancer often presents no noticeable symptoms in its early stages, making early detection through appropriate screening critically important.
- 3) Increasing public awareness, education, and proactive communication between patients and health care providers can save lives and protect families.

This resolution urges increased awareness of the importance of continued vigilance in prostate cancer testing.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 69 (Dahle, Resolution Chapter 38, Statutes of 2024)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:45

****** END ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 119
Author: Caballero (D)
Introduced: 6/15/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Paleontology

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution celebrates the unique paleontological heritage of California, including its diverse fossil sites, institutions, and ancient ecosystems that these institutions have uncovered.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) According to the University of California Museum of Paleontology internet website, paleontology includes the study of fossils and what they tell us about the past, incorporating knowledge from biology, geology, ecology, anthropology, archaeology, and computer science.
- 2) The science of paleontology plays a critical role in predicting future climate change, understanding the extent to which humans have impacted biodiversity, contextualizing modern environmental challenges, and engaging students in science.
- 3) California dinosaurs include the fragments of a meat-eating theropod in the City of Rocklin and the state dinosaur, *Augustynolophus morrisoni*, an approximately three-ton “duck-billed” hadrosaur that ate plants and was found in the Counties of Fresno and San Benito.
- 4) Marine reptiles hunted across California’s Cretaceous seaways in areas like the County of Fresno’s Moreno Formation, which includes diverse, long-necked elasmosaurids resembling the Loch Ness Monster, while the County of Shasta preserved the large ichthyosaur known as *Shastasaurus* from the Late Triassic period.

- 5) California is also rich in fauna from many other times periods and localities, including the marine mammals of the Pliocene Central Coast and the rugose corals of the Devonian Death Valley region.
- 6) Sciences like paleontology face serious challenges, including the closure of university programs and an unprecedented billions in science funding cuts from the federal government.

This resolution recognizes the importance of paleontology as a source of valuable scientific knowledge related to our modern environmental challenges, and a source of awe.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/22/26 14:47:31

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 120
Author: Cabaldon (D)
Introduced: 6/18/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Filipino American History Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes the month of October 2026 as Filipino American History Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Filipinos and Filipino Americans have been contributing to California and the United States for hundreds of years, ever since October 18, 1587, when the first “Indios Luzones” set foot in Morro Bay, California, on board the Nuestra Señora de Buena Esperanza, a Manila-built galleon ship captained by Pedro de Unamuno of Spain.
- 2) During World War II, approximately 200,000 Filipino soldiers battled under the command of the United States Armed Forces to defend the United States and the Philippines against the aggression of the Japanese occupation.
- 3) The history of labor rights in California intersects inextricably with Filipinos, where in the first decades of the 20th century, thousands of Filipinos worked in agricultural fields throughout California. They worked in cities and regions such as the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, the central coast, the City of Salinas, the Imperial Valley, the County of Orange, the Inland Empire, the Cities of Delano and Bakersfield, the Coachella Valley, and the San Francisco Bay area. They played a vital role in California’s growth and economy, often facing tough working conditions and low wages. Despite these struggles, they demonstrated resilience and built a legacy of mutual support, organization, and strikes to establish farmworker union rights.

- 4) Filipinos have long stood on the front lines of labor and civil rights struggles, demanding to be recognized as human beings, not second-class labor. These moments show that history is not written by presidents or lawmakers alone. It is built from the ground up by workers, veterans, and communities who refuse to be silent.
- 5) The Filipino American population is currently the second largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in California and the third largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in the United States.
- 6) Like other immigrant groups, Filipino American immigrants have transformed the United States through social justice, health care, education, technology, arts, and community care. Filipino American immigrants have also contributed significantly to building communities, strengthening the United States economy, enriching the nation's cultural fabric, and advancing movements for labor rights, racial justice, and immigrant equity.

This resolution recognizes the month of October 2026 as Filipino American History Month.

Related/Prior Legislation

HR 65 (Caloza, 2025) – Adopted in Assembly.

HR 102 (Caloza, 2026) – In Assembly Rules Committee.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:34

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 34
Author: Patterson (R), et al.
Amended: 1/5/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 16-0, 6/8/26

AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Caballero,
Dahle, Gonzalez, Grove, McNerney, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Strickland,
Wahab

NO VOTE RECORDED: Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program: local publicly
owned electric utilities: large hydroelectric generation

SOURCE: Northern California Power Agency

DIGEST: This bill clarifies eligibility related to future compliance periods of the Renewables Portfolio Standard (RPS) for local publicly owned electric utilities (POUs) who have existing procurement of large hydroelectric energy resources, specifically extends beyond 2030 the ability to reduce their RPS compliance requirements up to the retail sales unserved by large hydroelectric energy resources.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines a “renewable electrical generation facility” as one that, among other requirements, uses biomass, solar thermal, photovoltaic, wind, geothermal, fuel cells using renewable fuels, small hydroelectric generation of 30 megawatts

(MW) or less, digester gas, municipal solid waste conversion, landfill gas, ocean wave, ocean thermal, or tidal current, and any additions or enhancements to the facility using that technology. (Public Resources Code §25741)

- 2) Requires, via the California RPS Program, retail sellers and local POUs to procure a minimum quantity of electricity products from eligible renewable energy resources during certain compliance periods up to December 31, 2030. (Public Utilities Code §§399.15 and 399.30(a)(b)(c))
- 3) Defines eligible renewable energy resources include small hydroelectric generation facilities of 30 MW or less, conduit hydroelectric facilities, and the incremental increase in electrical generation resulting from efficiency improvements of existing small hydroelectric facilities. (Public Utilities Code §§399.12 and 399.12.5)
- 4) Provides that a local POU is not required to procure a certain amount of eligible renewable energy resources if, during a year within those compliance periods, the local POU receives more than 40% of its retail sales from large hydroelectric generation under an ownership agreement or contract in effect as of January 1, 2018. (Public Utilities Code §399.30(k)(2))
- 5) Authorizes the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (California Energy Commission (CEC)) to establish appropriate multiyear compliance periods for local POUs beyond December 31, 2030. (Public Utilities Code §399.30(c)(2))

This bill provides that the provision related to the procurement of eligible renewable energy resources by POUs also applies to the compliance periods established by the CEC beyond 2030, thereby allowing large hydroelectric energy resources to count towards RPS compliance beyond 2030.

Background

Renewable Portfolio Standard. The CEC administers the state's landmark RPS which ensures the state's utilities disclose electricity sources to consumers, supports renewable energy development, and tracks the state's progress toward its renewable energy goals. Enacted by SB 1078 (Sher, Chapter 516, Statutes of 2002) and accelerated and expanded by subsequent legislation, California's RPS establishes increasing renewable energy procurement targets spanning multiyear compliance periods for the state's electric load-serving entities (LSE). Originally

applicable to retail sellers, the statewide mandatory RPS was expanded by SBX1-2 (Simitian, Chapter 1, Statutes of 2011-12 First Extraordinary Session) to include local POU. As a result of SB 100 (DeLeón, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2018), electricity retail sellers, including POU, are required to increase their procurement of eligible renewable energy resources to 60% of retail sales by 2030. As part of its responsibilities, the CEC verifies the eligibility of renewable energy procured by retail sellers and POU that are obligated to participate in California's RPS. The CEC is also responsible for certifying RPS-eligible renewable energy resources, designing and implementing an accounting system to track and report renewable energy procurement for all program participants, and overseeing compliance and enforcement of POU. The CEC participated in the development of the Western Renewable Energy Generation Information System (WREGIS), an independently administered renewable energy tracking system to verify renewable energy procurement for all program participants. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) is responsible for compliance and enforcement for retail sellers.

RPS and large hydroelectric generation. California's RPS program, and other energy programs predating RPS, have made distinctions between smaller hydroelectric facilities and larger facilities, those that are over 30 MW. These distinctions have largely reflected state policy to discourage more damming of rivers due to the impacts to the natural habitats rivers provide and the state's desire to encourage development of new renewable energy projects (including, but not limited to, solar and wind energy resources). The passage of SB 100 (De León, 2018) accelerated the RPS requirements by requiring all LSEs to meet a 60% RPS requirement by 2030 and requiring a planning goal of 100% renewable energy and zero-carbon resources by 2045.

Comments

Need for this bill. The author states:

AB 34 extends the authority of publicly owned utilities to count hydroelectric power toward renewable portfolio standards, helping stop potential rate increases for consumers and assisting with electricity affordability.

RPS and POU. SB 100 (De León, Chapter 132, Statutes of 2018), and previous RPS updates, SB 350, (De León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015), included an exemption for POU that requires they procure renewable energy only up to the retail sales unserved by large hydroelectric generation. This applies to POU that

generate more than 40% of their electricity from existing large hydroelectric sources in a given year. The goal of this exemption is to address affordability by preventing unnecessary procurement of energy and recognizing that hydroelectric generation is a flexible and zero carbon resource that complements intermittent renewables. However, the exemption currently applies only through the year 2030, while the RPS program itself extends indefinitely beyond 2030. This gap between the exemption timeline and expected lifetime of the RPS program affects the procurement of a small group of POUs who source much of their renewable energy from large hydroelectric generation. However, for these utilities the economic impacts of aligning the large hydroelectric exemption with the duration of the RPS program can be substantial.

Extending the large hydroelectric application within RPS will help address affordability. The City of Palo Alto Utilities (CPAU) is one of the POUs negatively affected by the 2030 expiration of the large hydroelectric exemption. Their analysis estimates it will cost CPAU roughly \$25 million from 2030 – 2045 in excess renewable energy procurement. The additional purchase of unneeded renewable energy will also increase electricity rates for other utilities, particularly as the energy market in recent years has at times been characterized as a seller's market. From CPAU's perspective, this is an unacceptable prospect considering the affordability issues that California utility ratepayers face. Based on current resource portfolios, other potentially affected POUs include Biggs, Gridley, Healdsburg, and Silicon Valley, all members of the Northern California Power Agency, the sponsor of this bill. This bill would clarify that treatment of large hydroelectric energy resources continues beyond the 2030 date to include future RPS compliance periods.

Governor vetoes AB 1273 (Patterson) of 2025. A similar bill was vetoed by the Governor in 2025, although that bill included unrelated provisions regarding processes at the CPUC that seem to be the crux of the reason for the Governor's veto. The Governor's veto message stated:

While the clarification of eligibility for electric POUs under the RPS deserves attention, this bill's requirements on the CPUC's public decision-making processes risk delaying action on critical issues, including ones that the CPUC is often accused of not acting on judiciously and expediently.

Prior/Related Legislation

AB 1273 (Patterson, 2025) included similar language, in addition to unrelated provisions concerning CPUC meetings. The bill was vetoed.

SB 386 (Caballero, 2020) would have limited the RPS obligations for Turlock and Modesto Districts to the electricity demands that are unsatisfied by the Don Pedro Hydroelectric Project, and in exchange requires the districts to procure energy storage, as specified. The bill was held in the Senate, Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

SB 100 (De León, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2018) established the 100 Percent Clean Energy Act of 2017 which increased the RPS requirement from 50% by 2030 to 60% and creates the policy of planning to meet all of the state's retail electricity supply with a mix of RPS-eligible and zero-carbon resources by December 31, 2045, for a total of 100% clean energy.

SB 350 (De León, Chapter 547, Statutes of 2015) established the goal of receiving 50% of California's electricity from eligible renewable energy resources.

SB 591 (Cannella, Chapter 520, Statutes of 2013) limited the Merced Irrigation District's RPS obligation to the electricity demands that are unsatisfied by the New Exchequer Dam.

SBX1 2 (Simitian, Chapter 1, Statutes of 2011-12 First Extraordinary Session) required retail sellers of electricity and POUs to procure at least 33% of their electricity from renewable resources by 2020.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

Northern California Power Agency (Source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Northern California Power Agency states:

Public power communities across Northern California have invested more than a billion dollars into the Central Valley Project and other federal hydropower facilities. They repay capital and environmental costs with interest each year, regardless of drought or wet years. In years with high water, hydropower output can spike, and current law properly allows POUs to count that clean energy toward RPS compliance. Without AB 34, those utilities would be forced to purchase additional renewable resources they do not need, driving millions in unnecessary costs to ratepayers. For example, the City of Palo Alto Utilities estimates that expiration of the current provision would result in roughly \$25 million in extra procurement costs between 2030 and 2045. AB 34 simply continues existing law to align the RPS with the reality of California's hydropower system and ensures that public utilities and their customers are able to benefit from the clean power they have already funded. This bill protects ratepayers, supports affordability, and maintains California's commitment to ambitious clean energy goals while recognizing the variability of hydropower in a changing climate.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 1/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Lee, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Nidia Bautista / E., U. & C. / (916) 651-4107
6/24/26 16:28:28

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 35
Author: Alvarez (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness,
and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act:
exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention,
Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as
Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes Proposition 4, which authorizes the sale of \$10 billion in general obligation bonds, if approved by voters, for various purposes including safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience programs, among others. (Public Resources Code (PRC) §§ 90000 *et seq.*)
- 2) Authorizes the Legislature to enact legislation necessary to implement programs funded by Proposition 4. (PRC § 90115)
- 3) Authorizes an emergency regulation for purposes of developing and adopting program guidelines and criteria to effectuate or implement Proposition 4

programs, and requires the emergency regulation to remain in effect until repealed or amended by the adopting state agency. (PRC § 90135(e))

- 4) Pursuant to the Administrative Procedures Act (APA)(Government Code §§11340 *et seq.*)
 - a) Establishes the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and charges them with the orderly review of adopted regulations.
 - b) Prohibits any state agency from issuing, utilizing, enforcing, or attempting to enforce any guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule, which is a regulation as defined, unless the guideline, criterion, bulletin, manual, instruction, order, standard of general application, or other rule has been adopted as a regulation and filed with the Secretary of State pursuant to the APA.
 - c) Authorizes any interested person to petition a state agency requesting the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation, as provided.
 - d) Requires OAL to review all regulations adopted, amended, or repealed and submitted to it for publication in the California Code of Regulations Supplement, transmittal to the Secretary of State, and to make determinations using specified standards. Establishes timeframes by which OAL must approve or disapprove a regulation after it has been submitted to OAL for review.
- 5) Pursuant to Proposition 68, exempts the development and adoption of program guidelines and selection criteria adopted pursuant to Proposition 68 from the APA, and provides a non-APA public process for the adoption of program guidelines and selection criteria, as specified. (PRC §80010)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes the adoption of a regulation for the purpose of developing and adopting program guidelines and selection criteria needed to effectuate or implement Proposition 4 programs, as provided.
- 2) Exempts the development and adoption of program guidelines and selection criteria needed to effectuate or implement Proposition 4 programs from the APA, as provided.
 - a) Requires a state entity using the APA exemption before disbursing Proposition 4 grants to do the following:
 - i) Develop draft project solicitation and evaluation guidelines.
 - ii) Transmit copies of the draft solicitation and evaluation guidelines to relevant legislative committees. Publish the draft solicitation and evaluation guidelines on its internet website for a public comment period

- of at least 30 days. Hold a noticed public meeting on the draft solicitation and evaluations guidelines. Require all written public comments to be posted on its internet website, as provided. Require the state entity to respond to each public comment in writing.
- iii) Offer opportunity for tribal consultation to impacted tribes.
 - iv) Require the state entity to finalize project solicitation and evaluation guidelines after completing i), ii) and iii) above.
 - v) Require the state entity, with the exception of the State Water Resources Control Board, to submit the final guidelines to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency. Require the Secretary to verify that the guidelines are consistent with applicable statutes and the purposes of Proposition 4. Require the Secretary to post an electronic form of the guidelines and subsequent verification on the Natural Resources Agency's internet website. Upon adoption, transmit the final guidelines to relevant legislative committees, as provided..
- 3) Provides that the use of existing project solicitation and evaluation guidelines that comply with the requirements of 1) and 2) above and that were developed and adopted prior to the effective date of this act comply with this act.
- 4) States this bill is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety for specified reasons.
- 5) Makes minor and technical changes to statute.

[For additional background and information about this bill, see the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee bill analysis.]

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Agricultural Institute of Marin
Alliance of Regional Collaboratives for Climate Adaptation
American Canyon Community & Parks Foundation
Associated General Contractors of California
Association of California Water Agencies
Audubon California
Bay Area Climate Adaptation Network
Bay Area Council
Bay Area Ridge Trail Council
Bay Planning Coalition

Bellflower Somerset Mutual Water Company
Big Sur Land Trust
Blue Forest
Bolsa Chica Land Trust
CalDesal
California Local Conservation Corps Foundation
California Association of Local Conservation Corps
California Association of Recreation and Parks Districts
California Association of Resource Conservation Districts
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
California Central Valley Flood Control Association
California Climate and Agriculture Network
California Council of Land Trusts
California Fire Chiefs Association
California Fire Safe Councils
California Forestry Association
California Groundwater Coalition
California Habitat Conservation Planning Coalition
California Invasive Plant Council
California Mountain Biking Coalition
California Municipal Utilities Association
California Outdoor Recreation Partnership
California State Association of Counties
California State Parks Foundation
California Stormwater Quality Association
California Tahoe Alliance
California Water Association
California Water Efficiency Partnership
Calleguas Municipal Water District
Carbon Cycle Institute
Central Basin Water Association
Central California Environmental Justice Network
Central Coast Climate Collaborative
Cesar Chavez Environmental Corps
City of Carlsbad
City of Los Angeles
City of Moorpark
City of Rancho Cucamonga
City of Redwood City
City of Roseville

City of Sacramento
City of San Diego
City of South Lake Tahoe
City of Thousand Oaks
Civicorps
Clean Water Action
Climate Resolve
Coachella Valley Association of Governments
Coachella Valley Conservation Commission
Coastal Corridor Alliance
Collaborate Action Program
Community Nature Connection
Community Water Center
Conservation Corps North Bay
Conservation Corps of Long Beach
County of El Dorado
County of Marin
County of Monterey
County of Nevada
County of Orange
County of Placer
County of Riverside
County of San Bernardino
County of San Diego
County of Sonoma
County of Ventura
Crescenta Valley Water District
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Desert Water Agency
Ducks Unlimited
East Bay Regional Park District
East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
Eastern Municipal Water District
Eastern Sierra Land Trust
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Dorado Water Agency
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Endangered Habitats League
Feather River Land Trust
Fire District Association of California

Fresno EOC Local Conservation Corps
Friends of Harbors, Beaches and Parks
Greater Valley Conservation Corps
Hi-Desert Water District
Inland Empire Community Foundation
Inland Empire Utilities Agency
Irvine Ranch Conservancy
Irvine Ranch Water District
Jurupa Community Services District
Kern County Water Agency
Kings River Conservation District
Kings River Water Association
Land Trust of Santa Cruz County
Lake Tahoe Community College
Latino Outdoors
League of California Cities
League to Save Lake Tahoe
Living Classroom
Los Angeles Conservation Corps
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action & Sustainability
Marin Community Foundation
Megafire Action
Mesa Water District
Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District
Mission Springs Water District
Mojave Water Agency
Monterey One Water
Monterey Regional Stormwater Management Program
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
Napa County Regional Park and Open Space District
North Tahoe Public Utility District
Northern California Water Association
Northern Sierra Partnership
Olivenhain Municipal Water District
Orange County Conservation Corps
Otay Water District
Outdoor Outreach
Outward Bound Adventures

Pacific Forest Trust
Padre Dam Municipal Water District
Palmdale Water District
Pathways for Wildlife
Peninsula Open Space Trust
Petaluma River Park
Pico Water District
Placer County Water Agency
Placer Land Trust
Port of San Diego
Puente Basin Water Agency
Rails to Trails Conservancy
Rancho California Water District
RCD of Greater San Diego County
Regenerative Forest Solutions
Rowland Water District
Rural County Representatives of California
Sacramento Area Sewer District
Sacramento Regional Conservation Corps
Salted Roots
San Diego County Air Pollution Control District
San Diego County Water Authority
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
San Diego Regional Climate Collaborative
San Diego Zoo Wildlife Alliance
San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority
San Geronio Pass Water Agency
San Joaquin Valley Water Collaborative Action Program
San Jose Conservation Corps
San Juan Water District
San Luis and Delta Mendota Water Authority
SanDiego350
Santa Clara County FireSafe Council
Santa Clara Valley Open Space Authority
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Santa Margarita Water District
Save Mount Diablo
Save the Redwoods League
Sempervirens Fund
Sequoia Community Corps

Shafter-Wasco Irrigation District
Sierra Business Council
Sierra Climate Adaptation and Mitigation Partnership
Sierra Club California
Sierra Commons
Sierra County Land Trust
Sierra Foothill Conservancy
Sierra Nevada Alliance
Sierra Service Project
Sloughhouse Resource Conservation District
Solano Beach Eco Rotary Club
Sonoma County Ag + Open Space
Sonoma Land Trust
Sonoma Water
Soquel Creek Water District
South Lake Tahoe Public Utility District
Southern California Mountains Foundation
Southern California Water Coalition
Stockton East Water District
Surfrider Foundation
Surfrider Foundation, San Diego County Chapter
Sustainable Conservation
Sweetwater Authority
Tahoe City Public Utility District
Tahoe Fund
Tahoe Regional Planning Agency
Tahoe Resource Conservation District
Tahoe Transportation District
TEAMRCD
The Conservation Fund
The Freshwater Trust
The Nature Conservancy
The San Diego Natural History Museum
The Wilderness Society
The Wildlands Conservancy
Tijuana River Coalition
TOGETHER Bay Area
Town of Windsor
TreePeople
Truckee Donner Land Trust

Un Mar de Colores
United Water Conservation District
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Upper San Luis Rey Resource Conservation District
Urban Corps of San Diego County
Urban Counties of California
Valley Ag Water Coalition
Walnut Valley Water District
Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada
Water Blueprint for the San Joaquin Valley Advocacy Fund
Water Replenishment District
WaterReuse California
West Valley Water District
Western Municipal Water District
WILDCOAST
Wildlife Conservation Network
YMCA of San Diego County
Yosemite Rivers Alliance

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “Proposition 4 reflects a clear mandate from California voters to accelerate investments in climate resilience, water quality, natural resources, and community protection. Voters approved these funds with the expectation that they would be deployed efficiently to address urgent environmental and public health challenges, including drinking water safety, flood protection, ecosystem restoration, and climate adaptation.”

“However, without an exemption from the Administrative Procedure Act (APA), implementation of Proposition 4 funding faces unnecessary delays. Many administering agencies already operate established, transparent, and well-vetted guidelines, such as Intended Use Plans, competitive grant criteria, and public oversight processes that are routinely used to deploy similar bond funds. Requiring a duplicative APA rulemaking process would force agencies to create entirely new programs, divert staff resources, and delay funding for projects that are ready to move forward.”

“The Legislature has a long-standing precedent of authorizing APA exemptions for voter-approved bond measures, such as for all three recent climate bonds, and for

complex infrastructure programs when timely deployment is essential. These exemptions do not eliminate accountability or public input; instead, they rely on existing statutory safeguards, board oversight, and reporting requirements to ensure transparency and responsible use of public funds.”

“AB 35 simply ensures Proposition 4 implementation as voters intended: swiftly, responsibly, and based on sound science and established practices. This APA exemption will allow state agencies to deliver critical investments to communities without delay, maximize the impact of bond funds, and respond effectively to California’s pressing wildfire, climate infrastructure and clean water challenges.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 1/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Katharine Moore / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/24/26 16:28:29

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 96
Author: Jackson (D)
Amended: 1/5/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/3/26

AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove,
Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mental health services: peer support specialist certification

SOURCE: Cal Voices
County Behavioral Health Directors Association

DIGEST: This bill deletes the requirement that a certified peer support specialist applicant possess a high school diploma or equivalent degree.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Medi-Cal program, administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. [Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) §14001.1]
- 2) Requires DHCS to perform the following functions regarding peer support specialist (PSS) certification:
 - a) Establish statewide requirements for counties, or an agency representing counties, to use in developing certification programs;

- b) Define the qualifications, range of responsibilities, practice guidelines, and supervision standards;
 - c) Determine curriculum and core competencies, including curriculum that may be offered in areas of specialization and various core competencies-based elements, such as the concepts of hope, recovery, and wellness; trauma-informed care; group facilitation skills; cooccurring disorders of mental health and substance use; documentation skills and standards; and, confidentiality;
 - d) Specify employment training requirements, including core-competencies-based training and specialized training;
 - e) Establish a code of ethics;
 - f) Determine continuing education requirements for biennial certification renewal;
 - g) Determine the process for initial certification issuance and biennial certification renewal;
 - h) Determine a process for investigation of complaints and corrective action, including suspension and revocation of certification and appeals;
 - i) Determine a process for an individual employed as a PSS prior to January 1, 2022, to obtain certification;
 - j) Determine requirements for PSS certification reciprocity between counties, and for PSS from out of state; and,
 - k) Seek any federal approvals, related to the statewide certification standards, necessary to implement a PSS certification program. For any federal approvals that DHCS deems necessary related to the statewide certification standards, the PSS certification program is implemented only if and to the extent that DHCS obtains those federal approvals. [WIC §14045.13]
- 3) Permits a county, or an agency representing the county, upon DHCS approval, to develop a PSS certification program, which that county or representing agency is responsible for overseeing and enforcing the certification requirements. [WIC §14045.14]
- 4) Requires a PSS certification applicant to possess a high school diploma or equivalent degree, in addition to specified age, training, and continuing education requirements. [WIC §14045.15]
- 5) Does not authorize a PSS to diagnose an illness, prescribe medication, or provide clinical services. [WIC §14045.16]

This bill deletes the requirement that a certified PSS applicant possess a high school diploma or equivalent degree.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

This bill will strengthen California’s behavioral health workforce and enhance care for those in need. Requiring a high school diploma or equivalent may create artificial barriers to entry and limit access for individuals with the potential to excel in peer support roles. The lived experience of PSS in recovering from mental illness and substance use disorders is the crucial component of their role, enabling them to save lives and empower individuals with behavioral health conditions to lead fulfilling lives.

Background

In July 2021, DHCS released PSS certification standards for the specialty mental health and substance use disorder delivery systems (known as County Behavioral Health Plans). These plans designated the California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) as the certifying entity for PSS. CalMHSA is responsible for implementing and monitoring a statewide training and certification program and assisting county behavioral health plans to meet requirements. In February 2024, RAND released a report on the early implementation of the PSS certification program that was requested by CalMHSA. RAND noted that one of the chief barriers to obtaining certification, per various program participants, was obtaining necessary documentation to support that an applicant had a high school diploma or equivalent degree—the other complaint being the financial cost. RAND stated that obstacles mentioned were requesting diplomas from school districts that have unclear instructions, for peers who completed high school in another state, and for peers who completed high school many years ago. Obtaining copies of diplomas was also difficult for peers whose education was delayed or negatively affected by their lived experience. One peer noted that she had dropped out of high school, and it took her many years to go back and complete her general education diploma. As she put it, “sometimes not getting a diploma is a part of the person’s journey.”

Federal guidance. On August 15, 2007, via SMDL#07-11, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) sent a letter to all State Medicaid Directors to provide guidance to states interested in PSS services under the Medicaid program, citing the increasing emphasis on recovery from even the most serious mental illnesses, and states’ desire to cover PSS as a distinct provider type in order to draw down federal financial participation. CMS reiterated that PSS services are an evidence-based mental health model of care that consists of a

qualified PSS who assists individuals with their recovery from mental illness and substance use disorders. CMS recognized that the experiences of PSS, as consumers of mental health and substance use services, can be an important component in a state's delivery of effective treatment. CMS also reaffirmed its commitment to state flexibility, increased innovation, consumer choice, self-direction, recovery, and consumer protection through approval of these services, and provided policy guidance that included requirements for supervision, care-coordination, and minimum training criteria for PSS. CMS further encouraged states to consider comprehensive programs but noted that regardless of how a state models its mental health and substance use disorder service delivery system, the State Medicaid agency continues to have the authority to determine the service delivery system, medical necessity criteria, and to define the amount, duration, and scope of the service. As part of the minimum requirements for PSS certification, CMS required the training and credentialing component, stating that PSS must complete training and certification as defined by each state's certification program. Training must provide PSS with a basic set of competencies necessary to perform the peer support function. The peer must demonstrate the ability to support the recovery of others from mental illness and/or substance use disorders. And similar to other provider types, ongoing continuing educational requirements for PSS must be in place. CMS's guidance did not set a high school diploma or equivalent degree as a qualifying criterion.

What is a PSS? According to the federal Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA), the role of the peer has been defined as "offering and receiving help, based on shared understanding, respect, and mutual empowerment between people in similar situations." Peer support has been described as "a system of giving and receiving help" based on key principles that include "shared responsibility, and mutual agreement of what is helpful." Peer support workers engage in a wide range of activities, including advocacy, linkage to resources, sharing of experience, community and relationship building, group facilitation, skill building, mentoring, goal setting, and more. They may also plan and develop groups, services or activities, supervise other peer workers, provide training, gather information on resources, administer programs or agencies, educate the public and policymakers, and work to raise awareness. SAMHSA further states the development of additional core competencies may be needed to guide the provision of PSS to specific groups who also share common experiences, such as family members. The shared experience of being in recovery from a mental or substance use disorder or being a family member of a person with a behavioral health condition is the foundation on which the peer recovery support relationship is built in the behavioral health arena.

PSS core competencies. In 2015, SAMHSA led an effort to identify the knowledge, skills, and abilities (leading to core competencies) needed by anyone who provides PSS services to people with or in recovery from a mental health or substance use disorder. Via its Bringing Recovery Supports to Scale Technical Assistance Center Strategy project, SAMHSA convened diverse stakeholders from the mental health consumer and substance use disorder recovery movements and, with subject matter experts, conducted research to identify core competencies for peer workers in behavioral health. The core competencies are intended to apply to all forms of peer support provided to people living with or in recovery from mental health and/or substance use disorders and delivered by or to adults, young adults, family members, and youth. The competencies may also apply to other forms of peer support provided by other roles known as peer specialists, recovery coaches, parent support providers, or youth specialists. SAMHSA notes the following are not a complete set of competencies for every context in which peer workers provide services and support but can serve as the foundation upon which additional competencies for specific settings that practice peer support and/or for specific groups could be developed in the future:

- Engages peers in collaborative and caring relationships;
- Provides support;
- Shares lived experiences of recovery;
- Personalizes peer support;
- Supports recovery planning;
- Links peers to resources, services, and supports;
- Provides information about skills related to health, wellness, and recovery;
- Helps peers to manage crises;
- Values communication;
- Supports collaboration and teamwork;
- Promotes leadership and advocacy; and,
- Promotes growth and development.

Qualifications for equivalent roles. The California Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) maintains a website for the Community Health Workers, Promotores, and Representatives (CHW/P/R) Initiative. DHCS's All Plan Letter 22-016 outlines the Medi-Cal CHW Services benefit and notes CHWs may include individuals known by a variety of job titles, such as promotores, community health representatives, navigators, and other non-licensed public health workers, including violence prevention professionals. As part of the CHW minimum qualifications, HCAI states on its website that CHWs must have lived

experience that aligns with and provides a connection between the CHW and the patient or population being served. This may include, but is not limited to, experience related to incarceration, military service, pregnancy and birth, disability, foster system placement, homelessness, mental health conditions or substance use, or being a survivor of domestic or intimate partner violence or abuse and exploitation. Lived experience may also include shared race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, language, or cultural background with one or more linguistic, cultural, or other groups in the community for which the CHW is providing services. Supervising providers (the organizations employing or otherwise overseeing the CHWs with which a managed care plan contracts) are encouraged to work with CHWs who are familiar with and/or have experience in the geographic communities they are serving. Supervising providers must maintain evidence of a CHW's stated experience. A high school diploma or equivalent degree is not noted in any of the listed requirements.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Cal Voices (co-source)

County Behavioral Health Directors Association (co-source)

Alameda County Behavioral Health Department

Black Leadership Council

Black Men Speak, Inc.

California Alliance of Child and Family Services

California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations

California Behavioral Health Association

California Behavioral Health Planning Council

California Coalition for Youth

California Pan-Ethnic Health Network

Commission for Behavioral Health

Communities Voices

County of Humboldt

County of San Diego

County of Santa Clara

County of Tulare

County Welfare Directors Association of California

Disability Rights California

Drug Policy Alliance

Help is Hope
Interim, Inc.
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
Mental Health Advocacy Services
Mental Health America of California
Mental Health Association of San Francisco
National Alliance on Mental Illness
Painted Brain
Peer Recovery Services
Peer Voices United
Racial and Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition
Steinberg Institute
Sunrays of Hope, Inc.
Sustainable Wellness Solutions
The Children's Partnership
The Happier Life Project
Youth for Change

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals
One individual

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

Cal Voices and the County Behavioral Health Directors Association, as co-sponsors, and other supporters from the mental health advocacy realm, state that the primary qualification for PSS is lived experience with mental health or substance use challenges, not formal education. A high school diploma or its equivalent is not essential to meeting the state-defined core competencies. Supporters argue PSS play a vital role in supporting individuals with behavioral health conditions on their recovery journeys, using personal lived experience to build trust and understanding, and that PSS services are a recognized evidence-based practice integrated within various medical and treatment settings, including peer-led organizations, respite centers, outpatient services, inpatient care, and mobile crisis teams. PSS are evaluated on their ability to connect with consumers, facilitate recovery, and provide support. Skills like communication, empathy, relatability, cultural competence, self-awareness, and conflict resolution are crucial and can be developed outside traditional high school settings. Supporters argue requiring a high school diploma or equivalent may create artificial barriers to entry

and limit access for individuals with the potential to excel in peer support roles. Currently, 8,014 PSS serve across California, embodying diversity in age, race, culture, and gender. They are crucial to addressing the mental health crisis by providing PSS services, which have been shown to decrease hospitalization rates and lower overall Medicaid costs. Supporters state California has a statewide shortage across all behavioral health roles and an imbalanced racial representation of providers relative to the population. To address these challenges, HCAI recommends a multi-pronged approach to supporting the behavioral health workforce, including funding peer and mentor networks for behavioral health professionals.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

The California Consortium of Addiction Programs and Professionals (CCAPP) states they support expanding access to the peer workforce; however, removing the high school diploma requirement must be paired with strengthened training and competency standards to ensure alignment with national peer support certification expectations. CCAPP urges the following amendments, which would ensure California maintains a qualified, nationally aligned peer workforce capable of meeting federal billing and service quality expectations:

- Adoption of SAMHSA Core Content Areas and the National Model Standards as the foundation for California's curriculum;
- Enhanced training hours to ensure adequate competency development;
- Prerequisite demonstration of proficiency in documentation and digital health literacy; and,
- Annual continuing education in documentation and digital literacy.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 1/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bains, Castillo, Lackey, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Reyes Diaz / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
6/16/26 16:42:58

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 110
Author: Gabriel (D)
Amended: 6/14/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25 - See last page for vote

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/17/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Budget Act of 2026

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This is a budget bill junior that amends the 2026 Budget Act to identify budget related legislation, pursuant to Proposition 25 of 2010.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes a technical amendment to the 2026 Budget Act, which is expected to be enacted in AB 109.

Proposition 25 of 2010 requires the budget bill to identify budget-related legislation (also known as trailer bills) for purposes of using Proposition 25 authority for the bill to take effect immediately. This bill amends the 2026 Budget Act to allow this provision to be in effect for AB/SB 122, AB/SB 125, and AB/SB 176.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover, Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

Prepared by: Elisa Wynne / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/17/26 16:28:18

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 122
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/12/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25 - See last page for vote

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 11-5, 6/17/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Cabaldon, Durazo, McNerney, Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes,
Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Blakespear, Hurtado

SUBJECT: Taxation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is a revenue trailer bill for the 2026-27 Budget. This bill contains various statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill:

- 1) Extends Sales and Use taxes to the sale of electronically delivered pre-written software, commencing January 1, 2027.
 - a. Specifically, extends sales and use taxes on “tangible personal property” as defined in law to include digital products, except as provided, prewritten computer software transferred on tangible storage media, transferred electronically, or accessed remotely.
 - b. Prohibits a purchaser or retailer of a digital product that is transferred electronically or accessed remotely from entering into any form of agreement that would result, directly or indirectly, in the payment, transfer, diversion, or rebate of any tax revenue resulting from the imposition of a sales and use tax on digital products.

- 2) Extends temporary business tax credit cap for three additional years.
 - a. Business tax credits claimed under the Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporate Tax Law may not exceed \$5 million for each of taxable years 2024, 2025, and 2026. This bill extends those provisions for an additional three years, through tax year 2029.
 - b. For each of the 2027, 2028, and 2029 taxable years, this bill allows a taxpayer to make an irrevocable annual election to receive a refundable tax credit in the amount of the credit over the \$5 million cap.
 - c. Businesses who make the election can claim an annual refundable credit amount, beginning the third taxable year after the election is made, equal to 20 percent of the qualified credits that would have otherwise been available to the taxpayer but for the limitation.
- 3) Establishes a permanent business tax credit limitation commencing with the 2030 tax year.
 - a. Limits business tax credit usage to \$5 million per company per year or 70 percent of a company's tax liability, whichever is greater.
 - b. Refundable credits generated under the limitations in 2024 through 2026 may continue to be claimed in addition to the credit cap and refundable credits generated under the limitations in 2027 through 2029 may be claimed in addition to the credit cap beginning in the 2030 tax year.
- 4) Establishes a 100 percent tax on settlement fund payments received by taxpayers during the taxable years 2026 through 2029 from the Anti-Weaponization Fund established by the federal Department of Justice and other specified funds resulting from legal action as detailed in the bill.
- 5) Reduces the annual minimum franchise tax for Limited Liability Companies, Limited partnerships, and limited liability partnerships from \$800 to \$400 for the first year of operation, during the 2027 through 2029 tax years.
- 6) Appropriates \$750,000 from the General Fund to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration for the purposes of administering the changes to the sales and use tax to include pre-written software as detailed in this bill.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

The provisions of this bill result in a net General Fund benefit of approximately \$1.4 billion for the 2026-27 fiscal year.

- The extension of sales and use tax to pre-written software is estimated to increase General Fund revenues by \$450 million in 2026-27 and by \$900 million annually thereafter. This proposal is also estimated to increase revenues for local jurisdictions by \$560 million in 2026-27 (one-half year) and by \$1.1 billion per year thereafter.
- The reduction of the annual minimum franchise tax is estimated to reduce General Fund revenue by \$100 million for each of 2027, 2028, and 2029.
- The temporary business tax credit cap is estimated to increase General Fund revenues by \$1 billion in 2026-27, \$3.3 billion in 2027-28 and growing to over \$4.5 billion through 2029.
- State operations costs related to implementation of the sales and use tax changes are \$750,000 in 2026-27.

SUPPORT: (Verified 06/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 06/12/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover,
Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

Prepared by: Elisa Wynne / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103

6/17/26 16:28:18

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 125
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/12/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25 - See last page for vote

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 10-5, 6/17/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Cabaldon, Durazo, McNerney, Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes,
Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Blakespear, Hurtado, Weber Pierson

SUBJECT: Medi-Cal: managed care organization provider tax

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill assesses a tax on managed care organizations to: 1) comply with the new requirements imposed by House Resolution 1; 2) support the General Fund shortfall and achieve a balanced budget; 3) support Medi-Cal investments to ensure access, quality and equity; and 4) prevent the need for additional reductions in the Medi-Cal program.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

Federal Medicaid regulations allow states to impose provider-related taxes on health care service providers as long as certain conditions are met. The revenue from these taxes may serve as the non-federal share of spending for health care services in a state's Medicaid program, which allows the state to draw down additional federal funding for those services. State Medicaid programs may receive federal financial participation (FFP) for expenditures using health care-related taxes, as long as the taxes are broad-based, uniformly imposed, and contain no hold-harmless provisions.

In November 2024, voters approved Proposition 35, which made permanent a tax on enrollment of managed care organizations, and authorized expenditures to increase reimbursement rates in the Medi-Cal program, among other investments.

House Resolution (HR) 1 imposes significant additional limitations on the use of provider taxes that will have a significant impact on the state's financing of the overall Medi-Cal program and specific programs supporting provider reimbursements. HR 1 includes the following restrictions on provider taxes:

- 1) Prohibits new or increased provider taxes after enactment of the bill (July 4, 2025).
- 2) Phases down the indirect hold-harmless threshold, which serves as a de facto maximum level for the tax to comply with hold-harmless provisions of federal Medicaid regulations, from six percent of total revenues to 3.5 percent.
- 3) Revises criteria for “generally redistributive” taxes to exclude taxes that impose a higher rate on Medi-Cal providers or plans than on other providers or plans, similar to the structure of the current Managed Care Organization (MCO) tax.
- 4) Provides the federal Health and Human Services Secretary with discretion to provide a transition period for noncompliant taxes of up to three years.

The current MCO tax implemented under Proposition 35 would violate two provisions of HR 1: 1) the size of the tax as a percentage of total revenue would exceed the indirect hold harmless threshold when it phases down beginning October 1, 2027; and 2) the tax would not be “generally redistributive” because it taxes Medi-Cal managed care plans at a higher rate than other plans. According to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), the current MCO tax has received approval to remain in effect until the expiration of its original federal approval period, on December 31, 2026.

Provisions of Proposition 35 further complicate the future of the MCO tax under HR 1. The initiative requires the imposition of a substantially similar MCO tax to the one currently in effect, on and after January 1, 2027, when the original tax is scheduled to expire. The initiative also caps the annual tax liability of non-Medi-Cal plans at \$36 million. Because HR 1 requires a uniform level of tax between Medi-Cal and non-Medi-Cal plans, the tax liability cap of Proposition 35 limits the

overall size of any future MCO tax because the size of the tax levied on Medi-Cal plans would be similarly limited.

This bill assesses a tax on managed care organizations that complies with the requirements of HR 1, with the following provisions:

- 1) For calendar years 2027, 2028, and 2029, assesses a tax of \$8.85 per enrollee per month on managed care organizations licensed by the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975, or a managed care organization contracted with DHCS to provide health care services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries.
- 2) Establishes the Medi-Cal Stability Fund in the State Treasury to receive revenues from the tax on managed care organizations.
- 3) Continuously appropriates funds deposited in the Medi-Cal Stability Fund to DHCS to support the following Medi-Cal expenditures:
 - a. DHCS administrative costs, not to exceed \$4 million annually
 - b. The nonfederal share of increased capitation payments to Medi-Cal managed care plans, accounting for their increased tax obligations under the new tax on managed care organizations
 - c. The nonfederal share of increased targeted reimbursement rate increases for primary care, obstetrics, and non-specialty mental health providers
 - d. The nonfederal share of Medi-Cal managed care capitation payments, in the amount of at least \$2 billion annually.
- 4) Requires DHCS to seek approval from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) for imposition of the tax on managed care organizations.
- 5) Makes assessment of the tax on managed care organizations operative on January 1, 2027, or the effective date of any necessary federal approvals, whichever is later.
- 6) Authorizes DHCS, after consultation with affected stakeholders, to discontinue some or all of the directed payment methodologies for targeted provider rate increases for primary care services, obstetrics services, and non-specialty mental health services once the equivalent level of reimbursement has been achieved in the base capitation rates for Medi-Cal managed care plans.

7) Deletes obsolete provisions related to community health workers.

FISCAL EFFECT: The tax on managed care organizations imposed by this bill will support the non-federal share of expenditures in the Medi-Cal program, resulting in General Fund savings of \$575 million in 2026-27, \$2.3 billion in 2027-28 and 2028-29, and \$1.7 billion in 2029-30.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 06/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 06/12/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover, Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

Prepared by: Scott Ogus / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/17/26 16:28:17

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 177
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/12/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25 - See last page for vote

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 12-5, 6/17/26

AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, McNerney, Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson

NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Hurtado

SUBJECT: Medi-Cal: Fair Share from Big Corporations Act

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill implements the Fair Share from Big Corporations Act, which requires the Department of Finance to present, on or before March 1, 2027, one or more options to the Legislature for holding the state's largest corporations accountable for the taxpayer costs of their employees enrolled in the Medi-Cal program.

ANALYSIS: This bill implements the Fair Share from Big Corporations Act, which includes the following provisions:

- 1) Requires the Department of Finance, on or before March 1, 2027, to present to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee one or more options for holding the state's largest corporations accountable for the taxpayer costs of their employees enrolled in the Medi-Cal program.
- 2) Requires one of the options presented by the department to include a premium paid by employers with at least 250 employees to offset taxpayer costs of their employees enrolled in the Medi-Cal program who are not offered employer health coverage.

- 3) Requires the options presented to be accompanied by the following:
 - a. Data prepared by the Employment Development Department (EDD) and the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) regarding the number of workers in the state's largest corporations enrolled in Medi-Cal
 - b. Proposed statutory language necessary to implement the options
 - c. An analysis of the cost of, and timeline for, implementing the options in the 2027 legislative session.
- 4) Makes the provisions of the bill inoperative if the Medicaid program-related provisions of House Resolution (HR) 1 are repealed on or before March 1, 2027.
- 5) Appropriates General Fund expenditure authority of \$10,000 to the Department of Finance to prepare the options to be presented to the Legislature.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriates General Fund expenditure authority of \$10,000 to the Department of Finance to prepare the options to be presented to the Legislature.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 3/20/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ahrens, Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Calderon, Essayli, Hoover, Irwin, Krell, Papan, Wallis

Prepared by: Scott Ogus / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103

6/17/26 16:28:17

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 350
Author: Bonta (D), et al.
Amended: 5/12/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 7/2/25

AYES: Menjivar, Valladares, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Limón, Padilla,
Richardson, Rubio, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 7-0, 8/29/25

AYES: Caballero, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Dahle, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-1, 6/2/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health care coverage: fluoride treatments

SOURCE: California Dental Association
Children Now

DIGEST: This bill (1) requires a health plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027, to provide coverage for the application of fluoride varnish in the primary care setting for children under 21 years of age, without a deductible, co-insurance, copayment or other cost-sharing requirement for that coverage; (2) requires the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to issue billing guidance and make any necessary updates to ensure Medi-Cal coverage policy for recipients under age 21 is consistent with the federal requirements and allows for the application of fluoride varnish without any place of service restrictions.

Senate Floor Amendments of 5/12/26 clarify that Medi-Cal plans are exempt from the portions of this bill regulating commercial managed care plans; delay the requirement for DHCS to issue a Medi-Cal fluoride varnish billing guidance by six months to July 1, 2027; change who can apply fluoride varnish in the Medi-Cal program and add supervision and training requirements; condition the

implementation of the Medi-Cal requirements upon the receipt of federal financial participation and any necessary federal approvals.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Services Plan Act of 1975; the California Department of Insurance (CDI) to regulate health and other insurers; DHCS to administer the Medi-Cal program. [Health and Safety Code [HSC] §1340, et seq., Insurance Code [INS] §106, et seq. and Welfare and Institutions Code [WIC] §14000, et seq.]
- 2) Requires, under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and as codified in state law, health plans and issuers, subject to the minimum interval established by the United States Secretary Health and Human Services (Secretary), to provide coverage, and not impose cost sharing requirements, for the following preventive services with respect to plan years beginning on and after September 23, 2010:
 - a) Evidence-based items or services that have in effect a rating of 'A' or 'B' in the current recommendations of the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), with specified exceptions;
 - b) Immunizations that have in effect a recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) with respect to the individual involved;
 - c) Evidence-informed preventive care and screenings for infants, children, and adolescents, provided for in the comprehensive guidelines supported by the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA);
 - d) Additional preventive care and screenings for women not otherwise described above as provided for in comprehensive guidelines supported by HRSA, as specified; and,
 - e) Current recommendations of the USPSTF regarding breast cancer screening, mammography, and prevention. [Title 42 United States Code [U.S.C.] Sec. 300gg-13, HSC §1367.002 and INS §10112.2]
- 3) States that 2) above does not prohibit a health plan contract or insurance policy from providing coverage for services in addition to those recommended by USPSTF or denying coverage for services that are not recommended by USPSTF. [HSC §1367.002 and INS §10112.2]

- 4) Establishes a schedule of benefits under the Medi-Cal program, which includes benefits required under federal law and benefits provided at the state's option, both of which are funded with federal and state dollars. The scope of benefits includes the application of fluoride, or other appropriate fluoride treatment, as defined by DHCS, for children under age 17. [WIC §14132]
- 5) Requires, under federal law, coverage for individuals under age 21 of all necessary health care, diagnostic services, treatment, and other measures to correct or ameliorate defects and physical and mental illnesses and conditions discovered by the screening services, whether or not such services are covered under the State plan, known as the Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment (EPSDT) benefit, and codifies this benefit in state law. [42 USC §1396d and WIC §14059.5]
- 6) Specifies that EPSDT services also include all age-specific assessments and services listed under the most current periodicity schedule by the American Academy of Pediatrics and Bright Futures, and any other medically necessary assessments and services that exceed those listed. [WIC §14149.95]
- 7) Requires DHCS to establish a list of performance measures designed to evaluate utilization, access, availability, and effectiveness of preventive care and treatment to ensure the dental fee-for-service program meets quality and access criteria. Includes in the list of required performance measures the number of applications of fluoride varnishes. [WIC §14132.915]
- 8) Authorizes any person to apply topical fluoride, including fluoride varnish, to the teeth of individuals who are being served in a public health setting or public health program according to the prescription and protocol issues and established by a physician or dentist. [HSC §104762]
- 9) Requires pupils of public and private elementary and secondary schools to be given the opportunity to receive the topical application of fluoride, including fluoride varnish in a manner approved by the Department of Public Health. Requires the program of topical application to be under the general direction of a dentist licensed in the state, according to the prescription and protocol established by the dentist, and applied through self-application or by another person. [HSC §104830]

This bill:

- 1) Requires a health plan contract or health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2027, that provides coverage for the application of fluoride coverage as a pediatric oral care benefit to provide coverage for the application of fluoride varnish as medically necessary regardless of whether the services is billed as a dental benefit or as a medical benefit, and prohibits such plans and policies from imposing a deductible, co-insurance, copayment or other cost-sharing requirement for that coverage.
- 2) Exempts specialized health plan contracts and health insurance policies, Medicare supplement policies, and Medi-Cal managed care plan contracts with DHCS.
- 3) Specifies that this bill does not diminish a health plan or insurer's responsibility under the ACA to cover services that are assigned either a grade A or B by the USPSTF.
- 4) Conditions the implementation of this bill to an appropriation should the requirements create an obligation for the state to defray the costs.
- 5) Requires DHCS, by July 1, 2027, to issue billing guidance and make any necessary updates to ensure Medi-Cal coverage policy for recipients under age 21 is consistent with the federal EPSDT benefit.
- 6) Requires such policy to allow for the application of fluoride varnish without any place of service restrictions when rendered by a Medi-Cal enrolled, licensed medical or dental provider or another qualified health care or public health professional within their scope of practice who is trained on oral health, including the application of fluoride varnish, and is supervised by an enrolled, licensed medical or dental provider within their scope of practice who bills on their behalf. Specifies that "qualified health care or public health professional" includes community health workers and may include other non-licensed practitioners as designated by DHCS in its billing guidance, provided they are trained and supervised as specified in this subdivision.
- 7) Requires a qualified health care or public health professional to complete a training program on oral health and application of fluoride varnish, which may be issued by the American Academy of Pediatrics Oral Health Initiative, another nationally recognized organization or academic institution with subject-

matter expertise in oral health, or any other public or private organization specified by DHCS.

- 8) Requires Medi-Cal enrolled, licensed medical or dental providers to be responsible for ensuring each qualified health care or public health professional under their supervision completes the required training prior to providing services to Medi-Cal beneficiaries and maintaining documentation that is made available to the DHCS upon request or in the event of a state or federal audit.
- 9) Permits DHCS to implement this benefit via guidance without taking any further regulatory action, but conditions the implementation upon the receipt of federal financial participation and any necessary federal approvals.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

Fluoride varnish is a safe, inexpensive, and effective dental intervention that can help prevent tooth decay. However, current Medi-Cal policies are unnecessarily restrictive. First, although many types of non-clinical staff can be authorized to apply fluoride varnish, Medi-Cal policy requires a qualified health professional to “hold the brush” when applying fluoride varnish, making it more difficult and costly to incorporate into primary care and public health settings. Medi-Cal policy guidance is also unclear that medically necessary fluoride varnish in the primary care setting is currently covered by Medi-Cal for all children under 21, under federal EPSDT requirements. In addition, commercial insurance only covers fluoride varnish in the primary care setting for children under the age of five, which leaves out other children who could benefit from this preventive intervention. This bill will enhance coverage of fluoride varnish in the primary care setting and makes it easier for dental, medical, and school-based care providers to bill Medi-Cal for fluoride varnish. In an era where settled science on the effectiveness and safety of fluoride is being questioned, California should expand this cost-effective intervention to prevent cavities and promote good oral health for our children.

Background

Dental caries and children’s health. According to a June 2021 report by the California Department of Public Health, of the oral health status up children describing results from a 2018-2019 survey of third grade students, 61% of California children in third grade had experienced dental caries, compared to the national median of 53% among all states. The study also found that 21% had

untreated decay. For Latinos, the rate of caries experience was 72% and nearly 25% had untreated decay. These numbers were very similar to the number of socioeconomically disadvantaged students with caries experience or untreated tooth decay (73% and 26% respectively).

California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP) analysis. AB 1996 (Thomson, Chapter 795, Statutes of 2002) requests the University of California to assess legislation proposing a mandated benefit or service and prepare a written analysis with relevant data on the medical, economic, and public health impacts of proposed health plan and health insurance benefit mandate legislation. CHBRP was created in response to AB 1996, and reviewed this bill. Key findings include:

- *Coverage impacts and enrollees covered.* CHBRP assumed that 100% of health plan enrollees have coverage for fluoride varnish when applied in a primary care setting for enrollees aged 0 to 5 years in accordance with state and federal law. For enrollees aged 6-20, approximately 1.5% of commercial enrollees and 17% of Medi-Cal beneficiaries have coverage in medical settings (rather than a dentist office) at baseline. This bill would provide coverage for the varnish for all enrollees age 20 years and younger in medical settings.
- *Medical effectiveness.* Overall, CHBRP found evidence that fluoride varnish is effective in the prevention of tooth decay and dental caries, primarily in younger children, in both medical and other clinical settings. The evidence was stronger for primary teeth than permanent teeth in medical settings, but in other clinical settings there was strong evidence for all children under 18 that the application of fluoride varnish is effective in improving oral health outcomes. It should be noted that CHBRP did not identify studies for children over 18 and that there was very limited research on the application of the varnish in medical settings on permanent teeth, thus the absence of evidence is not evidence of no effect.
- *Utilization.* CHBRP assumes utilization of fluoride varnish among commercial and Medi-Cal enrollees aged 0 to 5 years would not increase because this service is fully covered at baseline. There are approximately 16,600 applications among commercial enrollees aged 0 to 5 years and 115,500 applications among Medi-Cal beneficiaries aged 0 to 5 years at baseline. CHBRP estimates an increase of 27,100 applications for commercial enrollees aged 6 to 20 years over the current 700 applications and an increase of 112,800 applications for Medi-Cal enrollees over the current 9,000 applications.

- *Medi-Cal.* According to CHBRP, fluoride treatments are covered under the Medi-Cal dental program for enrollees aged 20 and younger when provided by dental professionals, thus there is no change in benefit coverage when provided in that setting. They also flag that existing law requires coverage up through age 17. CHBRP also points to a national benchmark adopted by DHCS that establishes a minimum performance target level of 19.3% for Medi-Cal beneficiaries aged 1-20 years old to have at least two topical fluoride applications annually. In 2022, 16.17% had at least two applications of fluoride varnish annually.
- *Impact on expenditures.* Within DMHC-regulated commercial plans and CDI-regulated commercial policies, premiums would increase by \$653,000. This would be between 0.0007% and 0.0009% per member per month or between \$0.006 and \$0.007 per member per month. For Medi-Cal beneficiaries enrolled in DMHC-regulated plans and County Organized Health Systems (COHS), premiums would increase by \$2,249,000. This would be less than 0.01% or \$0.02 per member per month.
- *Public health.* CHBRP projects a very limited public health impact on the overall incidence of dental caries and loss of tooth enamel in the first year post mandate, largely because cavities generally take one to two years to develop. Assuming enrollees continue to receive fluoride varnish in a medical setting annually, this bill could potentially result in a reduction of 5,800 cavities among the 27,100 new users aged 6 to 20 years with commercial coverage and a reduction of 24,200 cavities among the 112,800 new users aged 6 to 20 years with Medi-Cal. This could be increased or decreased by other public health factors such as community water fluoridation.
- *Essential health benefits.* CHBRP states that this bill would not exceed the definition of Essential Health Benefits in California because it would expand an existing benefit requirement rather than create a new coverage requirement. This means that the state would not be responsible for covering the cost of the benefit in the commercial market under the ACA rules.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, this bill would have the following fiscal impact:

- DHCS estimates the following costs:

- Ongoing costs of \$156,000 (\$78,000 General Fund and \$78,000 federal funds) in 2025-26 and \$147,000 (\$74,000 General Fund and \$73,000 federal funds) in 2027-28 and annually thereafter for state operations to create new policies and billing guidelines to expand fluoride varnish coverage to include a broader range of providers who may apply fluoride varnish in primary care and public health settings.
- Indeterminate costs due to increased utilization of services. The fiscal impact to the Medi-Cal program is indeterminable as there are no active medical billing codes for the application of fluoride varnish and supplementation for members 6 to 20 years of age in the primary care setting. Additionally, it is difficult to determine the utilization rate for this new benefit being performed in a primary care setting, particularly since this is a covered Medi-Cal benefit in dental settings. For the application of topical fluoride varnish for children 0 to 5 years of age, the Medi-Cal program typically reimburses at \$18 per application in the primary care setting. As of December 2024, there were approximately 4.1 million Medi-Cal members ages 6 to 20 years. If five percent (206,250) of them received one fluoride varnish in the primary care setting per year and DHCS paid \$18 per application, DHCS estimates the annual, ongoing cost at approximately \$3.7 million (\$1.85 million General Fund and \$1.85 million federal funds).
- DMHC estimates minor and absorbable costs.
- CDI estimates costs of \$3,000 in 2025-26 and \$16,000 in 2026-27 for state administration (Insurance Fund).
- Unknown ongoing General Fund costs, potentially low tens of thousands, due to increases in CalPERS plan premiums.

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/11/26)

California Dental Association (co-source)
 Children Now (co-source)
 American Academy of Pediatrics, California
 Asian Resources, Inc.
 Association of Regional Center Agencies
 California Academy of General Dentistry
 California Academy of Family Physicians
 California Association of Orthodontists
 California Dental Hygienists' Association

California Neurology Society
California Pan-Ethnic Health Network
California School- Based Health Alliance
California Society of Pediatric Dentistry
California State PTA
Care2u Oral Care Administrative Services
Center for Oral Health
Children's Choice Dental Care
County of Alameda
County of Los Angeles
County of Sacramento
Delta Dental of California
Dental Board of California
Dental Hygiene Board of California
Dientes Community Dental Care
EveryChild Foundation
First 5 Alameda County
First 5 Monterey County
First 5 Nevada County
First 5 San Bernardino County
LA Best Babies Network
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
North East Medical Services
State Council on Developmental Disabilities
The Los Angeles Trust for Children's Health
Western Center on Law & Poverty
Women Lawyers of Sacramento

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/11/26)

Association of California Life & Health Insurance Companies
California Association of Health Plans
1 individual

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Co-sponsors, Children Now and the California Dental Association write that cavities are the most common chronic, yet largely preventable condition experienced by children. Untreated cavities can cause pain and infections that may lead to problems with eating, speaking, playing and learning. Research shows that children with poor oral health status were nearly three times more likely than other students to miss school as a result of dental pain and were more likely to perform poorly in school. Unfortunately, in California, less

than half of children in the Medi-Cal program have annual dental visits where topical fluoride varnish could be applied. Primary care and public health settings such as schools offer additional access points for the application of fluoride varnish for children enrolled in Medi-Cal. They are also concerned about recent statements from the federal administration that threaten community water fluoridation, which the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has previously named as one of the 10 greatest public health interventions in the 20th century because of the dramatic decline in cavities since such fluoridation began in 1945.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) and the Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies (ACLHIC) write that this bill exceeds the current guidelines that mandate coverage of fluoride varnish for children ages 0-5. It would also increase total premiums paid by employers and enrollees for newly covered benefits by \$3,242,000. Given the current uncertainty regarding the Medi-Cal budget as well as the uncertainty pertaining to future funding from the federal government, they are fundamentally opposed to legislation that could further increase premium costs for families. They argue that focusing on updating the Essential Health Benefits allows for a more comprehensive and thoughtful approach when determining benefits while California continues to grapple with rising health care costs and budget shortfalls.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-1, 6/2/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bennett, Sanchez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Jen Flory / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
5/14/26 16:49:41

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 739
Author: Jackson (D)
Amended: 1/15/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa
Bogh, Padilla, Pérez

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 1/29/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common interest developments: managing agent fees

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires a homeowner's association (HOA) board to review the fees charged by a managing agent on an annual basis, and provide an electronic copy of the fees upon written request of an association member.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires an HOA board to distribute an annual budget report and policy statement 30-90 days before the end of the fiscal year, that provides members with information about association policies and includes all of the following information:

- a) The name and address of the person designated to receive official communications to the HOA;
 - b) A statement explaining that an HOA member can request to have notices sent to up to two different addresses;
 - c) The location, if any, designated by the HOA for the posting of any general notices;
 - d) Notice that a member may receive general notices by individual delivery;
 - e) Notice of a member's right to receive copies of any meeting minutes;
 - f) The statement of HOA assessment collection policies;
 - g) A statement describing the HOA's policies and practices in enforcing lien rights or other legal remedies for default in the payment of assessments;
 - h) A statement describing the HOA's discipline policy, if any, including any schedule of penalties for violations of the governing documents;
 - i) A summary of HOA dispute resolution procedures;
 - j) A summary of any requirements for association approval of a physical change to property; and,
 - k) The mailing address for overnight payment of assessments.
- 2) Requires an HOA Board, notwithstanding more stringent standards, to review all of the following on a monthly basis:
- a) A current reconciliation of the association's operating accounts.
 - b) A current reconciliation of the association's reserve accounts.
 - c) The current year's actual operating revenues and expenses compared to the current year's budget.
 - d) The latest account statements prepared by the financial institutions where the association has its operating and reserve accounts.
 - e) An income and expense statement for the association's operating and reserve accounts.

- f) The check register, monthly general ledger, and delinquent assessment receivable reports.
- 3) Allows an HOA member to inspect association records, including management contracts and corresponding invoices.

This bill:

- 1) Requires an HOA to deliver, through electronic means, a statement of fees charged by the managing agent, upon written request by a member.
- 2) Requires an HOA Board, notwithstanding more stringent standards, to review a statement of fees charged by the managing agent on an annual basis, including:
 - a) The reporting period covered by the disclosure.
 - b) The total number of residential units in the association during the reporting period.
 - c) The total amount billed and paid by the association to the management company during the reporting period.
 - d) The breakdown of the total amount described in (c) into the following categories:
 - i) Base management fees, which include amounts paid pursuant to fixed or recurring compensation specified in the management agreement.
 - ii) Fee schedule charges, which include amounts paid for additional or optional services provided pursuant to a fee schedule adopted by the board of directors as part of the management agreement.
 - iii) Reimbursable expenses, which include amounts paid to reimburse the management company for third-party costs or expenses incurred on behalf of the association.

Background

Davis-Stirling Act (Act). The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing Common Interest Developments (CIDs) CIDs and HOAs in California. The Act provides the legal framework for the creation and management of HOAs, including rules related to governance, assessments, dispute resolution, maintenance responsibilities, and member rights. The law aims to balance the authority of HOAs with the rights of individual property owners,

ensuring that communities are managed efficiently and fairly. Over time, the Act has been amended to address the evolving needs of CIDs and HOAs, including increased transparency, accountability, and consumer protections. Key provisions of the Act include requirements for open meetings, financial disclosures, election procedures, and architectural review processes. The Act also provides mechanisms for resolving disputes, including internal dispute resolution and alternative dispute resolution before certain legal actions can proceed. As the majority of new housing construction in California is part of an HOA, the Act plays a critical role in shaping the environment and governance of these communities and the tens of millions of residents who reside in them.

Annual Policy Statements and Budget Reports. Under the Davis-Stirling Act, each HOA must provide an annual policy statement and annual budget report to each member before the end of each fiscal year, as specified. Where the annual policy statement summarizes key rules, procedures, and member rights, the annual budget report includes the association's pro forma operating budget, a summary of its reserves, and a variety of financial statements, as specified. The combination of these two documents are intended to promote transparency and good governance within associations and ensure members receive the information they need.

Comments

- 1) *Author's statement.* "Fees charged by HOA managing agents are often complex and confusing for association members who want to understand exactly what they are paying and want insight into third-party vendors. AB 739 is a transparency measure to require a summary of HOA fee information be provided to the association's board members while guaranteeing homeowners the right to access this information. Providing HOA members with clear, digestible fee information is critical to ensure they can make informed decisions about their communities."
- 2) *Promoting clarity in statute.* Existing law already requires the fees charged by a managing agent to be included in an association's pro forma operating budget and/or its annual budget report. Additionally, association members are already permitted to inspect association records, including management contracts and corresponding invoices. The existing provisions are intended to address concerns that managing agent fees are unchecked and difficult to find. This bill additionally requires an association to deliver an electronic statement of managing fees to any member, upon written request. Further, this bill details the kinds of financial information related to managing agents that HOA Boards should be reviewing on a regular basis. These proposals appear narrowly

tailored to achieve the impact of greater transparency in HOAs when an association contracts with a managing agent for their services.

3) *Double-referred*. This bill was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 16th, where it received a vote of 11-0.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/18/26)

California Association of Realtors

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/18/26)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California Association of Realtors write in support of this bill, stating that it will help increase transparency in HOAs and ensure homeowners are more informed about the duties and responsibilities of the HOA management company they pay for.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 1/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gipson, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/18/26 16:33:39

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 939
Author: Schultz (D), et al.
Amended: 1/15/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 8-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Padilla, Pérez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Seyarto, Ochoa Bogh

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-9, 1/29/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Housing development: density bonuses: affordability of for-sale units

SOURCE: Habitat for Humanity

DIGEST: This bill revises Density Bonus Law (DBL) to allow qualifying nonprofit corporations to purchase for-sale units developed under DBL without waiting 180 days, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes DBL, which requires local governments to grant a density bonus when an applicant for a housing development, defined as a development containing “five or more residential units, including mixed-use developments,” seeks and agrees to construct a project that will contain at least one of the following:
 - a) 10% of the total units of a housing development for lower-income (LI) households;

- b) 5% of the total units of a housing development for very low-income (VLI) households;
 - c) A senior citizen housing development or mobile home park;
 - d) 10% of the units as for-sale units in a common interest development (CID) for moderate-income households;
 - e) 10% of the total units for transitional foster youth, veterans, or persons experiencing homelessness;
 - f) 20% of the total units for lower-income students in a student housing development; or
 - g) 100% of the units of a housing development for lower-income households, except that 20% of units may be for moderate-income households.
- 2) Requires for-sale units built using DBL to be initially sold and occupied by VLI, LI, or moderate income households.
- 3) Provides that if the for-sale unit is not purchased by an income-qualified person or family within 180 days after issuance of a certificate of occupancy, a qualified nonprofit housing corporation meeting the following requirements may purchase the unit:
- a) The nonprofit corporation is tax-exempt, as verified through determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service, and is not a private foundation;
 - b) The nonprofit corporation is based in California;
 - c) All board members of the nonprofit corporation have their primary residence in California; and
 - d) The primary activity of the nonprofit corporation is the development and preservation of affordable home ownership housing in California.
- 4) Requires a qualifying nonprofit meeting the definition in 3), above, to sell any for-sale owner-occupied units to VLI, LI, or moderate-income families, as specified.

This bill:

- 1) Allows nonprofit corporations that receive a welfare exemption to purchase for-sale units developed under DBL without waiting 180 days after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, if:

- a) The units purchased by the nonprofit are subsequently sold to and occupied by ELI, VLI, or LI households participating in a below-market interest rate loan program; and
- b) The below-market interest rate loan program incorporates within their contracts for initial purchase a repurchase option that requires a subsequent purchaser of the property that desires to resell or convey the property to offer the qualified nonprofit corporation the right to repurchase the property prior to selling or conveying that property to any other purchaser pursuant to an equity sharing agreement or affordability restrictions on the sale and conveyance of the property that ensure that the property will be preserved for lower income housing for at least 45 years for owner-occupied housing units and will be sold or resold only to persons or families of ELI, VLI, or LI.

Background

Density bonus law. Given California's high land and construction costs for housing, it is extremely difficult for the private market to provide housing units that are affordable to low- and even moderate-income households. Public subsidy is often required to fill the financial gap on affordable units. DBL allows public entities to reduce or even eliminate subsidies for a particular project by allowing a developer to include more total units in a project than would otherwise be allowed by the local zoning ordinance, in exchange for affordable units. Allowing more total units permits the developer to spread the cost of the affordable units more broadly over the market-rate units. The idea of DBL is to cover at least some of the financing gap of affordable housing with regulatory incentives, rather than additional subsidy.

Under existing law, if a developer proposes to construct a housing development with a specified percentage of affordable units, the city or county must provide all of the following benefits: a density bonus; incentives or concessions (hereafter referred to as incentives); waiver of any development standards that prevent the developer from utilizing the density bonus or incentives; and reduced parking standards. To qualify for benefits under DBL, a proposed housing development must contain a minimum percentage of affordable housing. If one of these options is met, a developer is entitled to a base increase in density for the project as a whole (referred to as a density bonus) and one regulatory incentive. Under DBL, a developer is entitled to a sliding scale of density bonuses, up to a maximum of 50% of the maximum zoning density and up to four incentives, as specified, depending on the percentage of affordable housing included in the project. At the

low end, a developer receives 20% additional density for 5% very low-income units or 20% density for 10% low-income units. The maximum additional density permitted is 50%, in exchange for 15% very low-income units or 24% low-income units. Additionally, specified 100% affordable housing projects may receive up to an 80% density bonus. The developer also negotiates additional incentives, reduced parking, and design standard waivers, with the local government. This helps developers reduce costs while enabling a local government to determine what changes make the most sense for that site and community.

Comments

Qualified Nonprofit Purchase of DBL For-Sale Units. All affordable rental units built under DBL must be deed-restricted for at least 55 years to ensure long-term affordability. For-sale affordable units constructed pursuant to DBL are subject to a separate affordability and resale framework that requires each unit used to qualify for the density bonus to be initially sold and occupied by a very low-, low-, or moderate-income household at an affordable housing cost and subject to an equity-sharing agreement that governs resale of the unit regardless of the identity of the purchaser. If the unit is not purchased by an income-qualified household within 180 days of issuance of the certificate of occupancy, DBL allows the unit to be purchased by a qualified nonprofit housing corporation that meets specified federal and state eligibility criteria and whose primary mission is the development and preservation of affordable homeownership housing in California. Units acquired or developed by a qualified nonprofit must be subject to repurchase options or affordability restrictions that preserve the unit as owner-occupied affordable housing for at least 45 years and limit resale to income-qualified households, and, in those cases, DBL permits the local government to contract with the nonprofit to assign responsibility for recapture of the initial public subsidy and proportionate share of appreciation, provided all proceeds are reinvested in lower-income homeownership within the local jurisdiction.

AB 323 (Holden, Chapter 738, Statutes of 2023), limited the ability of developers to sell deed-restricted units intended for owner-occupancy to purchasers who would rent the unit. The bill sought to ensure that low-income families can realize the dream of homeownership, rather than allowing investors to use DBL to convert income-restricted owner-occupancy units into rental units. AB 323 (Holden) specified that for-sale units must be sold to, not just occupied by, income-qualified households. AB 323 (Holden) also established the 180-day hold period between issuance of a certificate of occupancy and when a qualified nonprofit could

purchase the for-sale unit under DBL, and added the following more stringent parameters around which nonprofits are qualified to purchase for-sale units:

- The nonprofit must have a determination letter from the Internal Revenue Service affirming its tax-exempt status, and cannot be a private foundation.
- The nonprofit must be based in California, and all of the nonprofit's board members must have their primary residence in California.
- The primary activity of the nonprofit is the development and preservation of affordable homeownership housing in California that incorporates within their contracts for initial purchase a repurchase option that requires a subsequent purchaser of the property that desires to resell or convey the property to offer the qualified nonprofit corporation the right to repurchase the property prior to selling or conveying that property to any other purchaser pursuant to an equity sharing agreement.

While AB 323 (Holden) intended to ensure that qualified income-restricted buyers have the first opportunity to purchase DBL units without competing with speculative investors or non-certified nonprofits, developers have shared anecdotal evidence that they sometimes struggle to find income-qualified buyers for for-sale units developed through DBL, leaving these affordable for-sale units sitting vacant, generating carrying costs and marketing costs for the homebuilder, before they can transfer the title to a qualified nonprofit to manage the initial sale to a low-income buyer. Sometimes, these restrictions deter developers from pursuing for-sale DBL projects altogether.

This bill would amend DBL to allow nonprofit corporations that receive a welfare exemption to purchase for-sale units developed under DBL without waiting 180 days after the issuance of a certificate of occupancy, so long as those units purchased by the nonprofit are sold to low-income families who participate in a below-market interest rate loan program. These organizations, like Habitat for Humanity and Self-Help Enterprises, are currently prohibited from partnering with market-rate homebuilders early in the planning process to create a pipeline of low-income for-sale homes due to the 180-day hold period. These nonprofit affordable housing organizations across California maintain lists of pre-qualified low-income families with approved financing, and ready to purchase affordable homes, and these units are often built by the nonprofit to be immediately sold to a low-income family upon issuance of the certificate of occupancy.

In doing so, this bill seeks to facilitate the sale and construction of for-sale affordable units under DBL by allowing qualified nonprofits to purchase these units sooner, allowing them to be sold to low-income families who participate in a

below-market interest rate loan program, rather than allowing them to sit vacant for approximately half of a year before the unit can be sold if an income-qualified buyer does not buy the unit.

This bill maintains the provisions of AB 323 (Holden) to limit the eligibility of who may purchase an income-restricted unit under DBL, as well as requiring the occupants of the units to be ELI, VLI, or LI households, and for the units to be preserved for lower income housing for at least 45 years. Given nonprofit partners are required to maintain the affordability levels for 45 years, removing the 180-day restriction will enable more of these homes to be covered by these partnerships and greater assurances these units will maintain their affordability levels.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Habitat for Humanity California (Source)
Abundant Housing Los Angeles
Bay Area Council
Cal Chamber
California Council for Affordable Housing
California Yimby
Cbia
Housing Action Coalition
Monterey Bay Economic Partnership
Spur
Student Homes Coalition

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Association of Realtors

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “AB 939 addresses the consequence of density bonus law that delays the sale of lower-income designated ownership units and leaves affordable homes vacant for extended periods of time. Current law prohibits nonprofit affordable housing organizations from acquiring unsold affordable ownership units until 180 days after issuance of a certificate of occupancy. This delay creates costs while preventing families from accessing affordable homeownership opportunities. Nonprofit affordable housing organizations work directly with income-qualified homebuyers with approved financing to purchase homes. At any given time, there are ten to one-hundred times the number of income qualified buyers than homes available. Unlike traditional

market sales, nonprofit affordable homeownership models ensure homes are sold at affordable below-market prices, sales commission free and attainable to low-income families while preserving long-term affordability resale restrictions to keep the affordable housing stock affordable for future first-time homebuyers. These organizations don't assess sales commissions; instead they provide stewardship, buyer education, and ongoing compliance oversight that protects homebuyers and the public investment in affordable housing. AB 939 streamlines the transfer of affordable ownership units to qualified nonprofit partners, reducing prolonged vacancies and ensuring these homes are occupied quickly by low-income owner-occupants consistent with the public purpose of California's density bonus law."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition unless amended, the California Association of Realtors assert "AB 939 locks families into restrictive repurchase contracts that intercept future equity, trapping low-income buyers in a cycle of permanent asset limitation and disproportionately harming communities already facing homeownership barriers. Unless amended to resolve C.A.R.'s concerns, AB 939 will undermine property rights, weaken homeownership pathways, and threaten the long-term stability of California's entry-level ownership market."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-9, 1/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Ávila Farías, DeMaio, Ellis, Gallagher, Hoover, Macedo, Ramos, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Caloza, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/24/26 16:28:30

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1377
Author: McKinnor (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/21/25
Vote: 27

SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE: 4-0, 7/9/25
AYES: McNerney, Ashby, Grayson, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 8/29/25
AYES: Caballero, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-5, 6/2/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Income taxes: credits: motion picture credit

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill removes the option for applicants to make a good faith effort to meet the diversity goals in their diversity work plans to receive an additional 4% Motion Picture and Television Production Tax Credit amount, effective in the 2025 taxable year.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Allows various income tax credits and deductions, as well as sales and use tax exemptions.
- 2) Enacts a tax credit against the Personal Income and Corporation Taxes for producing qualified motion pictures with a minimum production budget of at least \$1 million at a certified studio construction project, in which the qualified taxpayer claiming a credit must have at least 50% ownership or a ten-year lease

with the soundstage, using most of the same definitions and requirements from the motion picture production credit detailed below (SB 144, Portantino, Chapter 114, Statutes of 2021). The California Film Commission (CFC) can allocate \$150 million in credits for qualified motion pictures, but cannot allocate more than \$12 million in total or \$750,000 per episode.

- 3) Enacts a tax credit against the Personal Income and Corporation Taxes for qualified motion picture production in California, directing CFC to allocate \$750 million in credits each fiscal year starting in 2025-26 and continuing through 2029-30 (SB 132 Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review, Chapter 56, Statutes of 2023; SB 132, Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review, Chapter 17, Statutes of 2025; AB 1138, Zbur, Chapter 27, Statutes of 2025); CFC can allocate credits to “qualified motion pictures” that:
 - a) Have 75% of the motion picture shooting days take place in California, or have 75% of the production budget incurred within the state for services or the purchase or rental of property;
 - b) Commence principal photography after the date CFC approves its application, but before 180 days after the date of approval, and finish within 30 months from the date when the application was approved by the CFC, with some exceptions;
 - c) Obtain a copyright from the United States Copyright Office; and
 - d) Provide a workplace diversity plan checklist.
- 4) Provides that a qualified motion picture includes:
 - a) A feature with a minimum production budget of at least \$1 million; however, no more than \$120 million in qualified expenditures count for purposes of generating the credit.
 - b) An independent film, defined as a motion picture that is produced by a company that is neither publicly traded, nor more than 30% owned by publicly traded companies.
 - c) A television series that relocated to California, defined as one that had 75% of the principal photography of the most recent season conducted outside the state.

- d) A live action or animated series produced in California with a run time of 20 minutes or more on average, with a minimum budget of \$1 million per episode.
 - e) Animated films produced in California with a \$1 million budget or more.
 - f) A large-scale competition show produced in California with a minimum budget of \$1 million per episode.
 - g) A pilot for a new live action or animated series with a run time of 20 minutes or more on average, produced in California with a minimum budget of \$1 million per episode.
- 5) Provides that the amount of the tax credit is equal to either:
- a) 35% of the qualified production expenditures for films, television series, pilots, or independent films, or
 - b) 40% of the qualified expenditures for relocating television.
- 6) States that qualified expenditures are amounts paid or incurred to purchase or lease tangible personal property, pay wages and fringe benefits, or contract for services performed in the state during production in California.
- 7) Excludes from qualified expenditures any amounts paid to writers, directors, music directors, music composers, music supervisors, producers, or performers, other than background actors.
- 8) Requires applicants to file an application with the CFC that includes specified information, including data regarding the diversity of the workforce employed by the applicant, and, if applicable, a summary of the applicant's voluntary programs to increase the representation of minorities and women in the job classifications.
- 9) Allows credit "uplifts" for productions when they incurred qualified expenditures for:
- a) Filming outside the Los Angeles zone (5%), as defined;
 - b) Visual effects expenditures, where at least 75% or a minimum of \$10 million is paid or incurred in California (5%); and

- c) Local-hire labor for feature films, new TV series, recurring TV series, pilots, and miniseries (10%), as well as independent films or relocating TV series (5%).
- 10) Directs CFC to increase the total credit amount allocated to an applicant by up to 2% of the initial credit amount for qualified productions that employ trainees from a Career Pathways Program.
 - 11) Requires CFC to include on a tax credit application the diversity of the workforce employed by the applicant, including the ethnic and racial makeup of the individuals employed by the applicant during the production of the qualified motion picture, to the extent possible.
 - 12) Precludes CFC from allocating credits unless applicants supplied aggregate data for individuals whose wages cannot generate credits (such as actors, writers, and directors), including their gender, ethnic, and racial makeup.
 - 13) Under the soundstage and general production credit, limits the overall credit amount to 96%, unless the qualified taxpayer chooses to submit a diversity work plan, and CFC determines that the applicant has met or made a good-faith effort to meet the diversity goals in its diversity work plan.
 - 14) Requires CFC to certify an additional 4% when the qualified taxpayers submit the following to CFC:
 - a) A diversity work plan within 30 days after receiving a credit allocation letter, which must be consistent with the diversity work plan checklist to address diversity and be broadly reflective of California's population in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, veteran status, disability status, and ZIP code for members of the workforce whose wages are excluded from qualified expenditures.
 - b) A statement of the diversity goals the motion picture will seek to achieve in terms of qualified wages, and for individuals whose wages are excluded from qualified wages.
 - c) A plan of what strategies the motion picture will employ to achieve its diversity goals.
 - d) An interim assessment, and a final assessment, of whether it is meeting its diversity work plan.

- 15) Directs CFC to approve or reject diversity work plans to the extent allowed by state and federal law.
- 16) Requires CFC to also annually report diversity data supplied by applicants, commencing June 30, 2027, including an assessment of whether the diversity work plan goals are met for productions that submitted a final assessment.
- 17) Requires assessments to include accounts of diversity work plans submitted, interim assessments submitted, and final assessments submitted, as well as diversity checklist information.
- 18) Requires CFC to submit each assessment to the Legislature.
- 19) Directs CFC to adopt rules and regulations implementing voluntary programs designed to increase the representation of minorities and women in certain job classifications and to establish the Career Pathways Training program.
- 20) Requires CFC to identify a fiscal agent with direct relationships to industry skills training programs to manage the funds; and engage labor-management jointly administered training programs with skills training focused on the entertainment industry to implement the Program with CFC approval and oversight.
- 21) Requires applicants receiving a credit allocation letter under the current credit program to make a financial contribution to fund the Program for individuals from underserved communities to receive training for careers in the industry of 0.5% of the credit amount, which CFC can increase in 0.25% increments up to 1% after January 1, 2028.
- 22) Directs the Program to work with nonprofit organizations that have an established record of training and job placement in the entertainment industry, focus on training individuals from traditionally underserved communities, and offer training courses focused on skilled, technical positions that would be eligible for qualified wages if performed on a qualified motion picture as well as administrative- and industry-related technical occupations or soft skills training for the motion picture industry.
 - a) Require CFC to expand the number of nonprofit organizations that partner with the Career Pathways Program to provide access to the widest cross-section of Californians, including historically disadvantaged and underrepresented individuals seeking training and employment opportunities in motion picture and television production.

- b) Direct CFC to establish an application process for these nonprofit organizations, with applications submitted to the fiscal agent as part of a request for proposal process.
- c) Set forth a series of requirements for CFC to initiate and sequence the request for proposal process.
- d) Direct CFCs to approve Career Pathways Programs, and requires them to meet all of the following requirements:
 - i) Be conducted by a nonprofit organization that has an established record of training and job placement in the entertainment industry.
 - ii) Be focused on training individuals 18 years or older from traditionally underserved communities.
 - iii) Offer training courses focused on one or more of the following:
 - (1) Skilled, technical positions that would be eligible for qualified wages if performed on a qualified motion picture.
 - (2) Administrative- and industry-related technical occupations.
 - (3) Soft skills training.

This bill:

- 1) Amends the soundstage and 4.0 credits in the Personal Income and Corporation Tax laws to delete the option for applicants to show a good faith effort for CFC to certify an additional 4% credit amount. Instead, the 4% augmentation would be contingent on a finding by the CFC that the qualified taxpayer has met the diversity goals in its diversity work plan.
- 2) Applies commencing in the 2025 taxable year.
- 3) Makes conforming changes.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) notes that the revenue impact of this bill is unknown. To calculate the magnitude of its potential impact to the General Fund, FTB would need to know (1) the frequency of taxpayers meeting the

diversity workplan goal, and (2) the amount of additional credits allocated. FTB assumes that the motion picture credit will be fully allocated each year, and assumes that if taxpayers meet the requisite diversity plan requirements, they would generate more credits than they would have otherwise. The annual impact would likely be less than \$100,000.

- The California Film Commission (CFC) indicates that it would incur annual General Fund costs of \$919,000 to support five positions to implement the provisions of the bill. Additionally, CFC estimates a one-time General Fund cost of \$150,000 to update forms and contract for external consulting and software services to support to tutorial and educational materials (See Staff Comments).

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/30/25)

California Arts Advocates
California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO
Entertainment Union Coalition
Five Individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/30/25)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “AB 1377 builds on the important work of expanding the state’s film and television tax credit program by requiring studios who opt-in to participate in optional diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility tax credits to actually complete the plans that the studios themselves develop and submit to the California Film Commission. It’s simple math. If a studio chooses to apply for additional DEIA tax credits, they actually need to do the work they are committing to do. Currently, studios only have to demonstrate a good faith effort to accomplish diversity goals in order to receive these additional tax credits. And frankly, just a good faith effort is not good enough. It is a false choice for anyone to say that California has to choose between retaining and growing jobs in the film and television industries and increasing the diversity of its workforce. The film industry can and must do both.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-5, 6/2/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson,

Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Ellis, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Lackey, Macedo, Ta

Prepared by: Colin Grinnell / REV. & TAX. / (916) 651-4117
8/31/25 16:55:41

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1448
Author: Hart (D), et al.
Amended: 4/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 4-3, 7/8/25
AYES: Limón, Allen, Laird, Stern
NOES: Seyarto, Grove, Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-2, 8/29/25
AYES: Caballero, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto, Dahle

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 5-2, 6/9/26
AYES: Becker, Allen, Cabaldon, Laird, Reyes
NOES: Seyarto, Grove

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 42-26, 6/4/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Coastal resources: California Coastal Sanctuary: tidelands and submerged lands: oil and gas development

SOURCE: Center for Biological Diversity
Environmental Defense Center
Oceana

DIGEST: This bill expands upon existing requirements for the transfer or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases to include lease assignments; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026; and removes the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing in state waters within

the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from wells on federal lands, as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California Coastal Sanctuary via the California Coastal Sanctuary Act of 1994. (California Coastal Sanctuary Act, Public Resources Code (PRC) §§6240 *et seq.*)
 - a) Defines the California Coastal Sanctuary to include all state waters subject to tidal influence except those with a lease for the extraction of oil or gas in effect on January 1, 1995, unless the lease reverts to the state after January 1, 1995, and any state waters east of the Carquinez bridges on Interstate 80. (PRC §6242)
 - b) Prohibits any state agency or officer to enter into any new lease for the extraction of oil or gas from the California Coastal Sanctuary unless certain limited conditions are met. (PRC §6243)
 - c) Authorizes the State Lands Commission to enter into any lease for the extraction of oil or gas from state-owned tide and submerged lands in the California Coastal Sanctuary if the State Lands Commission determines that those oil or gas deposits are being drained by means of producing wells upon adjacent federal lands and the lease is in the best interests of the state. (PRC §6244)
- 2) Defines, pursuant to the federal Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act, the outer continental shelf (OCS) as all submerged lands lying between the seaward extent of the state jurisdiction and the seaward extent of federal jurisdiction. (43 United States Code §§1331 *et seq.*)
- 3) Provides the State Lands Commission with exclusive jurisdiction over all ungranted tidelands and submerged lands owned by the state which have been or may be acquired by the state, as provided. (PRC §6301)
- 4) Prohibits the State Lands Commission or a local trustee from entering into any new lease or other conveyance authorizing new construction of oil- and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with OCS leases issued after January 1, 2018, with limited exceptions. (PRC §6245)

- 5) Requires the State Lands Commission or local trustee, prior to approving any lease renewal, extension, amendment, or modification to authorize new construction of oil- and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific OCS leases issued after January 1, 2018, to consider whether the lease renewal, extension, amendment, or modification is necessary to protect the marine environment or to ensure human health and safety; and other factors, as provided. (PRC §6245)
- 6) Authorizes the State Lands Commission, in considering whether the approval of an assignment, transfer, or sublease of a lease or permit, to consider whether a proposed assignee is likely to comply with the terms of the lease or permit, as provided. (PRC §6804)

This bill:

- 1) Deletes from the California Coastal Sanctuary Act the provision that authorizes the State Lands Commission to enter into a lease for the extraction of oil or gas from state-owned tide and submerged lands if the State Lands Commission determines that those oil and gas deposits are being drained by producing wells upon adjacent federal lands and the lease is in the best interests of the state.
- 2) Prohibits the use of leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters to be used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026, except as provided.
- 3) Adds an application for a lease assignment for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2018, to existing State Lands Commission or local trustee public notice requirements, as provided.
 - a) Removes the requirement that the application is to authorize only new construction of oil and gas-related infrastructure.
 - b) Requires the State Lands Commission or local trustee to take no further action to approve the requested lease assignment until 180 days after public notification, as provided.
- 4) Adds lease assignment to the existing process the State Lands Commission or local trustee undertake before approving a lease renewal, extension, amendment, or modification for oil- and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with OCS leases issued after January 1, 2018. Removes the requirement that the application is to

authorize new construction of oil and gas-related infrastructure. Requires the State Lands Commission or local trustee to additionally consider various factors, such as, whether the lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification may impact public trust resources and values, among other factors.

- 5) Prohibits the approval of a lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification that will increase the volume of oil and gas conveyed across state waters, including by commencing, increasing, intensifying, or restarting production from the Pacific OCS at the same properly noticed public meeting it is first presented at. Requires the State Lands Commission or local trustee to accept public comments at the meeting it votes to approve or disapprove the lease assignment.
- 6) Requires that the approval of an assignment, transfer, or sublease of a lease or permit is in the best interest of the state, as provided.
- 7) Makes various technical changes, and requires reimbursement to a local agency or school district if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this bill contains costs mandated by the state, as specified.

Comments

With the exception of the State Building and Construction Trades Council, the opposition is to earlier versions of this bill.

[NOTE: See the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee analysis for additional information.]

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes
According to the Senate Appropriations Committee to a previous version of the bill:

- Potential loss in annual rental revenue of an unknown amount, potentially in excess of \$150,000, from offshore oil- and gas-related infrastructure leases to the extent the State Lands Commission (SLC) or a local trustee denies one or more applications for a lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification, as a result of the bill's requirements and conditions (General Fund). SLC collected approximately \$949,000 in rental revenue from its approximately one dozen pipeline right-of-way leases in fiscal year 2023-24.
- By imposing additional duties on local trustees in the consideration of a lease renewal, extension, amendment, assignment, or modification, and by imposing

additional duties on a local government with a certified LCP in processing and reviewing an application for a CDP, this bill imposes a state-mandated local program. These costs are potentially reimbursable by the state, subject to a determination by the Commission on State Mandates (General Fund).

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

Center for Biological Diversity (co-sponsor)
Environmental Defense Center (co-sponsor)
Oceana (co-sponsor)
7th Generation Advisors
350 Bay Area Action
350 Hawaii
350 Humboldt
350 Sacramento
350 Santa Barbara
417 Poplar, LLC
Alliance of Nurses for a Healthy Environment
Amazon Watch
Amy Jeske Homes, Inc.
Animals Are Sentient Beings, Inc.
Azul
Ban SUP (Single Use Plastics)
Between the Waters
Bixby Residential
Border Grill Restaurants and Truck Burea, Inc.
Business Alliance for Protecting the Pacific Coast
California Coastal Protection Network
California Coastkeeper Alliance
California Environmental Voters
California Land Watch
California Legislative Central Coast Caucus
California Marine Sanctuary Foundation

California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice
California Outdoor Recreation Partnership
Center for Environmental Health
Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment
Central Coast Climate Justice Network
Cerca Cultivation
Charlie Hong Kong
Citizens Planning Association
City of Goleta
City of Santa Barbara
CleanEarth4Kids.org
Clean Water Action
Climate Action California
Climate First: Replacing Oil and Gas
Climate Hawks Vote
Climate Health Now Action Fund
Climate Reality Project, San Diego
CLUE-SB Environmental Justice Group
Coastal Band of the Chumash Nation
Contra Costa MoveOn
County of Santa Barbara
Dana Wharf Sportfishing and Whale Watching
Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action
Defenders of Wildlife
E2
Earthwell Refill

Elected Officials to Protect America
Code Blue
Environmental Law Club at UCSB
Environmental Action Committee of
West Marin
Environmental Center of San Diego
Environmental Protection Information
Center (EPIC)
EOPA Code Blue
Families Advocating for Chemical
and Tech Safety (FACTS)
Field + Form
Fish On
Food & Water Watch
Friends Committee on Legislation of
California
Friends of the Earth
FutureSwell
Get Oil Out!
Greenpeace USA
GreenLatinos
Green Policy Initiative
Groundzero
Heal the Bay
Heal the Ocean
Hubble Daily Architecture + Design
Humboldt Waterkeeper
Indivisible CA Green Team
Indivisible Santa Cruz County,
Environmental Issues Team
International Marine Mammal
Project, Earth Island Institute
Long Beach Alliance for Clean
Energy
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Los Padres ForestWatch
Mako Strategies
Media Alliance
Mercury Press, Inc.
Midsomman, LLC

Modo Yoga San Diego
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Monterey Waterkeeper
My Zero Waste Store
Nassau Hiking & Outdoor Club
Natural Resources Defense Council
North American Climate
Conservation and Environment
(NACCE)
Ocean Conservation Research
Oil and Gas Action Network
Orange County Coastkeeper
Pacific Catch
Pacific Coast Hidaway, LLC
Paddle for Peace
Page Events
Patagonia
Pesticide Action and Agroecology
Network
Physicians for Social Responsibility,
Los Angeles
Physicians for Social Responsibility,
San Francisco Bay Chapter
Progressives for Climate
Project Kolika
Protect Ballona Wetlands
PuraVida Surf Shop, Inc.
Quabajai Coastal Chumash Keeper of
the Western Gate
Resources Renewal Institute
Root Utility Network
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous
Peoples
Salt + Noelle
San Diego 350
San Diego Coastkeeper
San Francisco Baykeeper
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
Santa Barbara County Action
Network

Santa Barbara Sportfishing
 Santa Cruz Waves
 Save Our Shores
 Sea Forager
 Sereia
 Sierra Club California
 Sierra Club, Santa Barbara Group
 Sierra Club, Santa Lucia Chapter (San
 Luis Obispo County)
 Sisters of Mercy of the Americas in
 California
 SoCal 350 Climate Action
 Society of Fearless Grandmothers of
 Santa Barbara
 Soichi Sushi
 Solano County Democratic Central
 Committee
 Stardust Sportfishing
 Sunflower Alliance
 Surfrider Foundation

Surfrider Foundation – Isla Vista Club
 Surfrider Foundation, Santa Barbara
 Chapter
 Sustainable Rossmoor
 The Climate Center
 The Fund for Santa Barbara
 The Green Room
 The Refill Shoppe
 Third Act SoCal
 Transformative Wealth Management
 Turtle Island Restoration Network
 UCSB Environmental Affairs Board
 United Nations Association –
 California
 Ventura Coastkeeper
 Vote Solar
 West Coast Paddle Sports
 Wild Beacon Consulting
 Wishtoyo Chumash Foundation
 Zero Hour

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

Central Valley Business Federation
 IEEP
 Kern Citizens of Energy
 Kern County Economic Development
 Corporation
 Kern County Taxpayers Association
 Long Beach Area Chamber of
 Commerce
 Los Angeles County Business
 Federation

Sable Offshore Corporation
 SAGE Monterey
 Santa Maria Valley Chamber
 SBCTAC
 SLO COLAB
 South County Chamber
 State Building and Construction
 Trades Council
 Tri-County Chamber Alliance
 VC Taxpayers Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “AB 1448 aims to enhance the California State Lands Commission’s authority to protect designated lands from the expansion of oil- and gas- related infrastructure.”

In a joint sign-on letter, the Center for Biological Diversity and the Environmental Defense Center write, “AB1448 will safeguard our coast against federal attempts

to unlawfully open federal waters to new oil leasing off California. The Trump Administration has pledged to drill everywhere and will undoubtedly seek to expand Pacific offshore drilling. Current gaps in state law leave untoward paths for federal oil expansion through existing infrastructure in state waters. AB1448 takes a firm stand against efforts to expand drilling off our coast, to protect against associated risks to California interests.

Moreover, AB1448 addresses the need to prevent aging infrastructure from expanded or prolonged use when it should be retired. Offshore oil infrastructure has outlived its lifespan and presents significant risks. This bill requires strict environmental considerations for the reactivation of oil projects that have been shut down. Recent oil spills off our coast are stark reminders of the need to decommission — not restart — antiquated infrastructure.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition, the State Building and Construction Trades Council states, “On the heels of several recent policy decisions that have led to the announced closures of two additional refineries in California, this bill seeks to cut off yet another source of domestic crude oil for our in-state refineries. Simply put, California and every Californian cannot afford this bill or policies like it, making it increasingly difficult and prohibitively expensive to operate refineries in-state.”

“Californians are already struggling with an ever-increasing cost of living. Every additional refinery closure will lead to thousands of job losses and millions of dollars in revenue lost from essential state programs, result in a sharp increase in costs for every Californians. The Legislature has prioritized moving policies that lower consumer costs, diminish costs to the state, and keep California refineries viable until they are no longer needed., This bill, which carries legal liability in the billions, is antithetical to those goals.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 42-26, 6/4/25

AYES: Addis, Ahrens, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Papan, Pellerin, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Ávila Farías, Bains, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Aguiar-Curry, Alvarez, Davies, Nguyen, Pacheco, Patel,
Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Valencia, Wilson

Prepared by: Katharine Moore / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/17/26 16:28:16

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1526
Author: Committee on Governmental Organization
Amended: 6/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 15-0, 7/8/25

AYES: Padilla, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle, Hurtado, Jones, Ochoa Bogh, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/1/25 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Horse racing: audits of the horsemen's organizations: minisatellite wagering facilities

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various technical and non-substantive changes to provisions of the Horse Racing Law, as specified.

Senate Floor Amendments of 6/2/26 eliminate the 90-day time limit on conducting the annual audit and authorize the California Horse Racing Board (CHRB) to permit exceptions to the audit requirement.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes the Legislature via Article IV, Section 19(b) of the Constitution of the State of California to provide for the regulation of horse races and grants the CHRB the authority to regulate the various forms of horse racing authorized in this state.

- 2) Authorizes the CHRB to approve minisatellite wagering sites, as defined, under specified conditions.
- 3) Requires an organization formed by associations or fairs to operate the audiovisual signal system to execute a specified agreement with the association conducting a racing meeting and the minisatellite wagering facility that specifies, among other things, the components of its racing program, including, out-of-zone, out-of-state, and out-of-country races, that an association or fair will make available to the site.
- 4) Requires an annual audit of the financial books and records of the horsemen's organizations, with respect to pension funds received by the organizations pursuant to specified laws, to be conducted by a nationally recognized accounting firm within 90 days of the close of the fund's business year.

This bill:

- 1) Requires explicitly the above mentioned agreement to specify which live in-state races would be provided by the association or fair to the site.
- 2) Eliminates the 90-day time limit on conducting the annual audit described above and authorizes the CHRB to permit exceptions to the audit requirement.
- 3) Makes other non-substantive changes, including deleting obsolete statute.

Background

Author's Statement. According to the author's office, "this bill removes an outdated provision concerning mini-satellite wagering sites and makes related technical updates. Furthermore, it defines 'live' for mini-satellite contractual purposes to mean 'live in-state' races as part of the organization's overall racing program."

Satellite Wagering. Satellite wagering via an off-track facility has been legal in California since the 1980s when California racetracks started to experience declining attendance and handle figures. The industry believed that making the product easier to access not only would expose and market horse racing to potential customers, but also would make it more convenient for the existing patrons to wager more often. However, while off-track-betting and simulcasting can open new revenue pathways, they often cannibalize traditional on-track

income, putting tracks at further financial risk and potentially contributing to closures.

Simulcasting. Simulcasting is the process of transmitting the audio and video signal of a live racing performance from one facility to a satellite for re-transmission to other locations or venues where pari-mutuel wagering is permitted. Simulcasting provides racetracks with the opportunity to increase revenues by exporting their live racing content to as many wagering locations as possible, such as other racetracks, fair satellite facilities, and Indian casinos. Revenues increase because simulcasting provides racetracks that export their live content with additional customers in multiple locations who would not have otherwise been able to place wagers on the live racing event.

Distribution of Audiovisual Signals and Wagering. Thoroughbred racing associations and fairs in California can distribute the audiovisual signal and accept wagers on the results of out-of-state thoroughbred races during their own race meetings. This is allowed even on days when no live races are being held at their venues. There is a limit on the number of out-of-state races that can be imported into California for betting purposes. On days when there is live thoroughbred or fair racing happening in California, the total number of races imported from out-of-state must not exceed 75 races-per-day.

However, there are exceptions to this limit. Races that are part of specific major events like the Kentucky Derby, Breeder's Cup, and other specified races can be imported without falling under the 75 race-per-day limit. Additional exceptions are made for importing races into certain geographical zones of California when no local live racing is occurring. Any wagering on these out-of-state races must comply with specific provisions of California's Horse Racing Law that govern how betting should be conducted. Wagers on out-of-state races are not allowed after 7 p.m. Pacific Standard Time unless there is consent from the local harness or quarter horse racing associations conducting live racing in certain counties.

Racetrack Attendance. Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and closure of non-essential businesses in California, the horse racing industry had already been experiencing a general decline in the number of people attending and wagering at live tracks in California. This has been occurring for more than three decades due to myriad factors including; increased competition from other forms of gaming, unwillingness of customers to travel a significant distance to racetracks, and the availability of off-track wagering.

Despite poor weather conditions and a sloppy racing surface, Churchill Downs reported that 147,406 people attended the 2025 Kentucky Derby. The all-sources betting handle on the Derby and the entire racing card reported records of \$234.4 million and \$349 million, respectively. NBC Sports reported an average of 17.7 million viewers across NBC and Peacock for their 25th Kentucky Derby broadcast, the largest television audience for the race since 1989. The declining attendance at live horse racing events in California has prompted racetracks to rely on revenues from in-state and out-of-state satellite wagering and account wagering.

Status of the Horse Racing Industry in California. The California horse racing industry's long-term health is threatened by a combination of factors, including competition from racing in other states, other forms of gaming within California, declining attendance, and the potential for higher return from development than operating revenues. As resources shrink, the industry is experiencing deficits in virtually every one of its revenue sources. Traditional take out, allocation and distribution formulas are no longer able to sustain ongoing operations.

As the value of racing operations decline, track ownership is struggling to maximize the necessary return on the investment and tempted by alternative uses of the property that yield higher returns. Consequently, the racing industry is suffering unprecedented instability and capital flight. Tens of thousands of industry jobs are in immediate jeopardy, along with breeding farms and precious open space in urban centers throughout California. Also at risk is a substantial amount of local and state revenue generated both directly and indirectly by the industry.

Further exacerbating the horse racing industries woes, the USA Today published an article in June of this year titled, "ICE raid on track workers sends shockwaves around racing, 'puts horses at risk.'" In the article, USA Today reports that federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents raided the Delta Downs racetrack in Vinton, Louisiana on June 17. More than 80 backstretch workers were reportedly detained, which the article notes "should be a wake-up call for an industry that would simply not be able to function without a workforce of grooms and hotwalkers and stall cleaners who are, by some credible estimates, 75% immigrants. They come from places like Venezuela, Panama, Colombia and Mexico, working low-wage jobs but filling indispensable roles, caring round-the-clock for animals worth hundreds of thousands, even millions of dollars."

Prominent trainer Dale Romans told reporters during a Kentucky Derby-week news conference set up to address the threat posed by a potential ICE raid at a

racetrack, “if we couldn’t have an immigrant workforce on the backside, I don’t know how horse racing exists.”

California Horse Racing Board. The CHRB designates the organizations that represent California horsemen for each breed. Pursuant to specified sections of the Business and Professions Code, CHRB rules, and requirements outlined in applicable license applications, recognized industry participants that receive statutory distributions are required to comply with annual reporting obligations. Specifically, existing law requires an annual audit of the financial books and records of the horsemen’s organizations, with respect to pension funds received by the organizations pursuant to specified laws, to be conducted by a nationally recognized accounting firm within 90 days of the close of the fund’s business year. Under Business and Professions Code section 19613.2(c), the CHRB may take disciplinary action against a horsemen’s organization that fails to annually file its audited financial statements.

Individuals seeking a copy of a horsemen’s organization’s complete audited financial statements may obtain one by contacting the CHRB headquarters office in Sacramento.

According to the California Thoroughbred Trainers (CTT), the current statutory timeframe is not workable because CTT must first obtain financial information and related data from other entities before it can complete and submit the report. Rather than routinely submitting the annual report late, CTT is seeking to revise the statute so that the reporting deadline more accurately reflects the time needed to receive the necessary information and data.

Specifically, AB 1526 eliminates the 90-day time limit on conducting the annual audit and would authorize the CHRB to permit exceptions to the audit requirement.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 347 (Strickland, 2025) authorizes thoroughbred and Appaloosa horses to enter into quarter horse races at any distance, as specified; and, amends the conditions that a licensed quarter horse racing association can conduct thoroughbred racing as part of its racing program, as specified. This bill is pending in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee.

SB 844 (Rubio, 2025) increases the limit on the importation of out-of-state thoroughbred races by a California thoroughbred racing association or fair for pari-

mutuel wagering from 75 to 80 races-per-day, as specified. This bill is pending in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.

AB 1389 (Rubio, 2025) adds the New York Stakes to the group of identified race meetings which are exempt from the current 75-race per day limit on imported races into California for the purposes of wagering. This bill is pending on the Senate Floor.

AB 1946 (Alanis, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2024) added the Whitney Stakes to the group of races which are exempt from the existing imported race-per-day limitation.

AB 3261 (M. Fong, Chapter 439, Statutes of 2024) raised the previous limit on the importation of out-of-state thoroughbred races, for the purposes of accepting wagers on those races, from 50 to 75 out-of-state races-per-day; and, prohibited, when the total number of those races imported is between 51 and 75 races-per-day, a thoroughbred association or fair from accepting wagers on those races commencing after 5:00 p.m. without the consent of the harness or quarter horse racing association that is then conducting a live race meeting in the County of Orange or the County of Sacramento.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/2/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/2/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/1/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Chen, McKinnor, Papan

Prepared by: Brian Duke / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/17/26 16:28:15

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1551
Author: Krell (D)
Introduced: 1/7/26
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Rice Commission: purpose

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill declares the California Rice Commission to be necessary for maintaining a sufficient footprint of annual rice acreage to support the wildlife habitat objectives of the state.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law establishes the California Rice Commission to promote the sale of rice, educate and instruct the wholesale and retail trade with respect to proper methods of handling and selling rice, and conduct scientific research (Food and Agricultural Code Section § 71000).

This bill declares the commission to be necessary to maintain a sufficient footprint of annual rice acreage to support the wildlife habitat objectives of California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

Audobon California
California Rice Commission
The Nature Conservancy

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“California’s roughly 500,000 acres of rice provide vital surrogate wetland habitat to a diverse array of species, including Giant Garter snakes, Sandhill Cranes, and millions of other waterfowl, shorebirds, and native fish.

Climate change, water shortages, market shifts, and urban growth all pose a challenge to maintaining enough rice acreage to guarantee a viable habitat for these species.

The recent UC Davis study “The Rice Footprint” sets forth a plan to maintain this critical ecosystem, which would cost an estimated \$2 billion to restore if we fail to preserve it.

AB 1551 supports this crucial conservation work by identifying implementation of the Rice Footprint as a priority of the California Rice Commission.”

The California Rice Commission wrote in support of the bill stating, in part:

“By codifying the maintenance of a sufficient rice footprint into statute as part of the Commission’s purpose, AB 1551 will:

- Provide clarity and long-term direction for state policy in supporting agriculture that also delivers demonstrable ecological benefits;
- Facilitate coordination between rice growers, conservation partners, and state agencies to prioritize voluntary conservation programs, easements, and management practices;
- Strengthen California’s ability to protect working lands that serve vital ecosystem functions while contributing to food security and local economic resilience.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Bonta, Bryan, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Haney, Kalra, Ortega, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Zbur

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
6/17/26 16:28:15

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1562
Author: Jackson (D)
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-10, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Elections: precinct board members

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill permits, until January 1, 2033, a county to adopt a system in which individuals are randomly selected to serve as poll workers.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines “precinct board” as the board appointed by the elections official to serve at a single precinct or a consolidated precinct. In an election conducted using vote centers, “precinct board” means the board appointed by the elections official to serve at a vote center. A “precinct board member” is also known as a poll worker.
- 2) Permits any voter, or any individual who possesses specified qualifications, to file an application with an elections official for the position of precinct board member.
- 3) Requires, with some exceptions, that a poll worker be a registered voter in California. Exceptions include a pupil or a nonvoter who is lawfully admitted for permanent residence in the United States and is otherwise eligible to register

to vote except for their lack of citizenship. These exceptions have specific parameters for the duties that can and cannot be performed.

- 4) Requires election officials to make reasonable efforts to recruit poll workers who are fluent in a language if 3% or more of the voting age residents in any precinct are fluent in that language and lack sufficient skill in English to vote without assistance.
- 5) Requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to appoint a task force of members who have experience in the administration of elections and other relevant backgrounds to study and recommend uniform guidelines for the training of precinct board members. Using the recommendations of the task force, the SOS must adopt uniform standards for the training of precinct board members.
- 6) Requires each member of a precinct board to receive compensation from the governing body of the jurisdiction and requires this sum to be paid out of the treasury of the jurisdiction in which the election is held.
- 7) Permits a state employee to take time off, without loss of pay, to serve as a poll worker on Election Day.
- 8) Provides no person in California shall, on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, ethnic group identification, age, mental disability, physical disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, or sexual orientation, be unlawfully denied full and equal access to the benefits of, or be unlawfully subjected to discrimination under, any program or activity that is conducted, operated, or administered by the state or by any state agency, is funded directly by the state, or receives any financial assistance from the state.

This bill:

- 1) Permits a county to adopt a system through which individuals are randomly selected to serve as poll workers. Every registered voter residing in the jurisdiction is eligible to be selected for service, except for candidates for an office to be voted on at the election. The elections official develops and proposes a plan that must be approved by the county board of supervisors.
- 2) Permits the elections official to disqualify a person if the elections official determines the person is unsuitable to serve, but cannot be disqualified for specified protected classifications in current law. An individual, using a form developed and posted online by the elections official, may be excused from service as a poll worker for ill health, if the individual is at least 70 years old, or for another good or sufficient reason as determined by the elections official.

- 3) Requires the elections official to provide each selected individual with a written notice at least 15 days prior to the reporting date designated by the elections official for each election. The selected individual must report to the elections official on the reporting date stated in the written notice and serve the duration of the election. The selected individual must receive compensation for service and is subject to the same protections that apply to an employee who takes time off to serve on a jury.
- 4) Remains in effect until January 1, 2033.

Background

Nebraska. Nebraska permits jurisdictions to “draft” election workers in the same fashion as courts select jury members. According to Nebraska state law, a draftee poll worker is required to serve as an election worker for two years in a county with a population less than 400,000 inhabitants, or four years in a county with a population of 400,000 or more inhabitants. All draftee election workers are randomly selected from the county’s list of registered voters and are required to be of good repute and character and be able to read and write the English language, except as provided. Under Nebraska’s law, citizens are not excluded from serving as a draftee election workers unless excused by reason of ill health or other good and sufficient reason. A person who is selected and fails to serve can be found guilty of neglecting their duties.

One county that uses election worker draftees is Douglas County. According to the Douglas County Election Commission website, Douglas County serves more than 360,000 registered voters at approximately 230 precincts across the county and it takes up to 3,000 election workers to administer each election. More than 50% of all election workers are volunteers and the Election Commission drafts voters to serve in various election roles in order to ensure elections are administered properly and fairly. Drafted election workers are notified approximately 70 days prior to an election and required to work multiple elections, four elections in Douglas County, to complete their required service.

In Douglas County, if a person is at least 70 years old, they may opt out of serving as an elections worker. Other individuals who are unable to fulfill their election duty for health or other sufficient reasons are required to provide certain documentation to postpone or be excused altogether. A draftee who fails to serve at an election or attend training may be guilty of a misdemeanor, and their name may be submitted to local law enforcement for citation.

Comments

Author's Statement, "When people do not understand how democracy works, it becomes easier to manipulate and easier to break. When only a small group of people are running our elections, public trust begins to erode. This bill strengthens our democracy and encourages civic engagement by authorizing county election officials, until 2033 and upon approval of their county board of supervisors, to adopt a system in which individuals are randomly selected to serve as poll workers for elections. This bill is intended to bring people closer to the democratic process, recognizing democracy works best when more people are inside the room, not locked out of it."

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

PowerCA Action

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

One individual

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-10, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Castillo, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Hadwick, Irwin, Johnson, Macedo, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bonta, Chen, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Lee, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Ta, Ward

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
6/18/26 16:33:39

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1573
Author: Bryan (D), et al.
Amended: 6/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa
Bogh, Padilla, Pérez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Land use: housing elements: target population

SOURCE: Downtown Women's Center
San Francisco Women's Housing Coalition
Western Center on Law and Poverty

DIGEST: This bill adds victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking to the definition of "target population" in Housing Element Law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines "target population" for the purpose of Housing Element Law to mean persons with low incomes who have one or more disabilities, including mental illness, HIV or AIDS, substance abuse, or other chronic health condition, or individuals eligible for services provided pursuant to the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act; and may include, among other populations, adults, emancipated minors, families with children, elderly persons, young adults aging out of the foster care system, individuals exiting from institutional settings, veterans, and homeless people.
- 2) Defines "supportive housing" as housing with no limit on length of stay, that is occupied by the target population, and that is linked to an onsite or offsite

service that assists the supportive housing resident in retaining the housing, improving their health status, and maximizing their ability to live and, when possible, work in the community.

- 3) Requires each jurisdiction to prepare and adopt a General Plan, including a housing element, to guide the future growth of a community.
- 4) Requires each adopted housing element to contain specified information, programs, and objectives, including:
 - a) An assessment of housing needs and an inventory of resources and constraints relevant to the meeting of these needs, including a quantification of the locality's existing and projected housing needs for all income levels; an inventory of land suitable and available for residential development; an analysis of potential and actual governmental and nongovernmental constraints upon the maintenance, improvement, or development of housing for all income levels; and a demonstration of local efforts to remove constraints that hinder the locality from meeting its share of the Regional Housing Needs Allocation, among other things;
 - b) A statement of the community's goals, quantified objectives, and policies relative to affirmatively furthering fair housing and to the maintenance, preservation, improvement, and development of housing; and,
 - c) A program that sets forth a schedule of actions during the planning period, and timelines for implementation, that the local government is undertaking to implement the policies and achieve the goals and objectives of the housing element, including actions that will be taken to make sites available during the planning period with appropriate zoning and development standards and with services and facilities to accommodate that portion of the local government's share of the regional housing need for each income level that could not be accommodated on sites identified in the sites inventory without rezoning, among other things.
- 5) Requires each city and county to include an analysis of any special housing needs in the housing element, such as those of the elderly; persons with disabilities, including a developmental disability; extremely low income households; large families; farmworkers; families with female heads of households; and families and persons in need of emergency shelter.

- 6) Requires the need for emergency shelter to be assessed based on the capacity necessary to accommodate the most recent homeless point-in-time count conducted before the start of the planning period, the need for emergency shelter based on number of beds available on a year-round and seasonal basis, the number of shelter beds that go unused on an average monthly basis within a one-year period, and the percentage of those in emergency shelters that move to permanent housing solutions. Provides that the need for emergency shelter may be reduced by the number of supportive housing units that are identified in an adopted 10-year plan to end chronic homelessness and are either vacant or for which funding has been identified to allow construction during the planning period. An analysis of special housing needs by a city or county may include an analysis of the need for frequent user coordinated care housing services. Further requires, for the seventh and subsequent revisions of the housing element, the analysis to include the housing needs of acutely low income and extremely low income households.

This bill:

- 1) Provides the definition of “target population,” for the purposes of requirements applicable to the housing element, may include victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, as defined.

Background

Adoption and Implementation of Housing Elements. One important tool in addressing the state’s housing crisis is to ensure that all of the state’s 540 cities and counties appropriately plan for new housing. Such planning is required through the housing element of each community’s General Plan, which outlines a long-term plan for meeting the community’s existing and projected housing needs. Cities and counties are required to update their housing elements every eight years in most highly populated parts of the state, and five years in areas with smaller populations. It is critical that local jurisdictions adopt legally compliant housing elements on time in order to meet statewide housing goals and create the environment for the successful construction of desperately needed housing at all income levels. Unless communities plan for the production and preservation of affordable housing, new housing construction will be slow to materialize. Adequate zoning, removal of regulatory barriers, protection of existing housing stock, and targeted resources are essential to obtain a sufficient permanent supply of housing affordable to all socioeconomic levels of the community. Although it does not require the community to actually develop the housing itself, Housing Element Law requires the community to plan for housing and set the regulatory

landscape to facilitate necessary housing development. Recognizing that local governments may lack adequate resources to house all those in need, the law nevertheless requires jurisdictions to make a good-faith effort to accommodate housing needs and to avoid exclusionary zoning practices or actions that perpetuate patterns of housing discrimination or impede fair housing.

Comments

Author's statement. “Survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are overrepresented in the unhoused population, and the data shows that they stay unhoused for longer, return to homeless services more frequently, and have a lower rate of receiving permanent housing than the unhoused population at large. Clearly, the status quo does not adequately support survivors, and it needs to change. AB 1573 takes an important step by ensuring that survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are included in the definition of the target populations of the housing element when cities and counties generate their general plan.”

Intersectional Drivers of Homelessness. Domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking are all common precursors to survivors experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity. To better understand the experiences of people experiencing homelessness throughout California, the UCSF Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative conducted the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness (CASPEH), the largest representative study of homelessness since the 1990s.

Among the study's extensive findings, it found the following about intimate partner violence as a precursor to homelessness:

“Among all CASPEH participants, 8% experienced IPV [Intimate Partner Violence] in the six months prior to homelessness (3% cisgender men and 17% cisgender women). Our limited data on transgender, gender non-conforming, and non-binary people indicated that they may experience IPV prior to homelessness more frequently than cisgender peers. 17 Participants described that they experienced multiple forms of IPV (physical, sexual, or financial coercion). For many, these occurred during the same time period. Of the participants who experienced IPV prior to homelessness, 94% experienced physical violence, 26% experienced sexual violence, and 46% experienced financial coercion or abuse. Intimate partner violence increased participants' risk of losing their housing. In many cases, participants fled for their safety. Although IPV impacts people from all economic strata—not all people who flee IPV become homeless. Many CASPEH participants experienced homelessness due to the combined effects of

IPV and limited economic resources. Among all participants, 13% noted that one of the reasons they left their last housing was abuse or violence within the home. 18 Cisgender women (20%) reported this more frequently than cisgender men (9%). 5% indicated violence was the primary reason for leaving. Among those who experienced IPV in the six months prior to homelessness, 40% indicated violence was a reason for leaving their last housing; 20% noted it was the primary reason for leaving.”¹

Target Population. Housing Element Law defines “target population” to mean persons with low incomes who have one or more disabilities, including mental illness, HIV or AIDS, substance abuse, or other chronic health condition, or individuals eligible for services provided pursuant to the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act. The definition also outlines who may be considered as a target population to include, among other adults, emancipated minors, families with children, elderly persons, young adults aging out of the foster care system, individuals exiting from institutional settings, veterans, and homeless people. The target population definition is included in Housing Element Law to identify those individuals that may require supportive housing (housing at an affordable cost with supportive services). This requires the jurisdiction to determine the number of people in each subpopulation and factor their housing needs into the overall housing element, along with analysis of all of the programs available for each population. Jurisdictions can further analyze the housing needs of these populations by looking at data from the homelessness management information system (HMIS), which identifies the number of people experiencing homelessness who are living in shelters or who are unsheltered. Currently, there is no requirement to identify victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking as part of the data collected for HMIS, though some Continuums of Care do collect this data.

Due to intersecting identities (*e.g.*, socioeconomic status and domestic violence survivor), many survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking may already be part of other target populations that a jurisdiction’s housing element must identify and find ways to meet the supportive housing needs of. For instance, many women who flee domestic violence and become homeless are also low-income and considered the head of household, which means they already belong to two other target populations. While this bill seems well-intended

¹ UCSF Benioff Housing and Homelessness Initiative. *Toward Safety - Understanding Intimate Partner Violence and Homelessness Toward Safety - Findings from the California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness*. Accessible here: <https://homelessness.ucsf.edu/sites/default/files/2026-04/IPV%20Report%202024.pdf>. January 2024.

to increase attention paid to the unique housing needs of survivors of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking, because many of these individuals will likely fall into other existing target population categories, which jurisdictions are already planning for, survivors may already have their housing needs met in the eyes of a planning jurisdiction.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

Downtown Women's Center (co-source)
San Francisco Women's Housing Coalition (co-source)
Western Center on Law & Poverty, INC. (co-source)
Abode Services
Beverly Hills Synagogue
California Partnership to End Domestic Violence
Central City Association of Los Angeles
Coalition to Abolish Slavery and Trafficking
Community Forward Sf
Democrats for Israel Los Angeles
Domestic Violence & Homeless Services Coalition
Family Violence Law Center
Hadassah, the Women's Zionist of America, INC.
Hillel of San Diego
Housing California
Jcc/federation of San Luis Obispo
Jcrc Bay Area
Jcrc Santa Barbara County
Jcrc, Jewish Long Beach
Jenesse Center
Jewish California (formerly Jpac)
Jewish Center for Justice
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
Jewish Democratic Club of Marin
Jewish Family Service LA
Jewish Family Service of San Diego
Jewish Family Service of the Desert
Jewish Family Services of Silicon Valley
Jewish Federation Bay Area
Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara
Jewish Federation of Orange County

Jewish Federation of the Desert
Jewish Federation of the Greater San Gabriel and Pomona Valleys
Jewish Partisan Educational Foundation
Jfcs East Bay
Jfcs Long Beach and Orange County
John Burton Advocates for Youth
Jvs Bay Area
Los Angeles County
National Alliance to End Homelessness
National Council of Jewish Women -sf
Race & Equity in All Planning Coalition (REP-SF)
San Francisco Safehouse
Su Casa - Ending Domestic Violence
Supportive Housing Alliance
The People Concern
The Public Interest Law Project
Women of Color Breast Cancer Survivors Support Project

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing in support, the Western Center on Law and Poverty expressed that this bill will ensure that survivors of domestic violence, human trafficking, and sexual assault are included in the definition of the target populations in the assessment of supportive housing in a city's or county's general plan. This legislation would move California toward a more inclusive housing framework and affirms that these populations have unique needs that need to be better understood. In doing so, AB 1573 will uphold California's commitment to supporting survivors in rebuilding their lives while strengthening the health, safety, and resilience of communities statewide.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,

Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward,
Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/12/26 12:49:58

****** END ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1587
Author: Ta (R)
Amended: 3/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/8/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland
NO VOTE RECORDED: Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/23/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Prescription drug refills: prescriber notifications

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill clarifies that a pharmacist who is dispensing an emergency refill of a medication to a patient is only required to inform the patient's prescriber if a prescriber is identified.

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Pharmacy Law which provides for the licensure and regulation of pharmacies, pharmacists, and dangerous drug or device wholesalers, and establishes the Board of Pharmacy (Board) to enforce the Pharmacy Law. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 4000 et seq.)
- 2) Authorizes a pharmacist to refill a prescription for a dangerous drug or dangerous device without the prescriber's authorization if the prescriber is unavailable to authorize the refill and if, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, failure to refill the prescription might interrupt the patient's ongoing care and have a significant adverse effect on the patient's well-being. Requires

the pharmacist to inform the patient that the prescription was refilled and requires the pharmacist to inform the prescriber within a reasonable period of time of any refills dispensed. (BPC § 4064)

This bill clarifies that a pharmacist is only required to inform the prescriber when a dangerous drug or device refill is dispensed if a prescriber is identified.

Background

The Board is estimated to regulate over 50,700 pharmacists, 1,300 advanced practice pharmacists, 4,400 intern pharmacists, and 65,700 pharmacy technicians across a total of 32 licensing programs. In addition to regulating personal professionals, the Board oversees, and licenses related business entities, including pharmacies, clinics, wholesalers, third-party logistic providers, and automated drug delivery systems.

The Pharmacy Law generally prohibits a pharmacist from refilling a prescription except upon authorization of the prescriber. This authorization may be given orally or at the time of the original prescription. If no refills were authorized when the prescription was written, the patient, or the pharmacist on behalf of the patient, may request a refill. However, the Pharmacy Law also allows a drug or device to be refilled by a pharmacist if the prescriber is unavailable to authorize the refill and if, in the pharmacist's professional judgment, failure to refill the prescription could result in harm to the patient. Last year, AB 1503 (Berman, Chapter 196, Statutes of 2025) amended the same section of Pharmacy Law as this bill, among other changes made by that measure, to eliminate a requirement that the pharmacist make every reasonable effort to contact the prescriber prior to refilling a prescription without a prescriber's authorization. The bill also deleted the requirement that the pharmacist make an appropriate record, including the basis for proceeding with an emergency refill. Under current law, a pharmacist is still required to subsequently inform the prescriber within a reasonable period of time of any refills dispensed. This bill only applies that requirement if a prescriber is identified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

Biocom California
California Access Coalition
California Pharmacists Association

California Senior Legislature
Western Center on Law & Poverty

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Biocom writes that AB 1587 makes a targeted, common-sense improvement to emergency prescription refill statute.

According to California Access Coalition, “Ensuring access to life-saving medication is a matter of basic human dignity and responsible governance. No individual should face preventable harm due to gaps in administrative processes or provider availability. AB 1587 represents a measured and necessary step to uphold the well-being of Californians, particularly those most at risk.”

The California Pharmacists Association notes that “Even short delays in therapy for conditions such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, or epilepsy can result in significant harm, including hospitalization or worse. This bill ensures that pharmacists can use their clinical training to prevent these dangerous gaps in care.”

According to the California Senior Legislature, “AB 1587 promotes continuity of care, prevents avoidable health crises, and supports aging Californians in safely managing their health conditions.”

The Western Center on Law and Poverty writes that “People may lose their physician for various reasons, including when providers leave their medical group or changes in circumstance that results in health plan changes. This can lead to gaps of care for patients who cannot find a new provider before they run out of their medication. Finding and securing an appointment for a new provider can be a lengthy process, especially for Medi-Cal patients or patients located in rural areas... This bill strikes the right balance between patient access and safety by ensuring patients can continue to access medications they have already been prescribed while finding a new provider.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/23/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega,

Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,
Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz,
Solache, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Hadwick, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins,
Soria, Wicks

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
6/24/26 16:28:31

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1601
Author: Rogers (D)
Introduced: 1/16/26
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-3, 4/16/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: County employees' retirement: cost-of-living adjustments

SOURCE: Service Employees International Union

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the Sonoma County board of supervisors greater flexibility to provide annual and unrestricted cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs) to the retirement allowances, optional death allowances, or annual death allowances payable by the Sonoma County Employees' Retirement System (SCERA).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (commonly referred to as the "CERL," "1937 Act," or "'37 Act"), which governs 20 independent county retirement associations and provides for retirement systems for county and district employees in those counties adopting its provisions. Currently, 20 counties operate retirement systems under the CERL, including Sonoma County. (Government Code § 31450 et seq.)
- 2) Denominates Sonoma County "a county of the nineteenth class". (Government Code § 28020 and § 28040)

- 3) Vests the management of a CERL retirement system in its retirement board, consisting of five members, one of whom shall be the county treasurer. (Government Code § 31520)
- 4) Provides under the state constitution that public pension fund retirement boards have the sole and exclusive fiduciary authority over the investment and sole and exclusive responsibility over the administration of their respective retirement systems. (CA CONST art. XVI, § 17)
- 5) Requires the retirement board to annually determine whether there has been an increase or decrease in the cost of living and adjust retirees' allowances accordingly, as specified, but not by more than 2 percent. (Government Code § 31870)
- 6) Requires the retirement board to annually determine whether there has been an increase or decrease in the cost of living and adjust retirees' allowances accordingly, as specified, but not by more than 3 percent. (Government Code § 31870.1)
- 7) Requires the retirement board to annually determine whether there has been an increase or decrease in the cost of living and adjust retirees' allowances accordingly, as specified, but not by more than 5 percent. (Government Code § 31870.2)
- 8) Requires the retirement board to annually determine whether there has been an increase or decrease in the cost of living and adjust retirees' allowances accordingly, as specified, but not by more than 4 percent. (Government Code § 31870.3)
- 9) Provides that the board of supervisors may make the above specified COLAs applicable on the date specified in the adopting ordinance, or if no such date is specified, on the first day of the month after the effective date of an ordinance adopted by the board, provided that an actuarial survey of the retirement system has been made by the adopting county prior to the ordinance's passage. (Government Code § 31874)
- 10) Provides that nothing prevents the retirement system from the use and expenditure of surplus, as specified, to fund any part or all of any increases in allowances otherwise permitted after the county has adopted the specified COLA provisions. (Government Code § 31874)

- 11) Requires a CERL system to fund a COLA equal to all or part of the excess of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) over 3 percent whenever CPI exceeds 3 percent, as specified. This provision is only operative if adopted by a majority vote of the board of supervisors. (Government Code § 31874.1)
- 12) Authorizes the board of supervisors in any county, by a majority vote, to enact an ordinance providing that the maximum annual change pursuant to specified CERL COLA provisions shall be increased to 4, 5, or 6 percent, as determined by the board, on the operative date of such ordinance. (Government Code § 31874.2)
- 13) Allows a CERL system where the board of supervisors has adopted specified CERL COLAs to pay a supplemental COLA if CPI exceeds those COLA benefits. Requires that the supplemental COLA not exceed an amount that can be paid from earnings of the retirement fund that are in excess of the total interest credited to contributions and reserves plus 1 percent of the total assets of the retirement fund. (Government Code § 31874.3)
- 14) Provides that the Sonoma County and Imperial County retirement boards, with the approval of their respective county board supervisors, may provide on a prefunded basis a COLA to retirees whose pension allowances have dropped to 80 percent of their original purchasing power provided that a qualified actuary determines the COLA's cost and the retirement board determines that the cost can be provided from earnings of the retirement fund that are in excess of the total interest credited to contributions and reserves plus 1 percent of the total assets of the retirement fund. (Government Code § 31874.6)
- 15) Provides that the COLA becomes a permanent part of eligible retirees' allowances but that it does not create any continuing entitlement to additional increases in subsequent years, and does not create any claim against the county, district, or retirement fund for any increase in any allowance paid or payable prior to the effective date of the board's action to grant the COLA. (Government Code § 31874.6 (d))
- 16) Requires the board of supervisors to appropriate annually from the proper county funds the amount necessary to defray the entire expense of administration of the retirement system based upon budget estimates prepared by the treasurer. (Government Code § 31580)

This bill:

- 1) Allows the Sonoma County board of supervisors (Supervisors), annually, to authorize a COLA to the retirement allowances, optional death allowances, or annual death allowances payable by the retirement system.
- 2) Allows the Supervisors to specify the COLA's effective date and provides that if they do not, the effective date shall commence on the first day of the month following the Supervisor's action authorizing the COLA.
- 3) Requires the Supervisors to collaborate with the Sonoma County retirement board prior to authorizing a COLA pursuant to this bill's provisions to identify the following: the eligible COLA recipients, the COLA amount, and its funding source.
- 4) Requires the Supervisors to provide a statement prepared by an enrolled actuary of the actuarial impact upon future annual costs, as specified.
- 5) Permits the Supervisors to authorize any COLA under the CERL, as specified, not only the COLA for persons whose allowance value has fallen to 80 percent of its original purchasing power.
- 6) Allows the Supervisors to specify that the COLA may only be available to persons whose allowance value has lost purchasing power and allows the Supervisors to specify the percentage of lost purchasing power qualifies the person for a COLA.
- 7) Specifies how the Supervisors shall measure purchasing power.
- 8) Requires the COLA to become part of the person's allowance's base which are to be increased by any subsequent COLAs.
- 9) Provides that the granting of a COLA in any particular year does not create any continuing entitlement to additional COLAs in subsequent years nor creates any claim by a retired member, survivor, beneficiary, or successor in interest against the county, district, or retirement fund for any increase in any allowance paid or payable prior to the effective date of the Supervisor's action authorizing the COLA.
- 10) Specifies that the bill's provisions only apply to Sonoma County.

- 11) Finds and declares that a special statute is necessary and that a general statute cannot be made applicable within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California Constitution because of the unique circumstances facing Sonoma County.

Background

Existing law grants county boards of supervisors the authority to adopt specialized CERL provisions to apply to their respective retirement systems through the adoption of a county ordinance. This structure allows the CERL to provide flexibility for the different needs and demands of the 20 county retirement systems that the CERL authorizes. In effect, the CERL offers a flexible menu of benefits within a greater framework of established benefits as reformed by the Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA). However, existing law also vests the management of a CERL retirement system in the board of retirement, consisting of five members, one of whom is the county treasurer. The retirement board must determine that expenditures for specified benefits are prudent pursuant to their fiduciary responsibility before the retirement board can recommend the benefit, e.g. a COLA, to the board of supervisors for approval. According to the author, the Sonoma County board of supervisors never authorized automatic annual COLAs and provides COLAs only on an ad hoc basis.

The CERL authorizes several COLA benefits subject to adoption by the county board of supervisors, including a 2 %, 3%, 4%, 5%, 6%, and supplemental COLA benefits if CPI exceeds the selected COLA benefit. The COLA benefits have different requirements subject to funding provisions, with some available from any funds and others only available from excess funds, as specified.

According to the author, SCERA has just two authorized COLA options: an across the board flat COLA ranging from 2-6% for all retirees and a variable purchasing power protection COLA to restore retirees who have fallen below 80 percent purchasing power back to 80 percent.

Under the first option, if there is a COLA, SCERA must give it to all eligible retirees, not just those that have lost purchasing power. Consequently, the only way to provide a COLA to the neediest retirees is to offer an ad hoc COLA to all retirees, which can prove cost prohibitive.

Under the second option, SCERA can only fund a COLA for retirees who have fallen below 80 percent of their purchasing power if the system has excess earnings, which is defined as investment earnings left over after interest is credited to reserves, including a contingency reserve (aka rainy day fund) of 1% of the plan's assets. SCERA has not met that hurdle since 2008 and does not foresee doing so in the near future. In effect, the fiscally prudent requirement to fund existing pension obligations and the rainy day fund is preventing the board of supervisors from giving a targeted COLA to its neediest retirees.

This bill appears to provide an alternative COLA option that would allow the board of supervisors to overcome SCERA's existing obligations so that it could target a COLA to specific groups of retirees and allow SCERA to fund the COLA from any source, not just from excess earnings (e.g., increased employer and employee contributions, amortization of increased unfunded liability, etc.). Proponents argue that SCERA is well-funded and can absorb the costs of any additional COLA.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 392 (Ducheny, Chapter 392, Statutes of 2008) extended the same authorization provided to Sonoma County in AB 2894 (Wiggins, Chapter 435, Statutes of 2004) to Imperial County.

AB 2894 (Wiggins, Chapter 435, Statutes of 2004) authorized the Sonoma County retirement board upon approval from the county board of supervisors to provide a COLA to retirees whose pension allowance had fallen to 80 percent of its purchasing power without first having to provide a COLA to all retirees, provided that it could do so from excess investment returns, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 06/10/26)

Service Employees International Union (Source)
California Retired County Employees Association
County of Sonoma
Sonoma County Association of Retired Employees

OPPOSITION: (Verified 06/10/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to Service Employees International Union, California:

“Under current law, Sonoma County does not have a prefunded COLA structure and has not experienced excess investment earnings sufficient to grant adjustments under existing statutory mechanisms. As a result, retirees have seen the purchasing power of their fixed incomes diminished by years of inflation without a viable pathway for relief.”

“This bill provides flexibility for Sonoma County and its retirement system to collaborate annually and designate the recipients, amount, and funding source of a cost-of-living increase and require the actuarial impact on future annual costs to be reported in accordance with existing law before any benefit increases are authorized.”

According to the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors:

“AB 1601 would provide the County of Sonoma with a narrowly tailored authority to consider a COLA for eligible retirees and beneficiaries. This authority would balance local decision-making with appropriate actuarial review regarding fiscal impacts.”

“AB 1601 does not mandate changes but allows the County of Sonoma to responsibly address retiree purchasing power when fiscally feasible. In addition, providing this authority through a special statute acknowledges the County of Sonoma’s specific circumstances and ensures that any action taken will be considered within the County’s fiscal framework.”

“AB 1601 would provide the County of Sonoma and the Sonoma County Employees’ Retirement Association (SCERA) with flexibility to evaluate each year whether a COLA should be granted, who would receive it, the amount of the adjustment, and how it would be funded. The bill preserves existing safeguards by requiring actuarial analysis of the impact on future costs before any benefit increase is approved.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-3, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo,

McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Johnson, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Castillo, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Lackey, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo, Soria, Tangipa, Valencia

Prepared by: Glenn Miles / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
6/12/26 12:50:00

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1632
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 3/19/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Trespass

SOURCE: City of Riverside

DIGEST: This bill removes the requirement that trespass letters of authorization be submitted in notarized writing on a law enforcement agency (LEA)-provided form and instead requires that the form be signed under penalty of perjury.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that a person is guilty of misdemeanor trespass if they enter and occupy real property or structures of any kind without the consent of the owner, the owner's agent, or the person in lawful possession (hereafter "owner"). (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (m).)
- 2) Punishes trespass as a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in county jail for up to six months, a fine of up to \$1,000, or both. (Penal (Pen.) Code, §§ 19, 602.)
- 3) Provides that a person is guilty of misdemeanor trespass if they refuse or fail to leave land, real property, or structures belonging to, or lawfully occupied by, another and not open to the general public, upon being requested to leave by the

owner, or by a peace officer at the request of the owner upon being informed by the officer that they are acting at the request of the owner. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)

- 4) Requires the owner to make a separate request to an officer on each occasion when an officer's assistance in dealing with a trespass is requested. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 5) Authorizes an owner to make a single request for an officer's assistance, made in a notarized writing on an LEA-provided form, to cover up to 12 months or a period determined by local ordinance, whichever is shorter, and identified by specific dates, during a period where there is a fire hazard or the owner is absent from the premises or property. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 6) Authorizes an owner to make a single request for an officer's assistance, made in a notarized writing on an LEA-provided form, to cover up to 12 months when the premises or property is closed to the public and posted as being closed. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 7) Requires the requester to inform the LEA to which the request was made, in writing, if assistance is no longer desired before the 12-month authorization period expires. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 8) Specifies that this offense does not apply to persons engaged in lawful labor union activities that are permitted to be carried out on the property, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 9) Provides that land, real property, or structures owned or operated by a housing authority for tenants, as defined, constitutes property not open to the general public, although this offense does not apply to persons on the premises who are engaging in constitutionally protected activities, or who are there at the request of a resident or management and who are not loitering or otherwise suspected of violating a law or ordinance. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 10) Provides that a request for a peace officer's assistance shall expire upon transfer of ownership of the property or upon a change in the person in lawful possession. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)
- 11) Provides that a request for an officer's assistance in dealing with a trespass may be submitted electronically, and a local government may accept electronic submissions of requests. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).)

- 12) Establishes numerous other trespass crimes, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 602, subds. (a)-(y).)
- 13) Establishes that every person who, having taken an oath that he or she will testify, declare, depose, or certify truly before any competent tribunal, officer, or person, in any of the cases in which the oath may by law of the State of California be administered, willfully and contrary to the oath, states as true any material matter which he or she knows to be false, and every person who testifies, declares, deposes, or certifies under penalty of perjury in any of the cases in which the testimony, declarations, depositions, or certification is permitted by law of the State of California under penalty of perjury and willfully states as true any material matter which he or she knows to be false, is guilty of perjury. (Pen. Code, § 118.)
- 14) States that perjury is punishable as a realigned felony with imprisonment in county jail for two, three, or four years.

This bill:

- 1) Eliminates the requirement that the written request for officer assistance in dealing with a trespass be notarized.
- 2) Requires that the written request be signed under penalty of perjury.

Background

As a general rule, a person who enters and occupies real property or structures of any kind without the consent of the owner is guilty of misdemeanor trespass. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (m).) Trespass is typically a misdemeanor, though California law does include a felony for aggravated trespass. (Pen. Code, § 601.) For misdemeanor trespass, the penalty is up to six months of jail time or up to a \$1,000 fine, or both. (Pen. Code, §§ 19, 602.) California's primary trespass statute—Penal Code section 602—has nearly an entire alphabet of subdivisions. Most of the subdivisions in Section 602 define separate crimes, typically each with slightly different elements than the other subdivisions.

Most relevant to this bill, a person is guilty of misdemeanor trespass if they refuse or fail to leave land, real property, or structures belonging to, or lawfully occupied by, another and not open to the general public, upon being requested to leave by the owner or by a peace officer at the request of the owner. (Pen. Code, § 602, subd. (o).) Owners of such property may request law enforcement assistance in ejecting trespassers from their property. Owners are generally required to submit a separate request to law enforcement for each occasion where law enforcement

assistance in ejecting the trespasser is required. However, during a period where there is a fire hazard or the owner is absent, or when the premises or property is closed to the public and posted as such, a single request for assistance may be valid for the shorter of either 12 months or a period determined by local ordinance. Such requests must be made in a notarized writing on an LEA-provided form and may be submitted electronically. A request for assistance expires upon transfer of ownership of the property or upon a change in the person in lawful possession. Lastly, the owner must inform the LEA to which the request was made, in writing, when assistance is no longer desired, before the period not exceeding 12 months expires. (*Ibid.*)

Requests for law enforcement assistance in enforcing trespass laws are generally made via a “Trespass Letter of Authority.” These letters, also known as “602 Letters,” authorize local authorities to enter the premises to enforce trespass laws in the owner’s absence.

Criminal trespass laws, enforced in part through trespass authorization letters, are often used to address homelessness. For example, in 2019, Bakersfield officials proposed a program to fight homelessness by more aggressively prosecuting and incarcerating trespassers. In 2025, San Jose voted to adopt a new ordinance subjecting an unhoused person to arrest for trespass if that person has rejected three offers for shelter.

Critics argue that trespass authorization letters exacerbate homelessness by disproportionately targeting homeless individuals. According to a report by the ACLU, “trespass letters of authorization enable police, local businesses, public services, and even homelessness service providers to work together to control the movements of unhoused people and exclude them from both public and private spaces.” In a case study conducted in Laguna Beach, the ACLU found that “[s]eventy percent of trespass letters of authorization reference unhoused people as an impetus for the letter” and that from 2020 to April 2021, “three-quarters of all trespassing citations were issued to people that police officers identified as being unhoused.”

Trespass letters can constitute a significant portion of the total citations issued to unhoused persons. According to the ACLU Report, of the 97 citations issued to unhoused people in Laguna Beach from January 2020 to April 2021, 67 (69 percent) resulted from trespass authorization letters. Such strict enforcement of trespass laws can contribute to a cycle of arrests, hearings, and fines that make emerging from homelessness more difficult.

This bill removes a procedural requirement that applies to trespass authorization letters for the trespass offense of refusing or failing to leave private property upon being requested to leave by the owner or a peace officer. Specifically, it removes the requirement that the request for assistance in dealing with a trespasser be made in a notarized writing on an LEA-provided form, during a period where there is a fire hazard or the owner is absent, or when the premises or property is closed to the public and posted as such. The author contends that this notarization requirement is onerous and overly burdensome. This notarization requirement was recently added by SB 602 (Archuleta, Chapter 404, Statutes of 2023), and has only been in effect for approximately two years. This requirement largely functions to protect the credibility of 602 Letter submissions by verifying the identity of the owner submitting the letter.

Instead of notarization, this bill now requires these forms to be signed under penalty of perjury, which is a felony punishable but two, three, or four years in county jail.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

City of Riverside (Source)
Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of Realtors
California Police Chiefs Association
California Reserve Peace Officers Association
City of Corona
City of Eastvale
City of Norwalk
City of Palm Desert
Claremont Police Officers Association
Corona Police Officers Association
Culver City Police Officers' Association
Fullerton Police Officers' Association
League of California Cities
Murrieta Police Officers' Association
Newport Beach Police Association
Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association

Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association
The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

ACLU California Action
California Public Defenders Association
Housing California
Initiate Justice
Justice2Jobs Coalition
La Defensa
Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union, Local 148

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The City of Riverside writes:

Under current law, property owners must obtain a notarized form to allow peace officers to act on their behalf when trespass occurs. This creates unnecessary delays and costs for residents and imposes a significant administrative burden on local law enforcement agencies. For Riverside, the notarization mandate has had real operational impacts. Since the requirement took effect, the Riverside Police Department has processed roughly 1,400 notarizations, each taking about 30 minutes of Community Service Officer time at a billable rate of \$54.02 per hour, totaling over \$37,800 in staff costs. The City also spent \$8,177.68 to certify additional employees as notaries to meet demand. These resources are better directed toward public safety work rather than duplicative paperwork.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: ACLU California Action writes:

As a case study for the harms unhoused people experience with California Penal Code 602 citations for trespass, the ACLU report shows that trespassing citations issued in Laguna Beach demonstrates that unhoused people are overwhelmingly targeted for enforcement. From the beginning of 2020 through April 22, 2021, a full three-quarters of all trespassing citations were issued to people that police officers identified as being unhoused (see Figure 11). In some of the remaining cases, the housing status of the person issued the citation is unknown. Most of the citations issued to unhoused people resulted from trespass letters: of the 97 citations issued to unhoused people, 67

(69 percent) resulted from trespass letters of authorization. Moreover, a full 87 percent of all citations resulting from trespass letters of authorization were issued to people police officers identified as being unhoused (See Figure 12.)

Finally, this policy would fall disproportionately on people experiencing homelessness, and extensive evidence shows it would likely exacerbate and prolong their homelessness. Trespassing is often one of the most common offenses used to cite people experiencing homelessness. Yet the arrests, citations, and fines that arise from these offenses often make it harder for people to move back into housing—one recent study showed citations and arrests prolonged a person’s homelessness for nearly two years, even when controlling for other factors.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Chen, Elhawary, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Kalra, Lee, McKinnor, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis, Ward, Wicks

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
6/24/26 16:28:32

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1637
Author: Caloza (D)
Amended: 4/8/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/8/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland
NO VOTE RECORDED: Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Physicians and surgeons: medical records

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill specifies that a physician is responsible for their own patient notes and prohibits patient notes from being altered, modified, or edited by anyone other than the physician, unless they delegate authority to other specified healthcare personnel to make changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes various practice acts in the Business and Professions Code (BPC) governed by various boards within the Department of Consumer Affairs which provide for the licensing and regulation of health care professionals including physicians and surgeons (under the Medical Practice Act) and osteopathic physicians and surgeons (under the Osteopathic Medical Practice Act). (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 2000 et seq.; 2099.5 et seq.)

- 2) Requires the MBC to take disciplinary action against any licensee who is charged with unprofessional conduct. (BPC § 2234)
- 3) Specifies that unprofessional conduct includes the failure of a physician and surgeon to maintain adequate and accurate records of the provision of services to their patients for at least seven years after the last date of service to a patient. (BPC § 2266)
- 4) Makes it a misdemeanor to violate specified provisions of the Medical Practice Act, including the adequate and accurate records requirement. (BPC § 2314)

This bill:

- 1) Specifies that a physician's patient notes are the responsibility of that physician, regardless of the clinical setting.
- 2) Prohibits a physician's patient notes, from being altered, modified, or edited in any fashion by anyone other than the authoring physician or by:
 - a) A scribe, medical assistant, or other authorized individual acting under the authority delegated by the authoring physician.
 - b) A physician who is adding to an authoring physician's patient notes if patient care has been transferred from the authoring physician to the physician who is making the additions.
 - c) A physician altering, modifying, or editing the patient notes of a postgraduate training licensee, intern, resident, or postdoctoral fellow who the physician is supervising.

Background

The Medical Practice Act (Act) requires all physicians to maintain adequate and accurate records of the services they provide to their patients for a minimum of seven years. The Act also makes the failure to do so unprofessional conduct, meaning the physician is subject to disciplinary action by the MBC. The severity of the action, which ranges from probation to revocation of the license, is proportional to the gravity of the violation.

The Act does not specify what constitutes a failure to maintain the records other than adequacy, accuracy, and retention. The sponsor argues that this lack of specificity opens the door for someone other than a physician to modify the physician's records. This bill reinforces that it is the authoring physician who is

responsible for the records while also making it unlawful for anyone else to modify the records.

Comments

The California Association for Nurse Practitioners writes that this bill “includes the qualification that an authorized individual acting ‘under the authority delegated by the authoring physician and surgeon’ may alter, modify, or edit a physician and surgeon’s patient notes. That qualification is inconsistent with existing California law and practice, as pursuant to AB 890 (Wood, Chapter 265, Statutes of 2020). AB 890 gives NPs who meet specified criteria the opportunity to practice independently, without standardized procedures or physician supervision.” CANP requests that the bill be amended to replace “acting under the authority delegated by the authoring physician and surgeon” with “working with the authoring physician and surgeon.”

Staff notes that any personnel or other healthcare providers would only be editing physician notes pursuant to the authority delegated by a physician, regardless of the practitioner’s independent authority in their own practice. For purposes of this bill, anyone editing physician notes would only be able to do so pursuant to the authorization the authoring physician delegated to that individual to undertake that task.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

Aids Healthcare Foundation

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO

California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry

California Acupuncture Coalition

Medical Board of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: AFSCME writes that this “bill protects the integrity of the medical record and reinforces the physician’s clinical judgment. This protection is increasingly important in modern healthcare environments where documentation may pass through multiple hands, including administrative staff, third-party contractors, and electronic health record systems that allow for

downstream edits. Unauthorized or inappropriate alterations to physician documentation can lead to serious consequences, including compromised patient safety, clinical errors, liability concerns, and erosion of trust between patients and providers. For public sector physicians in particular who often work in high-volume, resource-constrained settings, maintaining the accuracy and integrity of the medical record is critical. These physicians must be able to rely on their documentation as a true and unaltered reflection of their clinical decision-making. AB 1637 ensures that accountability remains where it belongs: with the licensed physician responsible for the patient's care."

According to the California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, "The expansion of electronic health record (EHR) systems has broadened record access to administrative staff, contractors, and third parties, creating serious uncertainty around authorship and accountability. Polls within the physicians' union found numerous doctors reporting their clinical notes being changed by supervisors who were neither the primary physician nor a licensed doctor. AB 1637 closes this gap by establishing that a physician's patient documentation is solely their responsibility and explicitly prohibiting anyone other than the authoring physician from altering, modifying, or editing patient notes, diagnoses, or treatment plans in any form."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
6/24/26 16:30:28

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1651
Author: Dixon (R)
Amended: 3/26/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: State Bar of California: artificial intelligence

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the State Bar of California (State Bar), beginning January 1, 2028, to disclose the use of artificial intelligence-generated content in developing or administering State Bar examinations or study materials, as specified, for any content developed by or at the explicit direction of the State Bar.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires all attorneys who practice law in California to be licensed by the State Bar and establishes the State Bar, within the judicial branch of state government, for the purpose of regulating the legal profession. (California Constitution (Cal. const.), art. VI, § 9; Business & Professions (Bus. & Prof.) Code §§ 6000 et seq.)
 - a) The Legislature sets the annual fees. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6140 & 6141.)
 - b) The State Bar is governed by the Board of Trustees of the State Bar (Board). (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6010 et seq.; § 6016.)

- c) Establishes the State Bar Act as the statutory requirements regulating the practice of law in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6000 et seq.)
- 2) Establishes that protection of the public, which includes support for greater access to, and inclusion in, the legal system, is the highest priority for the State Bar in exercising their licensing, regulatory, and disciplinary functions. Whenever the protection of the public is inconsistent with other interests sought to be promoted, the protection of the public is to be paramount. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6001.1.)
- 3) Provides various requirements a person must meet to be certified to the California Supreme Court for admission to practice law in this state, including passing the general bar examination given by the Committee of Bar Examiners. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6060(g).)
 - a) Other exams that may be required include the first-year law students' examination and the attorneys' examination (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6060 & 6062.)
- 4) Defines “artificial intelligence” (AI) as an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments. (Civil Code § 1714.46(a).)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the State Bar, for any content developed by or at the explicit direction of the State Bar, to disclose the use of artificial intelligence-generated content in developing or administering the State Bar examinations, including any related question, performance test, answer key, or scoring rubric.
- 2) Requires the State Bar, for any content developed by or at the explicit direction of the State Bar, to disclose the use of any artificial intelligence-generated content in study material, including sample or practice questions, model answers, selected answers, outlines, explanations, or other instructional materials prepared, published, endorsed, or distributed by the State Bar for use by applicants for the State Bar examinations.
- 3) Defines the following terms for these purposes.

- a) “Artificial intelligence” means an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer from the input it receives how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments.
- b) “Artificial intelligence-generated content” means visual or textual content that is generated, in whole or in part, by generative artificial intelligence.”
- c) “Generative artificial intelligence” means artificial intelligence that can generate derived synthetic content, including text, images, video, and audio, which emulates the structure and characteristics of the artificial intelligence’s training data.”
- d) “State Bar examinations” means the general bar examination, the first-year law students’ examination, as described in Section 6060, and the attorneys’ examination as described in Section 6062.

4) Provides that this bill becomes operative on January 1, 2028.

Comments

The State Bar administers the bar exam twice a year—in February and July. The bar exam is comprised of three components: five one-hour essay questions, one 90-minute performance test, and 200 multiple-choice questions. Attorneys who are licensed in another state, take what is commonly referred to as the Attorney’s Exam, which consists only of the written portion of the bar exam (no multiple-choice questions). The State Bar also offers a first-year law student exam, commonly referred to as the baby bar, which consists of 100 multiple-choice questions and covers three subjects: Contracts, Criminal Law, and Torts. The baby bar is required for those who are enrolled in a non-American Bar Association accredited law school or are completing an apprenticeship or work-study program.

The State Bar used a new exam format and platform for the first time in decades during the February 2025 exam that allowed for both in-person and remote test taking. The administration of this exam was an unmitigated disaster. During the aftermath it was revealed that the State Bar employed a company to have non-lawyers use AI to create some of the questions for the multiple-choice portion of the bar exam. According to the State Bar, 100 of the 171 scored multiple-choice questions were made by Kaplan, 48 were taken from a first-year law students’ examination, and 23 questions that were scored on the exam were made by ACS Ventures, the State Bar’s psychometrician, and developed with artificial

intelligence.¹ ACS Ventures is the same company that the State Bar uses to assess and approve the questions on the bar exam. The use of AI to generate 23 questions was not reported to the Committee of Bar Examiners, the Supreme Court, or the public.²

This bill seeks to ensure disclosure of the use of AI-generated content in developing or administering State Bar examinations or study materials. The bill provides its provisions are to become operative on January 1, 2028.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

AB 1651 seeks to address the shortcomings of the February 2025 Bar Exam and prevent future issues by requiring the State Bar of California to disclose the use of AI generated content in the development and administration of the State Bar Examination. This disclosure would simply need to be posted on the State Bar's website and on the cover of any study materials.

This requirement would remain in place even if a live person reviews or revises the content to ensure that students are still aware when AI has been used. This commonsense proposal will provide greater transparency for both administrators and test takers of how the content contained within the Bar Examination is generated.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia,

¹ Jenny Jarvie, Los Angeles Times, *State Bar of California admits it used AI to develop exam questions, triggering new furor*, (Apr. 23, 2025), available at <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-04-23/state-bar-of-california-used-ai-for-exam-questions>.

² Cheryl Miller, The Recorder, *State Bar Defends AI Use on Bar Exam, Asks Calif. Supreme Court to Lower Passing Score*, (Apr. 20, 2025).

Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/18/26 16:33:40

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1653
Author: Lackey (R)
Amended: 3/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil instruction: health framework: heat illness

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), during its next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools (Health Framework), to consider including and recommending for adoption by the State Board of Education (SBE) specific content related to the prevention of, identification of, and response to signs and symptoms of heat illness.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) States that if a school district or charter school elects to offer any interscholastic athletic program, the governing board of the school district or the governing body of the charter school must ensure that there is a written emergency action plan in place that describes the location and procedures to be followed in the event of medical emergencies, including heat illness, related to the athletic program's activities or events. The written emergency action plan shall be posted in compliance with the most recent pertinent guidelines of the National Federation of State High School Associations. (Education Code (EC) § 35179.4)

- 2) Establishes the High School Coaching Education Training Program (HSCTP), which is administered by school districts and includes training, which includes a basic understanding of the signs and symptoms of concussions and heat illness and the appropriate response to concussions and heat illness. Concussion or heat illness training may be fulfilled through entities offering free, online, or other types of training courses. (EC § 35179.1)
- 3) Requires school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to develop, adopt, and implement standardized guidelines specifying temperature thresholds or index ratings that trigger modifications to pupil physical activities during extreme weather conditions. (EC § 33355)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Framework, to consider including, and recommending for adoption by the SBE, specific content related to the prevention of, and recognizing and responding to the signs and symptoms of, heat illness.
- 2) Requires the Commission or IQC, in their consideration pursuant to #1 above, to consider relevant heat illness prevention measures, heat illness signs and symptoms, and heat illness responses, as addressed by guidance issued by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) and adopted by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF).
- 3) Specifies the following for the purposes of this bill:
 - a) “Prevention of heat illness” includes, but is not limited to, measures to stay cool, hydrated, connected to others, and informed of heat alerts.
 - b) “Recognizing the signs and symptoms of heat illness” includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
 - i) A red or flushed face.
 - ii) Nausea.
 - iii) Muscle cramps.

- iv) Headache.
 - v) Dizziness.
 - vi) Fatigue or weakness.
 - vii) Confusion.
 - viii) Heavy sweating or the lack of sweating.
- c) “Responding to signs and symptoms of heat illness” includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
- i) Stopping physical activity.
 - ii) Seeking shade or a cool area.
 - iii) Drinking water or otherwise hydrating.
 - iv) Cooling the body.
 - v) Notifying a teacher, staff member, or other responsible adult.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “As temperatures continue to rise across our state and nation, protecting the health and safety of our students must remain a top priority. Extreme heat is no longer a rare occurrence, it is a growing public health concern. Our children are especially vulnerable. Student athletes practicing outdoors, children waiting at bus stops, and students in classrooms without adequate cooling systems are all at risk. Yet heat illness is preventable when individuals understand the warning signs and know how to respond.

“Education saves lives. By incorporating age-appropriate heat safety lessons into health education curriculum, we empower students with practical knowledge they can use immediately at school, at home, and in their communities. This bill is not about adding burden, it is about prevention. A few minutes of education can prevent emergency room visits, long-term health

complications, and even fatalities. Heat illness is predictable. It is preventable. And with this legislation, it is teachable.”

- 2) *Existing CDE guidance on excessive heat.* In recognition of the higher risk of heat illness due to California’s climate and geography, the CDE maintains an Excessive Heat resource page on its website to help local educational agencies (LEAs), students, and their families understand what to do when facing extreme heat temperatures and how to best mitigate their impact. This resource page includes CDE specific guidance for excessive heat waves as well as relevant guidance from the CDPH, the Office of Emergency Services (Cal-OES), the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), and the American Red Cross.
- 3) *CIF Bylaws on Sports Injuries.* The CIF, founded in 1914, is a voluntary organization comprised of 1,615 public, public charter, and private high schools that are organized into ten geographical sections for the purpose of governing education-based athletics in grades 9 through 12.

As part of its adopted bylaws and state law, CIF currently has established injury protocols for concussions, sudden cardiac arrest, and heat illness. In each of these protocols, if a student athlete exhibits the respective injury while participating in, or immediately following, an athletic activity, or is known to have exhibited the respective injury while participating in, or immediately following, an athletic activity, they must be removed immediately from participating in a practice or game for the remainder of the day. A student athlete who has been removed from play after displaying signs and symptoms associated with the respective injury may not return to play until they have been evaluated by a licensed health care provider and have received written clearance to return to play from that health care provider.

Consistent with state law, CIF bylaws also require that information sheets on concussions, sudden cardiac arrest, and heat illness be issued annually to student athletes and their parents or guardians. These information sheets must be signed and returned by all student athletes and their parents or guardians before the student athlete’s initial practice or competition.

This bill would require the IQC, when considering the inclusion of heat illness content in the next revision of the Health Framework, to consider relevant heat illness guidance and policies adopted by CIF.

- 4) *Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve*. In May 2019, the SBE adopted the Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (the Framework) to provide instructional guidance and support to California teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists, other educators, and school boards for implementation of the health education content standards. According to the California Department of Education (CDE), the Framework was designed to “help students build strong and healthy relationships with their families, friends, and communities while strengthening their resiliency and personal decision-making skills for healthy living.” The Framework covers six content areas of health education: nutrition and physical activity; growth, development, and sexual health; injury prevention and safety; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; mental, emotional, and social health; and personal and community health.

The six content areas are woven throughout the grade spans and build upon each other to ensure students gain a holistic understanding of health.

With respect to heat illness content, the current health education standards, adopted by the SBE in 2008, for grades 6-8, include a standard on identifying ways to reduce exposure to the sun, and the current health curriculum framework, adopted by the SBE in 2019, includes minimal content related to heat illness. In the grades 7-8 section, the framework mentions sun safety as a health-management strategy.

To the extent that climate change related excessive heat continues to be realities faced by students across the state, expanding heat illness content in the framework may help ensure students know how to respond to and prevent such illness.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
California Health Coalition Advocacy
California Nurses for Environmental Health & Justice
California School Nurses Organization
Center for Ecoliteracy
CFT
Elders Climate Action Northern California Chapter

Elders Climate Action Southern California Chapter
Green Schoolyards America

HED

Ten Strands

UndauntedK12

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Dixon, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:30:29

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1656
Author: Davies (R)
Amended: 3/5/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Caballero

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 3/12/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Human trafficking case continuances

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires a court in a criminal case, in determining whether good cause for a continuance exists for cases of human trafficking, to give great weight to the fact that the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress in that court or another court.

ANALYSIS:

Existing aw:

- 1) States that a person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services is guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 5, 8, or 12 years and a fine of not more than \$500,000. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 236.1, subd. (a).)
- 2) States that a person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to commit specified sex crimes including pimping, pandering, or child pornography, is guilty of human trafficking and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for 8, 14, or 20 years and a fine of not more than \$500,000. (Pen. Code, § 236.1, subd. (b).)

- 3) Specifies that a person who causes, induces, or persuades, or attempts to cause, induce, or persuade, a person who is a minor at the time of commission of the offense to engage in a commercial sex act, with the intent to commit specified crimes including pimping, pandering, or child pornography, is guilty of human trafficking. A violation is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison as follows:
 - a) 5, 8, or 12 years and a fine of not more than \$500,000; or,
 - b) 15 years to life and a fine of not more than \$500,000 when the offense involves force, fear, fraud, deceit, coercion, violence, duress, menace, or threat of unlawful injury to the victim or to another person. (Pen. Code, § 236.1, subd. (c).)
- 4) Requires that a court, unless good cause to the contrary is shown, order a criminal case to be dismissed in the following cases:
 - a) When a person has been held to answer for a public offense and an information is not filed against the person within 15 days.
 - b) In a felony case, when a defendant is not brought to trial within 60 days of the defendant's arraignment, an indictment or information, reinstatement of criminal proceedings after a declaration of doubt of the defendant's mental competency, or if a case is to be retried following a mistrial or an order granting a new trial, as specified.
 - c) When a defendant in a misdemeanor or infraction case is not brought to trial within 30 days after being arraigned or entering their plea, whichever occurs later, if the defendant is in custody, or within 45 days if the defendant is out of custody. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subds. (a)(1)-(3).)
- 5) States that a felony case shall not be dismissed if the defendant enters a general waiver of the 60-day trial requirement or if the defendant requests or consents to the setting of trial beyond the 60-day period. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subds. (a)(2)(A)-(B).)
- 6) States that a misdemeanor or infraction shall not be dismissed if the defendant enters a general time waiver of the 30-day or 45-day trial requirement, the defendant requests or consents to the setting of the trial beyond the 30-day or 45-day period, or the defendant fails to appear at a hearing prior to trial and a bench warrant has been issued. States that if such a bench warrant is issued, then the defendant will be deemed to have been arraigned on the date of their

subsequent arraignment on their bench warrant. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subds. (a)(3)(A)-(C).)

- 7) Mandates that continuances be granted only upon a showing of good cause. States that neither the convenience of the parties nor a stipulation of the parties is in and of itself good cause. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (d).)
- 8) Requires that when deciding whether or not good cause for a continuance has been shown, the court must consider the general convenience and prior commitments of all witnesses, including peace officers. Requires that both the general convenience and prior commitments of each witness also be considered in selecting a continuance date if the motion is granted. Allows that the facts as to inconvenience or prior commitments may be offered by the witness or by a party to the case. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(1).)
- 9) Defines “good cause” to include, but not be limited to, those cases where the charge is murder, child abuse, stalking related to a specified sex offense, domestic violence, a case being handled in the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, or a hate crime, and where the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress in that court or another court. A continuance under this provision shall be limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(2).)
- 10) Authorizes that only one continuance per case may be granted to the prosecutor for cases involving stalking, hate crimes, or cases handled under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program. States that any continuance granted to the people in a case involving stalking or handled under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program shall be for the shortest time possible, not to exceed 10 court days. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(3).)
- 11) Requires that in order to continue any hearing in a criminal proceeding, including the trial, a written notice shall be filed and served on all parties to the proceeding at least two court days before the hearing sought to be continued, together with affidavits or declarations detailing specific facts showing that a continuance is necessary. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (b)(1).)
- 12) Requires that within two court days of learning that a person has a conflict in the scheduling of any court hearing, including a trial, an attorney must notify the calendar clerk of each court involved, in writing, indicating which hearing was set first. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (b)(2).)

- 13) Requires that a superior court, in scheduling a trial date at an arraignment involving murder, sexual assault, child abuse, a case under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, or a case against a person with a developmental disability, make reasonable efforts to avoid setting that trial, when that case is assigned to a particular prosecuting attorney, on the same day that another case is set for trial involving the same prosecuting attorney. (Pen. Code, § 1048.1, subd. (a).)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the court, in determining whether good cause for a continuance exists for cases of human trafficking, to give great weight to the fact that the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress in that court or another court.
- 2) Allows that only one continuance may be granted to the people under this provision, which shall be limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days.

Background

Generally, the U.S. and State Constitutions and California state law provide for the right to a speedy trial. (U.S. Const., 6th Amend.; Cal. Const., art. I, sec. 15; Pen. Code, § 1382.) The right to a speedy trial is “an important safeguard to prevent undue and oppressive incarceration prior to trial, to minimize anxiety and concern accompanying public accusation and to limit the possibilities that long delay will impair the ability of an accused to defend himself.” (*United States v. Ewell* (1966) 383 U.S. 116, 120.)

In California, a felony case must be brought to trial within 60 days of arraignment or indictment, whichever occurs later. A misdemeanor case must be brought to trial within 30 days of arraignment or plea, whichever occurs later, if the defendant is in custody. If the defendant is out of custody for a misdemeanor, the case must be brought to trial within 45 days. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subd. (a)(1)-(3).) Where a case is not brought to trial within the statutory speedy trial deadline, the court must grant dismissal, unless the defendant has entered a general time waiver, the defendant has consented to the extension, or good cause is shown. (*Ibid.*)

A court may only issue a continuance beyond the statutory periods for a maximum of 10 days and only for good cause. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (d).) Several factors are relevant in determining good cause: (a) the nature and strength of the justification for the delay; (b) the duration of the delay; and (c) the prejudice to either the defendant or the prosecution that is likely to result from the delay. In making its good-cause determination, a trial court must consider all the relevant circumstances of the particular case, applying principles of common sense to the totality of the circumstances. (*People v. Engram* (2010) 50 Cal.4th 1131, 1163.) Good cause exists, for example, when the delay beyond the statutory period is caused by the conduct of the defendant or occurs for his or her benefit, or there are unforeseen circumstances such as unexpected illness, unanticipated unavailability of counsel, or the absence of a witness despite due diligence to secure his or her attendance. (*People v. Hajjaj* (2010) 50 Cal.4th 1184, 1198.)

Over time the Legislature has added additional exceptions to the general rule that criminal trials must occur at the “earliest possible time.” A court is required to find “good cause” in cases of homicide, stalking, child abuse, specific sex offenses, domestic violence, hate crimes, or cases being handled by the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, where the prosecuting attorney has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress that conflicts with the case. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(2).) Such continuances are limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days. (*Ibid.*)

This bill requires the court, in determining whether good cause for a continuance exists for cases of human trafficking, to give great weight to the fact that the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress in that court or another court. This bill allows that only one continuance may be granted to the people under this provision, which shall be limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days.

The sponsors and author submit that good cause continuances are necessary to facilitate vertical prosecution, which is a model where one attorney handles all stages of a case from beginning to end, rather than substituting counsel at different stages as needed. Vertical prosecution, supporters argue, allows prosecutors to build trust and expertise working with vulnerable victim witnesses, such as survivors of human trafficking.

Other vertical prosecution programs have been implemented without requiring good cause continuances. This suggests mandatory good cause continuances are not necessary to implement vertical prosecution models. Specifically, in 2023, a

grant program was established via the budget act to award \$24,868,293 in grant funds to 13 district attorney offices to implement a vertical prosecution program on the issue of retail theft. (Board of State and Community Corrections, *ORT Vertical Prosecution Q4 Summary* (Dec. 17, 2024) <[ORT-Vertical-Prosecution-Q4-Summary-12.17.2024-.pdf](#) .) These offices have implemented vertical prosecution models for a category of offense—retail theft—where there is no requirement for good cause continuances. Further, there is no provision in existing law that prevents district attorney offices from implementing a vertical prosecution model in human trafficking cases. In short, the connection between vertical prosecution and good cause continuances is arguably tenuous.

Further, this bill would apply to all human trafficking cases, regardless of whether the district attorney office in question has implemented a vertical prosecution model for those cases. Thus, this legislation is likely overbroad because it would affect cases where prosecutors do not engage in vertical prosecution.

Good cause continuances cause defendants in custody to face longer periods of pretrial detention, even if they are not guilty of the underlying offense. Pretrial detention can harm someone's employment, housing, mental health, and family stability. (Dobbie et al., *The Effects of Pretrial Detention on Conviction, Future Crime, and Employment: Evidence from Randomly Assigned Judges* (2018) 108 Am. Econ. Rev. 201 <<https://perma.cc/7NAN-S7HB> .) Additionally, the longer people are forced to remain in pretrial detention, the more likely they are to take a plea agreement, even if they are not guilty. (*Ibid.*) Extended periods of pretrial detention impose significant costs on counties. And even short periods of detention can make people more likely to become involved with the criminal justice system in the future. (Lowenkamp, VanNostrand & Holsinger, *The Hidden Costs of Pretrial Detention* (2013), p. 4 <<https://perma.cc/498S-LM6P> .)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
California District Attorneys Association
California Narcotic Officers' Association
California Reserve Peace Officers Association

California State Sheriffs' Association
Claremont Police Officers Association
Corona Police Officers Association
Culver City Police Officers' Association
Fullerton Police Officers' Association
Los Angeles School Police Management Association
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Murrieta Police Officers' Association
Newport Beach Police Association
Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association
San Diego County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

ACLU California Action
Initiate Justice
Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union, Local 148
San Francisco Public Defender

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California District Attorneys Association writes:

Survivors of human trafficking frequently experience severe trauma, coercive control, and psychological harm. Some are under a debt bondage, immigration coercion, threats of violence or family threats. It is very hard for survivors to trust someone in authority, such as prosecuting attorneys who must work diligently to establish a trusting relationship with the victims.

AB 1656 recognizes that if the vertically assigned prosecutor is engaged in another criminal matter, it is important to preserve the continuity of counsel between the prosecutor and the survivor of human trafficking. AB 1656 would permit a finding of good cause to continue the human trafficking case for up to ten days to permit the vertically assigned prosecutor to handle the case. Forcing the matter to proceed with a substitute prosecutor may undermine victim

cooperation, increase anxiety and negatively impact the quality of the victim's testimony.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The San Francisco Public Defender writes:

AB 1656 adds yet another category of crimes providing prosecutors with a unilateral exception to the requirements of "good cause" within the meaning of Penal Code § 1050. AB 1656 contravenes the core legislative intent of Section 1050, which states that "all proceedings in criminal cases shall be set for trial and heard and determined at the earliest possible time" because "criminal courts are becoming increasingly congested with resulting adverse consequences to the welfare of the people and the defendant" and *"[e]xcessive continuances contribute substantially to this congestion and cause substantial hardship to victims and other witnesses . . . [and] lead to longer periods of presentence confinement for those defendants in custody and the concomitant overcrowding and increased expenses of local jails."* An additional class of crimes that fall within the meaning of "good cause" would only cause more delay, more congestion, more hardship, and longer periods of presentence confinement for people who have not been convicted of a crime.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 3/12/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Fariás, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Castillo, Elhawary, Hoover, Johnson, Krell, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
6/12/26 12:50:01

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1657
Author: Rogers (D), et al.
Amended: 4/28/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Domestic violence: restraining orders

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a court from requiring a petitioner seeking an ex parte temporary restraining order under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA) to provide notice to the party to be restrained before accepting the application for filing or issuing a decision on the application.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the DVPA, which sets forth procedural and substantive requirements for the issuance of a temporary restraining order or a protective order to, among other things, enjoin specific acts of abuse or prohibit the abuser from coming within a specified distance of the abused person. (Family (Fam.) Code, §§ 6200 et seq.)
 - a) “Domestic violence,” for purposes of the DVPA, is defined as abuse perpetrated against a spouse or former spouse; a cohabitant or former cohabitant; a person with whom the respondent is having or has had a dating or engagement relationship; a person with whom the respondent has had a child, as specified; a child of a party or a child who is the subject of an

- action under the Uniform Parentage Act, as specified; or any other person related by consanguinity or affinity within the second degree. (Fam. Code, § 6211.)
- b) The purpose of a DVPA order is to prevent acts of domestic violence, abuse, and sexual abuse and to provide for a separation of the persons involved in the domestic violence for a period sufficient to enable these persons to seek a resolution of the causes of the violence. (Fam. Code, § 6220.)
- 2) Authorizes a court to issue an ex parte temporary restraining order (TRO) under the DVPA without a noticed hearing to prevent the restrained party from engaging in abusive or harassing behavior, as specified. (Fam. Code, §§ 6320-6327.)
- 3) Provides that a TRO issued pursuant to 2) shall not be denied solely because the other party was not provided with notice. (Fam. Code, § 6300(b).)
- 4) Requires a TRO to be issued or denied on the same day the application is submitted to the court or the next judicial day, as specified, and that the application shall not be denied solely because the other party was not provided with notice. (Fam. Code, § 6326.)
- 5) Authorizes a court to issue DVPO under the DVPA after a noticed hearing at which the alleged abuser may appear. (Fam. Code, §§ 6340-6347.)
- 6) Provides that a court may issue a TRO or DVPO if an affidavit or testimony and any additional information provided to the court shows, to the satisfaction of the court, reasonable proof of a past act or acts of abuse, and that the court may do so based solely on the affidavit or testimony of the person requesting the order. (Fam. Code, § 6300(a).)
- 7) Establishes a general rule that a temporary restraining order may not be issued pursuant to the Family Code without notice to the respondent unless it appears from the facts shown by the declaration in support of the petition for the order, or in the petition for the order, that great or irreparable injury would result to the petitioner before the matter can be heard on notice; and exempts orders issued under the DVPA from this general rule. (Fam. Code, § 241.)
- 8) Provides that a temporary restraining order issued under the Family Code, including the DVPA, shall last for 21 days, or 25 days with good cause, from the date that the application was granted, by which time the court must hold a noticed hearing on the application for a protective order. (Fam. Code, § 242.)

- 9) Provides, notwithstanding 8), that a temporary restraining order may be extended in certain circumstances, including the respondent's right to ask for one continuance for a reasonable period to respond to the petition or if either party shows good cause for a continuance; in such cases, the temporary restraining order shall remain in effect until the end of the continued hearing. (Fam. Code, § 245.)

This bill prohibits a court from doing any of the following in connection with an ex parte application for a TRO under the DVPA:

- a) Requiring notice to the party against whom the TRO is sought in advance of accepting a filing for, or deciding, the application for an ex parte TRO.
- b) Requiring an explanation or declaration for not providing notice to the party against whom the TRO is sought in advance of accepting the filing for, or deciding, an application for an ex parte TRO.
- c) Adopting or maintaining any rule, form, or practice that is inconsistent with 1)(a) and (b).

Comments

Existing law, the DVPA, seeks to prevent acts of domestic violence, abuse, and sexual abuse and to provide for a separation of persons involved in the domestic violence for a period sufficient to enable these persons to try to resolve the causes of the violence. Existing law thus enables a party to seek a restraining order or a protective order to enjoin specific acts of abuse, exclude a person from a dwelling, or enjoin other specified behavior. The DVPA allows a victim of domestic violence to obtain a short-term TRO on an ex parte basis and a longer-term protective order after a noticed hearing; these orders are generally sought in a single application that seeks the immediate issuance of a TRO and a hearing on the application for the protective order.

Current law states that a petition for a TRO may not be denied solely because the petitioner failed to provide notice of the application to the other party. According to the author, there is disagreement among the courts as to whether this language exempts DVPA petitioners from providing notice of a TRO application to the respondent in advance, or whether a court may, at its discretion, determine that notice to the respondent is required before filing or granting a TRO application.

This bill amends the Family Code to unambiguously prohibit a court from requiring notice to the respondent before filing or granting a TRO application under the DVPA. This bill also prohibits a court from requiring a petitioner to state their reasons for not providing notice, and from adopting any rule of court that is inconsistent with these prohibitions.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

California Behavioral Health Association
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
League of California Cities
Los Angeles Unified School District
PORAC

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

Family Law Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the California Behavioral Health Association

AB 1657 makes changes that a court would not be allowed to require notice to the party to be restrained before accepting or deciding an exp parte restraining order application. The court would also not be allowed to require the applicant to explain why notice was not provided. Finally this bill provides that an ex parte restraining order shall not be denied, in whole or in part, because the other party was not provided notice. These changes are important because the time between seeking protection and receiving an enforceable order is often one of the most dangerous periods for survivors. Requiring a survivor to notify an abusive partner before protection is in place creates a gap that increased the risk of retaliation, intimidation, and further harm.

This bill seeks to provide greater clarity and uniformity across counties as some courts are interpreting their local rules to deny applications solely due to the failure to provide notice or failure to provide an adequate explanation for not doing so. Finally, AB 1657 applies to temporary ex parte restraining orders designed to address urgent safety needs. Respondents still receive notice after an order is issued and retain the opportunity to appear, respond, and contest the order at the required hearing before a long term order is granted.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to the Family Law Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association:

While prior notice for ex parte restraining orders may be inappropriate in most cases (due to violence in response to such notice), there are certainly cases in which such notice *is* appropriate. As practitioners, it is our position that it is the

judicial officer ruling on the application for the restraining order who must be entrusted with the decision as to whether notice would or would not be appropriate in any given case.

Given that our current statute already allows a Court to grant a restraining order without prior notice, the proposed amendment to FC6300 infringes on the Constitutional due process rights of a Defendant unnecessarily by mandating to the Court that notice shall never be required. The current statute protects the rights of both the accuser *and* the accused, by allowing the Court to dispense with the notice requirement in a particular case. There is no need to amend the statute given the current wording of Family Code Section 6300.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/12/26 12:50:01

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1659
Author: Ransom (D), et al.
Amended: 3/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/3/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Juvenile court school pupils: joint transition planning policy:
courses of study

SOURCE: Alameda County Office of Education

DIGEST: This bill requires school districts in a juvenile court school (JCS) pupil's community to assign a district staff member to serve as the district's point person for transition liaison responsibilities.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires county offices of education (COEs) and county probation departments to have a joint transition planning policy to coordinate the transition of pupils between JCSs and other public schools. Requires a COE to assign transition oversight responsibilities to existing COE personnel, who shall coordinate with the county probation department and relevant local educational agencies (LEAs) to ensure:

- a) The immediate enrollment of a pupil transferred from a JCS in an appropriate public school in their community, and their immediate placement in appropriate courses;
 - b) The transfer of education records, including an individualized education program (IEP) and pursuant to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) and the pupil's plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 plan, if applicable, within 72 hours of a pupil's release from a JCS;
 - c) The acceptance of full or partial course credits for coursework completed by the student while enrolled in a JCS;
 - d) The implementation of the pupil's transition plan, if one exists; and
 - e) Access to information about postsecondary opportunities, including college financial aid. (Education Code (EC) § 48647)
- 2) Requires LEAs to accept full or partial credit for coursework satisfactorily completed by a student while attending a public school, including JCS. (EC § 48645.5 and 51225.2.)
 - 3) Requires LEAs to provide educational records of transferring students to their next LEA within two business days of receiving the transfer notification. The records include, among other items, a transcript updated with full or partial credit for coursework completed by the student. (EC § 49069.5)

This bill:

- 1) Requires school districts in a JCS pupil's community to assign a staff member of the school district to serve as the district point person for transition liaison responsibilities.
- 2) Requires the school district to notify the COE and county probation department of the assigned staff member's name and contact information.
- 3) Requires the assigned staff member, and other existing school district personnel as needed to serve the individual pupil, to work in collaboration with the COE transition oversight personnel throughout the calendar year to ensure all of the following:
 - a) The timely transfer of complete and accurate education records, including the pupil's IEP adopted pursuant to the federal IDEA and the pupil's plan

adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973, if applicable, when a pupil enters the JCS.

- b) The immediate enrollment in an appropriate public school in the school district when a pupil is transferred from the JCS.
 - c) The acceptance, upon enrollment by the pupil in a public school, of course credits, including partial credits, for coursework completed in the JCS, as specified.
 - d) The immediate placement in appropriate courses, based on coursework completed by the pupil, as specified.
- 4) Restates existing law that requires LEAs to issue full or partial credits on an official transcript within two business days of foster youth transferring between public schools and JCSs.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “Students who are justice-impacted are children who deserve stability, care, and support, especially during major transitions in their lives. AB 1659 provides greater support for these students by ensuring there is a designated point of contact when a student transitions back to their home school district upon release from a court school. This bill strengthens the partnership between the county office of education and the student’s home district to put the student first and establish a more effective transition support system. A smooth reintegration process will reduce disruptions to these students’ education and help them stay engaged, focused on their future, and moving toward success.”
- 2) *What is a juvenile court school?* According to the California Department of Education (CDE), JCSs are COE operated educational programs located within juvenile detention facilities, serving youths who are under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and are temporarily or permanently out of traditional school settings due to incarceration or legal proceedings.

Juveniles who are under the authority of the juvenile court system are required to attend school under California’s compulsory education requirements. JCS students are provided a California standards-based curriculum and must take educational assessment tests required of all students in the state’s public schools. The minimum school day for JCSs is 240 minutes of instruction. These schools offer students a course of study that leads to a high school diploma or high school equivalency certificate.

Upon release, or after the court terminates jurisdiction, students of ages sixteen to eighteen who are not exempt from compulsory school attendance are required to continue their public education. These students are provided with planning and transition services critical to a successful transfer back to a public school.

For the 2023-24 school year, CDE reported the total enrollment of 13,203 students across the state's 51 JCSs, with a mean enrollment of 264.1 students and a median of 131 students per school.

3) *JCS Transition Statewide Work Group Report and Recommendations*. In 2014, the Legislature passed AB 2276 (Bocanegra, Chapter 901, Statutes of 2014), requiring the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI), in consultation with the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) to convene a statewide group with stakeholders from the community, advocacy organizations, and education and probation department leaders to study four specific performance areas impacting pupils transitioning from a JCS back to public schools in their community. The legislation directs the statewide work group to develop a model, study existing successful county programs and policies, report its findings, and provide recommendations for state actions to improve:

- a) Immediate transfer of educational records;
- b) Uniform systems for calculating and awarding course credits;
- c) Transition planning; and
- d) Immediate enrollment of transferring pupils.

The resulting report found, among other things, that communication between COE, school district, county probation, and other stakeholders was inadequate, complete and accurate educational student records were not immediately transferred, and school districts had difficulty complying with statutes requiring the immediate enrollment of a pupil transitioning from a JCS.

Relative to transition planning, the report makes the following recommendations, among other things:

- e) A student transition team should be established for each student and shall include, at a minimum, a representative from the COE, the pupil's resident school district, and the county probation department.
- f) The student transition team should provide each student with a plan that includes the requisite academic and behavioral actions necessary to establish a clear pathway back to a comprehensive public school in their community.
- g) Identified staff shall be accountable for providing necessary assistance and effective case management to each transitioning student. Each COE, county probation department, and school district shall have one or more individuals specifically identified as the juvenile court student transition liaison/specialist. The transition liaison/specialist from each agency should coordinate their efforts to ensure successful student transition.
- h) Accurate student records shall be available for all students transitioning into and out of a juvenile court facility.
- i) A transitioning student from a JCS shall be immediately enrolled, regardless of the availability of academic records, among other things.
- j) Each school district shall identify one or more persons responsible for ensuring the immediate enrollment of a student transitioning from a juvenile court facility.
- k) School districts and COEs should adopt and comply with the California Model Policy, which provides a partial credit calculation formula, explanations of the policy's provisions, and implementation tools for use by school personnel and social workers.

In the years following the release of the report, several recommendations have gone on to be codified, including requirements for COEs to ensure that a student enrolled in a JCS for more than 20 school days has an individualized transition plan, and that COEs specifically assign personnel to collaborate with county probation departments to be responsible for transition oversight.

This bill seeks to implement another area of recommendations made by the report, namely, for school districts to assign a staff member to serve as the district point person for transition liaison responsibilities.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Alameda County Office of Education (source)
 Alameda County Board of Supervisors
 Association of California School Administrators
 Back to the Start
 California Alliance of Child and Family Services
 California County Superintendents
 California Teachers Association
 Children Now
 Disability Rights California
 East Bay Community Law Center
 Fresh Lifelines for Youth
 Los Angeles County Office of Education
 National Center for Youth Law
 Office of the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools
 Santa Clara County Office of Education
 Yolo County Board of Education

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías,
 Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza,
 Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis,
 Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González,
 Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra,
 Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen,
 Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,
 Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz,
 Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks,
 Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bonta, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Ward

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
 6/16/26 16:43:00

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1665

Author: Pacheco (D), Gabriel (D) and Irwin (D), et al.

Amended: 4/6/26 in Assembly

Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: School athletics: coaches: youth athletics behavioral and mental health training

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill, commencing with the 2027-28 school year, requires: (1) a coach for an interscholastic athletic program at a high school that is a member of the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) to complete an initial training, and subsequent training every two years, on a coaching education and training program on mental health, as specified, and (2) that a local educational agency (LEA) ensure a coach of a non-interscholastic athletic program complete an initial training, and subsequent training every two years, covering sudden cardiac arrest and youth athletics behavioral and mental health, if the LEA chooses to offer a non-interscholastic athletic program.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines “interscholastic athletics” is defined as those policies, programs, and activities that are formulated or executed in conjunction with, or in contemplation of, athletic contests between two or more schools, either public or private. (Education Code (EC) § 35179)

- 2) Defines “athletic activity”, for purposes of the Eric Paredes Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act, as all of the following: a) interscholastic athletics, b) an athletic contest or competition, other than interscholastic athletics, that is sponsored by a school, including club-sponsored sports activities, c) noncompetitive cheerleading that is sponsored by a school, d) practices, interscholastic practices, and scrimmages for all of the aforementioned activities listed in this definition. (EC § 33479.1)
- 3) Establishes the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program and states it is the intent of the Legislature that the program be administered by school districts, be updated and rehearsed annually, and emphasize the following components:
 - a) Development of coaching philosophies consistent with school, school district, and governing board of a school district goals.
 - b) Sport psychology: emphasizing communication, reinforcement of the efforts of pupils, effective delivery of coaching regarding technique, and motivation of the pupil athlete.
 - c) Sport pedagogy: how pupil athletes learn, and how to teach sport skills.
 - d) Sport physiology: principles of training, fitness for sport, development of a training program, nutrition for athletes, and the harmful effects associated with the use of steroids and performance-enhancing dietary supplements by adolescents.
 - e) Sport management: team management, risk management, and working within the context of an entire school program.
 - f) Training: certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), use of an automated external defibrillator (AED), and first aid that includes, but is not limited to, training in recognizing the signs and symptoms of, and responding to, concussions, heat illness, and cardiac arrest. Training on concussion, heat illness, and cardiac arrest may be provided by entities offering free, online, or other types of training courses.

- g) Knowledge of, and adherence to, statewide rules and regulations, as well as school regulations, including, but not necessarily limited to, eligibility, gender equity, and discrimination.
 - h) Sound planning and goal setting. (EC § 35179.1)
- 4) Requires each high school coach to have completed a coaching education program developed by their school district or the CIF that meets the guidelines established by the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program. Requires that the coaching education program count toward the continuing education required for the renewal of the teaching credential of a coach who is also a certificated employee. (EC § 49032)
- 5) Establishes the Eric Paredes Sudden Cardiac Arrest Prevention Act, which requires a coach of an athletic activity to complete a specified sudden cardiac arrest training course every two years. (EC §§ 33479 and 33479.6)
- 6) Requires the CIF to report to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and the Governor on its evaluation and accountability activities on or before January 1, 2023, and on or before January 1 every seven years thereafter, and shall include, but not be limited to, the goals and objectives of the CIF with regard to, and the status of, all of the following:
- a) The governing structure of the CIF, and the effectiveness of that governance structure in providing leadership for interscholastic athletics in secondary schools.
 - b) Methods to facilitate communication with agencies, organizations, and public entities whose functions and interests interface with the CIF.
 - c) The quality of coaching and officiating, including, but not limited to, professional development for coaches and athletic administrators, and parent education programs.
 - d) Gender equity in interscholastic athletics, including, but not limited to, the number of male and female pupils participating in interscholastic athletics in secondary schools, and action taken by the CIF in order to ensure compliance with Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972 (20 United States Code § 1681 et seq.).

- e) Health and safety of pupils, coaches, officials, and spectators.
- f) The economic viability of interscholastic athletics in secondary schools, including, but not limited to, the promotion and marketing of interscholastic athletics.
- g) New and continuing programs available to pupil athletes.
- h) Awareness and understanding of emerging issues related to interscholastic athletics in secondary schools. (EC § 33353)

This bill:

- 1) Requires, commencing with the 2027-28 school year, a school district, county office of education, or charter school that elects to offer an athletic program other than an interscholastic athletic program to ensure that the athletic program's coaches complete an initial training, and a subsequent training every two years, that covers both of the following: a) sudden cardiac arrest as specified and b) youth athletics behavioral and mental health training as described by AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026).
- 2) Requires, commencing with the 2027-28 school year, a person who serves as a coach in an interscholastic athletic program at a high school that is a member of the CIF complete an initial training before the start of the season for the high school sport they are authorized to coach, and subsequent training every two years, on a coaching education and training program on mental health as specified.
- 3) Adds, commencing July 1, 2027, that a mental health component, with age appropriate training that covers topics added by AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026) be emphasized in the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author, “Research indicates that more than 20% of children confront mental health issues and that 3 out of every 10 teenagers face “serious psychological distress” – a figure that has increased in recent decades. About half of all serious mental health disorders develop during teenage years. During childhood years, more than half of kids participate in sports programs intended to be a fun physical and mental outlet, but many young athletes face increased pressure to perform at high levels. With this intense stress during an

already tumultuous time, student-athlete physical and mental health should be supported in the most holistic way possible.

California has taken steps to address student mental health, including increasing student access to mental health services. However, even when resources are available, students are often most comfortable speaking with people they know. Coaches are often the first to hear about student-athlete mental health challenges. As trusted individuals in students' lives, coaches have the unique opportunity to spot mental health crises and provide support to struggling student athletes."

Slate of bills from 2025-26 Regular Session promoting wellness and improved mental health for pupil athletes. This bill, along with AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026) and AB 1985 (Irwin, 2026), recognizes the unique role that athletic coaches have in young athletes' lives and aims to equip coaches with the tools and the understanding so that they can appropriately respond and provide support to young men and women during an age when this support is critical. This bill and AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026) address providing mental health training for athletic coaches in K-12 schools and youth organizations, while AB 1985 (Irwin, 2026) aims to provide mental health training for athletic coaches at the collegiate level.

CIF's structure and role in interscholastic athletics. The CIF, founded in 1914, is a voluntary organization consisting of over 1,600 public, public charter, and private high schools and over 750,000 student-athletes, for the purpose of governing education-based athletics in grades 9 through 12. Almost all public and private high schools in California are CIF members. The CIF is organized under the California Department of Education (CDE), and CDE has allowed the CIF to regulate interscholastic athletics and be the rulemaking body for these programs.

The CIF consists of ten regional sections, each of which is divided into several local leagues, for purposes of developing sports, scheduling athletic contests, and assigning referees. Each league elects a representative to their respective CIF section's governing body, which is called a Board of Managers or Council. Each CIF section's governing body elects officers, establishes section policies, develops section playoff sports and schedules, and CIF members adhere to these rules and regulations adopted by their section.

Currently, CIF offers training programs to high school coaches who earn a certificate upon course completion that is transferable between school districts. These training programs are part of the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program and currently include instruction on CPR and first

aid, concussions, sudden cardiac arrest, and heat illness. According to CIF's website, coaches who are part of CIF member schools must complete these training courses every two years.

Bill targets both interscholastic athletic programs and non-interscholastic athletic programs, and is closely related to AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026). This bill and AB 1626 are closely interlinked, and both require training for athletics coaches to promote awareness of, and strategies to address, behavioral and mental health challenges for pupil athletes. This bill specifically requires initial trainings, and subsequent trainings every two years, for coaches of non-interscholastic athletic programs operated by LEAs and for coaches in interscholastic athletic programs at high schools that are CIF members. This bill requires the trainings specified in this legislation to cover training topics established by AB 1626.

This bill doesn't define athletic programs that aren't interscholastic programs. However, non-interscholastic athletic programs could include athletic programs operated by LEAs that are not CIF members, or athletic programs for K-8 pupils operated by LEAs. These may include intramural sports, such as soccer and flag football at the high school level and track and field and wrestling at the middle school level.

Related and Prior Legislation

AB 1626 (Gabriel, 2026) would establish training content areas, related to behavioral and mental health challenges specific to pupil athletes, to be used for trainings for coaches of interscholastic athletic programs, non-interscholastic athletic programs, and youth sports organizations. This bill requires the CDE, by September 1, 2027, to identify an existing training or develop a model youth athletics behavioral and mental health training, as specified, for coaches in youth sports organizations.

AB 1985 (Irwin, 2026) would require, by July 1, 2028, the California State University, the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office, and each private postsecondary educational institution and independent institution of higher education that receives state financial assistance, and requests of the University of California, to identify and compile a list of mental health programs that can be used to train athletic coaches.

AB 245 (McKinnor, Chapter 422, Statutes of 2023) requires the High School Coaching Education and Training Program to include training in recognizing the signs and symptoms of concussions, heat illness, and cardiac arrest.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Association of California School Administrators
California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
California Behavioral Health Association
California Hospital Association
California State Association of Psychiatrists
County Behavioral Health Directors Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Flora, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Ta

Prepared by: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:30:30

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1683
Author: Committee on Insurance
Introduced: 2/2/26
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Workers' compensation: prepaid cards

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill removes the January 1, 2027, sunset date for the pilot program authorizing employers to deposit workers' compensation payments in a prepaid card account for employees, making the program permanent.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes a comprehensive system of workers' compensation that provides a range of benefits for an employee who suffers from an injury or illness that arises out of and in the course of employment, regardless of fault. This system requires all employers to ensure payment of benefits by either securing the consent of the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) to self-insure or by obtaining insurance from a company authorized by the state. (Labor Code §§3200-6002)
- 2) Establishes the Division of Workers' Compensation and Workers' Compensation Appeal Board within DIR and charges them with monitoring the administration of workers' compensation claims and providing administrative

and judicial services to assist in resolving disputes that arise in connection with claims for workers' compensation benefits. (Labor Code §§110-139.6)

- 3) Establishes within DIR, the Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC) to conduct a continuing examination of the workers' compensation system, as defined, and of the state's activities to prevent industrial injuries and occupational diseases. Allows CHSWC to conduct or contract for studies it deems necessary to carry out its responsibilities, as specified. (Labor Code §§75-78)
- 4) Establishes within the workers' compensation system, temporary disability indemnity, permanent disability indemnity, and permanent partial disability indemnity, which offer wage replacement of a specified injured employee's average weekly earnings while an employee is unable to work due to a workplace illness or injury. (Labor Code §§4650-4664)
- 5) Requires that, if an injury causes temporary disability, the first payment of temporary disability indemnity must be made no later than 14 days after knowledge of the injury and disability. Each additional payment of temporary disability indemnity benefits must be made as due every two weeks on the day designated with the first payment. (Labor Code §4650)
- 6) Prohibits any disability indemnity payment being made by any written instrument unless it is immediately negotiable and payable in cash, on demand, without discount at some established place of business in the state. (Labor Code §4651)
- 7) Allows, until January 1, 2027, an employer to commence a program under which disability indemnity payments are deposited in a prepaid card account for the employee. The employee must provide written consent to the employer to use a prepaid card account for the employee's disability payments. (Labor Code §4651)
 - a) Provides that the prepaid card account must meet the applicable requirements of Section 1339.1 of the Unemployment Insurance Code.
 - b) Requires, for purposes of this section, a prepaid card to also meet all of the following requirements:
 - i) Allow the employee to withdraw the entire balance on the card in one transaction without incurring fees.
 - ii) Allow the employee reasonable access to in-network automatic teller machines (ATMs).
 - iii) Allow the employee to make point-of-sale purchases without incurring fees from the financial institution.

- iv) Prohibit a link to any form of credit, including a loan against future payments or a cash advance on future payments.
 - c) Provides that the fees associated with the use of the prepaid card must be disclosed to the employee in writing. The only permissible fees associated with the use of a prepaid card are those for a replacement card provided through expedited delivery, out-of-network ATM fees on the third and subsequent withdrawal per deposit, and fees associated with foreign transactions.
 - d) Provides that if an employee has consented to use the prepaid card payment system under this section, either the employer or the employee may opt to change the method of payment to another method, as specified, by providing 30 days' written notice to the other party.
 - e) Requires, on or before December 1, 2022, the CHSWC to issue a report to the Legislature on payments made to prepaid card accounts. Requires employers to provide all necessary aggregated data on their prepaid account programs to the commission upon request. The report must include, but is not limited to, the following:
 - i) The number of employees who elected to receive their disability indemnity payments in a prepaid card account.
 - ii) The cash value of the disability benefits sent to prepaid card accounts.
 - iii) The number of employees who opted to change the method of payment from a prepaid card account to either a written instrument or electronic deposit.
 - f) Provides that it is not a violation of this section if either of the following delays occurs in connection with a transaction authorized, as specified, and the delay is caused solely by the application of state or federal banking laws or regulations:
 - i) A delay in the negotiation of a written instrument, including a delay in the deposit or electronic deposit of a check to a prepaid card account.
 - ii) A delay in the deposit of a disability indemnity payment to a prepaid card account.
- 8) Defines "prepaid card" or "prepaid card account" as a card, code, or other means of access to funds of a recipient that is usable at multiple, unaffiliated merchants for goods or services, or usable at ATMs. (Unemployment Insurance Code §1339.1)
- 9) Requires that a prepaid account used for receipt of unemployment benefits meets all of the following criteria: (Unemployment Insurance Code §1339.1)
- a) The account is held at an insured depository financial institution.

- b) The account is set up to meet the requirements for direct or passthrough deposit or share insurance payable to the person entitled to the receipt of public assistance payments by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, as specified.
- c) The account is not attached to a credit or overdraft feature that is automatically repaid from the account unless the credit or overdraft feature has no fee, charge, or cost, whether direct, required, voluntary, or involuntary, or the credit or overdraft feature complies with the requirements for credit offered in connection with a prepaid account, as specified.
- d) The account complies with all of the requirements and provides the holder of the account with all of the consumer protections, that apply to an account under the rules implementing the Electronic Fund Transfer Act.

This bill:

- 1) Removes the January 1, 2027, sunset date for the pilot program authorizing employers to deposit workers' compensation payments in a prepaid card account for employees, making it permanent.
- 2) Removes language requiring CHSWC to publish a report assessing the pilot program, as specified.

Background

Workers' compensation. Under the California workers' compensation system, if a worker is injured on a job, the employer must pay for the worker's medical treatment and provide monetary benefits if the injury is permanent or temporarily results in lost wages. In return for receiving free medical treatment, the worker surrenders the right to sue the employer for monetary damages in civil court. In California, all employers are required to either purchase a workers' compensation insurance policy from a licensed insurer authorized to write policies in California or become self-insured.

Workers' compensation disability indemnity benefits are payments injured employees get if they lose wages due to a work-related injury that prevents them from doing their usual job while recovering. If a workplace injury causes temporary partial disability, meaning the injured worker can return to work but cannot perform their full professional duties due to their disability, the worker is entitled to monetary compensation equal to two-thirds of the weekly loss in wages during the period of disability. If a workplace injury causes temporary total disability, meaning the injured worker cannot work at all, the worker is entitled to two-thirds of their average weekly earnings during the period of the disability. If

the disability is permanent, the worker is entitled to disability indemnity benefits depending on their average weekly earnings at the time of the injury, with the number of weeks depending on the extent of their disability.

Disability indemnity payments must be made every two weeks, beginning 14 days after knowledge of the injury and disability is established. As the Assembly Committee on Insurance points out, “prior to 2018, disability indemnity benefits could only be transmitted to the injured worker by paper check or direct deposit. These methods of payment pose unique challenges for households without a bank account. For unbanked workers, direct deposit is not available, and without a relationship with a financial institution, cashing a check generally incurs considerable fees that would materially reduce the value of the payment.”

Workers’ compensation prepaid card pilot program. In 2018, Senate Bill 880 (Pan, Chapter 730, Statutes of 2018) was signed into law, which allowed employers to conduct a pilot program (until January 1, 2023) to deposit workers’ compensation disability indemnity benefits via prepaid cards, rather than a paper check or electronic deposit. This program was modeled after the Employment Development Department (EDD)’s program that utilizes prepaid cards to issue unemployment insurance and disability insurance payments.

SB 880 created this pilot program that is voluntary and completely optional for the employer and for the employee. Under this pilot program, the employee must consent in writing, and either the employer or the employee may opt to change the method of payment to back to paper check or direct deposit with a 30 days written notice.

The pilot program also required the workers’ compensation prepaid card account to meet all the requirements applicable to EDD’s prepaid card accounts, in addition to all the following requirements:

- 1) Allow the employee to withdraw the entire balance on the card in one transaction without incurring fees.
- 2) Allow the employee reasonable access to in-network ATMs.
- 3) Allow the employee to make point-of-sale purchases without incurring fees from the financial institution.
- 4) Prohibit a link to any form of credit, including a loan against future payments or a cash advance on future payments.

SB 880 required that all fees associated with the use of the prepaid card be disclosed to the employee in writing and limited permissible fees to fees for replacement of the card via expedited delivery, out-of-network ATM fees on the third and subsequent withdrawal per deposit, and fees associated with foreign transactions. SB 880 had a sunset date of January 1, 2023, and the pilot program would be repealed without further legislative action.

CHSWC report. In addition to the pilot program, SB 880 also required Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation (CHSWC) to compile a report on the program to the Legislature by December 1, 2022, with the following information:

- 1) The number of employees who elected to receive their benefits via prepaid card,
- 2) The cash value of benefits sent via prepaid card, and
- 3) The number of employees who opted to change their method of payment from prepaid card to either a written instrument or electronic deposit.

Due to insufficient data, the CHSWC report was not completed on time. As a result, the Legislature passed three separate bills extending the sunset date of the pilot program to allow time to produce and review the report:

- 1) AB 2148 (Calderon, Chapter 120, Statutes of 2022) extended the program until January 1, 2024.
- 2) AB 489 (Calderon, Chapter 63, Statutes of 2023) extended the program until January 1, 2025.
- 3) AB 1239 (Calderon, Chapter 806, Statutes of 2024) extended the program until January 1, 2027.

CHSWC published the required report on February 18, 2026.¹ According to the report, "CHSWC found that only one insurer, the State Compensation Insurance Fund (State Fund) of California, offers the prepaid card under the definition of the pilot and California Labor Code § 4651. The State Fund reported that since July 2020 when their program began, 10,348 employees have enrolled in the prepaid card program and of those, 325 employees have opted out in favor of receiving

¹ California Commission on Health and Safety and Workers' Compensation. *Report on Employer Use of Prepaid Card Account Programs for Workers' Compensation Disability Indemnity Payments in California: California Senate Bill 880 (2018) and California Labor Code §4651* (Feb. 18, 2026).
<https://www.dir.ca.gov/chswc/Reports/2026/PrepaidCardProgram.pdf>

paper checks (3.14%). The cash value of indemnity payments to prepaid accounts totaled \$214,168,506 as reported through December 31, 2024. [...]

It is worth noting that the legislation itself was designed to expire, if not renewed or made permanent. Adoption rates by payers may also have been low because there was no assurance that a significant investment in a new payment method would not go away or sunset by law. Further, it is possible that some payers may have been delaying consideration of adopting or implementing a prepaid card program until a report by CHSWC became available for review. [...] The future of a prepaid card program will depend on possible legislative amendments, prior to the sunset date of January 1, 2027.

Based on the report's findings, CHSWC recommends amending the legislation to make the prepaid card pilot program permanent while still remaining at the discretion of the payer."

This bill seeks to implement CHSWC's recommendation that the prepaid card program for disability indemnity payments be made permanent. The bill removes the statutory sunset date but retains all substantive requirements of the existing pilot program, including that the program be optional and voluntary for the employer and the employee.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1239 (Calderon, Chapter 806, Statutes of 2024) extended the sunset on the program to allow for collection of sufficient data for publication of the CHSWC report until January 1, 2027.

AB 489 (Calderon, Chapter 63, Statutes of 2023) extended the sunset on the program to allow for collection of sufficient data for publication of the CHSWC report until January 1, 2025.

AB 2148 (Calderon, Chapter 120, Statutes of 2022) extended the sunset on the program to allow for collection of sufficient data for publication of the CHSWC report until January 1, 2024.

SB 880 (Pan, Chapter 730, Statutes of 2018) established the pilot program authorizing the payment of disability indemnity using prepaid cards, as specified, with a sunset data of January 1, 2023, and required the CHSWC to produce a report on the program by December 1, 2022.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

American Property Casualty Insurance Association
California Association of Joint Powers Authorities (CAJPA)
California Chamber of Commerce
California Coalition on Workers Compensation
Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management (PRISM)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APICA), and a coalition of supporters: “In 2018, Senate Bill 880 established Labor Code Section 4651, authorizing an employee, with the employee’s written consent, to deposit disability indemnity payments into a prepaid card account that meets specified requirements, including providing reasonable access to in-network ATMs. This reform addressed challenges faced by injured workers who previously could only receive temporary disability payments by paper check or direct deposit, an issue that disproportionately affected “unbanked” households. Without a bank account, direct deposit is not an option, and cashing a paper check often requires paying significant fees. The prepaid card framework was intended to provide these workers with a more accessible, low-cost method of receiving benefits, consistent with existing practices for unemployment insurance payments. AB 1683 simply extends the current authorization allowing employers to deposit workers’ compensation disability indemnity payments into prepaid card accounts by eliminating the January 1, 2027, sunset date. The bill preserves all existing safeguards, including employee consent and compliance with prepaid card account standards. By making this option permanent, AB 1683 modernizes benefit delivery and ensures continued access to convenient, secure payment options for injured workers.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,

Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson,
Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover,
Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Jazmin Marroquin / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
6/24/26 16:30:31

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1713
Author: Ransom (D)
Amended: 3/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/3/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public postsecondary education: students with disabilities:
verification: academic accommodations

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill (1) requires the California Community Colleges (CCCs) and the California State University (CSU), and requests the University of California (UC), to accept a student's individualized education program (IEP) or Section 504 plan as verification of disability for purposes of requesting academic accommodations; (2) prohibits public postsecondary institutions from requiring students to obtain new or additional diagnostic evaluations solely to verify a disability, while authorizing institutions to request supplemental information necessary to determine appropriate accommodations.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and requires entities receiving federal financial assistance, including public postsecondary institutions, to provide equal access to educational opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

- 2) Prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).
- 3) Prohibits postsecondary educational institutions that receive state financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of disability or other protected characteristics.
- 4) Defines “disability” for purposes of the Equity in Higher Education Act to mean a mental or physical disability.
- 5) Expresses legislative intent to provide funding for Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) at the CCCs, including funding for disability-related counseling, mobility assistance, interpreter services, testing accommodations, specialized tutoring, and other supports for students with disabilities.
- 6) Requires, beginning in fall 2026, the CSU to establish, and requests the UC and independent institutions to establish, a Disability Access and Compliance Training Program to ensure campus personnel understand their legal responsibilities related to accommodations for students with disabilities.
- 7) Provides that provisions of the Donahoe Higher Education Act do not apply to the UC unless adopted by the Regents.

This bill:

- 1) Defines the following terms for purposes of this bill:
 - a) “504 plan” to mean a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1974.
 - b) “IEP” to mean an individualized education program adopted pursuant to state and federal special education law.
 - c) “Local educational agency” to mean a school district, county office of education, or charter school.
 - d) “Public higher education institution” to mean a campus of the CCCs, the CSU, or the UC.
- 2) Requires, beginning September 1, 2027, a public higher education institution that requires documentation to verify a student’s disability for purposes of academic accommodations to accept an IEP, a Section 504 plan, or both, issued by a local educational agency (LEA), as verification of the student’s disability.

- 3) Prohibits, beginning September 1, 2027, a public higher education institution from requiring a student to obtain a new or additional diagnostic evaluation to verify a disability if the student has provided an IEP or Section 504 plan documenting the disability.
- 4) Authorizes a public higher education institution to request supplemental information from a student with an IEP or Section 504 plan solely for purposes of determining appropriate accommodations necessary to ensure equal access to the institution's academic requirements.
- 5) Prohibits a public higher education institution from using supplemental information to invalidate or dispute a student's disability as documented in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.
- 6) Requires implementation of this bill to be consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.
- 7) Specifies that this bill does not apply to a public higher education institution's implementation of Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972.
- 8) Applies this bill's provisions to the UC, contingent upon action by the Regents.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author, "AB 1713 is focused on providing students with disabilities recognition of their unique needs to ensure they are able to participate in California's world-renowned higher education system without difficulty or discrimination. AB 1713 will require institutions of higher education to accept a student's diagnosis from their IEP or Section 504 Plan from their previous educational institution, fast-tracking their access to the accommodations they need and allowing them to spend more time in the classroom and less time in the doctor's office."

Standardizing the disability verification practices across California's public higher education systems. This bill addresses the documentation process students with disabilities encounter when seeking accommodations in higher education. Under current practice, postsecondary institutions may establish their own standards regarding what documentation is necessary to verify a disability and determine eligibility for accommodations. As a result, documentation standards and verification practices may vary across campuses and higher education segments.

This bill establishes a statewide standard requiring public postsecondary institutions to accept an IEP or Section 504 plan as sufficient documentation that a disability exists, while still preserving institutional discretion to determine appropriate accommodations in the higher education environment.

K-12 and higher education disability systems serve different legal and operational purposes. The provisions of this bill operate between two distinct disability accommodation systems. In the K-12 system, schools are responsible for identifying students with disabilities, evaluating eligibility, and proactively developing plans and services intended to support student success. By contrast, higher education institutions generally operate under an access-based framework in which students self-identify, request accommodations, and participate in an interactive process to determine reasonable accommodations.

As a result, while IEPs and Section 504 plans may establish the existence of a disability, the accommodations provided in K-12 settings do not necessarily translate directly into the postsecondary environment. This bill appears to acknowledge that distinction by requiring institutions to accept these documents for disability verification purposes, while still permitting institutions to request supplemental information necessary to determine reasonable accommodations at the college level.

Could reduce duplicative evaluation costs and administrative burdens for some students. Students with disabilities transitioning from the K-12 system into higher education may encounter differing institutional documentation requirements when seeking accommodations. In some cases, students who previously received services pursuant to an IEP or Section 504 plan may nonetheless be asked to obtain updated medical or psychoeducational evaluations to verify a disability in the postsecondary setting.

This bill would establish greater consistency across California's public higher education systems by requiring institutions to recognize existing K-12 disability documentation as sufficient verification of a disability. To the extent students would otherwise be required to obtain additional evaluations solely for verification purposes, this bill could reduce both administrative burdens and out-of-pocket costs associated with securing accommodations.

At the same time, this bill preserves institutional authority to request supplemental information necessary to determine reasonable accommodations in the postsecondary environment, recognizing that accommodations appropriate in K-12 settings may not always translate directly to higher education coursework, instructional models, or campus environments.

Implementation may require institutions to clarify documentation and accommodation procedures. Although this bill establishes that an IEP or Section 504 plan must be accepted as verification of a disability, it does not establish standards regarding the age, completeness, or specificity of those documents. In practice, documentation contained within IEPs and Section 504 plans may vary depending on the nature of the disability, the age of the student, and the practices of the originating LEA.

As institutions implement this bill, public higher education segments may need to further clarify what types of supplemental information may appropriately be requested for accommodation planning purposes, particularly in situations where a student's educational needs, course of study, or functional limitations have changed since the issuance of the original plan.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disabilities
California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office
Southwestern Community College District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/16/26 16:43:00

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1736
Author: Pellerin (D)
Introduced: 2/5/26
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/23/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Political Reform Act of 1974: lobbyist employers: fictitious appearances

SOURCE: California Fair Political Practices Commission

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a lobbyist employer from creating a fictitious appearance of public favor or disfavor for a legislative or administrative action.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits a lobbyist or a lobbying firm from:
 - a) Doing anything with the purpose of placing any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate under personal obligation to the lobbyist, lobbying firm, or the firm's employer.
 - b) Deceiving or attempting to deceive any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate about any material fact pertinent to pending or proposed legislation or administrative action.

- c) Causing or influencing the introduction of a bill or amendment to a bill with the purpose of the lobbyist or firm getting hired to secure passage or defeat of the bill or its amendment.
- d) Accepting payment in any way contingent upon the defeat, enactment, or outcome of any proposed legislative or administrative action.
- e) Representing falsely that the lobbyist or lobbying firm can control the official action of an elected state officer, legislative official, or agency official.
- f) Attempting to create a fictitious appearance of public favor or disfavor of any proposed legislative or administrative action, including causing any communication to be sent to any elected state officer, legislative official, agency official, or state candidate in the name of a fictitious person or in the name of a real person who has not given consent.

This bill adds a lobbyist employer to those prohibited from taking the action in f) of existing law and clarifies that the prohibition applies to both attempting to create and to creating a false appearance of public favor or disfavor for legislative or administrative action.

Background

Proposition 9, which appeared on the June 1974 ballot, created the California Political Reform Act (PRA) and established California's system of regulating lobbying activity, campaign finance, and conflicts of interest for public officials. Proposition 9 created the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to implement, administer, and enforce the PRA. The PRA regulates lobbyists, including requiring lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers to register with the Secretary of State and to file periodic reports disclosing their activities.

Comments

Author's Statement. Public officials often make decisions based on the outreach from constituents. But what if the hundreds of comments that we are receiving are not from constituents, but are AI-generated? This is what this bill aims to fix. This bill expands existing provisions in the PRA in which lobbyists and lobbying firms cannot create fictitious characters to generate favor or disfavor of any proposed legislative action to organizations that employ lobbyists or lobbying firms as well.

In 2017, during the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) Net Neutrality Hearing, the FCC received over 22 million comments from bots. These comments were not immediately flagged as AI generated because they appeared to have been drafted by real, concerned individuals. Nine years later, the ability for bots to mimic human dialogue, writing, and punctuation have only frightfully improved. As AI becomes increasingly more sophisticated, the line between AI generated and real-human comments has been blurring and becoming more indistinguishable, penetrating most aspects of our lives.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Fair Political Practices Commission (source)

California Common Cause

CFT – A Union of Educators and Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO

League of Women Voters of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

Writing in support, this bill’s sponsor, the FPPC, notes that the PRA prohibits lobbyists and lobbying firms from engaging in a practice known as “astroturfing.” The increased proliferation and accessibility of AI tools exacerbate the threat this deceptive practice poses to legislative and governmental decision making. This bill further protects governmental institutions from the potential influence of artificial opinion by extending the above prohibition to apply to lobbyist employers.

CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO writes in support that “[t]he bill’s provisions will ensure that all entities employing lobbyists adhere to the highest standards of integrity by prohibiting efforts to create deceptive public perceptions, such as the use of bots, or generative AI to create the perception of additional supporters [or] opponents regarding legislative or administrative actions.” CFT says that this bill builds trust in the legislative process, holds all parties accountable, aligns with the principles of transparency and honesty in political discourse, and supports the ongoing efforts to create a fairer and more transparent governmental process

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 4/23/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Hadwick, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Soria, Wicks

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
6/24/26 16:30:31

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1766

Author: Krell (D)

Introduced: 2/9/26

Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health curriculum framework: human trafficking and online safety

SOURCE: 3Strands Global Foundation
American Association of University of Women of California
California Survivor Coalition

DIGEST: This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), during its next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools, to consider including instructional and local educational agency (LEA) staff training recommendations related to human trafficking and online safety, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA), which requires LEAs to provide comprehensive sexual health and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) prevention instruction to all students in grades 7 to 12, at least once in middle school and once in high school. (Education Code (EC) § 51933)
- 2) Requires, as part of comprehensive sexual health education, that LEAs and charter schools provide students with instruction on sexual assault, intimate partner violence, sexual abuse, and human trafficking. (EC § 51934)

- 3) Requires, as part of comprehensive sexual health education, that LEAs and charter schools provide information on local resources for assistance with sexual assault and intimate partner violence. (EC § 51934)
- 4) Requires public schools, including charter schools and private schools, that serve students in any of grades 7 to 12, and public and private institutions of higher education that issue pupil or student identification cards, to print the telephone number for the National Domestic Violence Hotline and local domestic violence hotlines on those identification cards. (EC § 215.5)
- 5) Requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to post on its website resources on teen dating violence prevention, local and national hotlines and services for youth experiencing teen dating violence, and other relevant sources for parents, guardians, and other caretakers of students. (EC § 231.7)
- 6) Requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Education Framework, on or after January 1, 2025, to consider including content on sextortion. Defines “sextortion” as a threat to use sexual or intimate images or videos, however obtained, to compel another person to produce sexual or intimate images or videos, engage in sexual acts, or provide anything of value. (EC § 33546.2)
- 7) Requires that when the Health Education Framework is next revised after January 1, 2015, the IQC consider including a distinct category on sexual abuse and sex trafficking prevention education that includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
 - a) Information on different forms of sexual abuse and assault; discussion of prevention strategies; how to report sexual abuse or suspected sexual abuse; and local resources for victims;
 - b) Discussion of healthy boundaries for relationships; how to recognize potentially harmful and abusive relationships; and refusal skills to overcome peer pressure and to avoid high-risk activities;
 - c) Information on sex trafficking and risk factors; the recruiting tactics of sex traffickers and peer recruiters, including recruitment through the internet; how to report sex trafficking or suspected sex trafficking; and local resources for victims;
 - d) Discussion of legal aspects of sexual abuse and sex trafficking under state and federal laws; and

- e) Discussion of how culture and mass media influence and desensitize our perceptions of sexual abuse and sex trafficking, including, but not limited to, stereotypes and myths about the victims and abusers, victim blaming, and the role of language. Requires that this instruction emphasize compassion for people who have suffered from sexual abuse or sex trafficking, and support positive reentry experiences for survivors returning to school. (EC § 33545)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Education Curriculum Framework, on or after January 1, 2027, to consider including recommendations on the following topics:
 - a) LEAs providing annual, developmentally appropriate lessons for each grade served by the LEA that cover, at a minimum, all of the following topics:
 - i) How to prevent human trafficking, including understanding online exploitation and how traffickers target vulnerabilities, and how to prevent exploitation for labor or services, with instructional materials addressing both community-based and intrafamilial exploitation risks;
 - ii) How to stay safe from sexually exploitative materials and deepfakes online, including information on reporting processes and pupil rights, and foundational digital citizenship skills that equip pupils to respond safely when exposed to harmful or uncomfortable online content; and
 - iii) Skills-based content that builds protective factors, such as help-seeking strategies, healthy boundaries, digital citizenship, rights of workers, and identifying trustworthy adults, and supports early disclosures through predictable, developmentally appropriate safety routines aligned with mandated reporting expectations.
- 2) Requires that the recommendations considered meet both of the following criteria:
 - a) Follow a cumulative, age-appropriate progression from Kindergarten to grades 1 to 12, inclusive, ensuring foundational safety skills are taught in early grades and expanded upon in later grades. For pupils in Kindergarten and grades 1 to 6, inclusive, recommended instruction shall be nongraphic and developmentally aligned, introducing concepts of healthy touch, bodily autonomy, safe versus unsafe secrets, how to say “no,” how to seek help from trusted adults, and basic online safety in an age-appropriate manner. The recommendations shall ensure that universal safety concepts provided in

early grades, such as bodily autonomy, boundary setting, and how to access help, remain developmentally appropriate and consistent with statewide child abuse prevention standards, especially for pupils at heightened risk of intrafamilial exploitation.

- b) Be evidence-based, survivor informed, culturally responsive, and aligned with trauma responsive best practices.
- 3) Requires that the recommendations considered in #2 be grounded in research-supported prevention models and authorizes the inclusion of curriculum developed by community-based organizations with demonstrated evidence of effectiveness, including those using survivor-informed and culturally responsive frameworks.
- 4) Requires recommendations related to instruction to be consistent with existing instructional quality standards related to mental health and meet all of the following criteria:
- a) Reinforce prevention-focused content required under CHYA;
 - b) Promote cultural competency, including content relevant to disproportionately impacted communities;
 - c) Be designed to reduce stigma for survivors and pupils with applicable lived experience; and
 - d) Ensure that instructional materials reflect a developmental sequence that builds knowledge year to year, supporting healthy relationship education, online safety skills, and the ability of pupils to recognize and report concerning behaviors.
- 5) Requires the IQC to consider including content specifying that LEAs provide at least three staff members with annual evidence-based, survivor-informed, culturally responsive, and trauma-informed training, and that the content be consistent with state and federal best practices, and shall include information about all of the following topics:
- a) Identifying pupils who may be victims of human trafficking or online exploitation, including recognizing indicators of forced labor and intrafamilial abuse across developmental stages;
 - b) Responding using trauma-responsive, survivor-informed protocols;

- c) Mandatory reporting responsibilities and referral pathways;
 - d) How to engage culturally and linguistically diverse pupils safely;
 - e) How to avoid criminalization of pupils who may be exploited; and
 - f) Understanding how disclosures occur differently across ages and how to support early, developmentally appropriate reporting pathways.
- 6) Requires that, for purposes of the recommendations related to an LEA providing at least three staff members with training, at least two staff members be recommended to be school counselors, school nurses, school social workers, or school psychologists, and at least one staff member be recommended to be a certified classroom teacher.
- 7) Requires that the recommended training be curriculum produced by qualified organizations with demonstrated expertise in evidence-based human trafficking prevention education, including using survivor leadership in curriculum development.
- 8) Defines “local educational agency” to mean a school district, county office of education, or charter school serving pupils in kindergarten or any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “Human trafficking prevention education saves lives. On average, sex trafficking survivors were first victimized at age 13. Children need tools to protect themselves and their peers from exploitation.
- “In some cases, traffickers target students on school grounds. In others, traffickers target school-aged children by reaching out through social media and online gaming. Many cases of trafficking involve family members, leaving children unprotected at home. Our schools can act as the first line of defense by teaching students and educators proven prevention strategies, identifying possible victims, and helping to break cycles of exploitation and abuse.”
- 2) *California Healthy Youth Act.* CHYA was first enacted in 2003 under its previous name, the Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act. When first passed, the Act required LEAs to provide comprehensive sexual health education in any grade, including Kindergarten, so long as it consisted of age-appropriate instruction and used instructors trained in

the appropriate courses. In 2016, AB 329 (Weber, Chapter 398, Statutes of 2015) renamed the act as CHYA and required LEAs to provide comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education to all students at least once in middle school and at least once in high school. CHYA lists many required topics, including information on HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, the prevention of unintended pregnancies, gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual abuse, human trafficking, adolescent relationship abuse, intimate partner violence, healthy relationships, local health resources, and students' rights to access sexual health and reproductive health care.

From its inception in 2003 through today, CHYA has always afforded parents the right to opt their child out of a portion, or all, of the instruction and required LEAs to notify parents and guardians of this right. Parents and guardians can exercise this right by informing the LEA in writing of their decision.

- 3) *Trafficking, online safety, and healthy boundary education within the Health Education Framework.* This bill requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Education Framework, to consider including instructional and staff training recommendations related to human trafficking, online safety, and healthy boundary setting. Each of these topics can be found in the 2019 Health Education Framework.
- a) In the transitional kindergarten (TK) to 3rd grade span, teachers begin familiarizing students with concepts like personal space and boundaries, “trusted adults” or safe people with whom they can share information when they feel uncomfortable, and how to communicate their comfort and discomfort.
 - b) In the 4th to 6th grade span, students build on their foundational understanding of personal space and boundaries and learn about the effects of peer pressure, healthy vs. unhealthy relationships, and red flags, which includes grooming, online recruitment, and other tactics that traffickers use to exploit their victims. They also examine concepts they have learned from mass media, such as television, movies, music, and video games, to determine whether those messages portray healthy or unhealthy relationships.
 - c) In the 7th to 8th grade span, students learn more about peer pressure within romantic relationships; consensual ways of demonstrating affection; the various forms of abuse including physical, sexual, technological, emotional, spiritual, and financial abuse; sexual harassment in the form of verbal,

visual, and physical actions; and the relationship between dating violence, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and sex trafficking or exploitation.

- d) In the 9th to 12th grade span, students expand on their understanding of relationship violence by researching the prevalence of domestic violence and teen dating violence to learn more about its impact as well as resources for support for themselves or others. Students also delve deeper into their understandings of coercive control, cycles of abuse, and the dangers of technological abuse, including cyberbullying, stalking, the sharing of explicit photographs and/or video with others or posting online, possession or distribution of child pornography, demanding email or social media passwords, and taking photographs of someone without their knowledge.

The Framework also features a dedicated appendix on sex trafficking, which includes content on the following:

- a) Prevention and early education, including trafficking indicators;
- b) Impact, including examples of trauma and psychological impact;
- c) Intervention, including an example of a survivor support system and a vignette depicting a school intervention example;
- d) Guidance on developing school protocols as an addendum to child abuse protocols, with a recognize-respond-refer approach, as well as a sample school or district protocol; and
- e) References for additional information, including links to training programs for educators supporting the early identification and response to the commercial sexual exploitation of children.

Finally, the CDE's website includes a page devoted to information and resources on commercially sexually exploited children and youth.

- 4) *Recommendations on staff training.* This bill requires the IQC to consider including within the Health Framework, recommendations that LEAs provide at least three staff members with annual training on identifying and responding to human trafficking. It also requires the IQC to consider recommending that at least two of the three staff members be school counselors, school nurses, social workers, or school psychologists, and at least one staff member be a certified classroom teacher.

Existing law requires LEAs to annually train all employees on identifying and reporting suspected cases of child abuse and neglect and encourages LEAs to include within that training, information on early identification of abuse, including sexual abuse, and human trafficking of pupils and other minors. While the 2019 Health Framework includes recommendations for training programs and district response protocols for identifying and responding to child abuse, curriculum frameworks have not historically spoken to an explicit number of staff that should receive specific training.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

3strands Global Foundation (co-source)
 American Association of University Women - California (co-source)
 California Survivor Coalition (co-source)
 Alameda County Office of Education
 Alliance for Children's Rights
 California Chamber of Commerce
 California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
 California Family Resource Association
 California Teachers Association
 CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
 Child Abuse Prevention Center
 Computer & Communications Industry Association
 CTIA - the Wireless Association
 Insights Association
 Los Angeles Unified School District
 TechNet

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,

Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz,
Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward,
Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:32:18

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1792
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/10/26
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 5-2, 6/10/26
AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes
NOES: Ochoa Bogh, Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-8, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil instruction: health framework: sexual health

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC), during its next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools, to consider including and recommending to the State Board of Education (SBE) for adoption, specific content related to sexual health instruction to educate pupils about dating abuse and digital violence.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California Healthy Youth Act (CHYA), which requires local educational agencies (LEAs) to provide comprehensive sexual health and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) prevention instruction to all students in grades 7 to 12, at least once in middle school and once in high school.
(Education Code (EC) § 51933)
- 2) Requires that students in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, receive instruction at least once in junior high or middle school and once in high school about adolescent

relationship abuse and intimate partner violence, including the early warning signs thereof. (EC § 51934)

- 3) Requires, as part of comprehensive sexual health education, that LEAs and charter schools provide students with information on local resources for assistance with sexual assault and intimate partner violence. (EC § 51934)
- 4) Requires public schools, including charter schools and private schools, that serve students in any of grades 7 to 12, and public and private institutions of higher education that issue pupil or student identification cards, to print the telephone number for the National Domestic Violence Hotline and local domestic violence hotlines on those identification cards. (EC § 215.5)
- 5) Requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to post on its website resources on teen dating violence prevention, local and national hotlines and services for youth experiencing teen dating violence, and other relevant sources for parents, guardians, and other caretakers of students. (EC § 231.7)
- 6) Requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Education Framework, on or after January 1, 2025, to consider including content on sextortion, as defined. (EC § 33546.2)
- 7) Defines “sextortion” as a threat to use sexual or intimate images or videos, however obtained, to compel another person to produce sexual or intimate images or videos, engage in sexual acts, or provide anything of value.

This bill:

- 1) Requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Framework for California Public Schools, to consider including and recommending to the SBE for adoption, specific content related to sexual health instruction to educate pupils about dating abuse and digital violence.
- 2) Specifies that “sexual health education” includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:
 - a) The knowledge and skills necessary to understand digital and online safety, including the risks associated with nonconsensual intimate imagery, deepfakes, online grooming, sextortion, stalking, and the misuse of generative artificial intelligence.

- b) Age-appropriate, inclusive instruction on legal rights, protections, and support resources related to interpersonal violence, including information on restraining orders and how to seek assistance from trusted adults, school staff, and community resources.
- c) Instruction inclusive of, and responsive to, the experiences of LGBTQIA+ and gender diverse pupils, who are disproportionately impacted by dating violence and technology-facilitated abuse.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “As technology continues to evolve, our responsibility to protect young people must evolve with it. Today’s students are navigating digital threats that were virtually unheard of just a decade ago, including deepfakes, sextortion, nonconsensual intimate imagery, and AI-generated exploitation. This legislation helps ensure California’s Health Education Framework keeps pace with these emerging challenges by directing the Instructional Quality Commission to consider guidance on technology-facilitated abuse within sexual health instruction. Education remains one of our strongest prevention tools. By providing students with age-appropriate information on digital consent, online safety, and available legal protections, we can better equip them to recognize risks, protect themselves, and seek help before harm occurs.”

California Healthy Youth Act. CHYA was first enacted in 2003 under its previous name, the Comprehensive Sexual Health and HIV/AIDS Prevention Education Act. When first passed, the act required LEAs to provide comprehensive sexual health education in any grade, including kindergarten, so long as it consisted of age-appropriate instruction and used instructors trained in the appropriate courses. In 2016, AB 329 (Weber, Chapter 398, Statutes of 2015) renamed the act as CHYA and required LEAs to provide comprehensive sexual health education and HIV prevention education to all students at least once in middle school and at least once in high school. CHYA lists many required topics, including information on HIV and sexually transmitted infection (STI) prevention, the prevention of unintended pregnancies, gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual harassment, sexual assault, sexual abuse, human trafficking, adolescent relationship abuse, intimate partner violence, healthy relationships, local health resources, and students’ rights to access sexual health and reproductive health care.

From its inception in 2003 through today, CHYA has always afforded parents the right to opt their child out of a portion, or all, of the instruction and required LEAs

to notify parents and guardians of this right. Parents and guardians can exercise this right by informing the LEA in writing of their decision.

Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve. In May 2019, the SBE adopted the Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (the Framework) to provide instructional guidance and support to California teachers, administrators, curriculum specialists, other educators, and school boards for implementation of the health education content standards. According to the CDE, the Framework was designed to “help students build strong and healthy relationships with their families, friends, and communities while strengthening their resiliency and personal decision-making skills for healthy living.” The Framework covers six content areas of health education: nutrition and physical activity; growth, development, and sexual health; injury prevention and safety; alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs; mental, emotional, and social health; and personal and community health.

The six content areas are woven throughout the grade spans and build upon each other to ensure students gain a holistic understanding of health.

Importantly, the 2019 Framework also provides standards-based guidance, resources, and instructional strategies that are consistent with CHYA.

Dating abuse and violence prevention education within the Health Education Framework. This bill requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Health Education Framework, to consider including specific content on dating abuse and digital violence, as specified. Dating abuse or violence, online abuse, and grooming are all topics that are featured within the Health Education Framework.

- a) In the transitional kindergarten (TK) to 3rd grade span, teachers begin familiarizing students with concepts like personal space and boundaries, “trusted adults” or safe people with whom they can share information when they feel uncomfortable, and how to communicate their comfort and discomfort.
- b) In the 4th to 6th grade span, students build on their foundational understanding of personal space and boundaries and learn about the effects of peer pressure, healthy vs. unhealthy relationships, and red flags, which includes grooming, online recruitment, and other tactics that traffickers or unsafe individuals use to exploit their victims. They also examine concepts they have learned from mass

media, such as television, movies, music, and video games, to determine whether those messages portray healthy or unhealthy relationships.

- c) In the 7th to 8th grade span, students learn more about peer pressure within romantic relationships; consensual ways of demonstrating affection; the various forms of abuse including physical, sexual, technological, emotional, spiritual, and financial abuse; sexual harassment in the form of verbal, visual, and physical actions; and the relationship between dating violence, sexual assault, child sexual abuse, and sex trafficking or exploitation.
- d) In the 9th to 12th grade span, students expand on their understanding of relationship violence by researching the prevalence of domestic violence and teen dating violence to learn more about its impact as well as resources for support for themselves or others. Students also delve deeper into their understandings of coercive control, cycles of abuse, and the dangers of technological abuse including cyberbullying, stalking, the sharing of explicit photographs and/or video with others or posting online, possession or distribution of child pornography, demanding email or social media passwords, and taking photographs of someone without their knowledge.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Alameda County Office of Education

American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists - District IX

Association of California School Administrators

California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

California Teachers Association

CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO

Los Angeles Unified School District

TechNet

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender

Real Impact

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-8, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney,

Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Dixon, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Chen, Davies, Ellis, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Tangipa

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:32:19

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1809
Author: Fong (D)
Amended: 6/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-1, 6/10/26
AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes
NOES: Ochoa Bogh

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-11, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public contracts: school and community college districts

SOURCE: Los Angeles Unified School District

DIGEST: This bill (1) extends, until January 1, 2037, the authority for school districts and community college districts to use job order contracting (JOC) for public works projects; (2) modifies JOC requirements by eliminating certain project planning and cost-comparison requirements, prohibiting use of JOC when a district determines it would increase project costs without sufficient documented justification, clarifying contract duration limits, and making related conforming changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes school districts to use JOC as an alternative public works contracting method until January 1, 2027.
- 2) Authorizes community college districts to use JOC until January 1, 2027.

- 3) Requires school districts and community college districts utilizing JOC to maintain project labor agreements (PLAs) that apply to JOC projects and other district public works above a locally established threshold.
- 4) Requires contractors performing JOC projects above specified thresholds to utilize a skilled and trained workforce unless the applicable PLA satisfies that requirement.
- 5) Requires school districts utilizing JOC to prepare an execution plan for modernization projects that may be eligible for JOC and to determine that selected projects will reduce total project costs through the use of JOC.
- 6) Requires school districts adopting JOC to prepare an independent estimate for each individual job order and compare that estimate to the contractor's proposed price before issuing the job order.
- 7) Authorizes continuing contracts for work, services, equipment, or apparatus for up to five years.

This bill:

- 1) Extends the sunset date for school district and community college district authority to utilize JOC from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2037.
- 2) Extends until January 1, 2037, the requirement that districts utilizing JOC maintain a PLA that applies to JOC projects and other district public works above a locally established threshold.
- 3) Prohibits a school district from utilizing JOC if the district determines, based on criteria and methodology established by the district, that use of JOC would increase total project costs without sufficient documented justification.
- 4) Deletes the requirement that school districts prepare execution plans for modernization projects that may be eligible for JOC.
- 5) Deletes the requirement that school districts annually select modernization projects for JOC and determine that JOC will reduce total project costs for those projects.
- 6) Requires school districts utilizing JOC to prepare an independent estimate prior to receipt of the contractor's proposal, rather than prior to receipt of the contractor's offer.

- 7) Deletes the requirement that a school district compare its independent estimate to the contractor's proposed price before issuing a job order.
- 8) Provides that task order procurement contracts and job order contracts issued pursuant to specified provisions may not exceed five years in duration.
- 9) Clarifies that an individual task order or job order remains valid and enforceable even if the underlying task order procurement contract or job order contract expires after the task order or job order was validly issued.
- 10) Makes conforming and technical changes.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, "AB 1809 extends the sunset for school districts and community college districts to use Job Order Contracting (JOC). JOC was initially authorized as a pilot for the Los Angeles Unified School District over 20 years ago and subsequently extended to all school districts and community college districts. JOC enables school and community college districts to secure contracts for maintenance or repair work for any of the districts' facilities based on specific tasks and agreed upon prices. When services are needed, repair can begin immediately without going out for bid for each project, which saves districts time and money, and enables districts to address potentially hazardous conditions immediately. JOC has been reauthorized four times since 2003 and has shown to be effective."
- 2) *Job order contracting as an alternative procurement tool.* JOC is one of several alternative project delivery methods available to school districts and community college districts. Unlike traditional design-bid-build contracting, JOC allows districts to competitively procure contractors in advance using predetermined unit prices and then issue individual job orders as maintenance, repair, or modernization needs arise. Proponents argue that the approach can reduce procurement timelines and allow districts to address routine facilities needs more quickly, particularly where projects are relatively small, repetitive, or time-sensitive. This bill would extend the existing authorization for JOC by an additional ten years, allowing policymakers to continue evaluating the effectiveness of the procurement method while avoiding the recurring need to revisit the authority through periodic sunset extensions.

- 3) *Author amendments narrow the measure and retain a cost-control safeguard.* As introduced, this bill would have made JOC authority permanent and removed existing statutory provisions requiring school districts to evaluate whether the use of JOC would reduce project costs. Concerns raised resulted in several significant amendments. Rather than permanently authorizing JOC, this bill now extends the authorization until January 1, 2037. In addition, this bill retains a safeguard intended to protect against unnecessary costs by prohibiting use of JOC when a district determines that the contracting method would increase total project costs without sufficient documented justification. These amendments narrow this bill and preserve legislative oversight of the program through a future sunset review while maintaining an expectation that districts consider project cost impacts when selecting a procurement method.
- 4) *Shifting from prescriptive process requirements to local discretion.* While retaining the prohibition against unjustified cost increases, this bill eliminates several procedural requirements currently applicable to school district JOC projects, including requirements related to modernization project execution plans, annual project selection processes, and certain cost-comparison procedures. The measure therefore reflects a policy judgment that districts with experience using JOC may not require the same level of statutory direction that accompanied earlier pilot and demonstration programs. The trade-off is that fewer statewide procedural requirements may provide districts with greater flexibility, but also place greater responsibility on local governing boards to ensure that JOC is being used appropriately and cost-effectively relative to other available procurement methods.
- 5) *Clarifying contract duration and project completion.* This bill also addresses an ambiguity in existing law regarding the relationship between master JOC agreements and the individual job orders issued under those agreements. By limiting master contracts to five years while expressly allowing validly issued job orders to remain enforceable after expiration of the master agreement, this bill provides greater certainty for districts and contractors managing multi-year facilities projects. These provisions appear intended to ensure that projects already underway can be completed without disruption while maintaining consistency with existing limitations on the duration of public contracts.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Los Angeles Unified School District (source)
California Association of School Business Officials
California School Boards Association
Gordian Group

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

Western Electrical Contractors Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-11, 5/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Lackey, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:32:19

**** **END** ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

AB 1817

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1817

Author: Addis (D)

Introduced: 2/10/26

Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mobilehome parks: termination of tenancy: failure to comply with a rule or regulation

SOURCE: Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League, Inc.

DIGEST: This bill requires the written notice that mobilehome park management must serve a homeowner for a termination of tenancy for failing to comply with a reasonable rule or regulation of the park to include the language of each rule or regulation for which the homeowner is alleged to be in violation, specific facts relating to the alleged violation, and any action required to adhere to the rule or regulation, and requires that this written notice be served upon the homeowner according to specified law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Mobilehome Residency Law (MRL) to regulate the relationship between mobilehome park management and park residents, and establishes various rights, responsibilities, and limits of both groups. (Civil (Civ.) Code §§ 798 et seq.)

- 2) Prohibits mobilehome park management from terminating or refusing to renew a tenancy of a mobilehome owner within the park, unless it is pursuant to one of the permitted reasons described in (3), below, and management provides the homeowner with written notice in a manner described by Code of Civil Procedure section 1162 to sell or remove their mobilehome from the park within a period of no less than 60 days. Specifies that a copy of this notice must be sent to the legal owner of the mobilehome, each junior lienholder, and the registered owner of the mobilehome within 10 days after this notice is given to the homeowner. (Civ. Code § 798.55.) Specifies that this 60-day notice exclusively controls over the general unlawful detainer provisions in the Code of Civil Procedure for unlawful detainer proceedings for termination of mobilehome tenancies. (*Palmer v. Agee* (1978) 87 Cal. App. 3d 377, 386.)
- 3) Specifies that a mobilehome park may only evict a resident for: failing to comply with a local or state law or regulation on mobilehomes within a reasonable time after the mobilehome owner receives notice of noncompliance; conduct of the resident that amounts to a substantial annoyance of other mobilehome owners or residents; conviction for certain crimes; failure to comply with a reasonable rule of the park; nonpayment of rent, utilities, or other reasonable incidental services charged by the park; condemnation of the park; or change of use of the park or any portion thereof, as specified. (Civ. Code § 798.56.)
- 4) Specifies that no act or omission of the mobilehome owner or resident constitutes a failure to comply with a reasonable rule or regulation unless and until park management has given the homeowner written notice of the alleged rule or regulation violation and the homeowner has failed to adhere to the rule or regulation within seven days. Specifies that, if a homeowner has been given a written notice of an alleged violation of the same rule or regulation on three or more occasions within a 12-month period after the homeowner or resident has violated that rule or regulation, no written notice is required for a subsequent violation of the same rule or regulation. (Civ. Code § 798.56(a)(4).)
- 5) Specifies that the above-described paragraph does not relieve park management from the obligation to demonstrate that a rule or regulation has in fact been violated. (Civ. Code § 798.56(a)(4).)
- 6) Specifies that park management must set forth in a notice of termination the reason it relied upon for the termination with specific facts to permit

determination of the date, place, witnesses, and circumstances concerning that reason. (Civ. Code § 798.57.)

- 7) Permits specified three-day notices to vacate a homeowner's mobilehome site to be served upon the homeowner by: delivering a copy to the homeowner personally; by leaving a copy with a person of suitable age and discretion at the homeowner's place of residence or usual place of business, if they are absent, and sending a copy by mail to their place of residence; or by affixing a copy in a conspicuous place on the property, delivering a copy to a person on the property, and mailing a copy to the homeowner at the place where the property is situated, if no place of residence or business can be ascertained, or a person of suitable age or discretion cannot be found. (Code of Civil Procedure (Civ. Proc.) § 1162(a).)
- 8) Requires, when park management proposes an amendment to the park's rules and regulations, that management meet and consult with the homeowners in the park, their representatives, or both, after written notice has been given to all homeowners in the park 10 days or more before the meeting.
 - a) Specifies that, after the meeting and consultation with homeowners, the park may implement the noticed amendment to the park's rules and regulations with the consent of the homeowner, or without the homeowner's consent upon written notice of not less than six months, except in specified circumstances. (Civ. Code § 798.25.)
- 9) Specifies that any amendment to the park's rules and regulations that creates a new fee payable by the homeowner that has not been expressly agreed upon by the homeowner and management in the written rental agreement or lease shall be void and unenforceable. (Civ. Code § 798.25(e).)
- 10) Specifies that any rule or regulation of a mobilehome park that is: unilaterally adopted by management; implemented without the consent of the homeowners; or by its terms purports to deny homeowners the right to a trial by jury or which would mandate binding arbitration of any dispute between the management and homeowners, is void and unenforceable. (Civ. Code § 798.25.5.)
- 11) Specifies a variety of limitations on the rules and regulations that a mobilehome park may implement, including: that park management may not prohibit a homeowner or resident from installing accommodations for the disabled; management may not prohibit or restrict a homeowner or resident

from installing or using a solar energy system on their mobilehome or mobilehome site; and management may not prohibit or restrict a homeowner or resident from installing, upgrading, replacing, or using a cooling system in their mobilehome, as specified. (Civ. Code §§ 798.29.6; 798.44.1; 798.44.2.)

- 12) Permits, in addition to the authority to terminate the tenancy of a homeowner, any person in violation of a reasonable rule or regulation of the mobilehome park to be enjoined from the violation of that rule or regulation, as specified. (Civ. Code § 798.88.)

This bill:

- 1) Requires that, for (4), above, management must serve the homeowner with written notice of the alleged violation of a reasonable park rule or regulation in the manner prescribed by Civ. Proc. section 1162.
- 2) Requires this notice to recite the language of each rule or regulation for which the homeowner is alleged to be in violation, specific facts that permit the homeowner or resident to determine the date, place, or circumstances concerning the alleged violation, and any action required to adhere to or comply with the rule or regulation.
- 3) Amends the provision described in (5), above, to specify that the requirements of (4), above, do not relieve park management from its burden of demonstrating that a rule or regulation has in fact been violated.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League, INC (sponsor)
Aids Healthcare Foundation
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
National Housing Law Project
Public Interest Law Project
Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League, Inc.:

As you know, existing law allows for the termination of a mobilehome tenancy for failure to comply with a reasonable rule or regulation of the park. However, the current notification process is often vague and fails to provide homeowners with the needed information about the alleged violation. This can lead to confusion and unjust termination of a tenancy.

AB 1817 directly addresses this issue by requiring that management provide homeowners with a written notice that includes the specific language of the rule or regulation that has allegedly been violated, as well as the specific facts of the violation, including the date, place, and circumstances. It calls for any eviction notice issued, including a 7-day notice for failure to comply with a rule or regulation which could result in an eviction, to be clearly communicated and to include the language of each park rule or regulation allegedly violated.

The majority of mobilehome residents are both tenants (their space in a mobilehome park) and owners (of their actual mobilehome). Eviction carries far more serious consequences for them.

The bill ensures mobilehome residents receive a fair opportunity to resolve eviction issues before they are forced to forfeit their mobilehome. It will also prevent park management from using vague or unsubstantiated claims to harass or intimidate residents.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Ian Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/18/26 11:45:03

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1860
Author: McKinnor (D)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/3/26

AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

NOES: Ochoa Bogh

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: School facilities: design-build: alternative design-build: county superintendents of schools

SOURCE: International Union of Painters and Allied Trades
State Building and Construction Trades Council

DIGEST: This bill authorizes county superintendents of schools to use the same design-build and alternative design-build procurement methods currently available to school districts for eligible public works projects, including awarding contracts based on either lowest responsible bidder or best value.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a school district, with approval of its governing board, to use the design-build procurement method for public works projects in excess of \$1 million.
- 2) Authorizes a school district to award a design-build contract based on either lowest responsible bidder or best value, as specified.

- 3) Requires specified information submitted as part of a design-build proposal to be verified under penalty of perjury.
- 4) Requires school district design-build projects to comply with various labor and workforce requirements, including the use of a skilled and trained workforce for work falling within apprenticeable occupations in the building and construction trades.
- 5) Authorizes a school district, until January 1, 2029, to use the alternative design-build procurement method for public works projects in excess of \$5 million.
- 6) Defines “alternative design-build” as a project delivery process in which both the design and construction of a project are procured from a single design-build entity based on specified project cost components.
- 7) Defines “best value” for purposes of design-build procurement as a value determined through objective criteria that may include price, experience, project features, functions, and lifecycle costs.
- 8) Authorizes certain county boards of education to acquire, lease, lease-purchase, hold, and convey real property for purposes related to housing county office operations and services.

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a county superintendent of schools to procure design-build contracts for public works projects in excess of \$1 million, subject to the same requirements currently applicable to school districts.
- 2) Authorizes a county superintendent of schools to award design-build contracts based on either lowest responsible bidder or best value.
- 3) Authorizes a county superintendent of schools to procure alternative design-build contracts for public works projects in excess of \$5 million, subject to the same requirements currently applicable to school districts.
- 4) Applies to county offices of education (COEs) the existing statutory framework governing school district design-build and alternative design-build procurement processes, including requirements related to contractor prequalification, proposal evaluation, labor compliance, and use of a skilled and trained workforce.

- 5) Provides that, notwithstanding any other law, a county superintendent of schools has exclusive authority to award design-build and alternative design-build contracts on behalf of a COE and county board of education.
- 6) Declares that this bill addresses a matter of statewide concern and therefore applies to all counties, including charter counties.

Comments

- 1) *Need for this bill.* According to the author, “AB 1860 would authorize design-build and progressive design-build for COE, align COE authority with K–12 districts and community colleges, and improve project coordination, reduce delays, and increase efficiency. This bill would also preserve all applicable prevailing wage and labor standards, such as public works contractor registration, apprenticeship utilization, and the use of a skilled and trained workforce. In addition, AB 1860 would ensure long-term workforce development in the skilled trades on COE projects by continuing to provide meaningful on-the-job training hours and prevent dishonest contractors who cut corners on wages, safety, or training from bypassing apprenticeship obligations.”
- 2) *Extends existing K-12 facilities procurement authority to COEs.* This bill largely seeks to place COEs on equal footing with school districts with respect to facilities procurement authority. Existing law already authorizes school districts and community college districts to utilize design-build procurement methods for certain large public works projects. This bill extends that same authority to county superintendents of schools acting on behalf of COEs.

Under a traditional “design-bid-build” model, a public entity separately contracts for design and construction services, often resulting in a sequential process in which construction cannot begin until design is substantially complete. By contrast, design-build procurement consolidates responsibility for both design and construction within a single entity. Supporters argue this can reduce project fragmentation, accelerate timelines, reduce change orders, and improve coordination between architects, engineers, and contractors.

- 3) *Alternative design-build authority remains time-limited under existing law.* This bill also extends to COEs the alternative design-build authority currently available to school districts until January 1, 2029. Alternative design-build, sometimes referred to as “progressive design-build,” differs from traditional

design-build in that project costs continue to be negotiated after initial contract award and after portions of the design process have begun. Under existing law, school districts utilizing this authority must report specified project information to the Legislature by January 1, 2028.

Unlike traditional low-bid procurement models, both design-build and alternative design-build allow contracts to be awarded based on “best value” criteria that may include experience, qualifications, project approach, lifecycle costs, and other non-price factors. Supporters contend this flexibility is particularly useful for complex facilities projects where project coordination and long-term performance are important considerations.

- 4) *Preserves existing labor and workforce standards.* This bill does not create a new procurement framework for COEs, but instead imports the same statutory requirements already applicable to school district design-build projects. As such, projects procured pursuant to this authority would remain subject to existing prevailing wage laws, apprenticeship requirements, contractor registration requirements, and skilled and trained workforce requirements.

Supporters view these workforce provisions as important safeguards against contractors undercutting labor standards or bypassing apprenticeship obligations.

- 5) *Clarifies governance authority for county office projects.* This bill additionally specifies that county superintendents of schools have exclusive authority to award design-build and alternative design-build contracts on behalf of COEs and county boards of education. This provision appears intended to avoid ambiguity regarding whether such authority would otherwise reside with a county board of education, particularly given the differing governance structures that exist among county offices statewide.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (co-source)
 State Building and Construction Trades Council (co-source)
 American Council of Engineering Companies of California
 American Society of Civil Engineers-region 9
 California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO
 California State Association of Electrical Workers

California State Pipe Trades Council
State Building & Construction Trades Council of California
Western States Council Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

Associated General Contractors, California Chapters
Western Electrical Contractors Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/17/26 16:28:12

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1875
Author: Hart (D), et al.
Amended: 5/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 3/23/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Dissolution of marriage

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill permits a court to reduce or waive the six-month period before which a final judgment of dissolution of marriage may be entered, upon a showing of good cause, as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes procedures for the dissolution of marriage through a court proceeding. (Family (Fam.) Code, div. 6, pt. 3, §§ 2300 et seq.)
- 2) Provides that a party may commence a proceeding for dissolution of marriage by filing a petition with the court. (Fam. Code, § 2330.)
- 3) Provides alternatives to the petition process described in 2), as follows:
 - a) If there are no children of the marriage, the parties have no interest in real property, the value of the parties' community property assets is below \$25,000, the parties have executed an agreement setting forth the division of assets, and the parties waive rights to spousal support, the parties can proceed with joint petition for summary dissolution, which allows for the

entry of judgment on the terms agreed to by the parties. (Fam. Code, div. 6, pt. 3, ch. 5, §§ 2400-2406.)

- b) If the parties do not qualify for the summary dissolution procedure but intend to resolve outstanding issues by agreement, the parties can file a joint petition for dissolution, which allows for the entry of judgment on the terms agreed to by the parties in a non-adversarial manner. (Fam. Code, § 2330(c); *see* SB 1427 (Allen, Ch. 190, Stats. 2024).)
- 4) Provides that no judgment of dissolution based on a petition filed under 2) or a joint petition filed under 3)(a) is final for the purpose of terminating the marriage relationship of the parties until six months have expired from the date of service of a copy of summons and petition, or from the respondent's first appearance, whichever occurs first, and that the court may extend this six-month period for good cause shown. (Fam. Code, § 2339.)
- 5) Provides that, in a proceeding for summary dissolution under 3)(b), the judgment shall be entered six months from the date of the filing of the joint petition for summary dissolution. (Fam. Code, § 2403.)

This bill:

- 1) Permits the court to reduce or waive the six-month period before entry of final judgment on a petition or joint petition for dissolution for good cause shown, if both of the following conditions are met:
 - a) The parties have resolved all material issues related to the dissolution.
 - b) The court finds that good cause exists, through either (1) a noticed hearing, or (2) the stipulation of the parties as to good cause, and the court concurs that the stipulation establishes good cause.
- 2) Provides that examples of good cause sufficient for 1) include, but are not limited to:
 - a) The petitioning party is the victim of domestic violence during the marriage, and the petitioning party requests a waiver or reduction of the cooling-off period for their health, safety, and wellbeing.
 - b) The parties have signed and filed a marital settlement agreement resolving all issues material to the dissolution.
 - c) One party seeks to remarry, and the waiver or reduction will not affect any issues material to the dissolution bifurcated by the court, as specified.
- 3) Permits the court to reduce or waive the six-month period before entry of final judgment in a summary dissolution proceeding for good cause shown.

Comments

In California, divorce—or as it is legally known, dissolution of marriage—is a court process. A party who wishes to end their marriage must file a petition with the court, and the other party must file a response; then, to the extent there are disputes among the parties about the division of assets, custody, or other terms of the dissolution, the court works it out. Divorcing couples have three options for dissolution: a regular petition for dissolution, through which the court resolves disputed issues relating to disposition of assets, support, and other matters; summary dissolution, for couples who with no children of the marriage, have minimal assets, and have agreed in advance to the terms of the dissolution; and, for couples who do not qualify for summary dissolution, but who have agreed to work out the terms of the dissolution collaboratively, a joint petition process. Under all three procedures, a judgment of dissolution cannot be entered until six months after the commencement of the proceeding (known as the “cooling-off period”), and the court can extend the cooling-off period for the regular petition and joint petition processes as needed. California’s cooling-off period is one of the longest in the country.

This bill permits a court to reduce or waive the six-month cooling-off period upon a showing of good cause, provided that the parties have resolved all of the material issues related to the dissolution. In a proceeding based on a regular or joint petition, good cause must be established through stipulation of the parties or at a noticed hearing; this bill also provides a non-exclusive list of factors that constitute good cause, including that the petitioning party is a victim of domestic violence who requests the waiver or reduction for their health, safety, or wellbeing; the parties have resolved all issues related to the dissolution; or one party wishes to remarry and the waiver or reduction will not affect any issues material to the dissolution. In a proceeding for summary dissolution, no hearing or stipulation is required, and the judge has the discretion to determine whether good cause for the waiver or reduction has been established.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/10/26)

California Baptist Capitol Ministry
California Women’s Law Center
Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations
Domestic Violence Solutions
Santa Barbara County District Attorney’s Office
Santa Barbara Women’s Political Action Committee

Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center Foundation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/10/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office:

Current law imposes a six-month "cooling off" period before a divorce can become final. As a result, a marriage cannot legally end until at least six months have passed, even if the judge has signed the judgment. In domestic violence and other urgent situations, this delay can be harmful because it may keep survivors legally tied to a perpetrator and can make safety planning and stability harder. AB 1875 addresses this problem by allowing judges to consider supporting facts and expedite dissolution when the judge believes that it is in the interest and safety of the victims.

AB 1875 provides a practical and thoughtful solution. By allowing courts discretion to reduce or waive the waiting period when good cause is shown, the bill ensures that judges can respond appropriately to circumstances where delay would be harmful or unnecessary, particularly for survivors seeking to move forward safely.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 3/23/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bauer-Kahan, Bonta, Calderon, Elhawary, Ellis, Hadwick, Johnson, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/12/26 12:50:04

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1894
Author: Blanca Rubio (D)
Amended: 5/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels: imported water

SOURCE: San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District

DIGEST: This bill prevents a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment due to invasive mussels unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the invasive mussels.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits, until January 1, 2030, a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels (Fish and Game Code (FGC) §2301(a)).
- 2) Requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. Requires the

operator of the water supply system, if invasive mussels are detected, and in cooperation with CDFW to prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel (FGC §2301(d)).

- a) Requires all plans that do not specifically address invasive mussel species that are known to be present in bodies of water in the state as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised on or before September 30, 2027.
- 3) Requires any entity that discovers invasive mussels within the state to immediately report the discovery to CDFW (FGC §2301(e)).
- 4) Makes any person who violates the above provisions, violates any verbal or written order or regulation adopted pursuant to these provisions, or who resists, delays, obstructs, or interferes with the implementation of these provisions subject to an administrative penalty (FGC §2301(f)).
- 5) Defines “invasive mussel” as any nonnative detrimental mussel species that is capable of spreading in freshwater and is listed in specific regulations adopted by the Fish and Game Commission (FGC §2303).

This bill:

- 1) Prevents a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment due to invasive mussels unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the invasive mussels.
- 2) Defines “imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment” as deliveries of water imported from outside a region’s local watershed or natural boundary, primarily originating from the State Water Project, the Colorado River, or the Eastern Sierra, where the water is to be used for managed aquifer recharge, groundwater rejection, spreading, percolation, or other activities intended to replenish groundwater supplies.
- 3) Specifies, for purposes of this bill, that water includes, but is not limited to, surface water conveyed by an aqueduct, canal, pipeline, or other conveyance.
- 4) Finds and declares that this bill addresses a matter of statewide concern and applies to all cities and counties, including charter cities and charter counties.

Comments

Recent author amendments. Recent author amendments limit the bill’s application to imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment *that are made in*

compliance with an approved invasive mussel control plan. Specifically, unless there is a proven health and safety risk, a public agency would not be able to prohibit the importation of water for groundwater replenishment that is made in compliance with an CDFW-approved invasive mussel control plan.

But, what if? Despite adherence to a CDFW-approved invasive mussel control plan, it is still possible that invasive mussels can make their way to groundwater recharge facilities. Such instances are typically governed by the contractual agreement between the delivering and receiving entities. For example, in LACFCD's agreement, "[the entity conducting the spreading] shall be responsible for and shall fully compensate and reimburse [LACFCD] immediately upon request in connection with any damage to [LACFCD's] property or facilities caused directly or indirectly by the replenishment connection or any water flowing therefrom." Thus, if water imported from the SWP were to contain invasive mussels that damaged the facility, the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District would be responsible for mitigating the situation.

It is unknown whether all water agencies and receiving agencies that would be impacted by this bill have similar provisions within their agreements.

See Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee policy analysis of this bill for complete background information.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/2026)

San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Co-source)
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Co-source)
Burbank Water and Power
California Municipal Utilities Association
City of Azusa
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Water Association
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “[s]everal water agencies in Los Angeles County are being blocked from delivering imported water needed to replenish groundwater despite complying with state law and developing approved plans to address invasive mussels. These disruptions undermine the court-ordered management of the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin and threaten the primary drinking water source for more than 1.5 million residents, many in disadvantaged communities.

“AB 1894 ensures that critical water decisions affecting the entire state are made consistently at the state level and not through a patchwork of conflicting local rules. By aligning policy with science and existing law, this bill protects our water supply, supports emergency response needs, and upholds California’s commitment to the human right to water while prioritizing strategies to mitigate the threats of the invasive Golden Mussel.”

According to a coalition letter representing various water agencies, including the co-sponsors of the bill, AB 1894 would “establish clarification of the adherence of state law and regulatory guidelines when it comes to preventing, controlling, and eradicating of the newly immersed invasive golden mussel, along with other invasive species.” Additionally, “the interruption of the imported water delivers also threatens the 1973 Main San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Adjudication, which expressly relies on the continued delivery of imported water to offset overdraft and maintain sustainability. Imported water deliveries are not discretionary for the Basin; it is a fundamental element of the groundwater adjudication’s physical solution.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to the Valley Ag Water Coalition, writing in an opposed unless amended position, there are 4 main issues. First, “the bill usurps the authority of a groundwater recharge facility owner to protect its investment in design, permitting, and construction of the facility, and removes control of the facility from the owner by requiring it to accept the importation of water supplies from known infested bodies of water.”

Second, the bill’s “broad preemption of local authority could ultimately increase risks to water supply reliability by importing invasive mussels into an area that is not infested. ... AB 1894 would expose ... areas to infestation of golden mussels through the forced importation of State Water Project supplies from the north.”

Third, “if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of the water supply system – not the entity importing the water – would be required to prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system AB 1894, in

effect, shifts the burden from the entity creating the problem to the operator of the water supply system that [accepts the water].”

Finally, the coalition argues that “[golden mussels] are not directly known to pose a direct threat to human health, but they do create significant safety and infrastructure risks that can be indirectly affect public well-being. Therefore, the health and safety risk exception provided ...would be unlikely to ever apply.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Bonta, Caloza, Chen, Muratsuchi

Prepared by: Genevieve Wong / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/24/26 16:32:20

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1910
Author: Boerner (D)
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla,
Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public health: pelvic floor health advisement

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to post information on its pregnancy and reproductive health website advising individuals to discuss any pelvic floor concerns with their health care provider during their postpartum care visit.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the CDPH to develop a coordinated state strategy for addressing the health-related needs of women, including implementation of goals and objectives for women's health. Requires CDPH to maintain a program of maternal and child health. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) §137 and §123225)
- 2) Authorizes San Diego County to establish a pilot program for pelvic floor and core conditioning group classes that would be provided to people twice a week between their six-to-twelve-week postpartum window to help people rebuild

their pelvic floor after pregnancy, and requires the program to collect specified data to directly assess pelvic floor changes. (HSC §123643)

This bill requires CDPH to post information on its pregnancy and reproductive health website advising individuals to discuss any pelvic floor concerns with their health care provider during their postpartum care visit.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

One in three people who have given birth will experience a pelvic floor disorder in their lifetime. There are people every day dealing with functional problems that could have been avoided with preventative postpartum pelvic floor care. If we support new parents before they give birth, we should support them through their healing journey. This bill adds resources to a trusted state website and offers people the ability to access those resources and information to avoid long-term issues with pelvic floor disorders.

Background

Pelvic floor disorders. According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) Office of Women's Health, the pelvic floor is a group of muscles and tissues that support the stability and function of the pelvic organs, sustaining bladder and bowel control and sexual function. Pelvic floor disorders—when the muscles or tissues of the pelvic area become weakened or injured—can arise from childbirth, obesity, age, menopause, or genetics, and include urinary or anal incontinence, pelvic organ prolapse, and pelvic pain. A 2014 study in *Obstetrics & Gynecology* examining the occurrence of pelvic floor disorders in adult nonpregnant women over 20 years of age from 2005 to 2010 found a 25% prevalence of one or more pelvic floor disorders among all women, ranging from 11.5% among nulliparous women to 33.6% among those who gave birth four or more times. A 2018 *JAMA* article found associations between delivery mode and risk of pelvic floor disorders: compared to nonoperative vaginal delivery, cesarean delivery was associated with lower risk of many pelvic floor disorders. Although women who have given birth have an increased risk of pelvic floor disorders, they are not just a women's health issue; according to the Cleveland Clinic, many men experience temporary urinary incontinence after prostatectomy.

Pelvic floor disorder treatment and pelvic floor physical therapy. According to the University of Chicago School of Medicine, pelvic floor disorders can be treated surgically (for pelvic organ prolapse) or non-surgically through lifestyle changes, nerve stimulation procedures or medication (for some forms of incontinence), pessaries (silicone devices that can support the organs above the pelvic floor muscles), or pelvic floor physical therapy. Pelvic floor physical therapy, also known as pelvic floor muscle training, aims to rehabilitate the pelvic floor muscles with exercises that improve muscle tone and function; for example, Kegel exercises involve repeatedly squeezing and relaxing the pelvic floor muscles, while myofascial release is a form of physical therapy that aims to release tension in the muscles and connective tissue of the pelvic floor, according to the FDA. Other techniques like biofeedback (using sensors to monitor the pelvic floor muscles as they are clenched or relaxed to improve muscle coordination), electrical stimulation, and manual therapy can also be performed to improve bladder and bowel symptoms. A 2019 Current Opinion in Obstetrics & Gynecology review reports robust evidence-based support for the use of pelvic floor physical therapy, with or without supplemental treatments, as a first-line, low-risk, minimally invasive therapy for preventing and treating pelvic floor dysfunction, particularly stress urinary incontinence and pelvic floor myofascial pain.

However, the evidence on the effectiveness of pelvic floor physical therapy in treating pelvic floor disorders in postpartum women is mixed. The California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP) analysis of AB 1904 (Boerner Horvath, 2020) states “while a preponderance of evidence shows that pelvic floor physical therapy is effective at treating urinary incontinence in non-postpartum women, there is inconclusive evidence that pelvic floor physical therapy is effective for urinary incontinence in postpartum women.” CHBRP found limited or insufficient evidence for the effectiveness of pelvic floor physical therapy to treat other pelvic floor disorders in postpartum women, including pelvic pain, pelvic organ prolapse, and anal incontinence. Similarly, a May 2020 Cochrane review on the effectiveness of pelvic floor physical therapy either during pregnancy or after birth for preventing or treating incontinence has found the overall quality of evidence in the field to be low to moderate. Although the review provides evidence that early, structured pelvic floor physical therapy performed preventatively in early pregnancy for continent women may prevent the onset of urinary incontinence in late pregnancy and in the mid-postpartum period, they found no evidence of decreased risk after six months postpartum. They also found no evidence that pelvic floor physical therapy performed as a treatment for incontinent women reduces incontinence during late pregnancy or postpartum.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2756 (Boerner, Chapter 202, Statutes of 2024) authorizes San Diego County to establish a pilot program (until January 1, 2029) for pelvic floor and core conditioning group classes to help people rebuild their pelvic floor after pregnancy, and requires the program to collect specified data to directly assess pelvic floor changes.

AB 47 (Boerner Horvath, 2023) and AB 1904 (Boerner Horvath, 2020) would have required a health plan contract or health insurance policy, including a Medi-Cal managed care plan, to provide coverage for pelvic floor physical therapy after pregnancy. *AB 47 and AB 1904 were not heard in the Assembly Health Committee.*

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Natalie Gehred / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
6/24/26 16:32:21

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1944

Author: Lee (D)

Introduced: 2/13/26

Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 10-3, 6/9/26

AYES: Cortese, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar,
Richardson, Valladares, Wiener

NOES: Strickland, Dahle, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-3, 4/6/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Zero-emission transit buses: axle weight

SOURCE: California Transit Association

DIGEST: This bill establishes higher axle weight limits for zero-emission transit buses, up to 25,000 pounds through 2027, with limits decreasing to 22,000 pounds by 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes a maximum curb weight, as defined, of 22,000 pounds on any one axle of a bus procured through a solicitation process where the solicitation was issued on or after January 1, 2019. (Vehicle Code Section 35554(c)(2))
- 2) Establishes a decreasing maximum curb weight, as defined, on any one axle of a zero-emission transit bus of 25,000 pounds starting January 1, 2016, to 22,000 pounds by January 1, 2022. (Vehicle Code Section 35554(d)(1))

This bill:

- 1) Extends the dates by which zero-emission transit buses must reach target, maximum curb weights, as follows:

- a) Establishes a maximum curb weight of 25,000 pounds on any one axle for zero-emission buses procured through a solicitation process where the solicitation was issued between January 1, 2027, and December 31, 2027, inclusive.
- b) Establishes a maximum curb weight of 24,000 pounds on any one axle for zero-emission buses procured through a solicitation process where the solicitation was issued between January 1, 2028, and December 31, 2029, inclusive.
- c) Establishes a maximum curb weight of 23,000 pounds on any one axle for zero-emission buses procured through a solicitation process where the solicitation was issued between January 1, 2030, and December 31, 2031, inclusive.
- d) Establishes a maximum curb weight of 22,000 pounds on any one axle for zero-emission buses procured through a solicitation process where the solicitation was issued on or after January 1, 2023.

Comments

- 1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, “California has set ambitious zero-emission goals, requiring that by 2029 all buses purchased by transit agencies must be zero-emission vehicles. However, because of axle-weight limits set by the Legislature, transit agencies are struggling to procure Zero Emission Buses that keep up with their operational needs while staying within existing weight limits. AB 1944 provides a practical and responsible solution by adjusting the timeline for these limits while maintaining the previously negotiated upper weight cap, allowing California Transit Agencies to continue making progress towards our clean transportation goals.”
- 2) *Innovative Clean Transit regulation.* In December 2018, as part of its efforts to regulate vehicle emissions, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) adopted the Innovative Clean Transit (ICT) regulation. ICT is a statewide rule that requires public transit agencies to transition their bus fleets to zero-emission vehicles. Specifically, the ICT sets up two different timelines for large and small transit agencies. A large transit agency is defined as (1) any transit agency in the South Coast or San Joaquin Valley Air Basin that operates more than 65 buses in annual maximum service, or (2) any transit agency outside of these areas, but in an urbanized area with a population of at least 200,000 that operates at least 100 buses in annual maximum service. A small transit agency is any agency that does not meet either of these definitions.

Under the ICT, large transit agencies are required to have 25% of their bus purchases in each calendar year be zero-emission starting on January 1, 2023, 50% be zero-emission starting on January 1, 2026, and 100% be zero-emission starting on January 1, 2029. Small transit agencies are required to have 25% of their bus purchases in each calendar year be zero-emission starting on January 1, 2026, and 100% be zero-emission starting on January 1, 2029. All transit agencies are required to fully transition all of their buses to zero-emission by 2040.

- 3) *Heavy buses damage roads.* As vehicles drive over roads, they exert pressure, causing wear, and thus damaging road surfaces over time. The amount of damage is proportional to the weight of the vehicle; however, this relationship is not linear. Instead, broadly speaking, road wear is generally thought of as being proportional to a vehicle's axle weight to the fourth power. This means that doubling the weight of a vehicle can increase damage to the road by 16 times. Large vehicles, like trucks or transit buses, can weigh up to 20 times more than an average passenger vehicle, causing substantially more road wear than a typical passenger vehicle.

Thus, in order to mitigate these effects, large vehicles have maximum weight loads. Current California law limits buses to a single axle weight of 20,500 pounds. However, numerous exceptions have been made over time, including for transit buses and zero-emission buses. As of today, the maximum allowed single axle weight for a zero-emission transit bus is 22,000 pounds.

- 4) *Zero-emission bus availability.* Currently, many zero-emission bus options are available to transit agencies across California, including both battery electric and hydrogen fuel cell options. However, these buses are not one-to-one replacements for the traditional buses currently used by transit agencies in terms of cost or performance. As a result, transit agencies are struggling to comply with the latest phase of ICT rules.

These issues were highlighted in CARB's comprehensive review of the ICT regulation ahead of the Phase II transition in 2026. This review was carried out before the 2026 rules came into effect in order to assess the readiness of transit agencies to conform with the regulations. Overall, while the report found that the market was generally able to support the required transitions to zero-emission buses, there were key exceptions. Namely, the report identified issues surrounding a lack of necessary infrastructure and associated high costs with infrastructure deployment, and a lack of longer-range bus models.

As a result, transit agencies do not have access to zero-emission buses with the range necessary to comparably replace their current fleets. Generally speaking, transit buses need a range of up to 300 miles, with additional margin to account for weather conditions, terrain, running HVAC systems, and battery degradation overtime. Presently, however, zero-emission buses available to California transit operators have ranges maxing out at roughly 250 miles.

In order to increase bus ranges, bus manufacturers need to add additional battery capacity which in turn increases the weight. Current models, with lower ranges, are already at the statutory axle weight maximum in California. Therefore, according to the author, some kind of exemption is needed to allow bus manufacturers to find ways to increase range without substantially increasing weight.

Beyond the weight issues, cost is also a concern. A recent audit of East Bay Transit Agencies performed by the California State Auditor, found that the average zero-emission bus costs roughly twice as much as the average diesel bus. Multiplying this cost across the various agencies' fleet sizes, the audit found that the costs generally far exceed agency revenues and reserves. Exacerbating factors further, the Federal Transit Administration has stopped awarding grants for purchasing zero-emission buses. As a result, the audit found that transit agencies will face difficulty meeting the ICT requirement and recommended that the Legislature extend the ICT deadline.

- 5) *Creating axle weight exemptions, again.* AB 1944 seeks to ease some of these burdens on transit operators by allowing them to operate heavier buses while industry works to catch up and supply buses compliant with ICT. Specifically, this bill extends the dates by which transit agencies must reduce the weights of their zero-emission buses, pushing out the ultimate deadline for meeting the 22,000 pound curb weight requirement to 2032.

However, this is not the first-time limits on transit bus weights have had to be pushed off. AB 1706 (Eng, Chapter 771, Statutes of 2012) allowed transit operators to operate buses over the previously established 20,500 pound axle weight limit, and to procure further overweight buses through 2015. As the new 2015 deadline approached, AB 1720 (Bloom, Chapter 263, Statutes of 2014) provided an additional two-year exemption. Finally, AB 1250 (Bloom, Chapter 484, Statutes of 2015) aimed to address the issue in the longer term by creating a decreasing weight schedule that allowed articulated buses and zero-emission buses to slowly come into compliance with an increased 22,000 pound limit

over a seven year period. This final deadline for 22,000 pounds was reached in 2022.

As discussed above, however, this 22,000 pound limit is too restrictive to meet current needs. Currently, zero-emission bus manufacturers are attempting to offset weight increases associated with increased battery range by finding weight reductions in other areas throughout the bus. Manufacturers are counting on innovations in bus design and battery technology to reduce weights in time to meet the new deadlines for axle weight requirements put forward by this bill. However, absent a specific technological or design innovation, it is unclear if they will be able to do so, and thus this problem may reoccur in the future.

- 6) *Local jurisdictions are concerned about road damage.* While transit operators tout the need of a weight limit exemption, local jurisdictions, particularly cities, have raised concerns about increased road damage. Importantly, as roads deteriorate more, they become exponentially more expensive to repair, meaning relatively frequent resurfacing is cheaper than waiting to replace a pavement entirely once it has degraded too much. However, even these more modest repairs are out of reach for many jurisdictions, as in 2025 alone there was a \$54.2 billion shortfall in needed funding for maintaining pavement. As a result, many local roads across the state are at risk of further degradation, requiring more expensive repairs, and widening the shortfall even further.

For these reasons, local jurisdictions are concerned about allowing the operation of heavier transit buses. One potential solution floated by some local jurisdictions is to allow transit operators to utilize lower weight, low NOx buses while waiting for advancements in zero-emission bus technology. While this would address the bus weight issue, it would violate and effectively nullify the ICT requirements by allowing the operation of GHG emitting buses. Ultimately, the Legislature should consider whether it wants to maintain the status quo, minimize road damage at the cost of increased transit emissions, or accept heavier buses and thus increased road wear in exchange for zero-emission transit buses.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/2026)

California Transit Association (Source)

Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
California Electric Transportation Coalition
Monterey-Salinas Transit
Orange County Transportation Authority
Sacramento Regional Transit District
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
San Mateo County Transit District
Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority
Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
Sunline Transit Agency
Transportation Agency for Monterey County

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/2026)

League of California Cities

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing as the sponsor of this bill, the California Transit Association states, “In December 2018, CARB adopted the ICT regulation, which requires public transit agencies to convert their bus fleets to zero-emission technology by no later than 2040. The regulation functions by way of a tiered zero-emission bus (ZEB) purchase mandate, which requires that, beginning in 2023, transit agencies purchase a fixed percentage of ZEBs with each bus procurement...As ZEB deployment continues to increase (and short-range ZEBs are deployed on available shorter routes), transit agencies will be required to procure ZEBs with extended ranges to complete longer routes and more aggressive duty cycles. With today’s technology, extended range ZEBs require additional batteries, which result in additional weight that meet or, in some cases, exceed the axle weight limits in current law.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition, the League of California Cities states, “AB 1944 authorizes higher axle weight limits for transit vehicles, which, by well-established engineering principles, will accelerate pavement damage on city streets. At the same time, the state’s transportation funding system, heavily reliant on SB 1 (Beall, Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017), is projected by the Legislative Analyst’s Office to decline by billions of dollars over the coming decade as zero-emission vehicle adoption increases. Without a corresponding funding solution, this creates an unsustainable mismatch between infrastructure wear and available resources.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-3, 4/6/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Bains, Hadwick, Macedo

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Caloza, Gabriel, Gallagher, Harabedian, Johnson, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Tangipa, Valencia

Prepared by: Samuel Myers / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
6/10/26 16:58:15

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1974
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 5/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-2, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Firearms: voluntary firearm storage program

SOURCE: Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a law enforcement agency to create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the local law enforcement agency for temporary safekeeping purposes to prevent firearm violence, suicide, and other injury, as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Generally prohibits the sale, lease or transfer of firearms unless the person has been issued a license by the Department of Justice (DOJ) and establishes various exceptions to this prohibition. (Penal (Pen.) Code, §§ 26500-26625.)
- 2) Provides that a license to sell firearms is subject to forfeiture for any violation of a number of specified prohibitions and requirements, with limited exceptions. (Pen. Code, § 26800, subd. (a).)
- 3) Includes several exemptions from the requirement that transfers go through a licensed dealer, including for the transfer of a firearm by bequest or intestate succession, or to a surviving spouse, or transfers by a person acting pursuant to operation of law, a court order, or pursuant to other specified laws. (Pen. Code, §§ 26505, 26515.)

- 4) Provides that persons convicted of felonies and certain violent misdemeanors are prohibited from owning or possessing a firearm. (Pen. Code, §§ 29800, 29805.)
- 5) Provides that where neither party to a firearms transaction holds a dealer's license (i.e. a "private party transaction"), the parties shall complete the transaction through a licensed firearms dealer. (Pen. Code, § 27545.)
- 6) Provides that the above provision does not apply to a firearm transfer if all of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a) The firearm is voluntarily and temporarily transferred to another person who is 18 years of age or older for safekeeping to prevent it from being accessed or used to attempt suicide by the transferor or another person that may gain access to it in the transferor's household.
 - b) The transferee does not use the firearm for any purpose and, except when transporting the firearm to the transferee's residence or when returning it to the transferor, keeps the firearm unloaded and securely stored in the transferee's residence.
 - c) The duration of the loan is limited to that amount of time reasonably necessary to prevent harm.
 - d) The individual receiving the firearm is not prohibited by state or federal law from possessing, receiving, owning, or purchasing a firearm. (Pen. Code, § 27882, subd. (a).)
- 7) Provides that if a firearm transferred pursuant to the above cannot be returned to the owner because the owner is prohibited from possessing a firearm, the person in possession of the firearm shall deliver the firearm to a law enforcement agency without delay. (Pen. Code, § 27882, subd. (b).)
- 8) Establishes procedures for the transfer of a firearm to a dealer or a third party in order to prevent it from being accessed or used by the transferor or other persons that may gain access to it in the transferor's household to cause significant danger of personal injury to themselves or others. (Pen. Code, §§ 27882, 26892.)
- 9) Prohibits firearm dealers from delivering newly purchased firearms within 10 days of the application to purchase a firearm, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 26815.)

- 10) Provides that any person who claims title to any firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition that is in the custody or control of a court or law enforcement agency and who wishes to have the firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition returned shall make application, including specified information, for a determination by the Department of Justice as to whether the applicant is eligible to possess a firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition, as provided. (Pen. Code, § 33850, subd. (a).)
- 11) Provides that a person who owns a firearm that is in the custody of a court or law enforcement agency and who does not wish to obtain possession of the firearm, and the firearm is an otherwise legal firearm, and the person otherwise has right to title of the firearm, shall be entitled to sell or transfer title of the firearm to a licensed dealer or a third party that is not prohibited from possessing that firearm. (Pen. Code, § 33850, subd. (b).)
- 12) Specifies several requirements that must be satisfied before a law enforcement agency or court that has taken custody of any firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition may be returned to an individual claiming said items. (Pen. Code, § 33855.)
- 13) Specifies that when DOJ receives a completed application for return of a firearm, it shall conduct an eligibility check of the applicant to determine whether the applicant is eligible to possess a firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition. (Pen. Code, § 33865, subd. (a).)
- 14) Provides that if a law enforcement agency determines that an applicant requesting the return of a firearm, ammunition feeding device, or ammunition is the legal owner of said items, the applicant shall be entitled to sell or transfer those items to a licensed firearm or ammunition vendor, as applicable. (Pen. Code, § 33870.)
- 15) Requires a law enforcement agency to enter into the DOJ's Automated Firearm System each firearm that has been reported stolen, lost, found, recovered, held or safekeeping, surrendered, relinquished, or under observation, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 11108.2.)
- 16) Requires any weapon surrendered to law enforcement under specified provisions to be destroyed, except as specified. (Pen. Code, § 18005, subd. (a).)
- 17) Requires every California law enforcement agency to develop and maintain a written policy on the destruction of firearms and other weapons, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 18005, subd. (e).)

This bill:

- 1) Provides that a law enforcement agency may create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the local law enforcement agency for temporary safekeeping purposes to prevent firearm violence, suicide, and other injury.
- 2) Provides that an agency adopting a voluntary storage program shall not be held liable for damage to the firearms while the firearms are in the temporary custody of the agency.
- 3) Requires the following of any law enforcement agency that elects to adopt a voluntary storage program:
 - a) The agency shall have the capability to store the firearm for a duration of one year.
 - b) The agency shall provide clear instructions on the procedure for a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the law enforcement agency, and make the procedure available to the public on the agency's internet website, as specified.
 - c) The agency shall provide clear instructions on the process for requesting return of the firearms in accordance with existing law, including, but not limited to, by electronically submitting a Law Enforcement Release application for the return of a firearm via the California Firearms Application Reporting System (CFARS). Instructions on the process for requesting the return of surrendered firearms shall be made available to the public on the agency's website.
 - d) The agency shall provide clear information on the maximum amount of time that the law enforcement agency may store a firearm and on the disposition of a firearm after the firearm has exceeded the maximum storage time allowed by the local law enforcement agency. This information must notify the person that their firearm or firearms shall be destroyed, returned to the person, or donated to a public or private nonprofit historical society, museum, or institutional collection.
 - e) The agency shall provide clear information on how people using the safe storage program, if they decide they no longer want their firearm at any point during the firearm storage period, can elect to have the firearm destroyed, donated to a public or private nonprofit historical society, museum, or institutional collection, or, pursuant to policies and

procedures set forth in existing law, may sell or transfer title of the firearm to a licensed dealer or a third party that is not prohibited from possessing that firearm.

- 4) Provides that upon receipt of a firearm, a law enforcement agency with a voluntary storage program must do all of the following:
 - a) Check the Automated Firearm System (AFS) to ensure that the firearm has not previously been reported as lost or stolen or otherwise involved in a crime, as specified.
 - b) Update AFS to record the current disposition of the firearm.
 - c) Prior to the return of a firearm to a person requesting its return, the law enforcement agency shall ensure that the requesting person is eligible to possess firearms when the firearm is returned to the person, as provided.
 - d) Upon return, donation, transfer or destruction of the firearm, a law enforcement agency shall update the AFS to reflect the change in disposition pursuant to the agency's firearm destruction policy.
- 5) Specifies that failure to retrieve the firearm at the end of a time period specified by the law enforcement agency shall result in the destruction of the firearm pursuant to the agency's firearm destruction policy. However, destruction of the firearm shall not be executed if the person who surrendered the firearm has submitted a Law Enforcement Release application for the return of their firearm via CFARS and the person is awaiting an eligibility determination.
- 6) Encourages law enforcement agencies that establish a voluntary firearm storage program to make family law advocates and veterans' outreach programs aware of the program.
- 7) Specifies that it does not limit a law enforcement agency's ability to accept firearms for voluntary temporary firearm storage pursuant to any other authority, program, or services the law enforcement agency offers.
- 8) Defines law enforcement agency as any police or sheriff's department.
- 9) Provides that specified laws restricting openly carrying an unloaded firearm, carrying an unloaded firearm, and delivering or transferring a firearm, do not apply to or affect the transportation of a firearm by a person to a law enforcement for the purposes of participating in a voluntary storage program, if

the person gives prior notice to the agency that they are transporting the firearm to the agency.

Comments

In 2019, the Legislature added a preventative feature to California firearm law via SB 172 (Portantino), Chapter 840, Statutes of 2019, which permitted the temporary transfer of a firearm without a dealer's participation to a person who is 18 years of age or older for safekeeping to prevent it from being used to attempt suicide by the transferor or another person that may gain access to it in the transferor's household. In 2023, another protective firearm transfer provision was added to California law via SB 368 (Portantino), Chapter 251, Statutes of 2023, which required firearm dealers to accept a firearm for storage if 1) the firearm is voluntarily and temporarily transferred to the licensee to prevent significant danger of personal injury to the transferor or others, 2) the licensee does not use the firearm for any purpose except storage, and 3) the duration of the transfer is limited to the amount of time reasonably necessary to prevent the harm.

After a custody battle resulted in the murder of her 9-year-old son, Pierce, by his father, Lesley Hu founded Pierce's Pledge, a nonprofit dedicated to reducing gun violence against children during volatile custody disputes by promoting the voluntary, temporary storage of firearms outside the home during situations of crisis or high conflict. In September 2025, the San Francisco Police Department, in partnership with Pierce's Pledge, launched a first-in-the-nation gun storage program in which San Francisco residents can store their firearms at any of the city's 10 police district stations for up to a year without paying any fees. According to the author, such programs are critical, especially in light of the fact that few dealers participate in voluntary storage pursuant to the programs described above. The author further states that:

Although there is nothing preventing law enforcement from establishing a program to temporarily store firearms for the public—indeed, SFPD did and serves as the basis for this law—there is also nothing in the current law to provide guidance or best practices for local law enforcement seeking to implement the policy. This lack of guidance can lead to police departments being more hesitant to establish such a program within their own jurisdiction or lead to inconsistencies in the application of each program.

Accordingly, the author proposes this bill, which provides that a law enforcement agency may create a voluntary firearm storage program that allows a person to voluntarily transfer custody of their firearm to the agency for temporary

safekeeping to prevent firearm violence, suicide and other injury. The bill does not require agencies to establish such a program, but imposes several mandates on agencies that do, including that the agency have the capability to store a firearm for one year and that it provide clear instructions on the relevant transfer processes, including those already set forth in existing law, such as the process for requesting the return of a firearm.

Additionally, the bill requires a participating agency to provide clear information on the maximum duration that the agency may store a firearm and on the disposition of a firearm after the expiration of the storage period, including that the firearm must be destroyed, returned, or donated to a public or private nonprofit historical society, museum, or institutional collection. Participating agencies must also provide information on how individuals who no longer want their firearm can elect to have the firearm destroyed, donated or transferred to a firearm dealer or nonprohibited third party pursuant to specific procedures set forth in existing law.

This bill further requires that participating agencies make relevant updates to the Automated Firearms System and provides that failure to retrieve a firearm at the end of the storage period shall result in the destruction or donation of the firearm according to prescribed processes. Finally, the bill indemnifies participating agencies against liability for damage to firearms while they are being stored and clarifies that existing criminal penalties related to the transportation of firearms do not apply when the firearms are being transported for the purpose of being stored pursuant to this bill and the transporting party has given the agency prior notice.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

Giffords Law Center to Prevent Gun Violence (source)
Association of Riverside County Chiefs of Police and Riverside Sheriff
Brady California
Brady United Against Gun Violence
California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
California District Attorneys Association
Everytown for Gun Safety Action Fund
Moms Demand Action
Palm Springs Police Department
Peace Officers Research Association of California
San Francisco Board of Supervisors
San Francisco Marin Medical Society

Students Demand Action

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

California Rifle and Pistol Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-2, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Hadwick, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bonta, Castillo, Macedo, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis, Ward

Prepared by: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
6/10/26 16:58:17

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1977
Author: Irwin (D)
Amended: 5/27/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 10-2, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Wahab, Weber
Pierson, Wiener

NOES: Niello, Valladares

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-5, 4/13/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Notaries public

SOURCE: Secretary of State Dr. Shirley N. Weber

DIGEST: This bill amends the Online Notarization Act and other statutes related to notaries public in California to resolve issues identified by the Secretary of State's office as it prepares for the rollout of remote online notarization (RON) by notaries public in this state.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes the Secretary of State to appoint and commission notaries public, who may act as such notaries in any part of this state. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 8200.)
- 2) Requires that every person appointed as a notary public in this state meet specified requirements, including having satisfactorily completed certain

courses of study and passed a written exam prescribed by the Secretary of State. (Gov. Code, §§ 8201, 8201.2.)

- 3) Requires the Secretary of State, prior to granting an appointment as a notary public, to take certain actions to determine the applicant's honesty, credibility, truthfulness, and integrity to fulfill the position, including by obtaining the applicant's fingerprint images to information relating to the applicant's convictions and arrests, if any, and provide certain personal information. (Gov. Code, §§ 8201.1, 8201.5.)
- 4) Establishes the duties of a notary public, which include taking the acknowledgment or proof of advance health care directives, powers of attorney, mortgages, deeds, grants, transfers, and other instruments of writing executed by any person, and giving a certificate of that proof or acknowledgment endorsed on or attached to the instrument; a notary public must also provide certain information to the Secretary of State upon written request. (Gov. Code, § 8205.)
- 5) Establishes the Online Notarization Act. (Gov. Code, tit. 2, div. 1, ch. 3, art. 2, §§ 8231 et seq.)
- 6) Provides that a notary public commissioned in California shall not provide online notarization prior to registering with the Secretary of State or prior to completion of the Secretary of State's technology project to develop the capabilities necessary to support RON, which must be completed on or before January 1, 2030, unless the Secretary of State provides notice to the Legislature and the Governor on or before January 1, 2029, that it needs more time to implement the statutes. (Gov. Code, § 8231.)
- 7) Establishes procedures and requirements for a person or entity to apply for registration with the Secretary of State to provide online notarization platform or depository services for online notarizations. (Gov. Code, §§ 8231.14, 8231.15.)
- 8) Establishes requirements for a business that provides software to a notary public to facilitate online notarizations, including a requirement that any such business consent to jurisdiction in the courts of this state, and data security requirements. (Gov. Code, § 8231.18.)
- 9) Provides that any waiver of the provisions of the Online Notarization Act is contrary to public policy and is void and unenforceable. (Gov. Code, § 8231.19.)

This bill:

- 1) Requires a notary public, as a condition of reappointment of their commission, to pass a written examination prescribed by the Secretary of State and to provide proof of that passage to the Secretary of State; if the notary public is also seeking reauthorization to perform RONS, the notary public must pass, and provide evidence of their passage, an examination prescribed by the Secretary of State relating to RON.
- 2) Requires the Secretary of State to review a course of study offered by a vendor to be available to satisfy the course of study requirement for a notary public to perform RONS, and to approve the proffered course of study if it includes all of the required material.
- 3) Clarifies provisions relating to the use of the notary public's electronic signature, including electronic storage security requirements.
- 4) Clarifies provisions relating to the use of the notary public's electronic seal, including the use of the seal on electronic records and electronic storage security requirements.
- 5) Permits the Secretary of State to charge a \$100 processing fee for the issuance of a permit to issue notary seals.
- 6) Clarifies that the Secretary of State may refuse to appoint a person as a notary public, or revoke or suspend the commission of a notary public, for violations of specified RON statutes.
- 7) Requires a notary public to maintain, in addition to their electronic journal or journals, a tangible sequential journal, which can be permanently bound or digital, as specified, in which the notary public must maintain a sequential record of all in-person notarizations and RONS they perform.
- 8) Prohibits a notary public from providing a fee for a RON session until the online notarial act is completed.
- 9) Permits a notary public, notwithstanding 8), to charge a technology fee for a terminated online notarial act session if the fee does not exceed the actual and reasonable cost incurred by the notary public for the use of an online notarization platform and the session is terminated due to either of the following:

- a) The notary public determines that completion of the notarial act would violate the notary's legal obligations, as specified.
 - b) An act or omission that can reasonably be attributed to the principal and is not due, in whole or in part, to an error, a failure, or noncompliance by the notary public or online notarization platform.
- 10) Requires a person or entity that is registered with the Secretary of State as an online notarization platform or a depository to renew their registration annually, as follows:
- a) If there has been no change in the information in the last filed application, the platform or depository may, in lieu of filing a full application for re-registration, advise the Secretary of State, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, that there are no such changes.
 - b) The applicable filing period for a re-registration is the calendar month in which the platform or depository filed their initial registration and the immediately preceding five calendar months.
 - c) The Secretary of State shall provide notice to a platform or depository approximately three months prior to the close of the applicable filing period through the Secretary of State's web portal.
 - d) The platform or depository's failure to receive the filing period notice is not an excuse for failure to re-register.
- 11) Requires a registered online notarization platform or depository to file an updated application with the Secretary of State if there is a change to specified information relating to the platform or depository, including the entity's name and address and whether any order, judgment, or decree has been entered against the entity for specified civil or criminal acts.
- 12) Permits the Secretary of State to charge a fee of \$5,000 for an initial application from an entity to provide online notarization platform or depository services; \$1,000 for a renewal registration; and \$50 for an updated application.
- 13) Requires an online notarization platform or depository that is going out of business, ceasing operations, or merging with a non-registered entity to notify the Secretary of State through its online platform of (1) its intent to cease offering services in California, and (2) that it is providing the notaries public who use its services with a reasonable opportunity to download the records of their online notarial acts.

- 14) Requires the Secretary of State to publish information on its website demonstrating that an online notarization platform or depository is registered to provide RON services; the Secretary of State must update the information at least every 30 days.

Comments

In 2023, the Legislature enacted the Online Notarization Act (SB 696 (Portantino, Ch. 291, Stats. 2023)), which establishes the requirements for a notary public to perform RONs and the requirements for the supporting software, platforms, and databases necessary to facilitate those RONs. The Online Notarization Act also requires the Secretary of State to adopt RON-related regulations and to complete a significant technology project to provide the support needed to ensure that RONs are technologically secure and records are preserved. California notaries cannot perform RONs until the technology project is complete, which must be no later than January 1, 2030.

Now that the Secretary of State's technology project is well underway, the Secretary of State's office has identified portions of the Online Notarization Act and other notary-related statutes that need updating for the implementation of RON in the state. This bill is a clean-up bill to make the changes identified by the Secretary of State's office; the author has also incorporated feedback from stakeholders.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Secretary of State Dr. Shirley N. Weber (source)
California League of Independent Notaries
National Notary Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/25)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to Secretary of State Dr. Shirley N. Weber:

When the Online Notarization Act was signed into law, it represented a significant step forward in modernizing notarial services for California. However, following enactment, my office identified various ambiguities,

inconsistencies within existing notary law, and gaps in administrative procedures that need to be addressed before the Act takes effect in 2030.

AB 1977 accomplishes the following:

- Clarifies ambiguous definitions and procedures to ensure the law is implementable;
- Harmonizes electronic seal requirements between traditional and remote online notaries to strengthen security;
- Establishes registration, renewal, amendment, and termination procedures for online notarization platforms and depositories with the Secretary of State;
- Sets specific fee amounts for filings that were authorized but not specified in the original Act;
- Corrects technical errors, including citation mistakes and grammatical issues.

When remote online notarization becomes operational, California will have clear, consistent, and enforceable statutory language that protects both notaries public and the consumers they serve.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-5, 4/13/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Hadwick, Ta

NO VOTE RECORDED: Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Valencia

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/16/26 16:43:02

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2001
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Criminal procedure: state summary criminal history information

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to furnish state summary criminal history information to city attorneys and county counsel in all public nuisance actions, including red-light abatement actions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines “state summary criminal history information” to mean the master record of information compiled by the Attorney General pertaining to the identification and criminal history of a person, such as name, date of birth, physical description, fingerprints, photographs, dates of arrests, arresting agencies and booking numbers, charges, dispositions, sentencing information, and similar data about the person. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 11105, subd. (a)(2)(A).)
- 2) Requires DOJ to maintain state summary criminal history information, as defined, and to furnish this information to various state and local government

officers, officials, and other prescribed entities, if needed in the course of their duties. (Pen. Code, § 11105, subds. (a), (b).)

- 3) Requires DOJ to provide state summary criminal history information to city attorneys pursuing civil gang injunctions pursuant to the Street Terrorism Enforcement and Prevention Act, or drug abatement actions, as specified, or a city attorney or county counsel pursuing gun violence restraining orders, as specified, if needed in the course of their duties. (Pen. Code, § 11105, subd. (b)(5).)
- 4) Defines a “nuisance” as anything which is injurious to health, including, but not limited to, the illegal sale of controlled substances, or is incident or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property, or unlawfully obstructs the free passage or use, in the customary manner, of any navigable lake, river, bay, stream, canal, or basin, or any public park, square, street, or highway. (Civil (Civ.) Code, § 3479.)
- 5) States that a public nuisance is one which affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal. (Civ. Code, § 3480.)
- 6) Specifies that every nuisance not included in the definition provided for a public nuisance is private. (Civ. Code, § 3481.)
- 7) States that the remedies against a public nuisance are indictment or information, a civil action, or abatement. (Civ. Code, § 3491.)
- 8) Specifies that a public nuisance may be abated by any public body or officer authorized by law. (Civ. Code, § 3494.)
- 9) Authorizes any person to abate a public nuisance which is specially injurious to the person by removing, or, if necessary, destroying the thing which constitutes the same, without committing a breach of the peace, or doing unnecessary injury. (Civ. Code § 3495.)
- 10) Specifies that buildings used for the purposes of illegal gambling, lewdness, prostitution, and human trafficking are a public nuisance. (Pen. Code, § 11225.)
- 11) Requires that if the existence of a nuisance is established for illegal gambling, lewdness, prostitution, or human trafficking, the court must enter an order of abatement directing the removal from the building or place of all fixtures,

musical instruments and movable property used in conducting, maintaining, aiding, or abetting the nuisance, and directing the sale of that property. Requires the court to order that the building be closed for a period of one year, unless the court finds that vacancy would create an additional nuisance or be harmful to the community, in which case the court may order the person responsible for the nuisance to pay damages in an amount equal to the fair market rental value of the property for one year to the city or county. Permits the court to also order a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 against any and all defendants. (Pen. Code, § 11230, subd. (a).)

- 12) Authorizes a civil action brought in the name of the people of the State of California to abate a public nuisance by the district attorney or county counsel of any county in which the nuisance exists, or by the city attorney of any town or city in which the nuisance exists. (Code of Civil Procedure (Code Civ. Proc.), § 731.)
- 13) Makes any person who maintains or commits any public nuisance guilty of a misdemeanor. (Pen. Code, § 372.)

This bill requires the DOJ to furnish state summary criminal history information to city attorneys and county counsel whenever they pursue actions for illegal cannabis sales or cultivation, substandard housing violations, illicit massage businesses, violations of alcoholic beverage control laws, and red light abatement actions pursuant to the state's red light abatement law.

Background

Under existing law, a public nuisance is defined to mean anything that is injurious to health, indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. (Civ. Code, § 3479.) A public nuisance is also anything that obstructs the passage or use of any navigable waters, or any public place or highway. (*Ibid.*)

Maintaining a public nuisance is prosecutable criminally as a misdemeanor. (Pen. Code, § 372.) Additionally, a district attorney, city attorney, county counsel or any citizen is authorized to bring a civil action to abate and prevent the nuisance. (Code Civ. Proc., § 731.)

Current law deems certain uses of buildings or places to be a public nuisance. Specifically, among other things, buildings used for the purposes of illegal gambling, lewdness, prostitution, or human trafficking are a public nuisance. (Pen.

Code, § 11225.) If the existence of a nuisance is established for one of the offenses in a civil action, the court must enter an order of abatement directing the removal from the building or place of all fixtures, musical instruments and movable property used in conducting, maintaining, aiding, or abetting the nuisance, and directing the sale of that property. (Pen. Code, § 11230 (a).). Additionally, the building may be closed for a period of one year, unless the court finds that vacancy would create an additional nuisance or be harmful to the community. The court may order the person responsible for the nuisance to pay damages in an amount equal to the fair market rental value of the building or place for one year to the city or county in whose jurisdiction the nuisance is located. The court may also order a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 against any and all defendants. (*Ibid.*)

There are fewer due process protections in a civil action for public nuisance than in a criminal case. The government must prove its case by a preponderance of the evidence, rather than beyond a reasonable doubt. Additionally, defendants in such cases have no right to trial by jury. (*People v. Englebrecht* (2001) 88 Cal.App.4th 1236, 1246.)

State summary criminal history information is the primary record of information compiled by DOJ pertaining to the identification and criminal history of any person. This information includes name, date of birth, physical description, fingerprints, photographs, arrests, dispositions and similar data. (Pen. Code, § 11105, subd. (a).) Access to a person's summary criminal history information is generally prohibited and only allowed to be disseminated if specifically authorized in statute. (*Westbrook v. County of Los Angeles* (1994) 27 Cal.App.4th 157, 165-66.)

DOJ is required to furnish this information to various statutorily prescribed state and local government entities, such as courts, peace officers, district attorneys, probation officers, parole officers, correctional officers, public defenders, health officers preventing the spread of communicable diseases, child support agencies, child welfare agency personnel, and officers conducting conservatorship investigations, if needed in the course of their duties. (Pen. Code, § 11105, subds. (a)-(b).)

Relevant to this bill, the DOJ is required to provide state summary criminal history information to city attorneys and county counsel pursuing civil gang injunction, drug abatement actions, or gun violence restraining orders, if needed in the course of their duties. (Pen. Code, § 11105 (b) (5).)

The author and sponsors cite the need for this bill to pursue actions against properties that are repeat sites of gambling, lewdness, sex work, and human trafficking. These nuisances are covered under the state's red-light abatement law. (Pen. Code, § 11225.)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California State Sheriffs' Association
Civil Prosecutors Coalition
League of California Cities
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

ACLU California Action
Drug Policy Alliance
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Erotic Service Providers Legal, Education, and Research Project
California Civil Liberties Advocacy

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Civil Prosecutors Coalition writes:

California law already permits civil prosecutors to review criminal history records in certain enforcement contexts, including gang injunctions, drug abatement actions, and gun violence restraining orders. City Attorneys and County Counsels are similarly authorized to pursue civil enforcement against properties used for illegal activities from unlicensed gambling and narcotics sales to prostitution and fencing operations. However, when building these nuisance abatement cases, civil prosecutors currently lack access to the very records that could make their enforcement efforts more effective, leaving them with an incomplete picture of the individuals and operations they are working to address.

The challenges of this incomplete information can be seen in cases involving organized prostitution and trafficking networks, which routinely operate across multiple jurisdictions. Without access to criminal history records, civil prosecutors cannot easily identify repeat offenders, connect patterns of conduct across incidents, or assess whether individuals associated with a property pose heightened risks

due to prior offenses, active warrants, or weapons restrictions. This limits their ability to prioritize resources, protect victims, and craft enforcement strategies that reflect the full scope of the threat.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Ella Baker Center for Human Rights writes:

California law appropriately limits access to criminal history information because these records contain highly sensitive personal data, including arrest information, charges that did not result in conviction, and other information that can carry lifelong consequences. AB 2001 would broaden the use of this information in civil proceedings that often lack the procedural protections available in criminal court.

Public nuisance and red light abatement laws have historically been used in ways that disproportionately impact marginalized communities, including low-income residents, immigrants, Black and Brown communities, tenants, sex workers, and survivors of human trafficking and exploitation. Expanding access to criminal history information in these contexts risks increasing the criminalization consequences for vulnerable populations for whom these investigative tactics have already prioritized displacement over long-term care.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
6/24/26 16:32:22

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2004
Author: Alanis (R), et al.
Amended: 3/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-0, 4/6/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Peace officers: deputy sheriffs

SOURCE: San Joaquin County Correctional Officers Association

DIGEST: This bill adds the counties of Fresno and San Joaquin to the list of specified counties within which deputy sheriffs assigned to perform duties exclusively or initially related to custodial assignments are peace officers whose authority extends to any place in the state while engaged in the performance of duties related to their employment.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that any deputy sheriff of the Counties of Los Angeles, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Glenn, Humboldt, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lake, Lassen, Mariposa, Mendocino, Modoc, Nevada, Plumas, Riverside, San Benito, San Diego, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Shasta, Siskiyou, Solano, Sonoma, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, and Yuba who is employed to perform duties exclusively or initially relating to custodial assignments with responsibilities for maintaining the operations of county custodial facilities, including the custody, care, supervision, security, movement, and transportation of inmates, is a peace officer whose authority extends to any place in California only while engaged in the performance of the duties of his or her respective employment and for the purpose of carrying out

the primary function of employment relating to custodial assignments or when performing other law enforcement duties directed by his or her employing agency during a local state of emergency. (Pen. Code, § 830.1, subd. (c).)

- 2) Provides that all cities and counties are authorized to employ custodial officers who are public officers but not peace officers for the purpose of maintaining order in local detention facilities. Custodial officers under this section do not have the right to carry or possess firearms in the performance of his or her duties. However, custodial officers may use reasonable force to establish and maintain custody and may make arrests for misdemeanors and felonies pursuant to a warrant. (Pen. Code, § 831.)
- 3) Provides that notwithstanding existing law, law enforcement agencies in counties with a population of 425,000 or less and the Counties of San Diego, Fresno, Kern, Napa, Riverside, Santa Clara, and Stanislaus may employ custodial officers with enhanced powers. The enhanced powers custodial officers are empowered to serve warrants, writs, or subpoenas within the custodial facility and, as with regular custodial officers, use reasonable force to establish and maintain custody. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (a).)
- 4) Provides that custodial officers with enhanced powers may carry firearms under the direction of the sheriff while fulfilling specified job-related duties such as while assigned as a court bailiff, transporting prisoners, guarding hospitalized prisoners, or suppressing jail riots, escapes, or rescues. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (b).)
- 5) Requires a peace officer to be present in a supervisory capacity whenever 20 or more custodial officers are on duty. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (d).)
- 6) Provides that enhanced powers custodial officers may also make warrantless arrests within the facility. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (f).)
- 7) Provides that custodial officers employed by the Santa Clara County, Napa County, and Madera DOC's are authorized to perform the following additional duties in the facility:
 - a) Arrest a person without a warrant whenever the custodial officer has reasonable cause to believe that the person to be arrested has committed a misdemeanor or felony in the presence of the officer that is a violation of a statute or ordinance that the officer has the duty to enforce;
 - b) Search property, cells, prisoners, or visitors;

- c) Conduct strip or body cavity searches of prisoners as specified;
 - d) Conduct searches and seizures pursuant to a duly issued warrant;
 - e) Segregate prisoners; and,
 - f) Classify prisoners for the purpose of housing or participation in supervised activities. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subds. (g)-(i).)
- 8) Provides that Penal Code § 831.5 does not authorize a custodial officer to carry or possess a firearm when the officer is not on duty. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (j).)
- 9) States that it is the intent of the Legislature, as it relates to Santa Clara, Madera, and Napa Counties, to enumerate specific duties of custodial officers and to clarify the relationship of correctional officers and deputy sheriffs in Santa Clara County. And, that it is the intent of the Legislature that all issues regarding compensation for custodial officers remain subject to the collective bargaining process. The language is, additionally, clear that it should not be construed to assert that the duties of custodial officers are equivalent to the duties of deputy sheriffs or to affect the ability of the county to negotiate pay that reflects the different duties of custodial officers and deputy sheriffs. (Pen. Code, § 831.5, subd. (k).)
- 10) Provides that every peace officer shall satisfactorily complete an introductory course of training prescribed by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) and that, after July 1, 1989, satisfactory completion of the course shall be demonstrated by passage of an appropriate examination developed or approved by POST. (Pen. Code, § 832, subd. (a).)
- 11) Provides that prior to the exercise of peace officer powers, every peace officer shall have satisfactorily completed the POST course. (Pen. Code, § 832, subd. (b).)
- 12) Provides that a person shall not have the powers of a peace officer until he or she has satisfactorily completed the POST course. (Pen. Code, § 832, subd. (c).)

This bill:

- 1) Adds to the list of specified counties within which deputy sheriffs assigned to perform duties exclusively or initially relating to specified custodial assignments are peace officers whose authority extends to any place in California while engaged in the performance of the duties of their employment.

2) Includes related findings and declarations.

Comments

Pursuant to Penal Code section 830.1 subdivision (c), the custodial deputy sheriff classification is part of a continuum of classifications of custodial officers in county jails and other local detention facilities. Custodial officers under Penal Code sections 831 and 831.5 are not peace officers, whereas a custodial deputy sheriff is a peace officer, “who is employed to perform duties exclusively or initially relating to custodial assignments.” (Pen. Code § 830.1 subd. (c).) One of the most significant differences between custodial deputy sheriffs and custodial officers is that as “peace officers,” custodial deputy sheriffs are granted all the rights and protections contained in the Public Safety Officers Procedural Bill of Rights Act (POBOR, see Government Code, § 3301 et seq.), which provides peace officers with procedural protections relating to investigation and interrogations of peace officers, self-incrimination, privacy, polygraph exams, searches, personnel files, and administrative appeals. Accordingly, this bill gives POBOR protections to custodial officers in San Joaquin and Fresno Counties.

All counties may utilize Penal Code section 831 non-peace officer custodial officers; however, these officers may not carry firearms. (Pen. Code, § 831 subd. (b).) Existing law also establishes limitations on the authority and use of Penal Code section 831.5 custodial officers. For example, Penal Code section 831.5 custodial officers may not perform strip searches (unless they are employed in Santa Clara County, Napa County, or Madera County), have limited arrest powers, and are limited in their “armed duty” roles. Another limitation on the use of both Penal Code section 831 and 831.5 non-peace officer custodial officers is that whenever 20 or more of such officers are on duty there must be at least one Penal Code section 830.1 peace officer, who has received the full 664-plus hour basic training for Penal Code section 830.1(a) deputy sheriffs, on duty at the same time to supervise the custodial officers. (Pen. Code §§ 831 subd. (d) and 831.5 subd. (d).)

Existing law does contain one limitation on the scope of authority granted to custodial deputy sheriffs, which would be extended to Fresno and San Joaquin County custodial deputy sheriffs under this bill. Namely, deputies granted authority by this bill are limited in their authority as a peace officer “only while engaged in the performance of the duties of his or her respective employment and for the purpose of carrying out the primary function of employment relating to his or her custodial assignments, or when performing other law enforcement duties

directed by his or her employing agency during a local state of emergency.” (Pen. Code, § 830.1, subd. (c).)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

San Joaquin County Correctional Officers Association (source)
Fresno County Public Safety Association
Fresno County Sheriff’s Office
Riverside Sheriffs’ Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-0, 4/6/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Caloza, Gabriel, Harabedian, Lackey, Lee, Muratsuchi, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Schultz, Valencia, Ward, Zbur

Prepared by: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
6/10/26 16:58:18

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2041
Author: Carrillo (D)
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 5/22/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Emergency medical services

SOURCE: California Ambulance Association

DIGEST: This bill requires a public safety agency that provides 911 call processing services for emergency medical response, but was not providing prearrival instructions to 911 callers requiring medical assistance before January 1, 2026, to report to their local emergency medical services agency on the status of their compliance with a new requirement to provide prearrival instructions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act (EMS Act) to provide for a statewide system for emergency medical services (EMS), and establishes the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), which is responsible for the coordination and integration of all state activities concerning EMS, including the establishment of minimum standards, policies, and procedures. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1797, et seq.]

- 2) Authorizes counties to develop an EMS program and designate a local EMS agency (LEMSA) responsible for planning and implementing an EMS system, which includes day-to-day EMS system operations. [HSC §1797.200, et seq.]
- 3) Establishes the Warren-911-Emergency Assistance Act, which requires every public agency to have in operation a telephone service, which automatically connects a person dialing the digits “911” to an established public safety answering point. Defines “public agency” to include the state, any city or county, or any public district that provides or has authority to provide firefighting, police, ambulance, or other emergency services. Prohibits these provisions of law from prohibiting or discouraging the formation of multijurisdictional or regional systems. [Government Code (GOV) §53100, et seq.]
- 4) Requires every 911 system to include police, firefighting, and emergency medical and ambulance services. Requires every 911 system, in those areas in which a public safety agency provides ambulance emergency services, to include such public safety agencies. Permits 911 systems to incorporate private ambulance services. [GOV §53110(a)]
- 5) Prohibits a public agency from delegating, assigning, or entering into a contract for 911 call processing services for the dispatch of emergency response resources unless it is with another public agency, with the exception of a delegation, assignment, or contract entered into on or before January 1, 2019, subject to certain limitations. [GOV §53110(b) and (c)]
- 6) Requires a public safety agency implementing an emergency medical dispatch program to be subject to the review and approval of the LEMSAs, and to perform 911 call processing services and operate the program in accordance with applicable state guidelines and regulations, and the policies adopted by the LEMSAs. [HSC §1797.223(c)]
- 7) Prohibits medical control by a LEMSAs medical director, or medical direction and management of an EMS system, from being construed to limit, supplant, prohibit, or otherwise alter a public safety agency’s authority to directly receive and process requests for assistance originating with the public safety agency’s territorial jurisdiction through the emergency 911 system, but specifies that this provision does not supersede the LEMSAs authority to adopt and implement emergency life-saving instructions or emergency medical dispatch pre-arrival instructions. [HSC §1798.8]

- 8) Requires, by January 1, 2027, a public safety agency that provides 911 call processing services for emergency medical response to provide prearrival instructions to 911 callers requiring medical assistance. Permits a public safety agency to satisfy this requirement by contracting with another public safety agency that provides prearrival medical instructions. Requires the prearrival medical instructions to include, at a minimum, all of the following:
- a) Airway and choking medical instructions for infants, children, and adults;
 - b) AED and CPR instructions for children and adults;
 - c) Childbirth;
 - d) Bleeding control and hemorrhage;
 - e) Administration of epinephrine by auto-injector for suspected anaphylaxis; and,
 - f) Administration of naloxone for suspected narcotics overdoses. [HSC §1797.161(a)]
- 9) Requires the prearrival medical instructions required in 9) above to be approved by the local EMS agency medical director and implemented consistent with medical protocols and procedures adopted by the public safety agency. [HSC §1797.161(c)]

This bill requires a public safety agency that provides 911 call processing services for emergency medical response, but was not providing prearrival instructions to 911 callers requiring medical assistance before January 1, 2026, to report to their LEMSA, by January 31, 2027, on the status of their compliance with the requirement to provide prearrival instructions.

Comments

According to the author:

In medical emergencies such as cardiac arrest or choking, immediate bystander intervention before first responders arrive can mean the difference between life and death. The American Heart Association reports that prompt CPR can double or even triple a person's chances of survival following cardiac arrest. Bystander intervention also significantly increases when individuals receive pre-arrival medical instructions and verbal guidance provided from 9-1-1 dispatchers at a public agency. This bill aims to ensure public safety agencies are training first responders to provide these lifesaving pre-arrival medical instructions by requiring any previously non-complying agency to report their status of compliance to their local EMS agency. By investing in these proven, lifesaving practices, we can equip

everyday Californians with the guidance they need to act in those first critical moments of medical need.

Background

Background on EMS and the 911 system. While EMSA is the lead agency and centralized resource to oversee emergency and disaster medical services, day-to-day EMS system management is the responsibility of the local and regional EMS agencies. California has 34 LEMSA systems that provide EMS for California's 58 counties. Regional systems are usually comprised of small, more rural, less-populated counties and single-county systems generally exist in the larger and more urban counties. There are seven regional EMS agencies comprised of 31 counties and 27 single-county LEMSAs. The EMS Act comprehensively regulates emergency medical care in California. Enacted in 1980, the EMS Act provides for the creation of emergency medical procedures and protocols, certification of emergency medical personnel, and coordination of emergency responses by fire departments, ambulance services, hospitals, specialty care centers, and other providers within the local EMS system.

The Warren 911 Act authorizes cities and counties to form contracts regulating the implementation of a 911 system. The basic structure of the 911 system is designed to ensure that when a person dials 911, a law enforcement agency serving as a primary Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) receives 911 requests from the area where the person is calling. If a 911 caller requests emergency medical assistance, the primary PSAP may retain the caller if it directly provides EMS dispatch, or may transfer the caller to a secondary PSAP for emergency medical response. The medical secondary PSAP can be a public agency, public/private partnership, or private EMS provider designated or recognized by the LEMSA as serving the entire EMS area or portion of the EMS area. However, under SB 438 (Hertzberg, Chapter 389, Statutes of 2019), a public agency is prohibited from delegating, assigning, or entering into a contract for 911 call processing services regarding the dispatch of emergency response resources unless it is with another public agency, with certain exceptions, including contracts entered into before January 1, 2019 if the public safety agencies agree to continue those contracts.

Pre-arrival EMS instructions. This bill is a follow-up to AB 645 (Carillo, Chapter 273, Statutes of 2025), which established the requirement to provide prearrival instructions to 911 callers requesting medical assistance, effective January 1, 2027. According to information provided by the author last year, the rationale for AB 645 was that while most agencies already provide pre-arrival instructions to 911 callers to help them with emergency situations until emergency medical personnel

arrive on scene, it is not universal, and there are some areas in the state where 911 callers are not provided with pre-arrival instructions.

“Pre-arrival instruction” refers to specific instructions or guidance provided by 911 dispatchers or public safety answering point call-takers to the individuals making the emergency call. As of 1988, emergency medical dispatch’s use of pre-arrival instructions has been the standard recommendation of the National Association of Emergency Management Service Physicians. A study published in 2000 revealed that 97% of community members surveyed would call 911 in an emergency, and 67% of respondents expected that calling 911 should result in receiving pre-arrival instructions for choking, a person not breathing, bleeding, and childbirth, when appropriate. At the time, however, many answering points were noted not to provide such instructions. The greatest challenge to providing pre-arrival instructions is determining how to apply life-saving and hands-on interventions through the caller without visual aids, all in seconds. Dispatchers can most effectively provide pre-arrival instructions by following scripts and practicing possible scenarios. Scripted instructions are written clearly for any non-medical person to comprehend and perform. While few studies have addressed the provision or efficacy of pre-arrival instructions for bleeding control, choking, respiratory arrest, and childbirth, the most studied emergency for pre-arrival instructions is sudden cardiac arrest. A study in 2008 revealed that even when dispatchers gave 911 callers standard CPR instructions, the majority of calls did not result in cardiac arrest victims receiving proper chest compressions. The recommendations for out-of-hospital bystander resuscitation changed significantly after this study, and shifted to “hands-only CPR” without airway or breathing intervention. In sudden cardiac arrest, pre-arrival instruction for dispatch-assisted CPR is now considered the standard of care, though a 2015 survey of public safety answering points concluded that nearly 50% of systems did not offer dispatcher-assisted instructions for CPR.

In discussions over AB 645 in 2025, stakeholders all agreed that the vast majority of 911 emergency medical response dispatching agencies in California already provide pre-arrival instructions. Regarding this bill, the author stated there are concerns that public safety agencies that are not providing pre-arrival instructions are not working toward this goal, and this bill will help ensure that dispatchers that were not in compliance last year are taking steps to implement AB 645.

EMSA planning on promulgating regulations on emergency medical dispatch. An earlier version of AB 645 would have focused on establishing minimum standards for the training of emergency medical dispatchers, which generated some controversy from a number of stakeholders. In the context of a version that would

have potentially established training requirements, EMSA provided some considerations that it believed was important for the Legislature to consider, including that medical care does not begin when field providers arrive, but it begins at the first point of medical contact, which is often the 911 call. EMSA stated that patient outcomes are directly impacted by the accuracy of call triage and the quality of pre-arrival medical instructions provided by dispatchers. As such, oversight of these functions, and of training and oversight, must remain within the clinical and regulatory framework of medical control. EMSA also stated that ensuring an equitable standard in the delivery of quality care from the moment of first medical contact requires consistent statewide standards, and that EMSA is best positioned to define those standards, with LEMSAs implementing and overseeing them within their jurisdictions under medical direction.

According to EMSA, it continues to recognize emergency medical dispatch as an important area for future regulatory consideration, and anticipates addressing it through a future rulemaking effort. AB 645 included a provision prohibiting anything in that bill from being construed to either expand or limit EMSA's ability, under existing law, to adopt guidelines or regulations for emergency medical dispatch, including dispatcher training.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 645 (Carrillo, Chapter 273, Statutes of 2025) requires a public safety agency that processes 911 calls for emergency medical response, commencing January 1, 2027, to provide pre-arrival medical instructions to 911 callers requiring medical assistance, including airway and choking instructions, automatic external defibrillator and CPR instructions, childbirth, bleeding control and hemorrhage, administration of epinephrine auto-injectors, and administration of naloxone for suspected overdoses. Requires pre-arrival medical instructions to be approved by the medical director of the LEMSA.

SB 438 (Hertzberg, Chapter 389, Statutes of 2019), among other provisions, prohibits a public agency from delegating, assigning, or entering into a contract for 911 call process services regarding the dispatch of emergency medical response unless it is with another public agency, with certain exceptions, including allowing contracts in existence at the time to be renewed if public agencies do not object.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

California Ambulance Association (source)

AmWest Ambulance
Del Norte Ambulance
LifeWest Ambulance
Medic Ambulance
NorCal Ambulance
Pro Transport-1 Ambulance
Royal Ambulance, Inc.
Southern California Ambulance Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: This bill is sponsored by the California Ambulance Association (CAA), which states that this bill strengthens the effectiveness and level of compliance with last year's AB 645 by requiring public dispatching agencies who have not yet implemented pre-arrival instructions into their systems to report the status of their implementation.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 5/22/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

NOES: Dixon

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Chen, Davies, Gabriel, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Sanchez, Zbur

Prepared by: Vincent D. Marchand / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
6/24/26 16:32:22

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2052
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 4/23/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Criminal procedure: continuances

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill expands the list of crimes for which a court must consider good cause for the purpose of granting a prosecutor's request for continuance beyond a defendant's statutory speedy trial right to include a felony case of elder or dependent adult abuse, if the victim is cognitively impaired.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) States that a person who knows or reasonably should know that a person is an elder or dependent adult and who, under circumstances or conditions likely to produce great bodily harm or death, willfully causes or permits any elder or dependent adult to suffer, or having the care or custody of any elder or dependent adult, willfully causes or permits the person or health of the elder or dependent adult to be injured, or willfully causes or permits the elder or dependent adult to be placed in a situation in which their person or health is endangered, is guilty of a wobbler punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by a fine not to exceed \$6,000, or by both that fine and imprisonment, or by imprisonment in the state prison for two, three, or four years. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 368, subd. (b)(1).)

- 2) Requires that a person who commits the above offense and causes great bodily injury must receive a sentence enhancement of three years if the victim is less than 70 years old and five years if the victim is 70 years old or older. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (b)(2).)
- 3) Requires that a person who commits the above offense and causes death must receive a sentence enhancement of five years if the victim is less than 70 years old and seven years if the victim is 70 years old or older. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (b)(3).)
- 4) States that a person who knows or reasonably should know that a person is an elder or dependent adult and who, under circumstances or conditions other than those likely to produce great bodily harm or death, willfully causes or permits any elder or dependent adult to suffer, or having the care or custody of any elder or dependent adult, willfully causes or permits the person or health of the elder or dependent adult to be injured or willfully causes or permits the elder or dependent adult to be placed in a situation in which their person or health may be endangered, is guilty of a misdemeanor. States that a second or subsequent violation of this subdivision is punishable by a fine not to exceed \$2,000, or by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (c).)
- 5) Defines, for the purposes of the above provisions, the term “elder” to mean a person who is 65 years of age or older. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (g).)
- 6) Defines, for the purposes of the above provisions, the term “dependent adult” to mean a person, regardless of whether the person lives independently, who is between the ages of 18 and 64, who has physical or mental limitations which restrict their ability to carry out normal activities or to protect their rights, including but not limited to persons who have physical or developmental disabilities or whose physical or mental abilities have diminished because of age. States that “dependent adult” includes a person between the ages of 18 and 64 who is admitted as an inpatient to a 24-hour health facility, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (h).)
- 7) Requires that a court order a criminal case to be dismissed in the following cases, unless good cause to the contrary is shown:
 - a) When a person has been held to answer for a public offense and an information is not filed against the person within 15 days.

- b) In a felony case, when a defendant is not brought to trial within 60 days of the defendant's arraignment, indictment or information, reinstatement of criminal proceedings after a declaration of doubt of the defendant's mental competency, or if a case is to be retried following a mistrial or an order granting a new trial, as specified.
 - c) When a defendant in a misdemeanor or infraction case is not brought to trial within 30 days after being arraigned or entering their plea, whichever occurs later, if the defendant is in custody, or within 45 days if the defendant is out of custody. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subds. (a)(1)-(3).)
- 8) Mandates that continuances be granted only upon a showing of good cause. States that neither the convenience of the parties nor a stipulation of the parties is in and of itself good cause. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (d).)
- 9) Requires that when deciding whether or not good cause for a continuance has been shown, the court must consider the general convenience and prior commitments of all witnesses, including peace officers. Requires that both the general convenience and prior commitments of each witness also be considered in selecting a continuance date if the motion is granted. Allows that the facts as to inconvenience or prior commitments may be offered by the witness or by a party to the case. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(1).)
- 10) Defines "good cause" to include, but is not limited to, those cases where the charge is murder, child abuse, stalking related to a specified sex offense, domestic violence, a case being handled in the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, or a hate crime, and where the prosecuting attorney assigned to the case has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress in that court or another court. A continuance under this provision shall be limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(2).)
- 11) Authorizes that only one continuance per case may be granted to the prosecutor for cases involving stalking, hate crimes, or cases handled under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program. States that any continuance granted to the people in a case involving stalking or handled under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program shall be for the shortest time possible, not to exceed 10 court days. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(3).)
- 12) Requires that in order to continue any hearing in a criminal proceeding, including the trial, a written notice shall be filed and served on all parties to the proceeding at least two court days before the hearing sought to be continued,

together with affidavits or declarations detailing specific facts showing that a continuance is necessary. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (b)(1).)

- 13) Requires that a superior court, in scheduling a trial date at an arraignment involving murder, sexual assault, child abuse, a case under the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, or a case against a person with a developmental disability, make reasonable efforts to avoid setting that trial, when that case is assigned to a particular prosecuting attorney, on the same day that another case is set for trial involving the same prosecuting attorney. (Pen. Code, § 1048.1, subd. (a).)

This bill expands the list of crimes for which a court must consider good cause for the purpose of granting a prosecutor's request for continuance beyond a defendant's statutory speedy trial right to include a felony case of elder or dependent adult abuse, if the victim is cognitively impaired.

Background

Generally, the U.S. and State Constitutions and California state law provide for the right to a speedy trial. (U.S. Const., 6th Amend.; Cal. Const., art. I, sec. 15; Pen. Code, § 1382.) The right to a speedy trial is "an important safeguard to prevent undue and oppressive incarceration prior to trial, to minimize anxiety and concern accompanying public accusation and to limit the possibilities that long delay will impair the ability of an accused to defend himself." (*United States v. Ewell* (1966) 383 U.S. 116, 120.)

In California, a felony case must be brought to trial within 60 days of arraignment or indictment, whichever occurs later. A misdemeanor case must be brought to trial within 30 days of arraignment or plea, whichever occurs later, if the defendant is in custody. If the defendant is out of custody for a misdemeanor, the case must be brought to trial within 45 days. (Pen. Code, § 1382, subds. (a)(1)-(3).) Where a case is not brought to trial within the statutory speedy trial deadline, the court must grant dismissal, unless the defendant has entered a general time waiver, the defendant has consented to the extension, or good cause is shown. (*Ibid.*)

A court may only issue a continuance beyond the statutory periods for a maximum of 10 days and only for good cause. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (d).) Several factors are relevant in determining good cause: (a) the nature and strength of the justification for the delay; (b) the duration of the delay; and (c) the prejudice to either the defendant or the prosecution that is likely to result from the delay. In

making its good-cause determination, a trial court must consider all the relevant circumstances of the particular case, applying principles of common sense to the totality of the circumstances. Good cause exists, for example, when the delay beyond the statutory period is caused by the conduct of the defendant or occurs for his or her benefit, or there are unforeseen circumstances such as unexpected illness, unanticipated unavailability of counsel, or the absence of a witness despite due diligence to secure his or her attendance.

Over time the Legislature has added additional exceptions to the general rule that criminal trials must occur at the “earliest possible time.” A court is required to find “good cause” in cases of homicide, stalking, child abuse, specified sex offenses, domestic violence, hate crimes, or cases being handled by the Career Criminal Prosecution Program, where the prosecuting attorney has another trial, preliminary hearing, or motion to suppress in progress that conflicts with the case. (Pen. Code, § 1050, subd. (g)(2).) Such continuances are limited to a maximum of 10 additional court days. (*Ibid.*)

This bill expands the list of crimes for which a court must consider good cause for the purpose of granting a prosecutor’s request for continuance beyond a defendant’s statutory speedy trial right to include a felony case of elder or dependent adult abuse, if the victim is cognitively impaired. For purposes of this bill, “cognitive impairment” means significant destruction of brain tissue with resultant loss of brain function. Examples of causes of the impairments include dementia, Alzheimer’s disease, cerebrovascular diseases such as stroke or aneurysm, degenerative diseases such as Parkinson’s disease, Huntington’s disease, and multiple sclerosis, or traumatic brain injury.

The sponsors and author submit that good cause continuances are necessary to facilitate vertical prosecution, which is a model where one attorney handles all stages of a case from beginning to end, rather than substituting counsel at different stages as needed. Vertical prosecution, they argue, allows prosecutors to build trust and expertise working with vulnerable victim witnesses, such as elders and dependent adults, who may be cognitively impaired.

Notably, other vertical prosecution programs have been implemented without requiring good cause continuances. This suggests mandatory good cause continuances are not necessary to implement vertical prosecution models. Specifically, in 2023, a grant program was established via the budget act to award \$24,868,293 in grant funds to 13 district attorney offices to implement a vertical prosecution program on the issue of retail theft. (Board of State and Community Corrections, *ORT Vertical Prosecution Q4 Summary* (Dec. 17, 2024))

<<https://www.bscc.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2025/07/ORT-Vertical-Prosecution-Q4-Summary-12.17.2024-.pdf> .) These offices have implemented vertical prosecution models for a category of offense—retail theft—where there is no requirement for good cause continuances.

Furthermore, good cause continuances cause defendants in custody to face longer periods of pretrial detention, even if they are not guilty of the underlying offense. Pretrial detention can harm someone’s employment, housing, mental health, and family stability. (Dobbie et al., *The Effects of Pretrial Detention on Conviction, Future Crime, and Employment: Evidence from Randomly Assigned Judges* (2018) 108 Am. Econ. Rev. 201 <<https://perma.cc/7NAN-S7HB> .) Additionally, the longer people are forced to remain in pretrial detention, the more likely they are to take a plea agreement, even if they are not guilty. (*Ibid.*) Extended periods of pretrial detention impose significant costs on counties. And even short periods of detention can make people more likely to become involved with the criminal justice system in the future.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

Alzheimer's Association
 Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles
 Alzheimer's Orange County
 Alzheimer's San Diego
 Arcadia Police Officers' Association
 Brea Police Association
 Burbank Police Officers' Association
 California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform
 California Association of School Police Chiefs
 California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
 California District Attorneys Association
 California Narcotic Officers' Association
 California Police Chiefs Association
 California Reserve Peace Officers Association
 California State Sheriffs' Association
 Claremont Police Officers Association
 Corona Police Officers Association
 Culver City Police Officers' Association
 Fullerton Police Officers' Association
 Los Angeles School Police Management Association

Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
 Murrieta Police Officers' Association
 Newport Beach Police Association
 Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
 Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
 Pomona Police Officers' Association
 Riverside Police Officers Association
 Riverside Sheriffs' Association
 The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

ACLU California Action
 California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
 California Public Defenders Association
 Californians United for a Responsible Budget
 Initiate Justice
 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union, Local 148
 San Francisco Public Defender

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 4/23/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Elhawary, Hart, Kalra, McKinnor, Celeste Rodriguez, Wicks

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
 6/12/26 12:50:05

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2067

Author: Patel (D)

Introduced: 2/18/26

Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-1, 6/3/26

AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

NOES: Ochoa Bogh

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: School facilities: leasing real property

SOURCE: Associated General Contractors, California Chapters
Coalition for Adequate School Housing

DIGEST: This bill (1) extends, by five years, the existing authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value solicitation process for school construction projects; (2) extends the operative date of these provisions from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a school district governing board, notwithstanding specified competitive bidding provisions, to lease district property for a minimum of \$1 per year to a person, firm, or corporation if the lease requires the lessee to construct school facilities for district use and requires title to vest in the district at the conclusion of the lease term. Requires the instrument to be awarded through a competitive solicitation process using a best value methodology.
- 2) Provides that the current authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value process becomes inoperative on July 1, 2027.

- 3) Authorizes school districts to enter into agreements under which a private entity constructs school facilities and leases the facilities back to the district, with title ultimately vesting in the district, and requires agreements entered into pursuant to specified provisions to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.
- 4) Prohibits a school district from entering into a lease-leaseback agreement unless the entity and its subcontractors agree to use a skilled and trained workforce for all apprenticeable occupations on the project.
- 5) Defines “best value” for purposes of lease-leaseback procurement as a competitive procurement process that evaluates proposers based on objective criteria representing the best combination of price and qualifications.

This bill:

- 1) Extends, by five years, the existing authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value solicitation process for school construction projects.
- 2) Extends the operative date of these provisions from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2032.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “AB 2067 affords the continued use of an existing tool to improve transparency and bring certainty to school districts, contractors, and architects engaged in delivering school construction projects. Most importantly, this authority helps to control project costs and deliver facility projects on time, which directly benefits students and taxpayers.”

Extends a project delivery method that was substantially reformed following litigation and longstanding concerns regarding transparency and competitive bidding. Lease-leaseback has long been used by school districts as an alternative project delivery method for school construction projects. Historically, however, the process generated controversy because prior law authorized districts to enter into lease-leaseback agreements “without advertising for bids,” leading to concerns that some projects were effectively awarded without meaningful competition. These concerns culminated in the *Davis v. Fresno Unified School District* litigation, which challenged whether certain lease-leaseback arrangements improperly circumvented California’s public contracting laws.

In response, the Legislature enacted AB 2316 (O'Donnell, Chapter 521, Statutes of 2016), which substantially revised the lease-leaseback process by eliminating the authority to proceed without competitive bidding and replacing it with a competitive best value procurement process that included additional transparency, disclosure, workforce, and subcontractor protections.

This bill does not expand the scope of lease-leaseback authority or materially alter the procurement process established in 2016. Instead, it extends the sunset date for the current competitive best value framework for an additional five years.

Reflects a legislative preference for preserving procurement flexibility while maintaining guardrails adopted in 2016. Supporters of this bill argue that lease-leaseback provides districts with additional flexibility compared to traditional design-bid-build procurement methods, including the ability to incorporate preconstruction services, utilize guaranteed maximum pricing structures, and consider qualifications and project approach in addition to cost. They further contend that continuation of the current framework is particularly important for smaller districts that may benefit from early contractor involvement and integrated project delivery approaches.

At the same time, the current statutory framework preserves significant guardrails adopted following the Fresno litigation, including competitive solicitation requirements, public disclosure requirements, skilled and trained workforce provisions, and protections for subcontractors. As a result, this bill can largely be viewed as an extension of the Legislature's existing policy balance between procurement flexibility and public accountability rather than a reopening of the broader policy debate regarding lease-leaseback authority itself.

Allowing the sunset to occur could create uncertainty regarding continued use of lease-leaseback procurement. If the competitive best value provisions sunset, the statute would revert to a prior version of the Education Code that no longer expressly references the competitive selection process established in 2016.

Supporters argue that allowing the sunset to occur could create uncertainty for districts, architects, and contractors regarding the continued viability and structure of lease-leaseback procurement. While some procurement-related protections adopted in subsequent legislation would remain in effect, the expiration of the current framework could create ambiguity regarding procedural expectations and procurement standards moving forward.

This bill continues a broader legislative trend toward authorizing alternative project delivery methods for school construction. Over the past two decades, the

Legislature has increasingly authorized alternative project delivery methods for public infrastructure projects, including lease-leaseback, design-build, progressive design-build, and construction manager/general contractor models. These approaches are generally intended to provide public entities with greater flexibility in addressing project complexity, cost control, scheduling, and risk allocation.

This bill continues that broader trend by preserving an existing alternative delivery authority rather than reverting school districts exclusively to more traditional low-bid procurement structures. However, unlike some newer alternative delivery models, lease-leaseback already represents a mature and heavily litigated procurement framework with significant existing statutory guidance and operational experience among school districts.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/4/26)

Associated General Contractors, California Chapters (co-source)

Coalition for Adequate School Housing (co-source)

Alameda County Office of Education

Blach Construction Company

California Association of School Business Officials

California School Boards Association

County School Facilities Consortium

Del Mar Union School District

Harris Construction Co., Inc.

Hemet Unified School District

Jurupa Unified School District

Los Angeles Unified School District

Manteca Unified School District

Oakland Unified School District

Poway Unified School District

San Benito High School District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick,

Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee,
Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel,
Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle
Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache,
Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett,
Bonta, Bryan, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Haney, Kalra, Ortega, Celeste
Rodriguez, Schultz, Zbur

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/8/26 16:04:25

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2078
Author: Rogers (D)
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Employees: meal periods: stationary engineers

SOURCE: California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers

DIGEST: This bill extends an existing exemption from the meal period requirements of existing law to an employee who performs building maintenance work as a stationary engineer, as defined, that is covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement (CBA) that meets specified conditions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Empowers the Labor Commissioner (LC) with ensuring a just day's pay in every workplace by authorizing the LC to investigate employee complaints and provide for a hearing in actions to recover wages, penalties, and other demands for compensation, as specified. (Labor Code §79-107)
- 2) Defines a full workday as 8 hours, and 40 hours as a workweek and requires overtime to be paid at the rate of no less than one and one-half times an employee's regular rate of pay for work performed beyond 8 hours in a day or 40 hours in a week. Furthermore, work performed beyond 12 hours in a day is to be compensated at twice the regular rate of pay. (Labor Code §510)

- 3) Prohibits an employer from employing a worker without providing a meal period as follows:
 - a. 30 minutes every 5 hours, except if the total work period is no more than 6 hours, the meal period may be waived by mutual consent.
 - b. A second 30 minute meal period if working more than 10 hours a day, except if the work period is no more than 12 hours, the second meal period may be waived by mutual consent, but only if the first was not waived.
(Labor Code §512)
- 4) Requires the LC to enforce these provisions and provides that, if an employer fails to provide a meal or rest or recovery period as required by state law or applicable regulation, standard or Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC) wage order, the employer must pay the employee one additional hour of pay at the employee's regular rate of compensation for each workday that the meal or rest or recovery period is not provided. (Labor Code §226.7)
- 5) Exempts specified employees from the required meal period provisions if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a. The employee is covered by a valid CBA.
 - b. The valid CBA expressly provides for the wages, hours of work, and working conditions of employees, and expressly provides for meal periods for those employees, final and binding arbitration of disputes concerning application of its meal period provisions, premium wage rates for all overtime hours worked, and a regular hourly rate of pay of not less than 30 percent more than the state minimum wage rate.
(Labor Code §512)
- 6) Provides that the above-mentioned exemption applies to the following employees if they meet the specified criteria:
 - a. An employee employed in a construction occupation.
 - b. An employee employed as a commercial driver.
 - c. An employee employed in the security services industry as a security officer who is employed by a private patrol operator, as specified.
 - d. An employee employed by an electrical corporation, a gas corporation, a water corporation, or a local publicly owned electric utility.
(Labor Code §512)

This bill:

- 1) Extends the above-described exemption from the meal period requirements of existing law to an employee who performs building maintenance work as a stationary engineer, as defined, if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a. The employee is covered by a valid CBA.
 - b. The CBA meets the requirements delineated in existing law.
- 2) Defines “stationary engineer” to mean a skilled tradesperson located in a fixed facility who operates, maintains, monitors, and repairs stationary mechanical equipment and building systems, including those involving boilers, chillers, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning systems, pumps, compressors, power generation equipment, and other critical plant machinery.

Background

As noted above, existing law prohibits an employer from requiring an employee to work during a meal or rest or recovery period (such as a cooldown period required for heat illness prevention) that is mandated pursuant to statute, or applicable regulation, standard, or order of the Industrial Welfare Commission (IWC), the Occupational Safety and Health Board, or the Division of Occupational Safety and Health. If an employer fails to provide a meal or rest or recovery period as required by state law or applicable regulation, standard or IWC order, the employer must pay the employee one additional hour of pay at the employee’s regular rate of compensation for each workday that the meal or rest or recovery period is not provided.

Additionally, as specified under current IWC wage orders, unless the employee is relieved of all duty during their meal period, the meal period is considered “on duty” that is counted as hours worked which must be compensated at the employee’s regular rate of pay. An "on duty" meal period is permitted only when the nature of the work prevents an employee from being relieved of all duty and when by written agreement between the employer and employee an on-the-job paid meal period is agreed to. Missed meal breaks entitle employees to one hour of pay.

Existing law recognizes the unique nature of some occupations and the need for industry specific provisions for compliance with wage and hour laws. Among a few others, existing law includes provisions for specified commercial drivers, construction workers, security service employees, and employees of an electrical

corporation, gas corporation, water corporation, or a local publicly owned electric utility.

Need for this bill? According to the author, “Stationary engineers have complex roles, including the requirement to be on-site and perform important maintenance and oversight work during their entire shift. These workers are the first line of defense in emergency building maintenance situations, including but not limited to situations when a boiler in a building malfunction, or a HVAC system goes down, etc.

“Because the employees have such a complex role and deal with emergency circumstances, often they will be interrupted from their meal break to respond to an emergency. In these situations, employers have been requiring these specific employees to stay after their shift is over to satisfy the statutory meal break requirement and avoid any employer related violations. This practice inconveniences the employee, who has lost their meal break, and is then required to stay on the job later than they were scheduled.

“AB 2078 provides flexibility for stationary engineers by adding them to the existing list of employees whose meal breaks are governed by their collective bargaining agreements (CBAs).”

Prior/Related Legislation

SB 693 (Cortese, Chapter 95, Statutes of 2025) extended an existing exemption from the meal period requirements of existing law to employees of a water corporation that are covered by a valid CBA that meets specified conditions.

SB 41 (Cortese, Chapter 2, Statutes of 2023) provided an exemption from meal and rest period requirements for airline cabin crew employees that are covered by a valid CBA meeting specified conditions.

SB 1334 (Chapter 845, Statutes of 2022) extended existing meal and rest period rights and remedies available to private sector employees to those who provide direct patient care or support direct patient care in general acute care hospitals, clinics or public health settings who are directly employed by specified public sector employers.

AB 2610 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 148, Statutes of 2018) permits commercial drivers transporting commercial feed to a consumer in a rural area to commence a meal period after six hours when specified conditions are met.

AB 569 (Emmerson, Chapter 662, Statutes of 2010) exempted employees in certain industries, including those of an electrical corporation, a gas corporation, or a local publicly owned electric utility, from meal period laws if the employees are covered by a CBA.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers (source)
ABM Engineering Services
Metro Services Group
UG2 LLC

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the sponsors, the California-Nevada Conference of Operating Engineers:

“Importantly, stationary engineers serve as the first line of defense in emergency building maintenance situations; whether a boiler malfunctions, HVAC system fails, power disruptions take place, or other urgent facility issues arise—these workers are often the only qualified personnel immediately available to address these problems and keep facilities safe and operational. Because of this, stationary engineers are effectively on call throughout their entire shift and are frequently pulled away and interrupted from their meal break periods to respond to building emergencies.

As a result, some employers who want to avoid meal break violations will require their stationary engineers to remain onsite for an additional 30 minutes after their shift ends to act as a designated “meal break.” This practice creates significant frustration for employees who have already completed their full scheduled shift, but are called to stay an extra 30 minutes once their shift has been completed.

Legislation is needed to provide flexibility for both employers and employees in this space that ensures that emergency building maintenance situations can be responded to while not penalizing employees for simply doing their job.

AB 2708 (Rogers) seeks to remedy this situation by requiring that meal breaks for Stationary Engineers be governed by an employees valid collectively bargaining agreement. This in return will provide flexibility for the employee by ensuring that they still get their rightful break, while additionally ensuring that these workers aren't required to stay on-sight after their shift has ended. Providing this change will additionally bring certainty and peace of mind to employers in this industry by making clear that they will not be penalized for interrupting their employees meal break, so long as the employee is covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement that provides for meal breaks."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Alma Perez-Schwab / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
6/24/26 16:35:02

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2090
Author: Macedo (R)
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Guardianships and conservatorships: accounting exemptions

SOURCE: California Lawyers Association, Trusts and Estates Section

DIGEST: This bill raises the threshold amounts for a ward or conservatee's estate for when a court may exempt a conservator or guardianship from presenting an accounting of the estate to the court or posting a bond with the court.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a court to appoint a guardian of the person, the estate, or both for a child under 18 years of age, or 18 to 21 years of age as specified, taking into consideration the best interest of the proposed ward. (Probate Code §§ 1510 & 1510.1.)¹
- 2) Authorizes a court to appoint a conservator of the estate for a person who is substantially unable to manage their own financial resources or resist fraud or undue influence, except as specified. (§ 1801(b).)

¹ All further statutory references are to the Probate Code, unless otherwise indicated.

- 3) Requires a county public guardian to apply for appointment as a guardian or conservator of the person, the estate, or the person and estate, if there is an imminent threat to a person's health or safety or the person's estate, there is no one else who is qualified and willing to act, as specified, and the appointment would be in the best interests of the person. (§ 2920(b).)
- 4) Provides that the relationship of guardian and ward and of conservator and conservatee is a fiduciary relationship. (§ 2101.)
- 5) Grants the guardian or conservator, or limited conservator to the extent specifically and expressly provided in the appointing court's order, management and control of the estate. Requires they use ordinary care and diligence in managing and controlling the estate. (§ 2401(a).)
- 6) Makes each accounting of the assets of the estate of the ward or conservatee subject to random or discretionary, full or partial review by the court. (§ 2620(d).)
- 7) Requires a guardian or conservator to post a bond before letters of guardianship or conservatorship are issued. Provides that the bond is available for the benefit of the ward or conservatee and all persons interested in the guardianship or conservatorship estate and is conditioned upon the faithful execution of the duties of the office by the guardian or conservator. (§ 2320(a)-(b).)
- 8) Authorizes the court to order that the guardian or conservator is not required to present the accounts so long as all of the following conditions are met:
 - a) the estate at the beginning and end of the accounting period for which an account is otherwise required consisted of property, exclusive of the residence of the ward or conservatee, of a total net value of less than \$15,000;
 - b) the income of the estate for each month of the accounting period, exclusive of public benefit payments, was less than \$2,000; and
 - c) all income of the estate during the accounting period, if not retained, was spent for the benefit of the ward or conservatee. (§ 2628(a).)
- 9) Authorizes the court to dispense with the bond requirement if it appears likely that the estate will satisfy the conditions of 8) for its duration. (§ 2323(a).)

This bill:

- 1) Raises the net value of the property in the estate in 8)a), above, to \$30,000.
- 2) Raises the monthly income of the estate in 8)b), above, to \$3,200.

Comments

California adopted its first conservatorship statute in 1957. Prior to that time, the court appointed a “guardian” for any person, child or adult, who was deemed “incompetent” to manage their daily affairs. After 1957, the law distinguished between a “guardianship,” created for a minor, and a “conservatorship,” created for an adult.

A general probate conservatorship may be ordered by a court for an adult if, based on clear and convincing evidence, it is shown that the person is to adequately provide for their personal needs for physical health, food, clothing, or shelter. If an adult who is, based on clear and convincing evidence, substantially unable to manage their own financial resources or is unable to resist fraud or undue influence, the court may appoint a conservator of the estate to manage the adult’s financial matters.

A probate court may appoint a guardian of the estate, of the person, or both, for a minor if it appears necessary and convenient. (§ 1514(a).) The court must be guided by what appears to be in the best interest of the proposed ward, taking into account the proposed guardian’s ability to manage and preserve the estate, as well as the proposed guardian’s concern for and interest in the welfare of the proposed ward. (Id. at (e)(1).) The court must give consideration to the ward’s preference as to the person to be appointed guardian if the proposed ward is of sufficient age to form an intelligent preference. (Id. at (e)(2).)

There is a fiduciary relationship between a conservator or guardian and conservatee or ward. (§ 2101.) The duties of conservators and guardians include the obligation to exercise ordinary care and diligence in managing and controlling the conservatee’s or ward’s estate. (§ 2401.) Section 2102 provides that “[a] guardian or conservator is subject to the regulation and control of the court in the performance of the duties of the office.” A guardian or conservator is required to post a bond before letters of guardianship or conservatorship are issued by a court. (§ 2320(a).) The bond is to be available for the benefit of the ward or conservatee and all persons interested in the guardianship or conservatorship estate and is conditioned upon the faithful execution of the duties of the office by the guardian or conservator. (§ 2320(b).) Additionally, an accounting of the assets of a

conservatee or ward's estate is required to be given to the court for specified periods. (§ 2620.)

Existing law allows the court to make an order providing that the guardian or conservator is not required to provide an accounting when: the estate, exclusive of the residence of the ward or conservatee, consists of property in total of less than \$15,000 for the accounting period; the income of the estate for each month of the accounting period, exclusive of public benefits, is less than \$3,200; and all income of the estate, if not retained, was spent for the benefit of the ward or conservatee. (§ 2628.) The court may also dispense with the bond requirement if it appears likely that the estate will satisfy these conditions. (§ 2323(a).) The author and sponsor of the bill argue that raising the threshold limits of the property and income of the estate will reduce expenses and administrative costs for small estates that have a guardian or conservator and takes into account the rising costs of inflation while continuing to provide for court oversight. The last time the threshold limits under this bill were increased was in 2008 when AB 1727 (Committee on Judiciary, Chapter 553, Statutes of 2017) became operative.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/19/26)

California Lawyers Association, Trusts and Estates Section (source)
The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/19/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

AB 2090 updates the financial threshold, reflecting inflation and rising costs, so small estates in guardianships and conservatorships can more easily qualify for reduced court requirements. By raising these limits, the bill helps families save money by allowing some low-value estates to skip costly accounting and bond requirements while still maintaining court oversight when needed.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart,

Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal,
Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel,
Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste
Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,
Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward,
Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/19/26 14:57:58

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2107
Author: Pellerin (D)
Amended: 5/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/3/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Expanded Learning Opportunities Program: offering access:
unduplicated pupils

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires school districts and charter schools participating in the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) that have an unduplicated pupil percentage (UPP) of 55% or higher to prioritize offering access to unduplicated pupils in ELOP programs, which may include, but is not limited to, specialized outreach to the parents and guardians of unduplicated pupils and providing assistance with enrollment of unduplicated pupils.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines “expanded learning” as before school, after school, summer, or intersession learning programs that focus on developing the academic, social, emotional, and physical needs and interests of students through hands-on, engaging learning experiences. (Education Code (EC) § 8482.1)
- 2) Expresses the intent of the Legislature that expanded learning programs are pupil-centered, results-driven, include community partners, and complement, but do not replicate, learning activities in the regular schoolday and school year. (EC § 8482.1)

- 3) Defines “unduplicated pupil” as a pupil enrolled in a school district or a charter school who is either classified as an English learner, eligible for a free or reduced-price meal, or is a foster youth. Specifies that a school district’s or charter school’s UPP is calculated by dividing the enrollment of unduplicated pupils in the school district or charter school by the total enrollment in that school district or charter school. (EC § 42238.02)
- 4) Establishes the ELOP with the intent of the Legislature that all local educational agencies (LEAs) offer all unduplicated pupils in classroom-based instructional programs access to comprehensive after school and intersessional expanded learning opportunities. (EC § 46120)
- 5) Defines, for the purposes of ELOP, the term “local educational agency” as a school district or charter school, excluding a charter school that submitted a petition directly to a board of education that would serve pupils for whom the county office of education would otherwise be responsible for providing direct education and related services. (EC § 46120)
- 6) Requires, commencing with the 2023-24 school year, as a condition of receipt of ELOP funding, the following:
 - a) That LEAs with a prior year UPP of 55% or more offer the program to all pupils in kindergarten through 6th grade and provide access to any pupil whose parent or guardian requests their placement in a program. These LEAs are known colloquially as “Tier 1” and receive an allocation equal to \$2,750 multiplied by the number of unduplicated pupils at an LEA.
 - b) That LEAs with a prior year UPP less than 55% offer the program to at least all unduplicated pupils and provide access to any unduplicated pupil whose parent or guardian requests their placement in a program. These LEAs are known colloquially as “Tier 2” and receive an allocation based on the amount of funding remaining after accounting for Tier 1 allotments.
 - c) That on schooldays, LEAs offer no less than 9 hours of combined instructional time, recess, meals, and expanded learning opportunities per instructional day, and that for at least 30 nonschooldays, LEAs offer

no less than 9 hours of in-person expanded learning opportunities per instructional day. (EC § 46120)

- 7) Requires LEAs to prioritize ELOP services at schoolsites in the lowest income communities, while maximizing the number of schools and neighborhoods with ELOP programs across their attendance area. (EC § 46120)
- 8) Defines the following terms:
 - a) “Offer access” means to recruit, advertise, publicize, or solicit through culturally and linguistically effective and appropriate communication channels.
 - b) “Provide access,” with respect to an “expanded learning opportunity program,” means to enroll in the expanded learning opportunity program. If a parent or guardian has a signed expanded learning opportunity program registration form and that form is on file, the pupil shall be considered enrolled in the expanded learning opportunity program. (EC § 46120)

This bill requires school districts and charter schools participating in the ELOP that have a UPP of 55% or higher to prioritize offering access to unduplicated pupils in ELOP programs, which may include, but is not limited to, specialized outreach to the parents and guardians of unduplicated pupils and providing assistance with enrollment of unduplicated pupils.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “though local educational agencies’ entitlement amounts are based on the number of unduplicated pupils enrolled and the CDE advises that LEAs prioritize ELOP enrollment for these students, there is currently no explicit requirement that LEAs prioritize offering access to these pupils. While the majority of LEAs respect the intent of the law, stakeholders in the education space have identified instances where access has been offered to non-unduplicated students prior to being offered to unduplicated students.

To ensure that the legislative intent of the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program is fulfilled, AB 2107 clarifies that local education agencies are required to prioritize offering access to low-income students, English learners, and foster youth.”

- 2) *Differences between Tier 1 LEAs and Tier 2 LEAs for ELOP relating to funding rates and program requirements.* Though this bill makes changes to ELOP for Tier 1 LEAs specifically, statute establishes two funding rates for ELOP that vary based on an LEA's percentage of unduplicated pupils, also known as UPP:
- a) Tier 1 LEAs are defined as having a UPP that is 55% or higher, and they receive a rate of \$2,750 per unduplicated pupil. Tier 1 LEAs are required to offer ELOP to all TK-6 pupils and provide access to any pupil whose parent or guardian requests placement in the program.
 - b) Tier 2 LEAs are defined as having a UPP lower than 55%, and they receive an allocation based on the amount of funding remaining after accounting for Tier 1 allotments. Tier 2 LEAs are required to offer the program to at least all unduplicated pupils and provide access to any unduplicated pupils whose parent or guardian requests placement in the program. The 2026-27 Governor's Budget proposes to provide a guaranteed rate of at least \$1,800 per pupil for Tier 2 LEAs.
- 3) *Offering access vs. providing access.* Statute defines and creates distinctions between "offering access" and "providing access" for ELOP. *Offering access* generally refers to outreach, and means to "recruit, advertise, publicize, or solicit through culturally and linguistically effective and appropriate communication channels". This bill specifically aims to require Tier 1 LEAs to prioritize *offering access* to unduplicated pupils in ELOP programs, which may include, but is not limited to, specialized outreach to the parents and guardians of unduplicated pupils and providing assistance with enrollment of unduplicated pupils. This bill intends to ensure that unduplicated pupils in Tier 1 LEAs are aware of ELOP programs in their schools, including resources these pupils may use to access these programs.

Providing access generally refers to enrolling a student in ELOP, and if a parent or guardian has a signed ELOP registration form and that form is on file, the pupil shall be considered enrolled. However, the definition for providing access is specific to a signed registration form and does not reference children receiving ELOP services or care.

For Tier 1 LEAs, they are required to offer ELOP to all TK-6 pupils and to provide access to any pupil whose parent or guardian requests placement in

the program. Because providing access to any pupil means enrolling a student, but not necessarily providing services, California Department of Education (CDE) guidance explicitly specifies that LEAs should be prioritizing enrollment for unduplicated pupils. However, given the discrepancy between enrolling and serving pupils, CDE has shared that they have received some complaints from parents reporting that, despite having a signed enrollment form on file with their LEA, their unduplicated children have been placed on a program waitlist while non-unduplicated pupils have been offered spots. CDE has also stated that other complaints indicate that unduplicated pupils are being placed at the bottom of a waitlist once capacity is reached. However, CDE was unable to provide the number of complaints it received on this topic, or any other characteristics about the situation from which these complaints originated. According to some stakeholders, this issue exists but may not be widespread.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 121 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 8, Statutes of 2025), commencing with the 2025-26 school year, lowers the UPP requirements for Tier 1 LEAs from 75% to 55% and doubles the minimum ELOP funding for LEAs to \$100,000 in a fiscal year.

AB 181 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 52, Statutes of 2022), commencing with the 2023-24 school year, and as a condition of receipt of ELOP funds, LEAs with a calculated UPP less than 75% (Tier 2 LEAs) shall offer to at least all unduplicated pupils in K-6 classroom-based instructional programs access to ELOP, and shall provide access to any unduplicated pupil whose parent or guardian requests their placement in a program.

AB 130 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 44, Statutes of 2021) establishes the ELOP and appropriates \$753 million for allocation to specified school districts and charter schools serving a high proportion of unduplicated pupils. Requires, upon receipt of funding for this purpose, specified schools serving pupils in kindergarten through grade 6 to provide at least 50% of unduplicated pupils with ELOP for a minimum of 9 hours of combined in-person instruction and expanded learning opportunities on school days and no less than 9 hours of expanded learning opportunities per day for at least 30 non-school days during summer and intersessional periods.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/4/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
California Association for Bilingual Education
Delta Kappa Gamma California
Partnership for Children and Youth

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Bonta, Bryan, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Haney, Kalra, Ortega, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Zbur

Prepared by: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/8/26 16:04:26

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2121
Author: Berman (D)
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Community colleges: current expense of education: exclusions

SOURCE: West Valley-Mission Community College District

DIGEST: This bill, an urgency measure, authorizes a community college district (CCD) to exclude, as part of its current expense of education, any local unrestricted expenditures from a CCD's unrestricted general fund maintaining student support functions previously funded through federal discretionary grants that were terminated due to federal action on or after September 10, 2025, for a period of five fiscal years following the 2025-26 fiscal year or until federal funding is fully restored.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California Community Colleges (CCCs), a postsecondary education system in this state, under the administration of the Board of Governors (BOG), and specifies that the CCC system consists of CCDs. (Education Code (EC) § 70900)

- 2) Defines “current expense of education” as the gross total expended for the purposes classified in the final budget of a district for the following:
 - a) Academic salaries other than academic salaries for student transportation, food services, and community services.
 - b) Classified salaries other than classified salaries for student transportation, food services, and community services.
 - c) Employee benefits other than employee benefits for student transportation personnel, food services personnel, and community services personnel.
 - d) Books, supplies, and equipment replacement other than for student transportation and food services.
 - e) Community services, contracted services, and other operating expenses other than for student transportation, food services, and community services. (EC § 84362)
- 3) States that “current expense of education” does not include:
 - a) Expenditures classified as sites, buildings, books, media, and new equipment.
 - b) The amount expended from categorical aid received from the federal or state government which funds were granted for expenditures in a program not incurring any instructor salary expenditures or requiring disbursement of the funds without regard to the requirements of this section.
 - c) Expenditures for facility acquisition and construction.
 - d) The amount expended pursuant to any lease agreement for plant and equipment or the amount expended from funds received from the federal government pursuant to the “Economic Opportunity Act of 1964” or any extension of that act of Congress or the amount expended by a community college from state or federal funds received by the community college for grants to community college students or for the employment of community college students. (EC § 84362)
- 4) Requires that, during each fiscal year, a CCD expend 50% of the district’s current expense of education for payment of salaries of classroom instructors. Also known colloquially as the Fifty Percent Law. (EC § 84362)
- 5) Requires the BOG, for CCDs that have not expended at least 50% of their current expense of education, to designate an amount of apportionment equal to the deficiency in CCD expenditures and make those funds unavailable for expenditure by the CCD pending the determination to be made by the BOG on any application for exemption which may be submitted to the BOG. (EC § 84362)

- 6) Requires, if no exemption is made or an exemption is denied, the BOG to order the designated amount or amount not exempted to be added to the amounts expended for salaries for classroom instructors during the next fiscal year. (EC § 84362)
- 7) Permits the governing board of a CCD to apply to the BOG, in writing, not later than September 15 of the immediately succeeding fiscal year for exemption from the requirements of the Fifty Percent Law, in the event it appears to the governing board of a CCD that the application of the Fifty Percent Law during a fiscal year results in serious hardship to the CCD, or in the payment of salaries of classroom instructors in excess of the salaries of classroom instructors paid by other districts of comparable type and functioning under comparable conditions. (EC § 84362)
- 8) Permits the BOG to grant an exemption for a CCD from the requirement for the fiscal year for which the application is made if a majority of all the members of the BOG finds, in writing, that the CCD will suffer serious hardship or will have to pay salaries of classroom instructors in excess of those paid by other CCDs of comparable type and functioning under comparable conditions, unless the CCD is granted an exemption. (EC § 84362)
- 9) Requires the BOG, no later than the 10th calendar day of each year of the Legislature, to submit to the Legislature a written report on the operation, effect, and the extent of compliance with this section by CCDs during the two most recently ended fiscal years. (EC § 84362)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a CCD, for a period of five fiscal years following the 2025-26 fiscal year or until federal funding is fully restored to every CCD, to exclude, as part of its current expense of education, any local unrestricted expenditures from a CCD's unrestricted general fund that maintain student support functions previously funded through federal discretionary grants that have been terminated, nonrenewed, or defunded due to federal action on or after September 10, 2025.
- 2) Requires CCDs that choose to exclude expenditures to annually certify eligibility to the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), consistent with existing law, and requires the CCCCCO to maintain

documentation and include certifications the CCCCCO receives from CCDs in the annual report the CCCCCO submits on the current expense of education.

- 3) Prohibits excluded expenditures from exceeding the amount of federal discretionary grant funding awarded for use by a CCD to maintain student support functions before the termination, nonrenewal, or defunding of federal discretionary grants due to federal action on or after September 10, 2025.
- 4) Prohibits excluded expenditures from being considered in determining compliance with a CCD's current expense of education requirement, and prohibits the use of excluded expenditures as grounds to reduce instructional expenditures.
- 5) Requires that a CCD continues to have the obligation to do all of the following:
 - a) Maintain compliance with the requirement that not less than 50% of a CCD's current expense of education be expended for salaries of classroom instructors.
 - b) Maintain compliance with the Faculty Obligation Number and related requirements established by the BOG.
 - c) Not reduce the number of full-time faculty positions or otherwise diminish the overall quality of instruction.
 - d) Avoid the use of the exclusion to fund the creation or expansion of administrative positions, or to provide compensation increases to administrators or supervisors beyond adjustments otherwise authorized by existing contracts or salary schedules.
 - e) Continue to treat as a matter of negotiation any decisions affecting instructional assignments, faculty load, or course offerings.
- 6) Defines the following terms:
 - a) "Discretionary grant" means a grant awarded on a competitive basis by the United States Department of Education to a CCD for the specific and limited purpose of funding student support functions, and does not include a financial award provided directly to an individual student on the basis of student eligibility.
 - b) "Student support functions" means any activities that were authorized to be funded by federal discretionary grants awarded to a CCD that has been terminated, nonrenewed, or defunded due to federal action on or after September 10, 2025. "Student support functions" include, but are not limited to: academic tutoring; individualized counseling; mentoring programs; providing information on the full range of federal student financial aid

programs and benefits; developing articulation agreements designed to facilitate the transfer of students; and faculty development, curriculum development, and academic instruction support.

- 7) Requires that the provisions of this bill become inoperative on July 1, 2031, or on the first day of the fiscal year following the full restoration of the federal funding for every CCD, whichever occurs first, and requires that the provisions of this bill be repealed on January 1 of the year following the date that this section becomes inoperative.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “In September 2025, the Trump administration terminated \$350 million in Minority Serving Institution (MSI) grants, leaving colleges without funding for these vital student support programs. The administration’s proposed fiscal year 2026 budget seeks to eliminate MSI and TRIO programs entirely, threatening long-standing initiatives that provide counseling, tutoring, mentoring, and transfer guidance to more than 1.6 million California community college students. These cuts threaten services that help California’s most vulnerable students – low-income, first-generation, and students of color – complete their degrees.

AB 2121 responds to the Trump administration’s systematic dismantling of federal student success programs by removing barriers that prevent community colleges from backfilling this loss in federal funding. By temporarily excluding those backfill dollars from the Fifty Percent Law, community colleges can preserve federally-defunded student supports.”

Federal government actions for various discretionary grants. Actions taken by the federal government have created programmatic and fiscal uncertainty at the CCCs, including the sudden termination of certain discretionary federal grants in September 2025, including Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI) Grants, Minority Serving Institution (MSI) Grants, and Asian American and Native American Pacific Islander-Serving Institutions (AANAPISI) Grants. The federal government also terminated some federal TRIO grants in September 2025 for specified higher education institutions, which are outreach and student services programs designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. According to the CCCCO, these HSI, MSI, and AANAPISI grants were provided to select colleges and are projected to be a loss of \$61.4 million statewide over the next 5 years:

	(In millions)					
Program	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	2028-29	2029-30	Total
HSI	\$26.4	\$13.4	\$7.5	\$4.7	-	\$52.0
MSI	\$1.6	\$1.2	\$0.4	\$0.0	\$0.5	\$3.8
AANAPISI	\$3.2	\$2.0	\$0.4	\$0.0	-	\$5.6
Total	\$31.2	\$16.6	\$8.3	\$4.7	\$0.5	\$61.4

Differences between the current statutory exemption and the exclusions authorized by this bill. Existing law requires CCDs that have not complied with the Fifty Percent Law to designate the amount equal to the deficiency in expenditures and have those amounts expended for salaries for classroom instructors during the next fiscal year. Current statute also permits CCDs to apply for an exemption if the application of the Fifty Percent Law results in a serious hardship for the CCD. This bill provides a process for temporarily *excluding* specified expenditures from the calculation of the Fifty Percent Law, rather than *exempting* them.

According to the author, “a qualifying district may exclude the expenditures and certify eligibility to the Chancellor’s Office annually, rather than an exemption [and] applying for after-the-fact discretionary relief. This provides upfront budget certainty districts need to commit resources during the budget planning cycle.”

Urgency measure. The author indicates that this bill is an urgency measure because the federal funding disruptions are already underway and CCDs are in need of immediate relief from the sudden termination of federal grant funds. A similar provision was included in the 2020 Budget Act to provide CCDs with flexibility in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, and this provision excluded, on a one-time basis, pandemic-related expenditures that wouldn’t be considered normal expenditures from the calculation of the Fifty Percent Law, specifically for fiscal year 2020-21. However, statutory changes to the Fifty Percent Law itself have not been enacted since 1995.

Related and Prior Legislation

SB 116 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 25, Statutes of 2020) requires, from July 1, 2020 to July 1, 2021, a CCD from excluding from its computation of the Fifty Percent Law any expenditures incurred by that district during a state or local declared emergency related to the COVID-19 pandemic that are not otherwise normal expenditures that would have been incurred by the CCD.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

West Valley-Mission Community College District (source)
 Antelope Valley Community College District
 Associated Students of West Valley College
 Association of California Community College Administrators
 Community College League of California
 Foothill-De Anza Community College District
 Kern Community College District
 Lake Tahoe Community College District
 Los Rios Community College District
 San Bernardino Community College District
 Southwestern Community College District
 State Center Community College District
 University of California Student Association
 Victor Valley Community College District
 West Valley College Classified Senate

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Teachers Association
 CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
 Faculty Association of California Community Colleges

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Garcia, Hadwick, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez, Zbur

Prepared by: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
 6/24/26 16:35:03

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2128
Author: Haney (D), et al.
Amended: 4/7/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 8-2, 6/10/26

AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Padilla, Pérez

NOES: Seyarto, Ochoa Bogh

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-17, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Housing authorities: term limits and work requirements

SOURCE: National Housing Law Project

DIGEST: This bill prohibits “covered housing providers” from establishing or implementing any rules, policies, or procedures that either impose term limits or “work requirements” as a condition of initial or continued eligibility for any “covered housing” unless required by federal law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Establishes the U.S. Housing Act to create the framework for providing housing assistance to low-income households by authorizing programs such as public housing and rental subsidies and directs the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to administer those programs in coordination with Public Housing Agencies (PHAs).
- 2) Establishes tenant-based rental assistance programs, including the Housing Choice Voucher Program, and project-based assistance programs to provide housing assistance to low-income households.

- 3) Establishes the Public Housing Program and authorizes HUD to distribute funds to PHAs to support the development, maintenance, and modernization of publicly owned housing for low-income households.

Existing state law:

- 4) Establishes the Housing Authorities Law, which provides for the creation, governance, and general powers of housing authorities.
- 5) Establishes in each county and city a public body known as the housing authority and requires the governing body of the city or county to declare, by resolution, that there is a need for an authority before the authority may exercise any powers granted by the Housing Authorities Law.
- 6) Authorizes any combination of two or more cities or counties to enter into an agreement to create an area housing authority and establishes processes for each governing body to appoint commissioners to the PHA.
- 7) Establishes processes for appointments of commissioners to the PHA by the elected members of the governing body.
- 8) Authorizes a governing body of a city or county to declare itself to be the commissioners of the PHA and to establish a housing commission whose function is to review and make recommendations on all matters to come before the authority prior to authority action. Authorizes PHAs to do all of the following:
 - a) Acquire, lease, and operate housing projects for persons of low income and housing developments for persons of low income, as specified;
 - b) Provide for the construction, reconstruction, and improvement of all or part of any housing project.
 - c) Provide financing for the acquisition, construction, rehabilitation, refinancing, or development of dwelling accommodations for persons of low income.
 - d) Develop, rehabilitate, or finance housing projects or participate in the development, rehabilitation, or financing of housing projects; or purchase, sell, lease, own, operate, or manage housing projects so assisted, as specified.

This bill:

- 1) Defines “covered housing” as a federal housing program administered by HUD, including, but not limited to, any of the following:
 - a) Project-based rental assistance;
 - b) Public housing, as specified; and
 - c) Housing Choice Vouchers, including special purpose vouchers, such as Mainstream Vouchers, Stability Vouchers, the Housing Choice Voucher Homeownership Program, Veteran’s Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers, the Family Unification Program, the Foster Youth to Independence Program, or any other federal programs as specified.
- 2) Defines “covered housing provider” as a public housing authority (PHA), private-owner, property manager, or other entity that administers or is subsidized to provide housing through a covered housing program.
- 3) Defines “work requirements” as any requirements to complete work activities, such as working, pursuing education, participating in a work or job training program, volunteering, or doing community service. Specifies work activities include, but are not limited to, work activities defined in federal law.
- 4) Prohibits, unless required by federal law, a covered housing provider from establishing or implementing any rules, policies, or procedures that impose term limits or work requirements as a condition of initial or continued eligibility for any covered housing or that impact the amount of the rent subsidy or assistance provided to covered housing tenants.
- 5) Authorizes a covered housing provider to establish or implement a voluntary employment or job training program, if participation does not impact the applicant’s or tenant’s initial or continued eligibility, for the rent subsidy or assistance or the amount of the rent subsidy or assistance, and the voluntary program has one or more of the following goals for participants:
 - a) Increasing personal income;
 - b) Generating financial savings;
 - c) Home ownership;
 - d) Increasing financial well-being and creditworthiness;
 - e) Increasing educational attainment;
 - f) Acquiring job skills; and,
 - g) Expanding employment options.

- 6) Exempts an authority participating in the Moving to Work demonstration that has work requirements or time limits that comply with regulations established by HUD from the prohibition in 1).
- 7) Specifies this bill does not limit or alter the operation of the Family Self-Sufficiency program or the Public Housing Community Service requirement under federal law.

Background

Federal assistance programs. There are several major program types administered by HUD. The Housing Choice Voucher program is the largest and most widely used, providing tenant-based assistance that allows low-income households to rent housing in the private market. Participants typically pay a portion of their income towards rent and the rental assistance covers the remainder up to certain program limits. Public housing consists of housing developments owned and operated by PHAs with federal funding supporting their operation and maintenance. Project-based rental assistance provides subsidies tied to specific units through long-term contracts between HUD and property owners, helping to preserve affordability in designated developments. HUD also administers a range of special purpose voucher programs that target specific populations or needs. These include vouchers for non-elderly persons with disabilities (Mainstream Vouchers), veterans experiencing homelessness (HUD-VASH), and families involved in child welfare or experiencing homelessness through programs such as Family Unification Program vouchers. These special purpose vouchers are generally tenant-based but are reserved for defined groups and often paired with supportive services.

Comments

Author's statement. "Housing assistance should be a pathway to stability. At a time when California is already facing a housing affordability crisis and rising homelessness, the federal government is proposing policies that would allow families to lose their homes simply because they can't meet rigid work requirements or arbitrary time limits. These changes don't reflect the reality of people's lives, and they risk pushing our most vulnerable residents further into instability. AB 2128 draws a clear line by ensuring that access to housing in California remains based on need, not punitive mandates. This bill protects families, seniors, and people with disabilities from losing the housing they rely on, and it affirms a simple principle: we should be working to keep people housed, not creating new barriers that make it easier for them to fall into homelessness."

PHAs in California. In California, PHAs serve as the primary local administrators of federal housing assistance programs under the oversight of HUD. Their core functions include administering rental assistance, determining eligibility and rent contributions, managing waiting lists, overseeing compliance with federal requirements, and, in some cases, owning or preserving affordable housing developments. While PHAs may operate public housing, the most widely used program in the state is the Housing Choice Voucher program, authorized under Section 8 of the U.S. Housing Act. The Housing Choice Voucher program provides tenant-based rental assistance that allows households to rent units in the private market. As of September 2025, 90 PHAs were responsible for administering Housing Choice Voucher programs in the state. According to the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, over 1 million people in 560,000 California households use federal rental assistance to afford modest housing. However, four in ten low-income people in the state are experiencing homelessness or pay over half their income for rent. Most do not receive federal rental assistance due to limited funding.

Proposed federal rule change. In March 2026, HUD proposed a rule that would give PHAs and certain property owners *the option* to impose work requirements and time limits on federal housing assistance programs, including public housing and Section 8 related programs. The rule would apply primarily to non-elderly, non-disabled households, and it would allow local agencies to require “work-eligible” adults to participate in employment, job training, education, or similar activities for up to 40 hours per week as a condition of continuing to receive assistance. As currently drafted, the proposal does not mandate these policies nationwide. Instead, the rule would allow PHAs and private property owners participating in federal housing assistance programs to decide whether and how to implement the work requirements.

The proposed rule would also allow agencies and owners to set term limits on housing assistance, generally no shorter than two years, after which households could lose assistance and would need to reapply through standard waiting lists. The rule remains in the proposal stage and is open for public comment before any final action is taken. The sponsors are not sure when final adoption could occur, but it could be as early as July 2026.

On the brink. Federal rental assistance programs covered by the Administration’s proposed time limits currently aid roughly 9 million low-income people.¹ Under the existing rules, households may receive assistance for as long as they remain

¹ <https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/federal-rental-assistance>

eligible, and many participants leave the programs within several years, although seniors and people with disabilities often rely on assistance for longer periods. The proposed rule would allow PHAs to impose a two-year limit on assistance for households that do not include a senior or a person with a disability. While the proposal does not clearly state when the limit would begin, estimates indicate that if it were implemented today, approximately 3.3 million people nationwide would lose assistance. In California, an estimated 306,800 people, including 137,800 children, could lose housing assistance under the federal rule, including 192,200 people living in working households (*i.e.*, households with at least one member reporting wage income).²

Prohibiting work requirements. This bill prohibits, unless required by federal law, PHAs in California from making term limits and work requirements conditions of initial or continued eligibility for any covered federal housing program. As noted previously, HUD has proposed allowing PHAs across the country to impose term limits as short as two years and work requirements of up to 40 hours per week. The impacts of such changes, if adopted by PHAs, could be most acute in jurisdictions with challenging rental markets. According to the California Housing Partnership's *California's Affordable Housing Needs Report 2026*, renters must earn three times the minimum wage to afford the average rent. Low-income households termed out of participation in housing assistance programs would be at an even greater risk of experiencing homelessness. Research has shown families with children that received time-limited assistance were twice as likely to be homeless as those with ongoing assistance over a three-year period. In fact, the same study found that the outcomes of families receiving time-limited assistance resembled the outcomes of families that had received no assistance.³

Imposing work requirements can also create practical barriers to compliance with little evidence of their effectiveness. Caregiving responsibilities, health issues, and the availability of childcare could further make it difficult for participants to consistently meet required hours. Additionally, PHAs would need to develop systems to track compliance and provide support services, which could create administrative challenges and increase the risk that eligible households lose assistance due to reporting or documentation issues rather than actual noncompliance.

This bill does not prohibit participation in any voluntary employment or job training program; PHAs can still implement voluntary programs focused on

² <https://www.cbpp.org/research/housing/rental-assistance-time-limits-would-place-more-than-3-million-people-half-of-them#estimated-number-of-people-who-cbpp-anchor>

³ <https://www.huduser.gov/portal/sites/default/files/pdf/Family-Options-Study-Full-Report.pdf>

increasing personal income, generating financial savings, and increasing educational attainment. This bill creates flexibility for PHAs in California to partner with the tenants that they serve without imposing program requirements that have shown to increase low-income households' risks of experiencing homelessness.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

National Housing Law Project (source)
 California Rural Legal Assistance
 California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation, INC.
 Centro Legal De LA Raza
 Children's Advocacy Institute
 Disability Rights California
 Fair Housing Advocates of Northern California
 Housing and Economic Rights Advocates (HERA)
 Housing California
 Inner City Law Center
 Justice in Aging
 Legal Aid Society of San Diego
 National Alliance to End Homelessness
 Project Sentinel
 Public Advocates
 Public Interest Law Project
 Tenants Together
 Western Center on Law & Poverty

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-17, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Castillo, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez,
Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa,
Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Ramos

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/12/26 12:50:06

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2147
Author: Schiavo (D)
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Criminal procedure: jurisdiction of public offenses

SOURCE: California District Attorneys Association

DIGEST: This bill authorizes multiple charges of sexual battery, indecent exposure, and annoying or molesting a child that occur in more than one county to be prosecuted in the same case in any county where at least one of the offenses occurred.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, the jurisdiction of every public offense is in any competent court within the jurisdictional territory of which it is committed. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 777.)
- 2) Provides that when a public offense is committed in part in one jurisdictional territory and in part in another, or the acts constituting or requisite to committing the offense occur in more than one territorial jurisdiction, the jurisdiction of the offense is in any competent court within either jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 781.)

- 3) Permits consolidation of different offenses which do not relate to the same transaction or event where there is common element of substantial importance in their commission, such as the same class of crimes. (Pen. Code, § 954.)
- 4) Allows property crimes occurring in one jurisdictional territory if property is taken to another jurisdictional territory and an arrest is made there, to be prosecuted in either jurisdiction. (Pen. Code, § 786.)
- 5) Provides that the jurisdiction of a criminal action brought by the Attorney General for theft, as defined, or for receiving stolen property, as well as all associated offenses connected in their commission of the underlying theft, includes the county where an offense involving the theft or receipt of the stolen merchandise occurred, the county in which the merchandise was recovered, or the county where any act was done by the defendant. (Pen. Code, § 786.5.)
- 6) Provides that if one or more violations of specified sex offenses occurs in more than one jurisdictional territory, the jurisdiction of any of those offenses, and for any offenses properly joinable with that offense, is in any jurisdiction where at least one of the offenses occurred, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Consolidation of the cases is subject to a joinder hearing, within the jurisdiction of the proposed trial court;
 - b) The prosecution presents written evidence that all district attorneys in counties with jurisdiction of the offenses agree to the venue; and,
 - c) Charged offenses from jurisdictions in which there is no written agreement from the district attorney must be returned to that county. (Pen. Code, § 784.7, subd. (a).)
- 7) Provides that if any domestic violence-related offense, as defined, occurs in more than one jurisdiction, and the defendant and the victim are the same for all the offenses, the jurisdiction of any of the offenses and for any offenses properly joinable with that offense is the jurisdiction where at least one of the offenses occurred, subject to the following conditions:
 - a) Consolidation of the cases is subject to a joinder hearing, within the jurisdiction of the proposed trial court.
 - b) The prosecution presents written evidence that all district attorneys in counties with jurisdiction of the offenses agree to the venue.

- c) Charged offenses from jurisdictions in which there is no written agreement from the district attorney must be returned to that county. (Pen. Code, § 784.7, subd. (b).)
- 8) Provides that if one or more specified human trafficking, pimping, and pandering offenses occurs in more than one jurisdictional territory, the jurisdiction of any of those offenses, and for any offenses properly joinable with that offense, is in any jurisdiction where at least one of the offenses occurred, subject to the following conditions:
- a) Consolidation of the cases is subject to a joinder hearing, within the jurisdiction of the proposed trial court.
 - b) The prosecution presents written evidence that all district attorneys in counties with jurisdiction of the offenses agree to the venue.
 - c) Charged offenses from jurisdictions in which there is no written agreement from the district attorney must be returned to that county.
 - d) The court must consider the location and complexity of the likely evidence, where the majority of the offenses occurred, the rights of the defendant and the people, and the convenience of, or hardship to the victim or victims and witnesses. (Pen. Code, § 784.7, subd. (c).)
- 9) Provides that any person who touches an intimate part of another person while that person is unlawfully restrained by the accused or an accomplice, and if the touching is against the will of the person and is for the purpose of sexual arousal, sexual gratification, or sexual abuse, is guilty of sexual battery. (Pen. Code, 243.4, subd. (a).)
- 10) Punishes sexual battery by a term of imprisonment in a county jail for not more than once year and a fine not exceeding \$2,000, or by imprisonment in state prison for two, three, or four years and a fine not exceeding \$10,000. (*Ibid.*)
- 11) Provides that any person who willfully and lewdly, does either of the following, is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in the county jail:
- a) Exposes his person, or the private parts thereof, in any public place, or in any place where there are present other persons to be offended or annoyed thereby; or,
 - b) Procures, counsels, or assists any person so to expose himself or take part in any model artist exhibition, or to make any other exhibition of himself to public view, or the view of any number of persons, such as is offensive to

decency, or is adapted to excite to vicious or lewd thoughts or acts. (Pen. Code, § 314.)

- 12) Provides that upon the second or subsequent conviction of indecent exposure, or upon a first conviction if the defendant was previously convicted of lewd and lascivious acts on a child under 14, a person is guilty of a felony, punishable by imprisonment in state prison for a period of 16 months, two, or three years. (*Ibid.*)
- 13) Mandates that any person who annoys or molests, as defined, any child under 18 years of age be punished by a fine not exceeding \$5,000, by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, or by both. (Pen. Code, § 647.6, subd. (a)(1).)
- 14) Provides that any person who, motivated by an unnatural or abnormal sexual interest in children, engages in conduct with an adult whom they believe to be a child under 18 years of age, which conduct, if directed toward a child under 18 years of age, would constitute annoying or molesting a child, shall be punished by a fine of \$5,000, by imprisonment in a county jail for up to one year, or by both that fine and imprisonment. (Pen. Code, § 647.6, subd. (a)(2).)

This bill authorizes multiple charges of sexual battery, indecent exposure, and annoying or molesting a child that occurs in more than one county to be prosecuted in the same case in any county where at least one of the offenses occurred.

Background

Territorial jurisdiction for a criminal offense is generally proper in any competent court within the jurisdictional territory where it was committed. In other words, criminal charges must normally be brought in the county where the crime is alleged to have happened. The Legislature has created several exceptions to this general rule. For example, felony sex offenses and human trafficking offenses that occur in multiple counties can be consolidated into a single trial and tried in a single county. (Pen. Code, § 784.7.) When the Legislature passes these kind of special jurisdictional rules, they are construed liberally. (*Price v. Superior Court (People)* (2001) 25 Cal.4th 1046, 1055.)

An accusatory pleading may charge two or more different offenses connected in their commission, or different statements of the same offense or two or more different offenses of the same class of crimes or offenses, under separate counts, or

if two or more accusatory pleadings are filed in different cases, but in the same court, the court may order them to be consolidated. (Pen. Code, § 954.) As it pertains to different crimes charged in the same county, Penal Code section 954 limits consolidation, by granting a trial court, in the interests of justice and for good cause shown, to order the different offenses or counts in the accusatory pleading be tried separately or divided into two or more groups and each of said group tried separately. (See *Belton v. Superior Court (People)* (1993) 19 Cal.App.4th 1279, 1281.)

Several statutes allow for offenses involving one defendant, the same class of offenses, and multiple victims. (See Pen. Code, §§ 784.5, 784.7, 785, 786, 786.5.) There are also offenses that authorize consolidation of out-of-state crimes related to terrorism, receipt of stolen property, and treason. (See Pen. Code, §§ 787, 788, 789.) Offenses that may be consolidated in one county when there are multiple victims across multiple jurisdictions include sexual assault, kidnapping, burglary, and assault with intent to commit a specified sex offense, homicide, certain thefts, robbery, identity theft, incest, and revenge porn, among others. Consolidation based on specified offenses against a single defendant across multiple jurisdictions requires the district attorneys in each county to agree to try all counts in one identified county.

AB 1779 (Irwin, Chapter 165, Statutes of 2024), expanded consolidation options for theft, including petty theft and shoplifting, as well as receipt of stolen property. (Pen. Code, § 786.5, subds. (a) & b).) It also expanded the ability of county district attorneys to consolidate specified theft crimes. Penal Code section 786 allows a district attorney to seek consolidation for theft generally to include where the property was stolen and where the property ended up, as well as any contiguous county if the arrest is made in a contiguous county. However, that provision requires a defendant's knowing waiver of venue. (Pen. Code, § 786, subd. (a).)

The benefits of consolidation include judicial economy and convenience to victims and witnesses who may have to testify in multiple trials. The drawbacks can include the potential prejudicial impact on the defendant because jurors may feel compelled to convict based on the number of instances or victims, rather than the strength of the prosecution's case. Convenience to some victims and witnesses may also come at the cost of inconvenience to others who live outside of the jurisdiction where the trial is held, which could include law enforcement officers from different counties that investigated each crime. Although consolidation may avoid multiple short trials, the single consolidated trial could be much longer. Additionally, not all of the individual cases may have gone to trial due to weakness

in evidence or lack of prosecutorial resources, but when all of the cases are consolidated into one trial, there is a greater likelihood that a charge with weak evidence can still result in a conviction because it is strengthened by the aggregate evidence in the other charges leading to a different outcome than would have occurred if the charge was tried separately.

This bill adds masturbating in public, annoying or molesting a child, and sexual battery to the crimes enumerated in Penal Code section 784.7 which may be consolidated in any county where one of the offenses occurred subject to a joinder hearing.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

California District Attorneys Association (source)
California State Sheriffs' Association
Riverside County District Attorney

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
6/17/26 16:28:14

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2173
Author: Wallis (R)
Amended: 3/19/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle,
Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Gambling Control Act

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission) to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, under the Gambling Control Act (Act), for the licensure and regulation of various legalized gambling activities and establishments by the Commission and the investigation and enforcement of those activities and establishments by the Department of Justice (DOJ).
- 2) Requires that the Commission collectively include individuals with diverse professional backgrounds, such as experience in finance or accounting, law

with regulatory expertise, law enforcement or criminal investigation, business or government, and representation of the general public.

- 3) Requires the Commission to keep a record of all proceedings at its regular and special meetings and to make these records open to public inspection.
- 4) Requires DOJ to maintain a file of all applications for licenses under the Act and a record of all actions taken with respect to those applications, and to make this file and record open to public inspections.
- 5) Requires, under the Bagley-Keene Act, that all meetings of state bodies be open to the public, with certain specific exceptions.

This bill requires the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "the bill enhances transparency for members of the public who wish to stay informed about the [Commission's] actions, by requiring the commission to post a public record of every vote on the Commission's website no later than the close of business on the second business day following the meeting which the vote was taken."

Gambling Control Act. The Act provides the Commission with jurisdiction over the operation of gambling establishments in California. The Act requires every owner, lessee, or employee of a gambling establishment to obtain and maintain a valid state gambling license. The Act assigns the Commission the responsibility of assuring that gambling licenses are not issued to, or held by, unqualified or disqualified persons, or by persons whose operations are conducted in a manner that is harmful to the public health, safety, or welfare.

The Act directs the Commission to issue licenses only to those persons of good character, honesty and integrity, whose prior activities, criminal record, if any; reputation, habits and associations do not pose a threat to the public interest of this state. The DOJ conducts background and field investigations and enforces the provisions of the Act in this regard. The Act currently requires the Commission to maintain a public record at the Commission's principal office. However, there is

no requirement that the vote be placed anywhere on the Commission's internet website.

The Act requires that the Commission maintain a public record of every vote at the Commission's principal office. This bill requires the Commission to post any vote taken by the Commission on its Internet Web site no later than the close of business of the second business day after the meeting at which the vote was taken.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1235 (G.O., 2026) requires the Governor to notify the Senate and Assembly Committees on Governmental Organization of the removal of a member of the Commission. (Pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee)

AB 2644 (Rubio, 2026) requires the Governor to notify the Legislature when the Governor removes a member of the Commission for cause. (Pending in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee)

AB 2793 (G.O., 2026) requires that one member of the Commission be an attorney with regulatory or gaming law experience. (Pending in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee).

SB 346 (Ochoa-Bogh, 2023) would have required Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Held in the Assembly Floor Inactive File)

SB 899 (Governmental Organization, 2022) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Held on the Assembly Floor Inactive File)

SB 302 (Governmental Organization, 2021) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Gutted and amended to an unrelated issue)

SB 869 (Governmental Organization, 2020) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two

business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Gutted and amended to an unrelated issue)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Capitol Business Alliance

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Capitol Business Alliance, “prompt online posting of votes will help reduce confusion, improve accountability, and allow affected parties to understand commission action in a timely manner. AB 2173 does not create a new compliance burden for private businesses. Instead, it places a modest transparency obligation on a state regulatory body. That is good government, and it is consistent with the principle that regulated businesses and taxpayers deserve accessible information about decisions made in their name.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:35:04

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2179
Author: Patel (D), et al.
Amended: 6/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Workplace violence: restraining orders

SOURCE: City of Carlsbad
San Diego County District Attorney's Office

DIGEST: This bill requires a court, beginning July 1, 2027, to permit electronic filings and remote appearances in proceedings for a workplace violence restraining order, and requires the Judicial Council of California to develop the necessary forms and rules to implement those requirements on or before January 1, 2028.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Permits an employer or collective bargaining unit of an employee who has suffered harassment, unlawful violence, or a credible threat of violence from any individual, that can reasonably be construed to be carried out or to have been carried out at the workplace, to seek a temporary restraining order (TRO) or order after hearing on behalf of the employee and, at the discretion of the court, any number of other employees at the workplace and, if appropriate, other employees at other workplaces of the employer.

- a) A TRO or order after hearing may not be issued to prohibit speech or other activities that are constitutionally protected or otherwise protected by law.
 - b) The TRO or order after hearing may, on a showing of good cause, include other named family or household members, or other persons employed at the employee's workplace or workplaces. (Code of Civil Procedure (Code Civ. Proc.), § 527.8(a), (c), (d).)
- 2) Requires an employer or collective bargaining representative, prior to filing a petition for an order under 1), to provide the employee who has suffered harassment, unlawful violence, or a credible threat of violence an opportunity to decline to be named in the TRO; an employee's request not to be named does not prohibit an employer or representative from seeking a TRO on behalf of other employees at the workplace or, if appropriate, at another of the employer's workplaces. (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(e).)
- 3) Permits a petitioner to obtain a TRO under 1) if the petitioner files a declaration that establishes, to the satisfaction of the court, one of the following:
- a) Reasonable proof that an employee has suffered unlawful violence or a credible threat of violence by the respondent, and that great or irreparable harm would result to an employee.
 - b) Clear and convincing evidence that: (1) the employee has suffered harassment by the respondent; (2) that great or irreparable harm would result to an employee; (3) that the course of conduct at issue serves no legitimate purpose; and (4) that the issuance of the order is not prohibited by 1)(a). (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(f).)
- 4) Requires a request for a TRO under 2) to be granted or denied on the same day that the petition is submitted to the court, unless the petition is filed too late to permit effective review, in which case the order shall be granted or denied on the next day of judicial business in sufficient time for the order to be filed that day with the clerk of the court. (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(g).)
- 5) Requires the respondent to be personally served with a copy of the petition, TRO, if any, and notice of hearing on the petition, at least five days before the hearing in 6), below. If, however, the respondent has not been served personally but has received actual notice of the existence and substance of the order through personal appearance, no additional proof of service is required. (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(n), (r).)

- 6) Provides that a TRO granted under 1) shall remain in effect, at the court's discretion, for a period not to exceed 21 days, and the court must hold a hearing on the petition before the expiration of the TRO.
 - a) The court may, for good cause, extend the time for hearing to 25 days.
 - b) The respondent may file a response to the petition prior to the hearing.
 - c) The respondent is entitled, as a matter of course, to one continuance, for a reasonable period, to respond to the petition.
 - d) Either party may request a continuance of the hearing, which the court shall grant on a showing of good cause; the TRO shall be extended for the duration of the continuance.
 - e) At the hearing, the judge shall receive any testimony that is relevant and may make an independent inquiry. (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(h)-(k), (p), (q).)
- 7) Requires the court, if the hearing under 6) establishes clear and convincing evidence that the respondent engaged in harassment, engaged in unlawful violence, or made a credible threat of violence, to issue an order prohibiting further harassment, unlawful violence, or threats of violence.
 - a) The order may have a duration of not more than three years, subject to termination or modification by the court either on written stipulation or on the motion of a party.
 - b) The order may be renewed for a duration of not more than three years, without a showing of further harassment, unlawful, or credible threats of violence since the issuance of the order. (Code Civ. Proc., § 528.7(k), (l).)
- 8) Prohibits the subject of a protective order issued under 2) from owning, possessing, purchasing, receiving, or attempting to purchase or receive a firearm or ammunition while the order is in effect, as specified. (Code Civ. Proc., § 528.7(t).)
- 9) Provides that there is no filing fee for a petition filed under 2). (Code Civ. Proc., § 527.8(x).)

This bill:

- 1) Permits, commencing July 1, 2027, a party or witness to appear remotely at a hearing on a petition for a workplace violence restraining order.

- a) A court may not charge a fee for a party to appear remotely at the hearing.
 - b) The superior court of each county shall develop local rules and instructions for such remote appearances, which must be posted on the court's website.
- 2) Requires a court, commencing July 1, 2027, to permit a petition for a workplace violence restraining order or other related filings to be submitted electronically.
- a) The court shall, based on the time of receipt, act on the filings consistent with the existing timeframe for granting a TRO.
 - b) The request for order, notice of the court date, copies of the request, and the TRO, if granted, shall be provided electronically to the petitioner who electronically filed the petition, unless the petitioner notes, at the time of filing, that they will obtain physical copies of those documents from the court.
- 3) Requires the Judicial Council of California, on or before January 1, 2028, to develop the necessary forms and rules to implement 1) and 2).
- 4) Makes nonsubstantive conforming changes.

Comments

Current law authorizes an employer or collective bargaining representative to petition for a civil restraining order from a court for an employee who has suffered harassment, violence, or a credible threat of violence at the workplace. The court can issue a TRO on an ex parte basis, and then may enter a restraining order after the respondent has been given notice and an opportunity to be heard. To enter a restraining order after hearing, the court must find, by clear and convincing evidence, that the respondent engaged in harassment or unlawful violence, or made credible threats of violence; upon making this finding, the court has significant discretion to apply the order broadly, including to cover other employees at the same workplace or workplaces as the affected employee, and family members of the threatened employees. The initial order can last for up to three years, and can be renewed for up to three additional years.

This bill requires a court, beginning July 1, 2027, to permit electronic filings and remote appearances in proceedings for a workplace violence restraining order, and requires the Judicial Council of California to develop the necessary forms and rules to implement those requirements on or before January 1, 2028. These measures bring the workplace violence restraining order statute into conformity with other civil protective order regimes.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

City of Carlsbad (co-source)

San Diego County District Attorney's Office (co-source)

California District Attorneys Association

California State Association of Counties

CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO

California Hospital Association

City of San Marcos

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the City of Carlsbad:

California law currently allows employers (and, in certain cases, authorized collective bargaining representatives) to seek workplace violence restraining orders when an employee has suffered unlawful violence, harassment, or a credible threat of violence that could reasonably be carried out at the workplace. However, the process can still require in-person participation and paper-based steps that create unnecessary barriers — especially for employees and witnesses who may fear retaliation, lack transportation, cannot easily take time off work, or face safety concerns traveling to and from court.

AB 2179 would permit any party or witness in a workplace violence restraining order proceeding to appear remotely at the hearing. It would also ensure courts do not charge a fee for participating remotely and would require courts to allow electronic submission of filings related to these protective orders, improving timely access to the court process.

AB 2179 supports workplace safety by making restraining order proceedings more accessible and safer to navigate. By reducing practical barriers to participation, the bill can help ensure the court receives the information it needs while minimizing disruption to work and reducing safety risks for parties and witnesses.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher,

Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/17/26 16:28:13

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2180
Author: Ward (D), et al.
Amended: 5/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 6/10/26

AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird

NOES: Choi, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-18, 4/9/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Local government: Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act:
proportional cost of service

SOURCE: Association of California Water Agencies

DIGEST: This bill allows local agencies, for the purpose of calculating property-related fees and charges to comply with Proposition 218, to demonstrate the proportional cost of service to the parcel with any method that reasonably allocates the cost of providing service to all parcels.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Imposes constitutional limits on local officials' ability to impose, increase, and extend fees, including property-related fees (Proposition 218, 1996).
- 2) Defines a property-related fee as any levy other than an *ad valorem* tax, a special tax, or an assessment imposed by an agency on a parcel or on a person as an incident of property ownership, including a user fee for a property-related service.
- 3) Specifies definitions and procedures related to Proposition 218 in the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (SB 919, Rainey, Chapter 38, Statutes of 1997). The Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act requires

local officials to, before imposing a new property related fee or increase an existing one:

- a) Identify the parcels to be charged.
 - b) Calculate the fee for each parcel.
 - c) Notify the parcels' owners in writing about the fees and the hearing.
 - d) Hold a public hearing to consider and count protests.
 - e) Abandon the fees if a majority of the parcels' owners protest.
- 4) Requires new or increased property-related fees to:
- a) Be less than the proportional cost of service to each parcel.
 - b) Receive approval by a majority-vote of the affected property owners, two-thirds registered voter approval, or weighted ballot approval by the affected property owners.
- 5) Exempts property-related fees for water, sewer, and refuse collection from the voter approval requirements of Proposition 218

This bill:

- 1) Allows local agencies, for the purpose of calculating property-related fees and charges to comply with Proposition 218, to demonstrate the proportional cost of service to the parcel with any method that reasonably allocates the cost of providing service to all parcels. Local agencies must substantiate the allocation with historic, existing, estimated, or projected data that reasonably captures the cost of the service provided.
- 2) Provides that when a local agency imposes a fee or charge for water or sewer service, the agency is not required to provide an exact measure of the cost of the service at each parcel.
- 3) Allows a local agency to impose uniform or tiered rates defined based on common characteristics indicative of likely water or sewer use.
- 4) Allows, when imposing tiered rates for water, a local agency to substantiate the proportional cost of the service within each tier by using any reasonable basis for allocating costs to the tier, including:

- a) The cost of water from various sources;
 - b) Facilities operation, maintenance, or construction costs;
 - c) Contribution to systemwide peak demand projections; and
 - d) Costs that an agency incurs as a result of the use of water at various tiers or to implement water conservation or demand measures and incremental costs.
- 5) Provides that state law does not require an agency to have a cost-based, or any other, justification for establishing a tier breakpoint—the point where a customer leaves on tier and enters another. The agency has discretion to determine the costs allocated to each tier, provided that it does not exceed the proportional cost of service reasonably allocated to parcels subject to that tier.
- 6) States that it does not apply to water and sewer connection fees and capacity charges.

Background

Water rates have been fertile ground for lawsuits since voters approved Proposition 218 in 1996.

In 2015, *Capistrano Taxpayers Association v. City of San Juan Capistrano* (2015) 235 Cal.App.4th 1493, the court ruled that the City's water pricing violated the constitutional requirement that fees not exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel. The court continued by saying, "This is not to say City Water must calculate a rate for 225 Elm Street and then calculate another for the house across the street at 226. Neither the voters nor the Constitution say anything we can find that would prohibit tiered pricing." The court also stated that "And, we emphasize, there is nothing at all in subdivision (b)(3) or elsewhere in Proposition 218 that prevents water agencies from passing on the incrementally higher costs of expensive water to incrementally higher users." Lastly, the court noted that "...we see nothing in article XIII, section 6, subdivision (b)(3) of the California Constitution that is incompatible with water agencies passing on the true, marginal cost of water to those consumers whose extra use of water forces water agencies to incur higher costs to supply that extra water." Courts have interpreted the application of Proposition 218's constitutional provisions numerous times, and despite the ruling in *Capistrano*, disputes over how best to determine rates continue to this day.

In 2019, the California Supreme Court ruled challenges to the methodology used to determine rates are by their nature "substantive" as the existing law provides no

“clearly defined machinery for the submission, evaluation, and resolution of complaints by aggrieved parties” (*Plantier v. City of Ramona Municipal Water District* (2019) (7 Cal.5th 372, 384). The Court opened its ruling by saying, “The question here is a narrow one. When an agency considers increasing a property-related fee, must a fee payor challenging the method of fee allocation first exhaust ‘administrative remedies’ by participating in a Proposition 218 hearing that addresses only a proposed rate increase? The answer is no.” In other words, a ratepayer could challenge a local agency’s fees or charges regardless of whether or not they raised issues during the local agency’s ratemaking process. In other contexts outside of Proposition 218, claimants must exhaust administrative remedies before pursuing judicial remedies.

California Courts of Appeal have recently reached different conclusions on the permissibility of tiered rates:

- In *Coziahr v. Otay Water Dist.* (2024) (103 Cal. App. 5th 785), the court found that Otay Water District’s tiered rates violated Proposition 218 because the district could not demonstrate that its tiered rates were proportional to the cost of service for each parcel;
- In *Patz v. City of San Diego* (2025) (113 Cal. App. 5th 225), the court struck down the City of San Diego’s tiered rates because the city failed to show that its tiered water rates complied with Proposition 218’s proportionality requirements due in part to the city’s inability to present evidence supporting its claims about the source of supply and peak demand; and

In *Dreher v. Los Angeles Dept. of Water & Power* (2024) (116 Cal. App. 5th 977), the court upheld the city’s tiered based rate structure citing that Proposition 218 “...requires proportionality, not exactness, and does not require the City to trace the flow of water from each source of supply to each parcel, molecule by molecule.” On March 11, 2026, the California Supreme Court granted review of the *Dreher* case.

Comments

- 1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, “AB 2180 would amend the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act to provide clarity and consistency for water agencies in setting proportional rates that comply with Proposition 218. The bill would provide a practical framework consistent with industry best practices for establishing tiered water rates that allocate costs proportionally to usage, while meeting constitutional requirements. AB 2180

ensures that water rates remain fair, proportional, and legally sound, while giving agencies practical tools to fund critical operations and improvements.”

- 2) *Let the dust settle.* Multiple courts have reached different conclusions about the permissibility of tiered rates in recent years. In both *Coziahr* and *Patz*, the courts sided with the plaintiffs’ claims that local agencies needed to more closely account for the tiered water rates charged to specific parcels. On the other hand, *Dreher* sided with the local agencies that tiered water rates needed to be proportional but did not need account for every molecule of water delivered to a specific parcel. AB 2180 codifies the *Dreher* decision favored by local agencies with the goal of blessing tiered rates and sending a signal to the Supreme Court that this is how the Legislature believes Proposition 218 should be implemented. While AB 2180 would allow local agencies statutory certainty to continue to impose tiered rates until such a decision is made, ultimately the California Supreme Court’s decision will determine the appropriate reading of the California Constitution.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/11/26)

Association of California Water Agencies (Source)

Bear Valley Water District

Bella Vista Water District

Burbank Water and Power

Calaveras County Water District

California Coastkeeper Alliance

California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance

California Municipal Utilities Association

California Special Districts Association

California State Association of Counties

California Water Efficiency Partnership

Calleguas Municipal Water District

Camrosa Water District

City of Roseville

City of Sacramento

City of Santa Rosa

City of Thousand Oaks

City of Ventura

Clean Water Action

Climate Action California's Decarbonization Team

Coachella Valley Water District
Coastside County Water District
Contra Costa Water District
Crescenta Valley Water District
Crestline-lake Arrowhead Water Agency
Cucamonga Valley Water District
Defenders of Wildlife
Desert Water Agency
East Bay Municipal Utility District
East Valley Water District
Eastern Municipal Water District
El Dorado Irrigation District
El Toro Water District
Elk Grove Water District
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
Helix Water District
Imperial Irrigation District
Irvine Ranch Water District
Jurupa Community Services District
Kings River Conservation District
Kings River Water Association
Laguna Beach County Water District
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
League of California Cities
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Marin Water
Marina Coast Water District
Mckinleyville Community Services District
Mcmullin Area Groundwater Sustainability Agency
Mendocino County Russian River Flood Control & Water Conservation
Mission Springs Water District
Monte Vista Water District
Montecito Water District
Monterey County Water Resources Agency
Monterey Peninsula Water Management District
Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
North Marin Water District
Olivenhain Municipal Water District
Otay Water District

Padre Dam Municipal Water District
Palmdale Water District
Paradise Irrigation District
Pico Water District
Rainbow Municipal Water District
Rancho California Water District
Regional Water Authority
Rincon Del Diablo Municipal Water District
Rio Linda Elverta Community Water District
Rowland Water District
Rural County Representatives of California
San Diego County Water Authority
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
San Juan Water District
Santa Clarita Valley Water Agency
Santa Fe Irrigation District
Santa Margarita Water District
South Tahoe Public Utility District
Stinson Beach County Water District
Stockton East Water District
Tahoe City Public Utility District
Tehachapi-cummings County Water District
Three Valleys Municipal Water District
Town of Hillsborough
Trabuco Canyon Water District
Tri-county Water Authority
Union Public Utility District
Valley Center Municipal Water District
Valley Sanitary District
Valley Water
Vista Irrigation District
Walnut Valley Water District
West Valley Water District
Western Municipal Water District
Yorba Linda Water District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/11/26)

California Apartment Association
California Association of Realtors
California Business Properties Association

California Taxpayers Association
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-18, 4/9/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bryan, Flora, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Ortega, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Soria, Wallis

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/12/26 12:50:08

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2233
Author: Ta (R), et al.
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/3/26

AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove,
Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 4/16/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Behavioral health treatment plans

SOURCE: Autism Business Association

DIGEST: This bill prohibits health plans and insurers from imposing restrictions on the utilization of authorized treatment hours within a six-month authorization period, including weekly caps or limitations that result in the forfeiture of unused hours due to unavoidable circumstances, if the use of the hours is reasonably consistent with the treatment plan and clinical guidelines, and is documented in the treatment plan and progress reports. Requires authorized hours to remain available for use throughout the authorization period to ensure the enrollee or insured may fully access approved treatment if reasonably consistent with the treatment plan and clinical guidelines and documented in the treatment plan and progress reports.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Requires, under the federal Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act (MHPAEA), commercial health plans that offer mental health and substance

use disorder benefits to do so in a manner comparable to medical and surgical benefits.

- 2) Prohibits commercial health plans that provide mental health or substance use-disorder benefits from placing limits on those benefits that are less favorable than the limits placed on medical/surgical benefits.
- 3) Requires health plans to ensure that financial requirements, such as copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles; and treatment limitations, such as the number and frequency of visits that are applied to mental health or substance use disorder benefits, are not more restrictive than the predominant requirements applied to most of the medical and surgical benefits.
- 4) Prohibits health plans from imposing non-quantitative treatment limits such as medical necessity and utilization management on mental health and substance use disorder benefits that apply more restrictively than are applied to medical/surgical benefits. [42 U.S.C. Sect 300gg-26]

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Services Plan Act of 1975; the California Department of Insurance (CDI) to regulate health and other insurers; the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to administer the Medi-Cal program; and the Department of Developmental Disabilities to administer services to people with developmental disabilities. [HSC §1340, et seq., INS §106, et seq., WIC §14000, et seq., and WIC §4400, et seq.]
- 2) Requires, under California's mental health parity law, every health plan contract and insurance policy that provides hospital, medical, or surgical coverage to provide coverage for medically necessary treatment of mental health and substance use disorders under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions, as specified. [HSC §1374.72 and INS §10144.5]
- 3) Requires every health plan contract and health insurance policy that provides hospital, medical, or surgical coverage to cover behavioral health treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism. Requires the coverage to be provided in the same manner and to be subject to the same requirements as provided in California's mental health parity law. [HSC §1374.73 and INS §10144.51]

- 4) Prohibits health plans and insurers from requiring an enrollee or insured previously diagnosed with pervasive developmental disorder or autism to receive a rediagnosis to maintain coverage for behavior health treatment for pervasive developmental disorder or autism. Permits a plan or insurer to require utilization review, which is distinct from rediagnosis. [HSC §1374.73 and INS §10144.51]
- 5) Requires a behavioral health treatment plan to have measurable goals over a specific timeline that is developed and approved by a Qualified Autism Service (QAS) provider for the specific patient being treated, reviewed no less than once every six months by the QAS provider and modified whenever appropriate, and to be consistent with existing law that applies to applied behavioral analysis services or intensive behavioral intervention, or both, provided by regional center vendors, as specified, and does all of the following:
 - a) Describes the patient's behavioral health impairments or developmental challenges that are to be treated;
 - b) Designs an intervention plan that includes the service type, number of hours, and parent participation needed to achieve the plan's goal and objectives, and the frequency at which the patient's progress is evaluated and reported;
 - c) Provides intervention plans that utilize evidence-based practices, with demonstrated clinical efficacy in treating pervasive developmental disorder or autism; and,
 - d) Discontinues intensive behavioral intervention services when the treatment goals and objectives are achieved or no longer appropriate. [HSC §1374.73 and INS §10144.51]
- 6) Exempts Medi-Cal managed care plans from the requirements above. [HSC §1374.73 and INS §10144.51]

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits health plans and insurers from imposing restrictions on the utilization of authorized treatment hours within a six-month authorization period, including weekly caps or limitations that result in the forfeiture of unused hours due to unavoidable circumstances, including patient illness, family travel, or provider unavailability, if the use of the hours is reasonably consistent with the treatment plan and clinical guidelines, and is documented in the treatment plan and progress reports.

- 2) Requires authorized hours to remain available for use throughout the authorization period to ensure the enrollee or insured may fully access approved treatment if the use of hours is reasonably consistent with the treatment plan and clinical guidelines and is documented in the treatment plan and progress reports.
- 3) Indicates that this does not prohibit a health plan or insurer from applying evidence-based utilization management or a clinically appropriate schedule, provided an enrollee or insured is permitted to reasonably make up missed services within the authorization period.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

“This bill will protect people with disabilities from losing coverage of essential treatment that has already been prescribed to them by a healthcare provider and approved by a healthcare plan if they are unable to make it to an appointment. This bill will not infringe on a healthcare plan’s discretion to conduct utilization reviews of the services and treatment being provided whenever appropriate. This bill simply ensures that once care is prescribed and approved, patients are actually able to use it. Utilization reviews are intended to ensure appropriate care, not to undermine approved treatment through administrative design. When patients lose authorized hours due to inflexible utilization rules, care is disrupted, progress may be delayed or reversed, and families face unnecessary stress navigating coverage limitations unrelated to medical need. California has long led the nation in health care consumer protections. This bill addresses a narrow but significant gap in existing law to ensure that approved care is truly available to those who need it.”

Background

Background on autism. According to the California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP) analysis of SB 562 (Portantino of 2022), autism spectrum disorder is a developmental disability characterized by deficits in social interactions and communication, sensory processing, stereotypic (repetitive) behaviors or interests, and sometimes cognitive function. Symptoms fall along a continuum, ranging from mild impairment to profound disability. Reliable diagnoses can be made by age two, though the median age is 51 months, with black children being diagnosed later than white children. The causes remain unknown though research into genetic etiology and environmental factors continue to be explored.

Behavioral health therapy. According to CHBRP, behavioral health therapy aims to modify the behavior of individuals with autism spectrum disorder and improve their cognitive, language and social functioning by assessing environmental stimuli and reinforcing appropriate responses. Some treatment modalities are based primarily on behavioral theory (e.g. Applied Behavioral Analysis), while others are based primarily on developmental theory or on a hybrid of behavioral and developmental theory. CHBRP found evidence for the medical effectiveness of all of these modalities, though there were significant variations in how effective each modality was for particular outcomes.

Medicaid. This bill applies to state-regulated commercial health insurance, not individuals covered by Medi-Cal or Medi-Cal managed care plans. However, there have been federal reports on questionable billing patterns related to applied behavior analysis services, and the Trump administration has begun intensely focusing on fraud in the Medicaid program. In April of 2026, DHCS announced a change in utilization management practices related to applied behavior analysis and behavioral health treatment. DHCS indicates that utilization of these services has increased significantly, with some patterns of overuse and misuse, and, that DHCS' current policies are less stringent than peer states and/or clinical guidelines. DHCS is establishing utilization thresholds that would trigger authorization reviews for services exceeding those defined thresholds (e.g., more than 25 hours per week) along with a defined exception process on medical necessity. DHCS indicates that these thresholds are intended to align with clinical guidelines for appropriate levels of care, and that could include age-based thresholds when supported by evidence. DHCS requires an autism spectrum disorder diagnosis for enrollees age five and older in order to receive applied behavioral analysis services, and additional supporting documentation such as treatment plans and progress notes to support medical necessity and authorizations.

The Wall Street Journal reported in a June 1, 2026, story on the growth of autism therapy that the industry has “attracted predatory providers who bill for phantom services, pad hours and charge steep fees for care delivered by low-wage workers with minimal training.” One anecdote in the story described a 70-minute visit with a behavior technician that was billed \$30,500 for the visit. A parent was billed \$916,000 and sent to collections when insurance refused excessive and undocumented billings from a provider. Another provider billed up to \$1,320 an hour for routine autism-therapy, the plan paid \$792 an hour.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Autism Business Association (source)
ABEDI, Inc.
Accelerated Behavioral Change, Inc.
ACES 2020, LLC
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
Autism Behavior Services, Inc.
Autism Learning Partners
Autism Speaks
Autism Spectrum Therapies
Behavior Frontiers, LLC.
Bright Minds
California Association for Behavior Analysis
California Behavioral Health Association
California Children's Hospital Association
California Health Coalition Advocacy
California Psychological Association
Center for Autism and Related Disorders
Coalition for Developmental Approaches
National Coalition for Access to Autism Services
Occupational Therapy Association of California
Rady Children's Hospital
Special Needs Network, INC.
Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board
The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

One individual

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Autism Business Association (ABA), the sponsor of this bill, writes that plans have initiated a practice of imposing weekly caps on behavioral services despite patients receiving authorizations for six-month periods, which restrict the delivery of necessary care. The Coalition for Developmental Approaches writes that weekly caps “disregard the full six-month authorization periods typically granted, can prevent individuals from accessing the care they need to achieve meaningful outcomes. If a session is missed due to illness or scheduling problems, individuals are prohibited from making up those approved hours later in the authorization period. Weekly caps without any options for makeup sessions are arbitrary and inappropriate to the nature of behavioral

health treatment for autistic children.” The National Coalition for Access to Autism Services writes that “a damaging loophole has allowed insurers to impose weekly or monthly caps on how authorized hours can be used with that [six-month authorization] period and has allowed [health plans] to extinguish unused hours at the end of a billing cycle without carrying them forward. The real-world consequences of this practice are serious. A child may miss sessions due to illness, a provider scheduling conflict, or any number of life events... This creates an artificial reduction in care that is not driven by clinical judgement, medical necessity, or the child’s treatment plan. It is driven solely by administrative convenience for the insurer.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: An individual wrote in with concerns that “this bill risks perpetuating known fraud vulnerabilities in California’s behavioral health treatment system by removing practical utilization constraints without sufficient safeguards.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Lee, Macedo, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo, Valencia

Prepared by: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
6/16/26 16:43:04

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2248
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 3/26/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/3/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil services: educational counseling: California College Guidance Initiative

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill expands existing annual notice requirements to additionally require a local educational agency (LEA) to issue a notice to the parents or guardians of specified pupils that includes the benefits of the California College Guidance Initiative (CCGI) and encouragement to create parent accounts.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the governing board of each school district to annually notify the parent or guardian of a minor pupil regarding various rights or responsibilities of the parent or guardian relevant to the school environment. (Education Code (EC) § 48980)
- 2) Requires, as part of the annual parent notification, that parents be informed of the following:

- a) A brief explanation of the college admission requirements;
 - b) A list of the current University of California (UC) and California State University (CSU) websites that help students and their families learn about college admission requirements and that list high school courses that have been certified by the UC as satisfying the requirements for admission;
 - c) A brief description of what career technical education is, as defined by the department;
 - d) Information about how pupils may meet with school counselors to help them choose courses at their schools that will meet college admission requirements or enroll in career technical education courses, or both;
 - e) In a separate and distinct disclosure, that data may be shared with the CCGI to provide students and their families with direct access to online tools and resources for college and career planning; and
 - f) Direction to the CaliforniaColleges.edu platform in order to access resources that help pupils and their families learn about college admissions requirements. (EC § 51229)
- 3) Authorizes the CCGI to provide its services to all LEAs and requires LEAs to submit students' grade point average and transcript information to the CCGI. Requires LEAs to ensure that 11th graders complete financial aid lessons on CaliforniaColleges.edu platform. (EC § 60900.5, EC § 51225.8 (b) and EC § 60900 (f))
- 4) Requires LEAs to submit grades 9 to 12, inclusive, pupil transcript information to the CCGI, as specified, in the format approved by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI). (EC § 60900)
- 5) Requires an LEA to annually notify the parents or guardians of pupils admitted to, or advancing to, grades 7 to 12, inclusive, of any dual enrollment or International Baccalaureate (IB) opportunities. (EC § 48980.6)

This bill:

- 1) Requires an LEA, at the beginning of the first semester or quarter of the regular school term, to annually notify the parents or guardians of pupils admitted to, or advancing to, grades 7 to 12, inclusive, of the benefits of the CCGI and an encouragement to create parent accounts, alongside its existing annual notice requirements related to its dual enrollment and IB course offerings.

- 2) Defines “local educational agency” to mean a school district, county office of education (COE), or charter school.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “Every student deserves an equal opportunity to strive for academic achievement and prepare for college and career success. Too often, that opportunity is determined by a student’s access to information. By requiring Local Educational Agencies to notify parents of the California College Guidance Initiative, AB 2248 seeks to ensure no student is denied the opportunity to prepare for their future simply because they were never informed of the support available to them.”
- 2) *The California College Guidance Initiative.* CCGI is a public-nonprofit partnership focused on reducing obstacles to student success by creating clearer pathways between K-12 and higher education institutions. While CCGI’s work dates back to 1998, it was codified in 2021 as part of the California Cradle-to-Career Data System to streamline the college and financial aid application processes for students, while providing educators with the information necessary to inform data-driven counseling practices and real-time decision-making. CCGI does this work through its management of CaliforniaColleges.edu, California’s official college and career planning platform for students in grades 6 through 12. CaliforniaColleges.edu is free to use and serves as an infrastructure for post-secondary planning, data-driven student guidance, and standardized student record sharing between LEAs and California’s public higher education systems and CSAC.

Through the CCGI, all students in grades 6 through 12 can create a Basic Account, providing access to:

- Career assessments to help them discover their interests, personality, learning style, and more;
- College, major, and career search tools that help them explore their options;
- Curated college, career, and financial aid planning content that guides them through developing a post-secondary plan;
- A digital portfolio to track their academic, career, and financial aid plans to chronicle experiences and maintain related documents; and

- A function to launch their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) and California Dream Act Application (CADAA).

Students in grades 9 through 12 with transcript-informed Partner Accounts also have access to a dashboard that displays the courses which they are currently taking and the courses they have completed. This information comes directly from the LEA's transcript files submitted to CCGI. Through their transcript-informed Partner Accounts, students in grades 9 through 12 are also able to:

- View CSU and UC Eligibility Tools that allow them to see their progress towards meeting the minimum requirements for admission to CSU and UC;
- Verify that the A-G courses they are taking or have completed have been officially approved as A-G courses in the CMP administered by the UC Office of the President. A-G course alignment is critical for ensuring students meet UC/CSU eligibility requirements; and
- Launch applications for CCC, CSU, and UC, and import district-verified A-G courses and grades into Cal State Apply and UC Applications.

Once a student has registered for an account, parents or guardians can register for a Parent Account, allowing families to view and monitor their student's engagement with the CaliforniaColleges.edu platform, as well as their progress on college, career, and financial aid planning lessons.

Current law requires LEAs to provide annual notices to parents and guardians, informing them that student data may be shared with the CCGI to inform the CaliforniaColleges.edu platforms college and career planning tools.

This bill would require that a notice on the benefits of CCGI and encouragement for parents to create parent accounts be included alongside existing annual notices on dual enrollment and IB course availability.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
California Charter Schools Association
Delta Kappa Gamma International - Chi State

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/16/26 16:43:05

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2262
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D), et al.
Amended: 3/24/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Courts: disqualification of judges

SOURCE: California Judges Association

DIGEST: This bill (1) requires personal service of a judicial disqualification statement to take place at the courthouse where the judge is sitting, service must occur during regular business hours, and (2) permits service on the judge's clerk or the court executive officer if the judicial officer is present in the courthouse or in chambers.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that if a judge determines themselves to be disqualified from a case, the judge shall notify the presiding judge of the court of their recusal and shall not further participate in the proceeding, as specified. (Code of Civil (Civ.) Procedure (Proc.) § 170.3 (a).)
- 2) Provides that if a judge who should disqualify themselves from a case refuses or fails to do so, any party may file with the clerk a written verified statement objecting to the hearing or trial before the judge and setting forth the facts

constituting the grounds for disqualification of the judge. (Code Civ. Proc. § 170.3 (c) (1).)

- 3) Provides that the above statement shall be presented at the earliest practicable opportunity after discovery of the facts constituting the ground for disqualification. (Code Civ. Proc. § 170.3 (c) (1).)
- 4) Specifies that copies of the statement shall be served on each party or their attorney who has appeared and shall be personally served on the judge alleged to be disqualified, or on their clerk, provided that the judge is present in the courthouse or in chambers. (Code Civ. Proc. § 170.3 (c) (1).)

This bill specifies that a copy of the statement shall be personally served during regular business hours on the judge alleged to be disqualified from the case at the courthouse in which the judge is sitting, or on their clerk or on the court executive officer, provided that the judge is present in the courthouse or in chambers.

Background

Existing law provides procedures by which a judge disqualifies themselves from a case. However, if the judge who should disqualify themselves refuses or fails to do so then a party to the action may file a written verified statement objecting to the hearing or trial before the judge. Copies of the statement must be served on each party and must be personally served on the judge who is alleged to be disqualified. The statement can be personally served on the judge's clerk if the judge is present in the courthouse or in the chambers. Under existing law judges may be served at their residences.

The author brings this bill in an effort to protect judges from potential violence at their residences. This bill requires the statement to be served at the courthouse where the judge who is alleged to be disqualified is sitting during regular business hours. This bill allows service of the statement on the court executive officer in addition to the clerk as long as the judge is present in the courthouse or in chambers.

The Code of Civil Procedure sets forth circumstances under which a judge is disqualified from a case. For example, a judge is disqualified if they have a financial interest in the proceeding or they have a familial relationship with a party to the proceeding. A judge may also recuse themselves under specified circumstances.

Comments

According to the author:

Violence and threats against judges have risen sharply, with thousands of incidents reported in recent years and a dramatic increase since 2015, leaving many judges and their families fearing for their safety. At the same time, judicial officers' home addresses remain easily accessible through public records and online databases, creating a direct pathway for bad actors to locate them and their families.

Assembly Bill 2262 provides targeted procedural clarity in the law of judicial safety. This bill clarifies the service requirements for judicial disqualification motions alleging bias. Judges act in their official capacity when presiding over cases, and allegations related to their judicial conduct should be served in that official capacity. AB 2262 therefore requires personal service of a CCP 170.1 and 170.3 motions during regular business hours at the courthouse where the judge is sitting, rather than at a judge's home.

The California Judges Association, sponsors of this bill, explain:

AB 2262 is a narrow, technical measure relating to service of process of motions to disqualify judges in court proceedings. Notably, the bill makes no changes whatsoever to the substantive issue of disqualification, instead focusing narrowly on how judges are served with disqualification motions.

The bill is part of a larger discussion about judicial security, in the wake of the murder of a judge in his driveway in one state, and the murder of the son of a judge in their home in another. As part of their core function under the rule of law, judges are called upon to make decisions with very consequential impacts on litigants, including lengthy criminal sentences, child custody, and much more. Specific, credible criminal threats against judges are unfortunately all too common.

Because motions to disqualify judges relate solely to the judge's official duties, AB 2262 merely specifies that service of these motions should occur at the courthouse, either to the judge or to the court executive officer. The bill thus eliminates unnecessary interaction with judges in their homes, while fully preserving due process for all concerned.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

California Judges Association (sponsor)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/18/26 16:33:41

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2292
Author: Ward (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Disability benefits: certificates

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a physician or practitioner from charging an administrative fee to complete forms required to certify eligibility for paid family or medical leave, but specifies that this does not prohibit a physician or practitioner from billing for medical services provided in connection with an examination or collecting an applicable copayment or deductible, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the State Disability Insurance (SDI) program, funded entirely by employees through a mandatory state payroll tax, to provide short-term wage replacement benefits to eligible workers who are unable to work due to a non-work-related illness or injury for a maximum of 52 weeks. SDI benefits can be used for an illness or injury, either physical or mental, which prevents an employee from performing their regular and customary work and includes elective surgery, pregnancy, childbirth, or other medical conditions. (Unemployment Insurance Code §2601-3308)
- 2) Provides that a disabled individual is eligible to receive SDI benefits for each full day during which the individual is unemployed due to a disability only if:

- a) The individual has made a claim for disability benefits as required by regulations.
 - b) The individual has been unemployed and disabled for a waiting period of seven consecutive days during each disability benefit period, with respect to which waiting period no disability benefits are payable.
 - c) The individual has submitted to reasonable examinations as the director may require for the purpose of determining their disability.
 - d) The individual has filed a certificate of a treating physician or practitioner that establishes the sickness, injury, or pregnancy of the employee or their family member, as specified, establishing medical eligibility for SDI benefits.
(Unemployment Insurance Code §2627 & §2708)
- 3) Provides, through the Paid Family Leave (PFL) program, a component of SDI, eligible employees up to eight weeks of wage replacement benefits within a 12-month period to workers who need to take time off work to care for a seriously ill child, spouse, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, or domestic partner; to bond with a minor child within one year of the birth or placement of the child in connection with foster care or adoption; or to participate in a qualifying event because of a family member's military deployment.
(Unemployment Insurance Code §3301)
- 4) Pursuant to the SDI or PFL program, provides a weekly benefit amount based on the individual's wages, with a minimum weekly benefit amount of \$50 and a maximum weekly benefit amount of \$1,765. (Unemployment Insurance Code §2655(f) & §3301)
- 5) Provides that, except as specified, an individual is not eligible for SDI benefits for any day of unemployment and disability for which the individual has received or is entitled to receive "other benefits" in the form of cash payments, including temporary disability indemnity under any workers' compensation law, temporary disability benefits under any employer's liability law, and permanent disability benefits for the same injury or illness under any workers' compensation law. (Unemployment Insurance Code §2629)
- 6) Prohibits a health care provider from charging a fee to a patient for filling out forms or providing information responsive to forms that support a claim or appeal regarding eligibility for a public benefit program, as specified. (Health and Safety Code §123114)

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits a physician or practitioner from charging a person an administrative fee to complete a form for a certificate to establish medical eligibility for SDI or PFL benefits.
- 2) Prohibits a physician or practitioner from charging an administrative fee for a subsequent recertification examination or for completing a form required to maintain continued eligibility for disability benefits.
- 3) Clarifies that these provisions do not prohibit a physician or practitioner from billing for medical services provided in connection with an examination, or from collecting any applicable copayment, coinsurance, or deductible, if those charges are consistent with charges for a comparable medical examination or service and are not imposed solely for the completion of a certificate or form required to receive SDI or PFL benefits.

Background

The State Disability Insurance program, administered by the Employment Development Department (EDD), was created in 1946 to provide monetary benefits to workers unable to work due to non-work-related illness, injury, or pregnancy. The SDI program is financed solely by worker contributions and covers approximately 18 million individuals across the state. The payroll deduction and maximum benefit amount are determined annually by EDD. As of January 1, 2026, the employee payroll deduction is set at 1.3% of the employee's wages.

In 2004, California was the first state in the nation to implement a Paid Family Leave program (administered as part of SDI) that provides benefits to workers who need to take time off to care for a seriously ill family member, or to bond with a new child either from birth, adoption, or foster care placement. Effective January 1, 2021, the PFL scope was expanded to include employees taking time off work to assist a military family member under covered active duty or call to covered active duty. PFL provides up to eight weeks of wage replacement benefits.

In 2022, SB 951 (Durazo, Chapter 878, Statutes of 2022) was adopted to, among other things, for claims commencing on or after January 1, 2025, revise the formula for determining benefits under both the SDI and PFL programs to provide an increased wage replacement rate ranging from 70-90% based on the individual's wages.

In Fiscal Year 2024-25, SDI paid out over 725,000 claims, a totaling over \$11 billion in benefits paid. These claims had an average weekly benefit amount of \$879, and an average claim duration of 17.78 weeks.¹ Depending on the claimant's typical wages, SDI can entitle the claimant to anywhere from \$50 to \$1,765 per week.

In Fiscal Year 2024-25, California paid out over 300,000 PFL claims, totaling over \$2 billion in benefits paid. These claims had an average weekly benefit amount of \$996, and an average claim duration of 7.1 weeks. Roughly 15% of PFL claims in FY 2024-25 were for caring for a seriously ill or disabled loved one.²

Establishing SDI/PFL Eligibility: Applying for SDI or PFL benefits requires the applicant to submit a claim with the EDD, either online or on paper, and file a medical certificate from a treating physician or practitioner that establishes the sickness, injury, or pregnancy of the employee or their family member, demonstrating medical eligibility. This may mean that the individual must undergo reasonable examinations by a physician or practitioner to establish such eligibility and get the required paperwork completed by the physician or practitioner.

According to EDD, existing law does not currently prohibit a physician or practitioner from charging a fee to complete an SDI form. Additionally, a nurse practitioner or physician assistant can certify a claimant for any medical conditions within their scope of practice. However, to certify a disability other than normal pregnancy and childbirth, the nurse practitioner or physician assistant must perform a physical examination and collaborate with a physician or surgeon.

According to information provided by the author, some SDI claimants report fees of up to \$300 for their providers to complete required claim forms, and some providers do not certify claims for extended durations, instead requiring claimants to obtain medical certifications through recurring appointments. As a result, some patients—particularly those already facing financial hardship due to temporary disability—are required to pay out-of-pocket fees simply to access benefits they are otherwise entitled to receive and for which they have already been taxed. These fees can create a financial barrier to accessing or maintaining disability benefits, reduce overall benefits, and exacerbate economic insecurity for vulnerable workers.

¹ State Disability Insurance Program Statistics, California Employment Development Department, 2026.
https://edd.ca.gov/en/about_edd/quick_statistics/

² Paid Family Leave Program Statistics, California Employment Development Department, 2026.
https://edd.ca.gov/siteassets/files/about_edd/quick-stats/qspl_pfl_program_statistics.pdf

This bill seeks to prohibit the practice of charging fees for the completion of SDI and PFL eligibility certificates necessary to establish a claim, in order to mitigate the hardship endured by those who cannot work due to disability or caretaking responsibilities.

Existing Prohibition on Administrative Fees for Public Benefit Programs: In 2020, the California Legislature passed AB 2520 (Chiu, Chapter 101, Statutes of 2020), which, among other things, added Section 123114 to the Health & Safety Code prohibiting a health care provider from charging a fee to a patient for filling out forms or providing information responsive to forms that support a claim or appeal regarding eligibility for a public benefit program. This code section additionally requires a health care provider to provide information responsive to those portions of the form for which the health care provider has the information necessary to provide a medical opinion. If the health care provider does not have the information necessary to provide a medical opinion, the health care provider may inform the patient if an examination is necessary to obtain the information.

For purposes of this prohibition, Health & Safety Code Section 123114(d) defines a public benefit program to *include* the Medi-Cal program, the In-Home Supportive Services Program (IHSS), the CalWORKs program, Social Security Disability Insurance benefits (SSDI), Supplemental Security Income/State Supplementary Program for the Aged, Blind and Disabled (SSI/SSP) benefits, federal veterans service-connected compensation and nonservice connected pension disability benefits, discharge of a federal student loan based on total and permanent disability, CalFresh, the Cash Assistance Program for Aged, Blind, and Disabled Legal Immigrants (CAPI), and a government-funded housing subsidy or tenant-based housing assistance program.

It is unclear whether this code section could apply to certificates and forms necessary for SDI and PFL claims since those programs are not specifically listed but the use of the term “includes” could suggest that the list is not exhaustive. However, EDD’s website specifically says that current law does not prohibit a physician or practitioner from charging a fee to complete an SDI form.

This bill would align the SDI and PFL medical claim certificates provisions with that of public benefit programs where health care providers are prohibited from charging a fee for completing these forms.

Need for this bill?. According to the author:

“Administrative fees can create a barrier for SDI claimants who file a claim. If an SDI claimant is unable to pay the fee to complete their claim form, this can result

in a delay in filing or continuing their claim until the fee is paid. These fees also reduce the total amount of money available to claimants during their leave. There are currently no statutes or regulations requiring or prohibiting providers from charging an administrative fee for SDI claim forms. AB 2292 addresses this deficiency by explicitly prohibiting providers from charging administrative fees for completing initial certification forms, recertifications, or any documentation required to maintain eligibility for disability benefits. This ensures equitable access to benefits and removes unnecessary financial barriers during periods of medical hardship.”

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2054 (Gipson, 2026) would expand the definition of “covered active duty” for purposes of eligibility for PFL benefits to include duty during training, domestic deployments, and, for reservists and members of the National Guard, calls to state active duty.

SB 1090 (Durazo, Chapter 876, Statutes of 2024) authorized workers to file a claim for SDI or PFL benefits up to 30 days in advance of the first compensable day of disability and requires EDD to issue payment on those claims within 14 days of receipt or as soon as eligibility begins for the claimant, whichever is later. This change becomes operative when they are incorporated in EDD’s integrated claims management system as part of the EDDNext Project.

SB 951 (Durazo, Chapter 878, Statutes of 2022), revised the formula for the computation of SDI and PFL benefits to increase the wage replacement available to claimants.

SB 1058 (Durazo, Chapter 317, Statutes of 2022), required EDD to collect demographic data, including race and ethnicity data and sexual orientation and gender identity data, for individuals who claim disability benefits under the SDI and PFL programs.

AB 2520 (Chiu, Chapter 101, Statutes of 2020) expands the ability of a patient or a patient’s representative to obtain a copy, at no charge, of the relevant portion of the patient’s medical records that are needed to support a claim or appeal regarding eligibility for certain benefit programs, as specified, and prohibits a health care provider from charging a fee to a patient for filling out forms or providing information responsive to forms that support a claim or appeal for a public benefit program.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/10/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/10/26)

California Orthopedic Association
California Podiatric Medical Association

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The California Orthopedic Association and the California Podiatric Medical Association are opposed to the measure unless it is amended to cap at between \$25 or \$50, rather than eliminate, the administrative fee physicians, podiatrists, and other health care providers may charge for completing disability certification and recertification forms. They write that this bill:

“fails to recognize that completing disability certification paperwork requires physician and staff time, review of medical records, professional judgment, and administrative resources. These forms are not simply clerical documents. Physicians must ensure that the information submitted is accurate, medically supported, and consistent with the patient’s condition, functional limitations, and expected duration of disability. That work takes time away from patient care and imposes real costs on medical practices.

If physicians are prohibited from charging any administrative fee, practices will be forced either to absorb those costs without compensation or decline to complete the forms altogether. Neither outcome serves patients. Patients seeking disability benefits need timely access to treating physicians who are willing and able to complete the required documentation. Eliminating any ability to recover the administrative cost of that work could make it more difficult for patients to obtain the certifications necessary to access benefits.

A more balanced approach would be to allow a modest administrative fee, as low as a modest \$25. This would protect patients from excessive charges while recognizing the time and resources required to complete disability-related forms. A reasonable fee ceiling provides a fair compromise: it preserves patient access, prevents abuse, and avoids imposing an uncompensated mandate on physician practices.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Alma Perez-Schwab / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
6/12/26 12:50:10

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2297
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 3/26/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Restitution: diversion

SOURCE: San Diego County District Attorney's Office

DIGEST: This bill applies the general restitution statute to defendants who enter a diversion program.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that, in order to preserve and protect a victim's rights to justice and due process, a victim is entitled to specified rights, including restitution. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (b)(13).)
- 2) Requires that restitution is ordered from the convicted wrongdoer in every case, regardless of the sentence or disposition imposed, in which a crime victim suffers a loss. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (b)(13)(B).)
- 3) States that it is the intent of the Legislature that a victim of a crime who incurs an economic loss as a result of the commission of a crime shall receive restitution directly from a defendant convicted of that crime. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (a)(1).)

- 4) Requires the court, upon a person being convicted of a crime, to order the defendant to pay a fine in the form of a penalty assessment. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (a)(2).)
- 5) Requires the court, in addition to any other penalty provided or imposed under the law, to order the defendant to pay both of the following: a restitution fine and restitution to the victim or victims, if any, which is enforceable as if the order were a civil judgment and must be paid, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (a)(3).)
- 6) Requires the court to impose a separate and additional restitution fine in every case where a person is convicted of a crime unless it finds compelling and extraordinary reasons for not doing so and states those reasons on the record. Provides that the restitution fine is set at the discretion of the court and commensurate with the seriousness of the offense. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (b).)
- 7) Requires the court to impose the restitution fine unless it finds compelling and extraordinary reasons for not doing so and states those reasons on the record. Provides that a defendant's inability to pay is not a compelling and extraordinary reason not to impose a restitution fine. Provides that inability to pay may be considered only in increasing the amount of the restitution fine in excess of the minimum fine. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (c).)
- 8) Requires the court, in setting the amount of the fine in excess of the minimum fine, to consider any relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the defendant's inability to pay, the seriousness and gravity of the offense and the circumstances of its commission, any economic gain derived by the defendant as a result of the crime, the extent to which any other person suffered losses as a result of the crime, and the number of victims involved in the crime. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (d).)
- 9) Requires the court, in every case in which a victim has suffered economic loss as a result of the defendant's conduct, to require that the defendant make restitution to the victim or victims in an amount established by court order, based on the amount of loss claimed by the victim or victims or any other showing to the court. Provides that the defendant has the right to a hearing before a judge to dispute the determination of the amount of restitution, and authorizes the court to modify the amount, on its own motion or on the motion

of the district attorney, the victim or victims, or the defendant. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f)(1).)

- 10) Requires, to the extent possible, that the restitution order be prepared by the sentencing court, identify each victim and each loss to which it pertains, and be of a dollar amount that is sufficient to fully reimburse the victim or victims for every determined economic loss incurred as the result of the defendant's criminal conduct, including, but not limited to full or partial payment for the value of stolen or damaged property, medical expenses, mental health counseling expenses, and wages or profits lost due to injury incurred by the victim, among other expenses. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f)(3)(A)-(L).)
- 11) Specifies that a restitution order is enforceable by the victim as a civil judgment, and enforceable in the same manner as is provided for the enforcement of any other money judgment. (Pen. Code, §§ 1202.4, subd. (i) & 1214, subd. (b).)
- 12) States that any portion of a restitution fine or restitution fee that remains unsatisfied after a defendant is no longer on probation, parole, postrelease community supervision or mandatory supervision, after a term in custody, or after completing diversion is enforceable by the California Victim Compensation Board (Cal VCB). (Pen. Code, §§ 1202.4, subd. (l) & 1214, subd. (a).)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the court to order restitution to the victim or victims, if any, which is enforceable as if the order were a civil judgment, and paid in the order required under existing law, when a defendant participates in a diversion program.
- 2) Requires a defendant to be informed of their right to have a judicial determination of the amount and is provided with a hearing, or they may waive the hearing or stipulate to the amount ordered.
- 3) Provides that if the court finds that restitution is owed to any victim as a result of the diverted offense, the court must order its payment during the period of diversion.

- 4) Prohibits a defendant's inability to pay restitution due to indigence or mental disorder from being used as grounds for denial of diversion or a finding that the defendant has failed to comply with the terms of diversion.
- 5) Requires, if the defendant withdraws from diversion or fails to complete the terms of diversion, that a restitution order is suspended until criminal proceedings are resolved.
- 6) States that if the defendant completes diversion, a restitution order may be enforced in the same manner as a civil judgment pursuant to existing provisions of law.

Background

Diversion. Diversion is the suspension of criminal proceedings for a prescribed period of time with certain conditions. A defendant may not be required to admit guilt as a prerequisite for placement in a pretrial diversion program. If diversion is successfully completed, the criminal charges are dismissed and the defendant may, with certain exceptions, legally answer that they have never been arrested or charged for the diverted offense. If diversion is not successfully completed, the criminal proceedings resume.

Diversion programs may be pre-plea or post-plea (often called deferred entry of judgment). Pre-plea programs allow a defendant to participate in the program without admitting guilt. In post-plea programs, the defendant must first admit guilt before participating in the program. The primary difference between the two types of diversion is that in a pre-plea program, criminal proceedings resume if the defendant does not successfully complete the program, and the defendant has the option to plead guilty or pursue a defense against their case. In a post-plea diversion program, the defendant (having already pled guilty) would be sentenced if they do not successfully complete the program.

In recent years, the Legislature has enacted several pre-plea diversion programs such as military diversion (SB 1227 (Hancock), Chapter 658, Statutes of 2013), mental health diversion (SB 215 (Beall), Chapter 1005, Statutes of 2018), diversion for primary caretakers (SB 394 (Skinner), Chapter 593, Statutes of 2019), and court-initiated misdemeanor diversion (AB 3234 (Ting), Chapter 334, Statutes of 2020). Drug diversion was enacted as a pre-plea program and changed to a post-plea program in 1997 (SB 1369 (Kopp), Chapter 1132, Statutes of 1996), then changed back to a pre-plea program (AB 208 (Eggman), Chapter 778, Statutes

of 2017). Existing law also authorizes a city or county prosecuting attorney or county probation department, until January 1, 2031, to create a diversion or deferred entry of judgment program for individuals who commit a theft offense or repeat theft offenses. (Pen. Code, § 1001.81.)

Restitution. The California Constitution guarantees victims the right to restitution. Specifically, the California Constitution provides that, in order to preserve and protect a victim's rights to justice and due process, a victim shall be entitled to specified rights, including among others, restitution. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (b)(13); added by Proposition 8, approved by California voters in the general election on November 8, 1982.) It also states that "[i]t is the unequivocal intention of the People of the State of California that all persons who suffer losses as a result of criminal activity shall have the right to restitution from the persons convicted of the crimes for losses they suffer. Restitution shall be ordered from the convicted persons in every case, regardless of the sentence or disposition imposed, in which a crime victim suffers a loss, unless compelling and extraordinary reasons exist to the contrary." (Cal. Const., art. I, § 28, subd. (b).) "A victim's right to restitution is, therefore, a constitutional one; it cannot be bargained away or limited, nor can the prosecution waive the victim's right to receive restitution." (*People v. Gross* (2015) 238 Cal.App.4th 1313, 1317-1318.)

As directed by the voters, the Legislature enacted Penal Code section 1202.4 to implement the Victims' Bill of Rights. (*Gross, supra*, 238 Cal.App.4th at p. 1318; *People v. Seymour* (2015) 239 Cal.App.4th 1418, 1435.) This statute provides that "in every case in which a victim has suffered economic loss as a result of the defendant's conduct, the court shall require that the defendant make restitution to the victim or victims in an amount established by court order." (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f).) The statute further provides that a "defendant's inability to pay shall not be a consideration in determining the amount of a restitution order." (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (g).) Rather, victim restitution orders must be of a dollar amount that is sufficient to fully reimburse the victim, which can include an assortment of expenses such as medical expenses, mental health counseling expenses, wages or lost profits, noneconomic losses like psychological harm, actual and reasonable attorney's fees, and relocation fees. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f).) The victim restitution order must also include interest at the rate of 10% per annum. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f)(3)(G).)

If the amount of restitution cannot be ascertained at the time of sentencing, the court must include a provision in the restitution order that the restitution amount must be determined at a future time. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (f).) The trial

court must incorporate the restitution order in the defendant's conditions of probation. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (l).) If part of a restitution order has not been paid after a defendant is no longer on probation, it remains enforceable by the victim as though it were a civil judgment. (Pen. Code, § 1202.4, subd. (i); Pen. Code, § 1214.) Notably, if a defendant is unable to pay full restitution within the initial term of probation, the court can modify and extend the period of probation to allow the defendant to pay off all restitution within the probation term. (Pen. Code, § 1203.3, subd. (b)(4); *People v. Cookson* (1991) 54 Cal.3d 1091, 1097.) Generally, the probation term may be extended up to, but not beyond, the maximum probation period allowed for the offense. (*People v. Medeiros* (1994) 25 Cal.App.4th 1260, 1267-1268.)

Payment of victim restitution goes directly to the victim and compensates them for economic losses they have suffered because of the defendant's crime (i.e., to make the victim reasonably whole). (*People v. Guillen* (2013) 218 Cal.App.4th 975, 984.) A victim restitution order is an enforceable civil money judgment, and typical post-judgment enforcement tools are available to the victim. (Pen. Code, § 1214, subd. (b).) Victims have access to all available resources to enforce the order, including wage garnishment and lien procedures, even if the defendant is no longer in custody or on supervision. (*Ibid.*)

Restitution is specifically authorized in several of the existing diversion statutes. For example, the mental health diversion law provides that “[u]pon request, the court shall conduct a hearing to determine whether restitution, as defined in subdivision (f) of Section 1202.4, is owed to any victim as a result of the diverted offense and, if owed, order its payment during the period of diversion.” (Pen. Code, § 1001.36, subd. (f)(1)(D).) The court-initiated misdemeanor diversion program requires a defendant to “[m]ake full restitution.” (Pen. Code, § 1001.96, subd. (b).) Both statutes provide that a defendant's inability to pay restitution due to indigence “shall not be grounds for denial of diversion or a finding that the defendant has failed to comply with the terms of diversion.” (Pen. Code, §§ 1001.36, subd. (f)(1)(D); 1001.96, subd. (b).)

The theft diversion statute provides that a condition of diversion may include “[m]aking adequate restitution or an appropriate substitute for restitution to the establishment or person from which property was stolen at the face value of the stolen property, if required by the program.” (Pen. Code, § 1001.81, subd. (e)(2).) The bad check diversion statute contains a similar provision that states that a condition of diversion may include “[f]ull restitution being made to the victim.” (Pen. Code, § 1001.64.) Comparatively, the statutes that established diversion for

individuals with developmental disabilities, parental diversion, military diversion, primary caregiver diversion, and drug diversion are silent on victim restitution. (Pen. Code, §§ 1001.20 et seq.; 1001.70 et seq.; 1001.80; 1001.83; 1000.)

This bill's proponents argue that the individual diversion statutes are inconsistent with respect to their approach to victim restitution which has resulted in courts frequently not ordering victim restitution. They contend that placing the authority to order diversion within the general restitution statute—Penal Code section 1202.4—will ensure more even application and provide an avenue for enforcement after the period of diversion has ended.

This bill amends Penal Code section 1202.4 to provide a right to restitution for victims of crimes where the defendant participates in a diversion program. Because existing law requires victim compensation after a conviction, and a defendant who participates successfully in a diversion program would not have a conviction for the underlying offense, courts may only order restitution if the individual diversion statute authorizes it. This bill applies the same rights to a hearing to determine the amount of restitution, if any, as exists for defendants who have been convicted of a crime. Consistent with the diversion statutes that explicitly provide for restitution, this bill prohibits a defendant's inability to pay restitution due to indigence or mental disorder from being used as grounds for denial of diversion or a finding that the defendant has failed to comply with the terms of diversion. Finally, the bill provides that if the defendant completes diversion, a restitution order may be enforced pursuant to Penal Code section 1214. Section 1214 states that any portion of a restitution fine that remains unsatisfied after a defendant has completed diversion is enforceable by the California Victim Compensation Board.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.:No Local:No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

San Diego County District Attorney's Office (source)
American Property Casualty Insurance Association
Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
California District Attorneys Association
California Narcotic Officers' Association
California Police Chiefs Association

California Reserve Peace Officers Association
Chief Probation Officers' of California
Claremont Police Officers Association
Corona Police Officers Association
Culver City Police Officers' Association
Fullerton Police Officers' Association
League of California Cities
Los Angeles School Police Management Association
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Murrieta Police Officers' Association
Newport Beach Police Association
Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

ACLU California Action
California Public Defenders Association
Debt Free Justice California
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Initiate Justice
Justice2Jobs Coalition
La Defensa

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Elhawary, Garcia, Hart, Kalra, Lee, McKinnor, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Ward

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /

6/10/26 16:58:19

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2305
Author: Kalra (D), et al.
Amended: 6/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/6/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Attorneys: corporate lenders

SOURCE: Consumer Attorneys of California

DIGEST: This bill 1) prohibits a corporate lender, or an entity it controls, from entering into any contract, agreement, or arrangement with a litigation practice if the contract would constitute the unauthorized practice of law; 2) specifies what types of actions by a corporate lender constitute the unauthorized practice of law; and 3) provides that these provisions are not to be construed to prohibit the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance and that the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance is not considered impermissible fee sharing if certain conditions are met.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the State Bar Act and provides for the licensure and regulations of attorneys practicing in California. (Business & Professions Code §§ 6000 et seq.)

- 2) Requires all attorneys who practice law in California to be licensed by the California State Bar (State Bar). (Cal. Const., art. VI, § 9; Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6000 et seq.)
- 3) Requires an attorney who contracts to represent a client on a contingency fee basis to, at the time the contract is entered into, provide a duplicate copy of the signed contract to the plaintiff, as specified, which must include the following:
 - a) a statement of the contingency fee rate that the client and attorney have agreed upon;
 - b) a statement as to how disbursements and costs incurred in connection with the prosecution or settlement of the claim will affect the contingency fee and the client's recovery;
 - c) a statement as to what extent, if any, the client could be required to pay any compensation to the attorney for related matters that arise out of their relationship not covered by their contingency fee contract, which may include any amounts collected for the plaintiff by the attorney;
 - d) unless the claim is subject to the provisions of Section 6146¹, a statement that the fee is not set by law but is negotiable between attorney and client;
 - e) if the claim is subject to the provisions of Section 6146, a statement that the rates set forth in that section are the maximum limits for the contingency fee agreement, and that the attorney and client may negotiate a lower rate. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6147(a).)
- 4) Prohibits attorneys from directly or indirectly sharing legal fees with an out-of-state alternative business structure, except as specified. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6156.)
- 5) Provides that a written fee agreement is subject to the attorney-client privilege. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6149.)
- 6) Prohibits an individual, partnership, corporation, association, or any other nongovernmental entity from operating for the direct or indirect purpose, in whole or in part, of referring potential clients to attorneys, and no attorney can accept a referral of such potential clients, unless specified requirements are met. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6155.)

¹ Section 6146 of the Business and Professions Code places limits on contingency fees agreements in connection with an action for injury or damage against a health care provider based upon such person's alleged professional negligence.

This bill:

- 1) Provides that a corporate lender doing any of the following constitutes the unauthorized practice of law:
 - a) Interfering or attempting to influence the professional judgment of a licensed attorney or litigant regarding any substantive litigation decision, including;
 - i. determination of which client to represent;
 - ii. determination of the scope of representation of any client;
 - iii. determining the financial terms of any client representation.
 - iv. determining legal strategy or theory of the case;
 - v. deciding whether to file, continue, or dismiss a claim or defense;
 - vi. making decisions about a settlement offer, negotiation position; or acceptance of proposed resolution;
 - vii. determining what evidence to present or how to conduct discovery; or
 - viii. advising on appeals, procedural choices, or any litigation timing.
 - b) Exercising control over, or being delegated authority for, any of the following litigation functions:
 - i. selecting or directing counsel based on profit maximization rather than client interest;
 - ii. setting financial incentives tied to litigation outcomes that compromise attorney independence;
 - iii. making decisions about litigation funding allocations or budgeting that may affect case strategy; or
 - iv. requiring that litigation decisions be predicated on investor return metrics rather than client objectives and professional ethics.
- 2) Prohibits a corporate lender, or an entity it controls, from entering into any contract, agreement, or arrangement with a litigation practice if the contract would constitute the unauthorized practice of law as described in 1).
 - a) Any contractual provision that permits or facilitates prohibited interference or control is void, unenforceable, and against public policy.
 - b) A contract between a litigation practice and a corporate lender cannot include a clause that does any of the following:

- i. restrict an attorney or client from withdrawing from representation in the event of a nonlawyer engaging in the unlawful practice of law as described in 1);
 - ii. prohibit an attorney or client from speaking publicly or reporting a nonlawyer engaging in the unlawful practice of law as described in 1); or
 - iii. impose financial penalties for reporting or a nonlawyer engaging in the unlawful practice of law as described in 1).
- 3) Provides that a violation of these provisions constitutes a cause for discipline by the State Bar.
- 4) Provides that a violation of these provisions subjects the attorney and the corporate lender to the following penalties to be recovered in an action brought by the client:
 - a) statutory damages of \$10,000 per violation or three times the actual damages incurred by the client, whichever is greater;
 - b) attorney's costs and fees; and
 - c) injunctive or declaratory relief.
- 5) Provides that a violation of these provisions is not a crime.
- 6) Provides that these provisions are not to be construed to prohibit the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance and that the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance is not considered impermissible fee sharing provided the following conditions are met:
 - a) the nonrecourse litigation finance contract contains a specific dollar amount or maximum dollar amount to be paid to the lawyer or law firm;
 - b) the nonrecourse litigation finance contract return is limited to a multiple of the funded amount or a rate of interest thereon;
 - c) the nonrecourse litigation finance contract expressly precludes use of money for the solicitation or acquisition of future clients or matters, the purchase of a lead for one or more potential clients, cases, or to seek the referral of those clients or cases; and
 - d) the funding is provided solely for the fees or expenses of specific, identified legal representations that have been commenced or for which the lawyer or law firm has been retained, and not for the solicitation or acquisition of future clients or matters.

- 7) Provides that these provisions apply only to contracts entered into on and after January 1, 2027.

Comments

The ban on the corporate practice of law stems from common law and has been codified in statute. (See *People v. Cal. Protective Corp.* (1926) 76 Cal.App.354; Bus. & Prof. Code § 6125.) The public policy reason is for the protection of consumers and concerns regarding the inherent conflict of interest corporate ownership places on the duties attorneys owe to their clients. Corporations are motivated by profits, have no ethical duties to clients, and are not subject to regulatory oversight. Existing Rules of Professional Conduct prohibit law firms in California from sharing legal fees directly or indirectly with a nonlawyer or with an organization that is not authorized to practice law. (Rul. of Prof. Conduct 5.4 (a).) Last year, the Legislature enacted AB 931 (Kalra, Chapter 565, Statutes of 2025) to prohibit attorneys from directly or indirectly sharing legal fees with an out-of-state alternative business structure (ABS) based on the concerns that an out-of-state ABS may have owners who are not licensed attorneys.

This bill prohibits a corporate lender from interfering or attempting to influence the professional judgment of a licensed attorney or litigant regarding any substantive litigation decision. The bill also prohibits a corporate lender from exercising control over, or being delegated authority for, certain litigation functions, including: selecting or directing counsel based on profit maximization rather than client interest; setting financial incentives tied to litigation outcomes that compromise attorney independence; making decisions about litigation funding allocations or budgeting that may affect case strategy; or requiring litigation decisions be predicated on investor return metrics rather than client objectives and professional ethics. Any contract entered into that violates these prohibitions is void and unenforceable.

The Consumer Attorneys of California, the source of the bill, write:

Private equity investment in the legal industry has expanded rapidly in recent years. Although longstanding ethics rules prohibit non-lawyer ownership and fee-sharing with attorneys, investors have developed increasingly sophisticated structures designed to circumvent these protections. These arrangements can involve management services organizations (MSOs), affiliated litigation services companies, or other financial relationships that create leverage over law firms.

These models create a dangerous risk that litigation decisions—including whether to file a case, how aggressively to pursue claims, and when to settle—may be influenced by investor return expectations rather than the best interests of clients. The core principle of attorney independence exists precisely to prevent these conflicts. When profit-seeking investors gain leverage over legal decision-making, the integrity of the justice system itself is threatened.

The bill provides that it is not to be construed to prohibit the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance. Additionally, the bill specifies that the practice of nonrecourse litigation finance is not considered impermissible fee sharing provided certain conditions are met, including, among others, that the nonrecourse litigation finance contract expressly precludes use of money for the solicitation or acquisition of future clients or matters, the purchase of a lead for one or more potential clients, cases, or to seek the referral of those clients or cases.

A violation of the bill constitutes a cause for discipline by the State Bar. It also authorizes a client to bring an action against an attorney and the corporate lender who violate these provisions for statutory damages of \$10,000 per violation or three times the actual damages incurred by the client, whichever is greater, attorney's costs and fees, and injunctive or declaratory relief.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/10/26)

Consumer Attorneys of California (source)
Civil Justice Association of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/10/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

Last year, California led the country when we passed AB 931 (Kalra, 2025) to prohibit for-profit corporations from owning law firms. But despite this safeguard, private equity interests continue to seek ways to creatively restructure their involvement in the legal industry and sidestep long-standing ethical prohibitions. Consequently, this risks litigation decisions, including whether to file a case, how to resolve the case, or to pursue a particular strategy, being

influenced by investor return expectations rather than putting the interests of injured individuals or consumers first.

To more broadly account for ever-changing financing structures, AB 2305 directly prohibits private equity firms, hedge funds, and other corporate investors from directing or influencing the practice of law. In doing so, this bill closes emerging loopholes, protects the independence of the legal profession, and preserves the integrity of the justice system.

The Consumer Attorneys of California write in support stating:

AB 2305 safeguards the independence of the legal profession by prohibiting private equity firms, hedge funds, and other corporate lenders from directing or influencing the practice of law. When a Californian hires an attorney, litigation decisions—including case strategy, representation, and resolution—must be made solely by the attorney and client, not by lenders seeking financial returns. AB 2305 closes emerging loopholes that allow corporate lenders to exert indirect influence over litigation practices through complex financial or operational arrangements.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/6/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Bains, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Caloza, Gabriel, Harabedian, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/12/26 12:50:11

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2320
Author: Ta (R)
Amended: 4/27/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa
Bogh, Padilla, Pérez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Multifamily Housing Program: Homekey: adaptive reuse

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), when awarding Homekey+ grant funding, to consider allowing adaptive reuse projects to use the timelines for new construction rather than for rehabilitation, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Homekey and Homekey+ program to serve individuals and families experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness. Homekey+ disbursed through the Multifamily Housing Program (MHP), as grants to eligible applicants for:
 - a) Acquisition or rehabilitation, or acquisition and rehabilitation, of motels, hotels, hostels, or other sites and assets, including apartments or homes, adult residential facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly,

manufactured housing, commercial properties, and other buildings with existing uses that could be converted to permanent or interim housing;

- b) Master leasing of properties for noncongregant housing;
 - c) Conversion of units from nonresidential to residential;
 - d) New construction of dwelling units;
 - e) The purchase of affordability covenants and restrictions for units;
 - f) Relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units; and
 - g) Capitalized operating subsidies for units purchased, converted, or altered with funds provided by this section.
- 2) Requires, upon appropriation, by the Legislature, HCD to administer funding according to the timeline set forth below, subject to any modifications set forth by the guidelines:
- a) HCD may accept funding applications and issue awards on a continuous, over-the-counter basis until the funding has been exhausted or as otherwise required by law;
 - a) Each award shall be expended on the uses described in 1) above and in accordance with all relevant representations and descriptions in the application, within eight months of the date of the award; and,
 - b) Applicants may ask HCD for an extension of this timeframe on the grounds and according to the procedures set forth in the guidelines. The Director of HCD director shall have reasonable discretion to approve or deny such an extension upon conducting a full and good faith review of the applicant's extension request.

This bill:

- 1) Requires, for each Homekey+ award made on or after July 1, 2026, HCD consider allowing applicants that utilize funds for adaptive reuse to be subject to the same timelines as new construction, as set forth by HCD.

- 2) Defines “adaptive reuse” to mean retrofitting and repurposing of existing buildings to create new units.

Comments

Author’s statement. “In 2024, voters approved \$2.145 billion in funding to expand housing and treatment options for vulnerable populations and tasked the state with ensuring these funds are used effectively. AB 2320 helps the state meet that goal. Since the passage of Proposition 1, Homekey+ grant funding has been underutilized. The state has had funding available to build permanent supportive housing for veterans and individuals with behavioral health challenges for more than a year, yet barriers to development have limited the program’s use. AB 2320 does not reinvent the wheel. The 26-month completion timeline already exists for new construction projects. Applying this same timeline to adaptive reuse projects that require extensive demolition, and reconstruction aligns with industry standards and better reflects the realities of these developments. AB 2320 is a commonsense clarification that will help ensure Homekey+ funding can be deployed more effectively to expand permanent supportive housing for those who need it most.”

Homekey+. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the state used federal resources to create Project Roomkey to quickly house people experiencing homelessness temporarily in hotels and motels to avoid mass contamination of the virus and deaths. Project Roomkey later evolved into Homekey to fund the permanent acquisition of hotels and later new construction, master leasing, and other uses of the funds to create short-term and permanent housing to move people out of homelessness. In 2024, the voters approved Proposition 1 for the creation of housing for people experiencing homelessness with substance abuse and mental health challenges. Those funds have been available through Homekey+. According to information on HCD’s website, \$767,900,183 of the \$2.145 billion available has been awarded. HCD issued a Notice of Funding Availability for the 2.1 billion for Homekey+ in March 2026. This includes funding for veterans housing, which was separately authorized by Prop 1.

Homekey+ can be used for a variety of uses and establishes timelines for when construction must begin and completed. For new construction and gap financing, groundbreaking must occur within six months of award, construction must be complete within 24 months, capital expenditure must be complete within 27 months and the units must be occupied by 27 months. All eligible uses, including acquisition and rehabilitation, must complete construction within 12 months, complete capital expenditure within 15 months, and be occupied within 15 months.

The sponsors wish to use Homekey+ for adaptive reuse projects, which would involve a full teardown of an existing structure, not just rehabilitation. They contend that adaptive reuse projects typically involve extensive demolition, structural reconfiguration, and major electrical and mechanical upgrades; which align more closely with the new construction timeline, rather than the rehabilitation timeline. For example, nearly all unit conversions from nonresidential to multifamily residential require significant upgrades (e.g., electrical and transformer upsizing, merging rooms, adding kitchenettes, and constructing community buildings) that go far beyond typical rehabilitation and better align with new construction.

This bill directs HCD, when awarding Homekey+ funds, to consider using the same timelines as new construction (26 months) instead of timelines for all other projects (14 months).

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Apartment Association
California State Association of Counties
Urban Counties of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/24/26 16:35:05

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2331
Author: Nguyen (D)
Amended: 3/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Cemeteries: removal of remains

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires a superior court to grant an application for the removal of human remains, when the required consent from a family member cannot be obtained, if the application for permission establishes good cause for the removal.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines the following relevant terms:

- a) “Human remains” or “remains” means the body of a deceased person, regardless of its stage of decomposition, and includes cremated, reduced, or hydrolyzed human remains. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code, § 7001.)
- b) “Cemetery” means a burial park, a mausoleum, a crematory and columbarium, or a place where six or more human bodies are buried. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7003.)

- c) “Cemetery authority” is the entity or person owning or controlling cemetery lands or property. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7018.)
 - d) “Lot,” “plot,” or “interment plot” means space in a cemetery used or intended to be used for the interment of human remains. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7022.)
- 2) Provides that the remains of a deceased person may be removed from a plot in a cemetery with the consent of the cemetery authority and the consent of one of the following, in the order named:
- a) The surviving spouse.
 - b) The surviving children.
 - c) The surviving parents.
 - d) The surviving brothers or sisters. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7525.)
- 3) Provides that, if the required consent cannot be obtained under 2), permission by the superior court of the county where the cemetery is situated may be granted in lieu of consent. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7526.)
- 4) Requires notice of an application for permission under 3) to be given, at least 10 days prior thereto if by personal service, or at least 15 days prior thereto if by mail, to the cemetery authority and to the persons not consenting, and to every other person or association on whom service of notice may be required by the court. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7527.)
- 5) Provides that the requirement for consent or a court order does not apply in the following circumstances:
- a) When the remains will be moved from one plot to another in the same cemetery, or the removal of remains is from a plot for which the purchase price is past due and unpaid, and the remains will be moved to another suitable place within the same cemetery.
 - b) When the disinterment is ordered by the court or coroner. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7528.)

This bill requires a court to grant an application to move remains from a plot in a cemetery, when consent cannot be obtained, upon a showing of good cause.

Comments

Current law provides that the remains of a deceased person may not, in most circumstances, be removed from a cemetery plot without either (1) consent of the cemetery authority and a qualified family member, or (2) an order from the superior court granting permission for the removal.

This bill requires a superior court to grant an application for the removal of human remains, when the required consent from a family member cannot be obtained, if the application for permission establishes good cause for the removal.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

California League of United Latin American Citizens

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California League of United Latin American Citizens:

Under existing law, when required consent cannot be obtained, permission from the superior court is sufficient to allow the removal of remains from a cemetery plot. However, current law does not clearly direct courts on when such applications should be granted. AB 2331 provides needed clarity by requiring the court to grant an application when the petitioner demonstrates good cause.

For Latino families and many immigrant, farmworker, and working-class communities, burial traditions and the ability to honor loved ones in accordance with family, cultural, and religious wishes are deeply meaningful. When loved ones are buried far from family, or in circumstances unknown to their relatives at the time of death, families deserve a fair and accessible process to seek relief.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/16/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,

Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/18/26 16:33:42

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2402
Author: Boerner (D)
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/15/26

AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-1, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health studio contracts: fee limits: multiservice health club studio

SOURCE: Equinox

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a multiservice health club studio to charge more than \$4,400 for health studio services.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes consumer protections for contracts for health studio services. (Civil Code (CIV) §§ 1812.80-1812.98)
- 2) Defines a “contract for health studio services” as a contract for: instruction, training or assistance in physical culture, body building, exercising, reducing, figure development, or physical skill; (2) for the use of the facilities of a health studio, gymnasium or other facility used for the above purposes; or for membership in a group, club, association, or organization formed for any of the above purposes. (CIV § 1812.81)
- 3) Excludes the following from the definition of “contract for health studio services”:

- a) Contracts for professional services rendered or furnished by a licensed healing arts practitioner under the Business and Professions Code. (CIV § 1812.81, clause (a))
 - b) Contracts for instruction at schools operating pursuant to the provisions of the Education Code. (CIV § 1812.81, clause (b))
 - c) Contracts for instruction, training, or assistance relating to diet or control of eating habits not involving physical culture, body building, exercising, figure development, or any other such physical skill. (CIV § 1812.81, clause (c))
- 4) Prohibits a contract for health studio services from requiring payments or financing to exceed the term of the contract or providing contracts terms exceeding three years, as specified. (CIV § 1812.84(a))
 - 5) Authorizes a consumer to cancel a contract for health studio services in person, via email from an email address on file with the health studio, or via first-class mail anytime cancellation is authorized by the health studio contracts laws. (CIV § 1812.85(b)(1))
 - 6) Prohibits a contract for health studio services from requiring payment by the person receiving the services or the use of the facilities of a total amount in excess of \$4,400, inclusive of initiation or initial membership fees and exclusive of interest or finance charges. (CIV § 1812.86)
 - 7) Makes any contract for health studio services entered into in reliance upon any willful and false, fraudulent, or misleading information, representation, notice or advertisement of the seller void and unenforceable. (CIV § 1812.92)

This bill:

- 1) Exempts a contract for health studio services with a multiservice health club studio from the \$4,400 payment limit.
- 2) Defines “multiservice health club studio” as a studio that offers three or more of the following amenities: Digital platform services, such as on-demand classes; individualized training programming; fitness instructor training or certification; recurring group fitness classes; coworking space; childcare; swimming pool or pools; steam room; laundry services; onsite food and beverage; spa treatments; adult or youth sports programming; locker rooms.

Background

Regulation of Health Studio Contracts. California has regulated health studio service contracts for decades to protect consumers from excessive long-term financial obligations and unfair sales practices. Historically, lawmakers were concerned that consumers were being induced to enter into expensive, prepaid memberships that could extend for years, even when circumstances such as death, disability, or relocation made it impossible or impractical to use the services purchased. As a result, existing law provides cancellation and refund rights in specified circumstances, including when a member dies, becomes disabled, or moves beyond a prescribed distance from the health studio.

California's cap on the total financial obligation under a health studio contract was adopted to limit consumers' exposure to substantial future payment obligations. Civil Code § 1812.86 was enacted as part of California's Health Studio Services Contract Law to protect consumers from excessive financial commitments associated with prepaid gym memberships. Prior to 2005, the maximum contract amount had remained at \$1,000 since 1981. The cap, together with restrictions on contract duration, arose in response to concerns that consumers were purchasing costly long-term or "lifetime" memberships, sometimes costing thousands of dollars, only to have facilities close or cease operations before the promised services were delivered. In those cases, consumers were often left with little practical recourse despite having paid substantial sums in advance.

SB 581 (Figueroa, Chapter 439, Statutes of 2005) increased the allowable contract amount to \$3,000 beginning in 2006 and \$4,400 beginning in 2010 while simultaneously expanding cancellation and refund rights. The bill reflected a compromise that allowed higher-priced memberships while preserving safeguards against long-term financial exposure and high-pressure sales practices. Updates to the Health Studio Services Contract Law have typically balanced consumer protection with business flexibility by limiting the size and duration of health studio contracts while requiring cancellation rights, refund provisions, and other consumer safeguards.

SB 581 increased the allowable contract amount from the longstanding \$1,000 limit while retaining and expanding consumer protections. At the time, proponents noted that newer full-service health clubs, with amenities like pools, tennis courts, spa facilities, and longer-term memberships, were increasingly offering memberships that exceeded the existing statutory cap. The bill sought to accommodate evolving health club business models without abandoning the law's underlying consumer-protection purpose.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (6/15/2026)

Equinox (source)
Health and Fitness Association

OPPOSITION: (6/15/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Equinox writes that “members are not looking for a traditional gym; rather, they prefer a comprehensive lifestyle experience and are willing to pay a premium for it... AB 2402 appropriately recognizes that today’s health club market serves a wide range of customers, and that an outdated statutory cap that was designed for a very different era should not apply to modern, multi-service, luxury health clubs. This bill is about respecting consumer choice and allowing the market to meet those diversified needs. In this context, rigid “one-size fits all” fee caps are no longer necessary to protect consumers. Moreover, the original consumer protection intent of the law is currently reinforced by modern safeguards. California maintains some of the strongest auto-renewal and consumer transparency laws in the nation, and today’s consumers are more empowered than ever to manage subscriptions and make informed purchasing decisions. Nothing about AB 2402 changes this. By allowing pricing to be guided by market competition and consumer choice, AB 2402 will support continued substantial investment in comprehensive health and wellness facilities that meet the diverse needs of Californians. These spaces increasingly serve as hubs for health and wellness, productivity, and community, and offer individuals the ability to exercise, work, access childcare, and engage in wellness services all in one location.”

According to the Health and Fitness Association, “California has approximately 12,400 gyms and health clubs currently operating across the state, significantly more than were operating when California’s Health Studio Services law was established. Section 1812.86 of the Civil Code enforces a cap on the annual fees a health club can charge. This provision of California law has not been updated since 2005, over twenty years ago, while the fitness and wellness industry has evolved significantly since that time. Since those provisions were written, California has codified the strongest and most comprehensive auto-renewal laws in the United States to protect consumers from unwanted subscriptions. In today’s highly competitive marketplace, consumers have a wide range of choices, and pricing

should be shaped by natural market competition and consumer demand. The Health & Fitness Association believes lifting these caps would empower a "multiservice health club studio" to better deliver the world-class facilities that Californians deserve.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-1, 4/20/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Soria

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bennett, Bonta, Flora, Patel, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Schiavo, Ward

Prepared by: Sarah Mason/Anna Billy / B., P. & E.D. /
6/17/26 16:28:12

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2421
Author: Valencia (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Political Reform Act of 1974: committee termination

SOURCE: California Fair Political Practices Commission

DIGEST: This bill terminates a campaign committee when the committee has a cash balance of \$3,000 or less and has not filed a campaign report for at least the preceding 12 months.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Creates the Political Reform Act (PRA), which sets campaign finance and disclosure laws for state and local campaigns, candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures, and establishes the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to implement, administer, and enforce the PRA.
- 2) Requires, pursuant to the PRA, candidates for elective office, committees formed to support or oppose candidates for public office or ballot measures, slate mailer organizations, and other specified entities, to file periodic and activity-based campaign reports disclosing contributions, expenditures, and other related matters.

- 3) Defines a committee as a person, or combination of persons, who receives contributions of more than \$2,000 in a calendar year, makes independent expenditures totaling \$1,000 or more in a calendar year, or makes contributions totaling \$10,000 or more in a calendar year to or at the behest of candidates or committees.
- 4) Allows a committee to terminate provided that the committee or candidate will have no activity to disclose pursuant to the PRA's requirements for filing campaign reports.

This bill:

- 1) Terminates a committee 180 days after the Secretary of State (SOS) sends written notice to the committee's treasurer and to the FPPC that the SOS has determined that the committee has either:
 - a) Failed to submit a campaign report for at least the preceding 12 months and had an ending cash balance of \$3,000 or less on its last campaign statement or an ending cash balance of \$5,000 or less while \$2,000 or more is owed to the controlling candidate.
 - b) Filed a statement of organization in error.
- 2) Permits the committee, its representative, or the FPPC to file a written objection to the termination within the 180 days, which stops the termination. If the SOS receives no objection, then the committee terminates and within 30 days of that termination, the SOS shall send a notice to the filing officer with whom the committee was required to file its last campaign statement.

Comments

- 1) *Author's Statement.* This bill would improve the accuracy and integrity of our campaign finance disclosure system. By creating a process for the SOS to terminate inactive campaign committees, while still allowing committees the opportunity to object, this bill would ensure our database is up to date and reduces administrative burdens for regulators. This would allow the FPPC to focus its resources on compliance issues and investigations, creating stronger enforcement and oversight.
- 2) *Cal-Access and CARS.* In 2000, the SOS deployed, pursuant to SB 49 (Karnette, Chapter 866, Statutes of 1997), the California Automated Lobby Activity and Campaign Contribution and Expenditure Search System, or Cal-Access. Cal-Access replaced the paper-based system and provides on-line

filing of reports and statements required by the PRA. It also provides online access to these statements and reports for the public.

SB 1349 (Hertzberg, Chapter 845, Statutes of 2016) directed the SOS, in consultation with the FPPC, to replace Cal-Access with a new disclosure system, the Cal-Access Replacement System or CARS. The SOS expects to fully deploy CARS by the end of 2026 at which time all filing of campaign reports will be made online.

In the lead up to that deployment, the SOS and FPPC have sponsored a number of bills, including this one, to ensure that statute facilitates the effective operation of CARS.

Related/prior legislation

AB 808 (Addis, Chapter 278, Statutes of 2025), among other things, updates terms used in state law to reflect the electronic filing of required campaign-related reports that will occur when the SOS certifies the new online reporting system.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Fair Political Practices Commission (source)
California Common Cause

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The FPPC, the bill's sponsor, writes in support:

...many committees that should have terminated retain active status in the state's campaign finance database, CAL-ACCESS. With the new CAL-ACCESS Replacement System (CARS) in development, it is important that the Secretary of State have a mechanism to clear out defunct committees, so that CARS will include the most accurate and up-to-date information about committees possible.

To effectuate this purpose, [this bill] would authorize the Secretary of State to automatically terminate committees under specified circumstances, after a notice period and if no objection is made by the committee or the FPPC.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
6/24/26 16:35:05

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2458
Author: Bennett (D)
Introduced: 2/20/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 16-0, 6/8/26

AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Caballero,
Dahle, Gonzalez, Grove, McNerney, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Strickland,
Wahab

NO VOTE RECORDED: Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Energy: appliance standards and cost-effective measures

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends the California Energy Commission's (CEC's) water and energy appliance efficiency standards to appliances that are sold, rented, imported, distributed, or leased, or offered for sale, rental, importation, distribution, or lease.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the CEC to establish building and appliance standards to reduce the wasteful, uneconomic, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy, including the energy associated with the use of water. (Public Resources Code §25402)

- 2) Requires the CEC to establish appliance efficiency standards based on a reasonable use pattern. The CEC may prescribe other cost-effective measures, including incentive programs, fleet averaging, energy and water consumption labeling not preempted by federal labeling law, and consumer education programs, to promote the use of energy and water efficient appliances whose use requires a significant amount of energy or water use on a statewide basis. An appliance manufactured on or after the effective date of these standards may not be sold or offered for sale in California unless it complies with the standards. (Public Resources Code §25402)
- 3) Prohibits appliance standards from resulting in any added total costs for consumers over the designed life of the appliances concerned. When determining cost-effectiveness, the CEC must consider the value of the water or energy saved, impact on product efficacy for the consumer, and the life cycle cost to the consumer of complying with the standard. The CEC must consider other relevant factors, including, but not limited to, the impact on housing costs, the total statewide costs and benefits of the standard over its lifetime, economic impact on California businesses, and alternative approaches and their associated costs. (Public Resources Code §25402)
- 4) Prohibits appliance standards adopted by the CEC to take effect sooner than one year after the adoption date unless the CEC makes a specified finding of good cause substantiating the need for a sooner implementation date. (Public Resources Code §25402)
- 5) Requires the CEC to adopt appliance standards to facilitate the deployment of flexible demand technologies. These standards may include labeling provisions to promote the use of appliances with flexible demand capabilities. The flexible demand appliance standards shall be based on feasible and attainable efficiencies or feasible improvements that will enable appliance operations to be scheduled, shifted, or curtailed to enhance grid reliability, reduce emissions of greenhouse gases associated with electricity generation, or both enhancement and reduction. (Public resources Code §25402)
- 6) Authorizes the CEC to adopt regulations establishing an administrative enforcement process for violation of the CEC's appliance standards. Existing law allows the CEC to assess a civil money penalty for violations up to \$2,500 for each violation. Penalties assessed for appliance efficiency violations are deposited into the CEC's Appliance Efficiency Enforcement Subaccount and

fund the CEC's appliance efficiency enforcement activities upon appropriation by the Legislature. (Public Resources Code §25402.11)

This bill extends the CEC's water and energy appliance efficiency standards to appliances that are sold, rented, imported, distributed, or leased, or offered for sale, rental, importation, distribution, or lease.

Background

The CEC's appliance efficiency standards can provide consumer and ratepayer savings. Both the federal Department of Energy (DOE) and the CEC maintain authority to set efficiency standards for appliances. Federal appliance efficiency standards are mandatory baseline requirements that apply nationally, and they cannot be superseded by state standards. However, states may set standards for appliances that the DOE does not regulate. Energy efficiency standards for appliances have been a core component of California's energy conservation strategy since the enactment of the Warren-Alquist Act, which established the CEC in 1974. Improved energy and water efficiency can provide consumers with savings by reducing utility bill costs through lower energy and water consumption. In addition to direct bill reductions, increased energy and water efficiency standards can also reduce the need for new energy infrastructure and procurements by lowering overall load increases over time. Between 1973 to 2006, California's electrical load growth remained largely flat while national electricity demand grew by 50%. This flat trend was attributed to increased use of energy efficient appliances following the implementation of California's appliance standards.

Bill is aimed at ensuring consistency between demand response and efficiency standards. Prior legislation (SB 49, Skinner, Chapter 697, Statutes of 2019) expanded the CEC's authority to establish appliance standards to enable the CEC to set standards that facilitate the use of demand response technologies, such as smart thermostats. While existing law does not specifically limit the CEC's demand response standards to solely to appliances purchased outright, existing statute limits the CEC's overall efficiency standards to only those appliances sold or offered for sale in the state. Several other states extend appliance efficiency standards to appliances that are leased or rented in addition to those appliances sold in the state. States that apply efficiency standards to leased or rented appliances include New York, Colorado, Washington, Nevada, Rhode Island, Hawaii, Vermont, and the District of Columbia. California's appliance efficiency standards are enforced on retailers. In the absence of California's efficiency standards applying to rented or leased appliances, entities may be able to circumvent the

CEC's efficiency standards by arguing that appliances rented or leased are "distributed" in the state rather than "sold" in California. This loophole may create an uneven regulatory space for appliances retailed in California and businesses, including out-of-state businesses, that rent to individuals in California.

Bill may primarily impact commercial food service appliances. While this bill does not apply to a specific type of appliance, the CEC is in the process of considering new standards for certain commercial food service appliances, including commercial dishwashers. The CEC estimates that new standards for commercial dishwashers could save the state 399 gigawatt hours of electricity, 18 million therms of gas, 2.62 billion gallons of water, and \$199.3 million in utility costs per year when the full stock of commercial dishwashers are switched to more efficient models. Few appliances in the residential sector are leased or rented; however, the CEC estimates that approximately 50% of commercial dishwashers are leased. The CEC estimates that potentially more than 90% of appliances impacted by regulations that extend to leased or rented appliances would be commercial appliances.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1063 (Skinner, Chapter 362, Statutes of 2022) authorized the CEC to implement adopted appliance standards without a one-year waiting period if the CEC first makes a specified good cause finding for the faster implementation date.

SB 49 (Skinner, Chapter 697, Statutes of 2019) modified the CEC's appliance energy efficiency regulatory authority to allow the CEC to establish appliance efficiency standards that facilitate the deployment of flexible demand technologies. The bill also required the California Natural Resources Agency to conduct an assessment of upgrades to the State Water Resources Development System that would support California's climate goals.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

Appliance Standards Awareness Project
California Efficiency + Demand Management Council
California State Association of Electrical Workers
Ceres
Coalition of California Utility Employees
Consumer Federation of America

International Association of Plumbing & Mechanical Officials
Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Southern California Edison

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

Flexible demand appliances provide users with the ability to schedule or shift their electricity usage. This allows an appliance to be in use at a time when renewables are abundant, and energy costs are low. Although the Energy Commission has established flexible demand standards and efficiency standards for appliances sold in California, it does not have authority to ensure that these common sense standards apply to appliances that are rented or leased. AB 2458 allows the Energy Commission to apply their existing regulations to all appliances used in California which will ultimately provide commercial appliance users a means by which to reduce their energy costs.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Sarah Smith / E., U. & C. / (916) 651-4107
6/24/26 16:35:06

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2476
Author: Ellis (R)
Amended: 4/27/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 16-0, 6/8/26

AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Caballero,
Dahle, Gonzalez, Grove, McNerney, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Strickland,
Wahab

NO VOTE RECORDED: Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Electricity: integrated resource plans: Department of Water
Resources: procurement

SOURCE: Rye Development, LLC

DIGEST: This bill eliminates the requirement that a pumped storage hydroelectric facility be directly appropriated funding by the state before January 1, 2023, in order for the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to procure resources from the facility as part of the central procurement function.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes and vests the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) with regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations. (Article 12 of the California Constitution)

- 2) Establishes the DWR to manage the state's water supply. (Water Code §100 *et seq.*)
- 3) Requires the CPUC, in consultation with the California Independent System Operator (CAISO), to establish resource adequacy (RA) requirements for all load-serving entities (LSEs), including community choice aggregators (CCAs) and electric service providers (ESPs). Requires the RA program to achieve certain objectives, including maximizing the ability of CCAs to determine the generation resources used to serve their customers. (Public Utilities Code §380)
- 4) Authorizes the CPUC to fix the rates and charges for every public utility and requires that those rates and charges be just and reasonable. (Public Utilities Code §451)
- 5) Requires the CPUC to identify a diverse and balanced portfolio of resources needed to ensure a reliable electricity supply that provides optimal integration of renewable energy in a cost-effective manner as part of the integrated resource planning (IRP) process. (Public Utilities Code §454.51)
- 6) Requires the CPUC to adopt a process for each electrical corporation, ESP, or CCA to file an IRP and a schedule for periodic updates to the plan, and to ensure that LSEs meet other specified requirements. (Public Utilities Code §454.52)
- 7) Requires the CPUC to determine if there is a need for the procurement of eligible energy resources, requires the CPUC to specify the eligible energy resources that should be procured to meet that need, and authorizes the CPUC, within six months of making that determination, to request the DWR to procure those specified resources that meet the portfolio of resources, as specified. (Public Utilities Code §454.52 (a)(4)(B)(C))
- 8) Authorizes the DWR to procure those resources specified by the CPUC request only before January 1, 2035. (Public Utilities Code §454.52 (a)(4)(D)(E))
- 9) Provides that eligible energy resources procured by DWR meets all the following requirements:
 - i) The resource directly supports attainment of the state's goal to achieve 100% zero-carbon and renewable energy resources by 2045, without increasing reliance on the state's dependence on any fossil fuel-based resources.

- ii) The CPUC determines the resource to not be under contract at sufficient levels as shown in LSEs' most recent individual IRPs submitted to and reviewed by the CPUC to achieve SB 100 (De León, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2018) goals.
 - iii) The resource has a construction and development lead time of at least five years.
 - iv) The resource does not generate electricity using fossil fuels or fuels derived from fossil fuels.
 - v) The resource does not use combustion to generate electricity (except ancillary and necessary to facility geothermal electricity generation). (Public Utilities Code §454.52 (h)(1))
- 10) Authorizes a pumped hydroelectric facility to qualify as an eligible energy resource if it does not exceed 500 megawatts (MW) and has been appropriated funding by the state before January 1, 2023. (Public Utilities Code §454.52 (h)(2))
- 11) Establishes the policy of the state that eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources supply 90% of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers by December 31, 2035, 95% of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers by December 31, 2040, 100% of all retail sales of electricity to California end-use customers by December 31, 2045. (Public Utilities Code §454.53)
- 12) Establishes a renewables portfolio standard (RPS) and requires all retail sellers, including investor-owned utilities (IOUs), ESPs, and CCAs, to procure a minimum quantity of electricity products from eligible renewables energy resources, as defined, so that total kilowatt hours of those products sold to their retail end-use customers achieves 25% of retail sales by December 31, 2016, 33% by December 31, 2020, 44% by December 31, 2024, 52% by December 31, 2027, and 60% by December 31, 2030. (Public Utilities Code §399.15)
- 13) Establishes the Electricity Supply Strategic Reliability Reserve Program (ESSRRP) and Fund at the DWR that continuously appropriates moneys in the fund to DWR for purposes of implementing projects, purchases, and contracts for the purchase of electricity from resources to support summer reliability. (Water Code §80700 et seq.)

This bill eliminates the requirement that a pump hydroelectric facility be directly appropriated funding by the state before January 1, 2023, in order for the DWR to

procure resources from the facility as part of the central procurement function authorized by AB 1373 (E. Garcia, Chapter 367, Statutes of 2023).

Background

Authorizing DWR to provide a central procurement function. AB 1373 authorized DWR to procure eligible energy resources meeting specified criteria to be procured by DWR if the CPUC makes a request. Namely, the language prohibits resources that are derived from fossil fuels, or would increase dependence on fossil-fueled resources, and prohibit any resource that uses combustion (except if it is ancillary to the production of geothermal energy). AB 1373 also explicitly authorized DWR to procure pumped storage hydroelectricity resources that are 500 MW or less and have received state funding. The language at the time was intended to capture the San Vicente Reservoir project which received funding in the 2021 State Budget.

As part of the process to authorize DWR to procure eligible resources, the CPUC must determine that the resource is not under contract at sufficient levels to meet the state's clean energy goals and has a construction and development lead time of at least five years. During passage of AB 1373, it was understood that, at a minimum, offshore wind, geothermal energy resources, and pumped hydroelectricity energy storage project at San Vicente Reservoir of up to 500 MW would be among the eligible resources DWR could procure.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author:

AB 2476 is designed to enhance the state's existing central procurement program by permitting the procurement of pumped-storage hydro (PSH) as an eligible zero carbon resource available to the program. Under the initial program PSH was limited. PSH is a reliable, cost-effective, long-duration storage clean energy option that also diversifies the state's energy resources.

CPUC request to DWR for central procurement function. Since AB 1373 was chaptered the central procurement function has been exercised only as the CPUC has made a request to DWR. In August 2024, the CPUC issued a decision (D. 24-08-064) as part of the IRP process, determining the need for centralized procurement of long lead-time resources. The decision aimed to make it easier to secure diverse clean energy resources through a central entity, such as the DWR. The decision determined a need for centralized procurement activity by DWR for

long duration energy storage (12+ hours duration), long duration energy storage of multiple day duration, geothermal, and offshore wind (these amounts are noted in the table below). Subsequently, in February 2025, then-CPUC President Alice Reynolds sent a letter to DWR as a procurement request to DWR to initiate its central procurement function citing D. 24-08-064 and the authority provided by AB 1373, and the specific resources and timelines. The letter stated: “I expect DWR SWEQ [Statewide Energy Office] will conduct solicitations and carefully evaluate the quality of the bids received, including cost containment and ratepayer risk provisions, and that DWR SWEQ may procure in amounts between zero and the upper limits established in this decision [D.24-08-064].” The letter further encouraged DWR to follow the recommended timeline. There is ongoing work to determine how best to stand up the central procurement function which would then enable potential solicitations for energy storage (both multi-day and 12+ hours duration) later this year should DWR seek to procure the resources.

Resource Type	Maximum Quality	Solicitations Beginning in	Online By
Long Duration Energy Storage: 12+ hours duration	1 Gigawatt (GW)	2026	2031-2037
Long Duration Energy Storage: multiple day duration	1 GW	2026	2031-2037
Geothermal	1 GW	2027	2031-2037
Offshore Wind	7.6 GW	2027	2035-2037

Desire to expand eligible projects. This bill would expand the list of eligible hydroelectric energy storage (pumped storage) projects that could be considered by DWR should it exercise the central procurement function. This bill would explicitly remove the requirements that only a pumped storage project that received state funding could be eligible, while retaining the 500 MW cap. In this regard, the San Vicente Reservoir project would no longer be the only project eligible for this procurement. The supporters of this bill include project proponents for at least two other existing pumped storage project efforts, Bison Peak (480 MW) in the Tehachapi Mountains and GreenGen’s Mokelumne Pumped Storage Project (400 MW) in Amador and Calaveras Counties. Other known projects that may become eligible, depending on their viability, are the Swan Lake North Pumped Storage Project (393 MW) in Klamath County and LEAPS project (500 MW) in Lake Elsinore in Riverside County. At the time AB 1373 was being considered, some stakeholders opposed the bill’s proposal to limit the generation

resources eligible for central procurement by DWR. With regards to pumped storage, there were many concerns about making more controversial projects eligible – specifically a long-sought project, Eagle Mountain (1200 MW) pumped storage project near Joshua Tree National Park. Additionally, other resource types sought to be included among the eligible types of projects. This bill would expand the eligibility to other pumped storage projects, which could also invite additional efforts by stakeholders wishing to have other energy resources become eligible for DWR procurement.

Cost protections. Authorizing DWR to procure energy can have the unintended effect of reducing supply in the energy market and increasing prices overall (particularly in the currently constrained energy market). However, adding more eligible resources can also provide additional competition for DWR procurement should it be needed. When AB 1373 was being considered, there was much concern about the use of a central procurement function which could have unintended consequences of affecting the behavior of market participants, including LSEs, electric POUs, and generators, who may elect to delay procurement transactions so as to position themselves for procurement by DWR. Or behavior changes by project developers who might prefer the opportunity to negotiate a contract with DWR rather than cobbling contracts among LSEs. AB 1373 attempted to address these challenges by limiting resources to those noted above, including those with at least a five-year construction and development horizon – therefore a resource that is less likely to be procured in the current market. The bill also provided an added safeguard that required the CPUC to determine whether the procurement by DWR (including any bonds) is just and reasonable prior to the procurement, and if so, recoverable by a nonbypassable charge on customer's electric utility bills. DWR procurement would be an additional costs on customers' current electric utility bills, though it's unclear to what extent these would be less than, or more than, what would otherwise be procured to meet the state's clean energy and reliability goals. This bill does not alter these requirements.

Prior/Related Legislation

AB 1373 (E. Garcia, Chapter 367, Statutes of 2023) made numerous changes to electricity policy, most notably, authorized the DWR to serve as a central procurement entity to procure energy resources in order to help the state meet its renewable and zero-carbon energy resources and reliability goals should the CPUC identify a specific procurement need and make a request of DWR.

SB 123 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 52, Statutes of 2023) extended the date, from September 2022 to October 2023, by when electric IOUs may be reimbursed for above-market costs for imported energy and capacity products delivered or capable of being delivered to the state within the ESSRRP.

SB 124 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 53, Statutes of 2023) extended the date, from September 2022 to October 2023, by when electric IOUs may be reimbursed for above-market costs for imported energy and capacity products delivered or capable of being delivered to the state, clarified that DWR must present an investment plan to the CEC, rather than the contracts, and makes additional clarifying changes of the ESSRRP.

AB 205 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 61, Statutes of 2022) established the ESSRRP, among its many provisions.

AB 209 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 251, Statutes of 2022) made additional changes to the ESSRRP, established the Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program, among its many energy-related provisions.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

Rye Development, LLC (Source)
Agricultural Energy Consumers Association
EDF Power Solutions
GreenGenStorage LLC

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: EDF power solutions states:

PSH [pumped storage hydroelectricity] is proven technology deployed throughout the globe that provides reliable long duration energy storage that shifts and shapes load without emitting greenhouse gasses. According to the US Department of Energy, PSH comprises 88 percent of utility scale energy storage output, and 44 percent of nameplate capacity, in the United States. California is a world leader in clean energy innovation and deployment, including energy storage. Integrated resource planning efforts now reflect a growing need for

energy storage with durations of 8 hours or more, reflecting a clear role for PSH. Despite its potential and proven reliability, current law effectively limits eligibility for DWR centralized procurement to one project. AB 2476 would make a minor change to statute to allow more PSH projects to qualify for potential procurement.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Nidia Bautista / E., U. & C. / (916) 651-4107
6/24/26 16:35:07

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2503
Author: Wallis (R)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Interscholastic Federation: pupil health: heat illness:
guidelines

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires, by July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF) to review and update, as necessary, the guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness, with special consideration for regions of the state with higher average temperatures.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the CIF, in consultation with the California Department of Education (CDE), to develop, by July 1, 2024, guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness. (Education Code (EC) § 35179.8)
- 2) Requires the guidelines identify the environmental conditions at which a school shall limit and prohibit practice and play. (EC § 35179.8)
- 3) Requires the guidelines include information regarding the accurate measurement of environmental heat stress at the site of the athletic activity,

including the use of Wet Bulb Globe Thermometer (WBGT) to determine ambient temperature, relative humidity, wind speed, and solar radiation from the sun, including sun angle and cloud cover. (EC § 35179.8)

- 4) Requires the guidelines identify the environmental conditions at which a school shall have a method to institute whole-body cooling to treat a student athlete with exertional heat illness, especially heat stroke, that is easily accessible at all practice and contest venues. (EC § 35179.8)
- 5) Requires, if a school district or charter school elects to offer any interscholastic athletic program, the governing board of a school district or the governing body of a charter school to ensure that there is a written emergency action plan in place that describes the location of emergency medical equipment and procedures to be followed in the event of a sudden cardiac arrest and other medical emergencies, including concussion and heat illness, related to the athletic program's activities or events. (EC § 35179.4)
- 6) States it is the intent of the Legislature that the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program emphasize a training component that includes certification in cardiopulmonary resuscitation, use of an automated external defibrillator, and first aid that includes, but is not limited to, training in recognizing the signs and symptoms of, and responding to, concussions, heat illness, and cardiac arrest. Defines "heat illness" as including heat cramps, heat syncope, heat exhaustion, and exertional heat stroke. (EC § 35179.1)

This bill:

- 1) Requires, by July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the CIF to review and update, as necessary, the guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness, with special consideration for regions of the state with higher average temperatures.
- 2) Makes findings and declarations related to balancing temperature thresholds for outdoor practices and contests against the disruption and logistical challenges caused by late evening practices.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "In 2024, youth sports in America lost an estimated one week of practice or competition due to extreme heat, wildfires,

flooding, smoke, or harsh winters. California had the most missed days of any state. ... Existing law requires the CIF, in consultation with the State Department of Education, to develop guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness. ... For students in Region Category 3, California's deserts and valleys, the current Wet Bulb Globe Temperature (WBGT) threshold of 92.1, set by the California Interscholastic Federation (CIF), is overly restrictive.

Coaches, athletic directors, administrators, and parents throughout my district have expressed strong support for an initiative to update the CIF Wet Bulb Globe Temperature guidelines. High School sports practices have been forced late into the evening or early morning to meet compliance. Long days have disrupted family routines, created logistical and transportation issues, led to burn out and fatigue, and negatively impacted student-athlete academic and athletic performance. Living in California's desert communities presents a unique kind of acclimatization. A one size fits all threshold does not work for my communities. By requiring CIF to annually review and update, if deemed necessary, the heat thresholds for youth sports, we will solve a significant problem for many high schools in my district."

CIF's structure and role in interscholastic athletics. The CIF, founded in 1914, is a voluntary organization consisting of over 1,600 public, public charter, and private high schools and over 750,000 student-athletes, for the purpose of governing education-based athletics in grades 9 through 12. Almost all public and private high schools in California are CIF members. The CIF is organized under CDE, and CDE has allowed the CIF to regulate interscholastic athletics and be the rulemaking body for these programs.

The CIF consists of ten regional sections, each of which is divided into several local leagues, for purposes of developing sports, scheduling athletic contests, and assigning referees. Each league elects a representative to their respective CIF section's governing body, which is called a Board of Managers or Council. Each CIF section's governing body elects officers, establishes section policies, develops section playoff sports and schedules, and CIF members adhere to these rules and regulations adopted by their section.

Training on heat illness for coaches. Currently, CIF offers training programs to high school coaches who earn a certificate upon course completion that is transferable between school districts. These training programs are part of the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program and currently include instruction on CPR and first aid, concussions, sudden cardiac arrest, and

heat illness. According to CIF's website, coaches who are part of CIF member schools must complete these training courses every two years.

WBGT as a measure of heat stress. According to the National Weather Service, the WBGT “is a measure of the heat stress in direct sunlight, which takes into account: temperature, humidity, wind speed, sun angle, and cloud cover (solar radiation). This differs from the heat index, which takes into consideration temperature and humidity and is calculated for shady areas.” The WBGT is seen as particularly valuable in environments where people are physically active, such as sports, because it provides a better assessment of the risk of heat-related conditions during physical exertion.

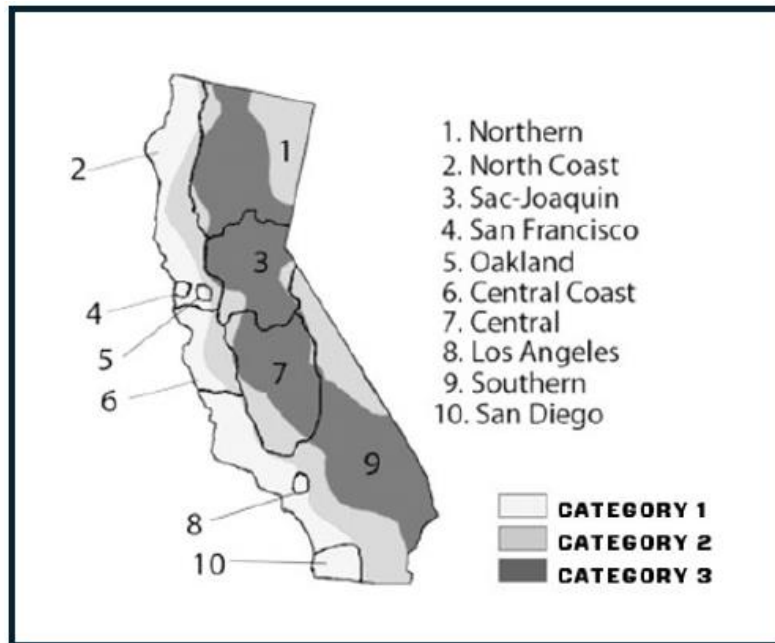
The Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability at Duke University provides the following example of how WBGT readings can vary depending on multiple environmental inputs. In this example, higher humidity and slower wind leads to a higher WBGT reading despite a lower temperature:

	Temperature	Humidity	Wind	WBGT
Day 1	95°	25%	4 mph	85.3°
Day 2	85°	50%	2 mph	88.1°

Follow-up on 2023 legislation addressing heat-related deaths for student athletes. In response to concerns about heat illness as a leading cause of death for student athletes, AB 1653 (Sanchez, Chapter 589, Statutes of 2023) required the CIF, in consultation with CDE, develop guidelines, procedures, and safety standards, by July 1, 2024, for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness. The legislation required the guidelines to include information about the accurate measurement of environmental heat stress at the site of athletic activity, which included the use of WBGT.

The guidelines developed by CIF pursuant to AB 1653 divides the state into three geographic areas, with coastal areas in Region Category 1, slightly inland areas in Region Category 2, and hotter and drier inland areas in Region Category 3. (See the graphic below from 2024 CIF report that shows the three Region Categories.) The report indicates that practices and games must be canceled, or delayed, when WBGT readings exceed the following: 86.2 degrees for Region Category 1; 89.9 degrees for Region Category 2; and 92 degrees for Region Category 3. It's important to note that a WBGT reading is usually lower than from outside air temperature. CIF also provides outdoor activity guidelines on rest breaks, outdoor

practice time, and the protective equipment that should be shed depending on the WBGT reading for a given region.



Given the author's concerns about the CIF guidelines being overly restrictive or leading to unintended consequences, this bill requires CIF to annually review, and update as necessary, the guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for the prevention and management of exertional heat illness for the three regions outlined in the 2024 guidelines.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1248 (Hurtado, Chapter 463, Statutes of 2024) requires CDE to compile and post on its website standardized guidelines that would trigger modifications to student physical activities during extreme weather conditions.

AB 1653 (Sanchez, Chapter 589, Statutes of 2023) requires the CIF, in consultation with the CDE, to develop guidelines, procedures, and safety standards for monitoring the safety of practice and play when WBGT readings reach specified levels, no later than July 1, 2024. The bill also requires the governing board of the school district or the governing body of the charter school to ensure that there is a written emergency action plan in place that describes the location and procedures to be followed in the event of heat illness related to the athletic program's activities or events.

AB 245 (McKinnor, Chapter 422, Statutes of 2023) adds to the California High School Coaching Education and Training Program, by July 1, 2024, a training component in recognizing and responding to the signs and symptoms of concussions, heat illness, and cardiac arrest.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/10/26)

Small School Districts Association
The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/10/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Lee, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/12/26 12:50:13

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2532
Author: Irwin (D)
Amended: 5/7/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/8/26

AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland

NO VOTE RECORDED: Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Cannabis: labels, packaging, and manufacturing

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires edible cannabis products and cannabis beverages to include the toll-free telephone number for the national Poison Help line on labels and inserts and requires cannabis beverage products with multiple servings to contain specified information and markers related to the serving sizes, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) to regulate the cultivation, distribution, transport, storage, manufacturing, processing, and sale of both medicinal cannabis and adult-use cannabis. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 26000)
- 2) Establishes the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC), under the jurisdiction, of the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency, to administer and

regulate provisions of MAUCRSA. (BPC § 26010)

- 3) Requires all cannabis or cannabis products purchased by a customer to be placed in an opaque package prior to leaving a licensed retail premises. (BPC § 26070.1)
- 4) Requires cannabis and cannabis products to be labeled and placed in a tamper-evident, child-resistant package and include a unique identifier for the purposes of identifying and tracking prior to delivery or sale at a retailer. Requires package must be re-sealable if the product contains more than one serving. (BPC § 26120(a))
- 5) Prohibits cannabis product packaging and labels from being attractive to children. (BPC § 26120(b))
- 6) Requires all cannabis and cannabis products labels and inserts to include the following information displayed in clear and legible fashion in accordance with requirements, including font size, prescribed by the DCC.

This bill:

- 1) Requires additional labeling information on an edible cannabis product or cannabis beverage product to include the toll-free telephone number for the national poison Help line.
- 2) Requires the label on a cannabis beverage containing more than one serving to clearly and conspicuously provide a print notice to consumers that the product contains multiple servings along with information how to accurately measure a single serving for consumption.
- 3) Requires for licensed manufacturers of cannabis products that cannabis beverage product containers, comprising of more than one serving, feature unobstructed and conspicuous lines delineating individual or portion sizes.
- 4) Requires a consumer to be offered at the time of purchase, a measuring instrument or device that allows a consumer to measure a single serving for consumption of a cannabis beverage with more than one serving. The measuring instrument is to be free of charge to the consumer.

- 5) Prohibits a licensed or unlicensed individual engaged in commercial cannabis activity from advertising or marketing cannabis beverage products containing multiple servings as single-serve products or otherwise encourage consumption of multiple servings within a cannabis beverage at one time.

Comments

Department of Cannabis Control (DCC). Today, the DCC is the lead agency responsible for oversight of the regulated cannabis market. DCC has both licensing and enforcement authority related to all commercial cannabis in California, including authority to act against unlicensed cannabis activities and take enforcement actions against any licensee who violates the provisions of MAUCRSA, including for violations of marketing or advertising restrictions. The DCC is vested with authority to make reasonable rules and regulations necessary to implement, enforce, and administer its duties as specified in MAUCRSA. The DCC licenses over 20 license types including laboratories, cultivators, manufacturers, retailers, cannabis event organizers, processors, and distributors. Cannabis in California is regulated from seed to sale including the growing, distribution, and testing of cannabis products.

Labeling and Packaging Requirements for Cannabis. There are strict labeling and packaging requirements for cannabis and cannabis products. Language enacted as part of the original Medical Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MCRSA) established standards for cannabis packaging and labeling, including specific cautionary statements. Proposition 64 (Adult Use of Marijuana Act (AUMA)) then codified nearly identical language for its own mandated label content, with a handful of minor variations reconciled when SB 94 merged MCRSA and AUMA into MAUCRSA. Under current law, all cannabis labels must display the following statement in bold print:

GOVERNMENT WARNING: THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS CANNABIS, A SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS. CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY ONLY BE POSSESSED OR CONSUMED BY PERSONS 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER UNLESS THE PERSON IS A QUALIFIED PATIENT. THE INTOXICATING EFFECTS OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY BE DELAYED UP TO TWO HOURS. CANNABIS USE WHILE PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING MAY BE HARMFUL. CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE AND OPERATE MACHINERY. PLEASE USE EXTREME CAUTION.

For cannabis products, the label must display:

GOVERNMENT WARNING: THIS PRODUCT CONTAINS CANNABIS, A SCHEDULE I CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. KEEP OUT OF REACH OF CHILDREN AND ANIMALS. CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY ONLY BE POSSESSED OR CONSUMED BY PERSONS 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER UNLESS THE PERSON IS A QUALIFIED PATIENT. THE INTOXICATING EFFECTS OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS MAY BE DELAYED UP TO TWO HOURS. CANNABIS USE WHILE PREGNANT OR BREASTFEEDING MAY BE HARMFUL. CONSUMPTION OF CANNABIS PRODUCTS IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE AND OPERATE MACHINERY. PLEASE USE EXTREME CAUTION.

In addition to the above statements, MAUCRSA requires certain information about the product's ingredients and contents to be listed, as well as information associated with a unique identifier number for purposes of tracking the cannabis goods. If the product utilizes a vaporizer, it must include the recycle symbol and all cannabis products are required to display the universal symbol developed by the DCC through regulations. MAUCRSA also authorizes the DCC to set its own additional requirements for cannabis packaging and labeling. Regulations promulgated by the DCC and its predecessors have incorporated additional labeling standards. For example, all labels must be "unobstructed and conspicuous" in at least 6-point type size and must be written in English. If the cannabis product is edible, the regulations require specific information about potential allergens in the product, the names of any artificial colorings, and any sugar, carbohydrates, and total fat per serving.

This bill proposes to mandate that all cannabis and cannabis product labels include the toll-free number for the national Poison Help line. According to information from the California Department of Public Health *Cannabis Poison Control System Calls Dashboard*, between 2016-2024, the total number of calls to the California Poison Control System increased by 162% where the largest increases in those calls was seen in cannabis exposure among children aged five and under. Four other states require a similar poison control hotline number be marked on a label including New Mexico, Washington, Vermont and New Jersey. Michigan requires the poison control hotline information to be contained in a pamphlet provided at the time of sale.

Under MAUCRSA, cannabis beverages are defined as a “form of edible cannabis product that is intended to be consumed in its final state as a beverage.” All cannabis beverages are required to abide by the same labeling requirements as all other cannabis and cannabis products but are authorized to be packaged in containers that are clear or any color. Because Cannabis beverage products often contain more than one serving in a container, this bill proposes to implement recommendations from the California State Auditor’s report by requiring a cannabis beverage container that includes more than one serving to feature unobstructed and conspicuous line(s) delineating the individual and serving size. Additionally, this bill will require manufactures of cannabis beverage products containing more than one serving, to offer the consumer at the time of purchase a free measuring instrument or device that will allow the consumer to measure a single serving. Lastly, this bill would prohibit a licensed or unlicensed individual from advertising or marketing a cannabis beverage product as a “single serving” product if the beverage contains more than one serving.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

California Academy of Child & Adolescent Psychiatry
Public Health Institute
Youth Forward

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters note generally that this bill will help address challenges of cannabis beverage products and unintentional excessive THC exposure to children.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio,

Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia,
Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste
Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria, Wilson

Prepared by: Elissa Silva / B., P. & E.D. / 916-651-4104
6/24/26 16:35:08

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2561
Author: Valencia (D)
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/8/26
AYES: Cabaldon, Jones, Gonzalez, McNerney, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Reyes,
Umberg, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Operating systems and applications: privacy settings

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits an operating system or application from undoing a user's affirmative configuration of a privacy setting without the user's consent.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, pursuant to the California Constitution, that all people have inalienable rights, including the right to pursue and obtain privacy. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 1.)
- 2) Establishes the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA), which grants consumers certain rights with regard to their personal information, including enhanced notice, access, and disclosure; the right to deletion; the right to restrict the sale of information; and protection from discrimination for exercising these rights. It places attendant obligations on businesses to respect those rights. It does not apply to government entities. (Civ. Code § 1798.100 et seq.)
- 3) Defines "personal information" for purposes of the CCPA as information that identifies, relates to, describes, is reasonably capable of being associated with,

or could reasonably be linked, directly or indirectly, with a particular consumer or household. The CCPA provides a nonexclusive series of categories of information deemed to be personal information, including biometric information, geolocation data, and “sensitive personal information.” (Civ. Code § 1798.140(v)(1).)

- 4) Defines “consent” for purposes of the CCPA as any freely given, specific, informed, and unambiguous indication of the consumer’s wishes by which the consumer, or the consumer’s legal guardian, a person who has power of attorney, or a person acting as a conservator for the consumer, including by a statement or by a clear affirmative action, signifies agreement to the processing of personal information relating to the consumer for a narrowly defined particular purpose. Acceptance of a general or broad terms of use, or similar document, that contains descriptions of personal information processing along with other, unrelated information, does not constitute consent. Hovering over, muting, pausing, or closing a given piece of content does not constitute consent. Likewise, agreement obtained through use of dark patterns does not constitute consent. (Civ. Code § 1798.140(h).)

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits an operating system or an application from undoing a user’s affirmative configuration of a privacy setting without the user’s consent.
- 2) Defines the relevant terms:
 - a) “Application” means a software program, mobile app, or desktop app that collects, processes, or stores personal information about a user in the state and that provides privacy settings allowing the user to control the collection, use, sharing, or disclosure of that personal information.
 - b) “Consent” and “personal information” have the same meaning as laid out in the CCPA.
 - c) “Privacy setting” means any user-configurable option within an application’s privacy, or similarly labeled, menu that governs the application’s collection, use, sharing, disclosure, retention, or processing of the user’s personal information.

Background

Consumer data collection has become an inescapable feature of modern digital life, with operating systems, applications, and online services continuously gathering information about your location, browsing habits, purchase history, device usage,

and even physical activity. This is often done in ways that are not immediately visible to the average user. Tech companies, advertisers, and data brokers aggregate this information to build detailed profiles that can influence everything from the ads a consumer sees to the prices they are offered, and in some cases, the data is sold to or accessed by third parties the consumer never interacted with.

Privacy settings on operating systems such as Windows, macOS, iOS, and Android allow users to review and set permissions granted to apps, limit location tracking, disable telemetry and diagnostic sharing, and restrict ad personalization. At the app level, consumers generally have the ability to control access to their camera, microphone, contacts, and storage, and to opt out of data sharing features.

This bill ensures that those consumers who take advantage of these options and configure their privacy settings are having their preferences honored. This bill prohibits an operating system or application from undoing a user's affirmative configuration of a privacy setting without the user's consent.

This bill is author sponsored. No timely support or opposition has been received.

Comments

Given the sensitivity of the information that can be exposed when using electronic devices, privacy settings are extremely important tools for consumers, providing them some modest measure of control over the flow of their information.

Microsoft details the privacy settings available for Windows and how they work:

Windows privacy settings let you control which apps can access your personal data and device features—such as your location, camera, microphone, contacts, and calendar—so you can decide what information apps can use and when.

...

Each privacy setting controls access to a specific type of data, such as your location, camera, or contacts. You can turn access on or off for individual apps.

If you turn off access for an app, that app can't use the related data or feature.¹

¹ Microsoft, *Windows privacy settings that apps use*, <https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/windows/windows-privacy-settings-that-apps-use-8b7f2cf4-c359-bf99-0f69-2123cc9ddfc1>.

Identifying the growing importance of privacy to consumers, Apple has instituted a number of more protective privacy settings for users. For example, these settings can limit data tracking by applications downloaded to consumer devices:

App Tracking Transparency.

Your devices carry the story of your life. We believe you should have a choice in how apps track and share your data with other companies for advertising or with data brokers.

Starting with iOS 14.5 and iPadOS 14.5, apps are required to ask your permission when they want to track you across apps and websites owned by other companies. You can change your preference for any app or prevent apps from asking for permission entirely in Settings.²

This bill seeks to ensure consumers' configuration of these settings is respected. It prohibits an operating system or an application from undoing a user's affirmative configuration of a privacy setting without the user's consent. While this protection only applies to settings that a user affirmatively configures, rather than those privacy settings that may be the default, it provides some additional layer of protection for consumers.

According to the author:

AB 2561 strengthens privacy protections for consumers by ensuring that software companies and applications do not change privacy settings without their consent. The overwhelming majority of Californians strongly desire data minimization. However, many software systems and apps change user's privacy settings, most notably after an update. If a user is savvy enough to notice a difference in their settings, the onus falls on them to troubleshoot the issue and re-adjust their privacy setting to what it was prior to the update. AB 2561 would prioritize user's privacy rights and ensure they remain in control of their data.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

² Apple, *Control is yours*, <https://www.apple.com/privacy/control/>.

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Christian Kurpiewski / P., D.T., & C.P. / (916) 651-1548
6/10/26 16:58:22

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2568
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 4/27/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Water district directors: compensation

SOURCE: West Valley Water District

DIGEST: Authorizes, until January 1, 2032, certain water districts to compensate board members for up to 15 days a month.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Specifies that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of any water district may, by ordinance, provide compensation to members of the governing board, unless any compensation is prohibited by its principal act, in an amount not to exceed \$100 per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the board, or for each day's service rendered as a member of the board by request of the board, and may, by ordinance, increase the compensation received by members of the governing board above the amount of \$100 per day, as specified
- 2) Provides that the determination of whether a director's activities on any specific day are compensable shall be made pursuant to existing law
- 3) Specifies that in any ordinance adopted to increase the amount of compensation which may be received by members of the governing board of a water district

above the amount of \$100 per day, the increase may not exceed an amount equal to 5%, for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment, of the compensation which is received when the ordinance is adopted. No ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter shall authorize compensation for more than a total of 10 days in any calendar month

- 4) Provides that any water district described in 5), below, is authorized to adopt ordinances pursuant to this chapter. No ordinance shall be adopted except following a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation, as specified
- 5) Defines for the purposes of 1) through 4), above, “water district” to mean any district or other political subdivision, other than a city or county, a primary function of which is the irrigation, reclamation, or drainage of land or the diversion, storage, management, or distribution of water primarily for domestic, municipal, agricultural, industrial, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, flood control, or power production purposes. “Water districts” include, but are not limited to, irrigation districts, county water districts, California water districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, county waterworks districts, drainage districts, water replenishment districts, levee districts, municipal water districts, water conservation districts, community services districts, water management districts, flood control districts, flood control and floodwater conservation districts, flood control and water conservation districts, water management agencies, water agencies, and specified public utility districts

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes specified water districts that have at least 90,000 residents within their jurisdiction to allow for board members to be compensated for up to a total of 15 days in any calendar month.
- 2) Provides that, if a water district compensates its members for more than 10 days in a calendar month, the members of the governing board of the water district shall annually adopt a written policy describing, based on a finding supported by substantial evidence, why providing compensation for more than 10 days per calendar month is necessary for the effective operation of the water district.
- 3) Specifies that the above provisions shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2032, and as of that date are repealed.

Background

Board member meetings. A local agency may compensate members of its legislative body for attending specified events (AB 1234, Salinas, Chapter 700, Statutes of 2005):

- a) A meeting of the legislative body;
- b) A meeting of an advisory body;
- c) A conference or educational activity that complies with the Brown Act, including ethics training; and
- d) Other events, but only if the governing body has adopted a written policy specifying those other occasions.

Districts that are allowed to provide compensation are usually limited to doing so for a maximum number of meetings per calendar month. Most special districts that perform some type of water service, whether it be flood control, drinking water, or irrigation, can compensate their board members up to \$100 per day for a maximum of 10 days per calendar month. In addition, many, but not all, districts may also increase the daily rate for attending meetings by five percent per year by annually adopting an ordinance that provides for such an increase.

Many special districts can also reimburse the members of their legislative bodies for their actual and necessary expenses to attend meetings. Local officials must fill out expense reports and provide receipts to receive reimbursement. At their next regular meeting after the meeting for which reimbursement was provided, officials must also give brief reports about the meetings they attended at the agency's expense.

In 2018, the Legislature allowed one water district, Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), to compensate its board members up to 15 days per month until December 31, 2023 (AB 1889, Caballero, Chapter 251, Statutes of 2018). The Legislature later repealed the sunset date in 2023 to allow SCVWD to indefinitely compensate its members 15 meeting days a month (AB 939, Pellerin, Chapter 170, Statutes of 2023).

West Valley Water District. The West Valley Water District (WVWD) serves residents primarily in San Bernardino County with a small service area extending into Riverside County. First formed as the West San Bernardino County Water District in 1952, the district now operates five treatment plants, 360 miles of pipeline, 25 reservoirs, 17 wells, and serves roughly 20,000 service connections, providing drinking water to 100,000 residents. WVWD's five-member board of directors governs the district, with voters electing directors to four-year terms.

WVWD's board approved a policy that allows for a variety of meetings, events, and conferences to be eligible for compensation. This includes regular board meetings, conferences, community meetings, and any other activity the board preapproves. Currently, WVWD board of directors receive compensation for up to 10 days per month like other water districts. Although state law sets the base stipend at \$100 per meeting, the WVWD board has frequently exercised its ability to increase that rate by 5% annually, putting the current stipend amount at \$227 per meeting, for a total of \$27,240 per year.

Comments

According to the author, "AB 2568 updates the outdated statutory cap on water board member compensation to reflect the complex regulatory and operational realities modern water districts face. By providing permissive authority to increase the monthly meeting cap from 10 to 15 days, this bill ensures directors are fairly compensated for the actual time required for essential governance and regional coordination."

Raise your glass. Local agencies compensate their board members for the time and expenses associated with serving on behalf of the district. This compensation generally takes the form of a per-meeting payment, up to a maximum number of meetings per year. Limiting the number of meetings for which a public agency can compensate its members with taxpayer funds builds in a safeguard by ensuring that board members don't claim more compensation than they need to perform their duties. AB 2568 relaxes this limitation by increasing the number of meetings for which board members may be compensated, potentially eroding the public's trust in the motivations of their elected officials. By expanding the number of days board members get compensated, it may create an incentive for board members to schedule meetings across different days in order to increase their compensation, regardless of whether those meetings are necessary. Although board compensation is intended to support effective governance and facilitate participation in district oversight, questions from the public may arise as to whether the proposed increased in compensated days is necessary to achieve those objectives.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/18/26)

West Valley Water District (Source)
Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
California Special Districts Association

Desert Water Agency
Water Replenishment District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/18/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, DeMaio, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/19/26 14:57:59

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2636
Author: Pacheco (D)
Amended: 3/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Pérez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Juveniles

SOURCE: California Police Chiefs Association
Chief Probation Officers' of California

DIGEST: This bill requires the court to consider, for purposes of determining suitability of a minor for deferred entry of judgement (DEJ), whether the minor is charged with carrying a loaded firearm in public.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, generally, that a minor who is between 12 years of age and 17 years of age, inclusive, when the minor violates any law defining a crime, is subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and to adjudication as a ward. (Welfare (Welf.) & Institutions (Inst.) Code, § 602, subd. (a).)
- 2) Requires, whenever a case is before the juvenile court for a determination of whether a minor may be adjudicated as a ward because of the commission of a felony offense, the minor to be considered for DEJ if all of the following circumstances apply:

- a) The minor has not previously been declared to be a ward of the court for the commission of a felony offense;
 - b) The offense charged is not a Section 707(b) offense;
 - c) The minor has not previously been committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Division of Juvenile Facilities;
 - d) The minor's record does not indicate that probation has ever been revoked without being completed;
 - e) The minor is at least 14 years of age at the time of the hearing;
 - f) The minor is eligible for probation; and,
 - g) The offense charged is not rape, sodomy, oral copulation, or an act of sexual penetration when the victim was prevented from resisting due to being rendered unconscious by any intoxicating, anesthetizing, or controlled substance, or when the victim was at the time incapable, because of mental disorder or developmental or physical disability, of giving consent, and that was known or reasonably should have been known to the minor at the time of the offense. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (a).)
- 3) Requires the prosecuting attorney to review their file to determine whether the minor is eligible for DEJ based on the factors listed above, and if so determined, requires the prosecuting attorney to file a declaration with the court or state for the record the grounds upon which the determination is based. Requires this information to be available to the minor and their attorney. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).)
- 4) Authorizes the court, upon a finding that the minor is also suitable for DEJ and would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts, to grant DEJ. Requires the court to make these findings on the record where DEJ is granted. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).)
- 5) Provides that a person is guilty of carrying a loaded firearm when the person carries a loaded firearm on the person or in a vehicle while in any public place or on any public street in an incorporated city, city and county, or in any public place or on any public street in a prohibited area of an unincorporated area of a county or city and county. (Pen. Code, § 25850, subd. (a).)
- 6) Provides that carrying a loaded firearm in public is punishable as follows:
- a) Where the person previously has been convicted of any felony, or of any specified firearm-related offenses, as a felony.

- b) Where the firearm is stolen and the person knew or had reasonable cause to believe that it was stolen, as a felony.
- c) Where the person is an active participant in a criminal street gang, as a felony.
- d) Where the person is not in lawful possession of the firearm, or is within a class of persons prohibited from possessing or acquiring a firearm, as a felony.
- e) Where the person has been convicted of a crime against a person or property, or of a narcotics or dangerous drug violation, as an alternate felony-misdemeanor (hereinafter “wobbler”).
- f) Where the person is not listed with the Department of Justice (DOJ) as the recorded owner of the handgun, as a wobbler.
- g) In all others cases, as a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, by a fine not to exceed one \$1,000, or by both. (Pen. Code, § 25850, subd. (c).)

This bill requires the court to consider, for purposes of determining suitability of a minor for DEJ, whether the minor is charged with carrying a loaded firearm in public.

Background

DEJ is a post-adjudication, pre-disposition diversion program. Under existing law, certain juvenile offenders are eligible for DEJ. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790.) For DEJ, a minor must admit each allegation in the petition, and the judgment is deferred while the minor is placed on probation for one to three years. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 791.) While on probation, certain terms and conditions related to the minor’s treatment and rehabilitation are imposed. Upon the successful completion of the terms of probation, the charge or charges against the minor are dismissed, the arrest upon which the judgment was deferred is deemed never to have occurred, and any records in the possession of the juvenile court are required to be sealed, except as specified. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 793, subd. (c).) If it appears to the prosecuting attorney, the court, or the probation department that the minor is not performing satisfactorily in the assigned program or is not complying with the terms of the probation, or that the minor is not benefiting from education, treatment, or rehabilitation, the deferred entry of judgment is lifted and the court will schedule a dispositional hearing. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 793, subd. (a).)

In order to be eligible for DEJ, a minor must meet the following requirements: (1) the minor has not previously been declared to be a ward of the court for the

commission of a felony offense; (2) the offense charged is not a serious or violent felony listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707 (b); (3) the minor has not previously been committed to the custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice; (4) the minor's record does not indicate that probation has ever been revoked without being completed; (5) the minor is at least 14 years of age at the time of the hearing; (6) the minor is eligible for probation under Penal Code section 1203.06; and (7) the offense charged is not one of several specified sex offenses. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (a).) The prosecuting attorney is required to make a determination regarding a minor's eligibility for DEJ, and if the minor is eligible, the prosecuting attorney must notify the court, the minor, and the minor's attorney. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).) The juvenile court must then decide if the minor is suitable for DEJ. A minor is suitable for DEJ if the judge finds that the minor would benefit from court-ordered education, rehabilitation, and treatment efforts. (*Ibid*).

Under existing law, a person who personally used a firearm during the commission or attempted commission of specified offenses is ineligible for DEJ. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b); Pen. Code, § 1203.06.) This bill requires the court to consider whether the offense charged is an offense of carrying a loaded firearm in public in making its DEJ suitability determination. Existing law does not enumerate specific factors for the court to consider in its suitability determination. It appears the court has broad discretion to grant when the court makes a finding that the minor would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts. It is unclear whether this new consideration is to be made in conjunction with the court's determination that the minor would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts, or if it is to be considered separately and how the court is to weigh that fact in its determination.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

California Police Chiefs Association (co-source)
Chief Probation Officers' of California (co-source)
Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
California Narcotic Officers' Association
California Police Chiefs Association

California Reserve Peace Officers Association
Claremont Police Officers Association
Corona Police Officers Association
Culver City Police Officers' Association
Fullerton Police Officers' Association
Los Angeles School Police Management Association
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Murrieta Police Officers' Association
Newport Beach Police Association
Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

ACLU California Action
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
California Public Defenders Association
Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Justice2Jobs Coalition
La Defensa
Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union, Local 148
San Francisco Public Defender

ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT: According to the Chief Probation Officers of California, one of the bill's co-sponsors:

In California, under Welfare & Institutions Code 790, Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) for juveniles is a path for first-time, nonviolent felonies where the minor admits guilt, completes programming, and has their charged dismissed and their case sealed if successfully completed, thereby enabling the youth to avoid a formal conviction. While DEJ plays a role within the continuum of juvenile justice responses, it is not structured or designed to address more serious offenses. As DEJ is intended for first time nonviolent offenses, there are current offenses excluded from eligibility in recognition of the seriousness of the offense and the types of interventions that are necessary, including existing firearms offenses.

With an uptick in serious and violent juvenile crime, and impacts in communities from juvenile gun offenses, it is imperative to address these types of crimes through structured rehabilitative programming and accountability to address and mitigate future risk of adult re-offense. In 2016, 1 in 10 juvenile arrests were for a violent felony. In 2024, 1 in 5 arrests were for a violent felony. Additionally, in regards to recent juvenile violent felony data from 2021 to 2024 (the period following the closure of DJJ), violent felony arrests went up 69.28%.

Despite existing law already prohibiting minors from possessing firearms and making it a wobbler, current DEJ eligibility does not expressly exclude possession of a loaded firearm, thereby allowing this offense to be eligible for a program designed for low-level first-time offenses. Carrying a loaded firearm carries great consequence to the community and it is imperative that more structured court interventions are utilized in these cases to address the rehabilitation and safety needs of youth committing these offenses.

This bill represents a balanced and necessary change to ensure that courts are giving consideration to this specific offense of carrying a loaded firearm when looking at the appropriate disposition for these cases. It prioritizes public safety while preserving rehabilitative opportunities for youth through more structured juvenile court interventions. This change ensures that California's response to juvenile firearm possession is aligned with best practices in youth risk management and other efforts to reduce juvenile and community gun violence.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION: La Defense writes:

Juvenile DEJ offers an opportunity for youth to have their case dismissed and records sealed upon successful completion of treatment and supervision in a community setting. Eligible youth must admit all allegations charged and waive the right to a speedy jurisdictional hearing. If a youth subsequently commits a felony offense or two or more misdemeanors, the deferred judgment will be imposed. Under existing law, a juvenile court may consider whether a youth charged with a first-time, non-violent offense would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation when determining whether to grant DEJ. AB 2636 impedes this process, requiring the court to consider whether the offense charged includes possession of a

loaded firearm, making it less likely that youth charged with a first offense will be able to benefit from these programs.

While reducing gun possession among youth should be a priority, this bill increases punishment for youth without improving public safety. Despite an uptick in gun sales during the pandemic, the share of U.S. youth who carry guns has decreased. At the same time, responses to youth charged with weapon possession have grown increasingly punitive over the last decade, with juvenile courts increasingly less likely to provide diversion and more likely to choose detention, especially for youth of color. Rather than keeping us safer, removing opportunities for education, treatment, and rehabilitation is likely to worsen gun violence and other crime. Reducing gun possession among youth requires comprehensive initiatives involving community partners, not punitive responses that make the problem worse.

Targeted diversion is a proven solution, especially for youth charged with a first offense. It is well-established that longer periods of confinement produce higher rates of recidivism for youth. Recently, the Office of Youth and Community Restoration recognized that community-based alternatives to incarceration reduce further system involvement, decrease life disruption, and promote positive health and social outcomes. Moreover, diversion is especially effective for youth with little prior involvement in the justice system. Given the developmental status of minors, programs that help improve critical thinking and judgement skills have been shown to substantially lower violence among at-risk youth. Further, programming designed specifically for youth facing gun possession charges is highly effective in preventing recidivism.

AB 2636 will reduce opportunities for youth charged with a first-time, non-violent offense to participate in these programs and receive the services they need, increasing the number of youth incarcerated at juvenile detention facilities and driving up costs without providing a benefit to public safety. This is especially troublesome when the state's own agency responsible for guiding the transition away from youth incarceration has recognized the extensive benefits of diversion, education, treatment, and rehabilitation for youth offenders.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly,

Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Chen, Elhawary, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Kalra, Lee, McKinnor, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
6/10/26 17:00:44

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2641
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D)
Amended: 4/21/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/10/26

AYES: McNerney, Alvarado-Gil, Ashby, Becker, Grayson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Sales and use taxes: exclusion: pawnbrokers: transfer of vested property

SOURCE: California Pawnbrokers Association

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset on the sales and use tax exemption for customers who repurchase their property from a pawnbroker until January 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Imposes the sales tax on every retailer “engaged in business in this state” that sells tangible personal property and requires them to register with the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA), as well as remit taxes collected from purchasers to CDTFA.
- 2) Applies the sales tax whenever a retail sale occurs, which is generally any sale other than one for resale in the regular course of business.
- 3) Provides that unless the purchaser pays the sales tax to the retailer, they are liable for the use tax, which is imposed on any person consuming tangible

personal property in the state, and requires the purchaser to remit use tax to CDTFA.

- 4) Sets the state sales and use tax rate at 7.25% of the sales price of the property sold or used, of which 3.9375% flows to the state General Fund.
- 5) Defines and regulates pawnbrokers under the Financial Code, which allows them to offer collateral-based loans that include related interest charges and fees in exchange for holding onto a customer's property.
- 6) Requires pawnbrokers to provide a written contract and specified loan terms for every loan and retain possession of every article pledged to them for the duration of the loan period, which existing law describes as "pledged property."
- 7) Allows pledgors to redeem their property upon complete payment of the loan and the applicable charges and requires that if a pledgor does not redeem pledged property within a specified period, the title becomes automatically vested with the pawnbroker, which existing law describes as "vested property."
- 8) Provides for a sales and use tax exemption, until January 1, 2027, when customers who defaulted on their loans repurchase their property, reacquire the property within six months of when the pawnbroker was vested the property, and the person pays the pawnbroker the remaining unpaid balance of the loan, including accrued charges and interest, together with one of the following:
 - a) For an original loan amount not exceeding \$2,499.99, charges and interest from the date the pawnbroker is vested with title to the property to the date of the purchase.
 - b) For an original loan amount of \$2,500 or more, charges and interest due in accordance with the last monthly contractual interest rate, from the date the pawnbroker is vested with title to the property until the date of purchase.

This bill:

- 1) Extends the sunset for the sales and use tax exemption for a transfer of title of vested property by a pawnbroker to a person who originally pledged the property as collateral for a loan, until January 1, 2032.
- 2) Makes legislative findings and declarations to comply with Section 41 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.

Background

Pawnbrokers. The Financial Code governs pawnbrokers and grants them the authority to offer collateral-based loans that include related interest charges and fees in exchange for holding onto a customer's property. Existing law requires pawnbrokers to provide a written contract for every loan, which must set forth the loan period and the date on which the loan will become due and payable, and that period must be at least four months. Pawnbrokers must retain possession of every article pledged to them for the duration of the loan period, which existing law describes as "pledged property." During that period, the pledgor may redeem the articles upon payment of the loan amount and the applicable charges. If a pledgor does not redeem any pledged property during the loan period, and the customer and pawnbroker do not mutually agree in writing to extend the loan period, the pawnbroker must notify the customer within one month after the loan period expires. This notice provides a pledgor with an extended right of redemption for a period of 10 days from the date of mailing or electronic transmission of that notice. If a pledgor does not redeem pledged property within the 10-day notice period, existing law requires the title to the pledged property to become automatically vested with the pawnbroker, which existing law describes as "vested property." After the title has vested with the pawnbroker, the customer no longer has any legal right to the property, and the pawnbroker may then sell or dispose of the vested property as they please. Accordingly, when a customer subsequently seeks to purchase the collateral, the transaction constitutes a separate taxable retail sale for purposes of the Sales and Use Tax Law because title of the property has transferred back from the pawnbroker to the pledgor. This bill eliminates the double-tax burden borne by customers in these circumstances by authorizing a sales-and-use tax exemption for the repurchase of collateral property retained by pawnbrokers.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Pawnbrokers Association (Sponsor)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "AB 2641 addresses an unfair and unintended consequence in California's tax code that can result in consumers paying sales tax twice on the same item. Individuals who purchase

goods have already paid the appropriate sales tax at the point of sale; however, if they later use that item as collateral for a loan and seek to reclaim it from a pawnbroker, current law can treat that transaction as a new taxable sale. While existing law provides a temporary exclusion to prevent this outcome, that protection is set to expire, creating uncertainty and the risk of reinstating double taxation. This measure simply extends that common sense protection, ensuring that Californians are not penalized for accessing short term financial services. By preventing duplicative taxation and promoting fairness in the tax system, this bill provides a modest but meaningful safeguard for consumers, particularly those who rely on pawnbrokers during times of financial need. In order to be eligible for the sales tax exemption, the following conditions must be met: 1) transactions where the original owner redeems the item within six months; 2) the payment reflects only the unpaid loan balance plus allowable charges and interest, and; 3) the individual can demonstrate that sales tax was previously paid on the item.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Dixon, Gallagher, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Haley Summers / REV. & TAX. / (916) 651-4117
6/24/26 16:39:39

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2652
Author: Sharp-Collins (D), et al.
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Teacher credentialing: world languages: subject matter
examinations: language proficiency assessments

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill (1) expands pathways for candidates seeking a teaching credential in World Languages or a bilingual authorization to demonstrate language proficiency in languages for which the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) does not administer a subject matter examination; (2) authorizes candidates to satisfy applicable language examination requirements through successful completion of a comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessment.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the CTC and requires the Commission to establish standards for the issuance and renewal of credentials, certificates, and permits.
- 2) Requires the CTC to issue single subject teaching credentials only in specified subjects, including World Languages.

- 3) Requires candidates for teaching credentials to demonstrate subject matter competence.
- 4) Requires the CTC to adopt examinations and assessments to verify the subject matter knowledge and competence of candidates for single subject teaching credentials.
- 5) Requires the CTC to develop standards for bilingual-cross-cultural authorizations for credential holders serving English learners.
- 6) Requires candidates for bilingual authorizations to demonstrate competence in the oral and written skills of a language other than English through examinations, approved programs, or a combination of coursework and examinations.

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes candidates for a Single Subject credential in World Languages to satisfy applicable subject matter examination requirements through successful completion of a comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessment when the CTC does not administer an examination in that language.
- 2) Authorizes candidates for a bilingual authorization to satisfy applicable language proficiency requirements through successful completion of a comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessment when the CTC does not administer an examination in that language.
- 3) Expands the range of assessments that may be used to demonstrate proficiency in less commonly taught languages, including assessments maintained by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages.
- 4) Applies only in circumstances where the CTC does not currently administer a subject matter examination in the applicable world language.

Comments

- 1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, “California is one of the most diverse places in the world. However, our world language courses offered to students do not reflect the reality of our state. Currently, California only offers testing for a select group of languages. This is creating a shortage in credentialing opportunities that disproportionately impacts multilingual communities where dual immersion programs are essential for English learners and heritage language speakers.

“AB 2652 allows teachers to take language credentialing exams that California does not offer that have been approved by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). This bill ensures that public investments in bilingual education translate into classrooms staffed by qualified teachers. And it opens opportunities for more students to advance studies in their native tongue or begin learning a new language.”

- 2) *Expanding credentialing pathways for less commonly taught languages.* Under current law, candidates seeking a World Languages credential or bilingual authorization generally must demonstrate language proficiency through pathways tied to CTC-approved examinations, approved subject matter programs, or university coursework. While these pathways are workable for more commonly taught languages, they may be significantly more difficult for candidates seeking authorization in languages for which California does not administer a subject matter examination and for which few postsecondary programs exist.

As a practical matter, this can create a circular challenge: institutions may be reluctant to establish preparation programs in languages without existing state assessments, while prospective teachers may be unable to pursue authorization absent such programs or examinations. This bill attempts to address that gap by permitting candidates to demonstrate proficiency through comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessments when the Commission does not administer an examination in the relevant language.

- 3) *Alignment with broader state efforts to promote multilingualism and biliteracy.* Over the past decade, California has adopted a number of policies intended to expand multilingual education and recognize bilingualism as an educational asset rather than a deficit. These efforts include voter approval of Proposition 58, establishment and expansion of the State Seal of Biliteracy, adoption of the California English Learner Roadmap, and multiple state investments intended to expand dual language immersion programs and the bilingual teacher workforce.

At the same time, the state continues to face staffing challenges in bilingual and multilingual education settings. While California currently administers subject matter examinations in a relatively limited number of languages, many California students speak home languages for which no corresponding examination currently exists. To the extent this bill expands pathways for qualified multilingual candidates to obtain credentials or authorizations in those

languages, it may support broader state goals related to biliteracy, multilingualism, and culturally responsive instruction.

- 4) *Policy considerations regarding assessment comparability and rigor.* This bill would allow candidates to satisfy state language proficiency requirements through “comparable postsecondary language proficiency assessments” when no CTC-administered examination exists. This raises implementation questions regarding how the CTC would determine whether an assessment is sufficiently rigorous, aligned to California credentialing expectations, and comparable across providers and languages.

The bill appears intended to address these concerns in part by referencing assessments maintained by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, which are already widely used nationally and are utilized in other California educational contexts, including portions of the State Seal of Biliteracy framework. Nevertheless, the Committee may wish to consider the degree of flexibility that should be afforded regarding acceptable assessments and whether additional statutory guidance regarding equivalency standards would be appropriate.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
Los Angeles County Office of Education

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/24/26 16:39:40

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2655
Author: Valencia (D)
Introduced: 2/20/26
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Campaign funds: security expenses: security personnel

SOURCE: California Fair Political Practices Commission

DIGEST: This bill requires when campaign funds are used to pay for security personnel those personnel must be licensed by the State of California's Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Includes the Political Reform Act (PRA), which establishes California's campaign finance and disclosure laws for state and local campaigns, candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures, and which created the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to implement, administer, and enforce the PRA.
- 2) Prescribes that contributions deposited into a campaign account are held in trust to be used to elect candidates and for expenses associated with holding office.
- 3) Prohibits using campaign funds for the purchase, lease, or refurbishment of any appliance or equipment on real property leased or owned by a candidate, the candidate's campaign, or an immediate family member of the candidate.
- 4) Makes an exception to the prohibition in 3) allowing a candidate or elected officer to use unlimited campaign funds until 2029 and then \$10,000 year

thereafter for security expenses to protect the candidate, the elected officer, or the immediate family or staff thereof, provided that the threat arises from being a candidate, elected officer, or the family or staff of that person.

- 5) Defines security expenses for purposes of 4) above as:
 - a) The reasonable costs associated with installing and monitoring home or office electronic security.
 - b) The reasonable costs of providing personal security.
 - c) Any other tangible item related to security.
 - d) Excluding payments for a gun or made to a relative.
- 6) Mandates the candidate or elected officer one year after leaving office or after the conclusion of the threat, whichever comes later, to return any tangible security items to the campaign or reimburse the campaign for them at their fair market value.
- 7) Requires the candidate or elected officer to report any expenditure or reimbursement for security to the FPPC on their annual campaign statement and to also submit a form signed under penalty of perjury that describes and verifies the threat to the candidate or elected officer or their immediate family or staff that arose as a result of being a candidate or elected officer.
- 8) Mandates the candidate or elected officer maintain various records related to payments for security, including reports that provide evidence of the threat that gave rise to the expenditure.
- 9) Creates the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services to license and regulate private security services, and prohibits any person from working as a private security officer without being licensed by the bureau.

This bill mandates that campaign funds spent on security personnel may only pay those who are licensed by the state's Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

Comments

Author's Statement. This bill requires that campaign funds only be used to pay for personal security services if the security personnel are properly licensed by the California Bureau of Security and Investigative Services. By ensuring security personnel meet California's existing training and licensing standards, personnel will be prepared to protect candidates, elected officials and their families from political violence.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 789 (Bonta, Chapter 621, Statutes of 2025) allows candidates for office and elected officials to use unlimited amounts of campaign funds for security purposes until January 1, 2029, and \$10,000 per year thereafter.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/16/26)

California Fair Political Practices Commission (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/16/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

The sponsor of the bill, the FPPC, writes in support:

There are currently no requirements or guidelines for a committee that wishes to use campaign funds to hire security personnel. Under existing law, a committee would be permitted to hire any person to provide security, even if that person had no background, training, or expertise in providing security services.

[This bill] would provide important clarification by authorizing the use of campaign funds to pay security personnel only if the security personnel hold the appropriate license issued by the Bureau of Security and Investigative Services.

This bill will help ensure that any security personnel hired to protect a candidate, elected officer, or their staff or family have the appropriate training and experience to effectively respond to emergency situations.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,

Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson,
Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover,
Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
6/17/26 16:28:19

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2663
Author: Rogers (D), et al.
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle,
Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverages: retail on-sale license: off-sale privileges

SOURCE: California Restaurant Association

DIGEST: This bill extends, until December 31, 2029, existing law that authorizes the holder of an on-sale license for a bona fide public eating place to sell alcoholic beverages for off-sale consumption under certain conditions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and grants it exclusive authority to administer the provisions of the ABC Act in accordance with laws enacted by the Legislature. This involves licensing individuals and businesses associated with the manufacture, importation, and sale of alcoholic beverages and the collection of license fees for this purpose.

- 2) Provides, under the ABC Act, for the issuance of various alcoholic beverage licenses, including the imposition of fees, conditions, and restrictions in connection with the issuance of those licenses.
- 3) Prohibits a person from exercising the privilege which a licensee may exercise or performing under the authority of a license unless the person is authorized to do so by a license.
- 4) Authorizes a person holding an on-sale general license, with respect to beer and wine, and any on-sale license, with respect to the particular beverage or beverages mentioned in the license, to exercise the rights and privileges granted by an off-sale beer and wine license.
- 5) Allows a person who has purchased and partially consumed a bottle of wine to remove the partially consumed bottle from the premises of an on-sale beer and wine public premises licensee.
- 6) Provides that any person under 21 years of age who purchases any alcoholic beverage, who consumes any alcoholic beverage in any on-sale premises, or who possesses any alcoholic beverage on any street or highway or in any public place or any place open to the public is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 7) Provides that every person who sells, furnishes, gives, or causes to be sold, or given away any alcoholic beverage to any person under 21 years of age is guilty of a misdemeanor.
- 8) Defines an “on-sale” license as authorizing the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages: namely, beer, wine, and distilled spirits, for consumption on the premises (such as at a restaurant or bar). An “off-sale” license authorizes the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages for consumption off the premises in original, sealed containers.
- 9) Defines “bona fide public eating place” to mean a place which is regularly and in a bona fide manner used and kept open for the serving of meals to guests for compensation and which has suitable kitchen facilities connected therewith, containing convenience for cooking and assortment of foods which may be required for ordinary meals, the kitchen of which must be kept in a sanitary condition with the proper amount of refrigeration for keeping of food and said premises and must comply with all the regulations of the local Department of Health.

- 10) Authorizes, until December 31, 2026, specified on-sale licensees that operate a bona fide public eating place to sell distilled spirits for off-sale consumption for which their license permits on-sale consumption if the beverages are in manufacturer-prepared containers, and ordered and picked up by the consumer. This bill authorizes a licensee to sell the alcoholic beverages, except beer, for off-sale consumption for which their license permits on-sale consumption when the beverages are not in a manufacturer-prepackaged container if specified conditions are met.

This bill extends, until December 31, 2029, existing law that authorizes the holder of an on-sale license for a bona fide public eating place to sell alcoholic beverages for off-sale consumption under certain conditions.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author’s office, “AB 2663 extends the sunset date on provisions established by SB 389 by Senator Dodd. This critical legislation allows restaurants and certain alcohol manufacturers to sell prepackaged alcoholic beverages for off-premises consumption alongside a meal. Since their adoption, these provisions have provided a critical and reliable source of revenue for California’s hospitality industry, especially small family-run businesses that adapted to evolving consumer preferences and ongoing economic challenges. Importantly, these privileges are accompanied by strong safeguards which ensure that both consumers and restaurant owners are upheld with protocol on safe consumption at home, including requirements for sealed containers, limits on the number of drinks per meal, and in-person age verification at pickup. There is no evidence that these provisions have resulted in significant public safety concerns.”

ABC Regulatory Relief and Current Authorization. On March 19, 2020, the Department of ABC issued its first regulatory relief designed to support the restaurant industry in its efforts to assist California in slowing the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Among other things, the first regulatory relief allowed licensees with on-sale privileges the privilege of selling those alcoholic beverages for off-sale consumption in manufacturer pre-packaged containers as to which their license permits on-sale consumption.

For example, a Type 47 restaurant was allowed to sell beer, wine, and distilled spirits for off-sale consumption, regardless of any condition on its license to the contrary and regardless of the statutory prohibition against on-sale licensees selling

distilled spirits for off-sale consumption. Similarly, a Type 41 beer and wine restaurant licensee was allowed to sell beer and wine, but not distilled spirits, for consumption off the premises regardless of any conditions on its license that prohibit such sales.

In addition to selling manufacturer pre-packaged containers, the first regulatory relief allowed licensees selling beer, wine, and pre-mixed drinks or cocktails not in manufacturers containers for consumption off the licensed premises when sold in conjunction with meals prepared for pick-up or delivery either by the licensee or by a meal provider. Any such alcoholic beverages needed to be packaged in a container with a secure lid or cap and in a manner designed to prevent consumption without removal of the lid or cap. Containers with lids with sipping holes or openings for straws were not considered to be an appropriate container. Any licensee selling such beverages for off-sale consumption were required to prominently post warning in a manner that put consumers on notice of limitations regarding open container laws.

While the regulatory relief allowed restaurants the ability to sell both prepackaged alcoholic beverages and cocktails for consumption off the licensed premises, it did not diminish in any way the responsibility of the licensee to ensure that alcoholic drinks are being sold and delivered to persons under the age of 21. Restaurants are still fully responsible for ensuring that any customer who purchases alcoholic beverages are of legal age regardless of whether that customer purchases the alcohol in person or through any other means and regardless of whether the customer picks up the alcoholic drinks at the restaurant or if the alcohol is delivered to their home. This regulatory relief was initially set to expire on December 31, 2021.

In 2021, SB 389 (Dodd, Chapter 657, Statutes of 2023) was signed into law by Governor Newsom. The bill codified regulatory relief similar to that provided by the Department of ABC through Regulatory Relief Notices issued during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, the bill authorized specified restaurants with bona fide public eating places to sell distilled spirits in manufacturer-sealed containers, such as cans or bottles, for off-site consumption, provided the order is picked up by the consumer and the consumer presents bona fide identification.

The bill also authorized those same licensees to sell distilled spirits and single-serving wine beverages that are not in manufacturer-sealed containers, such as cocktails or margaritas, for off-site consumption when sold in conjunction with a meal and picked up by the consumer upon presentation of identification. These sales are subject to additional requirements, including a two-drink-per-meal limit

and packaging requirements designed to prevent immediate consumption, such as secure lids or caps and tamper-evident sealing.

Prior to exercising the privilege to sell nonmanufacturer-sealed alcoholic beverages for off-site consumption, eligible licensees must notify the Department of ABC of their intent to do so. The department may restrict or prohibit these privileges by imposing license conditions under specified circumstances. These provisions are scheduled to sunset on December 31, 2026.

This bill extends the sunset date until December 31, 2029.

A Growing Trend. According to the National Restaurant Association's 2021 State of the Restaurant Industry Report, alcohol sales for takeout and delivery became an important source of revenue for restaurants during and after the COVID-19 pandemic. The report found that approximately 70% of full-service restaurants and about half of fast-casual restaurants offered alcoholic beverages for takeout or delivery. In addition, 58% of consumers surveyed stated that the ability to purchase alcoholic beverages with takeout orders significantly influenced their restaurant choices. The report also further reported that restaurant operators anticipate alcohol-to-go sales will continue to account for an average of 21% of total alcohol sales.

As of early 2026, more than 30 states and the District of Columbia have enacted laws permanently authorizing alcohol-to-go that were initially allowed on a temporary basis during the pandemic. Additionally, at least 33 states and the District of Columbia now permit third-party delivery services to deliver alcoholic beverages.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 495 (Dodd, 2024) would have authorized the Department of ABC to issue a consumer delivery service permit, which would allow the permittee to deliver alcoholic beverages on behalf of an alcohol license, as specified. In addition, the bill would have removed certain requirements related to alcohol-to-go including the requirement that the order be picked up by the consumer. (Held in the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File)

SB 969 (Wiener, Chapter 869, Statutes of 2024) authorizes specified licensees to allow consumers to leave the licensed premises with open containers of alcoholic beverages for consumption off the premises within an entertainment zone, as specified.

SB 389 (Dodd, Chapter 657, Statutes of 2021) authorizes, until December 31, 2026, specified on-sale licensees that operate a bona fide public eating place to sell distilled spirits of off-sale consumption for which their license permits on-sale consumption if the beverages are in manufacturer-prepared containers, and ordered and picked up by the consumer. This bill authorizes a licensee to sell the alcoholic beverages, except beer, for off-sale consumption for which their license permits on-sale consumption when the beverages are not in a manufacturer-prepackaged containers if specified conditions are met.

SB 1315 (Cortese, 2022) would have authorized the Department of ABC to issue a consumption area permit to a person in the City of San Jose who owns, operates or manages a privately owned commercial area of a specified size (Santana Row), which allows a consumer to leave a licensed premises with alcoholic beverages for consumption in a specified area. (Held in the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File)

AB 1470 (Evans, Chapter 535, Statutes of 2009) allows a person who has purchased and partially consumed a bottle of wine to remove the partially consumed bottle from the premises of an on-sale beer and wine public premises licensee.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, staff notes that the Department of ABC's activities are funded by regulatory and license fees and generally the department does not receive support from the General Fund. New legislative mandates, although modest in scope, may in totality create new cost pressures and impact the department's operating costs and future budget requests.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

California Restaurant Association (Source)
American Petroleum and Convenience Store Association
California Travel Association
California Downtown Association
California Retailers Association
Capitol Business Alliance
Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
Family Winemakers of California
Golden Gate Restaurant Association

Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce
Wine Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Restaurant Association, “the flexibility that alcohol-to-go sales provide for California’s hospitality community is essential. Since the establishment of the underlying law, a shift in patron’s dining habits and expectations have resulted in becoming a crucial part of many neighborhood restaurants, breweries, wineries, and craft distiller’s operations. AB 2663 is both timely and reasonable – without this extension, the authorization is set to expire on December 31, 2026, which would eliminate a widely used and effective tool that supports neighborhood restaurants and helps meet consumers’ demands.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bennett, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Macedo, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Stefani

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:39:40

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2697
Author: Pellerin (D)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 7-3, 6/8/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Smallwood-
Cuevas
NOES: Menjivar, Niello, Strickland
NO VOTE RECORDED: Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-9, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Cannabis: drive-throughs

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill permits a local jurisdiction to allow a cannabis retailer or microbusiness licensee who conducts storefront retail sales to sell cannabis or cannabis products in a drive-through, located at the retail establishment if specified conditions are met.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Enacts the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) to provide for a comprehensive regulatory framework for the cultivation, distribution, transport, storage, manufacturing, processing, and sale of medicinal and adult-use cannabis. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 26000 *et seq.*)

- 2) Establishes the Department of Cannabis Control (DCC) within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency for purposes of administering and enforcing MAUCRSA. (BPC § 26010)
- 3) Requires the DCC to make rules and regulations as necessary to implement, administer, and enforce its duties under MAUCRSA, as specified. (BPC § 26013)
- 4) Authorizes the DCC to issue a citation to a licensee or unlicensed person for violating any provision of MAUCRSA. (BPC § 26031.5)
- 5) Permits a local jurisdiction, if specified conditions are met, to allow for any of the following:
 - a) Smoking, vaporizing, and ingesting of cannabis or cannabis products on the premises of a licensed retailer or microbusiness that has been granted authority by a local jurisdiction to engage in onsite cannabis consumption
 - b) Preparation or sale of noncannabis food or beverage products in compliance with all applicable provisions of the California Retail Food Code, by a licensed retailer or microbusiness in the area where the consumption of cannabis is allowed.
 - c) Live musical or other performances on the premises of a licensed retailer or microbusiness in the area where the consumption of cannabis is allowed, and the sale of tickets for those performances. (BPC § 26200(g)(1))
- 6) Prohibits cannabis or cannabis products purchased by a customer from leaving a licensed retail premises unless they are placed in an opaque package. (BPC § 26070.1)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a local jurisdiction to permit a retailer or microbusiness licensee that conducts storefront retail sales from a premises to sell cannabis or cannabis products to a customer in a motor vehicle in a drive-through on the premises.
- 2) Requires drive-through sales to occur through a fixed-pane security window with a security drawer or similar secure transfer mechanism that is part of a

building located within the premises.

- 3) Exempts a retailer or microbusiness licensee that conducted retail sales through a drive-through in compliance with state and local law before January 1, 2027, from the provisions of this bill.
- 4) States that the provisions of this bill do not apply to a licensee that conducts retail sales exclusively through delivery, or a licensee that does not maintain a premises open to the public for retail sales.
- 5) Requires any retail cannabis or cannabis product sales through a drive-through comply with the requirements of MAUCRSA and any regulations adopted by the DCC.
- 6) States that the provisions of this bill do not limit the authority of a local jurisdiction to regulate drive-through sales, as specified.

Comments

Retail sales of Cannabis and Cannabis Products. To sell cannabis or cannabis products, an individual must be a licensed retailer or microbusiness. There are two types of retail licenses: Type 9) non-storefront retailer which is delivery only and Type 10) a storefront retailer. A storefront retailer is one that has a physical location where cannabis goods are sold. Storefront retailers can also deliver cannabis goods if all DCC regulations and requirements are met. A microbusiness license holder is one that combines three or more of the following activities: cultivation, manufacturing, distribution, or retail sales (storefront or non-storefront). This bill would authorize a licensed retailer or microbusiness that conducts retail sales, to sell cannabis or cannabis products through a drive through, which must be located on the licensed retailer's premises. Retail sales of cannabis via a drive-through will only be permitted if a local jurisdiction allows it. This bill does not create a new license type, simply adds to the existing methods of providing consumers with access to legally purchased cannabis or cannabis products.

DCC currently permits a non-storefront retailer to conduct sales exclusively by delivery. Delivery of cannabis goods must be performed by a delivery employee of the licensed retailer. Cannabis deliveries must abide by the same requirements for retail sales including age/customer verification, restricted sale hours, among others. Curbside delivery, a valuable relief during the COVID-19 pandemic, was formally

adopted in regulations in 2022; thereby permanently allowing curbside delivery of cannabis or cannabis products from a licensed retailer or microbusiness authorized to engage in storefront sales. Curbside delivery is authorized if the cannabis goods that have been purchased by a customer are delivered to the customer in a vehicle parked immediately outside the licensed retail premises. Curbside delivery of cannabis goods must occur under video surveillance. Retail employees engaging in curbside delivery must verify each customer's age. Licensed retailers who are only authorized to engage in retail sales through delivery only may not conduct sales through curbside delivery.

DCC's current regulations expressly prohibit the sale of cannabis goods through a pass-out window or a slide-out tray to the exterior of the licensed premises. However, the regulations provide an exemption for those commercial cannabis businesses that were approved by their local jurisdiction to have a drive-in or drive-through window or had applied for and subsequently received approval prior to June 1, 2018.

This bill would expressly authorize a licensed retailer or microbusiness who conducts retail cannabis sales to conduct retail cannabis sales through a drive-through window located on the premises. Sales must occur through a fixed-pane security window with a security drawer. Similar to delivery only retail sales, this bill would prohibit a non-storefront retailer from providing sales through a drive-through window. This bill would authorize, but not require, the DCC to establish regulations regarding the sales of cannabis through drive-throughs if necessary. Because there was a period, when prior iterations of regulators in the cannabis legal market were silent on the drive-through authorization, there are a handful of retailers that have previously been authorized by their local jurisdictions to provide retail sales through a drive-through window. The number of retailers with drive-throughs is likely not tracked by the DCC, as no separate license is required for a retail establishment with a drive-through. As currently drafted, this bill would grant a cannabis retailer with a drive-through that was locally authorized prior to January 1, 2027, to be exempt from the requirements that the sales occur through a fixed-pane window with a security drawer.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

A Therapeutic Alternative
California Cannabis Industry Association
California Cannabis Operators Association

California NORML
Cannabis Distribution Association
Chucks Wellness Center
City of Tulare
Dixon Wellness Cannabis Collective
Good Farmers Great Neighbors
Kiva Confections
Napa Cannabis Collective
Nug, INC.
Woodland Cannabis Dispensary

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

Prevention Policy Group
Public Health Institute

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters note “Adding drive through would create another consumer-friendly option for California consumers to access safe and legal cannabis, provided the local jurisdiction that approves the storefront retail operation further approves that retail location to offer this option. Further, it would allow a cannabis storefront retailer to provide the same level of service as curbside pickup, with the added benefit of not having employees exit the perimeter of the secured retail location.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Opponents note, “This proposal would normalize and further commercialize cannabis sales in a manner that encourages convenience-based and impulse purchasing. Drive-through retail is specifically designed to reduce friction in the purchase process. It contributed to the massive increases in fast-food consumption that have contributed to the obesity epidemic. For an intoxicating product, making purchases easier, faster, and more automatic risks increasing consumption and undermining the careful safeguards California has tried to build around cannabis sales. State regulatory rules established after Proposition 64 had banned marijuana drive-thrus unless a dispensary had a permit application submitted before June 2018.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-9, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Pellerin,

Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis,
Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Bains, DeMaio, Dixon, Hadwick, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Ramos, Sanchez,
Ta

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Boerner, Castillo, Flora, Gabriel, Gallagher,
Lowenthal, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle
Rodriguez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Elissa Silva / B., P. & E.D. / 916-651-4104
6/24/26 16:39:41

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2713
Author: Wicks (D), et al.
Amended: 4/21/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 8-0, 6/15/26
AYES: Cabaldon, Gonzalez, McNerney, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg,
Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Jones

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California AI Transparency Act: system provenance data

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill reworks certain provisions of the recently enacted California AI Transparency Act (CAIT) that apply to large online platforms.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California AI Transparency Act, which becomes operative, in part, on August 2, 2026, and requires certain “covered providers” to make an artificial intelligence (AI) detection tool available at no cost by which a person can assess whether content was created or altered by the provider’s GenAI system. (Business (Bus.) & Profession (Prof.) Code § 22757 et seq.)
- 2) Requires a “covered provider,” a person that creates, codes, or otherwise produces a GenAI system that has over 1 million monthly visitors or users and is publicly accessible within the geographic boundaries of the state, to offer users the option to include in AI-generated image, video, or audio content created by its own generative AI system a manifest disclosure that meets

specified criteria, including that it identifies the content as AI-generated content. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.3(a).)

- 3) Requires a covered provider to include in AI-generated image, audio, and video content created by its generative AI system a latent disclosure that is detectable by the tool specified above and is, to the extent technically feasible, permanent or extraordinarily difficult to remove. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.3(b).)
- 4) Prohibits a covered provider from doing any of the following in carrying out the duties above:
 - a) Collect or retain personal information when a person utilizes the covered provider's AI detection tool, except that it may collect and retain the contact information of a person who submitted feedback.
 - b) Retain any content submitted to the AI detection tool for longer than is necessary to comply with this law. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.2(c).)
- 5) Requires a large online platform, starting January 1, 2027, to do one of the following:
 - a) Detect whether any provenance data that is compliant with widely adopted specifications adopted by an established standards-setting body is embedded into or attached to content distributed on the large online platform.
 - b) Provide a user interface to disclose the availability of system provenance data that reliably indicates that the content was generated or substantially altered by a GenAI system or captured by a capture device. The user interface shall make clearly and conspicuously available to users information sufficient to identify the content's authenticity, origin, or history of modification, including specified information such as whether provenance data is available.
 - c) Allow a user to inspect all available system provenance data that is compliant with widely adopted specifications adopted by an established standards-setting body in an easily accessible manner by any of several specified means. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.3.1(a).)
- 6) Prohibits, starting January 1, 2027, a large online platform from, to the extent technically feasible, knowingly stripping any system provenance data or digital signature that is compliant with widely adopted specifications adopted by an established standards-setting body from content uploaded or distributed on the large online platform. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.3.1(b).)

- 7) Provides that violators of the above provisions are liable for a civil penalty in the amount of \$5,000 per violation to be collected in a civil action filed by the Attorney General, a city attorney, or a county counsel. Each day in violation is deemed a discrete violation. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.4.)
- 8) Provides that the CAIT Act does not apply to any product, service, website, or application that provides exclusively non-user-generated video game, television, streaming, movie, or interactive experiences. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 22757.5.)

This bill:

- 1) Reworks provisions of the CAIT Act that apply to large online platforms, making stylistic and technical changes.
- 2) Allows a large online platform to permit users to download content provenance data directly from the platform, in a format that cannot be easily integrated into unrelated content, rather than downloading content with provenance data attached as currently provided in the CAIT Act.
- 3) Prohibits a large online platform from knowingly stripping system provenance data or a digital signature from content a user *downloads* from the large online platform.

Background

The rapid advancement of AI technology, specifically the wide-scale introduction of GenAI models, has made it drastically cheaper and easier to produce synthetic content, audio, images, text, and video recordings that are not real, but that are so realistic that they are virtually impossible to distinguish from authentic content. One method that has been increasingly relied upon is embedding into content certain “provenance data,” which is data that is embedded into digital content, or that is included in the content’s metadata, for the purpose of verifying the digital content’s authenticity, origin, or history of modification.

Last session, the Legislature passed the California AI Transparency Act (CAIT), which, beginning August 2, 2026, regulates provenance data disclosure in AI-generated content. “Covered providers” are required to embed latent provenance disclosures in content generated by their GenAI systems and to offer manifest disclosures. Providers are required to make available an AI detection tool at no

cost to the user that meets certain criteria, including that it allows a user to assess whether content was created or altered by the covered provider's system. Last year, AB 853 (Wicks, Chapter 674, Statutes of 2025) bolstered the CAIT Act by establishing similar transparency requirements on large online platforms, capture device manufacturers, and GenAI system hosting platforms.

This bill reworks provisions added by AB 853 that apply to large online platforms. The bill is author-sponsored and supported by the Center for AI and Digital Policy. No timely opposition was received.

Comments

Last session, the Legislature responded to some of these issues by passing the CAIT Act, SB 942 (Becker, Chapter 291, Statutes of 2024), which is set to become operative, in part, later this year. The CAIT Act imposes obligations on "covered providers," persons that create, code, or otherwise produce a GenAI system that has over 1 million monthly visitors or users and is publicly accessible within the geographic boundaries of the state. It requires such providers to make an AI detection tool available at no cost by which a person can assess whether content was created or altered by the provider's GenAI system.

Covered providers are required to include a latent disclosure in AI-generated image, video, or audio content that is created by their GenAI system that is detectable using the above tool, and that is, to the extent technically feasible, permanent or extraordinarily difficult to remove. This latent disclosure must identify the provider, the tool, and the time and date of the content's creation or alteration. Covered providers are also required to provide users making such content with their system with the option to include a manifest disclosure that identifies it as AI-generated content.

Last year, AB 853 bolstered the CAIT Act by establishing similar transparency requirements on large online platforms, capture device manufacturers, and GenAI system hosting platforms.

This bill seeks to rework provisions of the Act added by AB 853 that apply to large online platforms and respond to some concerns raised by stakeholders. It includes a number of technical and clarifying amendments, including extension of the disclosure requirements to provenance data not only embedded into or attached to content, but also provenance data otherwise associated with the content.

Currently, the law provides several options for platforms to disclose content provenance data to users. This bill amends one of those options and permits large online platforms to meet their obligations by allowing users to download provenance data attached to content rather than allowing them to download the content itself with the attached system provenance data. This must be provided in a format that cannot be easily embedded into, attached to, or associated with unrelated content. This comes in the wake of concerns about potential copyright issues and piracy of protected materials posted to these platforms.

In addition, the law currently prohibits a large online platform, to the extent technically feasible, from knowingly stripping any system provenance data or digital signature from content uploaded or distributed on the platform. This bill extends this prohibition to content downloaded from the platform.

According to the author:

New and emerging developments of generative AI (GenAI) tools have made it easier to create, edit, and doctor images, video, and audio. GenAI technologies can create and manipulate content to look realistic and convincing, which allow bad actors to create harmful content and spread disinformation. With the passage of AB 853, there would be more transparency of AI-generated content in the digital information ecosystem, and users would have more information to understand the source of content. AB 2713 would provide additional clarification within existing law in order that any requirements to share provenance information on large online platforms would have to be operationalized in a way that protects content creators and allow for large online platforms to provide meaningful information for users on their platforms.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

Center for AI and Digital Policy
Entertainment Union Coalition
Motion Picture Association of America
Recording Industry Association of America

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Center for AI and Digital Policy writes:

AB 2713 takes a lifecycle approach and requires that provenance data persists with synthetic content. Without this requirement, disclosures and labels collapse into formalities that fail at the point of greatest exposure, when content leaves controlled device environments and circulates in the broader information ecosystem. California's existing AI Transparency Act requires large online platforms to "provide a user interface that reliably indicates whether content was generated or substantially altered by a GenAI system" but its anti-stripping prohibition reaches only content uploaded or distributed on the platform. AB 2713 closes this gap by extending the anti-stripping prohibition to content downloaded from the platform.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Garcia, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Christian Kurpiewski / P., D.T., & C.P. / (916) 651-1548
6/17/26 16:49:15

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2731
Author: Addis (D)
Amended: 6/16/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle,
Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverage control: neighborhood-restricted on-sale general
licenses

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to issue no more than 5 new original neighborhood-restricted special on-sale general licenses per year to bona fide public eating places located in specified United States Census Bureau census tracts in the County of Santa Cruz, until a total of 12 new licenses have been issued, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Department of ABC and grants it exclusive authority to administer the provisions of the ABC Act in accordance with laws enacted by the Legislature. This involves licensing individuals and businesses associated with the manufacture, importation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in this State and the collection of license fees.

- 2) Caps the number of new on-sale and off-sale general licenses issued by the Department of ABC. The ratios are one on-sale general license for each 2,000 persons in the county in which the premises are situated and one off-sale general license for each 2,500 persons.
- 3) Authorizes, beginning January 1, 2017, the Department of ABC to issue no more than five new original neighborhood-restricted special on-sale general licenses, for premises located within specified City and County of San Francisco neighborhoods, subject to certain requirements and restrictions.
- 4) Authorizes, beginning January 1, 2018, the Department of ABC to issue no more than five new original neighborhood-restricted special on-sale general licenses per year, until a total of 30 licenses are issued, to premises located in any of the census tracts, as specified, within the City and County of San Francisco. Subsequent legislation increased the total number of these type of specific licenses to 40 total licenses.

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes the Department of ABC to issue up to five new original neighborhood-restricted special on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places per year located in specified census tracts in the County of Santa Cruz until a total of 12 new licenses are issued.
- 2) Provides that to qualify for a license issued pursuant to this bill, the premises for which the license would apply shall be located within the following United States Census Bureau census tracts, corresponding to those identified within the 2020 Census, located within the County of Santa Cruz, subject to the following limitations:
 - a) Specified census tracts located in and around the City of Watsonville. No more than a total of six licenses shall be held at premises located within these specified tracts.
 - b) Specified census tracts located in and around Santa Cruz, Capitola, Soquel, Scotts Valley, Ben Lomond, Boulder Creek, Brookdale, San Lorenzo, and Davenport. No more than a total of six licenses shall be held at premises locating within these specified tracts.
- 3) Prohibits a license issued pursuant to this bill from being transferred to any other premises in a different neighborhood. This does not apply to a licensee

whose premises have been destroyed as a result of a fire or any act of God or other force beyond the control of the licensee.

- 4) Prohibits a license issued pursuant to this bill from being sold or transferred for a price greater than the original fee paid by the licensee.
- 5) Prohibits a person that holds a license issued pursuant to this bill from exchanging that license for an on-sale license for public premises (bar).

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "Santa Cruz County has hit its cap on the number of on-sale general licenses that it is able to issue to new restaurants and businesses. There is also a disparity in the distribution of licenses throughout the county. According to a report from Watsonville's City Council, despite having a significant share of the county's population, the city has comparatively fewer licenses, highlighting an inequity that limits local business opportunities and constrains the city's economic growth potential. Specifically, Watsonville represents nearly one-quarter of the County's total population but holds only about 10% of the active Type 47 licenses."

Furthermore, the author's office states that, "without a valid on-sale general license, businesses wanting to open or expand their operations in the county cannot proceed with their plans. This takes away potential revenue and job growth that the new businesses would create in the region. When there are no alcohol licenses available for purchase, businesses must turn to the unregulated secondary market where these licenses can sell for hundreds of thousands of dollars, a steep increase from the original price of these licenses which is only \$19,840. When prices are that high, it pushes small businesses out of the market and stops the economic growth and job gains that would occur from these small businesses opening their doors."

Type 47 Alcohol License. An on-sale general eating-place license, or Type 47 license, authorizes the consumption of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for consumption on the licensed premises. The licensee is required to operate and maintain the licensed premises as a bona fide eating-place, which must include suitable kitchen facilities. The licensee must make actual and substantial sales of meals for consumption on the premises. Generally, this means that the business must generate at least 51% of all gross sales from food. As such, a Type 47 license is one of the most common types of liquor licenses for restaurants in California.

Some common businesses that use the Type 47 license include full-service restaurants, hotels and resorts, bowling alleys, golf courses and other eating establishments. As of March 19, 2025, there were approximately 16,175 on-sale general (Type 47) licenses statewide.

Alcohol License Limitation. Existing law provides for a limitation on the number of new on-sale general licenses that may be issued in a given year by the Department of ABC based on the population growth of the county in which the licensed premises are located. The ratio is one on-sale general license for each 2,000 residents. For example, if a county grows by 10,000 people in a given year, the Department of ABC will issue five new licenses in that county.

If the Department of ABC receives more applications than there are licenses available, a public drawing is held. To participate in such a drawing, an applicant must have been a resident of California for at least 90 days prior to the date of the scheduled drawing. Successful drawing participants will be notified that they have 90 days to complete a formal application for their specific premises. The cost of these new licenses is \$15,835 each.

Individuals seeking to open a full-service restaurant with a bar or cocktail menu who fail to obtain a liquor license through this process typically must locate an existing licensed owner willing to sell their license. Usually, that is done by contacting a liquor license broker. The cost of obtaining a license on the secondary market is driven by supply and demand and can reach upwards of \$300,000 to \$400,000 in certain counties.

Over the years, various counties have sponsored legislation to authorize the Department of ABC to issue additional Type 47 licenses in their county. Generally, these bills receive unanimous support in the Legislature and are signed into law. Once those bills become law, the Department of ABC, if there are more applicants than there are licenses available to be issued, holds a random drawing that establishes priority rankings to apply for alcohol licenses. Applicants must still go through the normal application process, which includes local posting requirements and pay all appropriate fees.

Impact on Cities/Counties. As previously noted, when a county experiences a population growth, the Department of ABC issues additional licenses based on the population growth; currently 2,000 residents per one on-sale license. While this system tends to work for some counties, there are a substantial number of counties

where the demand for alcohol licenses far outweighs the current number of alcohol licenses in those counties. The reasons for the lack of licenses are generally a lack of population growth or because of the amount of tourism in the particular county, which results in higher demand for these types of businesses.

For example, in Napa County the number of visitors to Napa continues to increase while the population of the county has not grown. While the majority of visitors to Napa take day trips, more than one million of these visitors spend at least one night in local lodgings. Tourism has therefore become one of the major economic drivers in the region. While legislation in 2017 authorized the issuance of five additional licenses over a four-year span, demand far outweighs the availability of these licenses. In 2018 for instance, while the Department of ABC issued five new licenses to Napa, there were a total of 38 applications for those five licenses. In the County of Santa Cruz, Type 47 licenses are currently listed for sale between \$140,000 to \$175,000.

According to the Department of ABC, in 2022 there were 31 counties that were eligible for more licenses because of population growth and 27 counties that were not eligible for more licenses because of a lack of population. Of those 27 counties, five counties received a handful of licenses through special legislation.

Creation of Type 87 License. Before the enactment of SB 1285 (Leno, Chapter 790, Statutes of 2016), no new alcohol licenses had been issued in San Francisco for over 80 years. In 2017, the Legislature passed AB 471 (Ting, Chapter 442, Statutes of 2017), which established the Type 87 neighborhood-restricted alcohol license program for San Francisco's outer neighborhoods.

The bill initially authorized a total of 30 Type 87 licenses, with up to five issued annually through 2023 in specific census tracts. In 2024, follow-up legislation (AB 359, Ting, Chapter 393, Statutes of 2024) increased the total number of licenses under this exemption from 30 to 40.

Type 87 licenses are exclusively available to bona fide eating establishments and permit the sale of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for on-site consumption. Type 87 licenses carry the same privileges as a Type 47 license but are restricted to specified census tracts. Additionally, a Type 87 license may not be sold for more than the original fee paid by the licensee. This license is subject to RBS requirements and requires alcohol servers and managers of alcohol servers to be RBS certified. An individual applicant may submit only one application for a Type 87 license. In cases where the number of businesses applying within a

designated census tract exceeds the limit set for a given year, recipients are selected through a random drawing.

Before these bills were enacted, new restaurants in the designated census tracts generally had to acquire an ABC license by purchasing it from businesses that had either closed or were willing to sell. Last year Governor Newsom signed AB 828 (Gonzalez, Chapter 715, Statutes of 2025) which authorized the Department of ABC to similarly issue no more than 12 new Type 87 licenses in specified census tracts in the County of Los Angeles, until a total of 40 new licenses have been issued. Consistent with prior legislation authorizing additional licenses, AB 828 prohibits the transfer of these licenses to census tracts not identified in the bill and prohibits licensees from selling the licenses for more than the original fee paid.

This bill is modeled after the above-mentioned bills and retains the same general conditions and restrictions.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 445 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 153, Statutes of 2025) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue no more than 10 new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of Colusa, as specified.

SB 395 (Wiener, Chapter 412, Statutes of 2025) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue up to 20 additional new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places located within a designated hospitality zone, as specified, in the City and County of San Francisco, as specified.

AB 828 (Mark Gonzalez, Chapter 715, Statutes of 2025) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue no more than 12 new original neighborhood-restricted special on-sale general licenses per year to bona fide public eating places located in specified United States Census Bureau census tracts in the County of Los Angeles beginning on January 1, 2026, until a total of 40 new licenses have been issued, as specified.

AB 1008 (Addis, 2025) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue no more than 10 new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of San Luis Obispo, as specified. (Pending on the Governor's Desk)

SB 1028 (Alvarado-Gil, 2024) would have authorized the Department of ABC, in counties that have reached its limit of on-sale general licenses, to issue up to 10

additional new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide eating-places, as specified. (Held in the Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File)

AB 2359 (Ting, Chapter 393 Statutes of 2024) revised an existing exemption in law authorizing the Department of ABC to issue no more than five new original neighborhood restricted special on-sale general licenses (Type 87 licenses) per year, until a total of 40 licenses (currently 30) are issued, to premises located in specific census tracts within the City and County of San Francisco, as specified.

AB 2589 (Joe Patterson, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2024) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue up to 10 additional new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places located in a retail center, in both the County of El Dorado and the County of Placer, as specified.

AB 1668 (Patterson, Chapter 282, Statutes of 2023) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue no more than 10 new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of Placer, as specified.

SB 787 (Dahle, Chapter 113, Statutes of 2023) authorizes the Department of ABC to issue no more than 10 new original on-sale general licenses for bona fide public eating places in the County of Nevada, as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Appenrodt Commercial Properties
Aptos Chamber of Commerce
Capitol Business Alliance
City of Watsonville
Family Winemakers of California
Los Dos Potrillos Mexican Restaurant
Pajaro Valley Chamber of Commerce & Agriculture
Tewstorff Construction, Inc.
Vallarta Supermarkets

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the City of Watsonville, “citywide, Watsonville is seeing renewed interest from private developers and entrepreneurs across multiple neighborhoods. Providing additional Type 47 licenses supports the

City's broader economic and community development goals by enabling more diverse dining, cultural, and entertainment options that residents have expressed strong interest in. The Downtown Watsonville Specific Plan serves as a guide for fostering a vibrant, mixed-use downtown, but the benefits of expanded license availability extend across the City, supporting a thriving hospitality sector and enhancing opportunities for social and cultural engagement communitywide."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bennett, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Macedo, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Stefani

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:39:42

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2751
Author: Alvarez (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle,
Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverages: imports: personal or household use:
reasonable amounts

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises the amount of alcohol an individual may bring into California for personal or household use. This bill establishes a uniform limit of six liters (eight standard bottles) of alcohol per 31-days for individuals crossing the U.S.-Mexico border into California on foot or via personal vehicle.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) and grants it exclusive authority to administer the provisions of the ABC Act in accordance with laws enacted by the Legislature. This involves licensing individuals and businesses associated with the manufacture, importation, and sale of alcoholic beverages in this state and the collection of license fees.

- 2) Makes it unlawful for any person other than a licensee to sell, manufacture, or import alcoholic beverages in this state, with exceptions.
- 3) Imposes restrictions on the means, by which alcoholic beverages are imported into the state for delivery or use within the state, as provided, and provides exceptions to these restrictions for specified amounts of alcoholic beverages brought into the state for personal or household use, as specified.
- 4) Provides an exception to the importation restrictions that allows an adult to bring a reasonable amount of alcoholic beverages into this state from outside of the United States for personal and household use.
- 5) Restricts a California resident returning to the United States by a vehicle that is not a common carrier, or any adult entering the United States as a pedestrian, to the amount of alcoholic beverages that is exempt from the payment of duty in accordance with existing provisions of federal law.

This bill:

- 1) Establishes a uniform limit of six liters of alcohol (eight standard bottles) per every 31-days for individuals crossing the U.S. border into California on foot or via personal vehicle.
- 2) Makes other technical changes.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "this bill is about fairness. If you fly into San Diego or arrive by cruise ship, you can bring home a reasonable amount of wine or spirits from Baja California, but if you cross at San Ysidro or Otay Mesa, those same rules do not apply. The bill aligns California's personal use import limits from Mexico with those of other states like Texas, allowing residents to bring back up to six liters of alcohol for personal consumption. These changes support cross border commerce, promote tourism, and foster the binational relationship with Mexico while maintaining public safety through clear, enforceable standards."

Federal Regulations. U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) permits individuals, age 21 and older returning from abroad, to bring back one liter of alcohol duty-free, provided the alcohol is for personal use and its importation

complies with laws of the destination state. Amounts exceeding this one-liter exemption may be brought back but will be subject to applicable customs and federal Internal Revenue Tax.

While federal law does not set a firm limit on how much alcohol an individual may import for personal use, unusually large quantities may draw scrutiny from CBP, who are authorized to determine on the spot whether an importation appears to be for commercial rather than personal purposes. If a commercial intent is suspected, the traveler may be required to obtain an import permit and complete a formal customs entry before the alcohol is released.

California Law. Individuals bringing alcohol into California for commercial or business purposes must hold a license issued by the Department of ABC. Those importing alcohol for personal or household use are not subject to this licensing requirement; however, the alcohol must accompany the traveler upon entry and cannot be shipped separately into the state at a later date.

California law also establishes specific quantity limits for alcohol brought in from Mexico. Pedestrians crossing the border on foot, as well as California residents crossing in a personal vehicle, are limited to the federally exempt amount – currently one liter every 31 days. Non-California residents crossing in a personal vehicle may bring up to five cases (60 liters) for personal or household use. California residents and all other travelers crossing via common carrier – such as airline, railroad, or cruise line – are also permitted to bring up to five cases (60 liters) for personal use. These thresholds are established and enforced under a formal agreement between the Department of ABC and the CBP.

Other requirements and exemptions occur for new California residents, military personnel (relocating and non-relocating) and out-of-state residents traveling through California, and foreign diplomats.

This bill would increase the current limit on alcoholic beverages that may be brought across the U.S.-Mexico border— from one liter to six liters every 31 days — for individuals entering by personal vehicle and for all adults entering on foot. This bill also eliminates the existing residency distinction, applying the six-liter limit uniformly to all adults regardless of state of residence. As a result, non-California residents crossing by personal vehicle would be subject to a stricter standard than is currently imposed.

It should be noted that the ABC does not maintain agents at the U.S.-Mexico border. Accordingly, enforcement of this limitation would fall primarily to the CBP.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 840 (Dahle, Chapter 355, Statutes of 2019) authorizes the Department of ABC to create and issue a special on-sale general license to a person who owns or operates a facility that is partially located in the County of Placer and partially located in the County of Washoe, State of Nevada (Cal Neva Resort & Casino), as specified.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, staff notes that the Department of ABC's activities are funded by regulatory and license fees and generally the department does not receive support from the General Fund. New legislative mandates, although modest in scope, may in totality create new cost pressures and impact the department's operating costs and future budget requests.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Mexican-American Policy Alliance

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Mexican-American Policy Alliance, "this piece of legislation is especially important to the Cali-Baja region as this region holds a unique bond. In the San Diego-Tijuana/Calexico region, data collected on cross-border commuting shows about 34,800 people residing in Tijuana regularly commute to the U.S. for work while 13,200 people do the same in Mexicali. That's roughly more than 48,000 people who live in Mexico and cross regularly for the U.S. for work around those two cities alone. The relationship between California and Baja California is essential. Cross-border economic ties translate into real benefits for workers, businesses, and families on both sides."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo,

Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Kalra, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:39:43

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2760
Author: Sharp-Collins (D)
Amended: 3/19/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/16/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 51-7, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: County board of supervisors: inspector general

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes counties to establish a county Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or to the office of the chief county probation officer.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Creates the independent California OIG, which must not be a subdivision of any other governmental entity. Requires the Governor to appoint, subject to confirmation by the Senate, the Inspector General (IG) to a six-year term. States that the IG may not be removed from office during that term, except for good cause. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 6125.)

- 2) Makes the IG responsible for contemporaneous oversight of internal affairs investigations and the disciplinary process of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), as defined, under policies to be developed by the Inspector General. (Pen. Code, § 6126, subd. (a).)
- 3) Authorizes a county to create a sheriff oversight board, composed of civilians, either by action of the board of supervisors or through a vote of county residents, to assist the board of supervisors with defined duties. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(1).)
- 4) Requires that members of the sheriff oversight board be appointed by the board of supervisors. Requires that the board of supervisors designate one member to serve as the chairperson of the board. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(2).)
- 5) Establishes that the members of the oversight board must have access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the board's oversight duties. Requires that the oversight board maintain the confidentiality of these records, as defined. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (a)(3).)
- 6) Authorizes the chair of the sheriff oversight board to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum whenever the board deems it necessary or important to examine the following:
 - a) Any person as a witness upon any subject matter within the jurisdiction of the board.
 - b) Any officer of the county in relation to the discharge of their official duties on behalf of the sheriff's department.
 - c) Any books, papers, or documents in the possession of or under the control of a person or officer relating to the affairs of the sheriff's department. A subpoena must be served in accordance with defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (b)(1)-(2).)
- 7) Provides that a sheriff oversight board may conduct closed sessions, consistent with defined law, to review confidential records obtained under this section or otherwise related to its oversight duties, if those sessions comply with applicable confidentiality laws. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (b)(4).)
- 8) Provides that a county, through action of the board of supervisors or vote by county residents, may establish an OIG, appointed by the board of supervisors,

to assist the board of supervisors with its duties required pursuant to defined requirements that relate to the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(1)(A).)

- 9) Establishes that the IG must have the independent authority to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum subject to defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(2).)
- 10) States the IG must have access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the inspector general's oversight duties. Requires the IG to maintain the confidentiality of these records. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(3).)
- 11) Specifies that the exercise of powers under this law or other investigative functions performed by a board of supervisors, sheriff oversight board, or inspector general vested with oversight responsibility for the sheriff must not be considered to obstruct the investigative functions of the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (d).)
- 12) States that in counties with charters that provide for appointment and tenure of office for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the charter must control as to those matters and, in counties that have established or hereafter establish merit or civil service systems governing the methods of appointment and the tenure for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the merit or civil service systems must control as to those matters. (Gov. Code, § 27770, subd. (b).)
- 13) Requires the chief probation officer to perform the following duties and discharge the following obligations:
 - a) Community supervision of offenders subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
 - b) Operation of juvenile halls.
 - c) Operation of juvenile camps and ranches.
 - d) Community supervision of individuals subject to probation.
 - e) Community supervision of individuals subject to mandatory supervision.
 - f) Community supervision of individuals subject to postrelease community supervision.
 - g) Administration of community-based corrections programming.
 - h) Serving as chair of the Community Corrections Partnership.
 - i) Making recommendations to the court, including, but not limited to, pre-sentence investigative reports. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (a).)

- 14) Specifies that the chief probation officer may perform other duties and may accept appointment to the Board of State and Community Corrections and collect the per diem. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (b).)
- 15) Defines “animal control department” as the county or city animal control department. States that if the city or county does not have an animal control department, the term means whatever entity performs animal control functions. (Food & Agricultural Code, § 31606.)

This bill authorizes counties to establish an OIG to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or the office of the chief county probation officer.

Background

Existing law authorizes any county, through action of the board of supervisors or vote by county residents, to establish a county OIG, appointed by the board of supervisors, to assist the board of supervisors with its oversight duties that relate to the sheriff. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(1)(A).) The IG has the independent authority to issue a subpoena or subpoena duces tecum subject to defined procedures. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(2).) Furthermore, the IG has access to the personnel records of peace officers and custodial officers required for the performance of the inspector general’s oversight duties. The IG must maintain the confidentiality of these records. (Gov. Code, § 25303.7, subd. (c)(3).)

In counties with charters that provide for appointment and tenure of office for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the charter must control as to those matters and, in counties that have established or hereafter establish merit or civil service systems governing the methods of appointment and the tenure for the chief probation officer, the provisions of the merit or civil service systems must control. (Gov. Code, § 27770, subd. (b).) The chief probation officer performs the following duties:

- Community supervision of offenders subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.
- Operation of juvenile halls.
- Operation of juvenile camps and ranches.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to probation.
- Community supervision of individuals subject to mandatory supervision.

- Community supervision of individuals subject to postrelease community supervision.
- Administration of community-based corrections programming.
- Serving as chair of the Community Corrections Partnership.
- Making recommendations to the court, including, but not limited to, pre-sentence investigative reports. (Gov. Code, § 27771, subd. (a).)

The author notes that while police and sheriff departments are often subject to IG review, probation and animal control departments are not, despite their significant authority over vulnerable populations, justice-involved individuals, and animals.

Los Angeles (LA) County has recently subjected its county probation office to independent oversight. (Loudenback, J., *Los Angeles County Probation Now Under Civilian Oversight, With Subpoena Power* (Oct. 4, 2019) <<https://imprintnews.org/los-angeles/los-angeles-county-probation-now-under-civilian-oversight-with-subpoena-power/38079> .) LA County’s oversight commission has the power to conduct unfettered, unannounced and publicly reported inspections of facilities where youth in the care of probation are being held; create a wholly independent grievance process; conduct investigations; and compel data, documents, and testimony. (*Ibid.*) One report from the Urban Peace Institute has made recommendations for comprehensive transparency and accountability measures for county probation departments that could involve creating “youth and community oversight bodies,” such as a county Inspector General. (Brown, N. *Building Safety in Los Angeles: A Policy Agenda for Local Health and Safer Communities* (Sept. 2022) <<https://www.urbanpeaceinstitute.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Building-Safety-in-Los-Angeles.pdf> .)

This bill authorizes counties to establish an OIG to assist the board of supervisors with oversight duties as they relate to county animal control departments or the office of the chief county probation officer.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/24/26)

Monica Montgomery Steppe, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors District
Four Supervisor

Terra Lawson, San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair

County of San Diego, Board of Supervisors - District One
Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans
Pillars of the Community
The David's Harp Foundation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/24/26)

Chief Probation Officers' of California
Peace Officers Research Association of California

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: San Diego District Four Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe writes:

Although the probation and animal control departments are under the direct purview of the Board of Supervisors, allowing the office of the inspector general to have oversight over these departments would be another much-needed tool to ensure that public safety is achieved in a transparent, fair, and equitable manner. My office often receives complaints from parents of youth in detention, and from animal rights activists regarding perceived wrongdoings within our local animal control, and we do not have the ability or capacity to investigate every complaint on our own.

Allowing the office of the inspector general to have this broader jurisdiction would greatly relieve this burden, particularly at a time when San Diego's probation department is still under state investigation and complaints are numerous.

While our local Citizens Law Enforcement Review Board (CLERB) has the authority to investigate Probation, CLERB is often required to summarily dismiss those cases because they are unable to access records. Moreover, CLERB may only investigate if a complaint is filed, while the inspector general has the ability to conduct its own audits and inspections, or conduct an investigation, on its own initiative.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Chief Probation Officers of California write:

While County Probation Departments serve the counties in which they operate, they are also governed by a body of state laws ensuring both consistency and interoperability, which require extra care when considering new laws authorizing individual counties to implement

standalone oversight authority to ensure these standalone practices are not in conflict with, or duplicative of, authority held by other entities.

Under existing law and practice Probation departments serve both the county governance structure and Board of Supervisors, and as an arm of the court. There is significant authority and inspection obligations covering juvenile facilities such as that held by the Board of State and Community Corrections, Juvenile Justice Commission, the grand jury, departments of public health, fire marshal, environmental health, and the OYCR ombudsperson.

Additionally, there is existing board of supervisors and court oversight, as well as various commissions, councils and subcommittees that engage in discussions looking at the delivery of services for persons ordered by the court to a term of probation.

We are not aware of any gaps in oversight or inspection given the current structure administered by the wide array of governmental entities cited above, and are concerned this bill will not address something that is missing in existing law and practice but instead will lead to confusion and delay in administration of existing oversight and inspection practices.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 51-7, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Ortega, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Castillo, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Soria, Ta, Valencia

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
6/24/26 16:39:43

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2764
Author: Ahrens (D), et al.
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/15/26

AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Extended foster care

SOURCE: California Alliance of Child and Family Services
John Burton Advocates for Youth

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a nonminor dependent (NMD) from being denied eligibility for, or have eligibility terminated from, receipt of extended foster care benefits for failure to meet education or employment participation requirements that exceed the program requirements.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

- 1) Extends juvenile court jurisdiction and Aid to Families and Dependent Children-Foster Care benefits to NMDs up to age 21, provided the youth meets at least one of five participation conditions: (1) completing secondary education or an equivalent credential program; (2) enrolled in postsecondary or vocational education; (3) participating in a program or activity designed to promote or remove barriers to employment; (4) employed at least 80 hours per month; or (5) incapable of any of the above due to a medical condition documented in the case plan. (Welfare & Institutions Code (WIC) § 11403(b)).

- 2) Defines an NMD as a current or former foster youth who is between 18 and not more than 20 years of age, in foster care under the responsibility of the county welfare department, county probation department, or Indian tribe, and is has a transitional independent living case plan (TILP). (WIC § 11400(v))
- 3) Allows a nonminor former foster youth under the age of 21 to petition the court for re-entry into foster care if their guardian or adoptive parent is no longer providing them with support and no longer collecting benefits on behalf of the youth. (WIC § 388.1)

This bill:

- 1) Provides that an NMD shall not be denied eligibility for, or have eligibility terminated from, receipt of aid pursuant to this chapter and any other extended foster care benefits provided pursuant to the California Fostering Connections to Success Act for failure to meet education or employment participation requirements that exceed the participation requirements.
- 2) Provides that this applies to, but is not limited to, county welfare agencies, judicial officers, and licensed foster care providers.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author, “AB 2764 would ensure consistent and fair eligibility for Extended Foster Care (EFC) statewide, so all youth have equal access to housing and support, regardless of their county or caseworker. As a former foster youth, I understand the importance of maintaining social support systems for foster youth into adulthood. By ensuring that county eligibility requirements for Extended Foster Care programs remain consistent with statewide standards, this bill will reduce confusion and prevent vulnerable individuals from losing access to housing for dubious reasons.”

Child Welfare System (CWS) The CWS is the system of intervention for child abuse and neglect. This system provides services to children who have been abused or neglected and their families. The goal of this system is to keep children in their home when it is safe, and when the child is at risk, to develop an alternative plan as quickly as possible¹. Social workers in each county receive reports of abuse or neglect, and work to investigate and resolve those reports. When the investigation substantiates the allegations of abuse or neglect, a family is either provided with services to ensure a child’s wellbeing and avoid court involvement, or a child is removed from the family and placed into foster care. In 2025, the state’s child

¹ <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-welfare-protection/policies>

welfare agencies received 398,861 reports of abuse or neglect. Of these, 45,856 reports contained substantiated allegations, and 17,886 children were removed from their homes and placed into foster care via the CWS system.

Extended Foster Care The intent of extended foster care is to bridge the gap between the intensive supervision of foster care and unsupervised adulthood by maintaining a safety net of support while providing youth independence and additional educational or work opportunities. It was prompted by the recognition that many youth are unable to successfully transition from foster care or group care to adulthood without additional guidance and assistance.

The federal Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act of 2008 (*P.L. 110-351*) enabled states to expand the definition of a foster “child,” by creating extended care for youth up to age 21. The federal law allows foster youth to remain in care past age 18 if they meet one of the following participation criteria: enrolled in high school or a high school equivalency credential; enrolled in college, community college, or vocational education; employed for at least 80 hours a month; participating in other qualifying activities or programs designed to remove barriers to employment; or medically exempt from meeting any of the other participation criteria.

In 2010, California enacted AB 12 (Beall, Chapter 559, Statutes of 2010), which permits foster youth to remain in extended foster care until age 21, under the same criteria as the federal statute. At the six-month hearing prior to a youth turning 18 years old, the youth’s social worker or probation officer must submit a transitional living plan to ensure that the youth will meet at least one participation criteria, listed above, if the youth plans to participate in extended foster care. The youth must also sign an agreement to remain in foster care within six months of turning 18, reside in an eligible placement, and agree to work with their social worker to meet the goals of their transitional living plan. Additionally, existing law allows qualifying nonminors who are former foster youth under the age of 21 to petition the court for re-entry into foster care to participate in extended foster care, as provided.

The University of Chicago’s Chapin Hall conducted the California Youth Transitions to Adulthood Study (CalYOUTH) in 2018. This study evaluated the impacts of extended foster care on outcomes for transition age foster youth. The following were among the findings of the CalYOUTH study for each additional year a youth spent in extended foster care:

- Increased the probability that they completed a high school credential by about 8 percent;

- Increased their expected probability of enrolling in college by 10 to 11 percent;
- Decreased the odds that they became pregnant or impregnated an individual between the ages of 17 and 21 by 28 percent; and
- Decreased the odds of being homeless or couch-surfing between the ages of 17 and 21 by about 28 percent.

Youth participation in the program exceeded initial expectations. Between July 2010 and July 2014, the number of youth age 18-20 in extended foster care in California increased by 211 percent, from 2,908 to 9,032. According to data compiled by UC Berkeley, as of January 1, 2026, there were 6,753 youth aged 18-21 in foster care.²

Variations by County. The amount of time a youth spends in Extended Foster Care varies greatly by county. A University of Chicago study³ found that the average length of stay after their 18th birthday ranged from 3.5 months in Sutter County to 27.4 months in Alameda County. The study further noted “although youth-level attributes help explain some of the differences in how long youth stay in care after their 18th birthday, system-level factors, including the implementation of the extended care policy and the county responsible for the youth’s placement, appear to have much greater effects on the likelihood that the youth will remain in care.”

The sponsors of this bill note specific examples of youth being required to fulfill criteria above what the law requires. They note examples including “1) requiring that the youth have already obtained a high school diploma, while AB 12 explicitly identifies those trying to finish high school or complete their GED are eligible; 2) having higher than minimum 80 hours per month education or work requirements; 3) imposing a time limit on mental health condition exemptions when there is no higher housing and service option than THPP-NMD to serve these youth should they be exited.”

This bill does not change the requirements for Extended Foster Care, rather it makes clear that the participation requirements in the law are the standards and prohibits requiring more than those standards. The hope is that this clarification of law will result in more youth participating in the program.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

² <https://ccwip.berkeley.edu/childwelfare/reports/PITOMP/MTSG/omp/ab636/1>

³ https://www.chapinhall.org/wp-content/uploads/CY_FA_IB0417.pdf

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/27)

California Alliance of Child and Family Services (Co-Sponsor)
 John Burton Advocates for Youth (Co-Sponsor)
 Alliance for Children's Rights
 Aspiranet
 California Alliance of Caregivers
 California Family Resource Association
 California Teachers Association
 California Youth Empowerment Network
 Casa Pacifica Centers for Children and Families
 Child Abuse Prevention Center and its Affiliates Safe Kids California, Prevent
 Child Abuse California and the California Family Resource Association; the
 Children Now
 Children's Law Center of California
 County Welfare Directors Association of California
 Lincoln Families
 Los Angeles County Office of Education
 Santa Clara County Office of Education
 Stanford Youth Solutions

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-
 Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly,
 Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez,
 Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra,
 Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen,
 Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,
 Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio,
 Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis,
 Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, DeMaio, Ellis,
 Gallagher, Hoover, Johnson, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Heather Hopkins / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
 6/17/26 16:28:19

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2789
Author: Committee on Judiciary
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mediation: child custody and visitation

SOURCE: Judicial Council of California

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a court to serve a notice of mediation in a child custody matter through specified means and requires the notice of mediation to state that, where there is a history of domestic violence, the party alleging domestic violence may request that the mediator meet with the parties separately, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the procedures and requirements for custody disputes and the court's award of physical and/or legal custody and visitation of a minor. (Family (Fam.) Code, div. 8, §§ 3000 et seq.)
- 2) Provides that, if it appears on the face of a petition, application, or other proceeding to obtain or modify a temporary or permanent custody or visitation

order that custody and/or visitation are contested, the court shall set the contested issues for mediation. (Fam. Code, § 3170(a).)

- 3) Requires the Judicial Council of California to adopt a separate written protocol for mediations under 2) in domestic violence cases, as specified. (Fam. Code, § 3170(b).)
- 4) Requires notice of mediation and any hearing to be held pursuant to the mediation to be given to the following persons:
 - a) Where mediation is required to settle a contested issue of custody or visitation, to each party and to each party's counsel of record.
 - b) Where a stepparent or grandparent seeks visitation rights, to the stepparent or grandparent seeking visitation rights, to each parent of the child, and to each parent's counsel of record. (Fam. Code, § 3176(a).)
- 5) Requires notice of mediation under 4) to be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, to the last known address. (Fam. Code, § 3176(b).)
- 6) Requires a notice of a confidential mediation, established under 8), below, to state that all communications involving the mediator shall be kept confidential between the mediator and the disputing parties. (Fam. Code, § 3176(c).)
- 7) Provides that, when a court orders a mediation in a custody or visitation dispute and there has been a history of domestic violence between the parties or a protective order is in effect, the mediator shall, at the request of the party alleging domestic violence, meet with the parties separately and at separate times.
 - a) A protective order is defined as a protective order issued under the Domestic Violence Prevention Act (DVPA) (Fam. Code, div. 10, §§ 6200 et seq.), including an ex parte restraining order or a protective order issued after a hearing.
 - b) The requesting party must allege that the domestic violence occurred in a written declaration under penalty of perjury or establish that they are protected by a protective order. (Fam. Code, § 3181.)
- 8) Permits a court, when authorized by the Judicial Council of California, to establish a confidential mediation program through which the mediator makes confidential custody or visitation recommendations only to the disputing parties, except as provided. (Fam. Code, § 3188.)

This bill:

- 1) Permits notice of mediation of a custody or visitation dispute to be given through any of the following means:
 - a) By court staff when all parties are present for a court hearing.
 - b) By court staff when a party is present at the courthouse.
 - c) As part of a notice of hearing or court order filed by the court clerk, provided to a party, and served on the other party.
 - d) By mail, overnight delivery, or facsimile transmission.
 - e) By electronic service on parties who are represented by counsel or who are self-represented and have consented to electronic service.
- 2) Modifies the requirements for the notice of mediation, as follows:
 - a) Each court must develop a notice of mediation that includes the information in (b) and (c).
 - b) The notice must state that, if the mediation is being conducted pursuant to a confidential mediation program, all communications involving the mediator and the parties shall remain confidential, as provided by statute.
 - c) The notice must state that, where there is a history of domestic violence between the parties, including a finding or allegation of domestic violence, or where a protective order under the DVPA is in effect, the party alleging domestic violence may request that the appointed mediator meet with the parties separately and at separate times, as provided by statute and the California Rules of Court.

Comments

When parents or guardians cannot agree on how to share custody of, or visitation rights to, their minor child, the parties must turn to the courts to work it out. When a petition for custody or visitation is filed, the family court will refer the case to mediation to see if the parties can reach an agreement with the mediator; mediated agreements can reduce the acrimony between the parties and result in less contentious proceedings, which is ultimately better for the parties and the child.

Current law requires a notice of mediation to be served on the parties via certified mail, and requires the notice to state that, if the mediation is a confidential

mediation, all communications involving the mediator and the parties will be kept confidential. This bill permits the court to serve a notice of mediation through additional means, including in person when the party is already at the courthouse and electronically, if the party is represented by counsel or has consented to electronic service. This bill also clarifies the confidentiality portion of the notice of mediation and requires the notice to also provide information relating to the right of a victim of domestic violence to request that the mediator meet with parties separately and at separate times. The author has agreed to a minor amendment to correct a cross-reference.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

Judicial Council of California (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Judicial Council of California:

Family Code section 3176 currently requires that notice of mediation must be given by certified mail, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, to the last known address. This reliance on certified mail as the sole option is outdated and creates additional costs for courts by placing restrictions on a court's ability to use technology to provide notice and potentially inhibits prompt access to court services by increasing waiting times before parties receive notice.

This proposal amends subdivision (b) in Family Code section 1376 to allow courts the ability to choose from one of five methods to provide notice of mediation, including via electronic service if the parties agree. The proposed amendments increase delivery efficiency and reduce reliance on paper. These amendments also increase access to court services and will assist victims of domestic violence to understand their right to meet with a mediator separately in cases involving domestic violence.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell,

Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega,
Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos,
Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz,
Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward,
Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Flora, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/24/26 16:39:44

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2791
Author: Committee on Natural Resources
Introduced: 3/17/26
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public resources

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill (1) removes a duplicative requirement that a Registered Professional Forester mark, or supervises the marking of, all trees to be felled as part of the Forest Resilience Exemption. (2) This bill removes archaic references to “state colleges” in the Coastal Act. (3) This bill also defines a “nonprofit organization” for the purposes of the Coastal Act.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Coastal Act and within it establishes the Commission, and prescribes the membership and duties of the Commission. (Public Resources Code (PRC) §§ 30000 *et seq.*)
- 2) Defines “nonprofit organization” under the Coastal Act as a private, nonprofit organization that qualifies under Section 501(c)(3) of the federal Internal Revenue Code of 1986. (PRC § 30109.5)
- 3) Defines "state university" as the University of California and the California State University. (PRC § 30119)
- 4) Regulates the persons who practice the profession of forestry. (PRC § 751)

- 5) Requires all trees that are harvested or all trees that are retained be marked or sample marked by, or under the supervision of, a registered professional forester (RPF) before felling operations begin. (PRC § 4584 (j)(i)(D)(v))
- 6) Requires all trees harvested to be marked by, or under the supervision of, a RPF before felling operations begin. (PRC § 4584 (j)(i)(D)(vii))

This bill:

- 1) Fixes a cross-reference to a regulation relating to timber operations conducted under a notice of conversion, regarding the completion timeline of the conversion.
- 2) Repeals a duplicative requirement relating to the marking of trees to be harvested under the Forest Resilience Exemption.
- 3) Defines “nonprofit organization” for the purposes of the Coastal Act.
- 4) Makes conforming changes to the Coastal Act regarding the term “nonprofit organization.”
- 5) Deletes references to state colleges throughout the Coastal Act.

Background

Forest Practice Act and Rules. The Z’berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act (Act) of 1973 establishes the intent of the Legislature to promote sound public policy encouraging prudent and responsible forest management that serves the public’s need for timber and other forest products while giving consideration to watershed protection, fisheries and wildlife, sequestration of carbon dioxide, and recreational opportunities for this and future generations (PRC § 4512). The Act establishes minimum rules for resource conservation, equipment operations, and licensing related to the commercial harvesting of timber, known as timber operations.

The Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) adopts regulations, known as the Forest Practice Rules (Rules), under the Administrative Procedures Act to implement, interpret, and make specific the Act. Together, the Act and Rules provide a regulatory framework for timber operations in the state, which are enforced by foresters at the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (Department).

The California Coastal Commission (Commission). The commission was established by voter initiative, Proposition 20, in 1972. The Legislature later made

the Commission permanent through the adoption of the California Coastal Act of 1976 (Coastal Act) (PRC §§ 30000 et seq.). The Commission plans for and regulates the use of land and water in the coastal zone (which excludes the San Francisco Bay).

The Commission is an independent, quasi-judicial state agency, and its mission statement states that it “is committed to protecting and enhancing California’s coast and ocean for present and future generations.” The Commission does so “through careful planning and regulation of environmentally sustainable development, rigorous use of science, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination.”

Development activities in the coastal zone generally require a coastal development permit (CDP) issued by the Commission or by a local government with a local coastal program (LCP) certified by the Commission. Coastal Act policies are the standards the Commission uses to determine the permissibility of proposed developments subject to its jurisdiction.

Coastal Act references to colleges and universities. When the Coastal Act was enacted in 1976, the California State University system was named the California State University and Colleges, so all references throughout the Coastal Act refer to “state university or college.” In 1982, the system dropped the “and Colleges” and became the California State University. However, the Legislature unintentionally neglected to remove the words “or college” from the other sections of the Coastal Act that include the term “state university or college.” This has created the impression that, in addition to state universities, the Commission also retains permitting jurisdiction over all community college lands in the coastal zone, which has never been the case and the Commission has never asserted such authority. While local governments have been processing coastal development permits for community college projects in the coastal zone for years without issue, given the growing emphasis on constructing student housing on community college campuses, this lack of statutory clarity can cause confusion.

Coastal Act references to nonprofits. The Coastal Act contains multiple references to nonprofit associations/entities/organizations, which are all intended to apply to nonprofit organizations that are tax-exempt under United States Internal Revenue Code § 501(c)(3). This bill standardizes these references by defining “nonprofit organization” for purposes of the Coastal Act—using the same definition codified for PRC § 31013—and by cleaning up references throughout the Coastal Act to conform to this defined term.

Duplicative marking requirements. In order to harvest timber under the Forest Resilience Exemption (PRC § 4584(j)), someone, under the supervision of a RPF, must mark either the trees to be retained or the trees to be harvested, or a sample thereof (PRC § 4584(j)(1)(D)(v)). A second clause in that subparagraph requires that all trees be harvested under the exemption shall be marked by a RPF, or someone supervised by an RPF (PRC § 4584(j)(1)(D)(vii)). To address this inconsistency and reduce confusion, this bill deletes the second provision (vii) related to marking.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, “[the committee] often introduces technical code cleanup bills to update statutes by correcting cross references, deleting obsolete provisions, or correcting updated terminology. This bill is an omnibus Public Resources Code cleanup up measure.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Gallagher, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Papan, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Edith Hannigan / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/24/26 16:39:45

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2792

Author: Committee on Governmental Organization

Introduced: 3/17/26

Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 14-0, 6/23/26

AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle, Hurtado, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Horse racing: out-of-state thoroughbred races: New York Stakes

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill adds the New York Stakes to the existing group of thoroughbred horse race meetings that are exempt from the 75 race-per-day limit on imported races into California for wagering.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes, pursuant to Article IV, Section 19(b) of the Constitution of the State of California, the Legislature to provide for the regulation of horse races and grants the California Horse Racing Board the authority to regulate the various forms of horse racing authorized in this state.
- 2) Authorizes thoroughbred racing associations or fairs to distribute the audiovisual signal and accept wagers on the results of out-of-state and international thoroughbred races during the calendar period the association or fair is conducting live racing, including days on which there is no live racing being conducted by the association or fair.

- 3) Limits the number of races that may be imported by associations and fairs to no more than 75 races-per-day on days when live thoroughbred or fair racing is being conducted in this state, with specified exceptions.
- 4) Exempts from that 75 races-per-day limit any imported races that are part of the race card of the Kentucky Derby, the Kentucky Oaks, the Preakness Stakes, the Belmont Stakes, the Jockey Club Gold Cup, the Travers Stakes, the Pegasus World Cup, the Arlington Million, the Breeders' Cup World Championship, the Dubai World Cup, the Arkansas Derby, the Apple Blossom Handicap, the Blue Grass Stakes, the Whitney Stakes, or the Haskell Invitational.

This bill adds the New York Stakes to the existing group of thoroughbred horse race meetings that are exempt from the 75 race-per-day limit on imported races into California for wagering.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "this bill would exempt all races imported by a thoroughbred association or fair that are part of the race card of the overall New York Stakes day from the 75-race per day limit as specified in current law. The law has been amended over the years to allow the importation of certain prominent races outside of this cap for promotional and financial reasons."

The author's office further notes that this bill will help increase the wagering handle on this specific day, which will result in higher purses, racetrack revenue, and breeders' awards in California. Purses are critical to California's racing industry because they provide revenue to horse owners for their racing operations. In addition, they provide revenue to breeders through an increase in the value of their breeding stock.

Pari-mutuel Wagering. Horse racing has been active in California since the 1800s, but horse racing as we now know it – under the pari-mutuel wagering system – was not made possible until the electorate passed a constitutional amendment in 1933. The expressed intent of California's Horse Racing Law is to allow pari-mutuel wagering on horse races. Pari-mutuel, from the French term for mutual betting, is a betting system in which all bets of a particular type are placed together in a pool, and payoff odds are calculated by sharing the pool among all winning bets. Pari-mutuel betting differs from fixed-odds betting in that the final payout is not determined until the pool is closed – in fixed-odds betting, the payout is agreed at the time the bet is sold.

Satellite Wagering. Satellite wagering via an off-track facility has been legal in California since the 1980s when California racetracks began experiencing declining attendance and handle figures. The industry believed that making the product easier to access not only would expose and market horse racing to potential customers but also make it more convenient for the existing patrons to wager more frequently. However, while off-track-betting and simulcasting can open new revenue pathways, they may cannibalize traditional on-track income, putting tracks at further financial risk and potentially contributing to closures.

Simulcasting. Simulcasting is the process of transmitting the audio and video signal of a live racing performance from one facility to a satellite for re-transmission to other locations or venues where pari-mutuel wagering is permitted. Simulcasting provides racetracks with the opportunity to increase revenues by exporting their live racing content to as many wagering locations as possible, such as other racetracks, fair satellite facilities, and Indian casinos. Revenues increase because simulcasting provides racetracks that export their live content with additional customers in multiple locations who would not have otherwise been able to place wagers on the live racing event.

Thoroughbred racing associations and fairs in California can distribute the audiovisual signal and accept wagers on the results of out-of-state thoroughbred races during their own race meetings. This is allowed even on days when no live races are being held at their venues. There is a limit on the number of out-of-state races that can be imported into California for betting purposes. On days when there is live thoroughbred or fair racing happening in California, the total number of races imported from out-of-state must not exceed 75 races-per-day.

However, there are exceptions to this limit. Races that are part of specific major events like the Kentucky Derby, Breeders' Cup, and other specified races can be imported without falling under the 75 race-per-day limit. Additional exceptions are made for importing races into certain geographical zones of California when no local live racing is occurring. Any wagering on these out-of-state races must comply with specific provisions of California's Horse Racing Law that govern how betting should be conducted. Wagers on out-of-state races are not allowed after 7 p.m. Pacific Standard Time unless there is consent from the local harness or quarter horse racing associations conducting live racing in either Sacramento or Orange County.

Advance Deposit Wagering. The California horse racing industry entered into a new era in 2002 with the advent of Advance Deposit Wagering (ADW) which

allows customers to deposit funds into an account in order to wager online and/or over the phone. These wagers are commingled into pools at the host track where the races are run, and within the pari-mutuel wagering system regulated by CHRB. Currently, eight ADW providers are operating in the state under a CHRB license. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year (FY), off-track betting within the state provided 13% of the total handle. The balance of the handle comes from out-of-state and ADW wagers – ADW accounted for about 45% or \$1.34 billion. ADW remains the only legal form of online wagering in California.

Racetrack Attendance. Prior to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and closure of non-essential businesses in California, the horse racing industry had already been experiencing a general decline in the number of people attending and wagering at live tracks in California. This has been ongoing for more than three decades due to myriad factors including increased competition from other forms of gaming, unwillingness of customers to travel a significant distance to racetracks, and easy access to off-track wagering.

Status of the Horse Racing Industry in California. The California horse racing industry's long-term health is threatened by a combination of factors including competition from racing in other states and overseas, other forms of gaming within California, declining attendance, and the potential for higher value return by redeveloping the track property rather than continuing to operate in the face of declining revenues. As resources shrink, the industry is experiencing deficits in virtually every one of its revenue sources. Traditional take out, allocation, and distribution formulas are no longer able to sustain ongoing operations.

As the value of racing operations declines, track ownership is struggling to maximize the necessary return on the investment and tempted by alternative uses of the property that yield higher returns. Consequently, the racing industry is suffering unprecedented instability and capital flight. Tens of thousands of industry jobs are in immediate jeopardy, along with breeding farms as well as open space in urban centers throughout California. Also at risk is a substantial amount of local and state revenue generated both directly and indirectly by the industry.

Further exacerbating the horse racing industry's woes, the USA Today published an article in June of last year titled, "ICE raid on track workers sends shockwaves around racing, 'puts horses at risk.'" The article notes that federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents raided the Delta Downs racetrack in Vinton, Louisiana on June 17, 2025. More than 80 backstretch workers were reportedly detained, which the article notes "should be a wake-up call for an

industry that would simply not be able to function without a workforce of grooms and hotwalkers and stall cleaners who are, by some credible estimates, 75% immigrants. They come from places like Venezuela, Panama, Colombia and Mexico, working low-wage jobs but filling indispensable roles, caring round-the-clock for animals worth hundreds of thousands, even millions of dollars.”

Prominent trainer Dale Romans told reporters during a Kentucky Derby-week news conference set up to address the threat posed by a potential U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement raid at a racetrack, “if we couldn’t have an immigrant workforce on the backside, I don’t know how horse racing exists.”

The New York Stakes. The New York Stakes is a Grade I American thoroughbred horse race for fillies and mares aged four-years-old and older run over a distance of one and one-quarter miles on the turf and scheduled annually in early June at Belmont Park in Elmont, New York. Inaugurated in 1940 as the New York Handicap at Aqueduct Racetrack, it was moved to Belmont Park in 1961 but returned to Aqueduct in 1963, where it remained until 1975, when it was permanently shifted to Belmont Park. Since its inception, it has been contested at various distances on both dirt and turf.

In 2025, the 4-year-old filly She Feels Pretty won the \$750,000 New York Stakes providing trainer Cherie DeVaux her first win in the prestigious race. The Eclipse Award-winning filly covered 1 3/16 miles on a yielding turf course in 2:00.76. The race is a headline event on the day before the Belmont Stakes, the final leg of the Triple Crown.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1294 (S. Rubio, 2026) adds the Japan Cup to the existing group of thoroughbred horse race meetings that are exempt from the 75 race-per-day limit on imported races into California for wagering. (Pending in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

AB 2536 (B. Rubio, 2026) makes various minor and technical changes to the California Horse Racing Law, as specified. (Pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee)

SB 844 (S. Rubio, 2025) increases the limit on the importation of out-of-state thoroughbred races by a California thoroughbred racing association or fair for pari-

mutuel wagering from 75 to 80 races-per-day, as specified. (Pending in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

AB 1526 (Committee on Governmental Organization, 2025) makes various technical and non-substantive changes to provisions of law related to horse racing. (Pending on the Senate Floor)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Brian Duke / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:39:45

**** **END** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2793
Author: Committee on Governmental Organization
Introduced: 3/17/26
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 14-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle,
Hurtado, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber
Pierson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Gambling Control Commission

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill modifies the requirement that one member of the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission) be an attorney and a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory law experience, to instead require that one member of the Commission be a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory *or gaming law* experience.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, under the Gambling Control Act (Act), for the licensure and regulation of various legalized gambling activities and establishments by the Commission and the investigation and enforcement of those activities and establishments by the Department of Justice (DOJ).

- 2) Provides that the Commission consists of five members appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation of the Senate, and requires the Governor to designate one member to serve as chairperson.
- 3) Requires that the Commission collectively include individuals with diverse professional backgrounds, such as experience in finance or accounting, law with regulatory expertise, law enforcement or criminal investigation, business or government, and representation of the general Internet public.
- 4) Authorizes the Governor to remove any member of the Commission for incompetence, neglect of duty, or corruption upon first giving the member a copy of the charges and an opportunity to be heard.
- 5) Requires the Governor to fill any vacancies on the Commission, subject to confirmation by the Senate, within 60 days of the date of the vacancy.
- 6) Provides that a person is ineligible for appointment to the Commission if, within two years prior to appointment, the person was employed by, retained by, or derived substantial income from, a gambling establishment.

This bill:

- 1) Modifies the requirement that one member of the Commission be an attorney and a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory law experience, to instead require that one member of the Commission be a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory *or gaming law* experience.
- 2) Makes various technical, non-substantive changes.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "gaming laws are often complex, covering a range of issues such as licensing, taxation, consumer protection, responsible gambling, and anti-money laundering. An expert in gaming law can help navigate these complexities and ensure the laws and regulations are applied correctly."

Furthermore, "one of the main roles of regulatory bodies is to protect consumers and ensure fair play. Someone with expertise in gaming law can help the Commission further create policies that protect players from unfair practices and

ensure their rights are respected. In addition, the gaming industry is evolving quickly with new technologies, such as sports betting, online gaming, e-sports, and mobile platforms. A gaming law expert would help the Commission stay ahead of these trends while making sure new practices are compliant with existing laws or can be properly regulated.”

Gambling Control Act. The Act provides the Commission with jurisdiction over the operation of gambling establishments in California. The Act requires every owner, lessee, or employee of a gambling establishment to obtain and maintain a valid state gambling license. The Act assigns the Commission the responsibility of assuring that gambling licenses are not issued to, or held by, unqualified or disqualified persons, or by persons whose operations are conducted in a manner that is harmful to the public health, safety, or welfare.

The Act directs the Commission to issue licenses only to those persons of good character, honesty and integrity, whose prior activities, criminal record, if any; reputation, habits and associations do not pose a threat to the public interest of this state. The DOJ conducts background and field investigations and enforces the provisions of the Act in this regard.

California Gambling Control Commission. The Commission is composed of five members, all of whom are appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the California State Senate. State law establishes several requirements to ensure professional expertise and political balance on the Commission. For example, no more than three of the five commissioners may belong to the same political party. The statute also requires that the commission collectively include individuals with diverse professional backgrounds, such as experience in finance or accounting, law with regulatory expertise, law enforcement or criminal investigation, business or government, and representation of the general public.

Current law authorizes the Governor to remove a member of the Commission for incompetence, neglect of duty, or corruption upon first giving the member a copy of the charges and an opportunity to be heard. This bill modifies the requirement that one member of the Commission be an attorney and a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory law experience, to instead require that one member of the Commission be an attorney and a member of the State Bar of California with regulatory *or gaming law* experience.

Prior/Related Legislation

SB 1235 (G.O., 2026) requires the Governor to notify the Senate and Assembly Committees on Governmental Organization of the removal of a member of the Commission. (Pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee)

AB 2173 (Wallis, 2026) requires the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Pending on the Senate Floor)

AB 2644 (Rubio, 2026) requires the Governor to notify the Legislature of the removal of any member of the Commission. (Pending in the Senate Appropriations Committee)

SB 864 (Padilla, 2025) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Gutted and Amended to an Unrelated Issue)

SB 1154 (Alvarado-Gil, 2024) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Never Heard in the Senate Governmental Organization Committee)

SB 346 (Ochoa-Bogh, 2023) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Never Heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/4/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly,

Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Flora, Wallis, Wilson

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
6/24/26 16:39:46

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 107
Author: Bauer-Kahan (D)
Introduced: 7/15/25
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/9/26

AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Reyes

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 9/13/25 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: The Diablo Range

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution (1) recognizes the importance of the Diablo Range as a unique landscape deserving of amplified consideration, and (2) commends the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and its departments, organizational stakeholders, and individuals across the state in their collective efforts to elevate awareness involving the benefits and values of the Diablo Range.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

- 1) Directs CNRA to combat the biodiversity and climate crisis by, among other things, establishing the California Biodiversity Collaborative and establishing the 30x30 goal (Executive Order No. N-82-20).
- 2) Codifies the 30x30 goal (Public Resources Code § 71450).
- 3) Declares that it is a national policy to preserve for public use historic sites, buildings, and objects of national significance for the inspiration and benefit of the people of the United States (54 United States Code (USC) § 320101).

This resolution:

- 1) Makes a number of findings, including:
 - a) The Diablo Range encompasses more than 3.5 million acres of diverse lands;
 - b) The Diablo Range is an intact wildlife habitat corridor of statewide significance supporting species such as the California condor, tule elk, golden eagle, mountain lion, and blunt-nosed leopard lizard, as well as endemic plants like the Mount Diablo globe lily;
 - c) Over 10 million people reside in communities around the Diablo Range and therefore, in addition to the mountain range's rich biodiversity, it has also been identified as a new and largely untapped recreational resource to serve the growing adjacent populations;
 - d) The Diablo Range affords California one of its best opportunities to meet the state's goal to conserve 30% of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030 (i.e., the 30x30 goal) and to address the climate crisis, by strategic land management and conservation practices to help more Californians connect with nature;
 - e) The Diablo Range contains significant cultural resources important to native people and the history of California; and
 - f) Recognizing the Diablo Range as a California conservation priority will build momentum for future efforts and considerations to designate the Diablo Range as a national monument.
- 2) Resolves that:
 - a) The Legislature recognizes the importance of the Diablo Range as a unique landscape deserving of amplified consideration; and
 - b) Commends and supports CNRA and its departments, organizational stakeholders, and individuals across the state in their collective efforts to elevate awareness involving the benefits and values of the Diablo Range.

Background

Diablo Mountain Range. According to the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee, California's Diablo Mountain Range sits within the Central California Foothills and Coastal Mountains ecoregion, which has a Mediterranean climate and associated vegetation communities of grassland, chaparral, and oak woodlands.

The Diablo Range stretches from the eastern San Francisco Bay area to State Route 46, passing through Contra Costa, Alameda, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Stanislaus, Merced, San Benito, Fresno, Monterey, Kings, San Luis Obispo, and Kern counties. The range is named after Mount Diablo in Contra Costa County. According to the Save Mount Diablo (SMD) website, the Diablo Range covers 5,400 square miles and has many peaks, some of which are taller than Mount Diablo with the tallest peak being San Benito Mountain at 5,241 feet.

National Monuments. This resolution notes that the Diablo Range, given its critical wildlife habitat corridors, natural resources, cultural significance, and proximity to population centers causing development pressures, calls for an elevated vigilance and investment in management projects to reduce fire threats. Additionally, it suggests that recognizing the Diablo Range as a California conservation priority will build momentum for efforts to designate the Diablo Range as a national monument.

The Federal Antiquities Act (act), passed in 1906, authorizes the President to establish national monuments. Specifically, the act gives the President the authority to “declare by public proclamation historic landmarks, historic and prehistoric structures, and other objects of historic or scientific interest that are situated on land owned or controlled by the Federal Government to be national monuments” (54 USC § 320301(a)). National monuments may be administered by the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, or the Bureau of Land Management. Since 1906, U.S. presidents have used their authority under the Antiquities Act to set aside land almost 300 times.

In California, there are nearly 20 national monuments, including Berryessa Snow Mountain, Cabrillo, California Coastal, Carrizo Plain, Castle Mountains, César E. Chávez, Devils Postpile, Fort Ord, Giant Sequoia, Lava Beds, Mojave Trails, Muir Woods, Saint Francis Dam Disaster, Sand to Snow, San Gabriel Mountains, Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains, and Tule Lake.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1426 (Kalra, Bauer-Kahan, 2025) of the current legislative session, would have required the Wildlife Conservation Board to establish the Diablo Range Conservation Program. AB 1426 was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SJR 16 (Padilla, Chapter 208, Statutes of 2024), urges the President to use the Antiquities Act of 1906 to establish the Chuckwalla, Joshua Tree, and Kw’tsán National Monuments.

SJR 17 (Allen, Chapter 209, Statutes of 2024), urges the President to use the Antiquities Act of 1906 to establish the Sáttítla National Monument.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

Californians for Western Wilderness
East Contra Costa County Habitat Conservancy
Fresno Chaffee Zoo
Golden Gate Bird Alliance
Institute for Historical Ecology
Livermore Hill Hikers
Mak-warép Ohlone Land Conservancy
Mount Diablo Bird Alliance
Protect San Benito
Santa Clara Valley Bird Alliance
Santa Clara Valley Habitat Agency
Save Mount Diablo
Sierra Club

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “The Diablo Range is one of California’s most ecologically and recreationally significant landscapes. The range is home to many diverse habitats that support hundreds of native plant and wildlife species, including rare and threatened species found nowhere else in the world. This range also serves as a crucial wildlife corridor, connecting ecosystems across the state and strengthening the region’s climate reliance. Beyond its ecological value, the Diablo Range provides critical natural benefits such as clean water, carbon storage, and expansive open space that supports recreation and public enjoyment. Recognizing the Diablo Range as a priority for conservation ensures the protection of its biodiversity, ecosystems, and natural resources for generations to come.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 9/13/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick,

Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell,
Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco,
Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste
Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo,
Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks,
Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Elhawary, Flora, McKinnor, Patterson, Solache, Ta

Prepared by: Edith Hannigan / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/10/26 16:52:25

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 149
Author: Hart (D), Addis (D) and Bennett (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/25/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: California Coastal Act of 1976

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution acknowledges and celebrates 50 years of coastal protection and affirms the state's longstanding commitment to protecting its coastal waters, as specified.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) In 1976, the Legislature passed the California Coastal Act and the State Coastal Conservancy Act, based on findings that the California coastal zone is a distinct and valuable natural resource of vital and enduring interest to all the people.
- 2) The California Coastal Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy were created to implement these respective statutes, including the shared mandate to maximize public access to and along the coast.
- 3) The partnership between the California Coastal Commission and the State Coastal Conservancy through their complementary authority has been responsible for the conservation of over 500,000 acres of natural lands as open space, the creation of more than 2,500 public accessways and easements to and along the coast, the restoration of more than 50,000 acres of coastal habitats, the designation and opening of 875 miles of the California Coastal Trail, and the investment of over \$2 billion in coastal conservation, restoration, public access, and climate resilience all while supporting a thriving \$51 billion coast and ocean economy.
- 4) The State Coastal Conservancy Act ensures that all Californians are able to enjoy our iconic coastline and benefit from public investment in the permanent protection, restoration, and climate resilience of the coast.

This resolution acknowledges the value of ecologically sound coastal protection combined with carefully planned development as essential to the economic and social well-being of the state for the next 50 years and beyond, and reaffirms the findings of our predecessors from 1976 that the permanent protection of the state's natural and scenic coastal resources is a paramount concern to present and future residents of the state and nation.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/5/26)

Audubon California
Azul
Black Surf Santa Cruz, Inc.
Business Alliance for Protecting the Pacific Coast
California Coastal Protection Network
California Coastkeeper Alliance
Center for Biological Diversity
City Surf Project
County Park Friends
Environment California
Environmental Action Committee of West Marin
Environmental Defense Center
Environmental Protection Information Center
Fish On
Heal the Bay
Los Angeles Neighborhood Land Trust
Los Angeles Waterkeeper
Monterey Bay Aquarium
Mujeres De La Tierra
Natural Resources Defense Council
Orange County Coastkeeper
Outdoor Outreach
Paddle for Peace
Queer Surf
Salted Roots
Save Our Shores
Surfrider Foundation
Un Mar De Colores
Wildcoast

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/6/26 13:50:31

****** END ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 159
Author: Kalra (D), et al.
Introduced: 3/10/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Indigent defense

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution affirms the fundamental importance of indigent defense to due process, equal justice, and democratic governance, recognize public defenders as essential protectors of constitutional rights and the rule of law, and encourages the development of statewide approaches to indigent defense.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The California Constitution independently guarantees due process of law and the right to counsel in criminal proceedings; Section 15 of Article I of the California Constitution provides that a defendant in a criminal cause has the right to the assistance of counsel.
- 2) California's indigent defense system is primarily county-based, and the state does not provide comprehensive or reliable statewide funding to ensure that public defense systems are adequately staffed and resourced to meet constitutional standards.
- 3) State-controlled funding mechanisms and grant programs have historically provided significantly greater support to prosecution-related functions than to indigent defense, reinforcing disparities and limiting counties' ability to achieve functional parity between prosecution and defense.
- 4) Persistent underfunding and lack of parity undermine the fairness and reliability of the justice system, contribute to delays and inefficiencies, increase the risk of wrongful convictions, and erode public trust in the courts.
- 5) California has both a constitutional obligation and a moral responsibility to ensure that its indigent defense systems are adequately funded, appropriately

staffed, and capable of providing effective representation consistent with constitutional mandates.

This resolution affirms the fundamental importance of indigent defense to due process, equal justice, and democratic governance, recognize public defenders as essential protectors of constitutional rights and the rule of law, and encourages the development of statewide approaches to indigent defense.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/12/26)

ACLU California Action

California Public Defenders Association

Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

Local 148 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union

Smart Justice California, A Project of Beyond Impact

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/12/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/13/26 16:27:53

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 165
Author: Kalra (D)
Introduced: 3/25/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: The 2026 International Day of Yoga

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes June 21, 2026, as the 2026 International Day of Yoga in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) California is home to many yoga teachers, students, studios, and classes that have collectively contributed to the significant growth of yoga throughout the United States. Yoga has become one of the fastest growing wellness practices in the past decade, with approximately 36,000,000 Americans estimated to practice yoga regularly, and one in three Americans have at least tried yoga once.
- 2) Yoga brings strength, stability, and unity within the body, mind, and emotions. Recent studies suggest that yoga-based interventions can be an effective treatment for various health conditions and mental health disorders and can complement traditional medical interventions and therapy. Regular yoga practitioners report benefits such as reduction in stress, positive increase in temperament, being physically stronger, and reduced inflammation, pain, and stiffness.
- 3) This year marks the 12th International Day of Yoga and people worldwide use this celebratory day to raise awareness of the history, benefits, and teachings of yoga.

This resolution recognizes June 21, 2026, as the 2026 International Day of Yoga in California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bains, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Haney, Johnson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria, Tangipa, Wicks

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:30

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 173
Author: Carrillo (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/8/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/8/26

AYES: Wahab, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Smallwood-Cuevas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Niello, Strickland, Umberg

SUBJECT: Sister state: State of Jalisco

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recommits to formalizing the sister state relationship between the State of Jalisco in Mexico and the State of California.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law establishes, via Senate Concurrent Resolution 82 (Heuso, Resolution Chapter 70, Statutes of 2014) a sister state relationship with the State of Jalisco in Mexico and California, acknowledging the economic opportunities in high technology manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, amongst other important industries.

This resolution:

- 1) Recognizes the mutually beneficial educational, economic and culture exchanges between the State of Jalisco and State of California.
- 2) Continues the long-standing cross-national collaboration and goodwill between California and Jalisco in addressing immigration policies while maintaining liberties and due process for all residents in California granted by the state Constitution regardless of immigration status.

3) Promotes mutual respect for the residents of the bordering states.

Background

This resolution recommits to formalizing the sister-state relationship between California and Jalisco by embracing the shared investments in high technology manufacturing, agriculture ties, and cultural traditions and tourism. Recognized as “Mexico’s Silicon Valley”, Guadalajara, located in the State of Jalisco, is the largest technology center in Mexico, known as a major Latin and North American hub, and is a main producer of software, electronics and digital products. This burgeoning electronics market aligns with California’s technology sector promoting job creation and sustainable innovation in both regions. The cultural traditions and heritage that originated in Jalisco have permeated California in displays of mariachi music, charreadas (Mexican rodeos), the Mexican Hat Dance, and the wide brimmed sombrero. The culinary exports from Jalisco to California include a variety of tequilas grown from the indigenous agave plant found in Mexico and a plethora of native dishes, including the meat stew dish of birria.

The historical United States Bracero Program brought agricultural laborers from Jalisco to California enriching the economic relationship and encouraging a deep-rooted generational connection between the states that continues to this day, particularly in agricultural areas located in the Central Valley and in the larger urban areas of Los Angeles. Today, this vast migration connects California and Jalisco through established family networks, cultural ties and shared prosperity encouraging Jalisco immigrants and their relatives to integrate into all sectors of business, participate in their community and contribute to their shared heritage and culture through music, the arts, cultural festivals and cuisine.

ACR 173 supports cooperative research by universities in California and Jalisco enriching this bi-national relationship by promoting bilateral economic development and stimulating employment in Mexican immigrant communities benefiting the residents in both states.

This resolution recognizes the vested interests and economic relationship between the States of Jalisco and California, promotes sustained goodwill and collaboration by continuing bilateral cooperation in the face of shifting federal policies on immigration enforcement, while maintaining mutual respect and honoring civil liberties for the residents in both regions.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/8/26)

Asociacion De Jaliscienses Unidos En Accion (AJUA)
Mexican-American Policy Alliance

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/8/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Asociacion De Jaliscienses and Unidos En Accion (AJUA) write in support, “The relationship between California and Jalisco simply makes sense. Cross-border economic ties translate into real benefits for workers, businesses, and families on both sides – so investing in local-level collaboration is a practical, high impact approach. ACR 173 truly aligns with our mission to preserve and promote the Mexican roots in the United States, supporting the migrant community through services, education, culture, guidance and social programs that improve their quality of life.”

The Mexican-American Policy Initiative notes in support, “This state sisterhood is a natural next step in cementing the strong relationship between Jalisco and California. Over 1 million people of Jalisco origin live in California. Jalisco and California share more than just people—they also share a rich, beautiful history shaped by culture and language. A sister-state relationship between the two would create opportunities to promote and share cultural and tourism experiences, while also encouraging joint business growth and workforce development collaboration.”

Prepared by: Anna Billy / B., P. & E.D. /
6/10/26 16:52:25

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 176
Author: Elhawary (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/15/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Second Chance Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of April 2026 as Second Chance Month in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Every individual is endowed with human dignity and value. Redemption and second chances are values of California. Restorative justice through healing and rehabilitation can help uplift society.
- 2) An estimated 8 million residents of California have a criminal record. About 35,000 Californians return to their communities from prison every year.
- 3) For individuals returning to their communities from prison or jail, gaining meaningful employment is one of the most significant predictors of successful reentry and has been shown to reduce future criminal activity.
- 4) Many individuals who have been incarcerated struggle to find employment and access capital to start a small business because of collateral consequences, which are sometimes not directly related to the offenses the individuals committed or any proven public safety benefit.
- 5) An individual who has been convicted of certain crimes is often barred from receiving the financial aid necessary to acquire additional skills and knowledge through some formal education programs.
- 6) Those barriers can have an impact on public safety by contributing to recidivism.

- 7) The designation of April 2026 as Second Chance Month may contribute to increased public awareness about the impact of collateral consequences and the need for closure for individuals with a criminal record who have paid their debt.

This resolution proclaims the month of April 2026 as Second Chance Month in California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.:No Local:No

SUPPORT: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 5/8/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
5/13/26 16:27:54

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 191
Author: Stefani (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/30/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: National Gun Violence Awareness Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares June 5, 2026, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Every day, 130 people in the United States are killed by gun violence, and more than 260 are shot and wounded, with an average of more than 19,000 gun homicides every year.
- 2) People in the United States are 26 times more likely to die by gun homicide than people in other high-income countries.
- 3) California has 3,314 gun deaths every year, with a rate of 8.2 deaths per 100,000 people, a crisis that costs the state 41.9 billion each year, of which 1.1 billion is paid by taxpayers. California has the 45th highest rate of gun deaths in the United States.
- 4) In January 2013, Hadiya Pendleton was tragically shot and killed at 15 years of age; and on June 5, 2026, to recognize the 29th birthday of Hadiya Pendleton, born on June 2, 1997, people across the United States will recognize National Gun Violence Awareness Day and wear orange in tribute to Hadiya Pendleton and other victims of gun violence, and to the loved ones of those victims.
- 5) We renew our commitment to reduce gun violence and pledge to do all we can to keep firearms out of the hands of people who should not have access to them and encourage responsible gun ownership to help keep our families and communities safe.

This resolution declares the first Friday in June, June 5, 2026, to be National Gun Violence Awareness Day. We encourage all citizens to support their communities' efforts to prevent the tragic effects of gun violence and to honor and value human life.

Related/Prior Legislation

HR 39 (Gabriel and Wicks, 2023, Adopted)

HR 107 (Gabriel, 2022, Adopted)

SR 89 (Skinner and Hertzberg, 2022, Adopted)

ACR 87 (Gipson, Chapter 102, Statutes of 2021)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/12/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:48

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 193
Author: Aguiar-Curry (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/4/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: International Year of the Woman Farmer

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer and recognizes the critical role of women in agriculture.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Women constitute a significant share of the global agricultural workforce and contribute across the entire agrifood value chain, including production, processing, distribution, and trade.
- 2) The number of women farmers in California has increased by approximately 13 percent over the past decade, reflecting growing leadership, ownership, and participation in agriculture.
- 3) Women in California agriculture contribute not only to farming and ranching, but also to innovation, sustainability, processing, distribution, marketing, and retail across the food supply chain.
- 4) The International Year of the Woman Farmer provides an opportunity to promote gender equality, empower women, and encourage policy reforms and investments that address disparities in agriculture. The observance calls upon governments, international organizations, civil society, private sector actors, and individuals to increase awareness and to take action in support of women farmers.

This resolution proclaims 2026 as the International Year of the Woman Farmer and recognizes the critical role of women in agriculture.

Related/Prior Legislation

SR 99 (Caballero, 2026) – Adopted by the Senate.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171

6/22/26 14:47:27

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 206
Author: Stefani (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/14/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 6/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of June 2026 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Elder and disability abuse may be physical, emotional, psychological, sexual, or financial in nature, and such abuse knows no boundaries with respect to gender, race, culture, religion, geographic location, or the economic, educational, or social status of the victim.
- 2) According to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime Complaint Center, in 2025, over 201,000 victims 60 years of age and older reported scam-related losses totaling more than \$7.7 billion, a 60-percent increase from 2024.
- 3) Subtle indicators that abuse may be occurring include bruises or pressure marks, unexplained withdrawal from normal activities, changes in alertness and mood, unusual depression, sudden changes in financial circumstances, strained or tense relationships, and frequent arguments, including sudden combativeness. Recognizing these warning signs is a critical step toward the prevention of elder and disability abuse.

This resolution proclaims and acknowledges the month of June 2026 as Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month and reiterates the importance of annually recognizing Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse Awareness Month in the State of California.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 80 (Stefani, Resolution Chapter 103, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 153 (Dodd, Resolution Chapter 146, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 64 (Dodd, Resolution Chapter 116, Statutes of 2023)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 6/4/26

AYES: Addis, Ahrens, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Aguiar-Curry, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Flora, Garcia, Mark González, Johnson, McKinnor, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Valencia

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:48

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 211

Author: Celeste Rodriguez (D), et al.

Introduced: 5/21/26

Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 6/4/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Zoot Suit Riots

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates every June as the annual anniversary of the Zoot Suit Riots.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The Zoot Suit Riots were a series of conflicts that occurred in June 1943 in the City of Los Angeles between United States servicemen and Mexican American youths, the latter of whom wore outfits called zoot suits.
- 2) Pressures related to the United States involvement in World War II contributed to the racial tensions that preceded the riots. As part of the war effort, by March 1942, the United States had begun rationing various resources. Restrictions on wool had a direct effect on the manufacture of wool suits and other clothing. This exacerbated racial tensions, as Mexican American youths wearing the zoot suits were seen as un-American because they were deliberately ignoring the rationing regulations.
- 3) During the period from 1942 through 1943, the news media continued to portray the zoot-suiters as dangerous gang members who were capable of murder. It was in this racially charged atmosphere that the conflict between predominantly White servicemen stationed in southern California and Mexican American youths in the area began.
- 4) The worst of the rioting occurred on the night of June 7, 1943, when thousands of servicemen and citizens prowled the streets of the downtown area of the City

of Los Angeles, attacking zoot-suiters as well as members of minority groups who were not wearing zoot suits.

- 5) The fact that considerably more Mexican Americans than servicemen were arrested, upward of 600 of the former, according to some estimates, fueled criticism of the Los Angeles Police Department's response to the riots from some quarters.

This resolution commemorates every June as the annual anniversary of the Zoot Suit Riots.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 84 (Wendy Carillo, 2024) – Held in Senate.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 6/4/26

AYES: Addis, Ahrens, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Aguiar-Curry, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Flora, Garcia, Mark González, Johnson, McKinnor, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Valencia

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:49

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 214
Author: Bryan (D), Bonta (D), Elhawary (D), Gipson (D), Jackson (D),
McKinnor (D), Ransom (D), Sharp-Collins (D) and Wilson (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/1/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Juneteenth

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes June 19, 2026, as Juneteenth and urges the people of California to join in celebrating Juneteenth as a day to honor and reflect on the significant role that African Americans have played in the history of the United States and how they have enriched society through their steadfast commitment to promoting unity and equality.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Juneteenth, or June 19, 1865, is considered the date when the last persons enslaved in American Chattel Slavery were freed when General Gordon Granger rode into the City of Galveston, Texas, and issued General Order No. 3, almost two and one-half years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation.
- 2) Juneteenth education and commemorations declined in America in the early part of the 20th century, but the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s and 1960s saw a resurgence of interest in Juneteenth, along with renewed community celebrations of the day.
- 3) On June 17, 2021, President Biden signed the Juneteenth National Independence Day Act into law, establishing June 19 as a federal holiday, and making it the first federal holiday since the establishment of Martin Luther King Jr. Day in 1983.
- 4) As of 2022, all 50 states in the country recognize Juneteenth as an official state holiday or day of observance.

- 5) Juneteenth commemorates African American freedom and emphasizes education and achievement. It is a day, a week, and in some areas, a month marked with celebrations, guest speakers, picnics, and family gatherings. It is a time for reflection and rejoicing. It is a time for assessment, self-improvement, and for planning the future.

This resolution recognizes June 19, 2026, and every June 19th thereafter, as Juneteenth.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 192 (Jones-Sawyer, Chapter 152, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 152 (Bradford, Chapter 145, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 76 (Bradford and Smallwood-Cuevas, Chapter 142, Statutes of 2023)

ACR 94 (Jones-Sawyer, Chapter 122, Statutes of 2023)

AB 1655 (Jones-Sawyer et al., Chapter 753, Statutes of 2022)

ACR 190 (Jones-Sawyer et al., Chapter 139, Statutes of 2022)

SCR 109 (Bradford and Kamlager, Chapter 117, Statutes of 2022)

SCR 41 (Bradford and Kamlager, Chapter 99, Statutes of 2021)

ACR 82 (Cooper, Chapter 95, Statutes of 2021)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:31

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 215
Author: Petrie-Norris (D)
Introduced: 6/3/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Hypertension Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes May 2026 as Hypertension Awareness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Hypertension, also known as high blood pressure, affects nearly one-half of all adults in the United States and is a leading risk factor for various cardiovascular diseases.
- 2) Annual health care costs associated with high blood pressure were an estimated \$219 billion in the United States in 2019, with medical costs for people with high blood pressure being about \$2,800 higher than for people without high blood pressure.
- 3) Hypertension often goes undetected and untreated, leading to severe health complications, including heart disease, stroke, and kidney failure, and contributing to 664,470 deaths in 2023 in the United States.
- 4) California has one of the highest mortality rates from hypertension in the United States at 13.4 per 100,000 people, leading to 6,406 deaths per year.
- 5) Hypertension disproportionately impacts certain populations, including, but not limited to, communities of color, socioeconomically disadvantaged individuals, and individuals with limited access to health care services, leading to health disparities and inequities in the prevalence, management, and outcomes of high blood pressure.

- 6) The month of May is dedicated to raising awareness about hypertension, promoting education about prevention and management, and encouraging individuals to monitor their blood pressure regularly.

This resolution encourages health care providers, public health agencies, and community organizations to continue their efforts in educating and empowering individuals to monitor and manage their blood pressure effectively.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 83 (Stern, Resolution Chapter 137, Statutes of 2025)

ACR 200 (Jones-Sawyer, Resolution Chapter 112, Statutes of 2024)

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/15/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/15/26 14:57:50

***** END *****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 219
Author: Papan (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/3/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California OB-GYN Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates the week of May 24, 2026, to May 30, 2026, inclusive, as California OB-GYN Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Obstetricians and gynecologists (OB-GYNs) are uniquely trained physicians and surgeons who provide comprehensive health care services to patients across their lifespan, from childhood through menopause and beyond.
- 2) National clinical guidance recognizes OB-GYNs as providers of primary and preventive care through the Women's Preventive Services Initiative, developed by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and endorsed by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, affirming OB-GYNs' role in delivering well-person visits and preventive screenings.
- 3) Investing in OB-GYNs when they are delivering primary care services will expand access to care and strengthen OB-GYNs as primary care providers who serve as the backbone of women's health care. The health and well-being of families and communities across California depend on the availability of highly skilled OB-GYNs who provide care spanning generations.

This resolution designates the week of May 24, 2026, to May 30, 2026, inclusive, as California OB-GYN Week.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bains, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Haney, Johnson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria, Tangipa, Wicks

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:32

**** **END** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 220
Author: Nguyen (D)
Introduced: 6/3/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Hepatitis B Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution, in order to support ongoing public education and to encourage vaccination, screening, and linkage to care, declares June 2026 as Hepatitis B Awareness Month in California in alignment with national and global awareness activities, and encourages state agencies, local health jurisdictions, community-based organizations, health care providers, and other stakeholders to observe this month with appropriate educational and outreach activities focused on hepatitis B prevention, testing, treatment, and health equity.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Hepatitis B is a liver infection caused by the hepatitis B virus, and recent modeling estimates indicate that approximately 1.7 million to 1.8 million people in the United States are living with hepatitis B infection, corresponding to a prevalence of about 0.5 to 0.55 percent of the population.
- 2) State-level analyses estimate that California has the largest number of people living with hepatitis B of any state, with approximately 347,100 people living with hepatitis B infection and an overall prevalence of about 0.9%, and that about 86% of these infections occur among people who are foreign born.
- 3) Hepatitis B spreads from person to person via contact with infected blood and body fluids; transmission may occur through perinatal exposure, sexual contact, injection drug use, and other blood exposures.

- 4) Hepatitis B infection can range from an acute, mild, short-term illness to a chronic, serious, long-term infection that can lead to cirrhosis, liver failure, and liver cancer, and is associated with premature mortality in California.
- 5) CDPH reports that hepatitis B-related mortality in California, though declining, remained 1.7 times higher than the overall United States rate in 2021, and that more than 70% of hepatitis B deaths in California occurred in people younger than 75 years of age, with Asian American and Hispanic or Latino Californians dying on average 18 years earlier than expected due to hepatitis B.

This resolution declares hepatitis B prevention, screening, treatment, and linkage to care to be important public health priorities for the State of California.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bains, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Haney, Johnson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria, Tangipa, Wicks

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:32

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 223
Author: Rogers (D)
Introduced: 6/9/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: “Parks Make Life Better!®” Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes the importance of access to local and state parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health, wellness, development, inspiration, and safety of all Californians and would declare the month of July 2026 as “Parks Make Life Better!®” Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Parks and adjacent access to state and federal public lands provide gateway and rural communities with opportunities to fortify their economies through activities that promote rec-tourism and visitation patterns, including mountain biking, gravel cycling, foraging, trail running, equestrian use, and other activities.
- 2) Parks and recreational programs increase mental and emotional health, as evidenced by studies that have found that individuals living close to parks have lower levels of stress and depression.
- 3) Parks and recreational programs strengthen community identity by providing facilities and services that reflect and celebrate community character, heritage, culture, history, aesthetics, and landscapes.
- 4) Parks and recreation emphasize the importance of nature and teaching future generations to value nature and the outdoors as part of their development.

- 5) Parks and recreational facilities provide more affordable options for many communities without easy access to state parks.
- 6) The California Park & Recreation Society has released a statewide public awareness campaign, “Parks Make Life Better!®”, to inform the public of the many benefits of using parks, facilities, programs, and services; now, therefore.

This resolution recognizes the importance of access to local and state parks, trails, open space, and facilities for the health, wellness, development, inspiration, and safety of all Californians.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bains, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Haney, Johnson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria, Tangipa, Wicks

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:33

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AJR 27
Author: Harabedian (D) and Irwin (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EMERGENCY MGT. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Stern, Seyarto, Allen, Blakespear, Grayson, Grove, McNerney, Pérez, Rubio

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 2/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Federal disaster aid: 2025 Los Angeles fires

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution urges the President of the United States to immediately submit a supplemental disaster declaration to Congress to unlock supplemental funding for the 2025 Los Angeles firestorm recovery and calls on Congress to approve supplemental aid to support the County of Los Angeles.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law authorizes the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to provide emergency assistance to states and local entities impacted by disasters, as specified. In an emergency, the President may, among other things, authorize public assistance programs to provide essential emergency assistance, repair and restore damaged public infrastructure, and remove debris.

This resolution:

- 1) Resolves that the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, urge the President of the United States to immediately submit a supplemental disaster declaration to Congress to unlock funding to aid in recovery from the Los Angeles fires.

- 2) Resolves that the Assembly and the Senate of the State of California, jointly, call on Congress to approve supplemental aid to support the County of Los Angeles, regardless of whether it receives a request from the President of the United States.
- 3) States that on January 7, 2025, the Eaton Fire and the Palisades Fire in the County of Los Angeles, began forcing evacuations and devastating communities in the County of Los Angeles, as specified.
- 4) States that in the immediate aftermath of the fires, the County of Los Angeles received federal support following a major disaster declaration by President Joseph R. Biden, as specified.
- 5) States that President Donald J. Trump demanded unrelated and unprecedented policy changes as a condition for receiving further federal aid, as specified.
- 6) States that Governor Newsom sent formal request letters to Congress and the Trump administration requesting a supplemental appropriation of over \$39 million for disaster funding to aid the County of Los Angeles in recovery, as specified, which was later revised to reflect work already paid out.
- 7) States that federal assistance is critical to ensure the County of Los Angeles has all the necessary resources to fund the rebuilding of homes, schools, and community facilities, support the local economy, repair infrastructure damage, and other recovery needs, as specified.
- 8) States that the full bipartisan California congressional delegation has supported federal aid for recovery in the County of Los Angeles, including in a letter signed by all sitting California members of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate.
- 9) States that meeting the recovery needs of the County of Los Angeles will require supplemental aid, and that cannot be provided without Congress and President Trump.
- 10) States that President Trump has refused to respond to California's request and has failed to submit a funding proposal to Congress.
- 11) States that Congress and Presidents of both parties have historically approved supplemental aid after natural disasters with bipartisan support and no conditions, including aiding Florida after Hurricanes Helene and Milton in 2024.

- 12) Resolves that the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies of this resolution to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Majority Leader of the United States Senate, each Senator and Representative from California in the Congress of the United States, and to the author for appropriate distribution.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "[Over a] year after the Eaton and Palisades fires devastated Los Angeles, Americans in Los Angeles are still in desperate need of federal aid to assist rebuilding. AJR 27 calls upon the President and Congress to unlock funding for Los Angeles so our communities can recover from the fires."

Presidential Major Disaster Declaration. On January 8, 2025, former President Biden approved a Major Disaster Declaration (MDD) for California, following Governor Newsom's proclaimed State of Emergency for the January 2025 Palisades and Eaton Fires in the LA region. The MDD provided disaster assistance to supplement recovery efforts in the areas affected by wildfires and winds from January 7th through the 31st. Available federal funding to affected individuals in LA County included grants, low-cost loans and other programs to help individuals and business owners recover from the effects of the disaster. Federal funding was also made available to state, tribal and eligible local governments and certain private nonprofit organizations on a cost-sharing basis for emergency protective measures.

State funding. In January 2025, the Legislature and Governor took swift budget action to provide \$2.5 billion for recovery efforts related to damage caused by the Eaton and Palisades Fires. As noted by the Department of Finance, these communities face a long and complex recovery process, requiring significant state and federal support to rebuild safely and restore services. Recovery operations include managing emergency protective measures, such as evacuations, sheltering for survivors, and traffic control; performing debris and waste removal; supporting post-fire hazard assessments, remediation and environmental testing; and providing public assistance to repair infrastructure and supporting continuous liaison activities to help the impacted communities navigate FEMA assistance.

Funding Request Letters. Governor Newsom has sent letters to Congress and the Trump administration to request a disaster funding supplemental appropriation to bolster LA County's recovery. As of March 2026, the request from California for

federal aid for LA fire recovery reflects revised estimates, based on current circumstances and close coordination with local stakeholders for immediate advancement of aid for a targeted set of the highest priority federal programs, as follows:

- a) Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery: \$10.5B
- b) Economic Development Administration Business Grants: \$179M
- c) Child Care Development Block Grant: \$240M
- d) Clean Water State Revolving Fund: \$202M
- e) Transportation Infrastructure: \$156M
- f) FEMA Public Assistance: \$3B in eligible projects
- g) FEMA Hazard Mitigation: \$750M
- h) Small Business Administration Loans: Increase loan limits and create flexible disbursement and repayment rules to support residents throughout reconstruction

According to the Governor's Office, these figures and flexibility requests reflect strong alignment with local priorities and incorporate specific projects and needs identified by local governments and residents.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/17/26)

California Professional Firefighters

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/17/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: In support of the resolution, the California Professional Firefighters, writes that, "There has been strong bipartisan interest in providing assistance to the citizens and communities of Los Angeles that our members have sworn to protect, and we strongly support all efforts to ensure that this funding reaches the people who need it most. For these reasons, we are proud to support this important measure."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 2/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Fariás, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian,

Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: DeMaio, Dixon, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, McKinnor, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Sharp-Collins, Tangipa, Valencia

Prepared by: Cassie Royce / E.M. /
6/18/26 16:33:43

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AJR 29
Author: Berman (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/7/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/9/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NOES: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-14, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Voting by mail

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This joint resolution states the Legislature's opposition to presidential Executive Order #14399 (EO) relating to vote by mail (VBM) voting and calls on the U.S. Congress to protect the constitutional authority of states to administer their own elections.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, pursuant to the U.S. Constitution, that state legislatures prescribes the times, places, and manner of holding elections for U.S. Senators and Members of the House of Representatives. Congress may, at any time, make law or alter regulations, except as to the places of choosing U.S. Senators.
- 2) Requires every active registered voter to receive a VBM ballot for any election. Election officials must begin mailing VBM ballots not later than 29 days before the election.
- 3) Requires a county elections official, upon receiving a VBM ballot, to compare the signature on the VBM ballot identification envelope with a signature appearing on any affidavit of registration of the voter, or on any form issued by

an elections official that contains the voter's signature and is part of the voter's registration record. If a signature on a VBM ballot identification envelope is missing or does not compare with the signature(s) on file, a voter is permitted to cure their signature and have their VBM ballot counted.

- 4) Requires, pursuant to federal law, election officers to retain and preserve, for a period of 22 months from the date of any election that included a candidate for federal office, all records and papers relating to any application, registration, payment of poll tax, or other act requisite to voting in such election.
- 5) Requires, pursuant to state law, specified materials from an election that included a candidate for federal office to be preserved for 22 months from the date of the election, including all of the following: voted ballots, VBM voter identification envelopes, provisional ballot voter identification envelopes, spoiled ballots, canceled ballots, and unused VBM ballots surrendered by the voter. These records must be unopened and unaltered during the preservation period, unless an election contest or criminal prosecution commences during that period. These materials must be destroyed or recycled at the end of the preservation period.

This joint resolution:

- 1) States the Legislature's opposition to the EO and calls on the U.S. Congress to protect the constitutional authority of states to administer their own elections.
- 2) Specifies that the Legislature affirms the safety, security, and integrity of California's VBM system and reaffirms the right of every eligible California voter to vote by mail.
- 3) Calls upon the U.S. Congress to reject any federal legislation that would restrict or eliminate VBM options currently available to voters in California and other states, and to protect the constitutional authority of states to administer their own elections.

Background

Executive Order #14399 on Elections. On March 31, 2026, President Trump issued Executive Order #14399, *Ensuring Citizenship Verification and Integrity in Federal Elections*.

The EO directs the Department of Homeland Security and the Social Security Administration (SSA) to compile and provide each state's election official with a "State Citizenship List" of confirmed U.S. citizens. This list would be generated

using federal citizenship and naturalization records, SSA records, and other federal databases, and is intended to identify individuals who are eligible to vote in federal elections in each state.

The EO also requires states to notify the USPS at least 90 days before a federal election if they intend to allow mail-in voting and provides for specific design requirements for VBM ballot envelopes. States would also be required to provide the USPS, at least 60 days before the election, with a list of voters to whom ballots will be sent. It further directs the USPS not to transmit VBM ballots from any individual who is not included on such a state-submitted list.

Finally, the EO directs states and localities to preserve all records and materials related to voter participation in federal elections, including ballot envelopes but excluding cast ballots, for a period of five years.

The EO faced immediate legal challenges. On April 3, 2026, California Attorney General Rob Bonta announced that he was co-leading a coalition of 23 attorneys general and the Governor of Pennsylvania in filing a lawsuit challenging the EO. The lawsuit, which was filed in the U.S. District Court for the District of Massachusetts, alleges that the EO violates provisions of the U.S. Constitution granting states the authority to determine the times, places, and manner for holding elections for U.S. Senators and Representatives, subject to preemption only by Congress.

Advocate organizations, political entities, and government officials also challenged the EO. The plaintiffs argued the EO will disrupt established election procedures and causes harm to voters. In a separate ruling, a federal judge determined it was premature for the court to intervene and decided not to block the EO because the federal government has not yet acted on the EO in a way that would harm the plaintiffs.

Comments

Author's Statement. Free and fair elections are the foundation of our democracy. When the federal government oversteps its constitutional authority to undermine them, California must push back. Every Californian deserves the right to have their vote counted, and President Trump's EO is a direct attack on that fundamental right. California has built one of the most secure, accessible, and trusted VBM systems in the nation, and our voters — Republicans, Democrats, and independents alike — use it in ever increasing numbers. The Constitution is clear that states run elections, not the White House or USPS. And let's not forget — the same president attacking mail-in voting used it himself just last month in Florida. I

am proud to author this resolution, and I will always fight to protect every Californian's access to the ballot box.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 37 (Berman, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2021) among other provisions, required the mailing of a VBM ballot to every active registered voter, required VBM ballot drop-off locations, and established a seven-day deadline for VBM ballots to be returned if postmarked on or before Election Day.

FISCAL EFFECT: Appropriation: No Fiscal Com.: No Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-14, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
6/10/26 16:52:24

**** END ****