

2025-26 SESSION

**SENATE
THIRD READING PACKET**

THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2026



OFFICE OF SENATE FLOOR ANALYSES
651-4171

SENATE THIRD READING PACKET

Attached are analyses of bills on the Daily File for Thursday, July 2, 2026.

Note	Measure	Author	Location
+	SB 830	Arreguin	Unfinished Business
+	SB 1088	Blakespear	Unfinished Business
+	SB 1175	Rubio	Unfinished Business
+	SB 1344	Cabaldon	Unfinished Business
	SB 1438	Committee on Local Government	Unfinished Business
	SCA 5	Cortese	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 89	Smallwood-Cuevas	Unfinished Business
	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 186	Grayson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 188	Pérez	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 190	Cabaldon	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SJR 7	Cervantes	Unfinished Business
	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 118	Niello	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 119	Caballero	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 120	Cabaldon	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 52	Aguiar-Curry	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 96	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 110	Gabriel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 111	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 126	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 135	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 163	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 164	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 165	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 166	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 168	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 169	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 170	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 171	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 172	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 174	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 177	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 180	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 312	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 350	Bonta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 442	Hadwick	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 502	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
+	AB 643	Wilson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 739	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 939	Schultz	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1112	Wallis	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 1575	Arambula	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1601	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1617	Alanis	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1619	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1626	Gabriel	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1627	Ávila Fariás	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1632	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1637	Caloza	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1647	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1656	Davies	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1657	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1659	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1660	Schiavo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1665	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1684	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1712	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1758	Nguyen	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1766	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1778	Patterson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1781	Michelle Rodriguez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1786	Harabedian	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1792	Michelle Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1794	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1809	Fong	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1817	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1824	Ramos	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1837	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1848	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1860	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1875	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1892	Davies	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1894	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1908	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1910	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1918	Dixon	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1919	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1933	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1944	Lee	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1945	Hadwick	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1951	Dixon	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

<u>Note</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Location</u>
	AB 1974	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1977	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1999	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2001	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2003	Berman	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2004	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2010	Soria	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2018	Ramos	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2041	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2042	Kalra	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2052	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2067	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2078	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2106	Patel	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 2134	Addis	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2153	Berman	Consent Calendar First Legislative Day
+	AB 2175	Garcia	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2179	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2180	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2224	Hadwick	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2230	Ávila Farías	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	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2292	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2297	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2298	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2305	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2324	Jeff Gonzalez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2333	Pellerin	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2380	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2402	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2439	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2458	Bennett	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2471	Committee on Emergency Management	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2476	Ellis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2480	Ávila Farías	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2503	Wallis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2523	Fong	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2532	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2559	Ward	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2561	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2563	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2564	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2568	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2588	Hadwick	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2595	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

<u>Note</u>	<u>Measure</u>	<u>Author</u>	<u>Location</u>
+	<u>AB 2618</u>	Connolly	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2636</u>	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2663</u>	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AB 2691</u>	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2692</u>	Irwin	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	<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 2779</u>	Irwin	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	<u>AB 2780</u>	Committee on Public Employment and Retirement	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	<u>AB 2781</u>	Committee on Judiciary	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	<u>AB 2782</u>	Committee on Judiciary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2784</u>	Committee on Judiciary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2792</u>	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AB 2793</u>	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 107</u>	Bauer-Kahan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 149</u>	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 157</u>	Hoover	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 168</u>	Pacheco	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	<u>ACR 173</u>	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 176</u>	Elhawary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 187</u>	Jeff Gonzalez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 193</u>	Aguiar-Curry	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 194</u>	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 210</u>	Jackson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	<u>ACR 211</u>	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 214</u>	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 219</u>	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 220</u>	Nguyen	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 222</u>	Michelle Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>ACR 223</u>	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>ACR 224</u>	Dixon	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	<u>AJR 17</u>	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AJR 29</u>	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	<u>AJR 31</u>	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS

RA Revised Analysis

* Analysis pending

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 830
Author: Arreguín (D) and Wiener (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-15, 6/29/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public Transit Revenue Measure District: revenue measure: election procedures

SOURCES: Bay Area Council
San Francisco Planning and Urban Research
San Mateo County Economic Development Association
SEIU 1021
South Bay Labor Council AFL-CIO

DIGEST: This bill (1) prescribes the measure designation and ballot position for a Public Transit Revenue Measure District (District) tax measure on the November 2026 general election ballot; (2) provides a process for selecting the supporting and opposing arguments that appear in county voter guides.

Assembly Amendments of 6/18/26 replaced the contents of the bill with the contents currently in this bill

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Specifies the order in which offices and measures appear on the ballot with ballot measures generally appearing after elected offices.

- 2) Requires all local ballot measures to be designated on the ballot by a letter (e.g. “Measure A”). Election officials may agree to use letter designations for ballot measures that will not conflict or confuse voters in situations where two or more nearby counties or cities are placing measures on the ballot at the same time.
- 3) Establishes the District to include Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties, and the City and County of San Francisco. The District is governed by the same board that governs the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC), and to be staffed by the existing staff of the MTC or any successor agency.
- 4) Permits the District to place a ballot measure on the ballot for the November 3, 2026, statewide general election, either by an action of the District’s governing board or by initiative. The election officials of the counties where the measure will appear on the ballot must mutually agree on the letter designation for the ballot measure.
- 5) Provides, for the purposes of a ballot measure in a special district or school district that includes more than one county, that ballot arguments be submitted to the elections official for the lead county, as specified, and that elections official must select the arguments that are printed in the voter information guides for all voters in the district. The lead county must transmit copies of the selected arguments, along with any accompanying forms, to each other county in the district. In a special district, the lead county is the county with the most voters within the district boundaries. Santa Clara County is the lead county for a District measure.

This bill:

- 1) Requires a District ballot measure that would impose a transaction and use tax (TUT) to appear on the ballot immediately after statewide ballot measures and before all local ballot measures.
- 2) Requires the District’s TUT ballot measure to be designated on the ballot by the designation “Regional Transit Measure” rather than by a letter designation (e.g., “Measure A”) that would otherwise apply.
- 3) Requires the arguments in favor of and in opposition to the proposed ballot measure to be selected by the county elections official in which the authors want the arguments printed in the county voter information guide. Each county elections official must select, using a specified process, from the submissions

for or against the measure to be included in their respective county voter information guide.

- 4) Requires the lead county of the District to perform the duties imposed on a lead county under existing law other than selecting the arguments for and against the measure that will appear in voter information guides.

Background

Bay Area Transit Measure. SB 63 (Wiener, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2025) created the District and authorized a proposed TUT in the District to be placed on the November 2026 ballot to fund transportation operations in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties, and the City and County of San Francisco. In October 2025, a coalition of labor, business, and public transit supporters launched the Connect Bay Area Transit Committee to qualify an initiative under SB 63 for the November 2026 ballot. The proponents of that measure began collecting signatures in January and submitted more than 305,000 signatures to qualify the measure for the November 2026 ballot. Based on the number of registered voters in the counties that are part of the District, approximately 187,000 valid signatures are required for the measure to qualify for the ballot.

SB 63 included procedures governing an election on the TUT measure in the District. Those procedures generally are consistent with existing law governing ballot measures in special districts, with the following exceptions:

- Counsel for the District prepares the impartial analysis of the measure to appear in county voter information guides. Under existing law, the county counsel in Santa Clara County, the lead county, would be required to prepare that analysis.
- Counties must use uniform translations of ballot materials into languages other than English and use the same letter designation for the ballot measure. Existing law does not require this type of uniformity for multi-county district ballot measures, but it also does not prevent elections officials from different counties from coordinating and agreeing to uniform translations and letter designations.
- The District must reimburse counties only for the incremental costs incurred by county election officials related to submitting the measure to the voters. Existing law generally requires districts to reimburse counties for actual costs incurred. SB 63 requires any reimbursement of election expenses to come from revenues generated from the approved ballot measure.

Comments

Author's Statement. SB 63 authorized a 14-year regional public transit sales tax measure on the November 2026 ballot. If approved by voters, revenue from the tax would provide critically needed transit operations funding and save BART, Caltrain, Muni, and AC Transit from collapse, while also providing new revenues for local transit priorities and institute new accountability and financial efficiency requirements.

This bill makes minor, targeted changes to SB 63 to improve transparency across the five Bay Area counties placing this measure on the ballot by allowing different arguments to be filed at each county to consider the different expenditures across the region. This bill also clarifies election duties and standardize how and where this multi-county public transit measure will appear on voters' November 2026 general election ballots.

This bill does not change these accountability measures, nor does it change SB 63's ironclad requirements on how funding from the regional funding measure shall be distributed.

Related/prior legislation

SB 63 (Wiener, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2025) created the District, and authorized a proposed TUT in the District to be placed on the November 2026 ballot to fund transportation operations in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Mateo, and Santa Clara counties, and the City and County of San Francisco.

AB 773 (Pellerin, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2021) established the concept of a "lead county" for multi-county district ballot measures, and made the lead county responsible for receiving and selecting the ballot arguments for and against the ballot measure.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Bay Area Council (co-source)

San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (co-source)

San Mateo County Economic Development Association (co-source)

SEIU 1021 (co-source)

South Bay Labor Council AFL-CIO (co-source)

350 Bay Area Action

Abundance Network

AFSCME Council 57
Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District
All Home
Amalgamated Transit Union
American EV Jobs Alliance
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 3916
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, Local 3993
Boma San Francisco
California State Legislative Board of the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and
Transportation Workers - Transportation Division
Climate Action California
Coalition for Clean Air
East Bay for Everyone
East Bay Housing Organizations
East Bay Leadership Council
El Cerrito Richmond Annex Walk & Roll
Elders Climate Action
Greenbelt Alliance
National Union of Healthcare Workers
NRDC
Public Advocates
San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit District
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
San Francisco Transit Riders
Seamless Bay Area
SEIU California
Senior & Disability Action
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
St Forward
Streets for All
Sunflower Alliance
Sustainable San Mateo County
Sv@home Action Fund
Transbay Coalition
Transform
Transport Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO
Walk Bike Berkeley
Walk San Francisco

Westside Family Democratic Club of San Francisco

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-15, 6/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, 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, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Boerner, Flora, Lackey, Lee, Muratsuchi, Ta, Tangipa

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106

7/1/26 16:55:30

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1088
Author: Blakespear (D)
Amended: 6/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 4/8/26

AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove,
Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 4/28/26

AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird,
Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Reyes

SENATE FLOOR: 38-0, 5/18/26

AYES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear,
Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez,
Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar,
Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas,
Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Padilla

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/29/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health care decisions: life-sustaining treatment

SOURCE: Coalition for Compassionate Care of California

DIGEST: This bill brings consistency in authorized signatories for requests regarding resuscitative measures, allows electronic signatures on Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment forms (renames to Portable Orders Listing Scope of Treatment [POLST]), recognizes out-of-state requests regarding resuscitative measures to the same extent as a POLST executed in California, requires POLSTs to be dated, and where there are two POLSTs, the dated form to be considered

most recent. Requires requests regarding resuscitative measures to be voluntary. Allows a physician or other health care provider to assume a request regarding resuscitative measures is valid and unrevoked.

Assembly Amendments revise references to interdisciplinary teams under the definition of surrogate. Clarify that a conservator must have health care decisionmaking authority. Clarify nurse practitioners without specified authorization are acting under the supervision of the physician. Delete the requirement that a POLST form be dated and the dated form to be treated as the more updated POLST.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes POLST and authorizes a legally recognized health care decisionmaker to execute the POLST order only if the individual lacks capacity, or the individual has designated a decisionmaker, as specified. Establishes the POLST eRegistry Act administered by EMSA. [Probate Code (PROB) § 4780-4786 and Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1860-1863]
- 2) Defines “POLST” as a form that is a request regarding resuscitative measures that directs a health care provider regarding resuscitative and life-sustaining measures. Requires POLST to be completed by a health care provider based on patient preferences, and signed by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant acting under the supervision of the physician. [HSC §1861 and PROB §4780]
- 3) Defines “request regarding resuscitative measures” as a written document signed by an individual with capacity, or a legally recognized health care decisionmaker, and the individual’s physician, that directs a health care provider regarding resuscitative measures. This request is not an Advanced Health Care Directive (AHCD). Indicates a request regarding resuscitative measures can be a prehospital “do not resuscitate form” (DNR) or a POLST. [PROB §4780]
- 4) Authorizes nurse practitioners to perform specified functions if specified requirements are met, such as passing a national nurse practitioner board certification exam, and indicates they type of settings such nurse practitioners can practice, such as health and hospice facilities. Authorizes nurse

practitioners who hold an active certification to practice outside of certain settings based on specified conditions. [BPC §2837.103 and § 2837.104]

This bill:

- 1) Allows the following individuals to be signatories on a “request regarding resuscitative measures”: a health care agent, conservator with health care decisionmaking authority, or surrogate, nurse practitioner practicing under specified authority, nurse practitioner or physician assistant acting under the supervision of the physician.
- 2) Replaces the term “legally recognized health care decisionmaker” with “health care agent, conservator, or surrogate,” to describe who may execute a POLST.
- 3) Defines “surrogate” as the term exists in specified existing law and includes a facility’s interdisciplinary team in overseeing the care of a resident, as specified.
- 4) Requires an electronic signature to be sufficient for any signature required for a request regarding resuscitative measures.
- 5) Requires a request regarding resuscitative measures in any form to be entirely voluntarily and prohibits the provision of care or admission to a facility from being conditioned on completion of or refusal to complete a POLST form or DNR order.
- 6) Requires a request regarding resuscitative measures or substantially similar instrument executed in another state or jurisdiction in compliance with the laws of that state or jurisdiction or of this state to be valid and enforceable in California to the same extent as a POLST form validly executed in California.
- 7) Allows in the absence of knowledge to the contrary, a physician or other health care provider to presume a request regarding resuscitative measures, whether executed in another state or jurisdiction or in California, to be valid and unrevoked.

Background

According to EMSA, POLST is approved by EMSA and the Commission on EMS and was developed by the Coalition for Compassionate Care of California (CCCC). POLST is a medical order that gives seriously ill patients more control

over their care by specifying the type of medical treatment a patient wishes to receive at the end of life. The EMSA approved POLST must be signed and dated by a physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant acting under the supervision of the physician, and the patient or legally recognized health care decisionmaker, and should be clearly posted or maintained near the patient. It is recommended that POLST be copied on bright pink paper to help ensure that the document stands out and is followed, however any color is valid. The POLST form is available for free on EMSA's website. EMSA states that the prehospital DNR is an official document developed by EMSA, in concert with the California Medical Association (CMA), and EMS providers, for the purposes of instructing EMS personnel regarding a patient's decision to forgo resuscitative measures in the event of cardiopulmonary arrest. Resuscitative measures to be withheld include chest compressions, assisted ventilation, endotracheal intubation, defibrillation, and drugs which stimulate the heart. The form does not affect the provision of life sustaining measures such as artificial nutrition or hydration or the provision of other emergency medical care, including treatment for pain, difficulty breathing, major bleeding, or other medical conditions. The DNR must be signed by the patient or by the patient's legally recognized health care decisionmaker if the patient is unable to make or communicate informed health care decisions. The patient's physician must also sign the form, affirming that the patient/legally recognized health care decisionmaker has given informed consent. The DNR should be clearly posted or maintained near the patient. The DNR form is available to order for a small cost on the CMA's website.

Comments

According to the author of this bill, "People should have control over the end of their lives and the care they receive, even if they are unconscious. This bill updates the name of POLST—from Physician Orders for Life Sustaining Treatment to Portable Orders Listing Scope of Treatment—in recognition that nurse practitioners and physician assistants can sign them. It also creates a presumption that POLST and prehospital DNRs from out-of-state are valid the same way as are out-of-state advance directives. Finally, it allows electronic signatures to help the transition to a statewide electronic POLST registry. By aligning advance care directives, POLSTs, and prehospital DNRs, this bill ensures there are no ambiguities or uncertainties about end-of-life care."

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Coalition for Compassionate Care of California (source)

A Better Exit

Alliance of Catholic Health Care

Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles

Alzheimer's Orange County

Alzheimer's San Diego

California Academy of Family Physicians

California Assisted Living Association

California Association for Nurse Practitioners

California Association of Health Facilities

California Association of Long-Term Care Medicine

California Catholic Conference

California Medical Association

Compassion & Choices

End of Life Choices, California

Hemlock Society of San Diego

LeadingAge California

My Directives, Inc.

Five individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Clinical Nurse Specialist Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: This bill's sponsor, CCCC, intends for this bill to correct misunderstandings and misalignments with advance care planning tools such as the AHCD, prehospital DNR, and POLST. According to CCCC, this bill aligns these tools by recognizing the role of nurse practitioners and physician assistants in end-of-life and other crisis decisions making and allowing them to sign prehospital DNR orders as well as POLST. CCCC writes, "This bill renames POLST to better reflect the range of authorized signing providers and its broad purpose in specifying treatments beyond life-sustaining or end-of-life care, more clearly identifies which surrogates and authority apply when signing a POLST on behalf of an incapacitated patient, and, ensures continuity of care across state lines by creating a presumption of validity for POLST or DNR executed out of California." The California Association of Health Facilities writes, "This bill puts patients first by reducing confusion, strengthening continuity of care, and ensuring that person's medical wishes are honored when they matter most." The California Academy of Family Physicians believes this bill ensures patients wishes are honored, facilitates informed decision-making, and enables physicians, patients, and families to collaborate in providing compassionate, patient-centered care at the

end of life. Alzheimer's Los Angeles, Orange County, and San Diego write that a POLST plays an important role in ensuring that people with Alzheimer's and other dementias can get the care that they want and prevent them from getting treatments they do not want.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The California Association of Clinical Nurse Specialists (CACNS) is opposed unless amended and requests an amendment to include Clinical Nurse Specialists, acting within their scope of practice, to be explicitly authorized to sign POLST forms. CACNS writes that Clinical Nurse Specialists bring the same and often greater education and clinical expertise as other advanced practice roles included in this bill.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, 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, Lee, 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: Bains, Boerner, Carrillo, Lackey, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi

Prepared by: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
7/1/26 16:55:31

**** END ****

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1175
Author: Rubio (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 4/7/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE FLOOR: 36-0, 5/7/26
AYES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Grayson, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Gonzalez, Grove, Niello

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/29/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Lobbyist registration and termination

SOURCE: California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D.

DIGEST: This bill requires a lobbyist to file an amended lobbyist certification or a notice of lobbying termination directly with the Secretary of State (SOS), rather than with the lobbying firm or the lobbyist employer.

Assembly Amendments of 6/18/26 restore the effective date to law governing the contents of lobbying reports.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires lobbying firms and lobbyist employers to register with the SOS.

- 2) Requires each individual lobbyist to submit a lobbyist certification to the SOS. This certification shall include:
 - a) A recent photograph;
 - b) The full name, business address, and telephone number of the lobbyist;
 - c) A statement that the lobbyist understands the statutory gift limit; and
 - d) A statement that the lobbyist has or will complete an ethics course.
- 3) Requires, when any of the information in the lobbyist certification changes or if the lobbyist terminates all lobbying activity, the lobbyist to submit an amended certification or a notice of termination to the lobbying firm or lobbyist employer, who shall submit it to the SOS.

This bill requires the lobbyist to submit changes in certification or a notice of termination directly to the SOS.

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 to register with the SOS and file periodic reports disclosing their activities.

Comments

- 1) *Author's statement.* Transparency and accountability are foundational to public trust, and this is especially true for California's lobbyist registration system. Current law requires lobbyists to submit registration amendments or termination notices to their lobbying employer or firm if there are any changes in their certification information. The lobbyist's employer or firm then files with the SOS.

This current lobbyist registration system can create significant delays and transparency issues when lobbyists change employers or need to update their registration. Because employers have 20 days to file certification changes with the state, and because lobbyists can only be registered with one employer or firm at a time, lobbyists may have to wait weeks for their former employer to

file termination paperwork before they can register with a new employer. This delay can result in lobbyists filing late disclosure reports through no fault of their own, and the lobbyist's relationship with their new employer remaining undisclosed to the public.

This bill modernizes our lobbying disclosure system by requiring lobbyists to file terminations, employment changes, and registration amendments directly with the SOS, instead of going through their employer or firm. In doing so, it eliminates unnecessary delays, and ensures Californians have clear and timely information about who is advocating before their government.

- 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.

- 3) *Same code section twice?* The PRA includes various sections that exist in two different versions with the same code section number. The existence of multiple versions of the code with the same code section number reflects a technical mechanism to allow certain changes to state law to go into effect when the SOS certifies CARS.
- 4) *Fixing a timing issue.* SB 459 (Allen, Chapter 873, Statutes of 2022) requires lobbying disclosure reports to include additional information about items that were lobbied. Because implementation of those provisions required modifications to the state's lobbying disclosure database, SB 459 provided that its provisions become operative one year after the SOS certifies CARS. This delayed operative date allowed the SOS to incorporate the bill's requirements when designing CARS.

Last year, AB 808 (Addis, Chapter 278, Statutes of 2025) made various minor and technical changes to prepare for CARS and becomes operative upon SOS' certification of the system. AB 808 amended a code section SB 459 had added. Because AB 808 takes effect upon the SOS certification of CARS, this drafting

error had the unintended effect of accelerating the operative date of one SB 459 provision by a year.

As discussed above, the SOS expects to certify CARS later this year. If the drafting error in AB 808 is not corrected before certification, one provision of SB 459 will become operative one year earlier than intended. Accordingly, the assembly Elections Committee amended this bill, which includes an urgency clause, to correct the technical drafting error in AB 808 before CARS takes effect later this year.

- 5) *Urgency.* Should it become law, this bill needs to take effect immediately so the change it makes to lobbyist certification can be incorporated into CARS before it is completed this fall. Without the urgency clause, the system would be built under outdated statutory requirements and require costly retrofitting after the launch.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Secretary of State Shirley N. Weber, Ph.D. (source)
California Fair Political Practices Commission
California Political Treasurers' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

Writing as the sponsor of the bill, the SOS states that by “making this change, greater responsibility is placed directly on lobbyists for maintaining accurate registration status, allowing government efficiency and transparency to be upheld in the process for the public.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, 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, Lee, 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: Bains, Boerner, Carrillo, Lackey, Lowenthal,
Muratsuchi

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
7/1/26 16:55:32

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

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1344
Author: Cabaldon (D), et al.
Amended: 6/3/26
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 4/21/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 30-7, 5/19/26

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

NOES: Alvarado-Gil, Grove, Hurtado, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland,
Valladares

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Jones, Niello

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-9, 6/29/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Civil actions: housing development projects

SOURCE: Attorney General Rob Bonta

DIGEST: This bill 1) provides a mechanism for a defendant in a civil action, including under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), challenging a project that is a priority care development project, as defined, to seek an order requiring the plaintiff to furnish an undertaking as security for costs and damages that may be incurred by the defendant if the bringing of the action by the plaintiff would result in preventing or delaying the project, and raises the amount the undertaking can be to no more than \$1,000,0000; and 2) creates a special motion to

strike a challenge to the approval or permitting of a priority care development project modeled after California's anti-Strategic Lawsuit against Public Participation (anti-SLAPP) statute.

Assembly Amendments remove the requirement that a motion is to be scheduled by the clerk of the court for a hearing not more than 30 days after the service of the motion, and authorizes the special motion to be filed within 60 days of service instead of requiring it to be filed.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires lead agencies with the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a proposed discretionary project to prepare a negative declaration, mitigated declaration, or environmental impact report (EIR) for this action, unless the project is exempt from CEQA (CEQA includes various statutory exemptions, as well as categorical exemptions in the CEQA Guidelines). (Public (Pub.) Resources (Res.) Code § 21100 et seq.)
- 2) Sets requirements relating to the preparation, review, comment, approval and certification of environmental documents, as well as procedures relating to an action or proceeding to attack, review, set aside, void, or annul various actions of a public agency on the grounds of noncompliance with CEQA. (Pub. Res. Code § 21165 et seq.)
- 3) Authorizes judicial review of CEQA actions taken by public agencies, following the agency's decision to carry out or approve the project, and specifies certain time periods in which an action must be instituted depending on the type of claim alleged. (Pub. Res. Code § 21167.)
- 4) Requires the superior court and court of appeal to provide lawsuits related CEQA preference over all other civil actions therein, in the matter of setting the same for hearing or trial, and in hearing the same, to the end that the action or proceeding is to be quickly heard and determined. (Pub. Res. Code § 21167.1(a).)
- 5) Provides that in all civil actions, including those brought by any plaintiff to challenge a housing development project which is a development project which meets or exceeds the requirements for low- or moderate-income housing, a defendant may apply to the court by noticed motion for an order requiring the plaintiff to furnish an undertaking as security for costs and any damages that may be incurred by the defendant by the conclusion of the action or proceeding

as the result of a delay in carrying out the development project if the bringing of the action has the effect of preventing or delaying the project from being carried out. (Code of Civil Procedure § 529.9(a).)

- a) Provides that a defendant seeking a security must make a motion for that security on the grounds that the action is without merit and was brought in bad faith, vexatiously, for the purpose of delay, or to thwart the low- or moderate-income nature of the housing development project. (*Ibid.*)
 - b) Authorizes the plaintiff, in response to a motion for an undertaking, to seek to limit the amount of the undertaking by presenting admissible evidence that filing an undertaking will cause it, and in cases where the plaintiff is an unincorporated association, its members, to suffer undue economic hardship. (*Id* at subd. (b).)
- 6) Requires the court, if the court determines after a hearing that the grounds for the motion have been established, to order the plaintiff to file the undertaking in an amount specified in the court's order, taking into consideration any admitted evidence of plaintiff's economic hardship and avoiding to cause the plaintiff to suffer undue economic hardship, as security for costs and damages of the defendant.
- a) The liability of the plaintiff for the costs and damages of the defendant is not to exceed \$500,000.
 - b) If the court concludes, based on all of the admissible evidence presented, that a bond in any amount would cause the plaintiff undue economic hardship, the court is authorized in its discretion to decline to impose a bond.
 - c) If at any time after the plaintiff has filed an undertaking the housing development plan is changed by the developer in bad faith so that it fails to meet or exceed the requirements for low- or moderate-income housing, the developer is liable to the plaintiff for the cost of obtaining the undertaking. (*Ibid.*)
- 7) Establishes anti-SLAPP procedures, including for all civil actions brought to challenge a priority housing development project. (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.19(b).)
- a) A "priority housing development" means a development in which 100 percent of the units, exclusive of any manager's unit or units, will be reserved for lower income households, as defined in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code, for at least 55 years. (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.19(c).)
 - b) Entitles a prevailing defendant, with certain exceptions, to attorney's fees and costs; likewise for a prevailing plaintiff, provided the court finds the

motion was frivolous or solely intended to cause unnecessary delay pursuant to Section 128.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure. (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.19(b)(2).)

- c) Stays discovery proceedings upon filing of notice of a SLAPP motion. (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.19(b)(5).)
- d) Provides that these provisions do not apply any enforcement action brought in the name of the people of the State of California by the Attorney General, district attorney, or city attorney, acting as a public prosecutor.

This bill:

- 1) Defines “priority care development” to mean any projects funded, in whole or in part, pursuant to Sections 5892 (Mental Health Services Fund) or 5965.04 (Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act of 2024), or subdivision (c) of Section 18999.97 (grants under the Community Care Expansion Program), of the Welfare Institutions Code. A “priority care development” does not include a “detention facility” as defined in subdivision (a) of Section 9500 of the Penal Code.
- 2) Establishes an anti-SLAPP motion statute similar to the one for a priority housing development, described in 5) above.
- 3) Authorizes a defendant in a civil action, including under CEQA, challenging a project that is a priority care development project, as defined, to seek an order requiring the plaintiff to furnish an undertaking as security for costs and damages that may be incurred by the defendant if the bringing of the action by the plaintiff would result in preventing or delaying the project
- 4) Raises the maximum of the undertaking to \$1,000,0000. This amount is to be adjusted annually for inflation, beginning on January 1, 2028, based on the change in the annual California Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Department of Industrial Relations, for the most recent one-year period ending on December 31 preceding each adjustment, with each adjusted amount rounded to the nearest \$25.

Comments

This bill is intended to apply to “priority care developments,” which are projects funded in whole or in part through the Community Care Expansion program, the Behavioral Health Services Act, and the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act, including Homekey+.

California's anti-SLAPP statute provides that a cause of action against a person arising from any act of that person in furtherance of the person's right of petition or free speech under the United States Constitution or the California Constitution in connection with a public issue shall be subject to a special motion to strike. (Civ. Proc. Code § 425.16.) The Legislature asserted that the law was justified because "it is in the public interest to encourage continued participation in matters of public significance, and that this participation should not be chilled through abuse of the judicial process."

In 1992, Code of Civil Procedure section 425.16 was added by SB 1264 (Lockyer, Chapter 726, Statutes of 1992) to provide a "special motion to strike" for use by defendants in SLAPP suits to obtain an early judicial ruling and termination of a meritless claim arising from a person's exercise of their constitutional rights of petition and free speech in connection with a public issue. In passing the anti-SLAPP law, the Legislature found "that there has been a disturbing increase in lawsuits brought primarily to chill the valid exercise of the constitutional rights of freedom of speech and petition for the redress of grievances." (Code Civ. Proc. § 425.16(a).)

In 2023, the Legislature enacted SB 439 (Skinner, Chapter 779, Statutes of 2023) and created a special motion to strike that is nearly identical to the anti-SLAPP statute with regard to challenges to certain housing developments. SB 439 allows for this motion to strike to be filed in a case that challenges the approval or permitting of a "priority housing development" project, explicitly including actions brought pursuant to CEQA. The procedures and guidelines mirror those in Section 425.16. As such, the court is required to deny the motion if it determines that the plaintiff has established that there is a probability that the plaintiff will prevail on the claim. This bill applies only to developments in which 100 percent of the units, excluding manager's units, are reserved for lower income households for at least 55 years. "Lower income households" means persons and families whose income does not exceed the qualifying limits for lower income families as established and amended from time to time pursuant to Section 8 of the United States Housing Act of 1937. This includes very low income households and extremely low income households. (Health & Saf. Code § 50079.5.)

This bill seeks to establish a motion to strike that is nearly identical to SB 439 with regard to challenges to of a priority care development project. The biggest deviation under this bill from SB 439, is that SB 439 does not apply in an enforcement action brought in the name of the people of the State of California by the Attorney General, district attorney, or city attorney, acting as a public prosecutor. This bill would apply in such an action.

SB 393 (Glazer, Chapter 285, Statutes of 2024) amended an existing provision of law (Code of Civ. Proc. § 529.2) that provided a mechanism for a defendant in a civil action challenging a housing project which is a development project that meets or exceeds the requirements for low- or moderate-income housing to seek an order requiring the plaintiff to furnish an undertaking as security for costs and damages that may be incurred by the defendant if the bringing of the action by the plaintiff would result in preventing or delaying the project. Prior to the enactment of SB 393, the defendant had the burden of making a showing that the posting of the undertaking would not place an undue hardship on the plaintiff. SB 393 shifted the burden to the plaintiff to demonstrate that posting a bond would place an undue economic hardship on the plaintiff, arguing that the plaintiff is the one who has the information to make such a showing and therefore it was more appropriate to place that burden on the plaintiff. The liability for the plaintiff cannot exceed \$500,000.

This bill seeks to enact a similar mechanism for a defendant in a civil action, including an action under CEQA, challenging a priority care development. This bill allows such a defendant to seek an order requiring the plaintiff to furnish an undertaking as security for costs and damages that may be incurred by the defendant if the bringing of the action by the plaintiff would result in preventing or delaying the project.

The bill also raises the amount of liability that the court can set for the undertaking to not exceed \$1,000,000 from the existing maximum of \$500,000. The bill provides that this amount is to be adjusted annually for inflation, beginning on January 1, 2028, based on the change in the annual California Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers, published by the Department of Industrial Relations, for the most recent one-year period ending on December 31 preceding each adjustment, with each adjusted amount rounded to the nearest \$25. Lastly, the bill provides that a “plaintiff” includes a “petitioner,” “cross-petitioner,” and “cross-plaintiff,” and “defendant” includes “respondent,” “cross-respondent,” “cross-defendant,” and “real party in interest.”

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Attorney General Rob Bonta (Source)
Mayor Todd Gloria, City of San Diego
Abundant Housing Los Angeles
California Housing Consortium
California YIMBY
Eden Housing

SPUR

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

As of the most recent point-in-time count in 2025, approximately 187,000 Californians were experiencing homelessness on any given night. Local governments across the state are doing the right thing, approving permits for emergency shelters, interim housing, and supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness, as well as residential facilities for unhoused individuals seeking treatment for behavioral health issues or substance use disorder. Those efforts are regularly met with frivolous lawsuits from groups whose only goal is delay.

The Legislature has already passed laws to protect affordable housing projects from these kinds of lawsuits, allowing courts to quickly dispose of meritless challenges and requiring plaintiffs to post financial security when their lawsuit lacks merit and is brought in bad faith or to delay or thwart construction. SB 1344 applies that policy to housing projects that are funded through the Community Care Expansion program, the Behavioral Health Services Act, and the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act, including Homekey+. This bill extends both tools to these priority care developments and doubles the liability cap on the bond requirement, which has not been updated since 1981, from \$500,000 to \$1,000,000, indexed to inflation going forward.

SB 1344 would help protect local governments that are doing their part to address homelessness, ensure these important projects are not unnecessarily delayed or blocked through abuse of the judicial system, and protect the public's investment in infrastructure to bring every Californian inside.

The Attorney General, Rob Bonta, source of the bill, writes:

[...] California supports local efforts to address homelessness through funding programs and by supporting local planning efforts. Unfortunately, local governments that are following the law and attempting to do the right thing by approving permits for shelters, care facilities, and supportive housing are regularly met with meritless lawsuits from NIMBY groups endeavoring to block projects.

The California State Legislature has created two procedural tools to protect local governments from meritless challenges to affordable housing projects – the motion to strike under SB 439 (Skinner, 2023) and the bond requirement strengthened by SB 393 (Glazer, 2024). Unfortunately, these provisions do not protect local governments from meritless lawsuits challenging the approval of other projects that are essential to tackling California’s intertwined housing and homelessness crisis, and delay can interfere with public funding windows and jeopardize projects.

SB 1344 would expand these procedural tools to also apply to projects funded by the Community Care Expansion Program (CCE), the Behavioral Health Services Act, and the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act, including Homekey+. These programs fund interim housing for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness, adult and senior care facilities that serve elderly adults and people with disabilities who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness, and other residential care facilities, including more than \$1 billion in housing investments for veterans who have behavioral health challenges. [...]

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-9, 6/29/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, 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: Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Boerner, Castillo, Chen, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Petrie-Norris, Ta, Tangipa

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113

7/1/26 16:55:32

**** END ****

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 1438
Author: Committee on Local Government
Amended: 6/1/26
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 4/22/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE FLOOR: 36-0, 4/30/26 (Consent)

AYES: Allen, Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Jones, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arreguín, Caballero, Valladares, Wahab

SUBJECT: Local government: investments and deposits

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various changes to local government investment laws.

Assembly Amendments of 6/1/26 make technical changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Limits the percentage that local agencies can invest in many types of investments.
- 2) Allows local agencies to invest in commercial paper programs offer notes of varying short-term maturities not to exceed 270 days, but typically between one to 90 days. In addition to the maximum maturity of 270 days, state law includes additional safeguards to ensure that commercial paper programs operate effectively. Commercial paper must have the highest ranking or the

highest letter and number rate as provided by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization. Entities issuing commercial paper must either be (1) general corporations with total assets in excess of \$500 million and have debt, other than commercial paper, that is rated “A” or equivalent; or (2) special purpose corporations, trusts, or limited liability companies that have program-wide credit enhancements, such as overcollateralization, letters of credit, or surety bonds, and have commercial paper rated “A-1” or higher.

- 3) Allows local agencies to invest in medium-term notes are securities with a maximum remaining maturity of five years or less. Local agencies may invest up to 30% of their surplus funds in medium term notes, which must be issued by corporations or depository institutions licensed in the United States, with at least an “A” rating. Medium-term investments provide greater liquidity compared to longer-term investments, which may not mature for decades.

This bill:

- 1) Makes various changes to local government investment laws to recast and reorganize provisions authorizing local agencies to invest their surplus funds, among other changes.
- 2) Clarifies that cities, counties, and local agencies may purchase commercial paper issued by a federally or state-licensed branch of a foreign bank and a federally or state-chartered bank.
- 3) Allows local agencies to invest in obligations issued by the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) Invest, allowing agencies to invest in the full range of issuances offered by the Inter-American Development Bank Group.
- 4) Allows counties and the City of Los Angeles to accept letters of credit that are drawn on accept letters of credit from a bank’s own regional Federal Home Loan Banks (FHLB).
- 5) Removes the January 1, 2031, sunset date on some of the provisions authorizing additional local agency investments.

Background

Since 1913, state law has authorized local officials to invest a portion of local agencies’ temporarily idle funds in a variety of financial instruments. Originally, state law limited the instruments to government bonds, but over time the laws governing local agency investments have been amended to keep pace with changing investment opportunities and current market offerings. California law

allows local officials to deposit money in state or national banks, savings associations, federal associations, credit unions, or federally insured industrial loan companies in the State of California.

When investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing public funds, state law outlines local agencies' investment objectives, also known as the prudent investor standard. The primary objective is to safeguard the principal of the funds under its control. The secondary objective is to meet the liquidity needs of the depositor. The final objective is to achieve a return on the funds under its control.

State law limits the percentage that local agencies can invest in many types of investments. This encourages local agencies to diversify their investment portfolios, which limits the risk to the local agency if any investment does not have the expected return. Local agencies make investments with different maturity dates, which refer to the date when the borrower must make the final payment due on an investment. To limit risk, the Government Code places limitations on the types and terms of investments that local governments can make, including to limit the term to maturity for certain types of investments.

Comments

Purpose of this bill. Local agencies' ability to invest their temporarily idle funds helps local agencies manage their cash flow, maintain liquidity necessary to pay their bills, and make sound investments that provide a return but protect taxpayer funds. Many of the statutes authorizing local agencies to invest their surplus funds have been in place since at least 1949, some were updated in 1995, but many remain untouched. They reflect outdated drafting practices that comingled definitions, powers, and procedures. This can lead to confusion over local government investment powers and procedures and can lead to local agency investment portfolios falling out of compliance, which can put taxpayer dollars at risk. The only substantive policy changes reflected in the measure are also included in the Committee on Local Government's Annual Omnibus bill, SB 1439 of the current legislative session. To the extent both measures move forward, these changes will remain only in SB 1438 to avoid chaptering issues. To avoid confusion associated with provisions having multiple operative dates, the measure also removes a January 1, 2031, sunset on certain local agency investment tools. This measure is not intended to expand, contract, or change investment tools. It is intended to make investment practices clearer so that taxpayer dollars remain protected.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/26/26 13:19:54

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

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 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 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 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: 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 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)
Amended: 6/25/26
Vote: Majority

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:

Senate Floor Amendments of 6/25/26 make changes to this resolutions findings.

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, ecology, and evolution, 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; engaging students and the public as a gateway to science, serving as an incubator for an interdisciplinary Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) workforce, and creating a critical record of life's past and California's natural history.
- 3) California dinosaur fossils from that time 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 County of Fresno.

- 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 like Morenosaurus that resemble 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 critical record of life's past, a source of valuable scientific knowledge on ecology, evolution, and our modern environmental challenges, a gateway to science for the public.

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
6/26/26 9:38:01

**** **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** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 52
Author: Aguiar-Curry (D)
Amended: 1/8/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

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

AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-7, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Farmer equity: advisory committees

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to establish the Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) Producer Advisory Committee and the Small-Scale Producer Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the secretary and the department on the responsibilities of the secretary and the department under the Farmer Equity Act of 2017.

ANALYSIS: Existing federal law:

- 1) States the Secretary of Agriculture shall carry out an outreach and technical assistance program to encourage and assist socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in owning and operating farms and ranches and in participating equitably in the full range of agricultural programs offered by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA).
- 2) States the outreach and technical assistance program under paragraph (1) shall:

- a) Enhance coordination of the outreach, technical assistance, and education efforts authorized under various agriculture programs; and
 - b) Include information on, and assistance with:
 - i) Commodity, conservation, credit, rural, and business development programs;
 - ii) Application and bidding procedures;
 - iii) Farm and risk management;
 - iv) Marketing; and
 - v) Other activities essential to participation in agricultural and other programs of the Department.
- 3) Defines “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” as:
- a) Socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher is a famer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group whose members have been subjected to racial or ethnic prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. Socially disadvantaged groups include the following:
 - i) American Indians or Alaskan Natives
 - ii) Asians or Asian-Americans
 - iii) Blacks or African Americans
 - iv) Native Hawaiians or other Pacific islanders
 - v) Hispanics
- 4) Defines a “limited resource farmer or rancher” as a producer who is both:
- a) A producer whose direct or indirect gross farm sales do not exceed \$100,000 in both of the two calendar years that precede the calendar year that corresponds to the relevant program year, adjusted upwards for any general inflation since fiscal year 2004., inflation as measured using the Priced Paid by Farmer Index, compiled by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), and

- b) A producer whose total household income is at or below the national poverty level for a family of four, or less than 50 percent of the county median household income for the same two calendar years referenced in paragraph (b)(2)(i) of this section, as determined annually using Commerce Department data.

5) Defines “beginning farmer or rancher” to mean a person that:

- a) Has not operated a farm or ranch
- b) Has operated a farm or ranch for not more than 10 years
- c) Meets other criteria established by the Secretary.

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the Farmer Equity Act of 2017 which requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to support socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers and include this support in the department’s vision and its relevant policies.
- 2) Defines “socially disadvantaged farmer or rancher” to mean a farmer or rancher who is a member of a socially disadvantaged group.
- 3) Defines “socially disadvantaged group” to mean a group whose members have been subjected to racial, ethnic, or gender prejudice because of their identity as members of a group without regard to their individual qualities. These groups include all of the following:
 - a) African Americans
 - b) Native Indians
 - c) Alaskan Natives
 - d) Hispanics
 - e) Asian Americans
 - f) Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders

This bill:

- 1) Adds Section 513.5 of the Food and Agricultural Code to allow the secretary of CDFA to establish two advisory committees, which shall be known as the BIPOC Producer Advisory Committee and the Small-Scale Producer Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the secretary and the department on programs, policies, education, outreach, technical assistance, and general needs for small-scale producers, medium-scale producers, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in California.
- 2) States the members of the advisory committees shall be small-scale or medium-scale socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers.
- 3) States all members of the advisory committees, while on official business, shall be reimbursed for actual and necessary travel expenses incurred in the performance of their duties.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Breast Cancer Prevention Partners
California Farmer Justice Collaborative
California Food and Farming Network
Californians for Pesticide Reform
Carbon Cycle Institute
Center for Environmental Health
Ceres Community Project
Community Alliance With Family Farmers (1146217)
Crop Swap LA
Cultural Roots Nursery
Educate to Invigorate
Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety
Farm2people
Fresh Approach
Los Angeles Food Policy Council
Organización En California De Líderes Campesinas, INC.
Pesticide Action and Agroecology Network
Resource Renewal Institute
Roots of Change

San Diego Food System Alliance
Sierra Harvest

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“In 2017, I authored the Farmer Equity Act, which defined “socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers,” and required that CDFA include them in the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of its programs and policies. Since its implementation, the CA Black, Indigenous, and People of Color and Small-Scale Producer Advisory Committees have been essential to fulfilling the intent of the Farmer Equity Act, but they were created administratively and are not established in statute. Without a clear authority, these committees are vulnerable to shifting priorities or administrative changes, putting the continued inclusion of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in CDFA decision-making at risk. This bill will codify these advisory committees, ensuring that the voices of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers continue to be heard in the development and implementation of the department’s policies and programs.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-7, 1/26/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Chen, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Lackey, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
7/1/26 16:54:52

**** 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 111
Author: Gabriel (D)
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
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 associated with the Budget Act of 2026. This bill makes technical and substantive changes to the Budget Act.

ANALYSIS: On June 15, 2026, the Legislature passed AB 109 (Gabriel), which represented the Legislature's budget. This bill makes changes to AB 109. The 2026-27 budget includes total spending of approximately \$351.7 billion, of which \$251.5 billion is from the General Fund.

K-12 Education

- 1) Adjusts funding for the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program to ensure that the Rate 2 local educational agencies receive at least \$1,800 per pupil.
- 2) Establishes the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, and shifts \$1.5 million from the Department of Education to the Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction. Shifts \$934,000 and ongoing positions from the State Board of Education to the Department of Education in 2026-27, with \$1.9 million and ongoing positions beginning in 2027-28.

- 3) Appropriates \$1 billion Proposition 98 General Fund ongoing for Community Schools.
- 4) Appropriates \$5 million General Fund on a one-time basis to Save the Children.
- 5) Appropriates \$5 million Proposition 98 General Fund for University of California, San Francisco Dyslexia Center for the Multitudes reading difficulties screener.
- 6) Provides \$5.5 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for online educational resources.
- 7) Re-appropriates Proposition 98 General Fund for various programs, including community schools, the discretionary block grants, support for students experiencing homelessness, kitchen infrastructure and training grants, technical assistance for local educational agencies to implement alternative pathways to diplomas, among other priorities.
- 8) Makes various technical adjustments and aligns appropriations with available federal fund authority.

Higher Education

- 9) Includes \$7.5 million one-time General Fund for the UC/CSU Collaborative for Neuroscience, Diversity and Learning.
- 10) Includes \$15 million one-time General Fund for the UC Berkeley Journalism Fellowship program.
- 11) Includes \$3.3 million one-time General Fund to support the UC Central Coast PRIME program.
- 12) Includes \$20 million one-time General Fund to support basic needs, housing, and disability services at the UC.
- 13) Includes \$1.4 million one-time General Fund to support the UC Berkeley Institute of Governmental Studies Local Digitization Project.

- 14) Includes \$750,000 one-time General Fund for UC Berkeley to support AAPI Data Research.
- 15) Includes \$200,000 one-time General Fund to support the UCLA Bruin One Access as a State-CalFresh Enrollment Accelerator.
- 16) Includes \$10 million one-time General Fund to support the UC Climate Change Research Institute.
- 17) Includes \$5 million one-time General Fund to support UC Degree Plus.
- 18) Includes \$5 million one-time General Fund to support Career Online High School.
- 19) Beginning in 2026-27, adjusts the Proposition 98 split funding between TK-12 and the California Community Colleges (CCC) to 88.9% for TK-12 and 11.1% for CCC. This includes an additional \$217.7 million Proposition 98 General Fund to CCC in 2026-27 through the adjusted split percentages. This will address a structural deficit that was inadvertently created for CCC when the 2025 Budget shifted TK costs outside of the split.
- 20) Beginning in 2026-27, includes \$47.7 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund to allow credit for Full Time Equivalent Students (FTES) to be calculated using the higher of the three-year average or the amount in the current year.
- 21) Includes an additional \$63.8 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund to support a total of 2.5 percent enrollment growth at the California Community Colleges.
- 22) Includes a \$35 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Dream Resource Centers at the California Community Colleges, of the total \$70 million one-time for this program.
- 23) Includes \$15 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support LGBTQ+ Resource Centers, of the total \$30 million one-time for this purpose.

- 24) Includes \$30.1 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund to provide a 5.74% cost-of-living adjustment to the Student Equity and Achievement Program at the California Community Colleges.
- 25) Includes \$42.6 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support the California Indian Nations College.
- 26) Includes a reappropriation of \$117.4 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for Deferred Maintenance, for a total of \$120.7 million.
- 27) Includes an additional estimated \$166.9 million General Fund to support the Middle Class Scholarship Program for 2026-27 academic year awards. This funding level translates into 23.07% award levels.
- 28) Augments the Golden State Teacher Grant program with an additional \$10 million one-time General Fund for the 2027-28 grant cycle.

Resources

- 29) Appropriates \$6.75 million General Fund ongoing for the California State Parks Library Pass Program.
- 30) Provides \$17.5 million State Park and Recreation Fund expenditure authority ongoing to the Department of Parks and Recreation for purposes of covering estimated invoice costs related to the new Reservation System Agreement with the department's contractor.
- 31) Reappropriates \$1 million General Fund to the State Water Resources Control Board for the City and County of San Francisco, Department of Public Works project, Sunset Boulevard Recycled Water Irrigation Improvement.
- 32) Reappropriates \$10 million General Fund to the Wildlife Conservation Board for Point Reyes conservation projects that will enhance coastal wetland resilience, restore Tule Elk habitat and native vegetation, and improve public access.
- 33) Appropriates \$6 million General Fund to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Delta-based decontamination control sites to prevent the spread of invasive Golden Mussels.

- 34) Appropriates \$1.4 million General Fund to the California Natural Resources Agency for the treatment of algae blooms in Discovery Bay.
- 35) Appropriates \$2 million General Fund to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to support recovery of the Mojave Desert Tortoise, which is officially listed as endangered under the California Endangered Species Act.

Energy, Utilities, and Air Quality

- 36) Appropriates \$135.5 million (\$20.5 million from the Air Pollution Control Fund and \$115 million from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund) for light-duty zero-emission vehicle incentives at the California Air Resources Board.
- 37) Appropriates \$135.5 million from the Air Pollution Control Fund for medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicle incentives through the Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Project at the California Air Resources Board.
- 38) Appropriates \$17 million from the Enhanced Fleet Modernization Subaccount annually for five years for the districts participating in the Clean Cars 4 All program at the California Air Resources Board.
- 39) Appropriates \$963,000 from the Alternative and Renewable Fuel and Vehicle Technology Fund for the implementation of SB 59 (Skinner), Chapter 765, Statutes of 2024 at the California Energy Commission.
- 40) Appropriates \$579.9 million from the Universal Lifeline Telephone Service Trust Administrative Committee Fund for the Lifeline program at the California Public Utilities Commission. This appropriation can be adjusted up to \$664.9 million if enrollment reaches 1.95 million.
- 41) Appropriates \$2 million from the General Fund to the California Energy Commission for heat pump incentives.
- 42) Appropriates \$150 million from the General Fund for the Community Air Protection Program at the California Air Resources Board.

- 43) Reappropriates various appropriations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund.
- 44) Repeals \$54,000 for wildcatting enforcement at the California Public Utilities Commission.

Health

- 45) Reflects \$575 million General Fund savings in 2026-27, \$2.3 billion in 2027-28 and 2028-29, and \$1.7 billion in 2029-30, as a result of the reauthorization of a new, federally compliant tax on managed care organizations.
- 46) Reflects \$471.6 million General Fund savings in 2026-27 from the transition of Medi-Cal beneficiaries with unsatisfactory immigration status (UIS) from managed care to fee-for-service.
- 47) Appropriates \$39 million to support care coordination resources and clinic and community-based organization navigators to support UIS beneficiaries as they transition from managed care to fee-for-service.
- 48) Reflects General Fund costs of \$1 billion to delay the elimination of prospective payment system reimbursement for community clinics for services provided to Medi-Cal beneficiaries with UIS until July 1, 2027.
- 49) Reflects General Fund costs of \$303.2 million to delay the transition of certain immigrant populations (e.g. asylees, victims of human trafficking, etc) to restricted scope Medi-Cal until July 1, 2027.
- 50) Allocates \$250 million General Fund to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to support designated public hospitals.
- 51) Allocates \$196.9 million General Fund to DHCS to support county administration workload for the Medi-Cal program.
- 52) Allocates \$10 million General Fund in 2026-27, and \$8 million General Fund in 2027-28 and 2028-29, to Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to support a gender affirming care provider network stabilization and uncompensated care grant program.

- 53) Allocates \$7.7 million General Fund to DHCS to support bridge funding for congregate living health facilities.
- 54) Reflects General Fund costs of \$360.8 million to delay elimination of dental benefits in Medi-Cal for the UIS population, until July 1, 2027.
- 55) Reflects General Fund costs of \$258.2 million to delay elimination of Proposition 56 supplemental provider payments for dental services in Medi-Cal, until July 1, 2027.
- 56) Allocates \$400,000 General Fund to DHCS to support application assistance for Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE) beneficiaries.
- 57) Allocates \$5 million General Fund to DHCS to support a severe schizophrenia pilot program.
- 58) Reflects \$68.3 million General Fund savings from reforms to enhanced care management and community supports services in Medi-Cal.
- 59) Rejects the Governor's proposal to cap Medi-Cal reimbursement rates for PACE, resulting in General Fund costs of \$33.7 million in 2026-27 and \$84.9 million ongoing.
- 60) Rejects the Governor's proposal to eliminate acupuncture benefits in the Medi-Cal program, resulting in General Fund costs of \$5.4 million in 2026-27 and \$13.1 million ongoing.
- 61) Redirects \$35.4 million of Opioid Settlements Fund to offset General Fund expenditures in the Medi-Cal program.
- 62) Appropriates \$42.2 million General Fund to continue the community-based mobile crisis services benefit in Medi-Cal until June 30, 2027.
- 63) Allocates \$30 million General Fund one-time to support rate increases for private duty nursing in the Medi-Cal program.
- 64) Allocates \$7.7 million General Fund one-time to support rate increases for congregate living health facilities.

- 65) Allocates \$113.3 million General Fund to the Department of Public Health (CDPH) to support critical public health information technology systems.
- 66) Appropriates \$30 million General Fund over five years to CDPH to support Sickle Cell Disease Centers for Excellence.
- 67) Allocates \$10 million General Fund to CDPH to support LGBTQ+ community centers.
- 68) Allocates \$3.5 million General Fund to CDPH to support amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS) wraparound services.
- 69) Appropriates \$500,000 General Fund to support a rate study for ground ambulance services at the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA).
- 70) Appropriates \$5 million General Fund to the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to support physician access and workforce development in shortage areas.
- 71) Appropriates \$30 million General Fund to HCAI to support an uncompensated care program for abortion services.
- 72) Appropriates \$10 million General Fund to HCAI to support the Abortion Practical Support program.
- 73) Appropriates \$750,000 General Fund to HCAI to support implementation of a study of midwifery education and training.
- 74) Allocates \$90 million General Fund to support grants to distressed hospitals and authorizes the Department of Finance to augment the grant program by up to \$50 million.
- 75) Allocates \$10 million General Fund to HCAI to establish a health care access stability unit to evaluate hospitals' strategic importance to their communities to assist policymakers to maintain access to critical services in the event of a hospital's financial distress.
- 76) Allocates \$15 million General Fund to HCAI to support workforce training and expansion for promotoras.

- 77) Allocates \$15.5 million General Fund to HCAI to support the procurement of low-cost epinephrine pens and tuberculosis drugs through CalRx.
- 78) Appropriates \$3.9 million General Fund to support dental health services for patients at Department of State Hospital Metroopolitan (DSH-Metropolitan) and at Department of State Hospital Patton (DSH-Patton).
- 79) Includes \$1.8 million General Fund for the preliminary plans phase of the DSH-Patton's Electrical Infrastructure Upgrade project.
- 80) Includes \$19.6 million to support patient-related operating expenses, specifically in the areas of utilities, pharmaceuticals, foodstuffs, and outside medical.
- 81) Includes \$469,000 General Fund to conduct an analysis and report to the Legislature on the feasibility of establishing transitional housing facilities pursuant to SB 380 (Jones), Chapter 581, Statutes of 2025.
- 82) Reflects savings of \$102.2 million related to Incompetent to Stand Trial solutions and infrastructure grant funding.
- 83) Includes \$27.6 million General Fund and a reappropriation of up to \$6.3 million from the 2024 Budget Act to support the first year of implementation for the Continuum Electronic Health Record System project.
- 84) Includes provisional language to provide DSH with limited Public Contract Code exemption authority for two years for contracts associated with online services and subscriptions providing health care or pharmaceutical information.
- 85) Reverts \$50.4 million and appropriates \$58.1 million Public Buildings Construction Fund for the construction phase of the Central Utility Plant Replacement Project at DSH-Metropolitan, a net increase of \$7.7 million.
- 86) Reverts \$20 million unspent General Fund from the 2024 Budget Act.
- 87) Shifts \$10.3 million from General Fund to Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) Behavioral Health Workforce Initiative reimbursement to support an existing workforce development program, and appropriates \$3.8 million

in BHSA reimbursement to add an additional Psychiatric Technician Apprenticeship.

- 88) Restores \$16.7 million of expenditure authority from the Behavioral Health Services Fund for the Commission for Behavioral Health's Innovation Partnership Fund and for advocacy contracts.
- 89) Appropriates \$300 million from the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund to support premium subsidies for consumers in the Covered California health benefit exchange.

Human Services

- 90) Appropriates \$228 million General Fund for the expansion of 22,770 new child care spaces in 2026-27. Of the 22,770 new child care spaces, 20,700 are voucher spaces and 2,070 are General Child Care spaces. Includes \$41.4 million General Fund to backfill approximately 3,430 of the approximately 6,800 child care spaces, previously funded with Proposition 64 and federal funds, proposed to be eliminated by the Governor. Relative to the Governor's May Revision, the budget includes a total of 26,200 additional child care spaces. This brings the ongoing child care expansion to approximately 149,000 new funded child care spaces above 2020-2021 levels.
- 91) Includes provisional language that allows the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to use up to 15 percent of funds appropriated to expand General Child Care spaces to fund minor repairs, infrastructure upgrades, and other readiness activities for childcare and development programs. Appropriates an additional \$2 million General Fund for CDSS state operations to support development of the infrastructure set-aside and other activities to maximize existing child care funding.
- 92) Appropriates \$70 million to child care agencies for administration and support costs associated with implementing ongoing provisions of the Memorandum of Understanding with Child Care Providers United. Requires this amount to be allocated to each program proportionally based on each program's total contract amount.
- 93) Appropriates \$223 million General Fund one-time to augment county CalFresh administration to implement the time limit for Able Bodied Adults

Without Dependents under H.R. 1 and to help eligible people maintain access to CalFresh. Funds allocated pursuant to this provision are available for encumbrance or expenditure through June 30, 2029.

- 94) Appropriates \$20 million General Fund one-time for the CalFresh Fruit and Vegetable Pilot Program.
- 95) Appropriates \$15 million on a one-time basis for the Bringing Families Home program.
- 96) Appropriates \$10 million on a one-time basis for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program.
- 97) Appropriates \$10 million on a one-time basis to the Southern Central Coast Regional Network Hub for Immigrant Families.
- 98) Reappropriates up to \$6.1 million from the Budget Act of 2022 and appropriates an additional \$392,000 General Fund one-time for child welfare child-specific funding to support enhanced care planning and service navigation to access care in the least restrictive setting for adoptive children and their families and to prevent reentry into the foster care system.
- 99) Reappropriates unspent funds from the Budget Act of 2025 for the CalWORKs Housing Support Program.
- 100) Appropriates \$1 million for automation associated with Federal Children's Savings Accounts.
- 101) Appropriates \$4.75 million to the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) for development of a standard needs assessment.
- 102) Makes other technical and conforming changes.

General Government

- 103) Includes, for the Department of Veteran's Affairs, \$9 million General Fund for cemetery operations in Orange County, \$7 million general fund for grants related to the Support to Self Reliance program, and \$2 million general fund for grants related to support the Veterans Military Discharge upgrade program.

- 104) Allows for transfer of \$1.7 million General Fund to the State Athletic Commission Fund under the State Athletic Commission.
- 105) Allows for transfer of \$4 million General Fund to the Horse Racing Fund under the California Horseracing Board for partial fee relief.
- 106) Appropriates \$23 million General Fund for the Enteric Fermentation Incentive Program as well as extending the encumbrance period for \$1.5 million in prior appropriated administrative funds.
- 107) Appropriates \$1.5 million General Fund to the State Controller for the Unclaimed Property Program.
- 108) Includes \$14.3 million Public Buildings Construction Fund for preconstruction work related to 1021 O Street and also clarifies that Department of General Services shall not begin any portion of physical construction or otherwise interfere with current operations within the 1021 O Street Building until the execution of a written agreement between the Joint Rules Committee, Department of Finance, and the Department of General Services on the future use of the 1021 O Street Building.
- 109) Includes \$1.3 million Public Buildings Construction Fund for preconstruction work related to the O Street State Parking Garage.
- 110) Includes, for the Secretary of State, \$29 million General Fund for vote counting processes, \$5 million General Fund for voter outreach and education by a schedule set by the Department of Finance, \$5 million General Fund in voter outreach and education support without such schedule, and \$250 thousand General Fund for supporting and strengthening administration of the November 3, 2026 statewide election.
- 111) Allows, subject to notification provisions to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, for an augmentation of up to \$22 million general fund to the Department of Technology for the Middle Mile Broadband Initiative. Includes provisional language for quarterly reporting, and a revised Middle-Mile Broadband Network Business Plan to be submitted on or before February 1, 2027.

- 112) Includes \$2.5 million General Fund for the Department of Food and Agriculture for a Managed Honeybee Health Program.
- 113) Includes \$1.8 million General Fund for the Actor's Gang Prison Project.
- 114) Includes \$5 million General Fund for the Arts Council related to support for LA28 related arts and cultural programming.
- 115) Includes \$1.5 million General Fund for the Commission on the Status of Women and Girls to implement Women's Wealth Working Group and Gender Equity Summits.
- 116) Includes \$5 million General Fund for the Arts Council for Protagonist Black, which seeks to foster books-in-homes for marginalized communities.
- 117) Includes \$1 million General Fund for the Blue Ribbon Commission related to the development of a California Department of Youth Sports.
- 118) Includes \$80 million one-time General Fund to backfill revenues in three counties with insufficient Education Revenue Augmentation Fund, San Mateo, Alpine, and Mono.
- 119) Appropriates \$1.4 million in General Fund to fund CalExport, a newly-named international trade and export promotion program within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz).
- 120) Provides \$2 million to GO-Biz to support infrastructure and facility modernization at the Urban Business Resource Center.
- 121) Appropriates \$1.5 million to GO-Biz for the INDSTRY Workforce Development Initiative.
- 122) Provides \$1 million to GO-Biz for California Fringe.
- 123) Appropriates \$12 million to GO-Biz for the Performing Arts Equitable Payroll Fund.

- 124) Provides \$3 million to the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (GO-LCI) for the Central Coast Community Resilience Hub Accelerator.
- 125) Appropriates \$5 million to the Governor's Office of Service and Community Engagement (GO-Serve) for the California Men's Service Challenge.
- 126) Provides \$5 million to GO-Serve for the Reading Corps and Math Corps.
- 127) Adjusts the administrative funding for the California College Corps program to correct technical errors.
- 128) Appropriates \$5 million to GO-Serve for the California Student Success Coach Grant Program.
- 129) Provides \$10 million to GO-Serve for City Year.

Housing and Homelessness

- 130) Appropriates \$500,000 to the Housing and Community Development Department for the Orange County United Way for a regional pilot program to build more online awareness about affordable housing opportunities.
- 131) Transfers 14 positions and \$1.5 million from the Housing and Community Development Department (HCD) to the Housing Development Finance Committee (HDFC) for administration of affordable housing funding programs.
- 132) Provides \$3.9 million to HCD for the Alliance for Community Empowerment.
- 133) Appropriates \$500,000 to HCD for the Napa County Housing Authority.
- 134) Specifies that any expenditures over \$10 million for new program components in the Disaster Rebuilding Fund are only authorized after approval of an expenditure plan by the Department of Finance and 30 days written notice to specified legislative committees and officials.

- 135) Transfers a total of 3 positions and \$682,000 in General Fund from the California Interagency Council on Homelessness (Cal-ICH) to the California Housing and Homelessness Agency (CHHA) and the Housing Development Finance Committee (HDFC).

Judiciary

- 136) Includes \$62.1 million General Fund and \$1.7 billion Public Building Constructions Fund authority for courthouse construction, and language to fund additional courthouses upon appropriation in 2027-28.
- 137) Maintains \$100 million General Fund for new judgeship costs and associated facility projects and \$150 million General Fund for deferred maintenance.
- 138) Includes provisional reporting language and a net-zero shift of Proposition 36 (2024) General Fund resources, to provide \$20 million for pretrial services, \$10 million for courts, and \$20 million for behavioral health.
- 139) Includes \$3.5 million General Fund to establish a Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court Referral and Petition Pipeline and makes technical changes to CARE funding.
- 140) Provides \$2.2 million General Fund for trial court employee benefits.

Corrections

- 141) Restores \$81.2 million General Fund in operational savings at the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.
- 142) Reduces additional funding for the Office of Inspector General from \$4.3 million to \$2 million General Fund.
- 143) Includes \$9.7 million General Fund for an honor housing unit at Cororan State Prison.
- 144) Modifies or removes various reporting requirements.
- 145) Removes language requiring an additional prison closure by 2027-28.

Public Safety

- 146) Includes provisional language related to the 9-1-1 system and the Next Generation 9-1-1 project, and appropriates State Emergency Telephone Number Account funding of up to \$2 million for an independent technical evaluation and \$1 million for an audit.
- 147) Includes a net-zero shift of \$4.2 million General Fund from Control Section 5.27 to the Department of Justice for federal accountability resources.

Transportation

- 148) Appropriates \$7.2 million from the State Highway Account to continue development of generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) for safer and smarter roadways at the California Department of Transportation.
- 149) Specifies \$15 million of the \$270 million appropriated from the Trade Corridor Enhancement Account for the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program at the California Department of Transportation shall be for road improvements on freight corridors connecting the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach between the 105, 110, and 710 freeways.
- 150) Appropriates \$56 million from the Motor Vehicle Account for the design and development of the State-to-State Verification System at the Department of Motor Vehicles. The system shall not be activated for the purpose of transmitting or sharing data unless specifically authorized by statute prior to July 3, 2026.
- 151) Specifies state funds allocated to the Carl Moyer Memorial Air Quality Standards Attainment Program, the Port and Freight Infrastructure Program, the Solutions for Congested Corridors Program, the Clean Off-Road Equipment program, the Commercial Harbor Craft program, the Clean Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project, the Trade Corridor Enhancement Program, and the Clean Transportation Program shall not be allocated for the purchase of fully automated cargo handling equipment or for automation supporting improvements or replacements that are used to support fully automated cargo handling equipment.

- 152) Appropriates \$2 million from the General Fund to the California Department of Transportation for the City of Ventura for infrastructure improvements to Main Street consistent with parklet design.
- 153) Extends the liquidation period for \$300 million appropriated in the Budget Act of 2021 for the LOSSAN Corridor.
- 154) Corrects an error related to the fund source for the Clean California Program.
- 155) Reinstates provisional language regarding flexibility of funding to implement REAL ID at the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Labor and Workforce

- 156) Includes \$5 million one-time General Fund to support a Ports Workforce Training program.
- I
- 157) Includes \$10.8 million one-time General Fund to support the Social Entrepreneurs for Economic Development (SEED) program.
- 158) Includes \$5 million one-time General Fund to support a Hospitality Training Academy.
- 159) Includes \$9 million ongoing Labor and Workforce Development Fund to support the Workers' Rights Enforcement Grant program at the Department of Industrial Relations.
- 160) Includes \$5 million one-time Labor and Workforce Development Fund to support a Jails 2 Jobs pilot program at the Department of Industrial Relations.
- 161) Includes \$30 million Labor and Workforce Development Fund annually for three years beginning in 2026-27 through 2028-29 to support the California Workplace Outreach Project program at the Department of Industrial Relations.
- 162) Includes \$1.35 million one-time Occupational Safety and Health Fund to support a Cal/OHSA Workforce Study at the Department of Industrial Relations.

163)Includes \$5 million one-time General Fund to support the Creating Restorative Opportunities and Programs (CROP) at the California Workforce Development Board.

Other

164)Includes a variety of one-time legislative priorities as part of the June 2026 budget agreement.

165)Rejects the elimination of 356.2 positions at various departments, including but not limited to, 60.1 Full-time Equivalent positions (FTEs) at the Department of Fish and Game, 118 positions at the Department of Industrial Relations, 15 FTEs at the Department of Pesticide Regulation, 29 positions at the State Water Resources Control Board, and 75.1 FTEs at the Department of Toxic Substances Control that support each departments' core missions.

166)Makes a variety of other technical changes.

167)Makes other technical changes to various control sections.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill represents a 2026-27 state fiscal plan that includes \$351.7 billion in total spending, \$251.5 billion of which is from the General Fund.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 06/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 06/26/26)

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
6/29/26 14:35:24

**** **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

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**** **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 126
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Education finance: education omnibus trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill provides for statutory changes necessary to enact the TK-12 related statutory provisions of the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill, makes statutory changes necessary to implement the 2026-27 Budget Act. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Adopts the following framework for the Proposition 98 Guarantee:
 - a. Calculates the Proposition 98 Minimum Guarantee to be \$124.9 billion, \$125.5 billion, and \$128 billion in 2024-25, 2025-26, and 2026-27, respectively. This calculation accounts for a rebench of the Guarantee to include additional costs for State Preschool Programs administered by community-based organizations and other non-local educational agency organizations.
 - b. Makes a mandatory deposit of \$8.7 billion into the Public School System Stabilization Account (PSSSA), with an additional discretionary deposit of \$500 million, for a total balance of \$9.2 billion in the PSSSA after 2026-27.

- c. Provides that 33 percent of any higher non-Proposition 98 and non-Proposition 2 General Fund tax revenues added to Department of Finance projections through the 2027 May Revision is hereby appropriated to pay all or part of any unpaid Proposition 98 obligations for the 2025-26 fiscal year (currently projected to be \$3.9 billion). Any such funds would be transferred to the Public School System Stabilization Account as a discretionary deposit for appropriation to Proposition 98 programs in future legislation.
- 2) Adopts a 4.31% cost-of-living adjustment, above the statutorily required adjustment of 2.87%, for the Local Control Funding Formula for school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools.
- 3) Adopts a 20 percent augmentation for necessary small schools.
- 4) Adopts base rate increases for special education programs, which totals \$2.4 billion ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund.
- 5) Provides authority for additional fiscal oversight of single-district county offices of education.
- 6) Streamlines the Statewide of System of Support and shifts the differentiated assistance and direct technical assistance framework into a Universal and Targeted Assistance model in order to address the overidentification of local educational agencies. Revises the identification of local educational agencies that are eligible for targeted assistance, and shifts identification to occur every three years to align with the Local Control and Accountability Plan cycle.
- 7) Modifies the funding formula for county offices of education providing universal and targeted assistance, and delinks the number of local educational agencies identified for assistance.
- 8) Stabilizes the Rate 2 local educational agencies under the Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP) by providing at least \$1,800 per unduplicated pupil rate for local education agencies with less than 55% total unduplicated pupils.

- 9) Establishes the California Community Schools Partnership Program as an ongoing apportionment program, for existing grantees or for school sites with an unduplicated pupil percentage of 65% or above, and codifies the State Board of Education-adopted framework for community schools.
- 10) Re-appropriates \$84 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund with the California Community Schools Partnership Program in the following ways:
 - a. \$28 million for the State Transformational Assistance Center (STAC).
 - b. \$3 million for a set of analyses by the STAC, or by an institute of higher education.
 - c. \$10 million to develop and implement the community schools certification process.
 - d. \$15 million for the STAC and the technical assistance network.
 - e. \$50 million for the Secondary School Redesign Pilot Program.
 - f. \$6 million for Transforming Together.
- 11) Provides authority to allocate funding to county offices of education to coordinate county-level community school implementation support.
- 12) Appropriates \$100 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for dual enrollment programs, and provides an additional \$50,000 for local educational agencies that serve justice-involved youth in county-run facilities.
- 13) Authorizes regional occupational center programs to be eligible for dual enrollment programs, and reduces the required minimum school day requirements for students in dual enrollment programs from 240 minutes to 180 minutes.
- 14) Improves accountability provisions for charter schools, and includes the use of verified data in the charter school renewal process until June 30, 2028.
- 15) Authorizes the State Allocation Board to withhold new funding approvals from school districts that default, or are projected to default, with any requirements of facility construction programs under its authority.

- 16) Augments the Learning Recovery Emergency Block Grant by \$757.3 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund. These funds would be subject to the provisions put in place by the 2024-25 Budget Act, pursuant to the Cayla J Settlement.
- 17) Waives the administrator-teacher ratio requirements for Plumas Unified School District from 2023-24 to 2026-27.
- 18) Requires public school employers to provide up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy disability leave to all employees.
- 19) Clarifies and facilitates improved data sharing and specify data that is to be included in the annual Teacher Supply Report.
- 20) Increases the fee for a renewal of a teaching credential and a service clear credential to \$125 every five years.
- 21) Directs the Commission of Teacher Credentialing to develop and implement a platform that will allow the Commission to conduct transcript review for candidates to establish subject matter competency.
- 22) Clarifies under the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification Incentive Program that teachers may apply for all aspects of the grant program and apply for the maintenance of certification award multiple times.
- 23) Establishes a technical assistance center for Teacher Residency Grant and National Board for Professional Teaching Standards Certification Incentive Program.
- 24) Appropriates \$250 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Teacher Residency Grant Program.
- 25) Augments the 21st Century California School Leadership Academy to support professional learning opportunities statewide.
- 26) Appropriates \$22.9 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support local educational agencies that are continuing to recover from the January 2025 Los Angeles County Wildfires, including one-time \$4 million Proposition 98 General Fund for Pasadena Unified School District.

- 27) Clarifies that transitional kindergarten classroom instruction must be developmentally appropriate.
- 28) Appropriates \$10 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Holocaust and Genocide Education Grant Program, with clarifying statutory changes.
- 29) Prohibits the administration of screeners to identify reading difficulties in students prior to 91 days into the school year for kindergarten students.
- 30) Appropriates an additional \$350 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to extend existing Literacy Coaches and Reading Specialists Grant Programs to 2031.
- 31) Appropriates \$25 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the California Center for Inclusive College.
- 32) Appropriates \$10 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for Sacramento County Office of Education to provide technical assistance for local educational agencies to implement alternative pathways to diplomas.
- 33) Includes the mandate to provide menstrual products at local educational agencies in the K-12 Mandates Block Grant.
- 34) Augments funding for the Museum of Tolerance by \$1 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund, for a total funding amount of \$4 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund.
- 35) Makes clarifying changes to the Computer Science Supplementary Authorization Incentive Grant Program.
- 36) Extends the encumbrance period for the Literacy Roadmap project.
- 37) Appropriates \$4.4 billion one-time Proposition 98 General Fund, for a total amount of \$5 billion, for the Student Support and Professional Development Discretionary Block Grant, allocating funds based on average daily attendance, and includes support for dual enrollment, career pathways approaches, and professional development for educators in UTK, English

Language Arts and Development, mathematics, induction, mentorship, community schools, and deferred maintenance.

- 38) Appropriates \$500 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Kitchen Infrastructure and Training Grant Funds, and includes family food pantries on school sites and hands-on food education, including activities with school gardens, as eligible expenditures.
- 39) Appropriates \$70 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund, for a total amount of \$116 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund, to support students experiencing homelessness.
- 40) Appropriates \$50 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Universal Preschool Planning Grant Program.
- 41) Appropriates \$200 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Universal PreKindergarten Planning and Implementation Grants.
- 42) Appropriates \$100 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the new California New Americans in Schools (CalNAS) program.
- 43) Appropriates \$75 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Dream Resource Center Grant Program.
- 44) Appropriates \$408 million to extend the Student Teacher Stipend program, and expands the program for high-need fields.
- 45) Appropriates \$10 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Bilingual Teaching Pathways Program.
- 46) Appropriates \$10 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund for the Classified Employee Teacher Grant Program.
- 47) Makes various technical statutory changes.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill makes several appropriations related to TK-12 education.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Yong Salas / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:25

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 135
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Higher education budget trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes necessary changes to implement higher education provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes various statutory changes to implement the higher education provisions of the Budget Act of 2026. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires the California State University Chancellor's Office to develop annual enrollment targets and report them to the Legislature and Department of Finance, among other conforming changes.
- 2) Includes statutory changes related to the implementation of the federal Workforce Pell program, including alignment of the Cal Grant C program and other conforming changes.
- 3) Reduces the appropriation made for apportionments to the California Community Colleges for apportionments in 2025-26 by \$455.4 million.
- 4) Applies \$405.4 million in deferred apportionment payments to the 2024-25 fiscal year.

- 5) Appropriates \$141 million Proposition 98 General Fund for apportionment costs in 2025-26.
- 6) Appropriates \$55.3 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support 1 percent enrollment growth in 2025-26.
- 7) Appropriates \$3.3 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support deferred maintenance needs.
- 8) Appropriates \$147.2 million Proposition 98 General Fund for the Student Support Block Grant.
- 9) Changes the reporting cadence of various California Community College (CCC) reports to be on a triennial basis.
- 10) Appropriates \$16 million Proposition 98 General Fund to support increased related and supplemental instruction hour costs to apprenticeship programs for the 2024-25 and 2025-26 fiscal years.
- 11) Requires the California Community College Chancellor's Office (CCCCO) to establish the Credit for Prior Learning Initiative as a systemwide initiative to award credit for prior learning opportunities at community colleges, among other conforming changes.
- 12) Requires the CCCCCO to establish the Common Cloud Data Platform to create a unified, modern data infrastructure to enhance statewide reporting, data sharing, and available analytical tools across participating community college districts and the Chancellor's Office, among other conforming changes.
- 13) Requires community colleges districts to provide employees with up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy disability leave benefits, among other conforming changes.
- 14) Includes \$159.7 million ongoing Proposition 98 General Fund representing a discretionary 1.44% cost-of-living adjustment to apportionments, from which costs related to providing employees with up to 14 weeks of paid pregnancy disability leave shall be reimbursable. This amount is inclusive of an additional \$13.3 million ongoing to provide districts on the Hold

Harmless funding level with resources to cover costs associated with the aforementioned paid pregnancy disability leave benefit.

- 15) Appropriates \$15 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support LGBTQ+ Resource Centers at the California Community Colleges (CCC).
- 16) For purposes of calculating the base calculation a CCC district's funded credit shall be the greater of the three-year rolling average or its current year credit Full-Time Equivalent students (FTES).
- 17) Appropriates \$5 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Pierce College Family Resource Centers.
- 18) Appropriates \$1.2 million one-time Proposition 98 General Fund to support Cal-Bridge First Academic Scholar Training.
- 19) Requires the governing boards of community colleges that provides tuition exemptions for students related to nonresident students living along the California-Mexico border to jointly plan how to distribute the authorized 1,350 FTES for these purposes, among other conforming changes.
- 20) Requires the CCCCO to develop recommendations related to enrollment in competency-based education programs and alternate funding models, in relation to Calbright College, among other changes.
- 21) Authorizes the reimbursement of dental and vision benefits under the Part-Time Faculty Health Insurance Program at the CCC.
- 22) Increases the age for Cal Grant eligibility to 30 years, beginning in 2026-27 through 2030-31.
- 23) Codifies in statute reporting requirements related to basic need, mental health and rapid rehousing programs at the University of California and California State University.
- 24) Technical and conforming changes to align the California Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (CalNAGPRA) with federal requirements.

- 25) Clarifies that representatives of UC, CSU, and CCCCCO leadership are authorized to report on Title IX activities during legislative budget committee hearings.
- 26) Codifies in statute reporting requirements for the Student Housing Grant programs at UC, CSU, and CCC as well as for student housing data collection, and allows both reports to be consolidated into one annual report.
- 27) Requests that the UC to enter into a memorandum of understanding for data sharing purposes related to the Cradle-to-Career Data System.
- 28) Establishes the California Early College Demonstration Initiative related to dual enrollment.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill is a budget trailer bill within the overall 2026-27 Budget Act to implement actions related to higher education and makes various appropriations.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/6)

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: Diego Emilio J. Lopez / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:33

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 163
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 15-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Choi, Durazo, Grove, Hurtado,

McNerney, Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: Developmental services

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: Provides for statutory changes necessary to enact developmental services related provisions of the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026-27. This bill includes the following provisions:

- 1) Sunsets various outdated reporting requirements.
- 2) Authorizes remote delivery for specified developmental services through December 31, 2028 and establishes data and reporting requirements to the Legislature regarding the remote delivery of services to individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.
- 3) Establishes a dual provider system via an interagency agreement between the Department of Developmental Services (DDS) and the Department of Rehabilitation (DOR) to streamline access to employment services for individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities. Removes a requirement that employment providers must be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities.

- 4) Establishes time-limited authority for DDS to issue directives to local educational agencies and regional centers operating early intervention programs and reflects the transfer of oversight of certain early intervention program services under the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Part C from the California Department of Education (CDE) to DDS.
- 5) Streamlines the ways in which DDS adjusts contracts with regional centers through fiscal allocation letters.
- 6) Makes various changes to regional center board governance requirements, including changing governing board composition and professional and other standards, including training, that regional center boards must meet, as specified.
- 7) Consolidates various regional center performance measures and contracts between regional centers and the state and modifies accountability measures, as specified.
- 8) Adds flexibilities for regional center vendors by eliminating the courtesy vendorization process and removing physical location requirements.
- 9) Streamlines purchases of essential goods and services for facilities operated directly by DDS.
- 10) Codifies requirements for regional centers to facilitate the transition from existing information technology systems to the new DDS case management system currently in development, known as the Life Outcomes Improvement System (LOIS), and establishes legislative reporting requirements for the LOIS project.
- 11) Establishes a new grievance process for DDS and regional centers to comply with the federal Home and Community-Based Services (HCBS) Access Rule and incorporates existing rights complaints processes into a single grievance process overseen by DDS, as specified.
- 12) Modifies the use of federal financial participation funds generated by former participants of the self-determination pilot projects and establishes \$1 million in ongoing funding dedicated to Local Volunteer Advisory Committees for the development and delivery of training and local community resource fairs that provide standardized information about the Self-Determination Program.

- 13) Allows tailored day services to occur on the same day as employment services.
- 14) Establishes a new Family Teaching Model rate separate from the Family Home Agency rate.
- 15) Codifies existing overtime pay requirements for hourly workers who provide Supported Living Services to provide parity with In-Home Supportive Services overtime requirements.
- 16) Makes other technical and conforming changes.

FISCAL EFFECT: Reappropriates up to \$1.2 million from the 2023 Budget Act, up to \$1.4 million from the 2024 Budget Act, and up to \$1.7 million from the 2025 Budget Act for activities related to Local Volunteer Advisory Committees.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Elizabeth Freeman / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:29

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 164
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Health

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is an omnibus health trailer bill and contains changes to implement the 2026-27 budget.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes technical and clarifying statutory revisions affecting health programs necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026-27. Specifically, this bill:

Various Departments

- 1) Implements various statutory changes regarding menopause, including:
 - a. Requires a health care service plan or insurer, as well as the Medi-Cal program, to include coverage of treatments approved to treat menopausal symptoms by the United States Food and Drug Administration, including, but not limited to, all of the following:
 - i. Hormone therapy
 - ii. Low-dose antidepressants
 - iii. Anticonvulsants

- iv. Medications to prevent or treat osteoporosis
 - v. Nonhormonal medications for vasomotor-related symptoms
-
- b. Requires a health care service plan or insurer to include a program to ensure enrollees have access to current menopause information and covered items and services.
 - c. Imposes requirements to follow certain standards, criteria, and guidelines on health care service plan or insurer when making decisions regarding medical necessity or utilization review.
 - d. Authorizes civil penalties for violation of these provisions by health care service plans or insurers.
 - e. Beginning July 1, 2027, allows qualifying physicians and surgeons, and qualifying osteopathic physicians and surgeons, to receive two hours of continuing medical education credits for every hour of coursework completed related to perimenopause, menopause, and postmenopausal care, not to exceed eight course hours, toward the continuing medical education requirements established by the Medical Board of California.
 - f. Beginning July 1, 2027, allows nurse practitioners who provide care to a patient population composed adult women under 65 years of age to receive two hours of continuing education credit for every hour of coursework completed related to perimenopause, menopause, and postmenopausal care, not to exceed six hours, under certain conditions.
 - g. Beginning July 1, 2027, allows physician assistants who provide care to a patient population composed of adult women under 65 years of age to receive two hours of continuing education credit for every hour of coursework completed related to perimenopause, menopause, and postmenopausal care, not to exceed eight hours, toward physician assistant continuing education requirements.

Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI)

- 2) Establishes the Hospital Fair Pricing Penalties Fund to collect administrative penalties for non-compliance with the Hospital Fair Pricing Act, AB 1312 (Schiavo, Chapter 450, Statutes of 2025.)

- 3) Transfers responsibilities for the Office of the Patient Advocate from the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS) to HCAI.
- 4) Expands the availability of grant funding from the Reproductive Health Equity Fund to also support gender affirming care services through the California Reproductive and TGI Health Equity Program.

Department of Health Care Services (DHCS)

- 5) Makes statutory changes and imposes certain requirements on DHCS related to implementation of House Resolution (HR) 1, including the following:
 - a. Requires DHCS to conduct various outreach activities to Medi-Cal beneficiaries regarding new work and community engagement requirements, more frequent redeterminations, and changes to retroactive eligibility related to HR 1.
 - b. Requires DHCS to establish a data dashboard to provide data on applications, enrollment, redeterminations, disenrollments, and terminations, stratified by county and demographic data, and including specific data for work and community engagement requirements and exemptions under HR 1.
 - c. Requires the dashboard information to be posted on a quarterly basis in a downloadable format no later than January 1, 2028.
 - d. Requires counties to perform eligibility redeterminations for the Medi-Cal program every six months, pursuant to the requirements of HR 1.
 - e. Requires Medi-Cal beneficiaries to meet work and community engagement requirements, subject to specified exemptions pursuant to the requirements of HR 1.
 - f. Requires DHCS, no later than January 1, 2027, to establish a process to regularly obtain address information for individuals enrolled in Medi-Cal for the purpose of preventing simultaneous enrollment under Medicaid state plans or waivers in multiple states.
 - g. Provides full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to certain qualified immigrants between October 2, 2026 and June 30, 2027, subject to certain service limitations.

- h. Transitions certain qualified immigrants to restricted scope Medi-Cal coverage effective July 1, 2027.
 - i. Transitions Medi-Cal beneficiaries with unsatisfactory immigration status from the managed care delivery system to the fee-for-service delivery system effective no sooner than January 1, 2027.
- 6) Delays the elimination of dental benefits for Medi-Cal beneficiaries with unsatisfactory immigration status until July 1, 2027.
- 7) Delays the elimination of prospective payment system reimbursement of clinics for Medi-Cal beneficiaries with unsatisfactory immigration status until July 1, 2027.
- 8) Makes technical changes to the Breast Cancer Fund and Breast Cancer Control Account.
- 9) Implements reforms to county expenditures and reserves of Behavioral Health Services Fund (BHSF) resources, pursuant to the requirements of SB 326 (Eggman, Chapter 790, Statutes of 2023), approved by voters as Proposition 1, including the following provisions:
 - a. Requires DHCS to, in consultation with the County Behavioral Health Directors Association, establish a methodology for determining annual minimum expenditure levels for BHSF resources, using the average amount of distributed funds for a county in the preceding three years.
 - b. Beginning in fiscal year 2028-29, requires DHCS to calculate minimum expenditure levels for each county for the following three fiscal years, with annual updates.
 - c. Beginning in fiscal year 2029-30, requires counties to annually spend an amount of distributed BHSF funds equal to, or greater than, the minimum expenditure level calculated for that fiscal year.
 - d. Authorizes counties to spend funds from their prudent reserves during a fiscal year in which the department publishes a revised minimum expenditure level, during a fiscal year when the amount of distributed funds is less than the minimum expenditure level, or during a fiscal year in which

the county determines there has been a change in local behavioral health needs or circumstances such that transfers from the prudent reserve are necessary to maintain behavioral health services, respond to local, state, or federally declared emergencies, or mitigate unanticipated fiscal constraints.

- 10) Aligns state standards for substance use disorder treatment facilities licensed or certified by DHCS with current, evidence-based standards of care, and updates outdated clinical terminology for substance use disorder treatment in state law.
- 11) Beginning July 1, 2027, revises the asset limit for determining Medi-Cal eligibility for seniors and persons with disabilities from \$130,000 per individual and \$65,000 for each additional household member, to \$21,000 per individual, \$31,000 per couple, and \$1,550 for each additional household member.
- 12) Requires the Governor's 2027-28 May Revision to include the level of monthly premiums imposed on Medi-Cal beneficiaries with unsatisfactory immigration status, between \$30 and \$50, beginning on July 1, 2027.
- 13) Authorizes redirection of medical loss ratio (MLR) remittances from Medi-Cal managed care plans from the Medi-Cal Loan Repayment Program Special Fund to the General Fund.
- 14) Authorizes DHCS to apply to the federal government for renewal of the California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM) waiver, and authorizes DHCS to implement employment supports and BridgeCare as CalAIM initiative components.
- 15) Suspends until July 1, 2027, statutory provisions that automatically grant provisional enrollment status as a provider in the Medi-Cal program if certain application determination deadlines are not met.
- 16) Deletes the 2026-27 and 2027-28 fiscal years from legislative intent language regarding years in which the state will not provide a cost-of-doing-business adjustment to counties for eligibility workload related to the Medi-Cal program, consistent with the provision of such an adjustment to counties in the 2026 Budget Act.

- 17) Authorizes CDPH to utilize AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Fund to support the following programs to reduce transmission of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and provide other related services, as follows:
- a. For the 2026-27 fiscal year:
 - i. \$33.8 million, available over four years, for pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis initiation and retention projects.
 - ii. \$14.5 million, available over four years, for rapid antiretroviral therapy projects.
 - iii. \$14.1 million, available over four years, for HIV and aging projects.
 - iv. \$30 million, available over three years, for emergency department syndemic screening projects.
 - v. \$550,000 to fund Hepatitis C testing training.
 - vi. \$640,000 annually for four years, to support state operations personnel to implement these programs
 - vii. \$16.3 million annually for four years to support the California Overdose Prevention and Harm Reduction Initiative (COPHRI).
 - b. For the 2027-28 fiscal year:
 - i. \$30 million, available over six years, for the Syphilis and Congenital Syphilis Outbreak Strategy.
 - ii. \$10 million annually for three years for the Harm Reduction Supply Clearinghouse.
 - iii. \$5 million annually for three years for the Two-Spirit, Transgender, Gender Nonconforming, and Intersex (2TGI) Wellness and Equity Fund.
 - iv. \$3.4 million, available over five years, to implement strategies to maintain HIV viral suppression among state prison inmates released to the community.
 - v. \$200,000 annually for three years for the TakeMeHome program to allow the program to offer delivery of home test kits for HIV, STIs and hepatitis C through delivery services in addition to the mail.
 - vi. \$19 million to provide housing support for individuals living with HIV.
 - vii. \$25 million annually for three years to supplement federal HIV Prevention funding for CDPH and local health departments, with portions of these funds set aside for efforts to conduct outreach to migrant farmworkers.
 - viii. \$25 million annually for three years to supplement Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program funding.

- c. For the 2028-29 fiscal year:
 - i. \$18 million, available over two years, to provide housing support for individuals living with HIV.
 - ii. \$10 million, available over five years, to support investments to end the epidemic of hepatitis C.
 - iii. \$8 million, available over five years, for demonstration projects to improve health and well-being of Californians living with, or at risk for, hepatitis B.
 - iv. \$8.5 million to make internal and external condoms available, aimed at preventing the transmission of HIV and STIs.
 - d. For the 2029-30 fiscal year:
 - i. \$30 million, available over three years, for the Emergency Department Syphilis/HIV/Hepatitis C Virus Screening Program.
- 18) Authorizes CDPH to utilize ADAP Rebate Funds of up to \$50 million to support continuation of state or local agencies or other entities providing federally-funded services that have been delayed, reduced, canceled, or eliminated as a result of federal policy actions.
- 19) Clarifies that CDPH may utilize ADAP Rebate Funds to support state and local disease intervention and investigation activities and services for HIV, STIs, hepatitis C, mPox, and other sexually or physically transmissible communicable diseases.
- 20) Imposes a moratorium on the licensure of new home health agencies until 90 days following the effective date of revised regulations, and imposes other requirements on such agencies.
- 21) Clarifies the responsibilities of providers participating in a standby perinatal services pilot program authorized by SB 669 (McGuire, Chapter 603, Statutes of 2025).
- 22) Establishes licensing requirements on general acute care hospitals seeking to obtain licensure for composite distinct part skilled nursing facilities that are part of the hospital's campus.

Department of State Hospitals (DSH)

- 23) Includes statutory changes to remove the June 30, 2026 sunset date for the Independent Placement Panel (IPP) program at the Department of State Hospitals, and makes other technical and conforming changes. IPP was established in the 2022 budget package to facilitate placements in Conditional Release Programs (CONREPs) and increase availability of DSH beds for incompetent to stand trial (IST) placements SB 184 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review], Chapter 47, Statutes of 2022). Through the IPP program, a panel of independent evaluators help identify, evaluate, and find placements for individuals at appropriate CONREPs throughout the state.

California Health Benefits Exchange (Covered California)

- 24) Authorizes the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund to support the one-dollar premium subsidy program that covers the one dollar per member per month required for inclusion of abortion services in qualified health plans in the Covered California health benefit exchange.

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

Authorizes the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund to support the one-dollar premium subsidy program that covers the one dollar per member per month required for inclusion of abortion services in qualified health plans in the Covered California health benefit exchange.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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
6/29/26 14:35:27

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 165
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Skilled nursing facilities: reimbursement rates

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends for one year, until December 31, 2027, the quality assurance fee and reimbursement rate structure for free-standing skilled nursing facilities, originally authorized by AB 1629 (Frommer, Chapter 875, Statutes of 2004), as subsequently amended.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes various changes to the quality assurance fee and reimbursement rate structure for free-standing skilled nursing facilities. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Extends for one year, until December 31, 2027, the quality assurance fee imposed on free-standing skilled nursing facilities originally authorized by AB 1629 (Frommer), Chapter 874, Statutes of 2004.
- 2) Extends for one year, until December 31, 2027, the facility-specific reimbursement rate structure for free-standing skilled nursing facilities, including specific provisions related to the component of the rate attributable to the facility's labor costs.

- 3) Provides that this is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect.

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

Extends for one year, until December 31, 2027, the quality assurance fee imposed on free-standing skilled nursing facilities originally authorized by AB 1629 (Frommer, Chapter 874, Statutes of 2004).

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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
6/29/26 14:35:30

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 166
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Public resources trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is a natural resources and environmental protection 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) Provides technical clarification and clean-up language to SB 345 (Hurtado, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2025): California Fire Service Training and Education Program: California Fire and Arson Training Act: fees.
- 2) Provides technical changes related to the Generation and Handling Fee, which among other things, include the following:
 - a. Authorizes the Department of Toxic Substances Control and the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to continue to administer and collect the fee if it was due and payable on or before September 30, 2022, rather than on or before June 30, 2022.

- b. Changes the standard of proof for imposing a penalty from “willfully or knowingly” (intentional and conscious act) to “preponderance of the evidence” (more likely than not) of a feepayer who provides incorrect information or withholds information that results in a deficient payment or nonpayment.

- 3) Extends the Plastic Market Development Payment Program from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2029, and increases the maximum payment rate per ton from \$150 to \$250.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Joanne Roy / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:30

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 168
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Public Resources

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is the omnibus Public Resources budget trailer bill and contains provisions necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS:

This bill:

- 1) Establishes a new light-duty zero-emission electric vehicle incentive program for first-time zero-emission electric vehicle buyers, with specific parameters on vehicle price, weight, and in-state use.
- 2) Specifies the vice chair of the California Energy Commission shall receive an annual salary that is the midpoint between the annual salary of the other commission members and that of the chairperson, starting July 1, 2027.
- 3) Specifies that a contract with the Western Climate Initiative (WCI), Inc. is considered a membership contract to clarify procurement processes and streamline payment for administration of environmental program services.

- 4) Replaces the phrase “additional annual contributions” with “annual contributions” in statutes related to the Wildfire Fund, among other technical and clarifying changes.
- 5) Authorizes the California Energy Commission to transfer approximately \$22 million in appropriated, unused state General Fund and special fund monies from the Distributed Electricity Back-up Assets (DEBA) program to the Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS) program.

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

Authorizes the California Energy Commission to transfer approximately \$22 million in appropriated, unused state General Fund and special fund monies from the Distributed Electricity Back-up Assets (DEBA) program to the Demand Side Grid Support (DSGS) program.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Eunice Roh / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:31

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 169
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Transportation budget trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is the omnibus Transportation budget trailer bill and contains provisions necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS:

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to participate in American Association of Motor Vehicle Administrators (AAMVA)'s State-to-State (S2S) Verification System to enable compliance with federal REAL ID Act requirements, while establishing first-in-the-nation privacy, oversight, and accountability safeguards to protect Californians. Specifically, the bill:
 - a. Authorizes DMV to share social security numbers solely for the purpose of verifying and exchanging driver's license, ID card, and driver history records with other participating states.
 - b. Limits data sharing to only that required by federal law: name, date of birth, social security number (SSN), state of record, license/ID number, credential

type, REAL ID indicator, and Commercial Driver License Information System indicator. Limits sharing of SSN to only last 5 digits, until a match is confirmed. Requires DMV to disclose on its website a list of the information shared through the S2S system.

- c. Prohibits sharing of sensitive data including address, photograph, gender marker, biometric data, and AB 60 (undocumented-eligible) license status, unless required by federal law.
- d. Requires annual reporting to the Legislature's budget and privacy committees, and on DMV's website (starting Feb. 1, 2028), detailing requests by jurisdiction, reason, and any detected misuse, breaches of contract, or AAMVA policy changes that might affect Californians' privacy.
- e. Requires DMV, to adopt and maintain a monitoring plan to minimize data sharing, respond to data breaches and abuses of the S2S system by any participating jurisdiction, notify affected Californians if their data has been accessed for purposes other than DL/ID verification, and take other actions to protect the privacy of Californians, including keeping audit-logs of all data requests, implementing anomaly detection, heightened review of high-risk jurisdictions, and limiting, delaying or declining bulk, batch, exploratory or automated queries.
- f. Establishes a stakeholder advisory group including representation from the Department of Justice, with members appointed by the Senate and Assembly, including privacy, immigrant rights, LGBTQ+ rights, and reproductive justice advocates to convene twice annually by November 1, 2026, to inform the Monitoring Plan.
- g. Requires DMV to notify AAMVA, Department of Justice (DOJ), and any affected Californians if a jurisdiction is suspected of misusing S2S data. Requires DMV to refer any suspected misuse to the DOJ for potential prosecution.
- h. Authorizes the Attorney General (AG) to bring actions on behalf of any affected Californians against AAMVA, participating states, or others to enforce the provisions and seek injunctive relief.
- i. Conditions DMV's participation on a contractual agreement with AAMVA that is consistent with these statutory requirements, including data

minimization, breach notice, access restrictions, suspension triggers for misuse, and a 14-day (or shorter) data retention cap for other states. Prohibits DMV from agreeing to any amendment to its contract with AAMVA that reduces, conflicts with, delays, or waives the privacy protections of California residents or the department's ability to detect, prevent, and respond to unauthorized requests.

- j. Requires DMV to notify the Legislature at least 30 days in advance of any material modifications of contractual data-sharing terms with AAMVA.
 - k. Requires the State Auditor to conduct an audit of DMV's compliance with these requirements no later than January 1, 2030. Does not impair ability of Legislature to request an audit prior to that date.
- 2) Authorizes automated enforcement of the State Highway System portion of the Games Route Network for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympic and Paralympic Games.
 - 3) Increases the cap on the mobile driver license pilot program from 15 percent to 60 percent of licensed drivers.
 - 4) Requires the High-Speed Rail Authority Office of Inspector General to produce publicly available reports of its reviews and investigations, subject only to limited exceptions, and create a clear statutory framework for retention and protection of workpapers and other communications.
 - 5) Suspends penalties for not maintaining the prescribed ratio of fare revenues to operating costs on transit operators during the 2026-27 fiscal year and exempts transit operators from meeting specified efficiency standards through the 2026-27 fiscal year.
 - 6) Requires the California Department of Transportation to reserve \$30 million of state transportation funds for the High Road Construction Careers program.
 - 7) Increases the cap on the State Route 710 Rehabilitation Account, for the purpose of providing repairs to homes for affordable sales, from \$1.2 million to \$15 million.
 - 8) Eliminates requirements for the Department of Motor Vehicle to send driver license expiration courtesy notices via mail, print driver license handbooks, and

mail new disabled person parking placards every two years, among other changes to streamline customer communications and operations.

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

Increases the cap on the State Route 710 Rehabilitation Account from \$1.2 million to \$15 million.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Eunice Roh / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:35

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 170
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-5, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

SUBJECT: Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2025: codification

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill, a housing budget trailer, contains various statutory changes related to the Governor's Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2025 necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS:

This bill:

- 1) Enacts the statutory changes necessary to reflect portions of the changes in law made by the Governor's Reorganization Plan (GRP) No. 1 of 2025, including:
 - a. Assigning and reorganizing the functions of state government among executive officers and agencies by eliminating the Business, Consumer Services and Housing (BCSH) Agency as of July 1, 2026.
 - b. Establishing the Business and Consumer Services Agency and the California Housing and Homelessness Agency, composed of specified departments that are currently within BCSH, effective July 1, 2026.

- 2) Appropriates \$300,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of supplementing existing contracts pursuant to statutory requirements to translate specified guidelines.

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

The bill appropriates \$300,000 to the Department of Housing and Community Development for the purpose of supplementing existing contracts pursuant to statutory requirements to translate specified guidelines.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Timothy Griffiths / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:32

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 171
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-3, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NOES: Niello, Choi, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Grove, Ochoa Bogh

SUBJECT: Labor

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is an omnibus trailer bill related to labor, workforce development and employment and contains changes to implement the 2026-27 Budget Act. This bill makes various statutory changes to implement the employment provisions of the Budget Act of 2026-27.

ANALYSIS:

This bill:

- 1) Makes changes to the Subsequent Injury Benefits Trust Fund (SIBTF) program to better align program requirements with the existing workers' compensation benefit program. Statutory changes specify the circumstances under which the above program changes do not apply.
- 2) Aligns the reporting requirement timelines relating to various grant programs, including requiring the California Workforce Development Board to produce and submit a report to the Legislature evaluating those grant programs by October 1 of every odd-numbered year, and other conforming changes.

- 3) Repeals the sunset date to make permanent changes to the timeline in which the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board acts on petitions for reconsideration.
- 4) Requires payment of the annual employer assessment by electronic funds transfer (EFT) and provides the Director of the Department of Industrial Relations with the discretionary authority to reduce or waive penalties.
- 5) Removes the salary cap for the Administrative Director of the Division of Workers' Compensation within the Department of Industrial Relations to align with other comparable positions.
- 6) Appropriates \$1 million one-time General Fund for administrative costs to implement the Fair Share Act as enacted by Assembly Bill 177 or Senate Bill 177.
- 7) Appropriates \$3.02 billion in one-time General Fund for a supplemental payment toward the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) state plans' unfunded liabilities using available Proposition 2 debt repayment funding.

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

This bill is a budget trailer bill within the overall 2026-27 budget package to implement actions related to labor, workforce development, and employment and makes various appropriations.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Diego Emilio J. Lopez / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:34

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 172
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Durazo, Hurtado, McNerney,
Menjivar, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Choi, Grove, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: State government

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This general government trailer bill contains the necessary changes to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2026.

ANALYSIS: This bill makes various statutory changes to implement the general state government provisions of the Budget Act of 2026. Specifically, this bill makes the following statutory changes:

- 1) Transfers the California Education Learning Lab from the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to the Government Operations Agency and codifies program details.
- 2) Creates an Enterprise Fund related to the Middle Mile Broadband Initiative at the California Department of Technology for the receipt of Initiative Revenues and includes Joint Legislative Budget Committee notification provisions for certain contracts related to the Middle Mile Broadband Initiative Program.

- 3) Exempts certain expenditures for specified categories of administrative costs from the statutory 5 percent limitation on indirect costs from the Department of Food and Agriculture Fund.
- 4) Provides that the Department of Food and Agriculture shall provide clerical services to the State Race Track Leasing Commission.
- 5) Sunset the existing exemptions for Fi\$cal onboarding processes that exist through the California Department of Technology, as FI\$Cal is no longer an IT project.
- 6) Repeals a disclosure requirement which was previously printed on tax bills for certain properties related to SB 989 (Hertzberg) Chapter 712, Statutes of 2022.
- 7) Includes statutory changes related to Middle Eastern and North African Inclusion Act (MENA Inclusion Act) relating to delayed implementation, deidentification, and certain other technical and clarifying provisions.
- 8) Continuously appropriates the Victims of Consumer Fraud Restitution (VCFR) Fund to the Attorney General. The VCFR Fund was established by AB 1366 (Maienschein), Chapter 686, Statutes of 2023 to receive restitution intended for victims of consumer fraud, but the Department of Justice does not currently have authority to distribute funds out of the account.
- 9) Includes the following statutory changes related to the Next Generation 911 project at the Office of Emergency Services (OES):
 - a. Requires an independent technical evaluation before OES issues a request for proposals or awards a long-term Next Generation 911 contract. Specifically, the evaluator shall do all of the following:
 - i. Describe and assess options to deliver cost-effective, safe, and reliable Next Generation 911 system services to the state.
 - ii. Identify a recommended option.
 - iii. Provide a preliminary report by December 15, 2026.
 - iv. Provide a final report by May 1, 2027.
 - b. Makes various changes to the State 911 Advisory Board, including having the board members elect a chair and allowing the board to make formal recommendations.
 - c. Requires specified quarterly reporting on the project.

- 10) Establishes the Office of Regional Economic Development Initiatives within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to support regional partners in developing, maintaining and implementing their regional economic development strategies.
- 11) Requires local jurisdictions to submit specified portions of their Annual Progress Reports to the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (GO-LCI), using standards, forms, and definitions adopted by GO-LCI.
- 12) Authorizes the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (GO-LCI) to charge fees for the submission documents pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to offset the cost of operating the CEQA Clearinghouse database. Permits GO-LCI to include additional planning, permitting, funding, and procurement information in the database "for the purposes of facilitating efficient and informed decision-making by public agencies and members of the public."
- 13) Codifies the Farm to School program within the Department of Food and Agriculture as the "Farm to School Act".
- 14) Includes statutory changes related to procurement processes and efficiencies at the Department of General Services, including changes relating to software license purchases, electronic submissions, certifications, and departmental access to Architectural and Engineering Services.
- 15) Includes statutory changes allowing for fee increases at the State Athletic Commission.
- 16) Eliminates the sunset date of December 31, 2030, for the Projected Temporary Surplus Account, making the account permanent.

FISCAL EFFECT: This bill would require transfers and expenditures related to continuously appropriated funds and the provisions of this bill are necessary to implement the requirements of the 2026-27 Budget.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: Yes

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Jessica Uzarski / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:35

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 174
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21- Urgency

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 18-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Laird, Niello, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Choi, Durazo, Grove,
Hurtado, McNerney, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Seyarto,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson

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

SUBJECT: Courts

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill, as part of the 2026-27 Budget package, makes the following statutory changes:

ANALYSIS: This bill:

- 1) Makes the following changes related to remote court proceedings:
 - a) Extends the sunset on specified court proceedings, including certain criminal, civil, and juvenile matters, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2032.
 - b) Clarifies the standard in which a court may require an in-person appearance at specified civil matters, including a judicial assessment that in-person appearance is necessary to the determination of, or that remote attendance would materially impair the resolution of, the hearing.
 - c) Beginning January 1, 2027, requires courts to provide a reason for requiring an in-person appearance at specified civil matters, and requires the reason to be documented in the record or in an order or form.

- 2) Extends the deadline for superior courts to provide court users with access to lactation rooms as required by AB 1576 (Committee on Judiciary), Chapter 200, Statutes of 2022 from July 1, 2026 to July 1, 2029.
- 3) Appropriates \$100,000 General Fund to the Judicial Council for facility modifications related to lactation rooms.

FISCAL EFFECT: The provisions of this bill are necessary to implement the requirements of the 2026-27 Budget Act.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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: Nora Brackbill / B. & F.R. / (916) 651-4103
6/29/26 14:35:36

**** **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 180
Author: Committee on Budget
Amended: 6/26/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUDGET & FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: 18-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Laird, Niello, Archuleta, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Choi, Durazo, Grove, Hurtado, McNERNEY, Menjivar, Ochoa Bogh, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Weber Pierson

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

SUBJECT: Taxation trailer bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill is a taxation 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 the CalCompetes Tax Credit Program, which provides financial incentives to attract and retain private companies that agree to hire and invest in California, until January 1, 2035 and allows a maximum amount of \$180 million in credits in each fiscal year. The current CalCompetes Tax Credit Program is authorized until January 1, 2030.
- 2) Conforms state tax treatment of the new individual retirement accounts established by federal House Resolution (H.R.) 1 for the benefit of children under the age of 18, with federal law, commencing with tax year 2026. This tax conformity aligns treatment of these accounts with conformity for similar tax-advantaged savings and retirement accounts.
- 3) Commencing July 1, 2026, increases the amount available for manufactured homes property tax disbursements from the Senior Citizens and Disabled

Property Tax Postponement Fund to \$300,000 per year. Currently, the disbursements specifically for manufactured homes are capped at one percent of the amount available in the fund in each fiscal year.

- 4) Makes other technical corrections to Revenue and Taxation Code section 17941, related to changes included in Section 26 of SB 122 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review).

FISCAL EFFECT: The provisions of this bill result in future revenue impacts when tax credits are claimed in future years.

In addition, conforming state tax treatment with the new individual retirement accounts will result in minor one-time costs for the Franchise Tax Board.

Appropriation: Yes Fiscal Com.: Yes Local: No

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/26)

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
6/29/26 14:50:52

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 312
Author: Alanis (R)
Introduced: 1/23/25
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, Ashby, McNerney, Padilla

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 4/1/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Agricultural theft prevention: retention and sale of agricultural
commodity: holding and deposit of proceeds

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires an agricultural commissioner to hold the proceeds of the sale of an agricultural commodity that was seized from someone who was in unlawful possession of the commodity for at least 3 months before depositing the proceeds into the general fund of the county.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) States if, for any reason, an agricultural commodity is not released to the rightful owner after being in custody of the commissioner for 48 hours or, in the case of a highly perishable commodity, any shorter period of time that the commissioner deems necessary, the commissioner may either:
 - a) Sell the commodity by public auction or by private sale at fair market value to a commercial packer of the commodity.
 - b) Donate the commodity to a nonprofit charitable organization.

- 2) If sold, the proceeds derived from the sale of the commodity be held by the commissioner for a period of at least six months before depositing to allow time for the lawful owner of the commodity to submit satisfactory proof of ownership and obtain possession of the proceeds.
- 3) If, after retention of the proceeds for at least six months, no demand is made or if proof of ownership is not supplied, the commissioner shall deposit the proceeds of the sale of the commodity in the general fund of the county.
- 4) If the commodity is unfit for human consumption, the commissioner may destroy it.

This bill requires the commissioner to hold the proceeds of the sale of a commodity for at least 3 months instead of at least 6 months before depositing them into the general fund of the county.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“Agricultural commodity theft is a serious issue in farming regions, especially in my district and the greater Central Valley. From my experience in law enforcement, I’ve seen firsthand how this affects businesses. While law enforcement and state personnel work hard to return seized goods to their rightful owners, situations that last more than 48 hours or involve perishable commodities may require the agricultural commissioner to sell the items. This can be done through a public auction or a private sale at fair market value to a commercial packer.

I’ve introduced AB 312 measure to simplify the process of depositing funds from the sale of confiscated agricultural commodities when the owner doesn’t claim them within three months. The sale proceeds would go into the county general fund, which helps support ongoing agricultural inspections and enforcement efforts.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 4/1/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Essayli, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, 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, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Davies, DeMaio, Lee, Wicks

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508

7/1/26 16:54:53

**** 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 442
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 6/1/26 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, 1/29/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973: working forest
management plans: nonindustrial timber management plans

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes changes to the areas eligible for timber harvest under a Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP) or a Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines a “nonindustrial tree farmer” as an owner of timberland with less than 2,500 acres, with an approved NTMP, and who is not primarily engaged in the manufacture of forest products (Public Resources Code (PRC) § 4593.2(b)).
- 2) Defines a “nonindustrial timber management plan” as a management plan for nonindustrial timberlands that may include multiple nonindustrial tree farmers, but covers no more than 2,500 acres (PRC § 4593(e)).
- 3) Defines a “working forest landowner” as an owner of timberland with less than 10,000 acres, with an approved WFMP, who is not primarily engaged in the manufacture of forest products (PRC § 4597.1(i)).

- 4) Defines a “working forest management plan” as a management plan for working forests that may include multiple working forest landowners, but covers no more than 10,000 acres and is contained within a single hydrologic unit (PRC § 4597.1(j)).
- 5) Excludes landowners in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District from using a WFMP to manage their forests (PRC § 4597.22).

This bill:

- 1) Increases the allowable acreage owned by a nonindustrial tree farmer from 2,500 to 4,000 acres.
- 2) Increases the allowable acreage managed under a NTMP from 2,500 to 4,000 acres.
- 3) Increases the allowable acreage owned by a working forest landowner from 10,000 to 15,000 acres.
- 4) Increases the allowable acreage managed under a WFMP from 10,000 to 15,000 acres.
- 5) Repeals the requirement that all the land managed under a WFMP be contained in a single hydrological area.
- 6) Repeals the restriction on the use of the WFMP in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District.

Background

Nonindustrial Timber Management Plan (NTMP). In the late 1980s, the Legislature declared that “a substantial acreage of timberlands of the state are held by private nonindustrial owners and that it is the policy of the state to increase the productivity of these timberlands under prudent management plans to serve the public’s need for timber and other forest products” (PRC § 4593).

The Legislature also noted that prudent management of nonindustrial timberlands causes minimal environmental, and such prudent and responsible management would be encouraged by approving NTMPs in advance and removing government discretion to disapprove harvest notices that are submitted pursuant to an approved NTMPs (PRC § 4593).

The Legislature defined the terms for what timberland owners are eligible to use a NTMP, which include nonindustrial tree farmers. A “nonindustrial tree farmer” is

an owner of less than 2,500 acres who has an approved NTMP and is not primarily engaged in the manufacture of forest products (PRC § 4593.2).

Working Forest Management Plan (WFMP). For smaller timberland owners who intend to become a working forest landowner, the Legislature implemented an alternative timber harvest plan document that allows them to achieve the long-term objectives of an uneven aged timber stand and sustained yield. The WFMP is a management plan “for working forest timberlands, with objectives of maintaining, restoring, or creating uneven aged managed timber stand conditions, achieving sustained yield, and promoting forestland stewardship that protects watersheds, fisheries and wildlife habitats, and other important values” (PRC § 4597.1).

The Legislature defined a working forest landowner as a timberland owner with less than 10,000 acres, and limited WFMPs to include land that was contained within only one hydrologic area. Additionally, timberland owners in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District were excluded from utilizing the WFMP to manage their forests. The Southern Subdistrict is composed of the timberlands in the Counties of Santa Cruz, Santa Clara, San Mateo, San Francisco, and Marin situated within the boundaries of the Coast Forest District.

Increasing Options for Smaller Landowners. Since the NTMP program was initiated in 1989, 75 NTMPs have been filed. A useful tool for smaller landowners who wish to achieve long-term objectives relating to uneven aged timber stands and sustained yield, it can be much more cost-effective for a smaller landowner than filing a full timber harvest plan (THP). Additionally, there are opportunities for cost-share funding under the California Forest Improvement Program (CFIP) that a NTMP could take advantage of. CFIP funding is available for projects up to 5,000 acres, and can fund things like preparation of a forest management plan, forestation, stand improvement, and other forestland conservation practices or fish and wildlife habitat improvement.

By increasing the acreage allowable under an NTMP, additional forest landowners will be able to take advantage of the streamlined NTMP permitting as well as CFIP funds. This provides additional financial incentives to landowners to prudently manage their forests.

Limited uptake of WFMP. According to Department data, only one WFMP has been filed since the program’s inception in 2013. One identified barrier to the use of the WFMP is the requirement that the plan be entirely contained within one hydrologic unit. Parcel lines and ownership patterns typically do not closely follow hydrologic units, preventing landowners who might otherwise qualify for a WFMP to use it for their land.

The State Water Board notes that neither CalWater 2.2.1 nor any of its predecessors is a "pure" watershed map because administrative boundaries such as the state border were used to delineate watershed areas. Some of the boundaries, particularly in developed valley areas, also have legal and administrative purposes other than the representation of actual drainage divides. Further, CalWater is not a legal map document, as it does not represent the Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdictions.

This restriction poses significant burdens on landowners by forcing them to develop a patchwork of WFPMs, NTMPs, and THPs to accommodate watershed boundaries instead of a single WFPM for a harvest area. For example, cutting a tree down pursuant to a WFPM on the top of a ridgeline would violate existing law. The creation of multiple plans instead of a single plan appears to have no environmental benefit. Further, developing multiple plans costs several hundred thousand dollars that could be better used toward fuels management.

Other changes to law proposed in this bill would also increase availability of the WFMP for landowners, by increasing the acreage allowed to be managed under a WFMP to 15,000 acres and repealing a provision that prevented the use of the WFMP in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Foast District.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 901 (Dodd, Chapter 626, Statutes of 2018) specified that a NTMP may include multiple nonindustrial tree farmers, but shall not cover more than 2,500 acres). SB 901 also reduced the acreage eligible for a WFMP from 15,000 to 10,000 acres, and specified that the WFMP must be contained within a single hydrologic area.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Arcata, City of
Bbw & Associates
California Forestry Association
California Licensed Foresters Association
California Rangeland Trust
City of Arcata
Eddie Ranch
Forest Landowners of California
Jefferson Resource Company
Jim Ostrowski Forestry

Mailliard Ranch
 Matt Greene Forestry & Biological Consulting
 North Coast Resource Management
 Rural County Representatives of California
 The Buckeye Conservancy
 Yosemite Mountain Ranch

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, “California’s forests are one of our most vital natural resources, contributing to the environmental, economic, and cultural health of our state. Poorly managed forests create catastrophic wildfire risk, threatening communities, wildlife, and critical infrastructure. Assembly Bill 442 streamlines Working Forest Management Plans by removing a requirement that they cannot include more than one watershed. This bill promotes long-term, sustainable forestry practices for non-industrial landowners while protecting California’s natural resources.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 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, 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, Jackson, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia

Prepared by: Edith Hannigan / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
 7/1/26 16:54:54

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 502
Author: Pellerin (D) and Berman (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-0, 7/1/25

AYES: Cervantes, Allen, Limón, Umberg

NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-2, 7/15/25

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

NOES: Niello, Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 4/24/25 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Elections: deceptive media in advertisements

SOURCE: California Initiative for Technology and Democracy

DIGEST: This bill makes modifications to provisions of law that prohibit anyone, with malice, from knowingly distributing a campaign advertisement or other election communication containing materially deceptive content unless certain conditions are met.

Senate Floor Amendments of 6/25/26 narrow the prohibition period for when materially deceptive media is disseminated, clarify that the prohibited media is about the public confidence in the election's process or outcome, and add an urgency clause.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits anyone, until January 1, 2027, from distributing within 60 days of an election materially deceptive audio or visual media of a candidate with the intent to injure the candidate's reputation or to deceive a voter into voting for or against the candidate.
- 2) Prohibits anyone, beginning January 1, 2027, from producing, distributing, publishing, or broadcasting campaign material that contains a superimposed image of a candidate unless the campaign material includes a disclaimer that the picture is not an accurate representation of fact.
- 3) Prohibits anyone, with malice, from knowingly distributing a campaign advertisement or other election communication containing materially deceptive content unless certain conditions are met.
- 4) Requires any political advertisement that is published or distributed by a political committee, to include a disclaimer if content in the ad was generated or substantially altered using artificial intelligence (AI).

This bill:

- 1) Modifies provisions prohibiting anyone, with malice, from knowingly distributing a campaign advertisement or other election communication containing materially deceptive content unless certain conditions are met.
- 2) Specifies these prohibitions apply 30 days, instead of 120 days, before any election in California in which the candidate is running if the content would be material to a voter's electoral decisions or to public confidence in an election's process or outcome. For elected officials, the prohibitions apply 30 days, instead of 120 days, before any election in California if the content would be material to a voter's electoral decisions or to public confidence in an election's process or outcome. For election officials and election equipment, the prohibitions apply 30 days before an election through 38 days after the election, instead of 120 days before an election through 60 days after the election, if the content is material to public confidence in an election's process or outcome.
- 3) Makes the labeling provisions of this bill consistent with other existing election-related labelling provisions.
- 4) Clarifies the exemption for satire to provide that the prohibition of the law does not apply to an advertisement or other election communication containing materially deceptive content if either of the following criteria is satisfied:
 - a) A reasonable person would understand that the content was satire or parody.

- b) The materially deceptive content includes a disclosure stating the content has been manipulated for purposes of satire or parody and the disclosure complies with specified disclosure requirements.
- 5) Limits who can seek relief to only those depicted in the fraudulent material.
- 6) Makes conforming changes to existing legislative findings and declarations.
- 7) Includes an urgency clause.

Background

Manipulated Media in Campaign Communications. The use of false and deceptive information in campaigns to influence election outcomes is not a new phenomenon. Laws aimed at curbing such practices and preserving the integrity of elections have a long history in California. The inaugural 1850 session of the California State Legislature created penalties for election misconduct, including for “deceiving [an elector] and causing him to vote for a different person for any office than such elector desired or intended to vote for.”

California law today includes various provisions criminalizing deceptive tactics that undermine election integrity or interfere with voters’ ability to participate in elections. This includes laws that prohibit distribution of false and misleading information about qualifications to vote or about the days, dates, times, and places where voting may occur; the misleading use of government seals in campaign literature; and coercing or deceiving a person into voting in a way that was inconsistent with the person’s intent.

Artificial Intelligence and Elections. On June 4, 2024, the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments and the Assembly Committee on Elections held a joint information hearing focusing on AI and elections.

The purpose of the hearing was to inform and assist the Legislature in making informed decisions on legislation related to AI-generated and altered content. It became evident that the ease with which people can create and spread mis- and disinformation creates a world where many people may have trouble determining what is fact and what is fiction.

State Action. AB 3075 (Berman, Chapter 241, Statutes of 2018) established the Office of Elections Cybersecurity (OEC), also known as the Election Security Program, in the Secretary of State’s (SOS) office. The OEC has two primary missions. First, it is responsible for coordinating efforts between the SOS and local election officials to reduce the likelihood and severity of cyber incidents that

could interfere with the security or integrity of elections in California. Second, the OEC is tasked with monitoring and counteracting false or misleading information regarding the electoral process that is published online or on other platforms that may suppress voter participation, cause confusion, or disrupt the ability to ensure a secure election. According to the OEC's website, the office serves California with the sole purpose of keeping every Californian's vote safe from online interference, especially the spread of mis- and disinformation.

AB 730 (Berman, Chapter 493, Statutes of 2019) addressed concerns that deepfake technology could be used to spread misinformation in political campaigns.

"Deepfake technology" is software capable of producing a realistic looking video of someone saying or doing something they did not actually say or do.

AB 730 prohibits anyone from distributing deceptive audio or visual media with actual malice and the intent to injure a candidate's reputation or to deceive a voter, unless the media includes a disclaimer that it has been manipulated. AB 730 does not apply exclusively to deepfakes; it also applies to any intentional manipulation of audio or visual images where a reasonable person would be misled into believing it was authentic. AB 730 focused on materially deceptive representations of candidates, and not on deceptive media of other aspects of the electoral process. AB 730 included a January 1, 2023, sunset date, but AB 972 (Berman, Chapter 745, Statutes of 2022) extended the sunset date to January 1, 2027.

AB 2839 (Pellerin, Chapter 262, Statutes of 2024) prohibited the distribution of digitally altered, materially deceptive campaign advertisements and other election communications close to an election. Following the chaptering of the bill, several entities challenged the law alleging First Amendment and other constitutional violations. A federal district court in Sacramento granted the plaintiffs' motion for summary judgement and found that the plaintiffs are entitled to a permanent injunction.

Comments

Author's Statement, "AI-fueled deepfakes and disinformation can adversely impact elections by deceiving voters, impacting voter turnout, and undermining election results and election security. In 2024, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed AB 2839, which prohibited, during times near an election, election-related deepfakes that sought to intentionally deceive voters about that election. AB 2839 was enjoined shortly after it was signed into law.

This bill addresses the court’s concerns by narrowly tailoring the application of AB 2839 to 30 days before an election and otherwise narrowing the bill to better withstand constitutional challenge. These changes will make it easier for a court to uphold AB 2839 and ensure election integrity in California.”

First Amendment Considerations. The First Amendment to the United States Constitution provides in relevant part “Congress shall make no law...abridging the freedom of speech...” Similarly, Section 2 of Article I of the California Constitution provides in relevant part, “Every person may freely speak, write, and publish his or her sentiments on all subjects, being responsible for the abuse of this right. A law may not restrain or abridge liberty of speech or press.”

A question could be raised about whether this bill is consistent with the right to freedom of speech that both the U.S. Constitution and California Constitution guarantee. The U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that the First Amendment even protects false statements (*United States v. Alvarez* (2012), 567 U.S. 709). When a law burdens core political speech, the restrictions on speech generally must be “narrowly tailored to serve an overriding state interest,” *McIntyre v. Ohio Elections Commission* (1995, 514 US 334).

This bill builds upon AB 2839 that targeted deceptive content that could undermine trust in elections, prevent voters from voting, and distort the electoral process. The U.S. Supreme Court generally has found that the protection of the integrity of elections is an overriding (or compelling) government interest (*Id.* at 349; *Burson v. Freeman* (1992) 504 U.S. 191, 199). A challenge of this bill on First Amendment grounds would likely center on whether this bill’s provisions are more narrowly tailored as compared to AB 2839.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 686 (Berman of 2026) extends the sunset date for the provisions in AB 730, and extended by AB 972, from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2031.

AB 2839 (Pellerin, Chapter 262, Statutes of 2024) prohibited the distribution of digitally altered, materially deceptive campaign advertisements and other election communications close to an election.

AB 2355 (Wendy Carrillo, Chapter 260, Statutes of 2024) required a campaign committee that creates, originally publishes, or originally distributes a political advertisement utilizing AI to include a disclosure stating that the audio, image, or video was generated or substantially altered using AI.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Initiative for Technology and Democracy (Source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

Electronic Frontier Foundation

First Amendment Coalition

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 4/24/25

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, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, 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: Chen, Gallagher, Harabedian, Lackey

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106

7/1/26 16:13:00

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 643
Author: Wilson (D)
Amended: 6/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-4, 1/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Climate change: short-lived climate pollutants: organic waste reduction

SOURCE: Valley Sanitary District

DIGEST: This bill allows a local jurisdiction to count organic material used as a beneficial agricultural amendment for up to 10% of its recovered organic waste procurement target if the material meets specified conditions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to develop a comprehensive strategy to reduce the emissions of short-lived climate pollutants (SLCP) to achieve a 40% reduction in methane emissions, a 40% reduction in hydrofluorocarbon gases, and a 50% reduction in anthropogenic black carbon below 2013 levels by 2030. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) §§ 39730-39730.5)
- 2) Requires the state to reduce the disposal of organic waste by 40% from the 2014 level by 2020 and 75% by 2025 to help achieve the state's methane reduction goal. (HSC § 39730.6)

- 3) Requires the Department of Resource Recovery and Recycling (CalRecycle), in consultation with CARB, to adopt regulations to achieve the state's organic waste reduction requirements. Specifies that the regulations, in part:
- a) May require jurisdictions to impose requirements on generators or other relevant entities within their jurisdiction and may authorize local jurisdictions to impose penalties on generators for noncompliance;
 - b) Include requirements intended to meet the goal that not less than 20% of edible food is recovered for human consumption by 2025;
 - c) Specify that penalties for the organic waste procurement target established by CalRecycle shall be imposed on the following schedule:
 - i) On or after January 1, 2023, each jurisdiction shall procure a quantity of recovered organic waste products that meet or exceed 30% of its recovered organic waste procurement target;
 - ii) On or after January 1, 2024, each jurisdiction shall procure a quantity of recovered organic waste products that meet or exceed 65% of its recovered organic waste procurement target; and,
 - iii) On and after January 1, 2025, each jurisdiction shall procure a quantity of recovered organic waste products that meet or exceed 100% of its recovered organic waste procurement target.
 - d) Allow a local jurisdiction to count the following toward its recovered organic waste procurement targets:
 - i) compost from vermicomposting;
 - ii) operations composting green material, agricultural material, food material, or vegetative food material if the total amount of feedstock and compost onsite does not exceed 100 cubic yards and 750 square feet;
 - iii) mushroom compost;
 - iv) mulch produced from tree trimming operations or recovered edible food for up to 10% of its target;
 - v) pipeline biomethane converted exclusively from organic waste diverted from a landfill;

- vi) direct expenditures toward investments in community composting, equipment used to apply compost or mulch, or the development of compost or mulch distribution sites for up to 10% of its target using a conversion of \$21.38 for each ton of organic waste. (Public Resources Code (PRC) § 42652.5)
- 4) Beginning January 1, 2022, requires a jurisdiction to annually procure a specified quantity of recovered organic waste products that meets or exceeds its annual organic waste procurement target. Specifies that the organic waste procurement target is calculated by multiplying the per capita procurement target (0.8 tons per resident per year) by the jurisdiction's population. (Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 18993.1)
- 5) Specifies that the organic waste procurement target may be met by procuring:
 - a) Compost from a compost facility or in-vessel digestion facility;
 - b) Renewable gas used for transportation, electricity, or heating applications;
 - c) Electricity from biomass conversion; and,
 - d) Mulch, as specified. (Tit. 14 CCR § 18993.1)
- 6) Defines "solid waste disposal" and "disposal" as "the final deposition of solid wastes onto land, into the atmosphere, or into the waters of the state." (PRC § 40192)
- 7) Defines "transformation" as "incineration, pyrolysis, distillation, or biological conversion other than composting." And further:
 - a) Excludes "composting, gasification, EMSW conversion, or biomass conversion" from the definition of "transformation" (PRC § 40201)
- 8) Defines organic waste as food waste, green waste, landscape and pruning waste, nonhazardous wood waste, and food-soiled paper waste that is mixed with food waste. (PRC § 42649.8(d))
- 9) Define biosolids as solid, semi-solid, or liquid residue generated during the treatment of domestic sewage in a treatment works (14 CCR § 17852)
- 10) Requires every person who manufactures or distributes fertilizing materials to obtain a license from the Secretary of Food and Agriculture for each plant and business location. (Food and Agriculture Code (FAC) § 14591)

This bill allows a local jurisdiction to count the following toward their recovered organic waste procurement target:

- 1) beneficial agricultural amendments derived from organic waste and processed with biosolids for up to 10% of its recovered organic waste product procurement target (calculated using the dry weight of the material), if the beneficial agricultural amendments meet the following conditions:
 - a) Are processed at a facility authorized by CalRecycle using approved technologies;
 - b) Are approved for end use as a fertilizing material by the Department of Food and Agriculture;
 - c) Are not derived from activities which constitute solid waste disposal, disposal, or transformation, including:
 - i) Facilities that produce fuels or energy through transformation;
 - ii) Municipal solid waste conversion; or
 - iii) Other disposal methods.
- 2) Operations composting green material, agricultural material, food material, or vegetative food material if the total amount of feedstock and compost onsite does not exceed 200 to 500 cubic yards.

Background

Organic waste in California. SB 1383 (Lara) requires CARB to approve and implement a comprehensive SLCP strategy to achieve, from 2013 levels, a 40% reduction in methane, a 40% reduction in hydrofluorocarbon gases, and a 50% reduction in anthropogenic black carbon, by 2030. To accomplish these goals, the law specifies that the methane emission reduction goals include targets to reduce the landfill disposal of organic waste, including food, 50% by 2020 and 75% by 2025 from the 2014 level. An estimated 40 million tons of waste are disposed of in California's landfills annually.¹ 48% of landfilled material is organic waste.²

The 2020 Analysis of the Progress Toward SB 1383 Organic Waste Reduction Goals from CalRecycle states that “in 2025 there will be an additional 5.5 million tons of compost and more than 14 billion cubic feet of biomethane produced as a

¹ CalRecycle. (2021) *Disposal Facility-Based Waste Characterization Study*. <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/wcs/dbstudy/>

² CalRecycle. *Organic Materials Management*. <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/>

result of SB 1383 implementation” but does not explicitly state if the 2020 waste diversion goal was met.³ Additionally, CalRecycle reports that as of 2022, 97% of jurisdictions have residential organics collection.⁴

SB 1383 also requires that by 2025, 20% of edible food that would otherwise be sent to landfills is redirected to feed people. Specifically, the law requires jurisdictions to establish food recovery programs and strengthen existing food recovery networks, food donors to arrange to recover the maximum amount of edible food, and food recovery organizations and services that participate in SB 1383 to maintain specified records. In 2024, 231,766 tons of edible food were recovered.⁴ Since 2022, over 1 billion meals went to Californians in need.⁴

Challenges to recycling organic waste. Organic waste recycling includes a variety of methods:

- 1) *Composting.* Organic waste is primarily recycled through composting, which is a process through which organic waste biodegrades into compost. Compost can be used in agriculture as a soil amendment or for engineering purposes such as slope stabilization. Some organic waste can be composted residentially, such as in a backyard; other organic waste must be industrially composted.
- 2) *Anaerobic digestion.* Anaerobic digestion is an industrial process through which organic waste is broken down using bacteria in the absence of oxygen. Anaerobic digestion produces biomethane and digestate. Biomethane is an energy source. Digestate can be used as fertilizer, as feedstock for compost, or as a building material.^{5,6}
- 3) *Mulch.* Yard waste, particularly tree trimmings, can be mulched and used as a soil amendment.

CalRecycle estimates that there are 170 compost and mulch businesses.⁷ The American Biogas Council estimates that there are 411 biogas facilities in California: 55 capture gas from landfills, 31 process food waste, 145 process wastewater, and 180 process agricultural waste.⁸ Only anaerobic digesters

³ CalRecycle (2020) *Analysis of the Progress Toward the SB 1383 Organic Waste Reduction Goals*. <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/Docs/Publications/Details/1693>

⁴ CalRecycle, *California's Climate Progress on SB 1383*. <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slep/progress/>

⁵ EPA, *How Does Anaerobic Digestion Work?* <https://www.epa.gov/agstar/how-does-anaerobic-digestion-work>

⁶ California Energy Commission (CEC) *Anaerobic Digestion*. <https://www.energy.ca.gov/data-reports/california-power-generation-and-power-sources/bioenergy/anaerobic-digestion>

⁷ CalRecycle, *Compost and Mulch Producers*. <https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/processors/>

⁸ American Biogas Council, *Biogas State Profiles: California*. <https://americanbiogascouncil.org/resources/state-profiles/california/>

processing organic waste (such as those processing food waste) count toward SB 1383 procurement targets.

To ensure that there are adequate markets for the state's increasing quantities of products made from organic waste, like mulch, compost, and biomethane, CalRecycle established procurement requirements for local jurisdictions. Jurisdictions can meet the target by procuring, giving away, or arranging for the use of the material through contracts with direct service providers. Eligible materials include compost, mulch, and biomethane, as specified in PRC § 42652.5.

Comments

Purpose of Bill. According to the author, “The Legislature has heard from many communities across the state that they are concerned they will struggle to meet their procurement targets under SB 1383. Increasing the eligibility of procurement products made from diverted organics will assist in jurisdictions in meeting their goals, provide positive impacts to the State’s climate change objectives, and provides the agricultural community another tool to continue growing crops in our state.”

What is a beneficial agricultural amendment? AB 643 requires that a beneficial agricultural amendment is an approved fertilizer derived from both organic waste and processed with biosolids. Anaerobic digestion, which creates digestate, is one potential method to create such a fertilizer. Both biosolids and digestate have unique benefits and challenges as soil amendments.

Biosolids as fertilizer. Biosolids are a nutrient-dense byproduct of wastewater treatment. Biosolids can be used as a fertilizer, improving soil and crop health, reducing water use, and even storing carbon in soil.⁹ Though nutrient dense, biosolids may be contaminated with pathogens or microplastics, creating health concerns.¹⁰ Ultimately, biosolids require additional treatment to be suitable for agriculture (this treatment can treat for pathogens but not necessarily microplastics). Rural wastewater treatment plants might not have the capabilities to treat biosolids for safe agricultural use.

Additionally, SB 1383 was meant to divert organic waste from landfills and create functional end markets for recycled organics. Biosolids are not largely landfill bound. Presently, biosolids diverted from landfill are considered an organic waste

⁹ National Association of Clean Water Agencies (NACWA) *What are Biosolids?* <https://www.nacwa.org/advocacy-analysis/advocacy-alerts/biosolids-explained>

¹⁰ Xue, J, et al. (2025) *Rethink biosolids: Risks and opportunities in the circular economy*. Chemical Engineering Journal. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S1385894725025720>

reduction activity (14 CCR § 18983.1). However, biosolids are not counted toward organic waste procurement targets. Only 13% of biosolids were disposed of at a landfill.¹¹ Therefore, counting biosolids toward organic waste procurement targets runs the risk of counting the 87% of biosolids which are not landfill bound toward SB 1383 goals.

If biosolids count toward SB 1383 procurement targets, the state risks not increasing the procurement of organic waste truly diverted from landfills compared to the status quo. However, limiting biosolids to 10% of a jurisdiction's organic waste procurement target mitigates these harms.

Anaerobic digestate as fertilizer. Though anaerobic digestion creates two products, biomethane and digestate, digestate is not listed as a recovered organic waste product on CalRecycle's website nor explicitly in statute.¹² AB 643 may allow the use of digestate, from organic waste and biosolid feedstocks, as a fertilizer to count toward SB 1383 targets.

AB 643 aims to expand SB 1383 eligible to help communities, and the state, achieve their landfill diversion goals. A community which struggles with access to industrial composting facilities may also struggle with access to industrial anaerobic digestion. Most anaerobic digesters process agricultural waste and wastewater, which would not count toward SB 1383.⁹ There are significantly more industrial composters and mulchers (170 in the state) than there are anaerobic digesters processing food waste (31 in the state).

It is unclear if AB 643 would provide jurisdictions struggling to meet their procurement targets with an accessible product. Additionally, it is unclear how many facilities create a product which uses both anaerobic digestate and biosolids. AB 643 may only impact an exceptionally narrow market: the limited industry processing anaerobic digestate and biosolids and the jurisdictions willing and able to purchase that product. It is worth considering how best to support communities in reaching their SB 1383 procurement targets beyond expanding product eligibility.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

¹¹ Carmel Wastewater District. *What are Biosolids?* <https://www.cawd.org/what-are-biosolids>

¹² CalRecycle, *Procurement Targets and Recovered Organic Waste Products*.
<https://calrecycle.ca.gov/organics/slep/procurement/recoveredorganicwasteproducts/>

Fairfield; City of
Fresno County Board of Supervisors
Los Angeles County

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-4, 1/26/26

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

NOES: Ellis, Johnson, Macedo, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Boerner, Caloza, Flora, Gabriel, Garcia, Hadwick, Krell, Lee, Muratsuchi, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Ta, Ward

Prepared by: Alyssa Poletti / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
7/1/26 16:54:54

**** END ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

AB 739

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

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
6/25/26 11:39:27

**** 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 1112
Author: Wallis (R)
Amended: 5/5/25 in Assembly
Vote: 27

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/16/25
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cabaldon, Laird, Seyarto, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 5/27/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Tax Equity Allocation

SOURCE: City of Rancho Mirage

DIGEST: This bill repeals the requirement for Riverside County to reduce the amount of property taxes distributed to the City of Rancho Mirage due to the creation of a community services district.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, pursuant to Article XIII of the California Constitution, that all property is taxable at the same percentage of fair market value unless explicitly exempted by the Constitution or federal law. The Constitution limits the maximum amount of any ad valorem tax on real property at 1% of full cash value, plus any to pay locally-authorized bonded indebtedness for the acquisition or improvement of real property approved on or after July 1, 1978 by two-thirds of the votes cast by the voters voting on the proposition (for non-school entities).

- 2) Specifies procedures for collection and allocation of property taxes in California to cities, the county, special districts, former redevelopment agencies, and school districts within each county.
- 3) Specifies that, in any fiscal year in which a qualifying city, defined to mean any city, unless otherwise excepted, that incorporated prior to June 5, 1987, and had an amount of property tax revenue allocated to it that is less than 7% of the amount of property tax revenue computed as specified, is to receive a property tax distribution, as specified, the auditor shall reduce the actual amount distributed to the qualifying city if certain circumstances apply.
- 4) Requires the Riverside County Auditor to reduce the actual amount distributed to the City of Rancho Mirage by any amount of property tax revenues that has been exchanged between the City of Rancho Mirage and a community services district (CSD), the formation of which was initiated on or after March 6, 1997.

This bill repeals the requirement that the Riverside County Auditor must reduce the actual amount of property taxes distributed to the City of Rancho Mirage by any amount of property tax revenues exchanged between the City of Rancho Mirage and a CSD formed on or after March 6, 1997.

Background

Property tax. Counties collect and allocate property taxes in California according to state law to cities, the county, special districts, former redevelopment agencies, and school districts within the county. Proposition 13 set a single, countywide rate of 1%, replacing the numerous individual tax rates set by the various taxing agencies. In what the Legislature intended as a permanent resolution to the issue of how to distribute property tax revenues post Proposition 13, the Legislature passed AB 8 (L. Greene, 1979). AB 8 required each county to allocate revenues to local agencies based on their average property tax revenue in the three years preceding Fiscal Year 1978-79 (the year voters adopted Proposition 13). Each year thereafter, counties have allocated property tax revenues according to 1) the property tax revenues allocated to each agency in the previous year, plus 2) a share of the growth in tax revenues resulting from increases in assessed value in the jurisdiction.

Approximately 30 cities never levied property tax rates before Proposition 13, and are called no-property tax cities. Other cities (approximately 60), levied low property tax rates and are known as low property-tax cities. Proposition 13 and its implementing legislation effectively froze property taxes at their existing levels. To compensate for the low levels of property tax revenue these cities receive, the

Legislature requires counties to shift some of their own property tax revenues to these cities (AB 1197, W. Brown, 1988). AB 1197 specified that, in most counties, “no/low cities” get 7% of the property tax revenues generated within their city limits, known as a “tax equity allocation” (TEA).

City of Rancho Mirage. Rancho Mirage is a city of about 17,000 residents in Riverside County. The City incorporated in 1973. The City withdrew from the Riverside City and County Library System and the Riverside County Structural Fire Tax System in 1991 and 1993 respectively. As a result of the withdrawal from both of the systems, the city received additional property tax revenue that previously went to the county. The City then formed the Rancho Mirage CSD to fund fire and library services. Shifting the property tax revenue to the CSD instead of the City would have made Rancho Mirage a no or low property tax city eligible for a TEA from the county. In 1997, the Legislature adjusted the TEA formula to exempt Riverside County from having to make a TEA payment to the City of Rancho Mirage due to the formation of the CSD.

To shift additional property tax revenue from the county to the city, Rancho Mirage wants to eliminate this requirement.

Comments

Purpose of this bill. According to the author, “The City of Rancho Mirage believes Section 98(f)(4) was added under the mistaken belief it would benefit the City; however, it has instead lowered our property tax allocation formula below the 7% minimum received by other qualifying cities. Removing this subsection will restore equity, strengthen the City’s ability to fund essential services, and correct a decades-old inequity.”

Zero-sum game. The reallocation of property tax revenues is a zero-sum game; every reallocation creates winners and losers. While this bill may provide additional funding to the City of Rancho Mirage, Riverside County could have less revenue to dedicate to the services it provides. Given that property taxes are a finite resource, the Committee may wish to consider the impact this bill may have on both the City of Rancho Mirage and Riverside County.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/19/25)

City of Rancho Mirage (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/19/25)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 5/27/25

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, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, 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: Ellis, Jeff Gonzalez, Lee, Nguyen

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/20/25 23:28:49

**** **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 ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1575
Author: Arambula (D)
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act

SOURCE: The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

DIGEST: This bill updates the word “consumer” to “person eligible for regional center services” throughout the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act (Lanterman Act).

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law

- 1) Establishes the Lanterman Act, which states that California is responsible for providing a range of services and supports sufficiently complete to meet the needs and choices of each person with developmental disabilities, regardless of age or degree of disability, and at each stage of life, and to support their integration into the mainstream life of the community. (Welfare and Institutions Code [WIC] § 4500 et seq.)
- 2) Defines “developmental disability” as a disability that originates before an individual attains 18 years of age, continues, or can be expected to continue, indefinitely, and constitutes a substantial disability for that individual. As defined by the Director of the Department of Developmental Services (DDS), in consultation with the Superintendent of Public Instruction, this term shall include intellectual disability, cerebral palsy, epilepsy, and autism. This term

shall also include disabling conditions found to be closely related to intellectual disability or to require treatment similar to that required for individuals with an intellectual disability, but shall not include other handicapping conditions that are solely physical in nature. (WIC § 4512(a)(1))

- 3) Adds criteria for a child under five years of age who does not meet the definition of developmental disability under (2) to receive regional center services:
 - a) Provides that a child who is under five years of age shall be provisionally eligible for regional center services if the child has a disability that is not solely physical in nature and has significant functional limitations in at least two areas of major life activity, as specified. Provides that a child is not required to have one of the developmental disabilities listed in (2) to be provisionally eligible. Provides that a child who is provisionally eligible shall be reassessed at least 90 days before turning five years of age, and the child must meet the definition of developmental disability set forth in (2) to continue to be eligible for regional center services at five years of age.
 - b) Provides that an infant or toddler referred for early intervention services may be concurrently assessed, if appropriate, to determine whether the infant or toddler is provisionally eligible for regional center services or eligible for regional center services if they have a developmental disability pursuant to (2). If the regional center determined that the infant or toddler qualifies for early intervention services from the regional center but has not been found to have a developmental disability pursuant to (2) or to be provisionally eligible, the regional center shall assess the child at least 90 days prior to the date that they turn three years of age for purposes of determining their eligibility for regional center services. If the regional center determines the child is not eligible, the regional center shall give adequate notice, as specified. (WIC § 4512(a)(2–4))
- 4) Defines “consumer” as a person who has a disability that meets the definition of developmental disability. (WIC § 4512(d))
- 5) Establishes a system of nonprofit regional centers, overseen by DDS, to provide fixed points of contact in the community for all persons with developmental disabilities and their families to coordinate services and supports best suited to them throughout their lifetime. (WIC § 4620)

This bill:

- 1) Updates the word “consumer” to “person eligible for regional center services” throughout the Lanterman Act.

Background

Purpose of the Bill. According to the author, “Adults with disabilities continue to experience discrimination in education, employment, and healthcare settings. These challenges predictably result in reduced access to care and more limited opportunities, creating an often inescapable cycle of frustration for families trying to navigate the system. Shifting away from the use of harmful language will help in eliminating this stigma. AB 1575 updates the Lanterman Act to ensure consistent use of person-first language, emphasizing each person’s humanity and moving away from stigmatizing language.”

Lanterman Act. In 1969, the Lanterman Act established that individuals with developmental disabilities and their families have a right to receive the necessary services and supports required to live independently in the community. The Lanterman Act enumerates the rights of individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as the rights of their families, what services and supports are available to these individuals, and how regional centers and service providers work together to provide these services and supports. The term “developmental disability” is defined as a disability that originates before a person reaches 18 years of age, is expected to continue indefinitely, and is a significant disability for the individual. Such disabilities include, among others: epilepsy, autism spectrum disorder, intellectual disability, and cerebral palsy.

In addition to establishing the rights of individuals, the Lanterman Act also created California’s regional center system, comprised of 21 nonprofit regional centers throughout the state whose primary purpose is to connect individuals with services in the community. The Department of Finance estimates that approximately 487,114 individuals will receive developmental services in 2025–26, increasing to 526,848 in 2026–27.

Person-First and Identity-First Language. Person-first or people-first language refers to a person before describing their disability or condition. Person-first language is meant to humanize the person and de-stigmatize their condition. Some examples of person-first language include: person with autism, person experiencing homelessness, or person with a substance use disorder. Identity-first language refers to a person’s identity first. Identity-first language is preferred by some self-advocates and disability advocates because it recognizes the identity as

an inherent part of the person. Some examples of identity-first language include: Autistic person, Deaf person, or Indigenous person. While there is no one-size-fits-all choice between person-first or identity-first language across all groups and identities, advocates and experts agree that offensive and othering language should not be used. Examples include outdated or condescending terms or descriptions, slurs, using adjectives as nouns (nominalization), and language that implies deficiency or restriction.

Social Science & Medicine, a journal that publishes peer-reviewed original research, published an article in December 2024 entitled “Person-first and identity-first disability language: informing client centered care”.¹ The article was based upon a survey of 875 people, ages 14 to 89, on their self-reported health condition and use of person-first and identity-first language. The researchers published the following findings, among others:

- 94.4% of participants were aware of person-first and identity-first language.
- When referring to oneself, 42.4% of participants preferred identity-first language, while 34.1% of participants reported using person-first language, and 23.7% used both interchangeably.
- When referring to others, 39.4% of participants reported using person-first language, while 26.6% of participants reported using identity-first language, and 34.0% used both interchangeably.
- People who reported using person-first language were more likely to be older, while people who reported using identity-first language were more likely to be younger.
- Preference for person-first versus identity-first language varied by disability. The survey included the following disability categories: nervous system, neurodevelopmental, developmental anomaly, mental health, musculoskeletal, hearing, digestive, pain, vision, and other/undisclosed.

The article concluded that use of person-first language appears to be more appropriate than identity-first language for all settings, including healthcare, education, media, the general public, and among people with a disability or health condition. The article also described an “ingroup-outgroup” phenomenon where

¹ <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0277953624008980?via%3Dihub>

identity-first language may be acceptable among people with a disability or health condition but less acceptable when used by third parties.

This bill would replace the term “consumer” throughout the Lanterman Act with “person eligible for regional center services”.

Comments

This bill would adopt person-first language by changing the term “consumer” throughout the Lanterman Act to “person eligible for regional center services”. According to the bill sponsor, the term “consumer” implies a commercial relationship between a person and the developmental services system, which is not a proper representation of services and supports provided under the Lanterman Act. This bill would not affect a person’s eligibility for, or receipt of, services and supports under the Lanterman Act.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 162 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 47, Statutes of 2024), a budget trailer bill, amended the definition of “developmental disability” to allow a regional center to concurrently assess an infant or toddler referred for early intervention services for provisional eligibility or full eligibility for regional center services.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration (source)
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
California Disability Services Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/28/26

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, 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, Valencia, Wallis, Ward,
Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Diana Dominguez / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
7/1/26 16:54:55

**** **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 ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1617
Author: Alanis (R)
Introduced: 1/21/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Household hazardous waste: reporting

SOURCE: Rural County Representatives of California

DIGEST: This bill requires a public agency, responsible for household hazardous waste (HHW) management, to submit the Form 303 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Report (Form 303) to specified local and state agencies on or before October 1 of each year with reporting information for the prior calendar year.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Establishes the federal Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) to authorize the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) to manage hazardous and non-hazardous wastes throughout the wastes' life cycle. (42 United States Code (USC) §§ 6901 et seq.)

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the California Integrated Waste Management Act (IWMA) of 1989, administered by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery

(CalRecycle), generally regulates the disposal, management, and recycling of solid waste. (Public Resources Code (PRC) §§ 40000 *et seq.*)

- 2) Defines “waste” as any solid, liquid, semisolid, or contained gaseous discarded material. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 25124)
- 3) Establishes the Hazardous Waste Control Law (HWCL) to authorize the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to regulate the management of hazardous wastes in California. (HSC §§ 25100 *et seq.*)
- 4) Defines “hazardous waste” as waste, that, because of its quantity, concentration, or physical, chemical, or infectious characteristics:
 - a) Causes, or significantly contributes to, an increase in mortality or an increase in serious irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness; or
 - b) Poses a substantial present or potential hazard to human health or the environment, due to factors including, but not limited to, carcinogenicity, acute toxicity, chronic toxicity, bio accumulative properties, or persistence in the environment, when improperly treated, stored, transported, disposed of, or otherwise managed. (HSC § 25141(b))
- 5) Defines “household hazardous waste” (HHW) as hazardous waste generated incidental to owning or maintaining a place of residence but does not include waste generated in the course of operating a business at a residence. (HSC § 25218.1(e))
- 6) Establishes that counties and cities will provide services for the collection of HHW and that the state will provide an expedited and streamlined regulatory structure to facilitate the collection of HHW. (HSC § 25218)
- 7) Defines “Certified Unified Program Agency” (CUPA) to mean an agency certified by the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency to implement the unified program, as specified, including, but not limited to ensuring the coordination and consistency of any adopted regulations applicable to facilities operated by HHW collection programs, as specified. (HSC § 25404)
- 8) Requires a public agency that operates a HHW collection facility (HHWCF) to annually submit a copy of the completed California Integrated Waste Management Board Form 303 for the prior fiscal year to a CUPA, or specified agency, and DTSC on or before October 1 of each year. (HSC § 25218.9)

- 9) Requires a public agency that is responsible for HHW management to annually complete and submit a Form 303 HHW Collection Report containing information of the previous fiscal year (July 1 to June 30) to CalRecycle by October 1 of the following fiscal year. (14 California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 18751.2.2)

This bill requires the Form 303 HHW Collection Report (Form 303) to report information for the prior calendar year, instead of the previous fiscal year to the CUPAs, DTSC, and CalRecycle, and makes other technical and non-substantive amendments.

Background

- 1) *Household hazardous waste.* Hazardous waste is a waste with properties that make it potentially dangerous or harmful to human health or the environment. In regulatory terms, a waste is hazardous if it appears on a RCRA hazardous wastes list or exhibits one of the four characteristics of a hazardous waste: ignitability, corrosivity, reactivity, or toxicity. However, materials can be hazardous waste even if they are not specifically listed or do not exhibit any characteristic of a hazardous waste. Hazardous waste is prohibited from being disposed of in the trash and must be properly transported and disposed of at permitted treatment, storage, and disposal facilities or at a recycling facility.

Household hazardous waste (HHW) is a waste generated by a resident and household. Common HHW includes, but is not limited to, antifreeze, glue and adhesives, pesticides, used oil, batteries, electronic wastes, and household cleaners. These wastes may cause harm to human health and the environment if handled or disposed of incorrectly. In California, HHW is prohibited from being disposed of in the trash, down the drain, or by abandonment, and must be disposed of through a HHW Program. The safest place for a resident to take their HHW is to a household hazardous waste collection facility (HHWCF).

Most HHWCFs are run by local government agencies such as cities or counties. Local agencies may offer several services to assist in the transportation of HHW to a collection facility, including curbside collection programs, mobile collection facilities, door-to-door collection programs, and HHW residential pickup services.

- 2) *HHW collection reporting.* The California Hazardous Waste Control Law provides several management requirements for HHW generators and

establishes a streamlined permitting process for HHWCFs. HHWCFs collect a wide variety of hazardous waste from households and report this information and more to a number of different state agencies.

One report HHWCFs are required to generate is the Form 303 HHW Collection Report (Form 303). Form 303 requires facilities to record and report on the type and quantity of HHW received. State agencies use data from Form 303 to track trends in HHW and other related waste collected by HHWCFs. HHWCFs are also required to annually report similar information to state agencies with the previous calendar year as the reporting timeframe. HHWCFs report information on universal waste and treated wood waste for the previous calendar year to DTSC. HHWCFs have other reporting requirements to CalRecycle, such as for covered E-waste, the Electronic Annual Report, and the Used Oil Annual Report, that have the previous calendar year as the reporting timeframe. Form 303, on the other hand, has a reporting timeframe for the previous fiscal year.

This bill would align the reporting timeframe for Form 303 with other reporting requirements, changing the reporting timeframe from the previous fiscal year to the previous calendar year.

Comments

- 1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, “AB 1617 is a common-sense improvement to how California tracks and manages household hazardous waste. By aligning reporting deadlines for both CalRecycle and DTSC, this bill would ease an administrative burden on local agencies and make data clearer to the public.”
- 2) *Streamlining where possible.* Aligning the reporting timeframe for Form 303 with the other related reporting requirements described in the background section above would reduce the workload and administrative costs for local governments and HHWCFs and streamline compliance with reporting requirements. This bill maintains and promotes the legislative intent for the state to provide an “expedited and streamlined permitting and regulatory structure for household hazardous waste” as “overburdensome regulations defeat the objectives of providing convenient and accessible collection facilities and the protection of public health and safety” (HSC § 25218).

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 998 (Hadwick, 2025) would have authorized a school to transport and manage confiscated vape pens as HHW, and required DTSC, in collaboration with CalRecycle, to develop a consolidated reporting document for HHWCFs to submit a single annual report to both DTSC and CalRecycle for the purposes of complying with existing applicable reporting requirements for HHW. The bill was held on the suspense file in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 2481 (Smith, Chapter 499, Statutes of 2022) made various changes to the statutory requirements for the transportation of hazardous waste and the operation of HHWCFs.

SB 552 (Archuleta, Chapter 481, Statutes of 2019) authorized the use of consolidated manifests in the transportation of HHW in door-to-door HHW collection programs.

SB 726 (Caballero, Chapter 485, Statutes of 2019) authorized a public agency's contractor to conduct HHW materials exchange programs.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/2026)

Rural County Representatives of California (source)
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
Alameda; County of
California Chapters of the Solid Waste Association of North America's Legislative Task Force
California State Association of Counties
Californians Against Waste
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/2026)

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: Taylor McKie / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1619
Author: Valencia (D), et al.
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-2, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public employees' retirement: administration

SOURCE: Orange County Employees Retirement System

DIGEST: This bill increases the compensation for specified board members of the Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) and the State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) from \$100 to \$320 and authorizes boards of supervisors in counties operating a retirement system under the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 (CERL) to adopt an identical increase for specified board members.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) 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)
- 2) Establishes the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), which provides a defined benefit pension to state employees, classified school

employees, and employees of contracting public agencies. (Government Code §20000 et seq.)

- 3) Vests the management and control of CalPERS in its board of administration. Existing law also provides the board with all powers reasonably necessary to invest the assets associated with, and to administer and implement the provisions of, the California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013. (Government Code §20004 and §20120)
- 4) Provides that the members of the CalPERS board appointed by the Governor, the public member appointed jointly by the Senate Committee on Rules and the Speaker of the Assembly, and any retired person serving on the board shall receive \$100 for every day or portion thereof of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which committee the person is a member and which meeting is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board, together with their necessary traveling expenses incurred in connection with performance of their official duties. (Government Code §20091)
- 5) Establishes the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS) to provide a financially sound plan for the retirement of the state's public school teachers, teachers of schools supported by the state, and other persons employed in connection with the schools. (Education Code §22001)
- 6) Provides that CalSTRS is administered by the Teachers' Retirement Board. Requires the board to set policy and have the sole power and authority to hear and determine all facts pertaining to application for benefits under the plan or any matters pertaining to administration of the plan and CalSTRS. (Education Code §22200 and §22201)
- 7) Provides that members of the CalSTRS board who are not active members of the Defined Benefit Program or active participants of the Cash Balance Benefit Program and who are appointed by the Governor shall receive \$100 for every day of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which the person is a member, and that is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board, together with their necessary traveling expenses incurred in connection with performance of their official duties. (Education Code §22223)

- 8) 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. (Government Code §31450 et seq.)
- 9) Vests the management of a CERL retirement system in its retirement board, consisting of five members or nine members and one alternate, or in its board of investment. (Government Code §31520 and §31520.1)
- 10) Authorizes boards of supervisors in counties operating a CERL retirement system to provide the fourth and fifth members, and in counties having a board of retirement consisting of nine members or nine members and an alternate retired member, the fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, and alternate retired members, and in counties having a board of investments, the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth members, compensation at a rate of not more than \$100 for a meeting, or for a meeting of a committee authorized by the board, for not more than five meetings per month, together with actual and necessary expenses for all members of the board. (Government Code §31521)
- 11) Authorizes, in a county of the first class, the board of supervisors to provide the fourth, fifth, sixth, eighth, ninth, and alternate retired members of the board of retirement and the fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, and ninth members of the board of investments, compensation at a rate of not more than \$100 for a meeting, or for a meeting of a committee authorized by the board, for not more than five meetings per month, together with actual and necessary expenses for all members of the board. (Government Code §31521.1)
- 12) Denominates Los Angeles County “a county of the first class.” (Government Code §28020)
- 13) Provides, for CERL retirement systems, that the official duties of elected board members who are employees of the county or a district shall be included as part of their county or district employment and their board duties normally take precedence over any other duties. The elected board members who are county or district employees shall not receive any additional compensation by virtue of their election to the board. (Government Code §31522)

This bill:

- 1) Increases the compensation for specified CalPERS board members from \$100 to \$320 for every day or portion thereof of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which committee the person is a member and which meeting is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board.
- 2) Increases the compensation for specified CalSTRS board members from \$100 to \$320 for every day of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which the person is a member, and that is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board.
- 3) Authorizes the board of retirement, in counties operating a CERL retirement system, to increase the compensation of specified board members to a rate of not more than \$320.
- 4) Provides that the increase in compensation in 3) shall not be operative in any county until it is publicly noticed and adopted by a majority vote of the board of supervisors and shall not be adopted by a consent calendar.
- 5) Authorizes, in a county of the first class, the board of retirement or the board of investments to increase the compensation of specified board members to a rate of not more than \$320.
- 6) Provides that the increase in compensation in 5) shall not become operative until it is publicly noticed and adopted by a majority vote of the board of supervisors and shall not be adopted by a consent calendar.

Background

The CalPERS, CalSTRS, and CERL boards of retirement and investment are responsible for overseeing the administration of their respective retirement systems and safeguarding the financial security of their members. These boards meet regularly to fulfill their fiduciary duties.

CalPERS. The CalPERS board consists of 13 members who are elected, appointed, or hold office ex officio. The board compensation is mandated by law and can only be changed by a majority of the registered voters in the state. Among other

responsibilities, the board sets employer contribution rates, determines investment asset allocations, and provides actuarial valuations. The CalPERS board includes:

Six elected members

- Two elected by and from all CalPERS members
- One elected by and from all active state members
- One elected by and from all active CalPERS school members
- One elected by and from all active CalPERS public agency members (employed by contracting public agencies)
- One elected by and from retired members of CalPERS

Three appointed members

- Two appointed by the Governor - an elected official of a local government and an official of a life insurer
- One public representative appointed jointly by the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Rules Committee

Four ex officio members

- The State Treasurer
- The State Controller
- The Director of the California Department of Human Resources
- A Representative of the State Personnel Board

The members appointed by the Governor, the public member appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly and the Senate Rules Committee, and any retired person on the board receive \$100 for every day or portion thereof of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which committee the person is a member and which meeting is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board. Money from the Public Employees' Retirement Fund is used to pay board members.

CalSTRS. The CalSTRS board consists of 12 members who are elected, appointed, or hold office ex officio. The board sets the policies and makes rules for the system and is responsible for ensuring benefits are paid by the system in accordance with law. The CalSTRS retirement board includes:

- Three member-elected positions representing current educators.
- A retired CalSTRS member appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.
- Three public representatives appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

- A school board representative appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.
- Four board members who serve in an ex officio capacity by virtue of their office: Director of Finance, State Controller, State Superintendent of Public Instruction and State Treasurer.

The members of the board who are not active members of the Defined Benefit Program or active participants of the Cash Balance Benefit Program and who are appointed by the Governor receive \$100 for every day or portion thereof of actual attendance at meetings of the board or any meeting of any committee of the board of which committee the person is a member and which meeting is conducted for the purpose of carrying out the powers and duties of the board. Money from the Teachers' Retirement Fund is used to pay board members.

CERL . CERL retirement systems are administered by a board of retirement or a board of investments. Boards of retirement can consist of either five members or nine members and one alternate. 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 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.

Generally, the **composition of a five-member board** is as follows:

- Member 1 is the county treasurer.
- Members 2 and 3 are active general members of the retirement association, elected by the active general members.
- Members 4 and 5 are qualified electors of the county not connected with county government, with the exception that one of these members may be a member of the board of supervisors. These individuals are appointed by the board of supervisors.

On a five-member board, members 4 and 5 receive compensation at a rate of not more than \$100 for a meeting, or for a meeting of a committee authorized by the board, for not more than five meetings per month, together with actual and necessary expenses for all members of the board.

Generally, the **composition of a nine-member board** is as follows:

- Member 1 is the county treasurer.
- Members 2 and 3 are active general members of the retirement association, elected by the active general members.

- Members 4, 5, 6, and 9 are qualified electors of the county not connected with county government, with the exception that one of these members may be a member of the board of supervisors. These individuals are appointed by the board of supervisors.
- Member 7 is an active safety member of the retirement association, elected by active safety members.
- Member 8 is a retired member of the retirement association, elected by retired members.

On a nine-member board, members 4, 5, 6, 8, and 9 receive compensation at a rate of not more than \$100 for a meeting, or for a meeting of a committee authorized by the board, for not more than five meetings per month, together with actual and necessary expenses for all members of the board.

Generally, the *composition of a board of investments* is as follows:

- Member 1 is the county treasurer.
- Members 2 and 3 are active general members of the retirement association, elected by the active general members.
- Member 4 is a safety member elected by safety members.
- Members 5,6,7, and 9 are qualified electors of the county not connected with county government, with the exception that one of these members may be a member of the board of supervisors. These individuals are appointed by the board of supervisors.
- Member 8 is a retired member of the retirement association, elected by retired members.

Members 5, 6, 7, 8, and 9 on a board of investments receive compensation at a rate of not more than \$100 for a meeting, or for a meeting of a committee authorized by the board, for not more than five meetings per month, together with actual and necessary expenses for all members of the board.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Orange County Employees Retirement System (Source)
 Contra Costa County Employment Retirement Association
 Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association
 Orange County Board of Supervisors
 Orange County Employees Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The sponsor of the measure, the Orange County Employees Retirement System, argues:

“[AB 1619] represents a prudent and long-overdue adjustment for several compelling reasons:

Inflation Adjustment: The current per-meeting stipend of \$100 was established fifty years ago (and adopted by the Orange County Board of Supervisors 40 years ago). The proposed \$320 maximum represents the inflation-adjusted equivalent of that original rate and simply brings compensation in line with current economic realities...”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-2, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, 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, 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, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bauer-Kahan, Hadwick, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Emma Bruce / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1626
Author: Gabriel (D), Irwin (D) and Pacheco (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
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: Interscholastic athletics: youth sports: coaches: behavioral and mental health training

SOURCE: California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
Mental Health America of California
Play Equity Fund

DIGEST: This bill (1) establishes 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; (2) requires the California Department of Education (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.

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 California Interscholastic Federation (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 that trainings for a coach of an interscholastic athletic program and a coach of an athletic program other than an interscholastic athletic program, as specified in AB 1665 (Pacheco, 2026), cover, but are not limited to, all of the following topics:
 - a) Substantive awareness of behavioral and mental health challenges specific to pupil athletes.
 - b) Trauma-informed care and recognizing signs and symptoms of common behavioral and mental health conditions in adolescents.
 - c) Strategies for creating a positive team culture that promotes behavior and mental well-being, reduces stigma around behavioral and mental health, and encourages help-seeking behavior among pupil athletes.
 - d) Appropriate communication techniques for approaching and supporting pupil athletes who may be experiencing behavioral and mental health difficulties.
 - e) Procedures for referring pupil athletes to appropriate mental health resources.
 - f) Understanding of the coach's role and limitations in supporting pupil behavioral and mental health.

- 2) Prohibits coaches from providing mental health counseling or therapy or to substitute for the services of licensed behavioral and mental health professionals.
- 3) Provides that the training required by this bill may be provided by entities offering free, online, or other types of training courses.
- 4) Requires CDE, by September 1, 2027, to identify existing training or develop a model youth athletics behavioral and mental health training for persons who serve as coaches in youth sports organizations, both for recreational leagues and competitive or club leagues, and requires the training to cover, but not be limited to, all of the following topics:
 - a) Strategies for creating a positive team culture that promotes healthy behavioral and mental well-being.
 - b) Protective factors that promote youth resilience, well-being, and positive mental health.
 - c) Awareness of behavioral and mental health challenges specific to youth athletes.
 - d) Recognition of signs and symptoms of common behavioral and mental health conditions in youth and adolescents.
 - e) Appropriate communication techniques for approaching and supporting youth athletes who may be experiencing behavioral and mental health difficulties.
 - f) Appropriate referral pathways.
 - g) Understanding of the coach's role and limitations in supporting youth athletes' behavioral and mental health.
- 5) Allows the training content developed by CDE be aligned with statewide youth mental health and school wellness initiatives.
- 6) Requires CDE to post the training it identifies or develops on its website and to work with local partners to disseminate the training to approach youth athletic

leagues, youth coaching entities, and relevant statewide organizations and associations.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “Unfortunately, studies show that only 1 in 5 coaches report being highly confident in their ability to support youth with mental health and substance use challenges. Without guidance, coaches may miss opportunities for early intervention, positive reinforcement or, at worst, even contribute to harm. The unaddressed mental health stigma in sports further complicates the potential support system a coach can offer. Student-athletes may fear being perceived as weak or losing playing time, and coaches worry about team performance, recruitment, or unintentionally making a situation worse. Existing law does not have a requirement for California’s youth coaches to take training on supporting the mental health needs of their young athletes.

Assembly Bill (AB) 1626 would enshrine a critical mental health and substance use disorder training for school coaches and create model training for youth sports coaches. Through this training, coaches will learn practical and potentially lifesaving tools to support California’s young athletes.”

This bill is a response to Governor Newsom’s recent executive order to address rising suicide rates in young men and boys. In July 2025, Governor Newsom issued an executive order urging action to address rising suicide rates and growing disconnection in young men and boys within the state. The order specifically states that “lack of mental health support and gender stereotypes have perpetuated a culture where men and boys feel unable to ask for assistance or support.” The order directs a coordinated statewide response to improve mental health outcomes, reduce stigma, and expand access to meaningful education, work, and mentorship opportunities.

This bill, along with AB 1665 (Pacheco, 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 1665 (Pacheco, 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 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 interscholastic athletic programs, non-interscholastic athletic programs, and youth sports organizations, and is closely related to AB 1665 (Pacheco, 2026). This bill and AB 1665 are closely interlinked, and both require training for athletic program coaches to promote awareness of, and strategies to address, behavioral and mental health challenges for pupil athletes. This bill specifically puts forward training topics in this area, including awareness of performance anxiety and injury-related behavioral and mental health impacts; strategies for creating a positive team culture; and appropriate communication techniques for approaching and supporting pupil athletes.

This bill requires CDE to identify an existing training or develop a model youth athletics behavioral and mental health training for coaches in youth sports organizations on these training topics. In addition, AB 1665 requires that the training topics specified in AB 1626 be used for trainings for coaches for interscholastic athletic programs and non-interscholastic athletic programs offered by a school district, county office of education, or charter school.

This bill doesn't define athletics programs that aren't interscholastic programs, nor does it define youth sports organizations. However, non-interscholastic athletic programs could include athletic programs operated by local educational agencies

(LEAs) that are not CIF members, or athletic programs for K-8 pupils operated by LEAs. Youth sports organizations could include for-profit or non-profit entities organizing youth sports leagues or club sports, separate from those operated by LEAs.

Related and Prior Legislation

AB 1665 (Pacheco, 2026) would require, commencing July 1, 2027: (1) a coach for an interscholastic athletic program at a high school that is a member of the CIF to complete an initial training, and subsequent training every two years, on a coaching education and training program on mental health, and (2) that a 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.

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 6/29/26)

California Alliance of Child and Family Services (co-source)
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls (co-source)
Mental Health America of California (co-source)
Play Equity Fund (co-source)
AIDS Healthcare Foundation / Impulse Group
All for Kids
Association of California School Administrators
Cal Voices
California Alliance of Boys & Girls Clubs
California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations
California Association of Student Councils

California Behavioral Health Association
California Behavioral Health Planning Council
California Department of Education
California Hospital Association
California Medical Association
California Primary Care Association Advocates
California School Employees Association
California Youth Empowerment Network
CalPride
County Behavioral Health Directors Association
Disability Rights California
Equality California
Gente Organizada
Human Response Network
LA Waves
LGBTQ Connection
LGBTQ+ Inclusivity, Visibility, and Empowerment
Los Angeles Unified School District
MoPride
National Center for Youth Law
North County LGBTQ Resource Center
On the Margins, Inc.
Peer Voices United-Sacramento
Positive Images
Reach LA
Stonewall Alliance of Chico
The Children's Partnership
Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association
Youth Leadership Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

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: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
7/1/26 16:54:57

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1627
Author: Ávila Farías (D), et al.
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/23/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-17, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public employment: disqualifications

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill specifies that existing laws disqualifying a person from being a peace officer if they were previously employed as a law enforcement officer and had their certification revoked, or engaged in serious misconduct that would have resulted in decertification in California, include a law enforcement officer employed by the federal government who engages in immigration enforcement.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) to set minimum standards for the recruitment and training of peace officers, develop training courses and curriculum, and establish a professional certificate program that awards different levels of certification based on training, education, experience, and other relevant prerequisites. (Penal (Pen.) Code, §§ 830-832.10; 13500 et seq.)
- 2) Requires every peace officer in California to satisfactorily complete an introductory training course prescribed by POST, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 832, subd. (a).)

- 3) Requires POST to establish a certification program for peace officers, as defined, and provides that basic, intermediate, advanced, supervisory, management, and executive certificates shall be established for the purpose of fostering professionalization, education, and experience necessary to adequately accomplish the general police service duties performed by peace officers. (Pen. Code § 13510.1, subds. (a)-(b).)
- 4) The California Values Act, generally prohibits California law enforcement agencies from using agency moneys or personnel to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes, as specified, from placing officers under the supervision of federal agencies for the purpose of immigration enforcement, and from cooperating in other specified ways with federal immigration authorities. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 7284.6, subd. (a).)
- 5) Provides that notwithstanding the above limitations, and in accordance with local laws and agency policies, California law enforcement agencies are not prohibited from conducting enforcement or investigative duties associated with a joint law enforcement task force, including the sharing of confidential information with other law enforcement agencies for purposes of task force investigations, so long as specified conditions are met. (Gov. Code, § 7284.6, subd. (b).)
- 6) Authorizes POST to suspend or revoke the certification of a peace officer if the person has been terminated for cause from employment as a peace officer for, or has, while employed as a peace officer, otherwise engaged in, any serious misconduct, as described. (Pen. Code, § 13510.8, subd. (a)(2).)
- 7) Requires POST to adopt by regulation a definition of “serious misconduct” that shall serve as the criteria for consideration for ineligibility for, or revocation of, certification of a peace officer, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 13510.8, subd. (b).)
- 8) Requires a law enforcement agency to conduct a background check on a peace officer or prospective officer, as provided. (Gov. Code, § 1030.)
- 9) Provides that each class of public officers or employees declared by law to be peace officers shall meet specified minimum standards. (Gov. Code, § 1031.)
- 10) Provides that specified persons are disqualified from being a peace officer in California, including any person previously employed in law enforcement in any state or United States territory or by the federal government, whose name is listed in the National Decertification Index of the International Association

of Directors of Law Enforcement Standards and Training or any other database designated by the federal government whose certification as a law enforcement officer in that jurisdiction was revoked for misconduct, or who, while employed as a law enforcement officer, engaged in serious misconduct that would have resulted in their certification being revoked by the commission if employed as a peace officer in this state. (Gov. Code, § 1029, subd. (a)(11).)

This bill:

- 1) Specifies that, for the purposes of the disqualification provision in bullet (10) above regarding individuals previously employed in law enforcement in another state, territory or by the federal government, the terms “employed in law enforcement” and “law enforcement officer” include a law enforcement officer employed in any state or United States territory or by the federal government who engages in immigration enforcement.
- 2) Defines “immigration enforcement” as any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, and also includes any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person’s presence in, entry, or reentry to, or employment in, the United States.

Comments

Becoming a peace officer in California is a relatively rigorous process, requiring candidates to meet a range of minimum standards. Under existing law, prospective peace officers must be legally authorized to work in the United States under federal law, be 18 years of age or older, pass a background check, and be of good moral character, as determined by a thorough background investigation. Additionally, prospective peace officers must found to be free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition, including bias against race or ethnicity, gender, nationality, religion, disability, or sexual orientation, that might adversely affect the exercise of the powers of a peace officer, as evaluated by a licensed physician for the physical fitness aspect and a specified psychiatric specialist or psychologist for the mental and emotional aspects.

A newer feature of California’s process for vetting prospective and current peace officers is POST’s mandatory certification process, created by SB 2 (Bradford, Chapter 409, Statutes of 2021.) Under SB 2, POST administers an extensive certification program for peace officers, who must receive a proof of eligibility and a basic certificate in order to serve in that capacity. Additionally, SB 2 provides a

mechanism by which POST may investigate and review allegations of “serious misconduct” against an officer, where “serious misconduct” is defined to include a host of behaviors unbecoming a peace officer, such as dishonesty, abuse of power, criminal behaviors, demonstration of bias, participation in a law enforcement gang, and others. After a lengthy review and investigation process, POST has the discretion to issue a certificate to a prospective officer, or to suspend or revoke an existing officer’s certification. Additionally, law enforcement agencies are required to report a range of personnel actions to POST for their review, including the hiring of any officer.

In addition to the minimum standards and required certification described above, certain factors disqualify a person from becoming a peace officer, including a host of outcomes related to the commission of a felony crime, including a felony conviction or the commission of an offense in another jurisdiction which would be a felony if committed in this state; military discharge for an offense which would be a felony if committed in this state; and conviction for a felony even if the court reduces the offense to a misdemeanor or the offense becomes a misdemeanor by operation of law.

Perhaps most relevant to this bill, existing law disqualifies any person who 1) has received a POST certification and either surrendered the certification or had it revoked, 2) has met the minimum requirements for the issuance of a certification but nonetheless was denied certification by POST, and 3) any person previously employed in law enforcement in any state or by the federal government, whose name is listed in the National Decertification Index or any other database designated by the federal government whose certification as a law enforcement officer in that jurisdiction was revoked for misconduct, or who, while employed as a law enforcement officer, engaged in serious misconduct that would have resulted in decertification by POST if employed as a peace officer in this state. This bill specifies, for the purposes of this latter provision, that “employed in law enforcement” and “law enforcement officer” include a law enforcement officer employed in any state or United States territory or by the federal government who engages in immigration enforcement, where “immigration enforcement” is defined as any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal civil immigration law, and also includes any and all efforts to investigate, enforce, or assist in the investigation or enforcement of any federal criminal immigration law that penalizes a person’s presence in, entry, or reentry to, or employment in, the United States.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Public Defenders Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-17, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, 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, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Castillo, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Muratsuchi, Pacheco, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Wilson

Prepared by: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
6/26/26 13:09:10

**** **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 ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1647
Author: Bryan (D), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Juveniles: transfer to criminal court: criminal procedure

SOURCE: A New Way of Life
All of Us or None
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
Communities United for Restorative Justice
Hang Out Do Good
Haywood Burns Institute
Hoops 4 Justice
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children
National Center for Youth Law
The Voice of Transfer Youth
Urban Peace Institute

DIGEST: This bill prohibits the use of a minor's statements made during a transfer hearing or to the minor's probation officer for purposes of preparing a report for a transfer hearing from being used against the minor during subsequent juvenile proceedings or subsequent criminal proceedings, as specified.

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) Authorizes the prosecutor to make a motion to transfer a minor who is 16 years of age or older from juvenile court to a court of criminal jurisdiction in any case in which the minor is alleged to have committed a felony. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(1).)
- 3) Authorizes the prosecutor to make a motion to transfer a minor who committed a specified serious or violent felony from juvenile court to a court of criminal jurisdiction if the offense was committed when the minor was 14 or 15 years of age or older but the minor was not apprehended prior to the end of juvenile court jurisdiction. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(2).)
- 4) Requires, upon the motion of the prosecutor, the juvenile court to order the probation officer to submit a report on the behavioral patterns and social history of the minor. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(1) & (2).)
- 5) Requires the juvenile court, following submission and consideration of the report, and of any other relevant evidence that the minor may wish to submit, to decide whether the minor should be transferred to a court of criminal jurisdiction. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(3).)
- 6) Requires the court, in order to find that the minor should be transferred to a court of criminal jurisdiction, to find by clear and convincing evidence that the minor is not amenable to rehabilitation while under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. Requires the court to consider the following criteria in making its decision:
 - a) The degree of criminal sophistication exhibited by the minor. Requires the juvenile court to give weight to any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, the minor's age, maturity, intellectual capacity, and physical, mental, and emotional health at the time of the alleged offense; the minor's impetuosity or failure to appreciate risks and consequences of criminal behavior; the effect of familial, adult, or peer pressure on the minor's actions; the effect of the minor's family and community environment; the existence of childhood trauma; the minor's involvement in the child welfare or foster care system; and the status of the minor as a victim of human

trafficking, sexual abuse, or sexual battery on the minor's criminal sophistication.

- b) Whether the minor can be rehabilitated prior to the expiration of the juvenile court's jurisdiction. Requires the juvenile court to give weight to any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, the minor's potential to grow and mature.
 - c) The minor's previous delinquent history. Requires the juvenile court to give weight to any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, the seriousness of the minor's previous delinquent history and the effect of the minor's family and community environment and childhood trauma on the minor's previous delinquent behavior.
 - d) Success of previous attempts by the juvenile court to rehabilitate the minor. Requires the juvenile court to give weight to any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, the adequacy of the services previously provided to address the minor's needs.
 - e) The circumstances and gravity of the offense alleged in the petition to have been committed by the minor. Requires the juvenile court to give weight to any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, the actual behavior of the person, the mental state of the person, the person's degree of involvement in the crime, the level of harm actually caused by the person, and the person's mental and emotional development. Requires the court to consider evidence offered that indicates that the person against whom the minor is accused of committing an offense trafficked, sexually abused, or sexually battered the minor. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(3)(A)-(E).)
- 7) Requires the juvenile court to recite the basis for its decision in an order entered upon the minutes if it orders a transfer to a court of criminal jurisdiction. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a)(3).)
- 8) Allows the transfer of a juvenile to adult criminal court, as specified above, if the juvenile has been alleged to have committed the following crimes: murder; arson; robbery; rape with force, violence, or threat of great bodily harm; sodomy by force, violence, or threat of great bodily harm; a lewd or lascivious act on a minor under 14 years of age by force, violence, or threat of great bodily harm; oral copulation by force, violence, duress, menace, or threat of great bodily harm; sexual penetration by force, violence, duress, menace, or threat of

great bodily harm; kidnapping for ransom; kidnapping for robbery; kidnapping with bodily harm; attempted murder; assault with a firearm or destructive device; assault by means of force likely to produce great bodily injury; discharge of a firearm into an inhabited or occupied building; causing great bodily injury in the commission of specified offenses against a person who is 60 or older; or against a person who is blind, a paraplegic, a quadriplegic, or a person confined to a wheelchair; personal use of a firearm during the commission of a felony; felony offense in which the minor personally used a weapon; dissuading a witness or influencing testimony; manufacturing, compounding, or selling one-half ounce or more of a salt or solution of a specified controlled substance; a “violent” felony committed for the benefit of a criminal street gang; escape, by use of force or violence, from a county juvenile hall, home, ranch, camp or forestry camp if great bodily injury is intentionally inflicted upon an employee of the juvenile facility during the escape; torture; aggravated mayhem; carjacking while armed with a dangerous and deadly weapon; kidnapping for purposes of sexual assault; kidnapping in the course of a carjacking; drive by shooting; exploding a destructive device with intent to commit murder; and, voluntary manslaughter. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (b).)

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits the testimony a minor gives at a transfer hearing, or statements the minor makes to the minor’s probation officer for purposes of preparing a report for the transfer hearing, from being used against the minor in subsequent juvenile proceedings or subsequent criminal proceedings for the offense.
- 2) Specifies that this provision does not prohibit statements made by the minor to the minor’s probation officer or at a transfer hearing from being used at sentencing.
- 3) Provides that this provision is declaratory of existing law and shall not be construed to restrict, expand, alter, or modify the decision in *Bryan v. Superior Court*, 7 Cal.3d 575 (1972) or *Ramona R. v. Superior Court*, 37 Cal.3d 802 (1985).

Background

Juvenile Court Jurisdiction. As a general rule, any minor between the age of 12 and 17, inclusive, who commits a crime falls within the jurisdiction of the juvenile

court. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.) This extends to a youth alleged to have committed a crime before their 18th birthday, even if they were an adult at the time or arrest or commencement of proceedings. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 603.) For example, if someone commits a crime at age 17, but it is not discovered or tried until the person is 20, the person can still be tried in juvenile court. The jurisdiction of the juvenile court continues until the youth is 23 years old, unless the youth would have, in criminal court, faced a sentence of 7 years or more, in which case the juvenile court's jurisdiction continues until the youth turns 25. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 607.)

Some minors may be tried as adults, depending on the age of the minor at the time of the offense and the crime charged. Minors who may be subject to transfer to adult criminal court include those alleged to have committed any felony when 16 years old or older, as well as a person who was 14- or 15-years-old at the time the person was alleged to have committed one of several specified serious or violent felonies but who was not apprehended prior to the end of juvenile court jurisdiction. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 707, subd. (a).) In order for a minor to be transferred to criminal court, the prosecution must move to transfer the minor, and the juvenile court must find by clear and convincing evidence that the minor is not amenable to rehabilitation while under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court. (Welf. & Inst. Code § 707, subd. (a)(3).)

History of Juvenile Transfers. The Arnold-Kennick Juvenile Court Act, enacted in 1961, established 16 as the minimum age for which a minor could be transferred from juvenile court to adult criminal court. Over 30 years later, AB 560 (Peace), Chapter 453, Statutes of 1994, lowered the age at which a minor could be transferred to adult criminal court from 16 to 14 years of age. In response to the perception that juvenile crime was on the rise and more dangerous than the delinquency of earlier decades, Proposition 21 was passed by the voters on March 7, 2000. Among other things, Proposition 21 increased sentences for specified gang-related crimes, authorized a prosecutor to file charges against a juvenile offender directly in criminal court for specified felonies, prohibited the sealing of juvenile records involving Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) offenses, and designated additional crimes as violent and serious felonies. (Ballot Pamp., Prim. Elec. (Mar. 7, 2000), text of Prop. 21, p. 45 et seq.) In 2016, the voters passed Proposition 57, which eliminated the ability of a prosecutor to file charges against a juvenile offender directly in criminal court.

Relevant Case Law. This bill states that its provisions are declaratory of existing law as established by *Bryan v. Superior Court* (1972) 7 Cal.3d 575 or *Ramona R.*

v. Superior Court (1985) 37 Cal.3d 802. *Ramona R.* involved a 17 year old who was charged with murder. Ordinarily, the prosecution would bear the burden of proving that a minor is unfit to be treated in juvenile court. The law, prior to the passage of Proposition 57 in 2016, contained a presumption that a minor who had committed a specified offense listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707(b) was unfit for juvenile court unless the minor can prove they are fit.

In *Ramona R.*, the minor defendant declined to testify at her fitness hearing after the court refused to grant the minor immunity from use at trial of any of statements made in the hearing or to her probation officer. (*Id.* at p. 804.) The minor defendant was declared unfit and she filed a writ of mandate to compel the court to vacate arguing that the court erred in refusing to grant her use immunity.

The question before the court was whether prior law, which provided for such use immunities, was nullified by Proposition 8's "Right to Truth-in-Evidence" provision. The relevant section reads: "Except as provided by statute hereafter enacted by a two-thirds vote of the membership in each house of the Legislature, relevant evidence shall not be excluded in any criminal proceeding, including pretrial and post conviction motions and hearings, or in any trial or hearing of a juvenile for a criminal offense, whether heard in juvenile or adult court. Nothing in this section shall affect any existing statutory rule of evidence relating to privilege or hearsay, or Evidence Code, Sections 352, 782 or 1103." (Cal. Const., art. 1, § 28, subd. (f)(2).)

Prior to the passage of Proposition 8, the California Supreme Court held that "evidence of admissions made by a minor to the juvenile judge or the juvenile probation officer should be excluded in a criminal prosecution, for allowing this evidentiary use of the admissions would frustrate the protective and rehabilitative philosophy of the Juvenile Court Law" (*Bryan v. Superior Court* (1972) 7 Cal.3d 575, 587.) In *Ramona R.*, the California Supreme Court held that such immunities were preserved by the exception in Proposition 8 for statutory privileges. (*Id.* at p. 803.) The court further discussed the reasoning for its holding as applied to minors at their fitness hearings:

The purpose of such an interview is not the marshalling of evidence on the issue of guilt, but rather the assembling of all available information relevant to an informed disposition of the case if guilt is established (§§ 280, 702; Pen. Code, § 1203), or to assist in the evaluation of the minor's fitness for treatment as a juvenile (§ 707). Such decisions, courts have uniformly concluded, should be

based on the most complete knowledge of the defendant's background that is possible. His description and explanation of the circumstances of the alleged offense, and his acknowledgment of guilt and demonstration of remorse, may significantly affect decisions about punishment or transfer for adult proceedings. (*Id.* at pp. 599-600.) "The minor who is subject to the possibility of a transfer order should not be put to the unfair choice of being considered uncooperative by the juvenile probation officer and juvenile court because of his refusal to discuss his case with the probation officer, or of having his statements to that officer used against him in subsequent criminal proceedings." (*Bryan v. Superior Court, supra*, 7 Cal.3d at pp. 587-588.)

(*Id.* at p. 806.) The court also explicitly included in its holding that use immunity applies even when the minor has been found fit for treatment under the juvenile court. (*Id.* at p. 811.)

This bill prohibits the use of a minor's statements made during a transfer hearing or to the minor's probation officer for purposes of preparing a report for a transfer hearing from being used against the minor during subsequent juvenile proceedings or subsequent criminal proceedings, as specified.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

A New Way of Life (co-source)
All of Us or None (co-source)
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color (co-source)
Communities United for Restorative Justice (co-source)
Hang Out Do Good (co-source)
Haywood Burns Institute (co-source)
Hoops 4 Justice (co-source)
Legal Services for Prisoners with Children (co-source)
National Center for Youth Law (co-source)
The Voice of Transfer Youth (co-source)
Urban Peace Institute (co-source)
ACLU California Action
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
California Public Defenders Association
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights

Initiate Justice
Local 148 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union
San Quentin Skunkworks
Smart Justice California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

California District Attorneys Association
Chief Probation Officers' of California

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0, 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, 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, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, DeMaio, Ellis, Macedo, Michelle Rodriguez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
6/29/26 10:57:50

**** 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 1660
Author: Schiavo (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/23/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 52-10, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public guardians and public administrators

SOURCE: California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators

DIGEST: (1) This bill authorizes a court to award sanctions of no less than \$1,000 per violation if a financial institution or other person fails to comply with existing requirements to provide information or surrender property of a decedent, minor, or conservatee to a public administrator or public guardian that is authorized to take possession and control of such property after receipt of service of at least 30 days written notice to comply. (2) This bill provides that receipt of the written certification fully releases a financial institution from any liability for any act or omission of the public administrator or public guardian with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box, in addition to existing law that discharges them of final liability. Lastly, (3) this bill revises the statutory form certificate of authority for public guardians and establishes a statutory form certificate of authority for public administrators, as provided.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a public administrator to take charge of property of a decedent that is subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation, to locate the next of kin of

a decedent, and to petition the court to be appointed personal representative of the decedent's estate in order to effectuate a distribution of the estate. (Probate (Prob.) Code §§ 7600-7666.)

- 2) Authorizes a public administrator authorized to take possession or control of property pursuant to 1) to issue a “certificate of authority” of that fact. The public administrator may record a copy of the written certification in any county in which is located real property of which the public administrator is authorized to take possession or control. (Prob. Code § 7603(a).)
- 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. (Prob. Code § 2920.)
- 4) Authorizes a public guardian or public conservator [hereafter public guardian], where conditions of 3) have been met, to take possession or control of real or personal property of the subject person if the property is subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation. (Prob. Code § 2900.)
- 5) Authorizes a public guardian authorized to take possession or control of property pursuant to 3) to issue a written and recordable “certificate of authority” of that fact. Requires the certificate of authority to comply with a statutory form that includes the signature and official seal of the public guardian. (Section 2901 (a)-(c).)
- 6) Requires a financial institution, government or private agency, retirement fund administrator, insurance company, licensed securities dealer, or other person [hereafter financial institution], without necessity of inquiring into the truth of the written certification and without requiring a death certificate, to provide the public administrator with information about the decedent’s property, to grant access to a safe-deposit box, as specified, and to surrender an property of the decedent that, in the sole discretion of the public administrator, is deemed to be subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation. (Prob. Code §§ 7603 & 7660.)
- 7) Provides that the written certification in 6) constitutes sufficient basis for providing the information or surrendering the property and relieves the financial

institution from liability for any act or omission done pursuant to the requirements of 6). (Prob. Code §§ 7603(d)(2) & 7660(a)(2)(C)(ii).)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a court to award sanctions of no less than \$1,000 per violation if a financial institution or other person fails to comply with existing requirements to provide information or surrender property of a decedent, minor, or conservatee to a public administrator or public guardian that is authorized to take possession and control of such property after receipt of service of at least 30 days written notice to comply.
 - a) The 30 days' written notice to comply shall be served in accordance with Section 684.115 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which governs notice to financial institutions in the state.
- 2) Provides that receipt of the written certification fully releases a financial institution from any liability for any act or omission of the public administrator with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box, in addition to existing law that discharges them of final liability.
- 3) Revises the statutory form certificate of authority for public guardians and establishes a statutory form certificate of authority for public administrators, as provided.
- 4) Makes conforming and other nonsubstantive changes.

Comments

Public administrators are officers of a county authorized under the Prob. Code to take possession or control of property of a decedent that is subject to loss, injury, waste, or misappropriation. They are required to attempt to locate the will and next of kin of a decedent and instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains. If no other appropriate person exists or is willing or able to administer the decedent's estate, the public administrator is required to petition the court to be appointed personal representative of the decedent's estate in order to effectuate a distribution of the estate and to control disposition of the decedent's remains.

Public guardians are county-appointed officials who provides guardianship assistance for the estate of a minor when assets are substantial and parents are not available. A public guardian can also act as a public conservator to arrange for the

personal care or estate management for people who are unable to provide for their physical needs or manage their financial resources.

The sponsors of the bill state that:

It is common for banks and investment companies to deny a Public Administrator or Public Guardian/Conservator requests for information or control of assets even when presented with proper identification and legally prescribed documentation of authority. The lack of compliance by financial institutions delays the probate process and can create estate and guardianship complications, and/or worsen existing financial disputes. The significant time spent prodding financial institutions to comply with existing law, often more than six months, is a waste of county and taxpayer resources.

To address this issue, this bill authorizes a court to award sanctions of no less than \$1,000 per violation if a financial institution or other person fails to comply with requirements to provide information or surrender property of a decedent, minor, or conservatee to a public administrator or public guardian after receipt of service of at least 30 days written notice to comply. The 30 days' written notice to comply must be served in accordance with Section 684.115 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which governs notice to financial institutions in the state.

Additionally, this bill enacts a statutory form certificate of authority for public administrators and revises the existing statutory form certificate of authority for public guardians. The forms will require the full name of the individual for which they are appointed a public administrator or public guardian, the individual's social security number, date of birth, and last address. The statutory form certificate of authority will include special notes to financial institutions of their obligations under existing law and that if they comply with the certificate of authority they are discharged and released from liability for any act or omission of the public administrator or public guardian with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box. The certificates of authority will also require contact information for a financial institution to verify the identity of a public administrator or public guardian.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators (source)
Alameda County Board of Supervisors

California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
County Behavioral Health Directors Association
County of Humboldt
County of Kern

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

Association of California Life & Health Insurance Companies
Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies
California Bankers Association
California Credit Union League
National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies
Personal Insurance Federation of California
Securities Industry and Financial Markets Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

AB 1660 attempts to address a persistent problem faced by county Public Administrators (PA), Public Guardians (PG) and Public Conservators (PC) when lawfully seeking to secure the assets of individuals who have died, or who are now under guardianship or conservatorship.

A County Public Administrator is a fiduciary who manages the estates of people who die without a will or any known relatives. Public Administrators investigate and administer estates when there is no one else assigned. Under Probate Code 7600-7666, Public Administrators are granted the authority to take control of a deceased person's personal property, including bank accounts, safe-deposit boxes, and retirement accounts. Their primary responsibility is to protect assets from theft, fraud and misuse. Ultimately, they may be asked to pay the debts of the deceased and distribute any remaining assets to lawful heirs.

Public Guardians primarily assist individuals with dementia-related disorders that affect their ability to make decisions. Public Conservators become the legal decision-makers for individuals with serious mental illnesses that affect their ability to provide for their own basic needs. Probate Code 2901 and 2901.5 grant the Public Guardian/Conservator authority to secure property of conservatees.

The sponsor of this bill, the California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators write in support stating:

Current law outlines the procedure by which a PA, PG and PC obtain control of assets from banks, credit unions, investment companies, and online financial companies. Unfortunately, many financial institutions are ignoring the law by failing to cooperate timely with PA, PG, PC requests. AB 1660 allows courts to impose monetary sanctions of no less than \$1,000 on financial institutions who fail to timely comply with current law. [...]

AB 1660 does not expand authority or place any new mandates on financial institutions. Instead, it enhances existing law by allowing the court to impose fines for noncomplying financial institutions. In response to concerns presented by the opposition, fines are not automatic but will be left to the discretion of the court. Fines cannot be imposed for at least 30 days after a financial institution is served with a Certificate of Authority, newly created in statute, to assist banks and other similar institutions more easily confirm the identity of a Public Administrator and outlines the process they must follow. [...]

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 52-10, 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, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Alanis, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Castillo, Chen, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Irwin, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Michelle Rodriguez, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:09:11

**** 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** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1684
Author: Ward (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/16/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Seyarto

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common interest developments: cooling systems

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill renders a homeowner's association's (HOA) governing documents, architectural guidelines, and/or policies void and unenforceable if any provision prohibits or restricts the installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system that complies with all applicable state and local building codes in any separate interest within the common interest development (CID).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Davis-Stirling Act (Act) to govern the creation and operation of CIDs and the HOAs that govern them.
- 2) Declares it is the established policy of the state that all dwelling units be able to attain and maintain a safe maximum indoor temperature, as specified, and

provided that it does not expand any obligation of the state to provide a safe maximum indoor temperature or require the expenditure of additional state resources to develop infrastructure beyond the existing obligations.

- 3) Renders any covenant, condition, or restriction (CC&R) contained in any rental agreement or other instrument affecting the tenancy of a homeowner or resident in a mobilehome park void and unenforceable, if the mobilehome park prohibits or restricts a mobilehome owner or resident from installing, upgrading, replacing, or using a cooling system in their mobilehome.

This bill:

- 1) Renders an HOA's governing documents, architectural guidelines, and/or policies void and unenforceable if any provision within them prohibits or restricts the installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system in a separate interest that complies with all applicable state and local building codes.
- 2) Subject to 3), prohibits an HOA from doing any of the following:
 - a) Charge any fee to a member in connection with the installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system, as specified.
 - b) Require a member to use a specific cooling system, type of cooling system, or cooling system contractor or product.
 - c) Claim to receive any rebate, credit, or commission in connection with a member's installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system.
 - d) Require a member to remove a cooling system or prevent the replacement or upgrade of an existing cooling system.
- 3) Provides 2) shall not apply if the association establishes either of the following:
 - a) The installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of the cooling system would violate federal, state, or local law.
 - b) A permit from a designated permitting authority is required for the installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of the cooling system, and that permit is not granted.
 - i. "Permit" shall include any electrical, building, or other permit required by law for work associated with the cooling system.

- 4) Specifies that “cooling system” may include, but is not limited to, a portable air-conditioning unit, a window air-conditioning unit, a swamp cooler or any evaporative cooler, a cooling fan system, a heat pump, or any other technology that reasonably creates an internal temperature cooling benefit. Requires a cooling system meet applicable standards and requirements imposed by law.
- 5) Clarifies that none of this section shall be construed to limit or restrict the ability of an HOA to require a member, or any successor to the separate interest, whose installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system affects the common area or an exclusive use common area to do the following:
 - a) Be responsible for the repair of any damage to the common area or an exclusive use common area, or to another member’s separate interest, that is caused by the installation, operation, maintenance, or removal of that cooling system.
 - b) Engage a licensed contractor to install, maintain, and repair the cooling system.
 - i. This paragraph shall not apply when the installation, maintenance, or repair is for a portable air-conditioning unit, a window air-conditioning unit, an evaporative cooler, or any other cooling system that does not require a local building permit.
 - c) Disclose to prospective buyers of the separate interest the existence of the cooling system and related responsibilities of the owner under this section.
- 6) Provides that an HOA that willfully violates this section shall be liable to the member for actual damages occasioned thereby, and shall pay a civil penalty to the member in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.
- 7) Provides, notwithstanding any other law, a member who prevails in a civil action to enforce the member’s rights pursuant to this section shall be entitled to reasonable attorney’s fees and court costs.

Background

Davis-Stirling Act. The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing 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.

Comments

Author's statement. “By adding air conditioning to the list of protected uses for an HOA member, this bill ensures that a homeowner may install the cooling system of their choice without time consuming paperwork or costly fees. California homeowners deserve to make their own choices regarding heat management, regardless of home type or association membership. Choosing a cooling system that meets a family’s healthcare needs and remains financially feasible not only improves quality of life, but also helps protect vulnerable individuals from preventable heat-related illness.”

Extreme Heat and Residential Indoor Temperature Challenges. While current law generally provides for the right to heat in housing units during times of extreme cold, it does not guarantee indoor cooling during heat events. Heat exposure can cause a variety of health impacts, including heat cramps, heat exhaustion, heat stroke, exacerbation of respiratory illnesses, and can even lead to death. In fact, heat causes more reported deaths per year on average in the U.S. than any other weather hazard.¹ A heat wave in 2006 led to 140 deaths, as well as 16,000 more emergency room visits and 1,100 more hospitalizations, as compared to similar time periods without a heat wave. In 2023, the California Department of Public Health reported 395 excess deaths in California during a 10-day heat wave in September 2022. Due to climate change, this extreme weather will become more common. The California Fourth Climate Change Assessment estimates that by 2050, urban heat-related deaths could double or triple due to rising temperatures. In addition, lower-income communities in the state tend to be hotter than wealthier communities, and California metro areas have a larger temperature disparity between their poorest and wealthiest areas than any other state in the southwest.^{2,3}

¹ https://oehha.ca.gov/media/epic/downloads/19humanhealth_14jan2019.pdf

² <https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2021-10-28/extreme-heat-built-environment-equity>

³ Dialesandro, John; et al. *Dimension of thermal Inequity: Neighborhood Social Demographics and Urban Heat in the Southwestern U.S.* (Int. J. Environ. Res. Public Health, 2021). <https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/18/3/941>

Recent Efforts to Establish a Cooling Standard. In 2022, AB 2597 (Bloom) would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to develop, propose, and submit mandatory building standards for adequate residential cooling for both new and existing units. AB 2597 was held by the author in the Senate Housing Committee, due to concerns about placing onerous requirements on housing providers, circumventing the state regulatory process for building code adoption, and placing significant challenges on the electric grid due to more air conditioners running during peak energy demand times and during hot weather in general. Stemming from that conversation, legislation enacted as part of the budget agreement that year (AB 209, Committee on Budget) included a provision requiring HCD to provide recommendations to the Legislature by January 1, 2025, to help ensure that residential dwelling units can maintain a safe indoor temperature. As required by AB 209, HCD released its report in 2025, “Policy Recommendations: Recommended Maximum Safe Indoor Temperature.” The report recommends that the state consider a general maximum safe indoor air temperature of 82 degrees Fahrenheit for residential dwelling units, to be implemented by methods including building standards for newly constructed residential dwelling units, and/or incentive programs for retrofitting existing residential dwelling units, manufactured homes, and mobilehomes.⁴

In 2025, after the release of HCD’s Safe Indoor Temperature Policy Recommendations, the legislature enacted two additional bills related to safe indoor air temperatures. SB 655 (Stern, Chapter 522, Statutes of 2025) declared that it is state policy that all residential dwelling units shall be able to attain and maintain a safe maximum indoor temperature. It directed relevant state agencies to consider this safe maximum indoor temperature policy when revising or establishing programs, grant criteria, and regulations, with the regulatory requirement taking effect January 1, 2027. Notably, SB 655 did not expand any state obligation to provide a safe maximum indoor temperature or require additional infrastructure spending.

The second bill passed in 2025, AB 806 (Connolly, Chapter 343, Statutes of 2025) was substantially similar to this bill, but applied to mobilehomes and manufactured homes rather than separate interests in a CID. AB 806 prohibited any rental agreement, covenant, or other instrument in a mobilehome park, subdivision, cooperative, condominium, or resident-owned mobilehome park from restricting or prohibiting a homeowner or resident from installing, upgrading, replacing, or using

⁴ Department of Housing and Community Development, *Policy Recommendations: Recommended Maximum Indoor Air Temperature*

a cooling system in their mobilehome. The park management or ownership is prohibited from charging fees, requiring the use of specific products or contractors, claiming any rebates or commissions associated with the installation or upgrade, or requiring the removal of the cooling systems. AB 806 also prohibited mobilehome management or ownership from terminating any homeowner or resident's tenancy on the basis of cooling system installation or use. The provisions of AB 806 do not apply if the installation of a cooling system would violate any federal, state, or local laws (e.g., if a permit is required for the scope of work but not granted, or if the lot's power service cannot accommodate the amperage required to operate the new cooling system). Cooling systems are broadly defined to include portable or window AC units, evaporative coolers, fans, heat pumps, or any technology that creates an internal cooling benefit. Willful violations of the provisions of AB 806 carry liability for actual damages plus a civil penalty up to \$2,000, and prevailing parties in enforcement actions are entitled to attorney's fees.

Cooling System Installations in HOAs. Ultimately, the series of laws discussed in Comment 3 established a framework from which this bill was developed. This bill would render an HOA's governing documents, architectural guidelines, and/or policies null and void if they contain provisions prohibiting or restricting the installation, upgrade, replacement, or use of a cooling system that meets specified conditions. This is intended to ensure that associations do not impose onerous requirements on cooling systems. Under this bill, HOAs may not charge fees, require homeowners to use specific products or contractors, claim rebates or commissions from the cooling system installation, or require removal of cooling systems. Exceptions apply if the installation would violate any federal, state, or local law, or if a permit is required for the installation or use of the cooling system but is not granted.

Unlike mobilehome parks, where electrical infrastructure is often owned and controlled by park management, and residents may be submetered, homeowners in most HOA-governed single-family developments typically have a direct relationship with the electric utility and control the electrical panel serving their unit. While some condominium developments have master-metered or shared electrical systems controlled by the HOA, installations in those buildings would generally remain subject to applicable permitting requirements and building code provisions. While most of the cooling systems described by this bill would not require a permit, some will, including heat pumps. For those systems, an HOA would maintain the ability to prohibit or restrict such an installation if the proper permits are not acquired. This could help ensure that more complex cooling

systems are accompanied by more advanced oversight and address concerns surrounding impact of such installations on the electrical system.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Apartment Association
Marin Clean Energy

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Association of Realtors
Community Associations Institute - California Legislative Action Committee
Peninsula Place Homeowners Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Those writing in support of this bill argue that it will make it easier for HOA members to install cooling systems in an efficient and cost-effective way, enabling them to combat extreme heat events.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The primary concerns raised by those writing in opposition are related to whether aging electrical systems in HOAs will be able to handle new cooling systems being installed and whether costs associated with upgrading those systems will be borne by the installer or the entire association.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 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, 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, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Caloza, Chen, Hart, Tangipa

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/26/26 13:09:12

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1712
Author: Pacheco (D)
Amended: 4/6/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: City of Santa Fe Springs: sale of water utility property

SOURCE: City of Santa Fe Springs

DIGEST: This bill allows the City of Santa Fe Springs to sell its water utility without voter approval under specified circumstances.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes a policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes.
- 2) Encourages the consolidation of small community water systems that serve disadvantaged communities, under specified conditions.
- 3) Allows, under specified conditions, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to order the consolidation of a public water system or a state small water system within a disadvantaged community.

- 4) Limits the liability of any agency in the chain of distribution that delivers water to a consolidated water system.
- 5) Allows cities to sell their public utilities when they determine doing so to be in the public interest with a 2/3 vote. However, cities can lease, sell, or transfer their water utilities with majority governing board and voter approval instead.

This bill:

- 1) Allows the City of Santa Fe Springs to sell its water utility for the purpose of consolidating its public water system with another public water system if its legislative body determines it is not in the public interest for the city to own and operate the utility, pursuant to the following requirements:
 - a) The City shall not sell the water utility property for less than its fair market value, as defined.
 - b) The City shall not sell the water utility property without obtaining a 4/5ths vote of its legislative body.
 - c) The City's existing water supply is contaminated, impaired, or otherwise presents a risk to public health, and the City lacks the technical, managerial, or financial capacity to provide for necessary treatment or replacement, or the cost of continued operation, maintenance, or treatment by the City would impose an unreasonable financial burden on ratepayers, as demonstrated by an independent financial analysis applying financial industry standards in adherence to Section 6 of Article XIII D of the California Constitution, commonly referred to as Proposition 218.
 - d) Consolidation of the water systems shall be economically feasible for the ratepayers of the subsumed water system. Ratepayers of the subsumed water system shall be notified of the applicable rate that will be in effect during the first year after consolidation has been completed. Any rate increases following the sale of a public utility for furnishing water service shall be phased in over time.
 - e) Consolidation of the water systems shall ensure continued water service to all existing customers without interruption or degradation in service quality.
 - f) The City shall not sell its public utility for furnishing water service unless it considers oral and written protests at its second regularly scheduled meeting following the adoption of a specified resolution and publication. The resolution shall allow 45 days for hearing protests to the sale and shall state

the city's intended use of the sale proceeds. Notice of the sale may be given by including notice in the agency's regular billing statement. One written protest per parcel, filed by an owner or tenant of the parcel, shall be counted in calculating a protest. The City shall maintain all written protests for a minimum of two years following the date of the hearing to consider written protests.

- g) The resolution shall be published at least once in a daily newspaper published and circulated in the City or, if there is none, the City shall designate a newspaper published in the county. It shall also be posted for not less than 10 days in at least three conspicuous places in the City.
- h) If the City finds that protests have been filed by at least 10% of interested persons, the City shall call an election, as specified. If an election is called, the City shall not sell the public utility for furnishing water service unless the sale is approved by a majority of the City's registered voters voting on the issue.
- i) If 50% or more of interested persons protest the sale of the public utility, the city shall not take further steps for the sale of the public utility. The City, after one year has passed, may sell the public utility if the requirements of this bill are met, including adoption of a new resolution.

2) Sunsets the city's authority on January 1, 2032.

Background

Sales of water utilities. In 2018, the Legislature allowed the Cities of El Monte, Montebello, and Willows to sell their water utilities for the purposes of consolidating with another agency without voter approval under specific circumstances (AB 2339, Gipson, Chapter 866, Statutes of 2018) using a process substantially similar to the one that AB 1712 authorizes for the City of Santa Fe Springs. AB 850 (Gallagher, Chapter 705, Statutes of 2021) extended the sunset on the authorization for the Cities of El Monte, Montebello, and Willows to sell their water utilities without voter approval under specified circumstances from January 1, 2022, to January 1, 2024. The City of Montebello successfully sold its water utility to the San Gabriel Valley Water Company in 2023 for \$15.9 million. Later in 2023, California Water Service purchased the City of Willow's water utility. So far, the City of El Monte has not sold its water utility.

Santa Fe Springs. The City of Santa Fe Springs is located in Southeast Los Angeles County with a population of approximately 19,000 residents. According to

the City's 2024 Annual Water Quality Report, the City obtains its water from treated groundwater and water from the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. As of 2020, the City's water system had 6,788 municipal water connections. The City's water system serves most, but not all, of the City, and parts of the cities of Downey and Norwalk.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "All Californians deserve access to clean, affordable water. However, smaller water systems – such as the one owned by the city of Santa Fe Springs – cannot always afford to hold rates steady while performing much-needed upgrades. If Santa Fe Springs were to finance its desperately needed upgrades, ratepayers would see a nearly 300% increase on their bills. In contrast, if the city sells its system to a larger entity regulated by the California Public Utilities Commission, the larger ratepayer base will allow the new entity to perform critical upgrades with significantly lower rate increases. AB 1712 allows the city to sell its water system through a public protest process (rather than a municipal election), thus saving the city, and ultimately ratepayers, money while supporting much-needed upgrades to the water system."

Public participation. Cities form municipal utilities to control the provision of vital public services, such as water. Instead of distant private corporations owned by shareholders, municipal ownership of utilities provides public control and accountability: voters know who to contact when service is substandard, infrastructure improvements are needed, or rates are too high. If the city sells to a private water utility, residents have to go to the California Public Utilities Commission in San Francisco and navigate the Commission's complex intervenor process to have their voices heard. Like AB 2339 before it, AB 1712 gives residents the opportunity to protest the proposed sale of the utility if they want to keep it in the hands of local officials. However, if the city receives an insufficient number of protests, it can move forward with the sale of the utility without an election. Does the protest process give residents sufficient opportunity to weigh in on a potential sale of a city's water utility?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

City of Santa Fe Springs (Source)
California Contract Cities Association
California Water Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

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: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119

7/1/26 16:54:57

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1758
Author: Nguyen (D)
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27- Urgency

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 8-3, 6/15/26

AYES: Wahab, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg

NOES: Choi, Niello, Strickland

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-15, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Sellers of travel

SOURCE: California Coalition of Travel Organizations

DIGEST: This bill increases the maximum annual amount each seller of travel is required to pay to fund the operations of the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation (TCRC) from \$35 to \$60 and authorizes the TCRC to increase the maximum amount annually to accommodate for inflation.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Sellers of Travel law (Law) which provides a comprehensive scheme for the regulation of Sellers of Travel (SOTs), as defined, and requires a SOT, unless exempted, to register with the Attorney General (AG) and to comply with various requirements. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 17550 *et. seq.*)
- 2) Defines a SOT as a person who sells, provides, furnishes, contracts for, arranges, or advertises that they can or may arrange, or has arranged, at

wholesale or retail either of the following: air or sea transportation either separately or in conjunction with other travel services, or land or water vessel transportation, other than sea carriage, either separately or in conjunction with other travel services if the total charge to the passenger exceeds three hundred dollars (\$300). (BPC § 17550.1(a))

- 3) Excludes the following from the definition of a SOT: an air carrier; an ocean carrier; a hotel, motel, or similar lodging establishment that arranges for transportation for its registered guests; a motor club; or a motor or rail carrier or water vessel operator operating from a state, federal, or other governmental entity. (BPC § 17550.1(b))
- 4) Requires a SOT to register with the AG and file certain information as part of registration, including the name and contact information of individuals a SOT contracts with. Requires the AG to suspend a SOT's registration for failure to make payment to the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund (TCRF) or write a registration fee check that is not honored. Authorizes the AG to contract for the processing of SOT registrations. Exempts individuals that conduct their activities in accordance with specified procedures and disclosures. (BPC §§ 17550.20, 17550.21)
- 5) Establishes the Travel Consumer Restitution Corporation (TCRC) which creates the TCRF as a mechanism for an aggrieved passenger to be reimbursed when a SOT fails to provide for travel or in the event that a SOT becomes insolvent. Specifies that a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund is a registered seller of travel with its principal place of business in California, who does business with persons located in California, or is a registered seller of travel that does business in California, from one or more locations in California. (BPC §§ 17550.7 and 17550.38)
- 6) Requires the TCRC to establish and maintain an operations fund for the payment of costs of operations and administration and requires the corporation to estimate an annual operational budget projecting the costs of operations and administration for the next fiscal year, excluding the amount paid for claims. Requires all participants to pay their initial one-time \$75 assessment per business location in the state to provide additional funding for the operational fund and their initial one-time \$200 assessment per business location in the state to provide additional funding for the restitution fund. Requires the TCRC to establish a restitution fund for the payment of claims. (BPC § 17550.43 (a)(b)(d))

- 7) Specifies that the annual assessment for the operations fund cannot exceed \$35 per year for each location in the state from which a participant does business. (BPC § 17550.44)
- 8) Authorizes the TCRC to, if the balance in the restitution fund is less than \$1.6 million, require participants to pay up to a maximum \$200 assessment for each location in the state from which the participant does business. (BPC § 17550.44 (c))
- 9) Authorizes the TCRC to, if the balance in the restitution fund is less than \$900,000, require participants to pay an emergency assessment, not more than twice per year, of up to \$150 per year for each location in the state from which the participant does business. (BPC § 17550.44 (d))
- 10) If at any time the board of directors of the TCRC determine the operations fund will be insufficient to pay the costs of operations and administration for the current or next fiscal year they must either require participants pay an emergency assessment, not more than once per fiscal year, up to a maximum of \$65 for each location in the state from which the participant does business. The emergency assessment may be billed and collected either on an emergency basis from all participants or in conjunction with each participant's annual assessment; or transfer any or all interest earned on the Restitution Fund to the Operations Fund, provided that no transfer results in a restitution fund balance of less than \$1.2 million. (BPC § 17550.44 (e))
- 11) Requires the TCRC to report to the AG each levy of assessment within 10 business days of the levy. (BPC § 17550.44 (g))

This bill increases the maximum annual amount for the operations fund each SOT is required to pay for the TCRC, from \$35 to \$60, and then, starting January 1, 2031, to a maximum of \$70 per year, for each location in the state from which a SOT does business and after January 1, 2031, authorizes the TCRC to increase the maximum amount once per fiscal year in an amount not to exceed any one-year increase in the California Consumer Price Index for the immediately preceding year.

Background

The Law. The Sellers of Travel Law was enacted by SB 918 (Chapter 1123, Statutes of 1994), authored by then-Assemblymember Jackie Speier and sponsored by the California Coalition of Travel Organizations working in cooperation with the AG's office. The law requires all sellers of travel to register with the AG's

office, pay an annual fee to fund the program and pay annual assessments into a self-sustaining restitution fund (the TCRF). This law provides specific protections to consumers who purchase sea or air transportation either singly or in conjunction with other travel services, such as lodging and car rentals. The Law applies to all sellers located in California, as well as those who sell or offer to sell from locations outside the state to persons located in California. The Law applies to both retail and wholesale transactions, and covers sales by tour operators, consolidators, and wholesalers. A seller who only offers lodging, bus, or train tours without also offering air or sea transportation is not covered by the Law. Lodging establishments that book travel for their guests and accept no money for doing so, along with airlines, and cruise lines, are also not covered by this law.

The Law provides several layers of protections for consumers, including:

- *Disclosure and identification of the seller.* Among other things, sellers of travel must disclose business addresses, fictitious business names, identifying information of principals and owners, any relationship with airlines, and the location of a trust account or information about a surety bond. The registration number, displayed in all advertising and offers to sell, is a means of identifying the businesses in the event of claims or complaints and does not indicate any review or approval of the business by the AG's office. Therefore, so long as the seller discloses the necessary information in its application and pays the appropriate fees, the registration will be approved and a registration number issued.
- *Financial protections.* Some sellers of travel must deposit payments into a trust account or obtain a surety bond on behalf of their customers. In addition, sellers receiving payment from a passenger may not use that money for any other purpose (i.e., to buy travel on behalf of another passenger, pay rent or business overhead, or any personal use) until it has delivered the purchased goods and services.
- *Restitution fund.* The law provides for a private non-profit corporation, the TCRC, which administers the TCRF. If the purchaser is located in California and the purchase is from a registered seller of travel whose principal place of business is also in California, and the purchaser does not receive what he or she contracted to purchase, the purchaser can file a claim with the TCRC. Registered California sellers and out-of-state sellers whose stock is nationally traded are required to pay annual assessments to the TCRC.
- *Written disclosures.* Prior to or at the time of receiving any payment, a seller of travel must provide the purchaser with various written disclosures including its name, business address and telephone number, an itinerary, a statement about its cancellation policy, the total amount to be paid, the amount paid to date, the

date of any future payment, the purpose of the payment made, an itemized statement of any balance due, whether it has a trust account or surety bond, whether the payment is protected by the TCRF, and how to make a claim of the TCRC.

The Law also provides for a number of guarantees. In the event that there is a cancellation, the purchaser is entitled to receive a prompt and automatic refund. If there is a material misrepresentation by the SOT, the Law likewise requires a refund. Finally, the Law provides that once the SOT has received the purchaser's full payment, the purchased tickets must be promptly delivered.

In addition to being required to register with the AG, a registered SOT must pay an initial one-time \$75 assessment per business location in the state into the TCRC's operation fund and an initial one-time payment of \$200 assessment per business location in the state into the restitution fund. After the initial \$75 assessment fee the SOT is required to pay an annual \$35 into the TCRC's operation fund. If the balance in the restitution fund is less than \$1.6 million, the TCRC will require SOT to pay a maximum of \$200 for each business location in the state. A participant's assessment is determined pro rata based upon the ratio of the number of locations in the state from which the participant does business to the total number of locations for all participants.

Further, the TCRC may charge an SOT and emergency assessment for operation costs of no more than \$65 once per year for each business location in the state and a maximum of \$150 per year, not more than twice a year, for each business location in the state if the balance in the restitution fund is less than \$900,000. The funds are deposited in a trust account until the level of the restitution fund balance reaches \$1.6 million.

This bill increases the assessment fees SOT's pay and allows limited increases in fees tied to the California Consumer Price Index ensuring the long-term financial stability of the fund and continued consumer protection for travelers provided by the TCRC. Upon passage, this bill will take effect immediately as a tax levy.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Coalition of Travel Organizations (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California Coalition of Travel Organizations writes in support, “California’s SOT Law requires travel businesses operating in the state to register and participate in the Fund. The monies are utilized to reimburse consumers who lose money when a registered seller of travel fails to provide promised travel services because of fraud, insolvency, or closure. This bill increases the cap from \$35 to \$ 60 per year for each location in California from which a travel business operates and allows limited annual adjustments tied to inflation. Beginning January 1, 2031, the assessment cap will be \$70 per business location. This update helps ensure the fund remains financially stable and able to reimburse consumers when travel services are not provided due to fraud, bankruptcy, or business closure.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-15, 5/28/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, 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, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Schiavo, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Castillo, Flora, Lackey, Patel, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. / , Anna Billy / B., P. & E.D. /
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**** 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** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1778
Author: Patterson (R)
Amended: 6/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Controlled substances: testosterone

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill provides that if testosterone or dihydrotestosterone is removed from Schedule III of the federal Controlled Substances Act and rescheduled to a less restrictive schedule or exempted under federal law, it will be deemed rescheduled or exempted, respectively, under the state Controlled Substances Act.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Classifies controlled substances in five schedules according to their danger and potential for abuse. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code, §§ 11054-11058.)
- 2) Classifies testosterone as a Schedule III controlled substance. Provides an exception when possessed by, sold to, purchased by, transferred to, or administered by a licensed veterinarian, or a licensed veterinarian's designated agent, exclusively for veterinary use. (Health & Saf. Code, § 11056, subd. (f)(30).)

- 3) Makes the possession of a non-narcotic Schedule III controlled substance a misdemeanor, unless upon the prescription of a physician, dentist, podiatrist, or veterinarian licensed to practice in this state, and punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for a period of not more than one year. Provides that a person may instead be sentenced to 16 months, two years, or three years in county jail if that person has one or more prior convictions for specified offenses. (Health & Saf. Code § 11377, subd. (a).)
- 4) Makes possession for sale of a non-narcotic Schedule III substance a felony subject to imprisonment in county jail for 16 months, 2 years or 3 years. (Health & Saf. Code, § 11378.)
- 5) Makes trafficking of a non-narcotic Schedule III substance a felony subject to imprisonment in county jail for 2, 3, or 4 years. (Health & Saf. Code, § 11379.)
- 6) Makes manufacturing, producing, or preparing a non-narcotic Schedule III controlled substance either directly or indirectly by chemical extraction or independently by means of chemical synthesis a felony punishable by imprisonment in county jail for 3, 5, or 7 years and a fine of up to \$50,000. (Health & Saf. Code, § 11379.6, subd. (a).)
- 7) Makes offering to manufacture, produce, or prepare a non-narcotic Schedule III controlled substance either directly or indirectly by chemical extraction or independently by means of chemical synthesis a felony punishable by imprisonment in county jail for 3, 4, or 5 years. (Health & Saf., § 11379.6, subd. (e).)

This bill provides that if testosterone or dihydrotestosterone is removed from Schedule III of the federal Controlled Substances Act and rescheduled to a less restrictive schedule or exempted under federal law, it will be deemed rescheduled or exempted, respectively, under the state Controlled Substances Act.

Background

Through the Controlled Substances Act (CSA) of 1970, the federal government regulates the manufacture, distribution, and dispensing of controlled substances. The CSA groups drugs into five schedules with decreasing potential for physical or psychological harm, based on three considerations: accepted medical use; potential for abuse; and, safety or dependency liability. Two goals of the CSA are “to ensure that patients have access to pharmaceutical controlled substances for legitimate

medical purposes while also seeking to protect public health from the dangers of controlled substances diverted into or produced for the illicit market.”

(Congressional Research Service, *Summary, The Controlled Substances Act: A Legal Overview for the 119th Congress* (Jan. 22, 2025) available at <<https://www.congress.gov/crs-product/R45948> .) Consistent with those goals are the CSA’s provisions designed to prevent diversion and misuse of controlled substances. (*Id.* at p. 2.) Substances are added to or removed from the schedules through agency action or by legislation. (*Id.* at p. 9.)

California’s controlled substances schedules largely follow the federal schedules. (See *People v. Ward* (2008) 167 Cal.App.4th 252, 259 [“In the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act, California adopted the five schedules of controlled substances used in federal law and in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act”]; *Williamson v. Bd. Of Medical Quality Assurance* (1990) 271 Cal.App.3d 1343, 1352, fn. 1. [“Effective January 1, 1985, Schedules I through V of the California Uniform Controlled Substances Act were revised so as to generally parallel the five schedules contained in the Federal Controlled Substances Act.”].) The controlled substance schedules are codified in Health and Safety Code sections 11054 to 11058.

- Schedule I controlled substances, such as heroin, ecstasy, and LSD, have a high potential for abuse and no generally accepted medical use.
- Schedule II controlled substances have a currently accepted medical use, with significant risk to patient safety, and have a high potential for abuse and dependence. Schedule II drugs can be narcotics or non-narcotic. Examples of Schedule II controlled substances include morphine, oxycodone, codeine, and amphetamine.
- Schedule III controlled substances have a currently accepted medical use and potential for abuse leading to moderate physical dependence. Examples of Schedule III controlled substances include ketamine and anabolic steroids.
- Schedule IV controlled substances have a currently accepted medical use and low potential for abuse which may lead to limited physical dependence. Examples of Schedule IV controlled substances include benzodiazepines.
- Schedule V controlled substances have a low potential for abuse or dependence. Examples of Schedule V controlled substances include buprenorphine and narcotic drugs containing non-narcotic active medicinal ingredients.

Testosterone and dihydrotestosterone. Testosterone is an androgenic hormone that is essential to the development of male growth and masculine characteristics. It is classified as a Schedule III controlled substance under both federal and California law. Testosterone products are FDA-approved solely for use in men who lack or

have low testosterone levels in conjunction with an associated medical condition. ([https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-alerts-and-statements/fda-issues-class-wide-labeling-changes-testosterone-](https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-alerts-and-statements/fda-issues-class-wide-labeling-changes-testosterone-products?aff_id=DAPL4&order=ASC&orderby=post_date)

[products?aff_id=DAPL4&order=ASC&orderby=post_date](https://www.fda.gov/drugs/drug-alerts-and-statements/fda-issues-class-wide-labeling-changes-testosterone-products?aff_id=DAPL4&order=ASC&orderby=post_date)) Current FDA-approved testosterone formulations include oral, topical gel, transdermal patch, buccal system (applied to upper gum or inner cheek), and injection. (*Ibid.*)

Testosterone is also widely used as part of gender-affirming hormone therapy for transgender men and some nonbinary individuals, where it is considered a medically necessary treatment by major medical organizations.

(<https://www.endocrine.org/clinical-practice-guidelines/gender-dysphoria-gender-incongruence>)

Dihydrotestosterone (DHT) is the most potent male sex hormone and is considered a pure androgen because it cannot convert into estrogen.

(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/books/NBK557634/>) DHT plays a vital role in the sexual development of males, and a deficiency or excess of DHT leads to specific pathologies. As adult men age, DHT does not play a significant role in their physiology. However, the most notable effects of issues with DHT in adult men are prostate enlargement and male pattern hair loss. (*Ibid.*)

Testosterone, DHT, and other anabolic steroids are associated with non-medical use, particularly in athletic performance enhancement and bodybuilding. The U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) has identified anabolic steroid misuse, including testosterone, as a persistent concern due to risks of cardiovascular harm, liver damage, and hormonal disruption. (<https://www.dea.gov/factsheets/steroids>) Additionally, the World Anti-Doping Agency prohibits testosterone and DHT use in competitive sports due to potential misuse for its performance-enhancing effects. (<https://www.wada-ama.org/en/prohibited-list>)

Testosterone is currently included in Schedule III of the controlled substance schedules. This bill provides that if testosterone or DHT is removed from Schedule III of the federal Controlled Substances Act and rescheduled to a less restrictive schedule or exempted under federal law, it will be deemed rescheduled or exempted, respectively, under the state Controlled Substances Act. As such, obtaining testosterone or DHT would still require a prescription but it would be subject to fewer restrictions and regulations. For example, prescribers and dispensers would no longer be mandated to report their prescribing and dispensing activities to the state's prescription drug monitoring program. Criminal liability for possession, possession for sale, manufacturing, etc. of a non-narcotic Schedule III substance without a prescription would also no longer apply.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

California Pharmacists Association
Drug Policy Alliance
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

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: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
7/1/26 16:54:59

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1781
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D)
Introduced: 2/9/26
Vote: 21

SENATE INSURANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Padilla, Becker, Jones, Menjivar, Richardson, Rubio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern,
Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

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

SUBJECT: Federal Home Loan Banks

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) from being stayed, enjoined, or prohibited from exercising or enforcing any right or cause of action against collateral pledged by an insurer-member or an FHLB insurer-member under any FHLB security agreement.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides for the regulation of insurers, agents and brokers, and other insurance-like organizations by the Insurance Commissioner, and imposes a broad range of financial solvency, licensing and market behavior requirements, as set forth in the Insurance Code.

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits a receiver, rehabilitator, liquidator, or conservator from voiding any transfer of, or any obligation to transfer, money or other property arising under or in connection with any FHLB security agreement with an insurer-member unless the transfer was made with actual intent to hinder, delay, or defraud either existing or future creditors.
- 2) Defines “Federal Home Loan Bank” as an institution that is established under the Federal Home Loan Bank Act as a government-sponsored enterprise to support mortgage lending and related community investment.
- 3) Defines “insurer-member” as an insurer that is a member of a Federal Home Loan Bank, which consists of approximately 6,500 financial institutions in the United States, including commercial banks, community banks, credit unions, insurance companies, and community development financial institutions.

Comments

Federal Home Loan Banks. FHLBs provide their members with a source of funding for mortgages and asset-liability management, liquidity for short-term needs, and additional funds for housing finance and community development. FHLBs provide long- and short-term loans, also called advances, to their members. All borrowed funds must also be backed by collateral pledged to the FHLB. Collateral includes mortgages, mortgage-backed securities, loans and securities issued by the United States Government, securities issued by any U.S. agency, cash or deposits at the FHLB, and other collateral that is real estate related.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Bankers Association
California's Credit Unions
Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco states:

Reliable access to low-cost liquidity is essential for insurance companies, particularly during periods of financial stress or elevated claims activity. Like banks and credit unions, insurance company members of the Federal Home Loan Bank System rely on secured advances backed by eligible collateral, including mortgages, mortgage-backed securities, and U.S. Treasuries. These advances support financial stability and help members continue serving policyholders across economic cycles.

Under current California law, however, Federal Home Loan Banks do not receive the same protections for pledged collateral in an insurance company receivership that exist for depository institutions under federal law. As a result, collateral pledged to FHLBank San Francisco could be subject to stay or voidable transfer provisions, creating uncertainty and uneven treatment among Federal Home Loan Bank members. This disparity can lead to more restrictive or costly liquidity terms for California-domiciled insurers.

AB 1781 addresses this issue by clarifying that Federal Home Loan Banks may access pledged collateral as secured lenders during an insurance company receivership, consistent with federal law and with the treatment already afforded to banks and credit unions. The bill would also establish a clear and orderly receivership process, providing greater certainty for regulators, insurers, and market participants.

Importantly, AB 1781 does not create a special creditor preference or alter existing secured lending standards. The Uniform Commercial Code, priority of claims, and policyholder protections remain unchanged. In fact, improved access to reliable liquidity can benefit policyholders by supporting insurers' financial stability and facilitating orderly receivership operations if a failure occurs.

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: Brandon Seto / INS. / (916) 651-4110
6/26/26 13:09:12

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1786
Author: Harabedian (D)
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public contracts: best value construction contracting for counties, cities, and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

SOURCE: San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments

DIGEST: This bill 1) extends the best-value contracting pilot program to include cities and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, 2) reduces the dollar threshold for projects to qualify, and 3) extends the sunset date to January 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes a pilot program for counties to select bidder on the basis of best value.
- 2) Awards contracts for construction projects in excess of \$1 million to the bidder representing the best value.
- 3) Establishes that participating counties must satisfy a number of requirements in order to use this authority, including:

- a) Adopting and publishing procedures and required criteria that ensure all selections are conducted in a fair and impartial manner.
- b) Evaluating at a public meeting the alternative of awarding the contract on the basis of the lowest bid price.
- c) Making a written finding that awarding a contract on the basis of best value will reduce project costs, expedite project completion, and/or provide features not achievable via the low-bid method.
- d) Preparing bid solicitations and providing notice as required by the Local Agency Public Construction Act (LAPC Act) and complying with the Subcontracting Fair Practices Act regarding subcontractors identified in a bid.
- e) Establishing prequalification procedures in accordance with the LAPC Act.
- f) Including in bid solicitations the criteria and rating system a county will consider in evaluating bids.
- g) Prequalifying or shortlisting only those contractors who provide an enforceable commitment to use a skilled and trained workforce to perform all work on the project that falls within an apprenticeable occupation, with specified exceptions.
- h) Appointing an evaluation committee, which must evaluate bidders solely upon the criteria in the bid solicitations and assign a qualifications score to each bid.
- i) Determining best value by dividing each bidder's price by its qualifications score, with the lowest cost per quality point representing the best value bid.
- j) Publicly announcing bid awards, including the score of the selected contractor in relation to all other bidders.
- k) Submitting a report to the Legislature, including information about the county's use of the bill's authority, before the pilot program sunsets.

This bill:

- 1) Expands the types of local agencies that may use best value contracting, pursuant to existing law governing the use of best value for counties, to include cities (including charter cities) and the San Gabriel Valley COG.

- 2) Reduces the dollar threshold for construction projects that are eligible for this authorization, from \$1 million to \$500,000.
- 3) Extends the existing sunset date on this authorization from January 1, 2030, to January 1, 2032.
- 4) Makes a number of technical and conforming changes.
- 5) Provides that no reimbursement is required by this bill pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this bill creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

Background

Contracting. The Local Agency Public Construction Act (the Act) generally requires local agencies to invite bids for construction projects and award contracts to the lowest responsible bidder. Local agencies typically use the traditional design-bid-build method for constructing public works. This approach splits construction projects into two distinct phases: design and construction. During the design phase, the local agency prepares detailed project plans and specifications using its own employees or by hiring outside architects and engineers. Once project designs are complete, local agencies invite bids from the construction community and award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder.

Over the last couple of decades, the Legislature has gradually expanded local agencies' authority to procure construction projects using various alternatives to the design-bid-build project delivery method. These alternatives include:

- “Design-build” contracting, which allows local agencies to procure both design and construction services from a single company before the development of complete plans and specifications SB 785 (Wolk, Chapter 931, Statutes of 2014).
- “Construction manager at risk” contracting, which allows local agencies to retain a construction manager, who provides pre-construction services during the design period, later becomes the general contractor during the construction process, and is responsible for delivering the project within an agreed upon

price, thereby assuming the risk for cost overruns SB 328 (Knight, Chapter 517, Statutes of 2013).

During the bidding phase, these alternative procurement methods allow a local agency to evaluate bids on a “best-value” basis, incorporating technical factors, such as qualifications, in addition to price. For example, the statutes authorizing design-build contracting allow local agencies to award a contract based on consideration of objective criteria that include features, functions, lifecycle costs, experience, and past performance.

County best-value contracting pilot. SB 762 (Wolk, Chapter 627, Statutes of 2015) established a pilot program until January 1, 2020, that allowed the counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Solano, and Yuba to award contracts for construction projects in excess of \$1 million using the best-value method.

SB 793 (Hill, Chapter 627, Statutes of 2017) added San Mateo County to the pilot program and allowed counties participating in the pilot to use the program to award individual annual contracts for repair, remodeling, or other repetitive work to be done according to unit prices – also known as “job-order contracting.” If a county uses the best-value method for job order contracts, the contracts must:

- Not exceed \$3 million, adjusted for inflation;
- Not be for new construction; and
- Apply the best-value method criteria to the annual contract for construction services, not to an individual project.

Additionally, participating counties can extend annual contracts for two annual terms to a maximum of \$6 million over that period. Counties must adjust contract values annually to reflect the percentage change in the California consumer price index.

SB 128 (Beall, Chapter 501, Statutes of 2019) added Monterey and Santa Clara counties to the authorization and extended the sunset date from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025. As a result, ten counties were eligible to use the best-value procurement method: Alameda, Los Angeles, Monterey, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Yuba.

Most recently, AB 1957 (Wilson, Chapter 58, Statutes of 2024) expanded the authority to all counties and extended the sunset date to January 1, 2030.

Best-value contracting requirements. Participating counties must satisfy a number of requirements to use the best-value contracting authority, including to:

- Adopt and publish procedures and required criteria to ensure local agencies select bids in a fair and impartial manner;
- Evaluate at a public meeting the alternative of awarding the contract on the basis of the lowest bid price;
- Make a written finding that awarding the contract on the basis of best value will reduce project costs, expedite project completion, and/or provide features not achievable via the low-bid method;
- Prepare bid solicitations and provide notice as required by the Act, and comply with the Subcontracting Fair Practices Act regarding subcontractors identified in a bid;
- Establish prequalification procedures in accordance with the Act;
- Include in bid solicitations the criteria and rating system a county will consider in evaluating bids;
- Prequalify or shortlist only those contractors who provide an enforceable commitment to use a skilled and trained workforce to perform all work on the project that falls within an apprenticeable occupation, with specified exceptions;
- Appoint an evaluation committee, which must evaluate bidders solely upon the criteria in the bid solicitations and assign a qualifications score to each bid;
- Determine best value by dividing each bidder's price by its qualifications score, with the lowest cost per quality point representing the best-value bid;
- Announce bid awards publicly, including the score of the selected contractor in relation to all other bidders; and
- Submit a report to the Legislature, including information about the county's use of the bill's authority on or before March 1, 2029.

Comments

According to the author, “AB 1786 provides local governments and contract cities with the flexibility to select contractors based not only on cost, but also on proven experience, safety records, and past performance, ensuring taxpayer dollars deliver the highest possible value. By allowing contract cities to use best-value contracting for complex projects, this bill helps reduce costly delays, improve project quality, and promote safer worksites. The result is more efficient delivery of critical public investments, including roads, housing, and infrastructure, that communities rely on every day, completed on time and within budget.”

Clear as mud. The Joint Exercise of Powers Act authorizes public agencies to jointly exercise powers that they share in common. Because this bill extends best value procurement authority to all cities, the member agencies of SGVCOG would share that authority in common and could exercise it through the JPA. While this bill specifically grants the authority to SGVCOG, other JPAs with membership consisting of cities and counties would also gain best value procurement authority because their members would gain this new shared power.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments (Source)

American Society of Civil Engineers-region 9

California Chapters of the American Public Works Association

California Infrastructure Delivery Coalition

California State Association of Counties

City of Azusa

City of Baldwin Park

City of Claremont

City of Diamond Bar

City of Duarte

City of Glendora

City of Hesperia

City of Industry

City of Monrovia

City of Monterey Park

City of Rosemead

City of San Dimas

City of Sierra Madre

City of South Pasadena

City of Thousand Oaks

City of Tulare

City of Walnut

City of Westminster

LA County Board of Supervisor Hilda Solis

League of California Cities

Los Angeles County

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

Associated General Contractors, California Chapters
Western Electrical Contractors Association

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: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119

7/1/26 16:54:59

**** **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 1794
Author: Ransom (D)
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pharmacy: enteral nutrition supplements or replacements

SOURCE: California Association of Medical Product Suppliers

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a pharmacist, manufacturer, or wholesaler to participate in an arrangement or agreement to deliver enteral nutrition supplements, as defined, or replacements directly to a patient's residence pursuant to a valid order from a prescriber acting within their scope of practice without this being considered the unlicensed practice of pharmacy.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Regulates the practice of pharmacy under the Pharmacy Law and establishes the California State Board of Pharmacy (Board) to administer and enforce the Pharmacy Law. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 4000-4427.8)
- 2) Exempts a manufacturer or wholesaler that provides dialysis drugs and devices directly to patients from the prohibition against unlicensed pharmacy practice. (BPC § 4054)

- 3) Authorizes a pharmacist, or a manufacturer or wholesaler exempted from the unlicensed practice of pharmacy for dialysis drugs, to distribute dangerous drugs and dangerous devices directly to dialysis patients pursuant to regulations adopted by the board, as specified. (BPC § 4059(c))
- 4) Defines "food" as (a) articles used for food or drink for humans or animals, (b) chewing gum, and (c) articles used for components of any such article. (Health and Safety Code § 109935)
- 5) The Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law establishes California's statutory framework governing foods, drugs, devices, and cosmetics, including provisions relating to their manufacture, packaging, labeling, distribution, and sale within the state.
- 6) Defines "medical food" as a food which is formulated to be consumed or administered enterally under the supervision of a physician and which is intended for the specific dietary management of a disease or condition for which distinctive nutritional requirements, based on recognized scientific principles, are established by medical evaluation. (21 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 360ee(b)(3))

This bill authorizes a pharmacist, manufacturer, or wholesaler to participate in an arrangement or agreement to deliver enteral nutrition supplements or replacements directly to a patient's residence pursuant to a valid order from a prescriber acting within their scope of practice without this being considered the unlicensed practice of pharmacy. Defines "enteral nutrition supplements or replacements" as medical food used as a therapeutic regimen to prevent serious disability or death in patients with medically diagnosed conditions that preclude the full use of regular food.

Background

Nutrition therapy is a component of care used to maintain or improve nutritional status in patients with medical conditions. Nutrition therapy may be provided orally, enterally, or parenterally. Enteral nutrition involves the delivery of nutrients through the gastrointestinal tract, including through feeding tubes when a patient cannot consume adequate nutrition by mouth. Parenteral nutrition, by contrast, delivers nutrients intravenously and bypasses the gastrointestinal tract.

Certain enteral nutrition products may qualify as "medical foods" under federal law. Medical foods are defined in the Orphan Drug Act as foods formulated to be consumed or administered enterally under the supervision of a physician for the specific dietary management of a disease or condition with distinctive nutritional

requirements established by medical evaluation. (21 U.S.C. § 360ee(b)(3).) Enteral nutrition products administered orally or through feeding tubes may qualify as medical foods when they are formulated and used for the specific dietary management of a disease or condition and otherwise satisfy the requirements of federal law. Thus, federal law recognizes that certain products used in connection with medical treatment and physician supervision may nonetheless be regulated as foods.

According to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA) 2023 Guidance for Industry, Frequently Asked Questions About Medical Foods – Third Edition, medical foods are a distinct category of food and are not regulated as prescription drugs. FDA guidance describes medical foods as products intended for oral consumption or enteral administration by tube for patients with medically determined nutritional requirements that cannot be met by modification of the normal diet alone. FDA guidance further indicates that medical foods are not required under federal law to be dispensed solely pursuant to a prescription. Accordingly, the fact that a physician orders a medical food, or that a pharmacy processes the order for dispensing, labeling, or reimbursement purposes, does not by itself alter the product's regulatory classification as a food. A physician may prescribe or order enteral nutrition as part of a patient's medical treatment, but the product generally remains regulated as a food unless it independently satisfies the statutory definition of a drug.

The Health and Safety Code similarly defines “food” broadly to include articles used for food or drink for humans and articles used as components of such articles. Enteral nutrition products generally fall within California's food regulatory framework, although particular products may also be subject to regulation as drugs or devices depending on their composition, intended use, and applicable law. The Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law establishes California's statutory framework governing foods, drugs, devices, and cosmetics, including provisions relating to their manufacture, packaging, labeling, advertising, distribution, and sale within the state.

Because enteral nutrition products are generally regulated as foods rather than drugs, proponents argue that existing law already permits direct delivery of prescribed enteral nutrition products to patients, including circumstances in which a pharmacist processes the order for labeling, documentation, or reimbursement purposes. Under this interpretation, the prescription serves as evidence of medical necessity and physician supervision, but does not itself transform the enteral nutrition product into a dangerous drug subject to all provisions of Pharmacy Law.

AB 1794 appears intended to provide express statutory authority for direct-to-patient delivery arrangements involving prescribed enteral nutrition products and to clarify the permissible roles of pharmacists, wholesalers, and manufacturers in those arrangements.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Association of Medical Product Suppliers (source)

Biocom

California Life Sciences Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: California Association of Medical Suppliers writes that the approach in this bill “provides a safe alternative for family members and caregivers who may struggle to safely transport an individual on their own. Drop shipment allows caregivers to spend less time coordinating pharmacy trips and more time on other aspects of care. AB 1794 seeks to prioritize the needs of medically fragile individuals who already suffer from mobility issues, pain and fatigue, while maintaining appropriate clinical safeguards provided by pharmacists.”

Biocom states that “Enteral nutrition products are medically necessary for patients with serious conditions affecting their ability to eat or absorb nutrients through normal means. For these patients, consistent and timely access to enteral products is not a convenience - it is a clinical necessity. AB 1794 removes unnecessary friction by aligning the treatment of enteral nutrition products with the existing framework already in place for dialysis drugs and devices, ensuring that patients receive the nutrition they need without interruption.”

According to the California Life Sciences Association, “AB 1794 makes a simple, targeted fix; it allows enteral nutrition supplements or replacements to be delivered directly to a patient’s home pursuant to a valid order from a prescriber acting within their scope of practice, just as other essential medical and nutritional products routinely are. This change does not alter the prescriber oversight process, a valid order remains required, it simply removes a logistical intermediary that serves no clinical purpose for this category of product. The result will be greater continuity of care, reduced risk of harmful interruptions in nutrition, and improved quality of life for patients who depend on these products every day.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, Gallagher, 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, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
7/1/26 16:55:00

**** 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 1824
Author: Ramos (D)
Amended: 3/12/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/16/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Ashby, Valladares, Weber Pierson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Indian children: guardianship or conservatorship proceedings

SOURCE: California Indian Legal Services
California Tribal Families Coalition
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
Morongo Band of Mission Indians

DIGEST: This bill incorporates within the Probate Code the requirements of the Indian Child Welfare Act (25 U.S.C. §§ 1901, et seq.) (ICWA) for matters in which an Indian child, as defined, may be appointed a guardian or ward by the court.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Provides that Indian tribes are domestic independent nations that exercise inherent sovereign authority which can be modified only through Congressional action. (*E.g., Michigan v. Bay Mills Indian Community* (2014) 572 U.S. 782, 788-789.)

- 2) Establishes ICWA, which requires states to establish specific adoption preferences for a child who is a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, or who is eligible to be a member and is the child of a member of a federally recognized Indian tribe, and to make specified efforts to notify the child's tribe when an Indian child is placed in foster care. (25 U.S.C. §§ 1901 et seq.)

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes Cal-ICWA, which is comprised of provisions of the Family Code, Health and Safety Code, Probate Code, and Welfare and Institutions Code that apply to an Indian child. (See AB 81 (Ramos, Chapter (Chp.) 656, Statutes of (Stat.) 2024).)
- 2) Establishes the Probate Code, which sets forth the requirements and procedures for the establishment of guardianships and conservatorships, the obligations of guardians and conservators, and the rights of wards and conservatees. (Probate (Prob.) Code, div. 4, §§ 1400 et seq. (Division 4).)
- 3) Provides that, as used in Division 4, unless context otherwise requires, the terms "Indian," "Indian child," "Indian child's tribe," "Indian custodian," "Indian tribe," "reservation," and "tribal court" have the same definitions as in ICWA. (Prob. Code, § 1449(a).)
- 4) Provides that, when used in connection with an Indian child custody proceeding, the terms "extended family member" and "parent" shall have the same definitions as in ICWA, and "Indian child custody proceeding" means a "child custody proceeding" as defined in ICWA, including a voluntary or involuntary proceeding that may result in the Indian child's temporary or long-term foster care or guardianship placement if the parent or Indian custodian cannot have the child returned upon demand, termination of parental rights, or adoptive placement. (Prob. Code, § 1449(b), (c).)
- 5) Requires a court, when an Indian child is a member of more than one tribe or is eligible for membership in more than one tribe, to make a determination, in writing together with the reasons for it, as to which tribe is the Indian child's tribe for purposes of the Indian child custody proceeding, as specified. (Prob. Code, § 1449(d).)
- 6) Requires a court, when determining the tribe with which an Indian child has more significant contacts under 5)(b), to consider, among other things, the specified factors. (Prob. Code, § 1449(d)(2).)

- 7) Makes legislative findings and declarations relating to the importance of encouraging and protecting an Indian child's connection with their tribe and tribal community in Indian child custody proceedings and requiring courts to comply with ICWA whenever the court must place an Indian child in a foster care placement, guardianship, or adoptive placement. (Prob. Code, § 1459.)
- 8) Provides that ICWA applies to the following guardianship or conservatorship proceedings under Division 4 when the proposed ward or conservatee is a child:
 - a) In any case in which the petition is a petition for guardianship of the person and the proposed guardian is not a natural parent or Indian custodian of the proposed ward, unless the proposed guardian has been nominated by the natural parents, as specified, and the parents retain the right to have custody of the child returned to them upon demand.
 - b) A proceeding to have an Indian child declared free from the custody and control of one or both parents brought in a guardianship proceeding.
 - c) In any case in which the petition is a petition for conservatorship of the person of a minor whose marriage has been dissolved, the proposed conservator is seeking physical custody of the minor, the proposed conservator is not the natural parent or Indian custodian of the proposed conservatee, and the natural parent or Indian custodian does not retain the right to have custody of the child returned to them upon demand. (Prob. Code, § 1459.5(a).)
- 9) Provides that, when a court or the petitioner knows or has reason to know that the proposed ward or conservatee may be an Indian child, any notice sent to the minor's parent or legal guardian, Indian custodian, if any, and the Indian child's tribe in a proceeding in which ICWA applies shall comply with specified requirements to provide notice to the child's tribe or possible tribe. (Prob. Code, § 1460.2(a), (b).)
- 10) Requires the notice in 9) to be sent whenever it is known or there is reason to know that an Indian child is involved, and for every hearing thereafter, including, but not limited to, the hearing at which a final adoption order is to be granted; after a tribe acknowledges that the child is a member or eligible for membership in the tribe, or after the Indian child's tribe intervenes in a proceeding, the notice need not include specified information required under 9). (Prob. Code, § 1460.2(c).)

- 11) Requires, when an Indian custodian or biological parent of an Indian child lacks the financial ability to retain counsel and requests the appointment of counsel in a proceeding under 8), the court to apply ICWA and appoint counsel. (Prob. Code, § 1474.)
- 12) Establishes requirements for the nomination and appointment of a guardian for an Indian child. (Prob. Code, §§ 1500.1, 1510, 1511, 1516.5.)

This bill:

- 1) Incorporates ICWA's requirements relating to a case that may involve the custody or care of an Indian child into the Probate Code's guardianship and conservatorship statutes.
- 2) Provides guidance for courts when a guardianship or conservatorship proceeding involves a child who does not meet the definition of an "Indian child" under ICWA because their tribe is not federally recognized.

Comments

For over a hundred years spanning the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, U.S. policy condoned and encouraged state governments and private citizens to forcibly remove Indian children from their homes, their parents, and their tribes, with the explicit goal of cutting them off from their families and heritage. The U.S. government did not change course until 1978, when Congress enacted ICWA to establish minimum standards for proceedings involving the custody and placement of Indian children, as defined, with the overall goal of preserving the ties between an Indian child and their tribe whenever feasible.

Although ICWA is almost 50 years old, the author and sponsors report that California's courts still inconsistently apply ICWA's requirements. Some of this confusion appears to stem from the fact that ICWA's requirements are not clearly set forth in the relevant California Codes. Two years ago, the Legislature enacted AB 81 (Ramos, Ch. 656, Stats. 2024), which named the provisions in the Family, Health and Safety, Probate, and Welfare and Institutions Codes which address the custody and placement of an Indian Child as the "California Indian Child Welfare Act" (Cal-ICWA) and incorporated ICWA's requirements into custody and placement proceedings in the Welfare and Institutions Code.

This bill follows up on AB 81 by incorporating ICWA's requirements into guardianship and conservatorship proceedings under the Probate Code involving an Indian child. Placing these requirements directly in state law will make probate courts' obligations in matters involving an Indian child unambiguous, thereby

reducing errors and ensuring that Indian children, their families, and their tribes are given the full protections due to them under state and federal law. The bill also provides guidance for courts when a guardianship or conservatorship proceeding involves a child who does not meet the definition of an “Indian child” under ICWA because their tribe is not federally recognized.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Indian Legal Services (co-source)
California Tribal Families Coalition (co-source)
Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake (co-source)
Morongo Band of Mission Indians (co-source)
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Hoopa Valley Tribe
Karuk Tribe
Mesa Grande Band of Mission Indians
Pechanga Band of Indians
Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians
Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians
Sherwood Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Soboba Band of Luiseño Indians
Yurok Tribe

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Tribal Families Coalition:

Despite the Legislature’s intent that ICWA protections apply broadly, the absence of clear Probate Code provisions has resulted in inconsistent application and in some cases, the failure to provide crucial procedural and substantive ICWA protections for tribal children and families in probate proceedings. In practice, probate judges, attorneys, and petitioners primarily rely on the Probate Code as the governing authority for probate proceedings. Because ICWA requirements applicable to child-custody proceedings, including these probate proceedings, are dispersed across multiple statutory codes and court rules, their application in probate matters often depends on practitioners having specialized knowledge of where those provisions exist.

Many probate professionals and often unrepresented family member Petitioners, lack the ICWA-specific training or experience, resulting in probate proceedings without proper inquiry, notice to Tribes, or application of ICWA standards and protections, contrary to existing law. Placing explicit ICWA and Cal-ICWA requirements directly within the Probate Code reflects how probate proceedings function in real-world practice and promotes consistent application of the law. As an organization that represents Tribes in probate proceedings involving Indian children, we see every day the lack of understanding by courtroom practitioners of how ICWA must be applied. This lack of implementation of federal law in these proceedings results in both parents and Tribes often having no knowledge of the placement of their children until permanent guardianship orders have been made. The lack of due process for Tribes and parents under the ICWA in these proceedings we believe can be corrected by clearly including its provisions directly in the Probate Code...

This bill does not impose new or additional requirements, rather, it clarifies existing obligations and ensures they are applied consistently in probate, guardianship and conservatorship proceedings involving Indian children. In addition to not expanding ICWA beyond existing state and federal law, it supports courts and practitioners with clear guidance to practice according to what the law already requires, which leads to reduced costs related to non-compliance.

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
7/1/26 16:55:01

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1837
Author: Mark González (D), et al.
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 9-4, 6/23/26

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

NOES: Strickland, Dahle, Seyarto, Valladares

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 7-2, 6/29/26

AYES: Cabaldon, Gonzalez, McNerney, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg, Wiener

NOES: Seyarto, Ochoa Bogh

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-6, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Video imaging of parking violations

SOURCE: Alameda-contra Costa Transit District
California Transit Association
Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority
Streets for All

DIGEST: This bill extends a previously authorized pilot program that allows transit agencies to enforce parking violations in transit-only lanes and at transit stops using video images until January 1, 2034.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a public transit operator to install automated forward facing parking control devices on city-owned or district-owned public transit vehicles for the

purpose of video imaging of parking violations occurring in transit-only traffic lanes and at transit stops until January 1, 2027. (Vehicle Code (VEH) § 40240)

- 2) Authorizes a transit operator in the City and County of San Francisco to install automated forward facing parking control devices on city-owned or district-owned public transit vehicles for the purpose of video imaging of parking violations occurring in transit-only traffic lanes. (VEH § 40240)
- 3) States that citations shall only be issued for violations captured during the posted hours of operation for a transit-only traffic lane. (VEH § 40420)
- 4) Provides that a violation of any regulation governing the standing or parking of a vehicle under the Vehicle Code, federal statute or regulation, or local ordinance, is subject to a civil penalty. (VEH § 40200)
- 5) Authorizes designated employees to review video image recordings for the purpose of determining whether a parking violation occurred in a transit-only traffic lane and permits alleged violators to review the video image evidence of the alleged violation during normal business hours at no cost. (VEH § 40240)
- 6) Requires automated forward facing parking control devices to be angled and focused so as to capture video images of parking violations and not unnecessarily capture identifying images of other drivers, vehicles, and pedestrians. (VEH § 40240)
- 7) Requires that prior to issuing notices of parking violations in transit-only lanes using bus-mounted video equipment, the City and County of San Francisco and Alameda-Contra Costa Transit District commence a program to issue only warning notices for 60 days and make a public announcement of the program at least 60 days prior to commencement of issuing notices of parking violations. (VEH § 40240)
- 8) Defines a “transit-only traffic lane” to mean any designated transit-only lane on which use is restricted to mass transit vehicles, or other designated vehicles including taxis and vanpools, during posted times. (VEH § 40240)
- 9) Provides that notice of a parking violation must contain certain information, including information stating that unless the parking penalty is paid or contested within 21 calendar days from the issuance of a citation, or 14 calendar days from the mailing of the violation, as specified, the renewal of the vehicle

registration shall be contingent upon compliance with the notice. (VEH § 40207)

This bill:

- 1) Extends a previously authorized pilot program that allows transit agencies to enforce parking violations in transit-only lanes and at transit stops using video images until 2034.
- 2) Requires a public transit operator to issue warning notices when it uses video images for enforcement of a violation that it has not previously used video imaging to enforce, specifically for parking in transit-only lanes and at transit stops
- 3) Prohibits the video image records from using biometric identifying technology, including facial recognition technology that identifies specific individuals.
- 4) Prohibits video image records from being used or accessed for general law enforcement purposes or by federal authorities without a court order from a federal or California court of competent jurisdiction.
- 5) Requires that any images of other drivers, nonrelevant vehicle license plates, or pedestrians unnecessarily captured be blurred.
- 6) Prohibits new video imaging programs from being implemented by public transit operators on or after January 1, 2032.
- 7) Specifies that transit operators' evaluation reports must include the precise data and methodology used to draw the conclusions contained in the evaluation reports of their video imaging of parking violations programs.

Comments

- 1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "I introduced AB 1837 because Californians deserve a transit system that actually moves. We know this technology works. in San Francisco, these cameras cut transit delays by 20%. Now, agencies like LA Metro in my district are seeing those same benefits. If we let this authority expire, our transit lanes will clog back up. It is essential for our buses to move efficiently and safely throughout our cities, and AB 1837 ensures we can keep doing just that."

- 2) *Parked cars obstruct transit-only lanes and transit stops.* Unauthorized parking in bus stops and transit-only lanes can impair the safety, accessibility, and reliability of public transit service. When vehicles park in designated bus stops, bus operators are often unable to safely pull up to the curb, forcing passengers to board in the street and away from the designated stop area. This creates safety risks for riders and may present an insurmountable barrier for individuals with disabilities, mobility limitations, or older adults who depend on curb-level access. Obstructed bus stops can also delay service and reduce the overall efficiency of transit operations.

Similarly, unauthorized parking in transit-only lanes undermines the purpose and effectiveness of those lanes. According to the UCLA Institute of Transportation Studies report *Best Practices in Implementing Tactical Transit Lanes*, “without enforcement, transit-only lanes break down.” The report notes that even a single parked vehicle can disrupt lane operations, forcing buses to maneuver into mixed traffic and diminishing the reliability and travel-time benefits that transit-only lanes are designed to provide. Where violations occur frequently, bus operators may avoid using the lanes altogether, defeating their intended purpose.

- 3) *History of camera enforcement in transit-only lanes and transit stops.* AB 101 (Ma, Chapter 377, Statutes of 2007) authorized the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) to equip transit buses with forward-facing parking control devices and to issue citations to vehicles blocking a bus in a transit-only lane. A report issued on the effectiveness of that program by SFMTA showed that during the pilot phase of the program, transit delays were reduced by as much as 20%.

In 2016, the Legislature passed SB 1051 (Hancock, Chapter 427), which authorized Alameda-Contra Costa (AC) Transit to use cameras on buses to enforce parking in transit-only lanes until January 1, 2022. AB 917 (Bloom, Chapter 709, Statutes of 2021) opened the AC Transit pilot program to any transit agency statewide for five years. In the last five years, Los Angeles Metro (LA Metro), Sacramento Regional Transit Association (SacRT), and Santa Monica Department of Transportation (Big Blue Bus) have participated in the pilot program, in addition to AC Transit and SFMTA.

- 4) *AB 1837 extends the sunset, boosts guardrails.* AB 917 (Bloom, 2021) only granted statewide authority for transit agencies to use camera enforcement until 2027. In anticipation of the upcoming expiration, AB 1837 extends the sunset to

2034. Amendments in Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee strengthened privacy requirements for operators, including prohibiting biometric identifying technology, such as facial recognition technology that identifies specific individuals. Privacy protections within this bill additionally limit data sharing and mandate blurring of nonrelevant information, such as other drivers.

Lastly, this bill adds specificity to the existing program's reporting requirements in an effort to improve the quality of information provided to the Legislature. Transit operators' reports on their camera enforcement programs would need to include the precise data and methodology used to draw the conclusions contained in the evaluation report.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

Alameda-contra Costa Transit District (co-source)

California Transit Association (co-source)

Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (co-source)

Streets for All (co-source)

Active San Gabriel Valley

Alameda County Transportation Commission

Bike East Bay

California City Transportation Initiative

California Public Parking Association

California Yimby

Circulate Planning & Policy

City and County of San Francisco

Metropolitan Transportation Commission

Monterey-Salinas Transit District

Move LA

Napa County Transportation and Planning Agency/napa Valley Transportation Authority

Oakland; City of

Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates

Sacramento Regional Transit District

San Diego County Bicycle Coalition

San Francisco Bicycle Coalition

San Francisco Board of Supervisors

San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

San Mateo County Transit District
Santa Monica Department of Transportation
Seamless Bay Area
South Pas Active Streets
Sunline Transit Agency
West Hollywood; City of

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-6, 5/21/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, 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, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Garcia, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Isabelle LaSalle / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
7/1/26 16:55:01

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1848
Author: Ransom (D)
Introduced: 2/11/26
Vote: 27

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-1, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Seed Law: annual registration fee

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) authorizes the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), after consultation with the Seed Advisory Board, to increase the annual registration for any person who sells seed in California from \$40 to \$100. Beginning January 1, 2028; and 2) authorize the Secretary, after consulting with the Seed Advisory Board, to annually increase the fee by up to \$50, but not to exceed \$300 total, for each fiscal year or portion of a fiscal year beginning July 1.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Establishes the Federal Seed Act which regulates agricultural and vegetable seed shipped in interstate commerce. It requires that seed shipments between states are labeled with certain quality information necessary for seed buyers to make informed choices. The United States Department of Agriculture's

Agricultural Marketing Service provides regulatory oversight and enforcement of the Federal Seed Act and its related regulations.

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the California Seed Law (CSL) which regulates seed sold in California and requires every labeler of agricultural or vegetable seed offered for sale in this state or any persons who sell seed in this state, as provided, to annually register with CDFA to obtain authorization to sell the seed, except as provided (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 52281-52289*).
- 2) Establishes the Seed Advisory Board to make recommendations on all matters pertaining to the California Seed Law and seed inspection regulations, the enforcement program, and the program's *budget* (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 52291-52298*).
- 3) Requires each application for annual registration to be accompanied by a payment of a \$40 fee for each fiscal year or portion of a fiscal year beginning on July 1 (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 52352*).

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes the Secretary of CDFA, after consulting with the Seed Advisory Board, to increase the seed seller registration fee from \$40 to \$100.
- 2) Authorizes the Secretary, on and after January 1, 2028, and after consulting with the Seed Advisory Board, to annually increase the fee by up to \$50, but not to exceed \$300 total, for each fiscal year or a portion of a fiscal year beginning July 1.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Association of Wheat Growers
California Seed Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“AB 1848 supports the work of the California Department of Food and Agriculture in inspecting seed products, testing germination and purity, and preventing mislabeled or contaminated seeds from entering the market. California Seed Law requires seed companies to register with CDFA and pay a fee to cover costs associated with the inspection and monitoring program. The fee, which has not been increased since its establishment in 1973, is no longer adequate and must be adjusted to sustain this important program.. The seed monitoring and inspection programs funded by these fees protect farmers from costly crop failures, promote fair competition among seed sellers, and maintain the reliability of California’s agricultural supply chain. California’s agriculture is a cornerstone of the international food marketplace, and protecting our breadbasket is absolutely essential. AB 1848 helps CDFA continue to fund their monitoring and protection programs to keep our agricultural sector healthy for years to come.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-1, 5/21/26

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

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bains, Chen, Gallagher, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Ta, Wilson

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508

7/1/26 16:55:02

**** **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 1892
Author: Davies (R)
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/16/26

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

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common interest developments: associations

SOURCE: CAI-CLAC

DIGEST: This bill makes clarifying changes to sections of the Davis-Stirling Act governing homeowner's associations (HOAs), including clarification of utility service restoration responsibilities, modification of election nomination notice timelines, and revision of notice requirements for electronic secret ballots.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that an HOA is responsible for repairs and replacements necessary to restore interrupted gas, heat, water, or electrical services that begin in the common area, even if the matter extends into a separate interest or exclusive use common area, unless the utility is maintained by a public or private provider or otherwise specified in the governing documents.

- 2) Requires HOAs to follow specified procedures for nominating candidates for election to the board, including establishing a deadline for submitting nominations and notifying the association of it.
- 3) Authorizes an HOA to elect directors by acclamation if the number of qualified candidates does not exceed the number of open seats and specified conditions are met, including providing individual notice of the election and nomination procedures at least 90 days before the deadline for submitting nominations.
- 4) Requires an HOA to deliver individual notice of electronic secret ballot to each member 30 days before an election, including instructions on how to access and use the electronic voting system.

This bill:

- 1) Clarifies that an HOA is only responsible for repairs and replacements necessary to restore interrupted gas, heat, water, or electrical services when the interruption in service begins in the common area.
- 2) Reduces the timeframe in which an HOA is required to provide individual notice of the election and the deadline for submitting nominations for an election from at least 90 days before the election to at least 30 days. Also requires a specified reminder notice no less than 10 days before the deadline.
- 3) Clarifies that an HOA must deliver individual notice of the electronic secret ballot no later than 30 days before the election, rather than exactly 30 days before, and just to members voting electronically, rather than all members.

Background

HOAs and CIDs. HOAs are the legal governing bodies of common interest developments (CIDs). These developments cover a variety of community arrangements, including apartment complexes, housing cooperatives, condominiums, and planned unit developments. In 1986, California enacted the Davis-Stirling Act, which outlines the requirements for CID and HOA governance, including assessments and other fees, maintenance responsibilities, and elections. There are over 50,000 HOAs throughout California, covering 36.3% of the state's population. In L.A. County alone, there are over 16,500 HOAs.

Davis-Stirling Act. The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing 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.

Comments

Author's statement. “No Californian should be left without heat, water, or electricity because of a jurisdictional dispute between a homeowner and their association over common area infrastructure. AB 1892 provides critical clarity to the Davis-Stirling Act by ensuring that common interest developments take immediate responsibility for restoring essential utility services that originate in shared spaces. By modernizing election procedures and streamlining the acclamation process, this bill also strengthens the democratic rights of every resident within these communities. This legislation is a common-sense update that prioritizes the health, safety, and fundamental rights of homeowners across our state.”

Straightforward fixes to common issues. This bill makes mostly clarifying changes to three sections of the Davis-Stirling Act. First, it clarifies that an HOA is only responsible for repairs and replacements necessary to restore interrupted gas, heat, water, or electrical services when the interruption in service begins in the common area. This could help address disputes between a homeowner and the HOA over service restoration, particularly when the service interruption began outside of a common area and is instead the responsibility of the utility service provider that maintains that area to do so. Second, this bill reduces the timeline for the individual notice of the election and the deadline for submitting nominations for an election from at least 90 days before the election to at least 30 days. This could give HOAs greater flexibility to distribute such notices closer to an election, which may help with voter participation if these timelines and deadlines are fresher in their mind. Third, this bill clarifies that an HOA must deliver individual notice of the electronic secret ballot for an election no later than 30 days before the election, rather than exactly 30 days before, and just to members voting electronically,

rather than all members. This is intended to address confusion over specific distribution timelines and who the notices are actually required to be delivered to.

Double-referral. This bill is also referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

CAI-CLAC (Source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Those writing in support of this bill argue that its provisions will help clean up and address technical issues created by previous legislation affecting the Davis-Stirling Act.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, 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

NOES: Lee

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Garcia, Jackson, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/26/26 13:09:13

**** 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 ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

AB 1908

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1908
Author: McKinnor (D), et al.
Amended: 6/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 4/23/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Settlement agreements: victims' compensation funding

SOURCE: County of Los Angeles

DIGEST: This bill applies Code of Civil Procedure (Code Civ. Proc.) Section 664.6 to specified settlement agreements resolving tort claims against a local public entity.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that if parties to pending litigation settle the matter, the court may enter judgment pursuant to the terms of the settlement and, upon stipulation by the settling parties, dismiss the settling parties without prejudice while retaining jurisdiction over the parties to enforce the settlement. (Code Civ. Proc. § 664.6.)
- 2) Defines "local public entity" as a county, city, district, public authority, public agency, and any other political subdivision or public corporation in the state, but does not include the Regents of the University of California and does not include the state or any office, officer, department, division, bureau, board, commission or agency of the state claims against which are paid by warrants drawn by the Controller. (Government (Gov.) Code § 970.)

This bill:

- 1) Provides that paragraph 2), below, applies to a settlement agreement resolving a tort claim against a local public entity if:
 - a) a civil action arising from the tort claim has not yet been filed or has been voluntarily withdrawn by the plaintiff; and
 - b) the claim is eligible for payment from a victims' compensation fund or other victim-related financial assistance program established by the local public entity.
- 2) Provides that a settlement agreement that meets the requirements of paragraph 1) may be enforced in a subsequent action under Code Civ. Proc. Section 664.6 if both of the following conditions are satisfied:
 - a) the agreement is in a writing signed by the claimant and the local public entity or its authorized representatives; and
 - b) the agreement expressly states that it is enforceable pursuant to Code Civ. Proc. Section 664.6.

Comments

According to the author:

Public agencies have an obligation to provide essential services that Californians rely upon. AB 1908 allows public agencies to resolve legitimate claims in a financially responsible way while preserving essential safety net services.

The author provides the following background:

Issues with setting up a self-funded victims' compensation fund arise when a public entity doesn't have the cash on hand to finance the fund, and, instead, seeks to finance such a fund with judgment obligation bonds. While court judgements and settlements can be financed with judgement obligation bonds under the code, current law fails to contemplate utilizing judgement obligation bonds to finance a victims' compensation fund. Los Angeles County is sponsoring AB 1908 to create that legal mechanism, which will permit public entities to finance victims' funds with obligation bonds by ensuring that such funds are considered enforceable obligations under the law, which will permit a public entity to finance a victims' compensation fund without violating the Constitutional debt limit.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

County of Los Angeles (source)

Urban Counties of California

California State Association of Counties

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

The County of Los Angeles writes the following as sponsors of this bill:

Public entities are facing growing legal exposure and rising costs for civil claims. As a result, funding these claims has become increasingly difficult. One option that many jurisdictions, including Los Angeles, have explored is the establishment of a self-funded victims' compensation program, which can provide fair compensation to claimants more quickly than litigation. The challenge, however, is financing such a fund when the public entity lacks sufficient available cash for it.

This is where judgment obligation bonds can be instrumental. Judgment obligation bonds are recognized in the California Code of Civil Procedure as a common mechanism for public entities to pay civil awards from bench and jury trials as well as court-approved settlements. Current law, however, limits the use of judgment obligation bonds to these types of legal obligations. We seek to extend the same framework to victims' compensation funds. AB 1908 would create the legal mechanism to do exactly that.

The Urban Counties of California and the California State Association of Counties write the following in support of this bill:

As you are keenly aware, counties, as well as other local agencies, are facing significant legal exposure and considerable costs for civil claims. As

a result, funding these claims has become especially difficult. Los Angeles County, for example, faces many billions of dollars in liability stemming from claims of childhood sexual assaults occurring at several county-run youth facilities. One avenue to help facilitate payments to claimants is a self-funded victims' compensation fund. The challenge, however, is financing the fund when cash is not readily available. Obligation bonds are commonly used to pay awards from bench and jury trials, as well as court-approved settlements. Current law, however, limits their use to these types of legal obligations. The Code of Civil Procedure does not allow obligation bonds to finance a victims' fund. AB 1908 provides the legal mechanism to do exactly that.

AB 1908 addresses a statutory gap by giving counties the flexibility to consider creating a victims' fund to cover civil liabilities that are so large as to necessitate the use of obligation bonds.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 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, 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, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Celeste Rodriguez, Wicks

Prepared by: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:09:14

**** 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 ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1918
Author: Dixon (R), et al.
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Human trafficking: body art practitioners

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires body art facilities to post a specified notice regarding human trafficking and to provide specified human trafficking training to their employees and registered practitioners.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that any person who deprives or violates the personal liberty of another with the intent to obtain forced labor or services is guilty of the crime of human trafficking. (Penal (Pen.) Code § 236.1 (a).)
- 2) Requires specified businesses and establishments to post notices in a conspicuous place near the public entrance of the establishment or in another conspicuous location in clear view of the public and employees where similar notices are customarily posted. (Civil (Civ.) Code § 52.6 (a).)

- 3) Requires the notices to include specific language regarding a textline and various hotlines to contact if one is aware of or is a victim of human trafficking. The Department of Justice is required to create a model notice that may be used by these businesses. (Civ. Code § 52.6 (b)-(d).)
- 4) Provides that a business or other establishment that operates intercity passenger rail or light rail stations, or bus stations shall provide at least 20 minutes of training to employees who may interact with, or come into contact with, a victim of human trafficking or who are likely to receive, in the course of their employment, a report from another employee about suspected human trafficking, in recognizing the signs of human trafficking and how to report those signs to the appropriate law enforcement agency. A list of topics that must be covered in such training is further provided. (Civ. Code § 52.6 (e)-(g).)
- 5) Subjects businesses that fail to comply with the notice and training requirements of Section 52.6 of the Civil Code to specified civil penalties. (Civ. Code § 52.6 (h).)
- 6) Provides that nothing in Civil Code Section 52.6 prevents local governing bodies from adopting and enforcing a local ordinance, rule, or regulation to prevent slavery or human trafficking. (Civ. Code § 52.6 (i).)
- 7) Provides minimum statewide standards for the regulation of persons engaged in the business or performance of tattooing, body piercing, branding, and the application of permanent cosmetics. (Health & Safety Code §§ 119300 et. seq.)

This bill:

- 1) Requires body art facilities that are subject to regulation under 7), above, to post the notice regarding slavery and human trafficking.
- 2) Requires a business or other establishment that operates a body art facility to provide at least 20 minutes of training in recognizing the signs of human trafficking and how to report those signs to the appropriate law enforcement agency to registered practitioners who practice in the body art facility and who may interact with, or come into contact with, a victim of human trafficking or who are likely to receive a report from an employee of the business or establishment about suspected human trafficking.
- 3) Defines “registered practitioner” as a person registered pursuant to Health and Safety Code, commencing with Section 119306.

- 4) Requires trainings developed by nonprofit organizations for use in the required trainings to include evidence-based, trauma-informed curriculum.

Comments

Section 52.6 of the Civil Code (Section 52.6) requires certain establishments to post notices regarding resources for witnesses to, and victims of, human trafficking and slavery. That section also requires rail and bus stations to train their employees in identifying and reporting incidents of human trafficking. The Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) also requires hotel and motel employers to provide at least 20 minutes of training and education regarding human trafficking awareness to their employees, as provided. Both federal and state law authorize actions by victims of human trafficking, and sex trafficking in particular.

In response to reports that traffickers oftentimes brand or tattoo their victims, the author brings this bill to expand the reach of Section 52.6 to include body art facilities on the list of establishments that must post the specified notice regarding forced commercial sex, housework, farm work, construction, factory, retail, or restaurant work, or any other activity.

This bill takes another step forward by requiring body art facilities to post the notice regarding slavery and human trafficking. Additionally, the bill requires a business or other establishment that operates a body art facility to provide at least 20 minutes of training in recognizing the signs of human trafficking and how to report those signs to the appropriate law enforcement agency to registered practitioners who practice in the body art facility and who may interact with, or come into contact with, a victim of human trafficking or who are likely to receive a report from an employee of the business or establishment about suspected human trafficking.

According to the author:

Human trafficking is a horrific crime that persists in California. We must take every step possible to help victims and their families bring a swift end to this abhorrent practice. According to 2024 statistics from the [National Human Trafficking Hotline](https://humantraffickinghotline.org/en/human-trafficking), in California alone there were 1,733 cases identified. In some cases, human traffickers will “trick, defraud or physically force victims”. In other cases, “victims are lied to, assaulted, threatened or manipulated into working under inhumane, illegal or otherwise unacceptable conditions”. (Link: <https://humantraffickinghotline.org/en/human-trafficking>)

AB 1918 would require tattoo shops to post a human trafficking notice with information on the signs of human trafficking and how to contact the National Human Trafficking Hotline. Additionally, tattoo artists would also be required to complete at least 20 minutes of training to recognize the signs of human trafficking and how to report those signs to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Human traffickers will often tattoo, burn or scar their victims as a way to denote ownership. Tattoos can have multiple purposes for the trafficker. From a study done by the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill—"It is a strategy to dehumanize victims, demonstrating who controls their bodies and communicating "ownership" to other traffickers."

AB 1918 would empower tattoo artists to become a critical point of intervention. By recognizing signs of human trafficking, tattoo artists can actively identify victims and significantly contribute to the documentation and gathering of intelligence for law enforcement or other investigators. Not only is it possible that tattoos can be linked back to specific traffickers and communities, but also connections can be made among multiple victims of one trafficker.

Writing in support, the Sunita Jain Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative explains:

Human trafficking remains a pervasive form of exploitation in California. As prior practitioners in our direct service work, SJI has repeatedly seen traffickers use tattoos, burns, and scars to brand victims—markings intending to denote ownership, control, and dehumanization. We have assisted survivors who required tattoo removal as part of their healing and recovery. These markings are not merely cosmetic; they are evidence of coercion and control and can be a critical point of contact for intervention.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

3Strands Global Foundation
Little Hoover Commission
Sunita Jain Anti-Human Trafficking Initiative

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

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

7/1/26 16:55:03

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1919
Author: Pellerin (D) and Addis (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/12/26
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/16/26

AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

NOES: Choi

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 8-4, 6/23/26

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

NOES: Strickland, Dahle, Seyarto, Valladares

NO VOTE RECORDED: Grayson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-20, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District: transactions and use tax:
qualified voter initiative

SOURCE: Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District
California Safety and Legislative Board of SMART – Transportation
Division

DIGEST: This bill permits the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (SC Metro) to impose special taxes by an initiative.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that the initiative is the power of the electors to propose statutes and amendments to the California Constitution and to adopt or reject them. A state

initiative measure must receive a majority of votes cast thereon in order to take effect.

- 2) Permits initiative powers to be exercised by the electors of each city or county under procedures that the Legislature shall provide. If a majority of the voters voting on a proposed local initiative ordinance vote in its favor, the initiative takes effect.
- 3) Provides that ordinances may be enacted by most districts through the initiative process, with the following exceptions:
 - a) Irrigation districts.
 - b) A district formed under a law that does not provide a procedure for elections.
 - c) A district formed under a law which does not provide for action by ordinance.
 - d) A district governed by an election procedure that permits voters, in electing the district's directors or trustees, to cast more than one vote per voter.
 - e) A district in which the directors are empowered to cast more than one vote per director when acting on any matter.

The term "district," for these purposes, includes any regional agency that has the power to tax, to regulate land use, or to condemn and purchase land.

- 4) Prohibits a local government from imposing, extending, or increasing a *general tax* unless it is submitted to the electorate and approved by a majority vote. The general tax proposal must be submitted to the voters at an election that is consolidated with a regularly scheduled general election for members of the governing body of the local government.
- 5) Prohibits a local government from imposing, extending, or increasing any *special tax* unless it is submitted to the electorate and approved by a two-thirds vote. Any tax levied by a special purpose district or agency is a special tax.
- 6) Provides for the creation of SC Metro, subject to the approval of electors in the district, and authorizes it to operate a public transit system in incorporated and unincorporated territory within Santa Cruz County.
- 7) Authorizes an authority to impose a retail transaction and use tax (TUT) ordinance applicable in the incorporated and unincorporated territory of a

county if the ordinance is adopted by a two-thirds vote of the authority and the tax is subsequently approved by voters.

- 8) Requires a county transportation expenditure plan to be prepared for the expenditure of the revenues for the period during which the tax is to be imposed, and prohibits the plan from being adopted until it has received the approval of the board of supervisors and of the city councils representing both a majority of the cities in the county and a majority of the population residing in the incorporated areas of the county.

This bill:

- 1) Specifies that a TUT authorized under existing law in SC Metro may be imposed by initiative, including an initiative for which a petition has been circulated on or after January 1, 2026.
- 2) Provides all the following for the purposes of a TUT proposed by SC Metro or by initiative on or after January 1, 2026:
 - a) The ordinance imposing the TUT must be submitted to voters of Santa Cruz County at a special election that is consolidated with a statewide election.
 - b) The measure must comply with existing provisions of the Elections Code related to district ballot measures.
 - c) SC Metro must reimburse Santa Cruz County for the incremental costs incurred by the county for submitting such a measure to the voters and includes the following:
 - i) The cost to prepare, review, and revise the impartial analysis of the measure.
 - ii) The cost to translate ballot materials into languages other than English.
 - iii) Additional costs that exceed costs incurred for other races or measures appearing on the same ballot in the county, including the printing and mailing of ballot materials and the canvass of the vote of the measure.
 - d) Requires SC Metro's legal counsel to prepare the impartial analysis of the measure, rather than having the analysis be prepared by the county counsel as is required under existing law. The analysis prepared by SC Metro's counsel must be subject to review and revision by the county counsel.

- e) Specifies that the Santa Cruz County elections official shall serve as the elections official for the purpose of administering a ballot measure for SC Metro.

3) Contains an urgency clause.

Background

Initiatives. The California Constitution guarantees the right of voters to propose statutes and amendments to the Constitution and to adopt or reject them. It also requires the Legislature to provide for initiative powers that may be exercised by voters in cities and counties. Although not required by the California Constitution, the Legislature has adopted procedures in the Elections Code to allow voters to exercise initiative powers in some other local districts.

Other types of measures can appear on the ballot for voters' consideration. These include referenda, recalls, and measures that a governing body places on the ballot.

Upland Decision. The California Constitution prohibits a local government from imposing, extending, or increasing a special tax unless it is approved by a two-thirds vote of the electorate. The California Constitution also imposes other restrictions on taxes imposed by local governments, including a requirement that a general tax must be approved by the voters at a general election for members of the local government's governing body, except in an emergency.

In August 2017, the California Supreme Court issued its ruling in *California Cannabis Coalition v. City of Upland*, 3 Cal. 5th 924 (2017). The court was asked to address whether the requirement that a local government must submit a proposed general tax to the voters at a regularly scheduled general election applies to measures that are placed on the ballot not by the governing body, but instead by the voters through the initiative process.

The court concluded the California Constitution "does not limit voters' power to propose and adopt initiatives concerning taxation," and that local general taxes proposed through the initiative process could appear on the ballot at elections other than regularly scheduled general elections. In reaching that conclusion, the majority opinion noted the court has consistently taken the position that courts should protect and liberally construe the people's initiative power, and that it would not construe the California Constitution as limiting that power "[u]nless a provision explicitly constrains the initiative power or otherwise provides a similarly clear indication that its purpose includes constraining the voters' initiative power."

The *Upland* decision did *not* directly address whether a local initiative measure that proposes special taxes must comply with the two-thirds vote requirement found in Article XIII C, Section 2, Subdivision (d) of the California Constitution.

Since *Upland*, several lower courts have been asked to consider whether local special taxes imposed through the initiative process require a two-thirds vote for approval. California Appellate Courts have considered seven such cases and have uniformly concluded that the two-thirds vote requirement in California Constitution does not apply to special taxes proposed through the initiative process. In six of those seven cases, the California Supreme Court declined to review the Appellate Court decision. In the seventh case, no review was sought.

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District. According to their website, SC Metro was established in 1968 with a mission of providing environmentally sustainable transportation to Santa Cruz County and operates countywide, fixed route, and commuter services. SC Metro operates 104 buses on 20 fixed-routes and 32 paratransit vehicles.

SC Metro's Initiative Effort. There is currently an effort to place an initiative measure that proposes to implement a sales tax to support SC Metro. According to the Santa Cruz County Clerk, the petition was cleared for circulation for signatures on February 20, 2026. The proponents have until August 19, 2026, to submit 10,417 signatures in order for the measure to be considered at a future statewide election. The next statewide election after the November 3, 2026, statewide general election is scheduled for March 7, 2028.

Comments

Author's Statement. Efficient and well-planned public transit is an important infrastructure for every city. To address growing demands and needs, in 2022, SC Metro rolled out "Reimagine METRO" to expand and improve their service network. This effort has subsequently resulted in significantly increased ridership by 43%. This service expansion was partly funded by state dollars that will run out in 2026. Without additional funds, service reduction and job cuts will occur. In early 2026, local voters formed the coalition "Friends of METRO" to place a citizen's initiative to secure a local transaction and use tax to benefit SC Metro and prevent this loss of service. Unfortunately, there is ambiguity in existing law about whether voters in the district may use the citizen's initiative process. This is what this bill seeks to address and also outlines election procedures in SC Metro's statutes to explicitly allow local electors to place a citizen's initiative on the ballot.

District Initiatives. Existing law already provides for an initiative process in some, but not all, districts. State law provides the initiative process is not available in a district “formed under a law that does not provide a procedure for elections.” That being said, the Madera County Transportation Authority became the first special district without a clear exception from the Elections Code to approve a special tax as a majority vote initiative in November 2024.

By providing that voters in these districts may impose a TUT for transportation purposes through the initiative process, this bill seeks to resolve any ambiguity about whether the initiative process is available in those districts for that purpose. It should be noted that this bill does not resolve any existing ambiguity about whether voters in those districts may pursue initiative measures that do not meet the requirements within existing law about special taxes.

Majority versus Two-Thirds. As previously mentioned, the California Constitution prohibits a local government from imposing, extending, or increasing a special tax unless it is approved by a two-thirds vote of the electorate. An initiative requires a majority vote of the electorate to be approved.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2484 (Alvarez) of 2026, among other provisions, specifies that special taxes may be imposed through the initiative process in the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System.

SB 512 (Pérez) of 2025, would have specified that voters of a district may impose TUTs for transportation purposes by a citizen’s initiative. SB 512 was vetoed by Governor Newsom who stated: “This bill reaffirms that jurisdictions may use the initiative process to impose transactions and use taxes for transportation purposes. The courts have consistently and repeatedly affirmed this existing authority; therefore, this bill is unnecessary.”

SB 63 (Wiener, Chapter 740, Statutes of 2025) established the Public Transit Revenue Measure District including Alameda, Contra Costa, Santa Clara, and San Mateo Counties and the City and County of San Francisco, and specified that special taxes may be imposed through the initiative process in that district, among other provisions.

SB 904 (Dodd, Chapter 866, Statutes of 2024) specified that special taxes may be imposed through the initiative process in the Sonoma-Marín Area Rail Transit District, among other provisions.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District (co-source)
California Safety and Legislative Board of SMART – Transportation Division (co-source)
California Legislative Central Coast Caucus
Eden Housing

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

California Association of Realtors
California Taxpayers Association
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-20, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, 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, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Boerner, Lee, Patel, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
7/1/26 16:55:04

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1933
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Land surveyors: records of survey

SOURCE: California Land Surveyors Association

DIGEST: This bill clarifies that a county surveyor who requires changes to a record of survey must return the record of survey with a written statement of necessary changes to the licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer who submitted the record of survey. This bill authorizes county surveyors to verify that monuments are properly marked or tagged with the certificate number of the licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer setting it.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Professional Land Surveyors' Act (the Act), administered by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists, to regulate the practice of professional land surveyors. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 8700, et seq.)
- 2) Authorizes a licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer to practice land surveying pursuant to the Act, as specified. (BPC § 8759)

- 3) Defines a land surveyor as a person who does or offers to do any one or more of the following activities of a land surveyor including, but not limited to:
 - a) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, or retracing the alignment or elevation for any of the fixed works embraced within the practice of civil engineering, as described in BPC § 6731.
 - b) Determining the configuration or contour of the earth's surface, or the position of fixed objects above, on, or below the surface of the earth by applying the principles of mathematics or photogrammetry.
 - c) Locating, relocating, establishing, reestablishing, or retracing any property line or boundary of any parcel of land, right-of-way, easement, or alignment of those lines or boundaries.
 - d) Making any survey for the subdivision or resubdivision of any tract of land, as defined.
 - e) By the use of the principles of land surveying, determines the position for any monument or reference point that marks a property line, boundary, or corner, or sets, resets, or replaces any monument or reference point. (BPC § 8726)
- 4) Authorizes land surveyors, after making a field survey, to file a record of survey with the county surveyor in the county in which the field survey was made and specifies instances when report filing is mandatory. (BPC § 8762)
- 5) Requires a county surveyor to return a record of survey with a written statement of changes to the person who presented it. (BPC § 8767)
- 6) Requires a corner record submitted to the county surveyor or engineer to be examined for compliance with BPC §§ 8765(d), 8773.1, and 8773.4, endorsed with a statement of examination and filed with the county surveyor or returned to the submitting party within 20 working days after receipt. (BPC § 8773.2)
- 7) Does not require a record of survey when the survey is a retracement of lines shown on a subdivision map, official map, or a record of survey, where no material discrepancies with those records are found and sufficient monumentation is found to establish the precise location of property corners thereon, provided that a corner record is filed for any property corners which

are set or reset or found to be of a different character than indicated by prior records. (BPC § 8765(d))

- 8) Requires a corner record to be a single 8.5 by 11-inch sheet, which may consist of a front and back page. Authorizes the Board to prescribe by regulation the information which shall be necessary to be included in the corner record and the board shall prescribe the form in which the corner record shall be submitted and filed, and the time limits within which the form shall be filed. (BPC § 8773.1)
- 9) Requires a corner record to be signed by a licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer and stamped with his or her seal, or in the case of an agency of the United States government or the State of California, the certificate may be signed by the chief of the survey party making the survey, setting forth his or her official title, prior to filing, with specified exemptions. (BPC § 8773.4)

This bill:

- 1) Requires a county surveyor to return a record of survey with a written statement of changes to the licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer who submitted the record of survey.
- 2) Requires a corner record submitted to the county surveyor or engineer to be examined for compliance with BPC § 8772 to ensure the monument is marked or tagged with the certificate number of the surveyor or civil engineer setting it, each number to be preceded by the letters “L.S.” or “R.C.E.,” respectively, as the case may be or, if the monument is set by a public agency, it shall be marked with the name of the agency and the political subdivision it serves.
- 3) Makes technical changes and replaces gender specific references with gender neutral language.

Background

Land surveyors. Land surveying is the licensed professional practice of determining legal property boundaries and establishing the precise location of land features and improvements for purposes of ownership, development, engineering, and construction. Surveying underlies real estate transactions, subdivision maps, public infrastructure, utility placement, and the design and construction of buildings, roads, and other improvements throughout California.

Review process for records of survey. A record of survey is a map prepared by a licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer to establish property boundaries, easements, and document other physical elements relevant to a property record.

Current law establishes a review process for records of survey and corner records submitted by licensed land surveyors or licensed civil engineers. County surveyors must review these documents to ensure they comply with requirements in the Act before they are filed with the county recorder. If a record of survey does not comply with specific requirements, the Act requires the county surveyor to return the record of survey to the “person” who presented it, along with a written explanation of required corrections. However, the person who presented the record or survey could be a delivery service, employee, or other person who is not the licensee. This bill would ensure the licensee receives the written statement of changes necessary so corrections can be made to the record of survey so it may meet requirements as specified by the Act.

Additionally, when reviewing a corner record, the county surveyor checks the corner record for compliance with BPC §§ 8765(d), 8773.1, and 8773.4. These sections ensure the corner record is examined for compliance with size and format requirements, that the corner record is signed by a licensed land surveyor or licensed civil engineer and stamped with their seal, and that the form and time limits prescribed by the Board are adhered to. This bill would also authorize the county surveyor to examine the corner record to ensure the monument is marked or tagged with the certificate number of the surveyor or civil engineer setting it. This amendment brings the examination of corner records process consistent with examination of records of survey, leading to a consistent review process regardless of the document being reviewed.

Assembly policy comments regarding implementation issues. The Assembly Committee on Business and Professions noted that:

The author and sponsors intend for this bill to clarify the legal responsibility of a county surveyor to either return deficient records of survey and corner records to the respective licensee who submitted it, or to certify that such records are accurate and retain them. However, as drafted, this bill requires that a corner record filed with a county surveyor shall be securely fastened into a book “by the person submitting the corner record”. This seems to be a drafting error, as current law requires—and this bill intends to ensure—that county surveyors are the party legally responsible for binding finalized corner records.

The Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists also noted this issue and recommended amendments. The amendments were made on April 8, 2026. Therefore, no further action is needed.

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

This bill is keyed fiscal by Legislative Counsel. According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations, “The Board of Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors and Geologists within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) anticipates minor and absorbable costs. Costs of an unknown amount local county surveyors for additional corner record examination requirements. These costs are not reimbursable by the state because a county surveyor has authority to charge and adjust fees as necessary to cover their cost of service.”

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/29)

California Land Surveyors Association (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California Land Surveyors Association writes, “AB 1933 is a narrowly tailored measure that strengthens professional accountability, promotes consistency in the review process, and enhances confidence in public land records relied upon by property owners, public agencies, and the broader public.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 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, 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: Lee, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
7/1/26 16:55:04

**** 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 1945
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: Municipal utility districts: termination of service

SOURCE: Lassen Municipal Utility District

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a municipal utility district (MUD) providing electrical service to fewer than 100,000 residential customers to offer a prepay option for electrical service.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Specifies that a MUD furnishing light, heat, water, or power shall not terminate residential service on account of nonpayment of a delinquent account unless the district first gives notice of the delinquency and impending termination, at least 10 days prior to the proposed termination, by means of a notice mailed, postage prepaid, to the customer to whom the service is billed not earlier than 19 days from the date of mailing the district's bill for services, and the 10-day period shall not commence until five days after the mailing of the notice.
- 2) Provides that every MUD shall make a reasonable attempt to contact an adult person residing at the premises of the customer by telephone or personal contact, at least 24 hours prior to any termination of service, except that, whenever telephone or personal contact cannot be accomplished, the MUD shall give, by mail, in person, or by posting in a conspicuous location at the

premises, a notice of termination of service, at least 48 hours prior to termination.

- 3) Specifies that every MUD shall make available to its residential customers who are 65 years of age or older, or who are dependent adults, as defined, a third-party notification service, whereby the district will attempt to notify a person designated by the customer to receive notification when the customer's account is past due and subject to termination. The notification shall include information on what is required to prevent termination of service. The residential customer shall make a request for third-party notification on a form provided by the MUD, and shall include the written consent of the designated third party. The third-party notification does not obligate the third party to pay the overdue charges, nor shall it prevent or delay termination of service.
- 4) Provides that every notice of termination of service pursuant to 1), above, shall include all of the following information:
 - a) The name and address of the customer whose account is delinquent;
 - b) The amount of the delinquency;
 - c) The date by which payment or arrangements for payment is required in order to avoid termination;
 - d) The procedure by which the customer may initiate a complaint or request an investigation concerning service or charges, except that, if the bill for service contains a description of that procedure, the notice pursuant to 1), above, is not required to contain that information;
 - e) The procedure by which the customer may request amortization of the unpaid charges;
 - f) The procedure for the customer to obtain information on the availability of financial assistance, including private, local, state, or federal sources, if applicable;
 - g) The telephone number of a representative of the district who can provide additional information or institute arrangements for payment.
- 5) Specifies that every notice of termination of service pursuant to 2), above, shall include the items of information in a), b), (c), f), and g) of 4).
- 6) Requires all written notices to be in a clear and legible format.

- 7) Provides that, if a residential customer fails to comply with an amortization agreement, the district shall not terminate service without giving notice to the customer at least 48 hours prior to termination of the conditions the customer is required to meet to avoid termination, but the notice does not entitle the customer to further investigation by the district.
- 8) Specifies that a termination of service shall not be affected without compliance with 1) through 7), above. Any service wrongfully terminated shall be restored without charge for the restoration of service, and a notation thereof shall be mailed to the customer at the customer's billing address.

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a MUD furnishing electrical service to less than 100,000 customers to offer residential customers a prepay option for electrical service if all of the following conditions are met.
 - a) The customer that is a new residential applicant applying for electrical service on or after January 1, 2027, the customer has paid the deposit under a decision of a district, as specified.
 - i) A customer that has a current deposit held by the district shall be eligible to participate in the prepay option.
 - b) The customer affirmatively opts into a MUD-approved prepay program with informed written consent.
 - c) The MUD provides the customer with all information on how to return to standard billing and what differences exist between the prepay option and standard billing with regard to consumer protection rules.
 - d) The MUD provides access to usage and account balance information.
 - e) The MUD issues automated low-balance alerts to the customer before service suspension, at least 10 days and 24 hours before service is anticipated to end.
 - f) The customer retains the right to exit the prepay option and return to standard billing pursuant to the policy adopted by the board.
 - g) The MUD offers the customer an opportunity to participate in an arrearage payment plan, before converting the customer whose account is in arrears to a prepay option. A customer who elects to participate in and complies with

the arrearage payment plan must not be converted to prepay service while the customer remains in compliance with the plan.

- h) The prepay option requires the MUD to refund to the customer any unexpended balance from the customer's account within 10 business days after termination of service, as specified.
 - i) The MUD keeps prepay program revenue in a separate fund, and does not spend revenue prematurely (until electrical service is provided).
 - j) The MUD adopts a policy to minimize service disruptions to vulnerable residential customers, as specified, that participate in the program.
- 2) Defines "prepay option" to mean a payment option offered by a district to its customers that enables the customer to make a payment for a specified amount of electrical service before that service is provided.
 - 3) Provides that statutory requirements regarding notifications of termination of service do not apply to customers participating in the prepay option.
 - 4) Authorizes a MUD to offer customers the option of receiving notices for the termination of service of delinquent accounts solely by electronic mail, text message, app-based notification, or other electronic method as specified by the customer, except for the final notification of imminent disconnection requiring either a telephone call or personal contact at least 24-48 hours prior to termination.
 - 5) Makes numerous technical and clarifying changes.

Background

Municipal Utility Districts. Municipal Utility Districts (MUDs) are special districts that provide their customers with a variety of utility services, including electricity, water, sewer, garbage disposal, transportation, and communications. There are five MUDs in California: East Bay, Lassen, Sacramento, South Placer, and Southern San Joaquin.

The MUD Act allows MUDs furnishing light, heat, water, or power to terminate residential service due to nonpayment of a delinquent account, but it requires a robust notification process prior to termination of a service. First, the MUD must give notice of delinquency and impending termination, at least 10 days prior to the proposed termination, by means of a mailed notice to the customer to whom the service is billed no earlier than 19 days from the date of mailing the MUD's bill for

services. The 10-day period cannot start until 5 days after mailing the notice of termination.

MUDs are also required to make a reasonable attempt to contact an adult residing at the premises of the customer, by telephone or personal contact, at least 24 hours prior to any termination of service. If telephone or personal contact cannot be accomplished, the MUD must give, by mail, in person, or by posting, a notice of termination of service, at least 48 hours prior to termination. For customers who are 65 years of age or older and dependent adults, a MUD must make available a third-party notification service. Each notice must also contain certain information.

Establishing service. When establishing utility service, a MUD may require a customer to provide a deposit based on the customer's creditworthiness. Customers with limited or no credit history may be required to pay a deposit before service is initiated. Current law prohibits MUDs from requiring a deposit that exceeds the estimated charges of two billing cycles or three times the average monthly bill. Once a customer establishes service, under traditional billing, the customer receives a bill after service has been provided and are given a specified period of time to pay.

Electric Prepay Programs. Prepay is an alternative payment option in which consumers buy a dollar amount of electricity, and service providers deduct energy usage from that balance as it is used. The concept of the prepay option is similar to a cell phone prepaid service. According to a report from U.S. Department of Energy, "Experience with prepay to date has revealed some early benefits, along with areas of concern. Many utilities with prepay report positive benefits for both their operations and their consumers, including improved relationships with consumers, energy savings, and high consumer satisfaction."

Lassen Municipal Utility District. Currently, only Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD) and Lassen Municipal Utility District (LMUD) provide electrical service in the State. SMUD delivers power to over 1.5 million customers and LMUD serves approximately 10,000 customers. Lassen County's poverty rate is approximately 15.6%, roughly in line with the statewide average.¹ LMUD offers several assistance programs to help customers manage utility costs during those periods of financial hardship. LMUD offers:

- Winter Energy Assistance Rate, which provides a discount to income-eligible customers; and

¹ <https://inequality.stanford.edu/sites/default/files/PovertyinCA19.pdf>

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program, which is funded by the Federal Department of Human Services and offers financial assistance to offset costs of heating and cooling homes and help homes become more energy-efficient.

LMUD's current deposit policy is if the new customer's credit history is not acceptable or verified, the new customer is required to pay a deposit equal to a two-months of average consumption with a minimum of \$200

Comments

According to the author, "Assembly Bill 1945 gives rural, low-income ratepayers another tool to manage household energy costs. In Lassen County, customers have asked for a voluntary prepay option so they can pay for electricity in advance, track usage more closely, and avoid the financial shock of a larger monthly bill or costly stop-and-start service fees. Current law does not give Lassen Municipal Utility District clear authority to offer that option. AB 1945 preserves traditional billing, requires informed consent and customer safeguards, and expands consumer choice for communities that want more flexibility in how they pay for essential utility service."

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Lassen Municipal Utility District (Sponsor)
California Municipal Utilities Association
Golden State Power Cooperative
Northern California Power Agency

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

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: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/29/26 13:14:50

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1951
Author: Dixon (R)
Amended: 3/19/26 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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Civil actions: filing fees: refunds

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill modernizes court filing fee statutes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that if a court clerk accepts payment for filing a complaint or other first paper, or any subsequent filing, and payment is made in an amount less than the required fee or by check that is later returned without payment, the clerk must notify the party who tendered the check that: (1) the check was made out for an amount less than the required filing fee or has been returned without payment, whichever is applicable; (2) an administrative charge has been imposed to reimburse the court for the costs of processing the partial payment or returned check and for providing the specified notice; and (3) the party has 20 days from the date of mailing the notice to pay the filing fee and administrative charge, except as specified. (Code of Civil Procedure (Code Civ. Proc.) § 411.20 (a).)

- 2) Requires the clerk to void the filing if the party who tendered the returned check or the check in less than the required filing fee has not paid the full amount of the fee and the administrative charge within the 20-day period described above. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.20 (b).)
- 3) Provides that if the clerk performs a service or issues a document for which a fee is required and payment is made by check that is later returned without payment, the court may order further proceedings suspended as to the party for whom the check was tendered, and shall notify the party who tendered the check that proceedings have been suspended until receipt of payment of the required fee and the administrative charge by specified methods, but not by personal check or traveler's check. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.20 (f).)
- 4) Provides that if an electronic filing is made to the clerk by an electronic filing service provider acting as the agent of the court for purposes of collecting and remitting filing fees, and fees owed to the electronic filing service provider remain unpaid for 5 days after notice to the attorney of record, the court clerk may notify the attorney of record that the attorney of record may be sanctioned for nonpayment of fees. (Code Civ. Proc. Code § 411.20.5.)
- 5) Authorizes the court to sanction the attorney of record if fees to the electronic service provider remain unsatisfied 20 days after notice by the clerk. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.20.5)

This bill:

- 1) Applies the provisions described in 1) to 5), above, to filing fees paid by credit card, electronic funds transfer, as defined, or any other means of payment approved by the court.
- 2) Provides that if the fees to the electronic filing service provider remain unsatisfied 20 days after notice by the clerk, the clerk is instead required to refund the electronic filing service provider, and to follow the procedures described above, as specified.

Comments

Court filing fee statutes were enacted when paper checks were used for payment. This bill modernizes court filing fee statutes. It does this by applying existing insufficient payment procedures and procedures for voided filings to electronic payment methods, including credit cards. This bill also requires that refunds include transaction identifiers to allow traceability. This bill ensures that

procedures for insufficient payments, voided filings, and refunds are consistent regardless of how the litigant pays the fees.

According to the author:

AB 1951 addresses inconsistency in California's electronic payment and filing practices by making a host of necessary clarifying changes to existing statutes. Specifically, this bill will apply existing insufficient funds and voided filing procedures to credit cards, electronic funds transfers and other court-approved payment methods. This legislation will also confirm that filings are voided when required fees are not paid within statutory deadlines, update refund related provisions to ensure that refunds are properly issued and traceable, and provide clear definitions of ACH debits, ACH credits and electronic funds transfers.

This commonsense bill will promote transparency, fairness, and administrative efficiency while protecting due process and aligning statutes with how courts and filers operate today.

Current procedures for courts to follow when filing fee payments are not complete or when checks are returned for insufficient funds are detailed in the statutes. Under existing law, the clerk must notify the party and impose an administrative charge. The litigant is also provided 20 days to fix the issue before the filing is voided. This bill is aimed at modernizing the statutes and does this by extending the same procedures and timelines to credit card payments, ACH transactions, and other electronic payment methods. E-Filing Service providers have expressed difficulties matching electronic refunds to the original filing. Accordingly, this bill requires courts to include a transaction identifier with any refund in an effort to improve traceability.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

Civil Justice Association of California
Coalition for Improving Court Access

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

The Coalition for Improving Court Access writes the following in support of the bill:

California courts now routinely accept filing fees through checks, credit cards, and electronic funds transfers, often through e-Filing Service Providers acting as agents of the court. However, the statutes governing insufficient funds, voided filings, sanctions, and refunds were largely drafted for a paper-check environment. As a result, the current statutory framework does not consistently address credit card chargebacks or ACH reversals and may result in different treatments of attorneys and self-represented litigants when filing fees remain unpaid.

In addition, electronic filing service providers often face challenges identifying and processing electronic refunds because transaction descriptions may lack sufficient case or envelope information. This can leave EFSPs with refund checks that do not indicate the client or case associated with payment, creating confusion and administrative burdens.

AB 1951 updates and clarifies court filing fee statutes to reflect modern electronic payment and filing practices. Specifically, the bill applies existing insufficient funding and voided-filing procedures to credit cards, electronic funds transfers, and other court-approved payment methods; confirms when filings must be voided if required fees are not paid within statutory timelines; improves refund procedures to ensure payments are traceable; and adds clear statutory definitions related to electronic funds transfers.

These commonsense updates will promote transparency, fairness, and administrative efficiency while aligning statute with how courts and filers operate today.

According to the Civil Justice Association of California in support of the bill:

AB 1951 provides an important technical update to California's court filing fee statutes, so they better reflect the modern reality of electronic filing and electronic payment systems. While courts now routinely accept payments through checks, credit cards, and electronic transfers, many of the governing statutes were written for a paper-check environment and do not clearly address issues such as credit card chargebacks or ACH reversals. This lack of clarity can create inconsistent treatment of filings and

administrative complications for courts, litigants, and electronic filing service providers.

CJAC supports AB 1951 because it promotes transparency, fairness, and administrative efficiency in how filing fee payments are processed. The bill applies existing insufficient funds procedures to credit cards, ACH, and other court-approved payment methods, clarifies when filings are voided when required fees remain unpaid, and updates refund-related provisions to better accommodate electronic payments.

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: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
7/1/26 16:55:05

**** 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 1999
Author: Kalra (D), et al.
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Cervantes, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Dahle, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Veterinary medicine

SOURCE: California Veterinary Medical Association
California Veterinary Medical Board
San Diego Humane Society
Social Compassion in Legislation

DIGEST: This bill 1) revises requirements for purposes of establishing the Veterinary-Client Patient Relationship (VCPR); 2) establishes a retired license status and a retired volunteer license; 3) creates a designated shelter veterinary license; revises and adds terminology related to telehealth services; and 4) makes numerous other technical and conforming changes related to the veterinary practice act (Act).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Veterinary Medical Board (VMB), under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs to license and regulate veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians (RVTs), register veterinary premises

(premises) and issue veterinary assistant-controlled substance permits (VACSP) and sunsets the VMB and its authority to appoint an Executive Officer on January 1, 2030. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 4800, et. seq.)

- 2) Prohibits a veterinarian from prescribing, dispensing, or administering a drug, medicine, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals unless a veterinarian-client patient relationship (VCPR) exists and specifies the conditions under which a VCPR is established, as specified. (BPC § 4826.6)
- 3) Exempts any person from the provisions of the Act who practices veterinary medicine as a bona fide owner of one's own animals, except for cat declawing procedures, including the owner's bona fide employees and any person assisting the owner, provided the practice is performed gratuitously. (BPC § 4827(a)(1))
- 4) Establishes that all veterinary premises registrations shall expire annually at 12 midnight on the last day of the month in which the license premises registration was issued, unless renewed. (BPC § 4900(b))

This bill:

- 1) Adds definitions for electronic communication technology, herd, teleconsultation, telemedicine, teletriage, animal shelter, and rescue group to the Veterinary Act.
- 2) Allows a rabies vaccination to be given to an animal patient without an established VCPR.
- 3) Revises the definition of a VCPR and replaces "telehealth" with "telemedicine".
- 4) Revises requirements related to the establishment and maintenance of a VCPR to clarify that a VCPR established via in-person examination is valid for 12 months, and a VCPR established via "telehealth" methodologies is valid for 6 months, subject to certain specifications. Permits the VCPR to continue to exist in the absence of the veterinarian if all specified conditions are met.

- 5) Authorizes in the absence of the originally prescribing veterinarian who established the VCPR, the subsequent veterinarian to prescribe, dispense, furnish a refill if specified conditions are met.
- 6) Narrows the “owner exemption” to specify that owners cannot perform any surgical or dental operation upon their animal.
- 7) Defines “operation” as “any procedure performed on an animal in which the skin or tissue of the animal is penetrated or severed”, and excludes administering injectable drugs, artificial insemination, castrating male livestock or dehorning or branding animals, inserting a microchip for identifying an animal, placing an ear tag or tattoo for identifying an animal, and venipuncture for diagnostic purposes.
- 8) Clarifies that the provisions of this bill do not prohibit an organization accredited by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums, or a university, college, or governmental research agency from practicing veterinary medicine on an animal owned by that entity.
- 9) Authorizes veterinarians licensed in another state to help a California veterinarian on a specific case through any means, and exempts from the provisions of the Act, a person who is not licensed and provides teleconsultation to a California-licensed veterinarian.
- 10) Clarifies that an RVT may render lifesaving aid through any means including teletriage.
- 11) Deletes the prohibition for a person whose license has been expired for more than five years from renewing, as specified.
- 12) Establishes a retired license for a veterinarian or RVT, exempts a licensee or registrant from CE requirements, prohibits a licensee with retired license status from practicing veterinary medicine and requires the licensee to use the words “retired” directly preceding or following their professional title.
- 13) Prohibits a retired license from being granted while there is a pending complaint, investigation, or enforcement action against a licensee or registrant or the license or registration has been revoked, surrendered or subject to terms and condition of probation.

- 14) Establishes initial application and biennial renewal fees for a retired license, a retired volunteer license, and a shelter veterinarian license, as specified. Permits the VMB to investigate potential violations of the Act or take action against a retired license holder for a violation of the Act and establishes a retired volunteer license for a veterinarian or RVT and requires the veterinarian or RVT to meet specified conditions.
- 15) Authorizes a retired volunteer license to be subject to denial, as specified, and prohibits an applicant for a retired volunteer license to be granted while there is a pending complaint, investigation, or enforcement action against the licensee or registrant.
- 16) Prohibits a retired volunteer license or registration holder from practicing veterinary medicine in any circumstance other than for an animal shelter or specified emergency situations.
- 17) Requires a retired volunteer license or certification holder to certify that the sole purpose of retired volunteer status is to provide voluntary, unpaid, medical services for an animal shelter.
- 18) Establishes a shelter veterinarian license specific to out-of-state licensed veterinarians and specifies the requirements for licensure as a shelter veterinarian which includes only practicing for an animal shelter, as specified.
- 19) States that a shelter veterinarian license is subject to denial, revocation, and suspension, and may be renewed upon payment of a renewal fee, completion of CE, application prior to the license expiring, and certification that the sole purpose of the shelter veterinarian license is to practice veterinary medicine for an animal shelter. Prohibits a shelter veterinarian from practicing veterinary medicine in any circumstance other than for an animal shelter or pursuant to an emergency.
- 20) Requires that premises registration holders provide and/or confirm specified information upon renewal of their registration.
- 21) Makes other technical and conforming changes.

Background

VMB and the Practice of Veterinary Medicine. The VMB is responsible for ensuring that each licensee or registrant has met the education and examination standards required to provide animal healthcare services. In addition to the licensure of veterinarians, the VMB oversees RVTs and VACSP holders. RVTs are an essential part of the veterinary workforce, performing critical support tasks for animal health care and welfare, typically under the supervision and direction of a licensed veterinarian. VACSP holders are registered with the VMB to obtain controlled substances in a veterinary premises and under supervision of the premises licensee manager. Current law requires that any premises where veterinary medicine, dentistry, or surgery is being practiced obtain a premises permit from the VMB.

The VMB was subject to sunset review in 2025, as part of that process, several priorities were identified, many of which were remedied in AB 1502 (Berman, Chapter 195, Statutes of 2025). However, some of the issues identified during the 2025 Sunset Review were not included in AB 1502, some of which are addressed in this bill.

Veterinary Client Patient Relationship (VCPR). The VCPR is an integral part of veterinary medicine and is intended to provide assurances that the client has authorized the veterinarian to assume responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal and has communicated with the client a course of treatment appropriate to the circumstance of the animal patient. Pursuant to BPC § 4826, a veterinarian is prohibited from administering, prescribing, dispensing or furnishing a drug, medicine, appliance, or the treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, or relief of a wound, fracture or bodily injury or disease of an animal without having first established a VCPR with the animal patient except where the patient is a wild animal or the owner is unknown.

Telehealth. Telehealth in the Act is defined differently than “telehealth” under the Medical Practice Act, which governs most telehealth provisions for healing arts professionals. This bill replaces references to “telehealth” with that of “telemedicine”, which is more widely referenced in veterinary practice community. In addition, this bill adds new definitions for “telerriage” and “teleconsultation” to better align with current veterinary practice standards and to aid efforts to address potential limitations on veterinary access to care issues.

Licensing Exemptions for Veterinary Practice of Own Animals Current law (BPC § 4827(a)(1)) exempts bona fide animal owners, the owner's bona fide employees, and any person assisting the owner gratuitously from the provisions of the Act. In other words, the bona fide owner of an animal can perform any act encompassed under veterinary medicine or authorize their employees or any other person to do so, so long as the other person does not charge the owner for those services. As noted in the VMB's 2025 Sunset Review Report, The VMB has received complaints against licensed veterinarians alleging veterinarians caused significant harm or death to animal patients. In those cases, licensed veterinarians claim the Board has no jurisdiction, since they were assisting the owner and performed services gratuitously (either by never charging for the specific task or providing a refund after the fact). This bill revises the ownership exemption to clarify that surgery or dental operations are not permitted under the ownership exemption, and further defines what constitutes an operation. Recent amendments clarify that accredited zoos, universities or colleges or governmental agencies for research purposes can provide veterinary care pursuant to the exemption.

Retired License and Shelter Veterinarian License. This bill establishes a shelter veterinarian license. To be licensed as a designated shelter veterinarian, an applicant must hold an active license issued by another state, be employed by or contract with an animal shelter to provide veterinary care, complete an application and pay the fee, certify that the sole purpose of the shelter veterinarian license is to practice veterinary medicine for an animal shelter, submit fingerprints for a background check, pass an examination, and disclose any disciplinary actions of the license holder. The shelter license is subject to denial and VMB-enforcement.

The VMB does not offer a retired license and instead allows a licensee to have a designated "inactive" license. If a licensee has not renewed their license within five years, they are prohibited from renewing and must reapply for a new license and be subject to new examination requirements. An inactive license holder or a licensee who has not renewed within the five-year period is not authorized to practice veterinary medicine, even if the inactive licensee or non-renewed license holder plans to volunteer their time at shelters, rescues or provide voluntary veterinary services elsewhere. This bill will establish a retired license for veterinarians and RVTs, which would allow the use of their professional titles, with the designation "retired" preceding or following the professional title. Under this retired status designation, the license holder is prohibited from practicing veterinary medicine, and an applicant will not qualify for the retired status if the licensee is subject to a current enforcement investigation by the VMB. This bill also establishes a special "retired volunteer" license or certification designation. To qualify for retired

volunteer status, a person must either have an active license or registration or have placed their license in retired status within the preceding five years. If they have been retired for more than five years, they must also certify completion of continuing education and pass the law examination. Applicants for retired volunteer status must certify the sole purpose is to provide volunteer services to animal shelters.

Registered Veterinary Premises Ownership Disclosures. To obtain a veterinary premises registration, the owner must submit an application that includes the name of each owner or operator of the premises, including the type of corporate entity, if applicable, the name of the premises, and the name of the responsible licensee manager who is to act for and on behalf of the registered premises. Furthermore, if the owner or operator of premises is a corporation, they must disclose the names and titles of all owners, officers, any general partners, and the agent for service of process, and any changes regarding this information must be reported within 30 days. Premises registrations are issued on an annual basis and must be renewed. However, current law does not require that any specific information be disclosed or certified as part of this renewal. This bill requires that a premises registration holder must satisfy the same requirements as their initial application as it relates to ownership disclosures and confirms that the information is current and valid.

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

According to the Senate Committee on Appropriations analysis:

- The California Veterinary Medical Board (VMB) anticipates minor, absorbable costs associated with licensee outreach, education, and applicant eligibility verification for the new license and retired statuses (VMB Contingent Fund). While the creation of the shelter veterinarian license and the two retired statuses will generate initial revenue, the VMB estimates the overall fiscal impact to be revenue neutral. Any initial revenue increase generated by the retired statuses is expected to be offset by a corresponding decline in active veterinarian license revenue as eligible practitioners may choose to transition to the retired categories.
- The Office of Information Services (OIS) within the Department of Consumer Affairs reports costs of approximately \$132,000 to create new initial and renewal applications and implement other necessary updates to the BreEZe system. OIS notes these costs are absorbable within existing resources.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

California Veterinary Medical Association (co-source)
California Veterinary Medical Board (co-source)
San Diego Humane Society (co-source)
Social Compassion in Legislation (co-source)
Angel's Furry Friends Rescue
Animal Legal Defense Fund
Animal Rescue Mission
Animal Rescuers for Change
Animal Wellness Action
Berkeley Animal Rights Center
Better Together Forever
Born Again Animal Rescue and Adoption
Collective Fashion Justice
Compassionate Bay
Concerned Citizens Animal Rescue
Earthheart
Feline Lucky Adventures
Greater Los Angeles Animal Spay Neuter Collaborative
Hugs and Kisses Animal Fund
Jaimie Brianna's Legacy Fund
Latino Alliance for Animal Care Foundation
Leaders for Ethics, Animals, and the Planet (LEAP)
Long Beach Spay and Neuter Foundation
Los Angeles County Democrats for the Protection of Animals
Los Angeles Rabbit Foundation
Multiple Individuals
NY 4 Whales
Pibbles N Kibbles Animal Rescue
Plant-based Advocates
Project Minnie
Real Good Rescue
San Diego Companion Rabbit Society
Seeds 4 Change Now Animal Rescue
Seniors Citizens for Humane Education and Legislation
Students Against Animal Cruelty Club - Hueneme High School
The Canine Condition
The Pet Loss Support Group
The Spayce Project

Underdog Heroes, INC.
Women United for Animal Welfare

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: A broad coalition of supporters note, “A 2021 national survey shows that 14 California counties ranked in the bottom 25% on the Veterinary Care Accessibility Score, which means there is extremely limited or no ability to see a veterinarian. The overall score for California was 47 out of 100, with the Central Valley and North State faring the worst. By comparison, Nebraska has a score of 71...Yet, veterinary care is exactly what we need to combat pet overpopulation. By updating the Veterinarian-Client-Patient-Relationship (VCPR) law to “patient-specific,” AB 1999 is allowing veterinarians practice more efficiently. By creating “volunteer” and shelter-specific licensing categories, AB 1999 is expanding the pool of veterinary professionals that may offer their services to animal shelters. These aspects of AB 1999 directly help expand access to care in the state and thus will help combat the pet overpopulation crisis. Additionally, by prohibiting owners from performing surgery on their own animals, AB 1999 will also help prevent many animals from suffering at the hands of their medically untrained owners.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, Gallagher, 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, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Elissa Silva / B., P. & E.D. / 916-651-4104
7/1/26 16:55:06

**** 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 ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2003
Author: Berman (D), et al.
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil health: suicide prevention

SOURCE: Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability
Commission
California Youth Empowerment Network

DIGEST: This bill, an urgency measure, recasts and revises existing requirements for the California Department of Education (CDE) to identify suicide prevention trainings to instead require the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (BHSOAC) to develop evidence-based online training to train specified school staff, pupils, parents and guardians, and caregivers. This bill also requires local educational agencies (LEAs) that elect to conduct suicide risk screenings to annually report specified information to the CDE.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the governing board or body of an LEA that serves pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive, before the beginning of the 2017-18 school year, adopt, a policy on pupil suicide prevention in grades 7 to 12, inclusive. Requires that the policy be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders,

school-employed mental health professionals, and a suicide prevention expert, and at a minimum, address procedures related to suicide prevention, intervention, and postvention. (Education Code (EC) § 215)

- 2) Requires that the policies specifically address the needs of high-risk groups, including youth bereaved by suicide, youth with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders, youth experiencing homelessness or in out-of-home settings, students in foster care, and lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning youth. (EC § 215)
- 3) Requires the CDE to identify one or more evidence-based online training programs that an LEA can use to train school staff and pupils as part of the LEA's policy on pupil suicide prevention. (EC § 216)
- 4) Requires the CDE to provide a grant to a county office of education (COE), upon application by the COE, for it to acquire a training program identified by the CDE and disseminate that training program to LEAs. (EC § 216)
- 5) Requires the COE to make the training program available to LEAs at no cost. (EC § 216)

This bill:

- 1) Recasts and revises existing requirements for CDE to identify suicide prevention trainings to instead require the BHSOAC to develop evidence-based online training to train specified school staff, pupils, parents and guardians, and caregivers.
- 2) Requires the BHSOAC, in consultation with the CDE, the State Department of Public Health (CDPH), to develop an evidence-based online training program that is accessible, free of charge, and available statewide to train school staff serving pupils in kindergarten or in any grades 1 to 12, inclusive, pupils who are 13 years of age or older, and parents, guardians, or caregivers of pupils in kindergarten or in any of grades 1 to 12, inclusive, as part of the LEA's policy on pupil suicide prevention, as specified.
- 3) Requires the BHSOAC, in developing an online training program, to ensure the following:

- a) The program is evidence-based, trauma-informed, and culturally and linguistically competent.
 - b) The training program is consistent with the model pupil suicide prevention policy developed by the CDE, as specified.
 - c) The training program addresses the needs of high-risk groups, as specified.
 - d) The training program can track aggregate, statewide usage.
 - e) The training program can assess trainee knowledge before and after training is provided in order to measure training outcomes.
- 4) Requires an LEA that conducts suicide risk screenings, including as provided under school-linked behavioral health programs, or the LEA's policy on pupil suicide prevention, to report to the CDE, on or before June 30, 2027, and June 30 annually thereafter, the number of pupils screened, and which screening instruments were used, for the reporting year. Specifies that this provision shall not be construed to require an LEA to conduct suicide risk screenings.
- 5) Requires the LEA, in collecting and reporting data, to ensure that data is reported in a deidentified, aggregate data form on its internet website to inform policy and program development.
- 6) Makes this bill an urgency statute to ensure that the training referenced in #1 above is developed expeditiously for use by LEAs as part of their suicide prevention efforts.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "Too many communities across California have been devastated by youth suicides, including my hometown of Palo Alto. We must do everything we possibly can to prevent these tragedies. AB 2003 responds to the ongoing youth mental health crisis by developing and providing a free, evidence based, online suicide prevention training program for all students 13 and older, K-12 school staff, and parents. Specifically, this bill would require the Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission, in consultation with the California Department of Education and the California Department of Public Health, to develop a permanent suicide prevention training program available statewide. Suicide is preventable, and this training is essential to

give Californians the knowledge, tools, and resources to know what to look for and feel confident in supporting youth in their life who need help.”

“AB 2003 would also compile suicide risk screening data statewide. If schools conduct suicide risk screenings, those schools would share the total number of students they screen annually, and the type of screening they use with the California Department of Education. This could help inform policy, prevention planning and strategies, and support. In total, AB 2003 would provide free access to life-saving training and the essential data needed to combat the ongoing youth mental health crisis.”

Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission. This bill requires the BHSOAC to consult with the CDE and the CDPH to develop evidence-based online suicide prevention training for school staff, pupils age 13 and older, parents and guardians, and caregivers. The BHSOAC was first established in 2004 through Proposition 63 to oversee the implementation of the Mental Health Services Act. With the 2024 passage of Proposition 1, the Behavioral Health Services Act, the BHSOAC now serves as a diverse 27-member body that works with community members, people with lived experience, family members, and representatives from all levels of government to collect, analyze, and share spending and efficacy data on local programs, distributes grants, spread best practices, conduct research, and engage experts to develop policy proposals that improve positive behavioral health outcomes.

Building upon prior training efforts. In 2018, the Legislature passed AB 1808 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 32, Statutes of 2018), requiring the CDE to identify an evidence-based online suicide prevention training program for students and school staff that was consistent with an LEA’s suicide prevention policy. To execute this, the bill also required the CDE to select a lead COE that would then acquire a statewide license for this training and disseminate the training program. The CDE selected LivingWorks Start as the online training program and the San Diego County Office of Education (SDCOE) as the lead COE to make this online training available, at no cost, to LEAs so they may voluntarily use it as part of their youth suicide prevention policy.

In 2024, the statewide license for the LivingWorks Start suicide prevention training expired, making the training no longer available. However, the SDCOE still maintains a resource page featuring its Policy to Practice: Suicide Intervention Toolkit and various links to supports for students, parents, districts, and schools.

This bill requires the BHSOAC to develop its own evidence-based online suicide prevention training for students aged 13 and older, school staff serving all grade

levels, including teachers, counselors, and administrators, as well as parents, guardians, and caregivers. Notably, this will be the first time the training will also be inclusive of elementary school staff.

Suicide screenings data. This bill would require an LEA that conducts suicide risk screenings to annually report to the CDE on the number of students screened and the screening instrument used. According to the BHSOAC, many schools voluntarily conduct suicide risk screenings but lack unified standards for collecting or reporting data. They note that without statewide aggregation of the number of pupils screened and the screening tool used, California cannot understand the full picture of what is happening across the state, leading to fragmented practices and missed opportunities for early intervention.

The BHSOAC currently provides an online Suicide Risk Screening in Schools training for designated school staff to learn about best practices in school-based screening for suicide risk and how to respond effectively to keep students safe.

BHSOAC has already approved funding to develop the training. During its January 2026 meeting, the members of the BHSOAC voted to approve \$1.5 million of Behavioral Health Student Services Act administrative funds to develop the suicide prevention training. The BHSOAC intends to develop 3 to 6 trauma-informed, culturally relevant, and developmentally appropriate training modules designed for teachers/staff, parents, and students, then work with state and local agencies to support the dissemination of those training modules.

An urgency clause was added to this bill in the Assembly Education Committee to ensure that the training could be developed expeditiously.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (co-source)

California Youth Empowerment Network (co-source)

Aids Healthcare Foundation / Impulse Group

Alameda County Office of Education

Cabrillo Unified School District

Cal Voices

California Alliance of Child and Family Services

California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

California Association of Student Councils

California Behavioral Health Association

California Behavioral Health Planning Council
California Children's Hospital Association
California Hospital Association
California Medical Association
California School Boards Association
California School-Based Health Alliance
California State PTA
County of Santa Clara
Disability Rights California
Gente Organizada
Human Response Network
Jefferson Union High School District
Jewish Family and Children's Services of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin and Sonoma Counties
LGBTQ+ Inclusivity, Visibility, and Empowerment
Mental Health America of California
National Alliance on Mental Illness
On the Margins, Inc.
Pacifica School District
Racial and Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition
Reach LA
Steinberg Institute
Vietnamese American Arts & Letters Association
Youth Community Service
Youth Leadership Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

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: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
7/1/26 16:55:07

**** **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 2010
Author: Soria (D), et al.
Amended: 4/22/26 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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Veterinary medicine: veterinary surgery premises: spay and neuter services

SOURCE: American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
San Diego Humane Society
San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals
Animal Balance

DIGEST: This bill exempts a veterinary premises where “high-quality, high-volume” spay and neuter services (HQHVSN) are performed, from specified regulatory standards, including the requirement for a separate room for aseptic surgeries, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Veterinary Medical Board (VMB), under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs to license and regulate veterinarians, registered veterinary technicians (RVTs), register veterinary premises (premises) and issue veterinary assistant-controlled substance permits (VACSPs) and sunsets the VMB and its authority to appoint an EO January 1,

2030. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 4800, et. seq.)

- 2) Prohibits a veterinarian from prescribing, dispensing, or administering a drug, medicine, application, or treatment of whatever nature for the prevention, cure, relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury, or disease of animals unless a veterinarian-client patient relationship (VCPR) exists and specifies the conditions under which a VCPR is established, as specified. (BPC § 4826.6)
- 3) Requires all veterinary premises to be registered with the VMB. (BPC § 4853)
- 4) Authorizes the VMB at any time to inspect the premises in which veterinary medicine, veterinary dentistry, or veterinary surgery is being practiced, and specifies the board's inspection authority does not extend to premises that are not registered with the VMB. (BPC § 4809.5)

This bill:

- 1) Exempts HQHVSN services performed either in a registered veterinary premises, or by a veterinarian employed or contracted with a veterinary premises in a temporary setting from a requirement that it take place in a facility that complies with any of the following standards:
 - a) A requirement for a separate room that is reserved for aseptic surgical procedures that require aseptic preparation;
 - b) A prohibition on open shelving in the area in which the aseptic surgical sterilization procedure is performed;
 - c) A requirement for equipment for viewing radiographs.
- 2) Defines for purposes of this bill HQHVSN to mean the aseptic surgical sterilization by a veterinarian, including the supervision by the veterinarian of presurgical preparation and recovery of the animals, of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.

Background

The Act and the Veterinary Medical Board (VMB). The VMB is the regulatory entity responsible for the licensure and regulation of veterinarians, RVT, schools and programs along with veterinary premises through the enforcement of the

California Veterinary Medicine Practice Act (Act). The practice of veterinary medicine is specified in statute (BPC § 4826) and includes actions such as diagnosing or prescribing a drug, medicine, appliance, application, treatment of whatever nature, for the cure or relief of a wound, fracture, bodily injury or disease of animals (including those actions of an RVT or a veterinary assistant under the supervision of a licensed veterinarian).

Premises Registration. The VMB is responsible for licensing and inspecting veterinary premises where animal health care tasks are performed. Current law requires that any owner, operator, officer, director, shareholder, general partner or agent for service of process be clearly identified on a premises application and require any changes in these positions to be reported to the VMB within 30 days. Under current regulations, veterinary premises must meet stringent requirements to ensure animal patient safety. In recognition that veterinary care services are evolving to meet the need of communities, and that some veterinary care services may be performed safely outside of a traditional veterinary premises hospital, the VMB recently adopted regulations to establish separately regulatory requirements for vaccination clinics, mobile veterinary premises, and small animal premises.

The minimum standards for a veterinary premises include administrative requirements such as signage, kenneling standards for animals that remain in care for more than 24 hours, phone access, facility hours of operations, among others. Premises must have capacity for radiological services, pathology and diagnostic services at the site, through another premises or outside service. Premises must abide by drug storage, sanitary standards, sterilized equipment standards, veterinary reference materials, among others.

Current regulations delineate additional standards that are required when providing *aseptic surgical services*, which include: 1) limits on storage to surgical supplies only, 2) prohibition on open shelving, 3) have a means for viewing diagnostic images, 4) specifications for surgical equipment, 5) sterile equipment standards, 6) appropriate attire of staff, and 7) compliance with specified building standards, which require a separate surgical room for aseptic procedures that require aseptic preparation.

Minimal regulations for mobile veterinary premises include requirements to provide disclosure notices about the hours of operation, phone number for access to after-hour emergency services, and a number for follow up questions. Mobile clinics must also meet specified requirements for standard veterinary premises and have a separate and distinct room where aseptic surgical services are provided.

Aseptic surgical procedures refer to those practices used to maintain a sterile environment during surgery to prevent contamination and infection.

Spay and Neuter and High-Quality, High-Volume Spay and Neuter. Generally, the practice of spay and neuter (the common terms) is referred to as the surgical sterilization of an animal. “Spaying” is the typical procedure for a female animal and “neuter” is the typical procedure for a male animal. Both procedures aim to ensure that the animals will not reproduce, mainly to control pet overpopulation.

HQHVSN services relate to the specialized surgical techniques and operational practices which are designed to perform many spay and neuter surgeries more swiftly, while maintaining the high standards of patient care. Because this type of spay and neuter is a special technique that allows for a more rapid surgical procedure, these services are often performed at HQHVSN clinics, where a high-volume of animals can be spayed and neutered during the clinic hours. This specialized service is valuable for shelters and rescue organizations that contract with local government for animal care services as a way to provide these necessary surgeries to many animals who need it, and also for those consumers who have difficulties accessing traditional veterinary care services, as they can attend one of these clinics which are typically offered at a low or no cost.

This bill creates a definition of HQHVSN as “the aseptic surgical sterilization by a veterinarian, including the supervision by the veterinarian of presurgical preparation and recovery of the animals, of 20 or more dogs, cats, or rabbits, or any combination thereof, within 12 consecutive hours.” This definition provides clarification to the number of animals treated in these events rather than specifics on the actual surgical skills required or utilized to perform these surgeries.

The author and sponsor note that the requirement for separate surgical rooms for any veterinary surgery is problematic to meet specifically for HQHVSN events. They note, HQHVSN is most effective when it can be done in community centers and large rooms, allowing for a more efficient flow of animals and exponential increase in the number of animals that can be safely and quickly sterilized. To address this challenge for HQHVSN pop-up event providers, this bill would exempt HQHVSN from the requirement to comply with certain veterinary premises regulations, including the requirement for a separate room that is reserved for aseptic surgical procedures, the requirement to maintain equipment for viewing radiographs, and the prohibition on open shelving in the area in which the aseptic surgical sterilization procedure is performed.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (co-source)
San Diego Humane Society (co-source)
San Francisco Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (co-source)
Animal Balance (co-source)
Ace of Hearts Dog Rescue
Animal Shelter Assistance Program
Animalsave
Arc Inland Empire
Bay Area CATS
Berkeley-east Bay Humane Society
Best Friends Animal Society
Better World Rescue
CalAnimals
City of Huron
City of Rancho Cordova
City of Sacramento
County of Riverside
Eastwood Ranch Foundation
Forgotten Felines of Sonoma County
Friends of Colusa County Animal Shelter
Frosted Faces Foundation
Humane Society of Imperial County
Humane Veterinary Medical Association
Humane World for Animals
Inland Valley Humane Society & SPCA
Island Cat Resources and Adoption
Joybound People & Pets
Madera County Animal Services
Norcal German Shorthaired Pointer Rescue, INC
Oakland Animal Services
Orange County Animal Allies
Peninsula Humane Society & SPCA
Pets in Need
Rancho Coastal Humane Society
Ridgecrest Animal Shelter
Sacramento SPCA
Santa Barbara Humane
Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter
Santa Cruz County Animal Shelter Foundation

Sequoia Humane Society
The Dancing Cat
The Paw Mission
Town of Apple Valley Animal Services
Valley Humane Society

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

Fix our Shelters

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: A broad coalition of stakeholders write in support and note generally that this bill will help remove barriers to vital spay and neuter services and will also support overcrowded animal shelters.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Fix our Shelters writes in opposition to the provisions of this bill and notes a preference to “allow for the CVMB to assert its role in ensuring that any expansion of spay/neuter services is guided by evidence-based medical standards, enforceable safeguards, and a clear commitment to preven7ng avoidable harm to animal patients.”

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: Elissa Silva / B., P. & E.D. / 916-651-4104
7/1/26 16:55:07

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2018
Author: Ramos (D), et al.
Amended: 4/7/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Missing persons: DNA testing

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the DNA database be used for all cases involving the report of an unidentified person, whether living or deceased; 2) deletes provisions relating to the reporting of high-risk missing persons; 3) authorizes the retention of DNA extracted from a living person under these provisions if the identified human remains are incomplete and there is a reasonable expectation that additional remains requiring identification may be found in the future; and 4) makes conforming changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) The DNA and Forensic Identification Data Base and Data Bank Act of 1998, as amended by Proposition 69 in 2004, created a DNA database known as the Criminal Offender DNA Database, which applies to sex offenses and other crimes as well as to the identification of missing and unidentified persons.
- 2) Requires that for this database, the results of DNA typing must be compatible with and uploaded into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Combined DNA

Index System (CODIS) DNA database and allows the Department of Justice DNA Laboratory to contract with other public or private laboratories that have capability to analyze DNA specimens. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 295; Pen. Code, § 298.3; Pen. Code, § 299.6.)

- 3) Requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to develop a DNA database for all cases involving the report of an unidentified deceased person or a high-risk missing person, called the Missing Persons DNA Program. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(1); Pen. Code, § 14251.)
- 4) States that the sole purpose of this database shall be to identify missing persons and shall be kept separate from the database established pursuant to the DNA and Forensic Identification Database and Data Bank Act of 1998. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(2).)
- 5) Mandates the DNA database be comprised of DNA data from genetic markers that are appropriate for human identification but have no capability to predict biological function other than gender. These markers are selected by the DOJ and may change as the technology for DNA typing progresses. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(2).)
- 6) Mandates the DNA data from the Missing Persons DNA Program be uploaded into the Federal Bureau of Investigations' CODIS DNA database, but remain separate from the Crime Offender DNA Database, as established in Penal Code Section 295. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(2).)
- 7) Requires the DOJ to compare DNA samples taken from the remains of unidentified deceased persons with DNA samples taken from personal articles belonging to the missing person, or from the parents or appropriate relatives of high-risk missing persons. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(3).)
- 8) Defines "high-risk missing person" as a person missing as a result of a stranger abduction, a person missing under suspicious circumstances, a person missing under unknown circumstances, or where there is reason to assume that the person is in danger, or deceased, and that person has been missing more than 30 days, or less than 30 days in the discretion of the investigating agency. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(4).)
- 9) Requires the DOJ to develop standards and guidelines for the preservation and storage of DNA samples. Requires any agency that is required to collect samples from unidentified remains for DNA testing to follow these standards and guidelines. Existing law requires these guidelines to address all scientific

methods used for the identification of remains, including DNA, anthropology, odontology, and fingerprints. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (b).)

- 10) Requires a coroner to collect samples for DNA testing from the remains of all unidentified persons and send those samples to the DOJ for DNA testing and inclusion in the DNA databank. After the DOJ has taken a sample from the remains for DNA analysis and completed all DNA testing, the remaining evidence shall be returned to the appropriate local coroner. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (c)(1).)
- 11) Requires that after a report has been made of a person missing under high-risk circumstances, the responsible investigating law enforcement agency inform the parents or other appropriate relatives that they may give a voluntary sample for DNA testing or may collect a DNA sample from a personal article belonging to the missing person if available. These samples must be taken by the appropriate law enforcement agency in a manner prescribed by the DOJ, and the responsible investigating law enforcement agency to wait no longer than 30 days after a report has been made to inform the parents or other relatives of their right to give a sample. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (c)(2).)

This bill requires the DNA database for the Missing Persons DNA Program be used for all cases involving the report of an unidentified person, whether living or deceased, and deletes provisions relating to the reporting of “high-risk” missing persons. This bill authorizes the retention of DNA extracted from a living person under these provisions if the identified human remains are incomplete and there is a reasonable expectation that additional remains requiring identification may be found in the future.

Background

Federal Missing Persons DNA Program. CODIS, the Combined DNA Index System, is a broad network of DNA databases on the local, state, and federal level. The DNA Identification Act of 1994 authorized the establishment of this National DNA Index. (42 U.S.C. § 14132.) The DNA Act specifies the categories of data that may be maintained in NDIS (convicted offenders, arrestees, legal, detainees, forensic [casework], unidentified human remains, missing persons, and relatives of missing persons) as well as requirements for participating laboratories relating to quality assurance, privacy, and expungement.

According to the U.S. Department of Justice, families of missing persons who are presumed dead face tremendous emotional turmoil when they are unable to learn about the fates of their loved ones. Despite tremendous scientific advancements,

DNA technology is not routinely used in missing persons cases. According to statistics maintained by the FBI's National Crime Information Center (NCIC), there are nearly 5,000 reported unidentified persons in the United States.

The FBI's Missing Persons DNA Database Program currently provides the essential infrastructure for identifying human remains. This database maintains two indices of DNA samples. The first index contains DNA profiles of relatives of missing persons and the second contains DNA profiles of unidentified human remains.

California's Missing Persons DNA Program. The Missing Persons DNA Program compares DNA from unidentified persons and unidentified human remains with DNA from personal articles belonging to missing persons, or from the parents or appropriate relatives of high-risk missing persons. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(3).) Existing law defines "high-risk missing person" as a person missing as a result of a stranger abduction, a person missing under suspicious circumstances, a person missing under unknown circumstances, or where there is reason to assume that the person is in danger, or deceased, and that person has been missing more than 30 days, or less than 30 days in the discretion of the investigating agency. (Pen. Code, § 14250, subd. (a)(4).)

This bill requires the DNA database for the Missing Persons DNA Program be used for all cases involving the report of an unidentified person, whether living or deceased, and deletes provisions relating to the reporting of "high-risk" missing persons.

According to the California Department of Justice, Bureau of Forensic Services:

The Missing Persons DNA Program stores DNA profiles in two different databases. One database contains DNA profiles from unidentified persons and human remains. The other database is considered a family reference database and it contains the DNA profiles of relatives of missing persons and DNA profiles from personal items that belonged to a missing person (like a toothbrush). As a family member of a missing person, your DNA profile will be stored in the family reference database.

[. . .]

Family reference samples are NEVER searched against databases that contain DNA profiles of evidence from criminal investigations or DNA profiles of persons arrested or convicted of crimes. They are ONLY

searched against the unidentified person and remains database to help identify missing persons.

(State of California, Department of Justice, Office of the Attorney General. *Missing Persons DNA Program FAQ* <https://oag.ca.gov/system/files/media/onaa-mpdp-dna-faq-flyer.pdf>.) The sole purpose of the program is to contribute to the effort of identifying missing persons. Parents and other relatives of missing persons are neither given an incentive to provide a DNA sample, nor will they be coerced or compelled to provide a sample. Further, DNA samples from relatives of missing persons are not searched against any criminal or offender DNA databases. They are only searched against the DNA samples from unidentified persons and unidentified human remains. This bill authorizes the retention of DNA extracted from a living person under these provisions if the identified human remains are incomplete and there is a reasonable expectation that additional remains requiring identification may be found in the future. This bill could, therefore, increase the likelihood of positive identification by expanding the information held in this DNA Database. This bill would increase the amount of genetic information that could be shared with the federal government.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

California Department of Justice
California District Attorneys Association
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Yurok Tribe

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

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: Natalia DaSilva Telles / PUB. S. / 916-651-4118
7/1/26 16:55:08

**** **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 ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2042
Author: Kalra (D)
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Civil actions: setting aside default or default judgment

SOURCE: California Low-Income Consumer Coalition

DIGEST: This bill clarifies provisions of the law that were codified through AB 747 (Kalra, Chapter 563, Statutes of 2025).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Service of Process Accountability, Reform, and Equity Act (SPARE Act), which provides that the registry of process servers be publicly available; sets a clear standard for what qualifies as “reasonable diligence” for several service statutes, including attempting personal delivery of the summons, in good faith, on at least three occasions on three different days at three different times; requires specific corroborating evidence that service was in fact effectuated in the manner required; and authorizes a party to an action to bring a motion to vacate a default judgment that is void for lack of proper service at any time after entry of the judgment. (Code Civil (Civ.) Procedure (Proc.) §§ 415.20, 415.45, 417.10, 417.40, 473, 473.2, 473.5, 585.)
- 2) Permits a defendant in a debt enforcement action, brought by a buyer of consumer debt who has obtained a default or default judgment against the

defendant, to file a motion to set aside the default or default judgment and for leave to defend the action if the defendant did not receive actual notice of the action in time to defend against it. Such a motion is required to be filed within 6 years after entry of the default or default judgment or 180 days after the first actual notice of the action, or, in the case of identity theft or mistaken identity, within a reasonable amount of time but in no case later than 180 days after the first actual notice of the action. (Civ. Code § 1788.61.)

This bill:

- 1) Clarifies in Civil Code Section 1788.61, described in 2), above, that a defendant who did not receive actual notice may file a motion to set aside and for leave to defend even if the service of summons of the action was lawfully effected.
- 2) Clarifies that nothing in Code of Civil Procedure Section 473.2 (Section 473.2) alters a court's existing authority to adjudicate a motion made pursuant to Code of Civil Procedure Section 473, or otherwise to vacate or set aside a judgement, with respect to a proof of service filed before January 1, 2027.
- 3) Specifies Section 473.2 applies to service attempted or completed on or after January 1, 2027.
- 4) Clarifies in Section 473.2 that a party who is not served with a summons and complaint in accordance with this chapter may move for dismissal as permitted by existing law.

Comments

The provisions of AB 747 (Kalra, Chapter 563, Statutes of 2025) go into effect on January 1, 2027. This Committee passed AB 747 last year and the bill was signed into law by the Governor. The bill strengthened procedural protections for defendants by increasing accountability for process servers, clarifying the standard for substituted service, and enhancing access to post-judgment relief when service was unlawful.

The author now brings AB 2042, at the request of stakeholders, to provide clarifying amendments to the provisions that go into effect in January 2027.

This bill is sponsored by the California Low Income Consumer Coalition and supported by the California Apartment Association.

According to the author:

Proper service of summons and complaints is a fundamental requirement of due process and ensures defendants are notified of a claim against them so they can properly prepare a defense. To address concerns around fraudulent service, the Legislature passed AB 747, which modernized and standardized service of process by requiring evidence of personal and substitute service, defining reasonable diligence when attempting personal service, and clarifying the timing and method of challenging defective service.

However, input from stakeholders since the bill's passage has suggested that clarifying changes are needed. As such, AB 2042 provides clearer guidance to the courts as it relates to the implementation of AB 747 (Kalra, Chapter 563, Statutes of 2025). Specifically, the bill clarifies AB 747 does not create a new basis for dismissal upon the vacating or setting aside of a default judgment, does not alter a court's existing authority with respect to cases filed before January 1, 2027, and does not alter the Fair Debt Buying Practices Act with respect to lawsuits that were lawfully served.

The California Low-Income Consumer Coalition, sponsors of this bill, writes the following:

Last year's SPARE Act addressed the pernicious and long-standing problem of fraudulent service of process, a practice that contributes to over 90% of debt collection defendants not responding to lawsuits against them. The Act created a clear standard for effecting and proving lawful service and codified California appellate case law that allows a Defendant to challenge at any time a judgment obtained without proper service (i.e., there is no time limit on when a person can ask a court to vacate a judgment obtained through unlawful service of process). The Act also codified existing case law that clarifies the procedure for defendants to follow when seeking to vacate judgments against them in cases when they were never served with the lawsuit.

AB 2042 specifies that AB 747's procedure for defendants to vacate judgments obtained without lawful services applies only to proofs of service filed after the effective date of AB 747 (January 1, 2027).

AB 2042 also includes amendments designed to facilitate implementation of the bill by the Judicial Council of California.

The California Apartment Association is in support of the bill and states that the bill “will ensure that the appropriate remedy for improper service is to set aside the default or quash service—not to dismiss the case outright. Allowing dismissal invites delay tactics, wastes valuable court time, and increases costs to the judicial system.”

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Low-Income Consumer Coalition (source)
California Apartment Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received

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: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:19:55

**** 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 ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

AB 2078

THIRD READING

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
6/25/26 11:37:14

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2106
Author: Patel (D)
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Malpractice actions: architects, engineers, or surveyors

SOURCE: American Council of Engineering Companies of California

DIGEST: (1) This bill expands the existing certificate of merit requirements for a cause of action alleging negligence against an architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor to also apply to landscape architects, geologists, and geophysicists. (2) This bill also requires that the person the attorney consults with to get an opinion of whether there was negligence on behalf of a design professional must be licensed in this state.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

- 1) Provides for the licensure and regulation of landscape architects in this state. (Business & Professions (Bus. & Prof.) Code §§ 5615 et seq.)
- 2) Establishes the Architects Practice Act for the licensure and regulation of architects in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 5500 et seq.)
- 3) Establishes the Professional Engineers Act for the licensure and regulation of professional engineers in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6700 et seq.)
- 4) Establishes the Professional Land Surveyors' Act for the licensure and regulation of land surveyors in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 8700 et seq.)

- 5) Establishes the Geologist and Geophysicist Act for the licensure and regulation of geologists and geophysicists in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 7800 et seq.)
- 6) Requires an attorney for a plaintiff or cross-complainant in an action that arises from the professional negligence of an architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor to file and serve a certificate of merit on a defendant or cross-defendant, on or before the date of service of the complaint or cross-complaint. (Code of Civil Procedure (Civ. Proc.) § 411.35(a).)
- 7) Requires the certificate in 6) to declare one of the following:
 - a) The attorney has reviewed the facts of the case, and:
 - i) the attorney has consulted with and received an opinion from at least one architect, professional engineer, or land surveyor who is licensed and practices in any state, or who teaches at an accredited college or university and is licensed to practice in any state, in the same discipline as the defendant or cross-defendant and who the attorney reasonably believes is knowledgeable in the relevant issues involved in the particular action;
 - ii) the attorney has concluded on the basis of this review and consultation that there is reasonable and meritorious cause for the filing of this action;
 - iii) the person consulted is not a party to the litigation; and
 - iv) the person consulted will provide their opinion that the named defendant or cross-defendant was negligent or was not negligent in the performance of the applicable professional services.
 - b) The attorney was unable to obtain the consultation because a statute of limitations would impair the action and the certificate could not be obtained before the impairment of the action. The attorney must file the certificate from a), above, within 60 days after filing the complaint.
 - c) The attorney was unable to obtain the consultation because the attorney had made three separate good faith attempts with three separate architects, professional engineers, or land surveyors to obtain this consultation and none of those contacted would agree to the consultation. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.35(b).)
- 8) Requires only one certificate to be filed, even if multiple defendants have been named in the complaint or may be named at a later time. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.35(c).)

- 9) Makes the failure to file a certificate in accordance with these provisions grounds for a demurrer or a motion to strike. (Code Civ. Proc. § 411.35(g).)

This bill:

- 1) Expands these provisions to also apply to licensed landscaped architects, registered professional geologists, and registered professional geophysicists.
- 2) Specifies that the certificate described in 6), above, is to be filed separate and distinct from the complaint or cross-complaint.
- 3) Limits the licensed practitioners that can be consulted with under 7)a)i), above, to those who are licensed in this state.
- 4) Specifies that the changes made by the bill apply to actions filed on and after January 1, 2027.
- 5) Makes various clarifying and nonsubstantive changes.

Comments

The American Council of Engineering Companies of California, the sponsor of this bill, notes that the “use of out-of-state or anonymous consultant[s] – who may lack familiarity with California’s standards – has undermined the credibility of the process and contributed to increased litigation and pressure to settle, regardless of the merits of a case.” They argue that requiring the consulted with design professional to be licensed in this state will ensure “that evaluations are conducted by individuals who understand California’s regulatory environment and applicable standard of care.”

This bill also expands the provisions of Section 411.35 of the Code of Civil Procedure to apply to more design professionals, specifically licensed landscape architects, registered professional geologists, and registered professional geophysicists.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/24/26)

American Council of Engineering Companies of California (sponsor)
American Institute of Architects California

American Property Casualty Insurance Association
American Society of Civil Engineers - Region 9
California & Nevada Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors Association
California Building Industry Association
Civil Justice Association of California
Parikh Consultants, Inc.
Structural Engineers Association of California
Verdantas
WMH Corporation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/24/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

The author writes:

“Current law allows out of state licensees to serve a Certificate of Merit. AB 2106 ensures that California licensees - professionals that understand California’s laws and regulations - are the ones determining if there has been a breach in standard of care.”

A coalition of supporters write in support stating:

“California’s Certificate of Merit law was established to ensure that claims against licensed design professionals – such as engineers, architects, and land surveyors – are reviewed by a qualified expert before proceeding, since these cases typically require an understanding of highly specialized and technical design requirements. While well-intentioned, gaps in the current statute have undermined its effectiveness. Under existing law, the subject matter expert consulted in these cases is not required to be licensed in California and may remain anonymous. This has led to situations where lawsuits are initiated based on opinions from out-of-state or unidentified individuals who may lack familiarity with California’s unique regulatory environment, including seismic standards, building codes, and environmental requirements.

As a result, design professionals are increasingly subject to claims that do not reflect California’s standard of practice. When these claims are filed without a properly licensed subject matter expert who is clearly identified, design professionals will and do defend themselves vigorously. For both sides, this means spending substantial time and resources litigating issues that could be resolved

early if the validity of the Certificate of Merit review were clearly established at the beginning of the case.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, Gallagher, 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, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:09:14

**** 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 2134
Author: Addis (D), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: City council members: absences without permission

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill allows a city to establish a process for parental leave and prohibits parental leave from counting toward allowed absences for a city council member.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Makes it an unlawful employment practice, under the California Family Rights Act, for an employer, as defined, to refuse to grant a request by an eligible employee to take up to 12 workweeks of unpaid, job-protected leave during any 12-month period to, among other things, care for a child born to, adopted by, or placed for foster care with the employee.
- 2) Affirms that the people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business, and, therefore, the meetings of public bodies

and the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny.

- a) Requires a statute that limits the public's right of access to be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.
- 3) Establishes the Brown Act, which secures public access to the meetings of public commissions, boards, councils, and agencies in the state. The Brown Act defines the following relevant terms:
- a) A "local agency" is a county, city, whether general law or chartered, city and county, town, school district, municipal corporation, district, political subdivision, or any board, commission, or agency thereof, or any other local public agency.
 - b) A "legislative body" is the governing board of a local agency or any other local body created by state or federal statute; a commission, committee, board, or other body of a local agency, as specified; a board, commission, or other multimember body that governs a private corporation, limited liability company, or other entity that is either created by an elected legislative body to exercise delegated authority or receives funds from a local agency and includes a member of the legislative body of the local agency; or the lessee of any hospital leased pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 21131, where the lessee exercises any material authority delegated by the legislative body.
- 4) Requires all meetings of the legislative body of a local agency to be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in the Brown Act.
- 5) Provides that if a city council member is absent without permission from all regular city council meetings for 60 days consecutively from the last regular meeting they attended, their office becomes vacant and shall be filled as any other vacancy.
- a) If a city council meets monthly or less frequently than monthly and a city council member is absent without permission from all regular city council meetings for 70 days consecutively from the last regular meeting they attended, their office becomes vacant and shall be filled as any other vacancy.

This bill:

- 1) Requires a city to establish a process for a city council member to notify the city clerk or other designated official in writing that they are taking parental leave for 12 workweeks or longer if the city council member's city provides a parental leave period longer than 12 workweeks for their employees.
- 2) Prohibits the process from requiring a council member to make the declaration at a public hearing.
- 3) Excludes parental leave from counting toward the number of allowed absences allotted to each council member before an office is considered vacant.
- 4) Defines "parental leave" for these purposes to mean leave for reasons of the birth of a child of the city council member, or the placement of a child with an city council member in connection with the adoption or foster care of the child by the city council member. Parental leave shall be limited to 12 workweeks or the length of time allowed pursuant to the parental leave provided to employees of the applicable council member's city, whichever is longer.
- 5) Provides that the Legislature finds and declares that this act is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair, as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this bill applies to all cities, including charter cities.
- 6) Provides that the Legislature finds and declares that the limitation on the access to public meetings is needed in order to protect the privacy of city council members.

Background

City council absences. Existing law limits the number of days a city council member may be absent without permission from regular city council meetings. If a city council member is absent for 60 days consecutively from the last regular meeting the councilmember attended, their office becomes vacant and must be filled as any other vacancy. If a city council meets monthly or less frequently than monthly, a city council member may be absent without permission for 70 consecutive days from the last regular meeting the council member attended before the office becomes vacant.

California Family Rights Act (CFRA). State law provides employees with several types of protected medical leave, depending on the size of their employer and the reason for the leave. The CFRA provides certain employees up to 12 weeks of

unpaid, job protected leave for a year to bond with a child, care for a parent, spouse, or child with a serious health condition or address the employee's own serious health condition. The CFRA also requires employers to maintain group health benefits during the leave under the same terms and conditions as if the employee had continued working. Under the CFRA and the Fair Employment and Housing Act, it is an unlawful employment practice for an employer to refuse an eligible employee's request to take protected leave for a qualifying purpose. Because city councilmembers are elected, and are not employees of the city they represent, they are not covered under these laws for any absences from city council meetings for the purpose of parental leave.

City of Sunnyvale. The City of Sunnyvale is a charter city located in Santa Clara County with approximately 157,000 residents. As the second most populous city in the county, Sunnyvale is one of the major cities that make up California's Silicon Valley. In 2024, the San Jose Mercury News reported that, "Sunnyvale City Councilmember Alysa Cisneros, who recently had her second child, was required to get her leave approved by her fellow councilmembers at a public hearing. Councilmember Cisneros was forced to share personal information about her health in a public forum." Although the City Council ultimately permitted Councilmember Cisneros to take leave and retain her seat, the circumstance highlighted potential challenges that local elected officials may face when seeking parental leave.

Comments

According to the author, "Local elected office can launch careers in public service, serving as a pathway to higher office. With that in mind, local elected office must be accessible to all Californians, including those who want to start or grow their families. AB 2134 will establish standard minimum protections for parental leave for city councilmembers across California, ensuring that councilmembers can take absences for parental leave without losing their council seat."

Balancing act. City council members serve as the elected representatives of their constituents and fulfil that role by attending public meetings, participating in discussions, and voting on local matters. Their presence is an important component of local governance, as council actions often require participation to establish a quorum, conduct business, and make decisions. At the same time, parental leave policies recognize the importance of allowing new parents time to care for and bond with their children during a critical period of family development. AB 2134 allows city council members a minimum of 12 weeks of parental leave following the birth, adoption or fostering of a child. While parental

leave may allow elected officials to balance public service with family responsibilities, extended absences, even for legitimate reasons like parental leave, may temporarily reduce representation for the residents they were elected to represent. Such absences may also affect a council's ability to conduct business. Does AB 2134 appropriately balance the benefits for city councilmembers and their growing family with the potential impacts that extended absences may have on effective governance?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
California Legislative Women's Caucus
City of Foster City
City of Glendale
City of San Mateo
City of Sunnyvale
League of California Cities

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

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: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/30/26 10:37:03

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2153
Author: Berman (D)
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/30/26

AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

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

SUBJECT: Voter registration: residency confirmation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill repeals an obsolete provision of law related to residency confirmation of registered voters.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Requires, pursuant to the National Voter Registration Act of 1993 (NVRA), that each state:
 - a) Provide that the name of a registrant may not be removed from the official list of eligible voters except at the registrant's request, as provided by state law by reason of criminal conviction or mental incapacity, or as provided by specified procedures outlined in the NVRA.
 - b) Conduct a general program that makes a reasonable effort to remove the names of ineligible voters from the official lists of eligible voters by reason of death, or a change in the residence of the registrant.
- 2) Requires all the following, pursuant to the NVRA and the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA):

- a) That a voter is not removed from the list of eligible voters in elections for federal office on the grounds that the registrant has changed residence unless either of the following is true:
 - i) The registrant confirms their change in residence in writing; or
 - ii) The registrant has failed to respond to a specified notice and has not voted or appeared to vote in an election between the time that the notice was sent and the date of the second federal general election after the notice was sent.
- b) That a voting registrar must correct an official list of eligible voters in elections for federal office in accordance with change of residence information obtained in conformance with the state program or activity to ensure the maintenance of an accurate and current voter registration roll for elections for federal office.

Existing state law:

- 1) Permits a person who meets the qualifications to vote under the California Constitution to register to vote.
- 2) Provides that a person's voter registration is permanent, unless it is canceled by the Secretary of State (SOS) or a county elections official, as specified.
- 3) Requires each county elections official to conduct a pre-election residency confirmation of each registered voter prior to each primary election.
- 4) Provides for the status of a voter's registration to be changed to inactive if change-of-address data received by the county elections official from the United States Postal Service or its licensees indicates that the voter has moved and left no forwarding address or has moved out of the state. County election officials must send a forwardable address verification mailing to the voter in that case.
- 5) Permitted a county elections official, until December 31, 2019, to send an alternate residency confirmation (ARC) postcard to any voter who had not voted in an election within the preceding four years, and who had not updated their residence address, name, or party preference during that time. A county elections official may have, until December 31, 2019, made a voter's registration inactive if the voter failed to respond to an ARC postcard. This provision of law was made inoperative on January 1, 2020, but remains in state law until January 1, 2029, at which point it will be repealed by its own terms.

- 6) Provides that voters with an inactive voter registration status do not receive vote by mail (VBM) ballots or other election materials that otherwise are sent to registered voters and are not included in voter registration numbers for the purposes of certain election administration related processes.
- 7) Provides that any voter whose registration is inactive, attempts to vote, notifies the elections official of a continued residency, or confirms the voter's registration record on the SOS' website, must be removed from the inactive list and placed on the active voter list.

This bill repeals an obsolete provision of law related to residency confirmation of registered voters.

Background

Assembly Bill 504 (Berman). AB 504 (Berman, Chapter 262, Statutes of 2019) sponsored by the SOS, made various changes to state law related to the confirmation of voters' residence addresses.

Additionally, AB 504, provided that if a voter verifies their registration record through the SOS' My Voter Status website, the verification would serve as confirmation of the voter's residency for the purposes of pre-election residency confirmation processes and voter list maintenance procedures. When AB 504 was enacted, California's centralized voter registration database, VoteCal, did not have the ability to notify the relevant county elections official when a voter confirmed their registration record on the SOS' My Voter Status website. As a result, AB 504 enacted two versions of Section 2226 of the Elections Code, which contains rules for voter list maintenance. One version of Section 2226 went into effect on January 1, 2020, and the second version specified it would go into effect only after the SOS certified necessary changes were made to VoteCal such that the relevant county elections official would be notified when a voter confirmed their registration record on the SOS' My Voter Status website. These changes were made to VoteCal in 2020 and the second version of the code section became operative.

Comments

Author's Statement. "State and federal law require election officials to follow specified procedures to confirm the residency of registered voters. These residency confirmation procedures are designed to keep voter registration rolls up-to-date by ensuring that voters' registrations are updated when voters move. If information from a residency confirmation process indicates that a voter has

moved and not left a forwarding address, the voter's registration becomes inactive. A voter whose registration is inactive remains eligible to vote, but their registration eventually may be canceled if the voter does not vote or confirm their address with the elections official.

I authored AB 504 in 2019 to, among other changes, allow a voter to confirm their address by logging in to the SOS' My Voter Status website, which ensures that the voter's registration remains active, or makes the registration active again if it was inactive. Because some of the changes made by AB 504 necessitated technology upgrades, the bill contained two nearly identical provisions of law, with one taking effect following passage and the second taking effect once the upgrades were completed. I am authoring this bill to clean up the law and prevent any confusion as to which provision of code is in effect."

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1610 (Ransom) of 2026 creates uniform procedures for county election officials to follow when they receive notice that a voter has changed their mailing address but not their residence address.

AB 504 (Berman, Chapter 262, Statutes of 2019) made various changes to state laws related to the confirmation of voters' residence addresses.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

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: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
7/1/26 16:55:09

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2175
Author: Garcia (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 17-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Becker, Caballero, Gonzalez, Grove, Hurtado, McNerney, Niello, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Stern, Strickland, Wahab

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Renewable electrical generation facilities: multiple meters:
aggregation: logistics businesses and manufacturing businesses

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill explicitly states logistics and manufacturing businesses are eligible customer-generators for the Net Billing Tariff-Aggregation (NBT-A) program, should the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) determine to extend the program.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes and vests the CPUC with regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations. (Article XII of the California Constitution)
- 2) Requires that all charges demanded or received by any public utility for any product, commodity or service be just and reasonable. (Public Utilities Code §451)

- 3) Requires each electrical utility, including each electrical corporation, local publicly owned electric utility (POU), electrical cooperative, or other entity that offers electrical service, except as specified, to develop a standard contract or tariff that provides for net energy metering (NEM), which, among other things, compensates each eligible customer-generator, as defined, for the electricity it generated during a preceding 12-month period that exceeds the electricity supplied by the electrical utility through the electrical grid to the eligible customer-generator during that same period, as provided. Requires each electrical utility to make the contract or tariff available to eligible customer-generators, upon request, on a first-come-first-served basis until the time that the total rated generating capacity used by those eligible customer-generators exceeds five percent of the electrical utility's aggregate customer peak demand, except as specified. This contract or tariff is commonly known as NEM 1.0. (Public Utilities Code §2827)
- 4) Authorizes an eligible customer-generator with multiple meters to aggregate the electrical load of the meters located on the property where the renewable electrical generation facility is located and on all property adjacent or contiguous to the property on which the renewable electrical generation facility is located, if those properties are solely owned, leased, or rented by the eligible customer-generator, as provided. (Public Utilities Code §2827 (h)(4)(A))
- 5) Requires the CPUC to develop an additional standard contract or tariff, which may include NEM, for eligible customer-generators that are customers of large electrical corporations, as defined. Requires each large electrical corporation to offer this standard contract or tariff to its eligible customer-generators beginning July 1, 2017, or before that date if ordered to do so by the CPUC because it has reached the above-mentioned five percent NEM 1.0 program limit, and prohibits limiting the amount of generating capacity or the number of new eligible customer-generators entitled to receive service pursuant to this standard contract or tariff, as specified. This contract or tariff is commonly known as NEM 2.0. Authorizes the CPUC to revise the standard contract or tariff as appropriate to achieve specified objectives. (Public Utilities Code §2827.1)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the CPUC, for purposes of certain NEM contracts or tariffs, to ensure that logistics businesses and manufacturing businesses are eligible customer-

generators for purposes of aggregating multiple meters, as described above, if the CPUC extends the application of that provision.

2) Includes nonsubstantive code clean-up.

Background

NEM tariff. Electric utility customers have helped fund the cost of customer-sited electricity generation from renewable resources, which is largely electricity generated by rooftop solar. The vast majority of rooftop solar customers are enrolled in NEM 1.0 or NEM successor tariffs, including NEM 2.0 and net billing tariff (NBT) established under Public Utilities Code §§2827 and 2827.1, respectively. The NEM tariff supports onsite renewable energy (largely rooftop solar) installations designed to offset a portion, or all, of the customer's electrical energy usage. Under NEM, customers receive a bill credit (in dollars) based on the retail rate (including generation, transmission, and distribution rate components) for any excess generation in kilowatt hours (kWh) that is exported back to the electric grid. In periods when a customer's bill is negative (because the amount of energy the solar system exported to the grid exceeded the amount of energy consumed by the customer), the bill credits are carried forward up to one year, at which point customers may elect to receive net surplus compensation for any electricity produced in excess of on-site energy usage. Customers taking service under NEM 2.0 pay the cost to connect to the grid, take service on a "time-of-use" rate plan, and pay "non-bypassable" charges that are not offset with surplus energy credits.

Successor tariff adopted. In August 2020, the CPUC initiated Rulemaking (R. 20-08-020) to develop a successor to the NEM 2.0 tariff, as part of the requirement in statute and a commitment in a previous decision to review the current tariff to address the shift in costs to nonparticipating customers. In December 2022 CPUC Decision (D. 22-12-056), the CPUC adopted a new version of the NEM tariff, now known as the NBT, which adjusts the compensation for solar energy electricity exported back to the electric grid with a reduced amount of compensation from systems that were installed after to April 15, 2023. The CPUC decision revises the NEM tariff to improve price signals by better aligning them with the electric grid's conditions, both day and night. The updated billing structure of the tariff is designed to optimize grid use by the tariff's customers and incentivize adoption of combined solar and storage systems.

About NBT-A. Pursuant to SB 594 (Wolk, Chapter 610, Statutes of 2012), the CPUC established the net energy metering aggregation (NEMA) subtariff of the NEM tariff to allow an eligible customer-generator with multiple meters to aggregate the electrical load of the meters located on the property where the generation facility is located or on property contiguous to that with the generation facility. The legislation provided that a customer could install one generation facility sized to serve the entire load of these meters (up to one megawatt (MW)) as opposed to separate facilities at each meter. This is predicated on the CPUC determining that aggregating the load from multiple meters would not result in an increase in the costs for customers not participating in the NEMA tariff. Customers who elect to participate in NEMA are prohibited from receiving net surplus electricity compensation. In the NEM proceeding, electric utilities reported having about 13,000 properties interconnected to the grid under a NEMA subtariff with a cumulative solar capacity of about 1,000 MW. Electric utilities reported that combined solar and storage installations participating in NEMA are about 181 properties of the 13,000 NEMA participating properties. The NBT-A tariff was established in 2023 decision (D.23-11-068), adjusted to reflect changes made in the compensation under the NBT decision and emphasized the CPUC was not required by statute to continue the program. The CPUC decided to continue the aggregation tariff to optimize land resources and provide these additional benefits to the subtariff customers.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author:

AB 2175 amends Section 2827 of the Public Utilities Code to clarify that logistics and manufacturing businesses are eligible customer-generators under California's Net Energy Metering (NEM) program if the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) elects to extend the multiple-meter load aggregation program. ...By making this clarification, the amendment ensures fair access to clean energy programs, encourages private investment, and supports progress toward the state's climate and energy goals. It also represents an important step toward making microgrids a more practical and widespread reality for Californians by enabling large-scale users to better generate and manage distributed energy across interconnected systems. At the same time, it preserves all existing safeguards by maintaining CPUC authority to evaluate ratepayer impacts, ensure grid reliability, and implement the program in a balanced and cost-effective manner.

NBT-A for logistics and warehouse businesses. This bill makes it explicit that logistics and warehouse businesses can participate in the NBT-A program. The goal of the author and proponents is to afford these businesses, many which occupy large parcels of land, the opportunity to support their efforts to decarbonize by electrifying some of their operations. The NBT-A tariff would help them install solar on one parcel to also benefit contiguous parcels they own. It's not clear that these businesses have been precluded from the NBT-A, but this bill makes it clear they are eligible for the program.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1104 (Pellerin, Chapter of 632, Statutes of 2025) specified that, for the construction of a renewable electrical generation facility and associated battery storage, the contractor who enters into a contract with the entity, not the entity itself, is the awarding body only for limited purposes. The bill also specified which public works requirements apply to such construction projects and authorized a renewable electrical generation facility to remain eligible to receive service pursuant to a standard contract or tariff, regardless of a contractor's willful violation of prevailing wage requirements, if restitution has been made to the affected workers and all associated penalties and fines have been paid.

SB 1374 (Becker, 2024) proposed changes to a November 2023 decision by the CPUC concerning the NEM program, including the compensation treatment of electric utility customers of apartment buildings and public schools who install solar and other renewable generating facilities on the customer's side of the meter. The bill was vetoed.

AB 1070 (Lorena Gonzalez, Chapter 662, Statutes of 2017) required the Contractors State Licensing Board in collaboration with the CPUC to develop and make available a "solar energy system disclosure document" for solar energy customers, compile an annual report documenting consumer complaints relating to solar contractors and develop standardized inputs and assumptions to be used in the calculation and presentation of electric utility bill savings to a consumer.

AB 327 (Perea, Chapter 611, Statutes of 2013) instituted several rate reforms and required the CPUC to adopt a successor NEM tariff no later than December 31, 2015.

SB 656 (Alquist, Chapter 369, Statutes of 1995) required every electric utility, including electrical corporations, which offer residential service to develop a

standard tariff providing for NEM to eligible customer-generators. Applies only to those systems that produce up to 10 KW and would be restricted to 0.1% of a utility's peak demand.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

350 Bay Area
350 Conejo/San Fernando Valley
350 Contra Costa Action
350 Humboldt
350 South Bay Los Angeles
350 Southland Legislative Alliance
A1 Sun
Albany Climate Action Coalition
Bay Area Clean Air Coalition
Berkeley Electrification Working Group
California Interfaith Power & Light
Californians for Energy Choice
Center for Biological Diversity
Clean Coalition
CleanEarth4Kids.org
Climate Action Mendocino
Collective Resilience
Community Renewable Solution
Fresnans Against Fracking
Green Solutions & Technologies
Greenbank Associates
Ivy Energy
Long Beach Gray Panthers
Monterey County Renters United
Oil & Gas Action Network
Project Green Home
Reclaim Our Power!
Récolte Energy
San Diego 350
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Solano County Democratic Central Committee
Solar Rights Alliance
Sun Light & Power

Sun Run
Sunflower Alliance
Sustainable Systems Research Foundation
The Climate Center
Uniting the Central Coast for Action
Ventura Energy
23 Individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

California State Association of Electrical Workers
Coalition of California Utility Employees

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The arguments in support generally argue for greater deployment of microgrids and policies that ensure access by all customers to clean energy resources.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The arguments from the opposition reflect language that was previously in this bill.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 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, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Nidia Bautista / E., U. & C. / (916) 651-4107
7/1/26 16:55:10

**** 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 2224
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 5/21/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26

AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: County recorders: fees

SOURCE: County Recorders Association of California

DIGEST: This bill makes various changes to recording fees and requires county recorders to implement an electronic recording system by January 1, 2028.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Prohibits the fee for recording and indexing an instrument, paper, or notice from exceeding \$10 for recording the first page and \$3 fee for each additional page, to reimburse the county for the costs of services rendered, as specified.
- 2) Requires \$1 of each \$3 fee for each additional page to be deposited in the county general fund.
- 3) Authorizes additional recording fees for specified purposes.
- 4) Establishes the Electronic Recording Delivery Act of 2004 (ERDA), which provides the following:

- a) Authorizes, upon approval by resolution of the board of supervisors and system certification by the Attorney General, a recorder to establish an electronic recording delivery system (ERDS).
 - b) Authorizes, upon system certification, a recorder to enter into a contract with specified entities for the delivery for recording, and return to the party requesting recording, a digitized electronic record.
- 5) Authorizes, until January 1, 2027, a county to enter into a contract with an entity other than those specified above, if certain requirements are met.

This bill:

- 1) Makes various changes to recording fees and requires county recorders to implement an electronic recording system by January 1, 2028. Specifically, the measure:
 - a) Increases the recording fee for the first page from \$10 to \$15;
 - b) Increases the fee for additional pages from \$3 to \$4;
 - c) Repeals the additional \$1 per-page fee for recording documents if the printing on printed forms is spaced more than nine lines per vertical inch or more than 22 characters and spaces per inch measured horizontally for not less than three inches in one sentence;
 - d) Repeals the additional \$3 per-page fee for pages that do not conform to 8.5x 11 inch paper size;
 - e) Repeals the requirement that \$1 of each \$3 fee for each additional page must be deposited in the county general fund; and
 - f) Repeals the additional \$1 per indexing fees for records that require additional indexing work.
- 2) Prohibits fee amounts from exceeding the reasonable costs of the county recorder's office for providing these services.
- 3) Requires that fees collected exclusively go towards the county recorder's office and requires the recorder to provide access to a true copy of the public record for each instrument, paper, or notice, recorded in the office of the recorder, to facilitate public inspection.

- 4) Removes the January 1, 2027, sunset on provisions of the ERDA that allow for the digitized electronic delivery of specified records and expands the ability of the county recorder to include in their ERDS a secure method of receiving electronic records to any record.

Background

County recorders are responsible for examining and recording all documents dealing with the ownership of land in counties. These documents include payments of taxes or fees, filings of fictitious business names, deeds, mortgage documents, easements, power of attorney documents, liens, and any documents that affect the ownership of any given property. Other documents include deeds of trust, court decrees, and documents affecting title to real property; commercial code filings; subdivision maps; vital statistics such as births, deaths, and marriages; and other items.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, “California county recorder’s offices are funded via fees on recorded documents. However, their costs have risen while fees have not been increased since 2011—resulting in growing budget shortages. Assembly Bill 2224 creates a more straightforward fee system for consumers and helps recorders recuperate their rising costs while requiring them to offer digital recording services.”

Another bite at the apple. Recorders have articulated the need for fee reform for years. Most recently, they asked the Legislature to increase recording fees in AB 1430 (Bennett, 2025), which would have increased the recording and indexing fee to \$15 for recording the first page and \$4 for recording each additional page at the county recorder’s office. The Governor vetoed AB 1430. AB 2224 takes another stab at the issue, but balances the same fee increases as AB 1430 proposed with deleting unnecessary fees due to technological advancements, offsetting some of the cost burden for these increased fees. Additionally, it requires county recorders to implement e-recording, which is supposed to increase the efficiency of their operations.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

County Recorders Association of California (source)
Agenthome
Coalition for Improving Court Access

Corinthian Title Company
County of Contra Costa
County of Los Angeles
County of Riverside
Fidelity National Title Company
Westcor Land Title Insurance Company
Wfg National Title Company

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/27/26

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, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, 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: DeMaio, Jackson, Lee, Macedo, Patel, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Ta

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
7/1/26 16:55:10

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2230
Author: Ávila Farías (D)
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/29/26

AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-15, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Child daycare facilities

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits employees of a licensed child daycare facility from providing voluntary consent to a law enforcement officer to enter a nonpublic area of a licensed child daycare facility unless presented with a valid judicial warrant, judicial subpoena, or a court order or if exigent circumstances exist. This bill would require employees of a licensed child daycare facility to request valid information from a law enforcement officer seeking to enter a nonpublic area of a licensed child daycare facility.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides that the right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized. (Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution)
- 2) Establishes the Child Care and Development Services Act to provide a comprehensive, coordinated, and cost-effective system of child care and development services for children from infancy to 13 years of age and their

parents, including a full range of supervision, health, and support services through full- and part-time programs. (Welfare and Institutions Code § 10207 et seq.)

- 3) Establishes the California Child Day Care Facilities Act to create a separate licensing category for child daycare centers and family day care homes within the existing licensing structure at CDSS. (Health and Safety Code [HSC] §1596.70 et seq.)
- 4) Defines “child daycare facility” to mean a facility that provides nonmedical care to children under 18 years of age in need of personal services, supervision, or assistance essential for sustaining the activities of daily living or for the protection of the individual on less than a 24-hour basis. Child daycare facilities include daycare centers, employer-sponsored child care centers, and family daycare homes. (HSC § 1596.750)
- 5) Defines “daycare center” as a child daycare facility other than a family day care home, and includes infant centers, preschools, extended day care facilities, and schoolage child care centers, and includes child care centers with a single license. (HSC § 1596.76)
- 6) Defines “family daycare home” as a facility that regularly provides care, protection, and supervision for 14 or fewer children, in the provider’s own home, for periods of less than 24 hours per day, while the parents or guardians are away, and is either a large family day care home or a small family day care home, as defined. (HSC § 1596.78)
- 7) Prohibits any person or entity operating a child daycare facility from providing care or supervision without a valid license from the California Department of Social Services (CDSS). (22 California Code of Regulations § 101156(a))
- 8) Requires the licensee or administrator of a licensed child daycare facility to report to CDSS and the Attorney General any requests for information or access to the facility by an officer or employee of a law enforcement agency for the purpose of immigration enforcement. Prohibits a licensee or administrator from providing personal information, as defined, of staff, children in care, or their relatives and family members. (HSC § 1597.640(b)(1)(A))
- 9) Requires the Attorney General, by April 1, 2026, in consultation with the appropriate stakeholders, as specified, to publish model policies limiting assistance with immigration enforcement at licensed child daycare facilities to

the fullest extent possible consistent with federal and state law, and ensuring that those facilities remain safe and accessible to all California residents, regardless of immigration status. Requires the Attorney General to consider certain issues when developing the model policies, as specified. (HSC § 1597.640(f))

- 10) Requires CDSS to inform licensed child daycare facilities of the model policies published by the Attorney General. Requires a licensed child daycare facility to ensure parents or authorized representatives of children in care are aware of the model policies published by the Attorney General. (HSC § 1597.640(g))
- 11) Requires a licensed child daycare facility to provide a child's parent or authorized representative with information about how to access the model policies as best practices guidance. Requires CDSS to inform licensed child daycare facilities of any revisions or updates to the model updates. Requires any information, policies, or guidance provided by facilities to parents or authorized representatives to be revised as necessary, as specified. (HSC § 1597.640(h))

This bill:

- 1) Makes findings and declarations about untargeted arrests and brutality by United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers and the need to ensure child care facilities are safe and free from violence.
- 2) Prohibits employees of a licensed child daycare facility, except as required by state or federal law or as required to administer a state or federally supported early care and learning program, from providing voluntary consent to a law enforcement officer to enter a nonpublic area of a licensed child daycare facility unless presented with a valid judicial warrant, judicial subpoena, or a court order or if exigent circumstances exist.
- 3) Requires any employee of a licensed child daycare facility, to the extent practicable, to request a valid identification from a law enforcement officer seeking to enter a nonpublic area of a licensed child daycare facility.
- 4) Provides that 2) and 3) above do not apply to law enforcement officers who are complying with the requirements of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act.
- 5) Provides that 2) and 3) above shall not be construed to limit a licensed child daycare facility or employee's right to consult with counsel or challenge the validity of a warrant, subpoena, or court order in a court of competent jurisdiction.

- 6) Provides that a violation of this act is not subject to criminal, civil, or administrative penalty, and shall not result in a licensee being subject to citation under this act.

Background

Purpose of the Bill. According to the author, “ICE has terrorized California residents, U.S. citizens and non-citizens alike, through untargeted arrests and brutality based on nothing more than a person’s racial appearance, language spoken, occupation, and exercise of First Amendment-protected expression. As a result, we’ve seen children held hostage and used as bait to lure family members from their homes. Families do not deserve to face fear, uncertainty, and potential disruptions to their children’s education and lives. Childcare facilities should remain safe locations where all children, regardless of immigration status, can learn and thrive without fear of enforcement actions. AB 2230 will ensure that childcare facilities are free from violence and intimidation by prohibiting ICE agents from entering these spaces without a valid judicial warrant.”

Subsidized Child Care in California. California’s subsidized child care system is designed to provide assistance for income eligible parents and guardians who are working, in training, seeking employment, incapacitated, or in need of respite. Subsidized child care is available through a number of programs, which are provided at either a licensed family child care home, a licensed child care center, or at a license-exempt provider’s home.

Families are considered income eligible for subsidized child care programs if the family’s adjusted monthly income is at or below 85 percent of the State Median Income, adjusted for family size, as calculated by the Department of Finance. However, the number of income eligible children exceeds the amount of funding available for subsidized care. According to the Legislative Analyst’s Office, the 2025–26 state budget provided \$7.4 billion for child care programs and \$2.8 billion for State Preschool. According to the California Budget and Policy Center, only 11% of children eligible for subsidized child care received services in 2022.

Child Care Facilities. A family child care home is a child care business that is operated in the licensee’s own home. Statute defines a child care center as a child care facility other than a family child care home. Child care centers are usually located in commercial buildings. Child care centers may have multiple classrooms, enabling them to serve more children than family child care homes. State law requires family child care homes and child care centers to be licensed to operate. Licensing statutes and regulations dictate various requirements for family child care

homes and child care centers, including teacher-to-child ratios, maximum capacity, health and safety requirements, and employee training requirements, among others. If a licensee is found to be in violation of licensing requirements, they will receive a citation and may be subject to a fine.

As of April 2026, there were 44,256 licensed child care facilities (including both family child care homes and child care centers) with a total capacity to serve 1,093,002 children. This represents a 2% year-over-year increase in the number of facilities and a 1% year-over-year increase in capacity to serve children.

Early Childhood Education and Child Care Providers Guidance and Model Policies. On April 1, 2026, the Office of the Attorney General published guidance and model policies for child care providers to keep child care facilities safe and accessible to all children and families in California, regardless of immigration status. The guidance includes several chapters to address the questions related to immigration enforcement for child care providers. The guidance also includes a detailed appendix with examples of warrants, subpoenas, and other enforcement documents; a summary of confidentiality laws; a “know your rights” guide for families; a quick reference best practices checklist and a quick reference requirements checklist; and a list of resources.

The model guidelines cover several key topics related to this bill, including voluntary consent, what constitutes a nonpublic space, and what constitutes an exigent circumstance. According to the model guidelines:

- Voluntary consent depends on the specific circumstances of the interaction between an employer and the immigration enforcement agent. Courts look at the words and actions of both parties to decide if consent was voluntary. For consent to be voluntary, it cannot be the result of duress or coercion, meaning you cannot force or intimidate someone into consenting using violence or threats, whether direct or implied.
- Unless part of the child care facility is open to the general public, the entire facility is considered a nonpublic space. Nonpublic spaces generally have greater protection from warrantless searches. All child care facilities (whether based in a home, center, or school) should post signs clearly identifying the nonpublic areas of their premises. For home-based providers, your entire facility is likely to be nonpublic space. For center and school-based providers, public space is only those parts of your facility where anyone can enter without permission, such as an entry or lobby area. However, these may still be nonpublic if you restrict access, for example, if they are locked and require approval for entry.

- In urgent “exigent” situations, immigration and law enforcement agents may enter a facility without a judicial warrant. An exigent circumstance is a time-sensitive situation in which an agent believes that people or evidence may disappear, or that someone may be harmed before they can obtain a judicial warrant. An agent entering an area due to exigent circumstances must limit searches and seizures to investigating the urgent incident.

This bill would prohibit employees of a licensed child daycare facility from providing voluntary consent to a law enforcement officer to enter a nonpublic area of the facility unless presented with valid documentation or if exigent circumstances exist. This bill would additionally require employees of a licensed child daycare facility to request valid identification from a law enforcement officer seeking to enter a nonpublic area of a licensed child daycare facility.

Comments

This bill seeks to reinforce the Fourth Amendment right to be free from unreasonable search and seizure at licensed child care facilities. On June 6, 2025, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) conducted a series of immigration raids across the Los Angeles area, leading to dozens of arrests. According to the Los Angeles Times, almost three-quarters had no criminal convictions, and more than half had never been charged with a crime. Additionally, a survey of 330 Mexican citizens in local detention centers found that half of respondents had lived in the U.S. for at least 10 years. In some cases, ICE has detained U.S. citizens. These indiscriminate acts of profiling by ICE agents have caused heightened anxiety in immigrant communities and communities of color.

Fears about immigration enforcement are especially relevant to family child care providers, many of whom are immigrants. According to a 2025 survey by the UC Berkeley Center for the Study of Child Care Employment, 44% of family child care providers were born in another country, and only 18% of those surveyed were white. This bill would ensure that both licensed and license-exempt family child care providers have access to information and training about their Fourth Amendment rights.

This bill builds upon recent legislation to require licensed child care facilities to adopt model policies developed by the Attorney General and to prohibit local educational agencies from allowing immigration enforcement officer to enter nonpublic areas of a schoolsite without valid documentation.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2379 (Solache) would require CDSS to notify all licensed and license-exempt family daycare home providers of a person's right under the Fourth Amendment of the United States Constitution. AB 2379 would require CDSS to designate a statewide entity to develop and provide a training program and require licensed family daycare home providers to complete this training within 12 months. AB 2379 is pending in Senate Public Safety Committee.

AB 49 (Muratsuchi, Chapter 122, Statutes of 2025) prohibited local educational agencies from allowing immigration enforcement officers to enter nonpublic areas of a schoolsite without providing a valid judicial warrant, judicial subpoena, or court order.

AB 495 (Celeste Rodriguez, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2025) established the Family Preparedness Plan Act of 2025, which, in part, required licensed child daycare facilities to adopt model policies developed by the Attorney General regarding interaction with immigration enforcement authorities and required the Attorney General to develop those model policies.

AB 450 (Chiu, Chapter 492, Statutes of 2017) prohibited an employer from providing access to a federal government immigration enforcement agent to any non-public areas of a place of labor if the agent does not have a warrant.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

First 5 Association of California
Fresno Unified School District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-15, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, 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, 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: Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson,
Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Castillo, Davies, Jeff Gonzalez, Celeste
Rodriguez

Prepared by: Diana Dominguez / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
7/1/26 16:55:11

**** **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** ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

AB 2262

THIRD READING

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
6/25/26 11:43:11

**** **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 2298
Author: Irwin (D)
Amended: 3/19/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil instruction: computer science: content standards and instructional materials

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to consider incorporating content on cybersecurity skills during its next revision of the Computer Science Content Standards and the evaluation criteria for adopted instructional materials in computer science after January 1, 2027.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires, on or before July 31, 2019, the IQC to consider developing and recommending to the State Board of Education (SBE) computer science content standards for kindergarten (K) and grades 1 to 12, inclusive, as specified. States that the computer science content standards may be used by school districts to develop computer science programs and course assessments but are not mandatory. (Education Code (EC) § 60605.4)

- 2) Requires the SBE to adopt at least five instructional materials for grades K-8 in the following subjects:
 - a) Language arts;
 - b) Mathematics;
 - c) Science;
 - d) Social science;
 - e) Bilingual or bicultural subjects; and
 - f) Any other subject, discipline, or interdisciplinary areas for which the SBE determines the adoption of instructional materials to be necessary or desirable. (EC § 60200)
- 3) Establishes procedures for the adoption of instructional materials for grades K-8 by the SBE. (EC § 60200)
- 4) Authorizes a process for conducting a follow-up adoption of instructional materials, and defines it as one other than the primary adoption. (EC § 60227)
- 5) Authorizes local educational agencies (LEAs) to use instructional materials that are aligned with state adopted academic content standards, including instructional materials that have not been adopted by the SBE. (EC § 60210)
- 6) Requires that if an LEA chooses to use instructional materials that have not been adopted by the SBE, the LEA shall ensure that a majority of the participants of any review process it conducts are classroom teachers who are assigned to the subject area or grade level of the materials. (EC § 60210)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the IQC, during the next revision of the computer science content standards occurring after January 1, 2027, to consider incorporating cybersecurity skills content.
- 2) Requires the IQC, during the next SBE adoption of instructional materials adoption occurring after January 1, 2027, to consider including cybersecurity skills in its criteria for evaluating instructional materials.

- 3) Defines “cybersecurity skills” to mean techniques to protect information and devices by preventing, detecting, and responding to attacks by threat actors.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “Recent years have seen a stark increase in the number and sophistication of cyber threats posed to the students in our state, underscoring the need for modernized cybersecurity education. Existing computer science content standards, last updated in 2018, include cybersecurity content, but they focus primarily on protecting information rather than identifying and preventing threats. While this foundation has value, it reflects an outdated generation of cyber risks.”

“Since 2018, cyberattacks have grown increasingly complex, particularly with the growth of artificial intelligence, enabling more advanced phishing schemes, social engineering, and automated attacks. As a result, our existing standards no longer align with the current cyber threat landscape. Modern cybersecurity education standards must emphasize the skills needed to identify, prevent, and respond to these increasingly sophisticated attacks.”

“AB 2298 addresses this gap by requiring the Instructional Quality Commission to consider including updated, more robust cybersecurity skills content focused on identifying and responding to threats into the state’s computer science standards. This will ensure that, as cyber threats continue to evolve, students are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves and respond effectively to the modern cyber threats they face today.”

Computer Science Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten through Grade Twelve. In September 2018, the SBE adopted the California Computer Science Standards based on the revised International Computer Science Teachers Association standards, which align with the national K–12 Computer Science Framework.

The standards include five core concept areas which are each coupled with seven core practices. Each core concept provides foundational knowledge on key ideas, which build upon each other as students progress through grade spans. Core practices help demonstrate ways in which students actively engage in computer science learning experiences that build conceptual knowledge.

Cybersecurity in the Computer Science Standards. This bill requires the IQC, during its next revision of the Computer Science Standards, to consider incorporating content on cybersecurity skills. Currently, cybersecurity content is

featured across all grade spans in the Computer Science Standards as a subconcept under the Networks and the Internet (NI) core concept. Examples within the standards include, but are not limited to, the following:

Kindergarten through Grade 2

Standard: K-2.NI.5 - Explain why people use passwords.

Descriptive Statement: Passwords protect information from unwanted use by others. When creating passwords, people often use patterns of familiar numbers and text to more easily remember their passwords. However, this may make the passwords weaker. Knowledge about the importance of passwords is an essential first step in learning about cybersecurity. Students explain that strong passwords are needed to protect devices and information from unwanted use. For example, students could play a game of guessing a three-character code. In one version of the game, the characters are only numbers. In the second version, characters are numbers or letters. Students describe why it would take longer to guess the correct code in the second case. Alternatively, students could engage in a collaborative discussion regarding passwords and their importance. Students may follow up the discussion by exploring strong password components (combination of letters, numbers, and characters), creating their own passwords, and writing opinion pieces indicating reasons their passwords are strong.

Grades 3 through 5

Standard: 3-5.NI.5 - Describe physical and digital security measures for protecting personal information.

Descriptive Statement: Personal information can be protected physically and digitally. Cybersecurity is the protection from unauthorized use of electronic data, or the measures taken to achieve this. Students identify what personal information is and the reasons for protecting it. Students describe physical and digital approaches for protecting personal information, such as using strong passwords and biometric scanners. For example, students could engage in a collaborative discussion orally or in writing regarding topics that relate to personal cybersecurity issues. Discussion topics could be based on current events related to cybersecurity or topics that are applicable to students, such as the necessity of backing up data to guard against loss, how to create strong passwords, and the importance of not sharing passwords, or why we should keep operating systems updated and use anti-virus software to protect data and systems. Students could also discuss physical measures that can be used to protect data, including biometric scanners, locked doors, and physical backups.

Grades 9 through 12

Standard: 9-12.NI.6 - Compare and contrast security measures to address various security threats.

Descriptive Statement: Network security depends on a combination of hardware, software, and practices that control access to data and systems. The needs of users and the sensitivity of data determine the level of security implemented. Potential security problems, such as denial-of-service attacks, ransomware, viruses, worms, spyware, and phishing, present threats to sensitive data. Students compare and contrast different types of security measures based on factors such as efficiency, feasibility, ethical impacts, usability, and security. For example, students could review case studies or current events in which governments or organizations experienced data leaks or data loss as a result of these types of attacks. Students could provide an analysis of actual security measures taken compared to other security measures which may have led to different outcomes. Alternatively, students might discuss computer security policies in place at the local level that present a tradeoff between usability and security, such as a web filter that prevents access to many educational sites but keeps the campus network safe.

The IQC and the SBE. The Legislature has vested the IQC and the SBE with the authority to develop and adopt state content standards, curriculum frameworks, and instructional materials. The content standards describe the knowledge, concepts, and skills that educators and professionals in the field expect students to know at each grade level. Curriculum frameworks provide a guidance for implementing the content standards by describing the scope and sequence of knowledge and the skills that all students are expected to master.

The IQC develops curriculum frameworks through a process involving practitioners and experts who have an in-depth understanding of curriculum and instruction, including the full scope and sequence of the curriculum in each subject and at each grade level, constraints on instructional time and resources, and the relationship of curriculum to state assessments and other measures of student progress. Changes are frequently made in response to public comment. The frameworks are then adopted by the SBE in a public meeting.

The resulting curriculum framework is intended to serve as a guidance document for educators and administrators on how to plan for and provide quality, skills-based, standards-aligned instruction on the various content areas.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
Business Software Alliance
California Chamber of Commerce
California State PTA
California Teachers Association
Computer & Communications Industry Association
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Mastercard
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Software & Information Industry Association
TechNet

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 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, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
7/1/26 16:55:12

**** **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 2324
Author: Jeff Gonzalez (R)
Amended: 4/20/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vocational education: youth caregivers

SOURCE: Association of Regional Center Agencies
California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and
Commissions
California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE), during the next revision of the California Career Technical Education (CTE) Model Curriculum Standards, to consider adding content related to youth caregivers within the Personal Care and Services career pathway. The bill also requires CDE, by July 1, 2028, to develop implementation guidance for the pathway, including guidance related to caregiving skills, work-based learning opportunities, and the potential use of work experience education (WEE) credit for youth who provide care to family members in the home.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes school districts that maintain high schools to establish WEE programs to provide pupils with instruction in the skills, attitudes, and understandings necessary for success in employment.

- 2) Requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to coordinate the development and periodic revision of California CTE Model Curriculum Standards for grades 7 to 12, inclusive.
- 3) Establishes California's CTE system, including industry sectors and career pathways that provide students with academic and technical preparation for employment and postsecondary education.
- 4) Establishes the Education, Child Development, and Family Services industry sector, which includes pathways related to careers in family and human services.
- 5) Requires local educational agencies receiving state CTE funding to provide high-quality curriculum and work-based learning opportunities aligned with state CTE standards.

This bill:

- 1) Defines a "youth caregiver" as a child or youth of an age typical of a pupil in grades 9 through 12 who provides help or care to an individual with an ongoing health condition, chronic illness, disability, mental illness, frailty, or advanced age.
- 2) Requires CDE, during the next revision of the California CTE Model Curriculum Standards, to consult with the standards development committees responsible for updating the Healthcare and Human Services career cluster and consider adding content addressing the role of youth caregivers within the Personal Care and Services career pathway.
- 3) Requires CDE, by July 1, 2028, and in consultation with relevant stakeholders, to develop guidance for implementation of the Personal Care and Services career pathway that may include, but is not limited to, all of the following:
 - a) Skills associated with Personal Care and Services occupations, including in-home caregiving provided by youth caring for family members.
 - b) Instructional content related to direct support professions, including Home and Community-Based Services waivers and services for individuals with developmental, mental health, and physical disabilities, as well as older adults.
 - c) The social, emotional, academic, and physical risks that may be experienced by youth caregivers and the need for referrals to supportive services.

- d) Work-based learning strategies that may consider the family home an appropriate location for work-based learning activities within the Personal Care and Services pathway.
- e) The eligibility of youth caregivers to receive WEE credit for caring for a family member in the family member's home.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, “Youth caregivers play a vital yet often unseen role in families and communities. Across the country, young people provide daily care and support for siblings, parents, grandparents, and other loved ones who are aging, ill, or living with disabilities. These responsibilities require maturity, compassion, resilience, and practical problem-solving skills. Despite the value of their contributions, youth caregivers frequently carry these responsibilities without recognition, resources, or structured support. Balancing school, personal development, and caregiving duties can place significant pressure on young people and limit their access to educational and career opportunities. Recognizing youth caregivers means not only acknowledging their work but also ensuring they have pathways that allow their experience to become a strength rather than a barrier. When we invest in programs that connect caregiving experience with education and workforce development, we create meaningful career pathways into fields such as healthcare, community health, and direct care. These pathways honor the skills youth caregivers already possess while equipping them with professional credentials, economic mobility, and long-term career stability. At the same time, strengthening these pathways helps address growing workforce needs in caregiving professions. By valuing lived experience and making entry points more accessible, we can build a workforce that is compassionate, culturally aware, and deeply connected to the communities it serves.”

Recognition of an often-overlooked student population. This bill is premised on the idea that many young people provide substantial care for parents, grandparents, siblings, or other family members with disabilities, chronic illnesses, or age-related needs. The bill's findings cite research suggesting that youth caregivers may experience increased social isolation, stress, depression, and educational challenges while simultaneously developing skills related to responsibility, communication, and caregiving. Rather than creating a new program, this bill seeks to recognize those experiences within an existing CTE pathway and encourage consideration of how caregiving experiences may connect to future education and employment opportunities.

Narrowed significantly from its original form. As introduced, this bill proposed the creation of a standalone Youth Caregivers Career Pathway program, including development of a new curriculum framework, advisory structures, and specific programmatic requirements. Amendments taken in the Assembly substantially narrowed the measure. This bill now takes a considerably more limited approach by requiring CDE to consider youth caregiver content during the next scheduled update of the CTE Model Curriculum Standards and by directing CDE to develop implementation guidance for the existing Personal Care and Services pathway. As amended, this bill largely relies on California's existing CTE infrastructure rather than creating a new pathway or program.

Relationship to ongoing CTE standards revisions. The CDE is currently engaged in a multiyear effort to update California's CTE Model Curriculum Standards and align them with the national Advance CTE Career Clusters Framework, with adoption anticipated in 2027. The Health and Human Services career cluster already includes a Personal Care Services pathway that is intended to prepare students for careers supporting individuals across a range of care settings. This bill effectively directs attention to youth caregiving experiences during that standards revision process and may provide an opportunity for stakeholders to examine whether existing pathway content sufficiently addresses caregiving responsibilities performed by young people.

Questions regarding WEE credit. This bill authorizes implementation guidance to address the eligibility of youth caregivers to receive WEE credit for providing care to a family member in the family home. Existing WEE programs are generally designed around structured workplace learning experiences that include supervision, training plans, and educational objectives. The bill does not change WEE statutes or establish a new entitlement to credit. However, the Legislature may wish to consider the extent to which caregiving provided within the home can or should be incorporated into existing work-based learning frameworks and whether additional statutory changes would ultimately be necessary if broader implementation is envisioned.

Workforce development and direct support professional shortages. The author's broader rationale for the bill is tied to persistent workforce shortages in caregiving and direct support professions. California continues to face growing demand for workers who support older adults and individuals with disabilities in home and community-based settings. Supporters contend that youth caregivers often develop relevant skills through lived experience and may represent a potential pipeline into health, human services, and direct support careers if provided with appropriate

educational pathways and support. While this bill does not create a workforce development program, it reflects a growing policy interest in connecting caregiving experiences to career exploration and workforce preparation opportunities.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Association of Regional Center Agencies (co-source)

California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (co-source)

California Association of Public Authorities for IHSS (co-source)

Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles

Alzheimer's Orange County

Alzheimer's San Diego

California Coalition for Behavioral Health

California Disability Services Association

California Foundation for Independent Living Centers

The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy California Collaboration

The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 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, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105

7/1/26 16:55:13

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2333
Author: Pellerin (D)
Amended: 4/27/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/1/26

AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

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

SUBJECT: Child welfare nongovernmental organizations

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2028 for liability protections for foster family agencies (FFAs).

ANALYSIS:

Exiting law:

- 1) Provides that the Foster Family Agency Accountability Act applies to any claim or lawsuit against a foster family agency or a noncustodial adoption agency for the acts of their employees, contractors, or volunteers brought by a recipient of those services or on the recipient's behalf. (Code of Civil Procedure Code Section [CCP] 1062.30)
- 2) Provides that it is the public policy of the State of California that foster family agencies or noncustodial adoption agencies, also known as FFAs, provide necessary services to vulnerable youth throughout the state and are integral to

the foster care system. (CCP 1062.31)

- 3) Defines “FFA” as a foster family agency or a noncustodial adoption agency, as defined in Section 1502 of the Health and Safety Code. (CCP 1062.32)
- 4) Defines “public entity” as having the same meaning as defined in Section 811.2 of the Government Code. (CCP 1062.32)
- 5) Provides that an FFA may be held liable for injury or damage caused by the negligence of the FFA but not for the injury or damage caused by the public entity, including its officers, employees, or volunteers, acting in its capacity. The FFA and the public entity shall each bear the cost of insuring against their respective acts and omissions and shall each bear the costs of defending itself against claims arising from those risks. (CCP 1062.33)
- 6) Provides that, notwithstanding any other law, 5) above shall not be waived or suspended by any court. Any provision in a nongovernmental organization contract for child, youth, and family services in which a public entity is indemnified, held harmless, or insured for damages, claims, losses, or expenses arising from injury or damage, including, but not limited to, bodily injury, mental anguish, property damage, or economic or noneconomic damages or loss, caused by or resulting from a public entity’s negligence or intentional conduct, in whole or in part, shall be void as against public policy and unenforceable. (CCP 1062.33)
- 7) Provides that 1) – 6) above shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed. (CCP 1062.34)

This bill:

- 1) Extends the sunset from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2028 for liability protections for FFAs outlined in 1)-6) above.

Background

Author’s Statement. According to the author, “Foster family agencies, known as FFAs, serve some of the most vulnerable children in public care. These nonprofit organizations provide invaluable support and guidance to foster families and are an integral part of California’s foster system. In recent years, FFAs have struggled to access liability insurance and in August of 2024, the insurer of 90% of California’s FFAs announced that it would non-renew its contracts with FFAs. Since then, over

two dozen FFAs have closed their doors. FFAs that have been able to secure liability coverage have faced six-digit premium increases, representing increases of 200 to 400%.

“In response to the looming insurance crisis, I authored AB 2496 in 2024, which provided that FFAs could not be held liable for harm caused by the actions or negligence of the county and that FFAs and counties bear the costs of insuring themselves against their respective acts and omissions.

“In 2025, the California Department of Social Services was required to report to the Legislature available options to make insurance available to foster family agencies. Unfortunately, this report has not yet materialized and DSS has yet to make concrete recommendations to the Legislature. In order to ensure that the insurance market does not deteriorate further while a long-term solution is found, AB 2333 extends the sunset date of the indemnification provisions of AB 2496 from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2028.”

Foster Family Agencies (FFAs). FFAs are nonprofit entities that contract with county placing departments to find placements for children who require more intensive care than a typical foster family home, usually as an alternative to a short-term residential therapeutic program. FFAs recruit, certify and train foster parents and provide social workers and other supports to foster families. By law, an FFA’s processes are distinct from the resource family licensing procedures: homes and families certified by an FFA are not simultaneously licensed or approved by the county or the state, and an FFA-approved home must forfeit its county- or state-issued license upon being approved by the FFA.

Insurance Coverage Crisis. County contracts require FFAs to maintain liability insurance. However, insurers are not required to cover FFAs. Insurance Commissioner Lara issued a memo¹ on August 23, 2024, explaining that the Nonprofits Insurance Alliance of California (NIAC) had begun issuing nonrenewal notices to some FFAs, as well as paused acceptance of coverage for new FFAs, due to recent high-valued court judgment settlements against FFAs. The memo explains that this has resulted in FFAs unable to obtain mandatory insurance coverage at an affordable rate. The memo concludes, “This lack of coverage will likely force many FFAs to start shuttering their programs, thus upending the stability of the foster children and youth that they serve. On a larger scale, thousands of foster children and youth are potentially at risk of losing their current

¹ <https://www.insurance.ca.gov/0250-insurers/0300-insurers/0200-bulletins/bulletin-notices-commiss-opinion/upload/Notice-Foster-Family-Liability-Insurance-Availability-August-2024.pdf>

FFA placement.” Without insurance, children placed in FFA homes would have to be moved – with a potential displacement of 9,000 children. Counties lack the capacity to house these children, putting vulnerable foster youth at risk.

Temporary Solution In 2024, the author of this bill also authored AB 2496 (Pellerin, Chapter 403, Statutes of 2024) as a response to the crisis caused by the nonrenewal notices issued by NIAC. AB 2496 allowed homes under an FFA, upon the FFA receiving a nonrenewal notice, to move, or “port” to either another FFA that does have insurance or into county supervision without a reduction in rate. This process usually takes approximately three months, but the bill streamlined that process to allow these resource family homes the ability to continue to provide a home for the foster children in their care. The streamlined process in AB 2496 sunsets in 2027, this bill seeks to delay the sunset one year to 2028. This will allow time for a more permanent solution to the insurance coverage crises to be developed.

The Budget Act of 2025 also provided for \$31.5 million to support the operation of FFA providers facing higher liability insurance premiums. CDSS administers this money through an application process. The first round of funding allocated about \$24 million. The second round of funding will allocate the remaining \$7.5 million. The application deadline for the second round of funding ended April 30, 2026.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2496 (Pellerin, Chapter 403, Statutes of 2024) authorized CDSS to temporarily waive provisions in order to facilitate the expedient transfer of an approval of a resource family from an FFA to a county. Provides that an FFA may be held liable for injury or damage caused by the negligence of the FFA, but not for the injury or damage caused by the public entity. Requires the FFA and the public entity to each bear the cost of insuring against their respective acts and omissions, and to each bear the costs of defending itself against claims arising from those risks.

AB 403 (Stone, Chapter 733, Statutes of 2015) implemented the Continuum of Care Reform effort to the state’s child welfare system, which included sunseting existing licensure, rate-setting, and other provisions for FFAs.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

All for Kids
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
Seneca Family of Agencies

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

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: Heather Hopkins / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
6/26/26 13:09:15

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2380
Author: Papan (D)
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/30/26

AYES: Caballero, Ashby, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-2, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pest control: registration fees

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) raises the maximum total registration fee for the registration of any person advertising, soliciting, or operating as a pest control business from \$25 to \$75 within its home county and \$50 to register an additional county, as specified; 2) increases the registration fee for a pest control aircraft pilot and pest control adviser to register in their home county and in an additional county, as specified; and 3) raises the maximum total registration fee amount for a Structural Pest Control Board registered company to register in its home county and in an additional county, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA), for federal regulation of pesticide distribution, sale, and use. Requires that all pesticides distributed or sold in the United States be registered (licensed) by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA). Requires, before US EPA registers a pesticide under FIFRA, the applicant to show, among other things, that using the pesticide according to specifications will not generally

cause unreasonable adverse effects on the environment (Title 7 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 136, et seq.).

- 2) Requires the director and the County Agricultural Commissioner (CAC) of each county, under the direction and supervision of the director, to enforce the pesticide program and the regulations that are issued pursuant to it. (Food and Agricultural Code Section 11501.5).
- 3) Authorizes the governing body of the local certified unified program agency (CUPA) to establish the amounts to be paid by each person regulated by the unified program under the single fee system at a level sufficient to pay the necessary and reasonable costs incurred by the CUPA. (Health and Safety Code Section 25404.5 (a)(2)).

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a county board of supervisors to establish reasonable fees for the registration of pest control businesses licensed pursuant to the Food and Agricultural Code section 11704 in an amount necessary to cover the costs of registration but shall not exceed \$75.00 per year in its home county and \$50 per year for each additional county.
- 2) Authorizes a county board of supervisors to establish fees for the registration to cover the cost of registering pest control aircraft pilots, pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code section 11920 as follows:
 - a. For a pest control aircraft pilot who registers in their home county, the total amount of registration fees shall not exceed the following:
 - i. \$55.00 per year in calendar year 2027
 - ii. \$65.00 per year in calendar year 2028
 - iii. \$75.00 per year in calendar year 2029 and later
 - b. For a pest control aircraft pilot who is already registered in their home county, and is registering an additional county, the total amount of the registration fees for registering in the additional county shall not exceed the following:
 - i. \$10.00 per year in calendar year 2027
 - ii. \$15.00 per year in calendar year 2028

- iii. \$25.00 per year in calendar year 2029 and later
- c. Authorizes a county board of supervisors to set fees for registration to cover the cost of registering pest control advisers pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code Section 12031 as follows:
 - i. For a pest or a pest control adviser who registers in their home county, the total amount of registration fees shall not exceed the following:
 - 1. Fifty-five dollars (\$55) per year in calendar year 2027.
 - 2. Sixty-five dollars (\$65) per year in calendar year 2028.
 - 3. Seventy-five dollars (\$75) per year in calendar year 2029 and later.
 - ii. For a pest control adviser who is already registered pursuant to subdivision (b) and is registering in an additional county, the total amount of the registration fees for registering in the additional county shall not exceed the following:
 - 1. Ten dollars (\$10) per year in calendar year 2027.
 - 2. Fifteen dollars (\$15) per year in calendar year 2028.
 - 3. Twenty-five dollars (\$25) per year in calendar year 2029 and later.
- d. Authorizes a county board of supervisors to set fees for a Structural Pest Control Board registered company as follows:
 - i. For a Structural Pest Control Board registered company that registers in its home county, the total of registration fees shall not exceed the following:
 - 1. \$55.00 per year in calendar year 2027
 - 2. \$65.00 per year in calendar year 2028
 - 3. \$75.00 per year in calendar year 2029 and later
 - ii. For a Structural Pest Control Board registered company that is already registered pursuant to subdivision (b) and is registering in an additional county, the total amount of registration fees shall not exceed the following:
 - 1. \$30.00 per year in calendar year 2027

2. \$40.00 per year in calendar year 2028

3. \$50.00 per year in calendar year 2029 and later

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Agricultural Commissioners & Sealers Association (Source)
Orange County Employees Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

AB 2380 modestly increases the fee cap for pest control operator registrations, enabling counties to fully fund their local pesticide enforcement programs. County agricultural commissioners play a critical role in ensuring the safe and effective application of pesticides across all 58 counties. They are responsible for addressing a wide range of potential risks associated with pesticide use and must report annually to the state on both program successes and incidents.

Importantly, fees collected from pesticide applicator and adviser registrations are reinvested directly into county oversight activities, supporting nearly all of the commissioners' work. Despite the significant responsibility counties bear in mitigating pesticide-related harm, fee caps have not been raised in decades.

AB 2380 acknowledges the essential role of county agricultural commissioners in protecting the environment, local communities, and farmworkers. By increasing the fee cap on pesticide operator registrations from \$25 to \$75, the bill gives county boards of supervisors the flexibility to cover program costs and strengthen local oversight.

The California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association, sponsors of this bill, wrote in support in part:

“...As operational costs have increased over time, counties have been left without the ability to adjust fees to meet current needs. As a result,

CAC offices are often forced to rely on limited local taxpayer dollars to subsidize regulatory oversight that should be supported by the professional registration system itself.

AB 2380 offers a practical and reasonable solution. By gradually increasing the fee cap to \$75 over the course of three years, the bill simply provides counties with the flexibility to set fees at a level that better reflects the cost of processing registrations and maintaining critical oversight programs. Importantly, the bill does not mandate a specific fee; rather, it allows county boards of supervisors to determine the appropriate level needed to recover administrative costs, ‘up to’ \$75.

Ensuring CAC offices have the resources necessary to maintain accurate applicator records and enforce pesticide regulations is essential to protecting California agriculture, safeguarding workers, and maintaining public confidence in pesticide oversight...”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-2, 5/7/26

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

NOES: DeMaio, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bains, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Hadwick, Hart, Hoover, Lackey, Patel, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo, Ta, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508

7/1/26 16:55:13

**** 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 ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2439
Author: Blanca Rubio (D) and Lowenthal (D), et al.
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 8-1, 6/16/26

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

NOES: Ochoa Bogh

NO VOTE RECORDED: Seyarto

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/23/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Valladares, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common Interest Developments: governing documents:
assessments

SOURCE: Authors

DIGEST: This bill: 1) prohibits a homeowner's association's (HOA) governing documents from imposing restrictions on a member's use of public streets, including parking; 2) requires an HOA to notify each member, as specified, of a change of entity authorized to receive payment of assessments within 60 days of the change; 3) requires an HOA to send a second notice, as specified, to any member who has missed two consecutive assessment payments; and, 4) imposes civil liabilities, as specified, for violations of pre-lien notice requirements.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law, pursuant to the Davis-Stirling Act (Act):

- 1) Provides that regular and special assessments in an HOA, along with late charges, interest, reasonable collection costs, and attorney's fees, constitute a debt of the homeowner in an HOA at the time they are levied.
- 2) Authorizes HOAs to impose late charges and interest on delinquent assessments, subject to specified limits, including interest not to exceed 12% annually unless a lower rate is specified in the declaration.
- 3) Requires HOAs to apply homeowner debt payments first to delinquent assessments owed to the HOA, and only after those are paid in full, to fees, collection costs, attorney's fees, late charges, or interest.
- 4) Requires HOAs to provide a receipt to the homeowner upon request for payments made, and to include a mailing address for overnight payment of assessments in the HOA's annual policy statement.
- 5) Requires HOAs to follow specified notice procedures prior to recording a lien for delinquent assessments and to recommence the notice process, at the HOA's expense, if those procedures are not followed.

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits HOA governing documents from imposing restrictions on a member's use of public streets, including parking, except for restrictions to enforce public health and safety standards and requirements imposed by local authorities.
- 2) Requires, if the person or entity authorized to receive payments of assessment on behalf of the association changes, the HOA to notify members through individual notice by one of the following methods within 60 days of the change:
 - a) Electronic delivery for any member who has opted into that method of delivery for receiving general notices from the association.
 - b) First-class mail, evidenced by a certificate of mailing, for any member who has not opted into electronic delivery of notices from the association.
- 3) Requires the HOA to send a second notice by certified mail with return receipt requested if after sending an individual notice pursuant to 2), a member has failed to pay two consecutive assessment payments;

- a) This shall not apply if an HOA member has affirmatively responded to the notice pursuant to 2).
- 4) Requires the HOA to maintain records confirming that individual notices were distributed, pursuant to 2) and 3). If a member requests proof of the delivery, requires the HOA to provide it at no charge to the member.
- 5) Requires the HOA to make a reasonable effort to post a physical copy of the notice distributed pursuant to 2) in the HOA's common areas.
- 6) Holds an HOA liable to the owner of a separate interest for the reconveyance fee and any other costs incurred in association with the HOA's failure to comply with the procedures set forth in this article.
- 7) Requires that if an HOA fails to comply with the procedures set forth in this article, after the 3rd failure within a 5-year period, the HOA board shall be liable to the owner of the separate interest for a civil penalty of \$1,000.
- 8) Requires that if a civil penalty is imposed pursuant to 7), the HOA shall notify members by general notice of the board's failure to comply.

Background

HOAs. HOAs are the legal governing bodies of common interest developments (CIDs). These developments cover a variety of community arrangements, including apartment complexes, housing cooperatives, condominiums, and planned unit developments. In 1986, California enacted the Davis-Stirling Act, which outlines the requirements for CID and HOA governance, including assessments and other fees, maintenance responsibilities, and elections. There are over 50,000 HOAs throughout California, covering 36.3% of the state's population. In L.A. County alone, there are over 16,500 HOAs.

Davis-Stirling Act. The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing 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.

Comments

Author's statement. “Families living in HOAs deserve fairness, transparency, and clear communication from their HOA Board. Yet too often, residents face inconsistent rule enforcement and are left unaware of critical financial actions affecting their property. This bill addresses these issues by prohibiting HOAs from regulating parking on public streets except for public safety, requiring clear and verifiable notice of changes to payment systems, and establishing penalties when HOAs fail to comply with lien notification laws. By increasing accountability and transparency, this measure protects homeowners from unfair practices and ensures they are properly informed about decisions that impact their homes and finances.”

Assessing the situation. In an HOA, the owner(s) of each separate interest are expected to pay regular assessments to the association every year, often on a monthly basis, to cover essential operating expenses and other budgeted expenses, as determined by the board. The HOA is required to communicate who is responsible for collecting those payments—whether that's the association itself, or a designated third-party management company. Under existing law, HOAs are required to provide a mailing address for overnight payment of assessments in the annual policy statement. If the entity, or the address of the entity, responsible for collecting those payments changes, the HOA should be notifying its members. If this notification does not occur, this can expose both the HOA and the member to harm, with an association not receiving funds essential to its operation, and a member becoming delinquent on payments. Delinquency can lead to fines and a lien on an owner's property.

These concerns bore out in an example described by the author, where an association alleges it provided notice of the assessment recipient changing, but could not prove it. The author then missed their assessment payments, resulting in a lien on their separate interest, along with fines. This bill contains provisions to address those concerns, including more stringent requirements for the delivery of notices. This bill would require an HOA, if the person or entity authorized to receive payments of assessment on behalf of the association changes, to send an

individual notice to each HOA member within 60 days. For members who have opted into electronic delivery for other general notices, they would receive this notice electronically. For those who haven't opted in, they would receive this notice by first-class mail, evidenced by a certificate of mail. Additionally, if an HOA member has missed two consecutive assessment payments after the notice above was sent out, this bill would require the HOA to send a second notice by certified mail with return receipt. This bill would also require HOAs to make a reasonable effort to post a copy of the notice in the HOA's common areas, and require HOAs to maintain a copy of notices distributed—to be provided at no charge to a member who requests it. These measures reflect an approach to balance transparency and cost-effectiveness.

Consequences for consequential actions. Recognizing the consequential nature of placing a lien on a separate interest, this bill seeks to impose financial liabilities on any HOA that violates pre-lien notice requirements. If those requirements are not followed, this bill would hold an HOA liable to the owner of a separate interest for the reconveyance fee and any other associated fees. This bill would also impose, after an HOA's third failure to comply with the procedures set forth in this article within a five-year period, a civil penalty of \$1,000 on the board, owed to the owner of the separate interest. Additionally, it would require the HOA to notify members by general notice of the board's failure to comply with the procedures set forth in this article. While imposing civil liabilities on the board could depress willingness to serve on the board, and could lead to legal complications between the board and members, giving the HOA a buffer of 3 violations could serve as a good-faith deterrent that promotes accountability without unduly stifling HOA operations.

Members' Use of Public Streets. A minor provision of this bill clarifies that an HOA may not impose restrictions on a member's use of public streets, including parking, except for specified health and safety reasons. This arises out of a situation where the author was told she could not park on a public street, while visitors faced no restrictions for their parking on the same street. This would *not change* an HOA's ability to regulate the use of streets managed *by the association*, including parking restrictions on such. Rather, this would ensure that HOAs are not exceeding their authority and regulating streets they do not have jurisdiction over, even if they are neighboring the community.

Double-referral. This bill was heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 23rd, 2026, and passed on a vote of 10-0.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/25/26)

None received.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/25/26)

California Association of Community Managers (CACM)
CAI-CLAC

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The co-authors of this bill argue that its provisions will help ensure HOA members are not left in the dark when the entity authorized to receive assessment payments changes. They also argue that this bill will promote transparency and good governance in HOAs.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Those writing in opposition expressed concerns about the bill's provisions subjecting HOA Boards to civil liability, including a set of fines, for specified violations. They argue that this could depress willingness to serve on the board and stifle HOA operations.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 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, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, 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, Gallagher, Hart

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/29/26 16:13:18

**** 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 ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2471

Author: Committee on Emergency Management

Introduced: 2/20/26

Vote: 21

SENATE EMERGENCY MGT. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Stern, Seyarto, Allen, Blakespear, Grayson, Grove, McNerney, Pérez, Rubio

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill modifies the membership and coordination authority of the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission (Commission).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) as the lead agency in the state that coordinates disaster response, emergency planning, emergency preparedness, disaster recovery, disaster mitigation, and homeland security activities.
- 2) Establishes the Commission as a separate unit within Cal OES and authorizes the Commission to recommend policies, hold meetings, hold hearings, and provide positions on proposed state and federal legislation.

- 3) Requires the Commission to comprise 15 members, 10 of whom shall be appointed by the Governor and subject to confirmation by the Senate.
- 4) Provides that one representative member of the Commission must each be from Cal OES, the Division of the State Architect in the Department of General Services, and the California Building Standards Commission.
- 5) Requires the representatives in 4) above to annually update the Commission on their seismic safety activities, as specified.
- 6) Requires 10 Commission members to represent the fields of structural engineering, planning, fire protection, public utilities, insurance, social services, emergency services, and other local government areas that serve the public interest.
- 7) Specifies that each member of the Commission shall be appointed for a four-year term.
- 8) Establishes that at least eight members constitute a quorum.
- 9) Authorizes the Commission to coordinate with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and Cal OES to do various activities, as specified, until January 1, 2030.
- 10) Requires the Commission, at a minimum, to report annually to the Governor and the Legislature on its findings, progress, and recommendations related to activities of the Commission and the state toward higher levels of seismic safety and any other seismic safety issues.

This bill:

- 1) Increases the overall number of Commission members from 15 to 17 and reduces the number of members appointed by the Governor from 10 to 9.
- 2) Requires the Commission to include one representative member each from the Office of the State Fire Marshal (OSFM), Department of Insurance (CDI), and Strategic Growth Council (SGC).

- 3) Requires at least nine members to constitute a quorum, an increase of one member.
- 4) Authorizes one of the Governor's appointees to represent investor-owned utilities.
- 5) Requires the Commission to additionally work with the OSFM, CDI, and SGC as part of the Commission's existing duty to identify and report on key activities and responsibilities related to seismic safety.
- 6) Expands the existing authority for the Commission to coordinate with CAL FIRE and Cal OES on a variety of specified activities until January 1, 2030, to include making policy recommendations regarding fire risk mitigation and lifeline infrastructure system disruptions after a major earthquake.
- 7) Makes other minor technical and nonsubstantive changes.

Background

Author's statement. According to the author, "This bill reaffirms California's commitment to seismic safety by requiring representatives from the State Fire Marshal, Department of Insurance, and Strategic Growth Council to be part of the Seismic Safety Commission. Restructuring the Commission and requiring coordination between key entities responsible for fire safety, insurance risk, and statewide planning strengthens the technical capacity of the Commission."

The Commission. The Commission was established in 1975, with passage of the Seismic Safety Act to provide a coordinated framework for establishing consistent earthquake policies, advising the Governor, the Legislature, local governments, and the public, and tracking the state's progress toward higher levels of seismic safety. The Commission works with federal, state, and local agencies, as well as the private sector, on a variety of activities that support the state's earthquake preparedness, mitigation, response, and recovery. These activities are described below:

- a) Encourage and support research related to seismic safety;
- b) Recommend the addition, deletion, or changing of state agency guidelines or standards to reduce damage from earthquakes or increase seismic safety when new developments would promote earthquake hazard mitigation;

- c) Develop findings and recommendations on lessons learned that lead to reduced losses and rapid economic recovery, following a destructive earthquake;
- d) Conduct public hearings on seismic safety issues;
- e) Utilize existing knowledge and conduct studies, where necessary, to improve the performance of structures in California;
- f) Recommend earthquake safety programs, and,
- g) Support cost-effective partnerships that help reduce earthquake risks and speed economic recovery.

This bill aims to revise the composition of the Commission by, among other things, including representatives from the OSFM, CDI, and SGC, and expands the Commission's coordinating activities with CAL FIRE and Cal OES to include additional policy making actions related to risk from post-earthquake fires in urban areas and disruptions to certain critical lifeline infrastructure systems from a major earthquake.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: In support of the bill, the San Francisco Bay Area Planning and Urban Research Association writes that, "AB 2471 helps ensure that the state's seismic safety leadership remains responsive to today's risks and better aligned with evolving emergency management needs by adding representatives from the State Fire Marshal, Department of Insurance, and the Strategic Growth Council....[and] expands the Commission's ability to make policy recommendations....in partnership with CalOES and CalFIRE, on fire following earthquakes risks, alternative water suppression, and disruptions to lifeline infrastructure. This bill represents a thoughtful step forward in modernizing the state's approach to seismic safety and preparedness."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 5/27/26

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, 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: Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Cassie Royce / E.M. /
7/1/26 16:55:15

**** 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 2480
Author: Ávila Farías (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/16/26

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Housing development: density bonus: student housing developments

SOURCE: Davis College Democrats
Student Homes At SJSU
Student Homes At UCLA
Student Homes At UCSB
Student Homes Coalition
University Housing Rights Organization At UC Berkeley
Youthbridge Housing

DIGEST: This bill requires a local government to provide an additional density bonus for student housing developments that meet a minimum affordability threshold and provide additional units for moderate-income students.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires each city and county to adopt an ordinance that specifies how it will implement state Density Bonus Law (DBL). Requires cities and counties to grant a density bonus when an applicant for a housing development of five or

more units seeks and agrees to construct a project that will contain specified levels of affordable housing.

- 2) Requires cities and counties to grant a density bonus when an applicant for a housing development of five or more units seeks and agrees to construct a project that will contain at least 20% of the total units for lower income students in a student housing development that meets specified requirements.

This bill:

- 1) Requires local governments to grant an additional density bonus to a student housing development, provided that development would not restrict more than 50% of the total units to moderate-income or lower income students, subject to the following requirements:
 - a) The student housing development provides 24% of the total units for lower-income students;
 - b) The student housing development meets existing statutory requirements pertaining to DBL student housing developments, including requirements of student occupancy, affordability, priority for students experiencing homelessness, and a 55-year affordability restriction;
 - c) The student housing development is located in a campus development zone (CDZ), generally a ½ mile radius around a California Community College (CCC), California State University (CSU), or University of California (UC);
 - d) The student housing development is not located on a site identified in the city or county's housing element as suitable for the development of units for lower-income households; and
 - e) The applicant agrees to include additional rental units for moderate-income students.
- 2) Requires the additional bonus to be calculated as follows:
 - a) If the student housing development provides at least 5%, and at most 10%, additional VLI units, a bonus ranging from 20%-38.75%; and
 - b) If the student housing development provides at least 5%, and at most 15%, moderate-income units, a bonus ranging from 20%-50%.

Background

DBL. 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 requires local governments to allow affordable housing developers to increase the density of their project and waive expensive design standards, alleviating the need for direct financial subsidy. 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 DBL, 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. Depending on the amount of affordable housing included in the project and the depth of the affordability level, 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% VLI units or 20% density for 10% low-income units. The maximum additional density permitted is 50%, in exchange for 15% VLI 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

- 1) *Author's statement.* "As you know, our state is facing an extreme housing crisis, and students are not immune. The vast majority of California's college students rely on a limited number of unaffordable and inaccessible off-campus housing units. Despite the immense community benefit low-income and moderate student housing provides, new housing projects near colleges are often difficult

to build. Not to mention, for most affordable housing projects to pencil out, developers need financing mechanisms offered by federal, state and local governments in order to fill the gap. AB 2480 would harmonize the Student Housing Density Bonus with super density bonus, allowing additional density increases for developments that serve both low-income and moderate-income students. This would allow student housing developments near college campuses that have maxed out their low-income density bonus to receive a super density bonus as long as the developer reserves those additional units for moderate income students.”

- 2) *Student Housing Density Bonus.* SB 1227 (Skinner, Chapter 937, Statutes of 2018), and SB 290 (Skinner, Chapter 340, Statutes of 2021), created a density bonus for developers that include housing for lower-income students in a development. Developers that agree to restrict 20% of the units in a development to lower income students can receive a 35% density bonus and one concession or incentive. To be eligible for the density bonus, developers must provide proof at the time of receiving a certificate of occupancy that they have entered into a master lease with an accredited public or private university, college, or community college to occupy all the units for lower income students in the development. Developers are also required to provide priority for students experiencing homelessness. To meet this standard, a developer can verify with the university or college that student is attending or institution of higher education that the student is experiencing homelessness.

Unlike traditional affordable housing, identifying lower-income students eligible for student housing as permitted under this bill is trickier to calculate. Because many students do not work full-time jobs, on paper they appear to be lower-income. SB 1227 (Skinner) provided that a student’s eligibility to receive a Cal Grant shall be used to verify a student’s eligibility for lower-income housing. The Cal Grant program identifies income ceilings in statute based upon a student’s household income, both for new and renewing participants.

SB 1227 was carefully crafted in a way to create an incentive for the development of desperately needed student housing near university campuses, while not over incentivizing student housing projects to the detriment of desperately needed multifamily housing projects available to the general public.

- 3) *Enhancing DBL for Student Housing.* AB 3116 (Garcia, Chapter 342, Statutes of 2024), made several changes to DBL to increase the incentives for student

housing developments. Specifically, that bill expanded the student housing density bonus to allow additional density bonuses for student housing developments for projects with between 21% and 24% of the units affordable to lower income households, with up to a 50% density bonus. AB 3116 also made projects with at least 23% affordable units entitled to two concessions and incentives and no parking requirements for a bedspace, and prohibited student housing projects with a greater than 35% density bonus from being located on a site that requires replacement units.

AB 1287 (Alvarez, Chapter 755, Statutes of 2023) added an additional, “stackable” density bonus tier and an additional incentive/concession for projects that exceed existing DBL affordability thresholds. However, this additional bonus is structured around the existing DBL affordability categories, particularly very low-, low-, and moderate-income units as defined for traditional rental and for-sale housing. Student housing developments, as authorized under DBL, are instead governed by a separate framework that requires units to be restricted to lower-income students and priced using student-specific affordability assumptions (*e.g.*, per-bed rents tied to a lower-income standard), and do not align with the statutory categories used to qualify for the additional AB 1287 bonus. As a result, student housing developments are generally unable to utilize the additional density bonus and concessions created by AB 1287, even if they provide deeper levels of affordability, because the law does not clearly map the student housing provisions onto the new bonus thresholds.

This bill expands the “stackable” DBL provisions created by AB 1287 to student housing developments. Specifically, this bill establishes an additional density bonus specifically for student housing developments that reserve units for both lower-income and moderate-income students. To qualify for the stackable DBL provisions, developments must be located in a campus development zone. This bill establishes a sliding-scale framework for calculating the additional density bonus that student housing developments can receive if they include additional moderate-income or VLI units, allowing projects to receive between 20% and 50% additional density depending on the extent to which they exceed baseline affordability requirements. This additional bonus is cumulative with existing density bonus provisions, effectively allowing qualifying student housing developments to achieve significantly higher overall densities in exchange for deeper or broader affordability targeting within student populations.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/2026)

Davis College Democrats (Co-source)
Student Homes At SJSU (Co-source)
Student Homes At UCLA (Co-source)
Student Homes At UCSB (Co-source)
Student Homes Coalition (Co-source)
University Housing Rights Organization At UC Berkeley (Co-source)
Youthbridge Housing (Co-source)
Abundant Housing Los Angeles
California Apartment Association
California Yimby
East Bay Yimby
Eastside Housing for All
Faith and Housing Coalition
Grow the Richmond
Inner City Law Center
Mountain View Yimby
Napa-solano for Everyone
Nextgen California
Northern Neighbors Sf
Peninsula for Everyone
San Francisco Yimby
San Jose Yimby
San Mateo Forward
Santa Cruz Yimby
Santa Rosa Yimby
South Bay Yimby
The Two Hundred for Homeownership
Ventura County Yimby
Yes! in Redwood City
Yimby Action
Yimby Los Angeles
Yimby Monterey Peninsula
Yimby Slo

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/2026)

None received

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: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
7/1/26 16:55:15

**** 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.

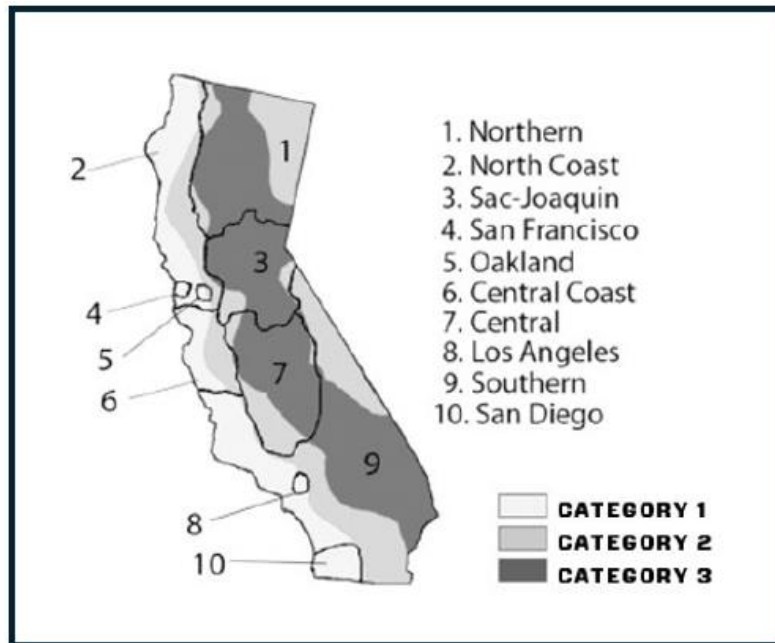
The Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability at Duke University provides the following example of how WBGT readings can vary depending on multiple environmental inputs. In this example, higher humidity and slower wind leads to a higher WBGT reading despite a lower temperature:

	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 2523
Author: Fong (D)
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public postsecondary education: governing bodies: biography and contact information

SOURCE: California Faculty Association

DIGEST: This bill requires the California State University (CSU) and the California Community Colleges (CCC), and requests the University of California (UC), to post on their respective systemwide governing boards' internet websites specified biographical and contact information for each board member and encourages each member to consider public input when voting on a matter that comes before the board.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the UC as a public trust to be administered by the Regents and grants the Regents full powers of organization and governance subject only to legislative control as necessary to ensure the security of funds, compliance with terms of its endowments, and the statutory requirements around competitive bidding and contracts, sales of property, and the purchase of materials, goods, and services. (California Constitution Article IX, § (9) (a))

- 2) Stipulates that no provision of the Donahue Higher Education Act shall apply to the UC unless the UC Regents adopt the provision. (Education Code (EC) § 67400)
- 3) Establishes the CSU system, made up of 23 campuses, and bestows upon the CSU Trustees, through the Board of Trustees, the power, duties, and functions with respect to the management, administration, and control of the CSU system. (EC § 66606 and 89030 et seq.)
- 4) Establishes the CCC under the administration of the Board of Governors of the CCC, as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state. The CCC shall be comprised of community college districts. (EC § 70900)

This bill:

- 1) Requires the CSU and CCC and requests the UC, to post in a conspicuous location on their respective governing boards' internet websites, for each board member, their name, biography, official email address, official phone number, and official mailing address.
- 2) Encourages each CSU Trustee, UC Regent and CCC board member to consider public and stakeholder input provided regarding a matter to be presented at an open meeting of the board before voting on the matter at the open meeting.
- 3) Defines various terms for purposes of this bill.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author, "AB 2523 promotes accessibility and transparency in California's public higher education system by encouraging meaningful engagement from students, faculty, and other stakeholders. This bill seeks to remove barriers that prevent individuals from communicating directly with governing board members responsible for decisions impacting the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges systems. AB 2523 supports more informed policymaking and helps ensure that the needs of California's higher education communities needs are reflected in the deliberation of governing boards."

Board membership composition. Information about board membership is publicly available on board websites, including names and biographical information. Individual contact information does not generally appear to be publicly available. This bill explicitly requires the posting of biographical information. It further requires publication of official contact information and encourages board members to consider public and stakeholder input before voting on matters before the board. Below is a summary of the composition of each board.

- CSU Board of Trustees has 25 trustees, all of whom are full voting members. The composition of the board is outlined and prescribed by state statute. There are five ex officio members: the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and the Chancellor. Sixteen trustees are appointed by the governor, confirmed by the State Senate, and serve eight-year terms.
- The Board of Governors of the CCCs was established to provide statewide leadership to California's 73 community college districts, which operate 116 community colleges. The Board has 18 voting members as specified in statute. Twelve members are appointed by the Governor, require Senate approval for six-year terms, and must include two current or former local board members. Five members are appointed by the Governor to two-year terms and include two students, two faculty members, and one classified member. The Lieutenant Governor also serves as a member of the Board.
- UC Board of Regents has 26 Regents, all of whom have a vote, as specified in the state constitution. Eighteen are appointed by the governor, confirmed by the State Senate, and serve 12 year terms. One member is a student Regent appointed by the Regents pursuant to existing law, and there are seven ex officio members: the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, Superintendent of Public Instruction, president and vice president of the Alumni Associations of UC, and the UC president. In addition, two faculty members sit on the board as non-voting members.

Direct communication with governing board members. Existing law provides opportunities for public participation in the meetings of the governing boards of public higher education through public meeting requirements. Meetings are open to the public, and opportunities for the public to address board members are provided. The author contends, however, outside public board meetings, students, faculty, and other affected stakeholders do not have accessible means or information to contact their governing board members, as these members are not required under

existing law to make their contact information publicly available. This information is typically disclosed through a liaison via phone, mail, or email. This bill seeks to provide direct access to individual board members for purpose of improving public engagement beyond existing public comment and communication processes.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Faculty Association (source)

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

CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO

SEIU California

Teamsters California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 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, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Olgalilia Ramirez / ED. / (916) 651-4105

7/1/26 16:55:16

**** **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 2559
Author: Ward (D)
Amended: 4/8/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 4/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Solid waste: construction debris: diversion: deposits

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires local governments to reimburse persons' or entities' construction demolition deposits up to three years after the final inspection of the project has been completed.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Pursuant to the Integrated Waste Management Act (Public Resources Code (PRC) 40000 *et seq.*):
 - a) Establishes a statewide goal that 75% of solid waste be diverted from landfill disposal by 2020 through source reduction, recycling, and composting;
 - b) Requires jurisdictions, defined as cities, counties, and regional agencies, to divert at least 50% of solid waste generated from landfill disposal through source reduction, recycling, reuse, and composting activities. The amount diverted is known as a jurisdictions "diversion rate." Since 2008, this

requirement has shifted to a 50% disposal rate based on per capital disposal;

- c) Requires CalRecycle and local agencies to maximize the use of all feasible source reduction, recycling, and composting options to reduce the amount of solid waste disposed; and
 - d) Requires CalRecycle to adopt one or more model ordinances that local agencies may adopt that require diversion of construction and demolition (C&D) waste, as specified.
- 2) Requires that at least 65% of nonhazardous C&D waste generated by residential and non-residential construction and demolition projects be diverted from landfill disposal, as specified. Requires the submission of a construction waste management plan, as specified. (California Green Building Standards Code (CalGreen) 4.408 and 5.408)

This bill:

- 1) Requires a city or county that collects a deposit as a condition of a construction, demolition, or building permit for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a construction or demolition debris diversion requirement, to return the full amount within three years of the final inspection, if the applicant submits documentation demonstrating compliance.
- 2) Specifies that this bill does not prohibit a city or county from denying a refund if the submitted documentation demonstrates noncompliance with applicable diversion requirements.
- 3) States related findings and declarations relating to the use of refundable deposits to ensure compliance with local solid waste diversion requirements.

Background

California's recycling goals. CalRecycle is tasked with diverting at least 75% of solid waste from landfills statewide by 2020. Local governments have been required to divert 50% of the waste generated within the jurisdiction from landfill disposal since 2000. AB 341 (Chesbro, Chapter 476, Statutes of 2011) requires commercial waste generators to arrange for recycling services for the material they generate and requires local governments to implement commercial solid waste

recycling programs designed to divert solid waste generated by businesses out of the landfill. A follow up bill, AB 1826 (Chesbro, Chapter 727, Statutes of 2014), requires generators of organic waste (i.e., food waste and yard waste) to arrange for recycling services for that material to keep the material out of the landfill. California's recycling rate, which reached 50% in 2014, has dropped to 42% as of 2024.

An estimated 35 million tons of waste are disposed of in California's landfills annually. In 2014, CalRecycle reported in its report on facility-based characterization of solid waste in California that construction and demolition (C&D) materials are estimated to account for between 21.7 to 25.5 percent of the disposed waste stream.

C&D waste and management. Commercial waste encompasses all solid waste generated by businesses, including C&D debris. C&D waste typically consists of materials such as lumber, drywall, concrete, metals, and other byproducts generated during construction, renovation, and demolition activities. Many of these materials can be reused or recycled: metals are the most commonly-recycled material while lumber makes up the majority of debris that still goes to a landfill.

California has adopted stringent statutory and regulatory requirements governing the diversion of C&D materials from landfills. Under the California Green Building Standards Code (CALGreen), most covered construction and demolition projects must divert at least 65% of nonhazardous C&D debris through recycling, reuse, or salvage. Facilities can obtain third-party certification to demonstrate they are achieving at least 65% diversion.

Local governments enforce CalGREEN requirements, and some have additional local C&D requirements. To facilitate local implementation, the Legislature enacted SB 1374 (Kuehl, Chapter 501, Statutes of 2002) directing CalRecycle to develop model ordinances for C&D waste management programs. Accordingly, most California local governments have adopted C&D waste management ordinances.

Many jurisdictions require applicants to submit waste management plans and impose refundable security deposits or administrative fees prior to permit issuance. These amounts are commonly calculated based on project valuation or square footage and are refunded upon demonstration of compliance with applicable diversion requirements.

Comments

Purpose of Bill. According to the author, “Local governments across California have adopted construction and demolition waste diversion programs that require refundable deposits as a condition of issuing building permits. However, cities have developed inconsistent timelines in which to refund deposits. Additionally, a request for refund is often tied to the project’s final inspection, which can occur well before construction is fully complete. As a result, permit holders—who often rely on contractors to manage projects and paperwork—may miss the refund deadline even when they ultimately comply with recycling requirements, losing deposits worth hundreds or thousands of dollars. Assembly Bill 2559 addresses this issue by requiring local governments to return the full deposit if the permit holder submits documentation demonstrating compliance within five years of final inspection. This bill preserves local waste diversion programs while ensuring consumers who follow the rules are not unfairly penalized by premature or confusing refund deadlines.”

Timelines for reimbursement. According to the author, some jurisdictions require permit holders to submit the necessary documentation to redeem the deposit within a specified time frame, which may be inadequate for the permit holder. For example, the City of San Diego’s ordinance requires documentation to be submitted 180 days from the final inspection of the project to request the return of the deposit. However, the author states that final inspection may be completed before the project is finished, making it impossible for some permit holders to recoup the cost of the deposit. To solve this problem, this bill specifies that permitholders have up to three years to submit proof of compliance.

Requiring permitholders to apply for C&D deposit reimbursements before all the work is completed is a real procedural problem. It is less clear whether statewide legislation is necessary to address this problem or whether it could be resolved at the local level.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1374 (Kuehl, Chapter 501, Statutes of 2002) tasks CalRecycle with adopting a countywide integrated waste management plan to adopt a model ordinance by March 1, 2004, for diverting 50 to 75 percent of C&D waste materials from landfills.

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

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee, the fiscal effects of this bill include:

- 1) The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) does not anticipate any costs as a result of this bill.
- 2) Any costs to local government are likely to be minor and absorbable and, in any case, are not reimbursable by the state. The state does not require a local government to collect a refundable deposit to ensure compliance with C&D waste management and diversion ordinances; therefore, it is not a state-mandated local program.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Apartment Association
California Yimby
Habitat for Humanity California
Los Angeles County

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 4/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, 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, 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, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Macedo, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Stefani

Prepared by: Brynn Cook / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
7/1/26 16:55:17

**** 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 2563
Author: Pacheco (D), et al.
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 9-2, 6/16/26

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

NOES: Niello, Valladares

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Weber Pierson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-17, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Sex discrimination: scope

SOURCE: California Women's Law Center
Feminist Majority

DIGEST: This bill clarifies that "sex," as used within California antidiscrimination laws, includes gender, gender expression, gender identity, pregnancy and related conditions, and other specified traits or conditions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing constitutional law:

1) Provides for equal protection under the law as follows:

- a) Under the United States Constitution, provides that no state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws. (U.S. Constitution, 14th Amend., § 1.)
- b) Under the California Constitution, 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.), Article (art.) I, § 7.)

- 2) Provides that the State shall not discriminate against, or grant preferential treatment to, any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin in the operation of public employment, public education, or public contracting. (Cal. Const., art. I, § 31.)

Existing state law:

- 1) Provides, pursuant to the Unruh Civil Rights Act, that all persons within the jurisdiction of this state are free and equal, and no matter what their sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary language, or immigration status, are entitled to the full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind whatsoever. (Civil (Civ.) Code, § 51(a).)
- 2) Provides that “sex,” for purposes of 1), includes, but is not limited to, pregnancy, childbirth, or medical conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth; or a person's gender, which means sex, and includes a person's gender identity and gender expression. “Gender expression” means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth. (Civ. Code, § 51(e)(6).)
- 3) Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability, gender, gender identity, gender expression, nationality, race or ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation, any other characteristic that is contained in the definition of hate crimes, or immigration status in any program or activity conducted by an educational institution that receives, or benefits from, state financial assistance, or enrolls pupils who receive state financial assistance. (Education (Ed.) Code, § 220.)
- 4) Defines the following for purposes of 5):
 - a) “Gender” means sex and includes a person's gender identity and gender expression.
 - b) “Gender expression” means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior, whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth. (Ed. Code, § 210.7.)
- 5) Establishes the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), which prohibits the following:

- a) Specified acts of discrimination in employment on the basis of the race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, reproductive health decision-making, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, sexual orientation, or veteran or military status of any person. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 12940.)
 - b) Specified acts of discrimination in connection with housing on the basis of the person's race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, ancestry, familial status, source of income, disability, veteran or military status, or genetic information. (Gov. Code, § 12955.)
- 6) Provides that “sex,” for purposes of 7), includes, but is not limited to:
- a) Pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding, or medical conditions related to pregnancy, childbirth, or breastfeeding.
 - b) A person's gender, which means sex, and includes a person's gender expression; “gender expression” means a person's gender-related appearance and behavior whether or not stereotypically associated with the person's assigned sex at birth.
- 7) Establishes other prohibitions on the basis of sex, gender, gender identity, and/or gender expression throughout the Codes. (*See generally* California Codes.)

This bill:

- 1) States that the Legislature finds and declares that this bill is existing law and is not intended to expand or contract any existing rights or responsibilities.
- 2) States that any provision that prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, discrimination on the basis of gender, or similar discrimination shall also be interpreted as prohibiting sex discrimination, as defined in 4).
- 3) States that, in the event of a conflict between the provisions of 2) and other provisions of the relevant Code that set forth the scope of sex discrimination, gender discrimination, or similar discrimination, the provisions that would result in greater protections of individuals based on sex, gender, or similar discrimination shall prevail; and that these provisions shall not be construed to impair or diminish any other civil rights protection that is broader in scope.

- 4) Provides that, for purposes of 2) and 3), the following definitions apply:
 - a) “Discrimination” includes, but is not limited to, harassment.
 - b) “Pregnancy or related medical conditions” includes, but is not limited to, childbirth, abortion, lactation, miscarriage, fertility, and contraception.
 - c) “Sex discrimination” includes, but is not limited to, discrimination on the basis of any of the following actual or perceived characteristics:
 - i) Assigned sex or gender category, including female, male, or nonbinary.
 - ii) Degree of conformity to sex or gender stereotypes.
 - iii) Gender, including gender identity, gender expression, and access to, and use of, gender affirming care and other related health care.
 - iv) Pregnancy or other related medical conditions.
 - v) Decision-making, access to care, or potential or actual use of a drug, device, product, or service relating to pregnancy or related medical conditions.
 - vi) Sexual orientation.
 - vii) Variations in sex characteristics, including intersex traits or differences in sex development.
- 5) Provides that 2)-4) reflects the existing protections of the California Constitution recognizing the individual rights to pursue and obtain safety, happiness, and privacy, ensuring equal protection of the laws, protecting the ability to enter or pursue a business, profession, vocation, or employment, and protecting an individual’s reproductive freedom, and that these provisions shall be construed liberally to effectuate the purposes of these constitutional protections.
- 6) Adds the language in 2)-5) to each of the Codes.
- 7) Adds, to the Unruh Act and the FEHA, specific references within the definitions to the clarifying sections added to their respective Codes pursuant to 6).

Comments

In 2022, the Legislature enacted SCR 92 (Leyva, Ch. 150, Stats. 2022), which instructed the California Law Revision Commission to determine whether California's antidiscrimination laws might conflict with the Equal Rights Amendment (ERA), so that the state would be prepared if the ERA was actually added to the United States Constitution. The CLRC's 2025 report found that California law already complies with a potential ERA. The CLRC also found, however, that the specific definitions of "sex" within California's various antidiscrimination statutes are inconsistent, and while California's most significant antidiscrimination statutes define "sex" broadly, the broad definition is not clearly employed across the Codes.

This bill adopts the CRLC's proposed solution to clarify that "sex" has a consistent meaning throughout the state's antidiscrimination statutes, by adopting, within each Code, a provision clarifying the definition of "sex." The uniform definition provided by this bill accords with what is already in existing laws such as the Unruh Civil Rights Act, certain provisions of the Education Code, and the FEHA, and is intended to clarify the scope of all California antidiscrimination laws, not expand existing law. The bill also provides that, in the event that an existing provision of law conflicts with the uniform definition, the definition that results in greater protections against discrimination should prevail.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Women's Law Center (co-source)
Feminist Majority (co-source)
Alameda County Office of Education
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
California Teachers Association
LGBTQ+ Inclusivity, Visibility, and Empowerment (LIVE)
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

CAUSE
Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender
Our Duty

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Women's Law Center and Feminist Majority:

California has long been a national leader in advancing gender equity, with strong constitutional and statutory protections against sex discrimination. However, inconsistencies in how “sex” and “sex discrimination” are defined and interpreted across different areas of state law can create gaps in protection, limit enforcement, and leave individuals vulnerable to discrimination.

AB 2563 addresses this issue by establishing a clear, minimum standard across California law. The bill requires that all provisions prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex or gender be interpreted to prohibit sex discrimination and defines sex discrimination to include a broad range of actual or perceived characteristics, including gender identity and expression, pregnancy and related medical conditions, reproductive health decision-making, and conformity to gender stereotypes.

By aligning statutory interpretation with California’s constitutional guarantees of equal protection, privacy, and reproductive freedom, AB 2563 strengthens existing civil rights protections and ensures they are applied broadly and as intended. This clarification is critical to protecting individuals from discrimination across employment, housing, education, healthcare, and public accommodations.

At a time when rights related to gender, identity, basic needs, and reproductive autonomy are increasingly contested nationwide, AB 2563 reaffirms California’s commitment to ensuring that all individuals can live, work, and access services free from discrimination.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to CAUSE:

Women are not women due to “identity.” Women are women because our sex is determined to be female at conception. Female development in the womb and through puberty results in a body organized around the production of large, immobile egg cells- gametes- called ova in humans. Human females develop to carry our young in our uterus, give birth to our young through our cervix and vagina, and to nourish our young at our breasts, all female specific, necessary roles in human reproduction. Humans share this same reproductive process with every other mammalian species that exists or ever existed (even, in most aspects, monotremes-primitive egg-laying mammals that nurse their young.)

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-17, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, 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, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal,
McKinnor, 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, Ward,
Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff

Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2564
Author: Ward (D), et al.
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 5-2, 6/22/26
AYES: Gonzalez, McNerney, Padilla, Reyes, Wiener
NOES: Jones, Ochoa Bogh
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon, Umberg

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 42-21, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Surveillance pricing

SOURCE: California Federation of Labor Unions
Consumer Reports
TechEquity Action

DIGEST: This bill prohibits “surveillance pricing,” as defined, except as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) 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. (Civil (Civ.) Code § 1798.100 et seq.)
- 2) Provides that the secret payment of allowances of rebates, refunds, commissions, or unearned discounts, whether in the form of money or otherwise, or secretly extending to certain purchasers special services or

privileges not extended to all purchasers upon like terms and conditions, to the injury of a competitor and where such payment or allowance tends to destroy competition, is unlawful. (Business (Bus.) & Professions (Prof.) Code § 17045.)

- 3) Establishes a general prohibition on unfair competition, known as the Unfair Competition Law (UCL), which covers any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue, or misleading advertising, and any act prohibited under the False Advertising Law. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17200.)

This bill:

- 1) Prohibits “surveillance pricing,” defined as offering or setting a customized price for a good for a specific consumer or group of consumers, based, in whole or in part, on personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology, including personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology that is gathered, purchased, or otherwise acquired from a third party. “Surveillance pricing” does not include a discounted price offered to a consumer terminating or taking steps to terminate a service or membership with a person, but does include offering random variations in prices to different customers using a website, mobile application, or comparable online technology.
- 2) Defines other relevant terms, including:
 - a) “Electronic surveillance technology” includes the use of technological methods, systems, or tools, including sensors, cameras, device tracking, or biometric monitoring, that are capable of gathering personally identifiable information about a consumer’s behavior, characteristics, location, or other personal attributes, whether in physical or digital environments.
 - b) “Personally identifiable information” has the same meaning as “personal information” in the CCPA.
- 3) Provides that a person does not engage in surveillance pricing if any of the following apply:
 - a) The difference in price is based solely on costs associated with providing the good to different consumers.

- b) The discounted price is publicly available and automatically applied to all relevant purchases.
 - c) The retailer satisfies both of the following:
 - i. The retailer is licensed pursuant to Section 11700 of the Vehicle Code.
 - ii. The retailer communicates a total price in compliance with Section 1784.41.
 - d) The retailer offers a discounted price based, in whole or in part, on personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology and all of the following apply:
 - i. The current eligibility criteria, available discounts, and any conditions for receiving or earning the discounted price are clearly and conspicuously disclosed on the company's website.
 - ii. The discounted price is made available to all consumers who meet the disclosed eligibility criteria.
 - iii. A discounted price is offered pursuant to any of the following:
 - 1. Based on publicly disclosed eligibility criteria that any consumer could potentially meet, including signing up for a mailing list, providing personal information registering for promotional communications, or participating in a promotional event. The terms and criteria for receiving the discounted price shall be conveyed clearly and conspicuously disclosed in clear and prominent terms in such a manner that an ordinary consumer would notice and understand them.
 - 2. To members of a broadly defined group, including teachers, active or retired military, senior citizens, students, or residents of a certain area, based on publicly disclosed eligibility criteria.
 - 3. Through a loyalty, membership, or rewards program that consumers affirmatively purchase or enroll in.
- 4) Makes any waiver void and unenforceable.
- 5) Finds and declares that it furthers the purposes of the California Privacy Rights Act.

Comments

Companies regularly and systematically collect, analyze, share, and sell the personal information of consumers. While this data collection can provide consumers various benefits, public fears about the widespread, unregulated amassing of personal information have only grown since privacy was made a part of California's Constitution. One particularly troubling area of this systematic data

collection is utilization of this information to engage in differential pricing for consumers based on various elements of that information.

This bill prohibits this practice of “surveillance pricing,” defined as offering or setting a customized price for a good for a specific consumer or group of consumers, based, in whole or in part, on personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology, including personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology that is gathered, purchased, or otherwise acquired from a third party. This bill provides exceptions for the offering of discounted pricing, such as through loyalty programs, where certain conditions are met, such as ensuring transparency about the basis for such discounts.

It should be noted that several other states are also taking action to combat surveillance pricing. Legislation has been introduced and passed through legislatures in four other states. This increased movement toward regulating this practice is driven in part by polling that suggests consumers find surveillance pricing “fundamentally unfair” and support bans.¹

For a more thorough overview, please see the Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection Committee analysis of this bill, which is incorporated herein by reference.

This bill is sponsored by Consumer Reports, TechEquity, and the California Federation of Labor Unions. It is supported by a wide array of labor, advocacy, and low-income services groups, including the Western Center on Law and Poverty, Equal Rights Advocates, and LGBT Tech. It is opposed by various industry groups, including TechNet and Chamber of Progress.

According to the author, “With the rise of artificial intelligence and data collection, businesses increasingly use personal data to set prices, often leading to unfair and discriminatory pricing practices. This legislation aims to establish safeguards that ensure transparency, fairness, and consumer protections in pricing algorithms. AB 2564 will prohibit the practice of surveillance pricing by making it unlawful for businesses to use personal data when charging different prices for the same product or service, whether online or during in-store checkout.”

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

¹ *Strong Majority of Americans Want Corporations to End Deceptive Surveillance Pricing Schemes* (May 21, 2026) Groundwork Collaborative, <https://groundworkcollaborative.org/news/strong-majority-of-americans-want-corporations-to-end-deceptive-surveillance-pricing-schemes/>. All internet citations are current as of June 30, 2026.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

California Federation of Labor Unions (co-sponsor)
Consumer Reports (co-sponsor)
TechEquity Action (co-sponsor)
ACLU Cal Action
Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) Action
American Federation of Musicians, Local 7
American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
Buen Vecino
California Food and Farming Network
California Nurses Association
California School Employees Association
California Work and Family Coalition
Cameo Network
Center for AI and Digital Policy
Center for Democracy and Technology
Center on Policy Initiatives
CFT- a Union of Educators & Classified Professionals
Consumer Attorneys of California
Consumer Federation of America
Consumer Federation of California
Consumer Watchdog
Courage California
Economic Security California Action
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Electronic Privacy Information Center
End Child Poverty California Powered by Grace
Equal Rights Advocates
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Greenlining Institute
Indivisible Ca: Statestrong
Institute for Local Self-reliance
Justice2jobs Coalition
Kapor Center Advocacy
LA Defensa
Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy
LGBT Tech
Nextgen California
Oakland Privacy
Parent Voices California

Privacy Defense Alliance
Privacy Rights Clearinghouse
Public Law Center
Secure Justice
SEIU California
Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition
Smart - Transportation Division
Tech Oversight California
Tectonic Justice
UDW/AFSCME Local 3930
Ultraviolet Action
Western Center on Law & Poverty
1 Individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

Association of National Advertisers
Building Owners and Managers Association of California
CalBroadband
California Business Properties Association
California Chamber of Commerce
California Fuels and Convenience Alliance
California Grocers Association
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
Chamber of Progress
Civil Justice Association of California
Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce
Greater San Fernando Valley Chamber of Commerce
Internet.works
NAIOP California
Orange County Business Council
Technet
USTelecom - the Broadband Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: A coalition of legal services organizations, labor associations, civil rights organizations, and consumer, privacy, and family advocacy groups, including SEIU California write:

California consumers face a new and growing threat to fair pricing. Companies now possess the technology to collect vast amounts of consumer data and deploy artificial intelligence to charge each shopper a personalized price — one calibrated not to the market, but to the maximum that an individual can be made to pay. This practice, known as surveillance pricing, exploits detailed consumer profiles built from purchase histories, location data, browsing habits, and more.

Investigations have already uncovered real-world harms. Consumer Reports revealed that Kroger built 60-plus page profiles for individual consumers from loyalty program data to infer willingness to pay. ... A SFGate investigation found that the most popular hotel booking sites show prices substantially higher to San Franciscans using their online booking platforms compared with users browsing from less affluent cities, like Phoenix and Kansas City. These are not isolated incidents — they reflect an industry trend. ...

While California consumers benefit from some privacy protections under the California Consumer Privacy Act, no existing federal or state law prohibits companies from using the data they collect to charge consumers individually different prices. AB 2564 closes this gap. Without legislative intervention, surveillance pricing will become the industry standard, disproportionately harming lower-income Californians who already face the highest costs of living in the nation and have the fewest alternatives.

AB 2564 protects sensible, transparently offered discounts—including for loyalty programs. The bill’s exemptions permit a vast array of discounts, and transparency provisions help ensure that discounts are not secretly discriminatory. The bill does not restrict businesses from offering lower prices — it prevents them from secretly charging higher ones based on personal data profiles.

The right to fair and affordable pricing should not be a privilege for the few but a fundamental protection for all Californians.²

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: A coalition led by the California Chamber of Commerce asserts:

² See *Consumer Reports Investigation Uncovers Kroger’s Widespread Data Collection* (May 21, 2025) Consumer Reports, <https://www.consumerreports.org/media-room/press-releases/2025/05/consumer-reports-investigation-uncovers-krogers-widespread-data-collection-of-loyalty-program-members-to-create-secret-shopper-profiles/>; Keith A. Spencer, *Hotel booking sites show higher prices to travelers from Bay Area* (February 3, 2025) SFGate, <https://www.sfgate.com/travel/article/hotel-booking-sites-overcharge-bay-area-travelers-20025145.php>.

AB 2564 prohibits “surveillance pricing,” which it loosely defines as “offering or setting a customized price for a good or service for a specific consumer or group of consumers, based, in whole or in part, on personally identifiable information collected through electronic surveillance technology...”

Notably, “electronic surveillance technology” is not actually defined in AB 2564. Instead, the bill only provides a list of examples that are “included,” but no description that would help a covered entity determine if the bill applied to the consumer information in their possession. A metaphor helps illustrate the problem with definitions that only say what they “include.” Imagine trying to define what is a “pet” - but the only definition is “Pets includes dogs or cats.” Such a definition provides no helpful guidance for anything not listed, such as bird or fish. Are those “pets?” Without a descriptive definition, it is impossible to know. Under AB 2564, the term “electronic surveillance technology” has the same problem – the definition does not describe what makes something an electronic surveillance technology. Instead, it only provides examples. Without a descriptive definition, employers will be left guessing what technologies are or are not covered by the bill.³

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 42-21, 5/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pellerin, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Calderon, Carrillo, Gipson, Irwin, Krell, McKinnor, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Christian Kurpiewski / P., D.T., & C.P. / (916) 651-1548
7/1/26 16:55:19

**** END ****

³ The definition in the bill does not include “services.”

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
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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2588
Author: Hadwick (R) and Ransom (D), et al.
Amended: 6/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: District agricultural associations: board of directors: vacancies

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill would, if the Governor has not filled a vacancy on a Fair board within 90 days and the board of directors (BOD) has insufficient membership to establish a quorum, allow the BOD to temporarily appoint a director to fill the vacancy and to establish a quorum, as provided. Furthermore, this bill would authorize the Governor to appoint a different director to fill the vacancy for the unexpired term who would replace the temporary director on the board of directors, as specified.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

- 1) Divides the state into agricultural districts and provides for the management of these districts by district agricultural associations. (Food and Agriculture code (FAC) § 3951).
- 2) Requires the officers of the association to consist of a BOD of 9 members, establishes a 4-year term of office for the directors, and requires the directors to be appointed by the Governor, as specified (FAC § 3959-3964).

This bill:

- 1) States if the Governor has not filled a vacancy on the board of directors within 90 days and the board of directors has insufficient membership to establish a quorum, the board of directors may temporarily appoint a director to fill the vacancy and to establish a quorum, consistent with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act (Article 9 (commencing with Section 11120) of Chapter 1 of Part 1 of Division 3 of Title 2 of the Government Code). (FAC § 3959).

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

California Fairs Alliance

Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

Shasta County Board of Supervisors

Western Fairs Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“California’s fairs are important cultural and economic institutions which support agricultural education, local businesses, and community events throughout the state. On the other hand, many fairgrounds also function as critical infrastructure during emergencies--providing staging areas for disaster response and as evacuation centers during crises, such as wildfires. Unfortunately, prolonged delays to filling vacancies on fair boards have left some boards unable to achieve the quorum required to conduct business under state law. When a board cannot meet quorum, it cannot take the actions necessary to operate a fair. Assembly Bill 2588 provides a limited and practical solution by allowing a fair board to temporarily appoint a director when a vacancy has remained unfilled for 90 days and the board cannot otherwise reach quorum. These

temporary appointments must meet existing eligibility requirements and may be replaced immediately when the Governor makes an official appointment. This measure ensures that fairs can continue serving their communities while preserving the Governor’s authority over permanent appointments.”

The California Fairs Alliance wrote in support of the bill stating, in part:

“California is home to 54 state-designated fairs, operated through District Agricultural Associations (DAAs). These fairs play a vital role in their communities by providing agricultural education, hosting cultural events, supporting local economies and serving as critical sites for emergency response and disaster preparedness. DAA boards are made up of nine directors; five directors are needed for votes to be taken for official actions and to approve financial investments. Unfortunately, there are many DAAs lacking a quorum. AB 2588 will ensure these fairs have the necessary quorum to conduct business and serve their local communities.

DAA directors serve four-year terms and are often small business owners, educators, farmers, ranchers, or civic leaders. They ensure the fair serves the interests of the local community and that necessary investments are made to guarantee the fairgrounds are safe gathering places for all Californians.

For these reasons, we support AB 2588 and appreciate your ongoing efforts to help California’s Fair Network. If you or your staff have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: 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: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
7/1/26 16:55:19

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2595
Author: Papan (D)
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/23/26

AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Richardson, Valladares

NO VOTE RECORDED: Menjivar, Seyarto, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: San Mateo Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill establishes an electric bicycle (e-bike) enforcement pilot program in the County of San Mateo allowing the county or local authorities to prohibit a person under 12 years of age from operating a class 1 or class 2 electric bicycle until January 1, 2031.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Defines an e-bike as a bicycle equipped with fully operational pedals and an electric motor that is not physically capable of exceeding 750 watts of power. (Vehicle Code (VEH) § 312.5)
- 2) Defines a class 1 e-bike as a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, that is not capable of exclusively propelling the bicycle, that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour (mph), and is not capable of providing assistance to reach speeds greater than 20 miles per hour. (VEH § 312.5)

- 3) Defines a class 2 e-bike as a bicycle equipped with a motor that may be used exclusively to propel the bicycle, and that is not capable of providing assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 mph. (VEH § 312.5)
- 4) Defines a class 3 e-bike as a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, that is not capable of exclusively propelling the bicycle, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 mph. (VEH § 312.5)
- 5) Prohibits a person from tampering with or modifying an e-bike to change the speed capability of the bicycle unless the modification keeps within the existing speed allowances of an e-bike. (VEH § 24016)
- 6) Prohibits a person from selling a product, device or application that can modify the speed capability of an e-bike such that it no longer meets the definition of an e-bike. (VEH § 24016)
- 7) Authorizes a peace officer to impound a vehicle that does not meet the definition of an electric bicycle and is both powered by an electric motor capable of exclusively propelling the vehicle in excess of 20 mph on a highway and is being operated without a license to operate that vehicle, or a person operating a vehicle that is a class 2 e-bike and is not 16 years of age. (VEH § 22651.08)
- 8) Authorizes a local authority in San Diego or San Diego County in incorporated areas to prohibit a person under the age of 12 from riding an e-bike. (VEH § 21214.7)
- 9) Authorizes a local authority in Marin County or Marin County in incorporated areas to prohibit a person under the age of 16 from riding a class 2 e-bike and to require all users of a class-2 electric bicycle to wear a helmet. (VEH § 21214.5)

This bill:

- 1) Authorizes a local authority within the County of San Mateo, or the County of San Mateo in unincorporated areas, to, by ordinance or resolution, prohibit a person under 12 years of age from operating a class 1 or class 2 e-bike.

- 2) Requires the local authority or County of San Mateo to administer a public information campaign for at least 30 days prior to the enactment of the ordinance or resolution including public announcements in major media outlets.
- 3) Requires the local authority or County to only issue warning notices for the first 60 days after passage of the ordinance or resolution. After 60 days, requires the violation of the infraction of these ordinances or resolutions to be punishable by a fine of \$25 or completion of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) electric bicycle safety and training program or a related electric bicycle safety course, if one is available as prescribed by authorities in the local jurisdiction.
- 4) Requires, if such an ordinance or resolution is adopted, San Mateo County to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2030, that includes:
 - a) The total number of traffic stops initiated for violations;
 - b) The result of the traffic stops, including whether a warning or citation was issued, property was seized, or an arrest was made;
 - c) The number of times a person was stopped for allegedly operating a class 1 or class 2 electric bicycle while under the age of 12 but was found to be over the age limit;
 - d) A description of any warning or violation citation issued;
 - e) If an arrest or stop was made, the offense cited by the officer for the arrest and the perceived race or ethnicity, gender, and approximate age of the person stopped, based on the observation of the initiating peace officer;
 - f) The actions taken by a peace officer during a traffic stop including:
 - i) Whether the officer asked for consent to search the person and if consent was provided;
 - ii) Whether the officer searched the person or their property and the basis for any search and the type of contraband or evidence discovered;
 - iii) Whether the officer seized any property and, if so the type of property that was seized and the basis for seizing it;

- iv) The number of times a person opted to complete, and did complete, the training course in lieu of paying the fine; and,
 - v) The number of times that a person under 12 years of age was operating an electric bicycle and was involved in a crash that resulted in a permanent, serious injury or a fatality in the six months prior to the adoption of the ordinance or resolution, the cause of the crash, and the class of the electric bicycle that was being operated at the time of the crash, as well as the same information in the time after the adoption of the ordinance or resolution.
- 5) Requires a local authority that adopts such an ordinance before the date upon which the report required under the San Diego Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program is publicly released to hold a public meeting to review and consider the substance of that report within 90 days of the public release of the report.
- 6) Requires a local authority proposing to adopt such an ordinance on and after the date upon which the report required under the San Diego Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program is publicly released to review and consider the substance of that report at a public hearing on the proposed ordinance or resolution.

Comments

Purpose of this bill. According to the author, “AB 2595 will authorize San Mateo County and its local jurisdictions to enact a local ordinance to prohibit a person under 12 years of age from riding a class 1 or class 2 electric bicycle. I represent an area that has been devastated by two tragic incidents related to electric bicycles, resulting in the loss of a teenager and a young child. My constituents have made it clear that they are desperate to enact local rules similar to what previous legislation has authorized other counties to do. This bill will allow San Mateo County to confront urgent e-bike safety issues directly and enact locally tailored solutions to address safety concerns and prevent future tragedies in the community.”

What’s an e-bike? Electric bicycles, or e-bikes, typically look similar to regular bicycles but include an electric motor and battery. In California, e-bikes must be equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor that does not exceed 750 watts of power. E-bikes fall into the following classifications based on their technical specifications:

- Class 1 provide assistance only while being pedaled and only at speeds under 20 mph.
- Class 2 provide power assistance up to 20 mph, but have a throttle that allows the rider to engage the motor without pedaling.
- Class 3 provide assistance only while being pedaled at speeds under 28 mph. Class 3 e-bikes may only be ridden by people who are 16 years old or older. All class 3 riders must wear a helmet.

A device that is capable of going faster than 20 mph using a throttle alone, or faster than 28 mph with pedal assist, is not an e-bike under California law.

Benefits of e-bikes. Shifting trips from personal vehicles to active transportation is a key strategy for achieving the state’s environmental goals. E-bikes are an increasingly popular tool to reduce car travel, particularly given that more than half of all trips in the United States are under three miles. Research indicates that even modest use can have significant impacts—for example, riding a bicycle once per day can reduce an individual’s transportation emissions by up to 67%, and surveys show many e-bike users purchase them as a substitute for a car. Evidence also shows that e-bikes are used by a diverse range of individuals, including children, older adults, and people with disabilities who may be unable to drive or use a conventional bicycle. In addition to expanding mobility, e-bikes present an opportunity to address persistent transportation challenges, including vehicle traffic injuries and fatalities, transportation-related emissions, and roadway congestion.

Growing concerns with e-bikes and other devices. Californians have seen a surge of news coverage in recent years about the dangers of e-bikes. Additionally, many places where conventional bicycles were common have experienced a proliferation of e-bikes, such as schools, coastal communities, and bike trails. The rapid growth in the visibility of faster devices has resulted in a swift backlash against e-bikes across the country, including calls for increased restrictions and, in some cases, bans. However, many of the reported incidents may not have involved a legal e-bike.

The Mineta Transportation Institute (MTI) at San Jose State University released a report commissioned by the California Legislature titled: *Exploring Electric Bicycle Safety Performance Data and Policy Options for California*. The report found, “many devices marketed in California as electric bicycles have much higher motor power and/or faster motor-assisted speed than the law allows. While nobody

knows how many of these illegal electric bicycles are on the road, the percentage might be quite high. Counts of electric two-wheelers parked at a dozen northern California middle and high schools found that almost 90% may not meet the standards for legal electric bicycles. Some of these devices have as much as eight times more power than legal limits.”

San Diego County pilot. There are two ongoing legislatively authorized pilots with age prohibitions for people allowed to ride e-bikes. AB 2234 (Boerner, Chapter 823, Statutes of 2024) authorized cities within San Diego County and the county of San Diego to prohibit a person under the age of 12 from riding a class 1 or 2 electric bicycle. AB 1778 (Connolly, Chapter 1005, Statutes of 2024) authorized cities in Marin and the county of Marin to prohibit persons under 16 from riding a class 2 electric bicycle and require everyone riding a class 2 electric bicycle to wear a helmet. This bill mirrors the provisions of the San Diego County pilot program.

At least six cities in San Diego County have utilized the pilot program to prohibit the use of e-bikes by children under 12 years old. For example, the City of Carlsbad’s ordinance took effect on March 26, 2026, starting with a 60-day warning period.¹ Per AB 2234 (Boerner, 2024), a violation is an infraction punishable by a fine of \$25, but a child can take CHP’s online e-bike safety course to waive the citation. AB 2234 took effect in 2025, requires a report be submitted to the Legislature on January 1, 2028, evaluating program, and sunsets the authorization on January 1, 2029.

This bill brings San Diego County’s pilot to San Mateo County. Under this bill, San Mateo County and the cities within the county would be able to pass ordinances mirroring those in San Diego County setting a 12-year-old age requirement for riding an e-bike. Current state law already prohibits anyone under the age of 16 from operating a class 3 e-bike, but sets no age restriction on class 1 or class 2 e-bikes. Each local jurisdiction would need to pass an ordinance or resolution to impose the new age restriction. This bill would require local authorities that pass e-bike age restrictions before the release of the San Diego Electric Bicycle Safety Pilot Program report to hold a public meeting on the results of the report 90 days after its release. If a local authority adopts an ordinance after the release of the report, the ordinance must include a consideration of San Diego County’s report. Lastly, this bill requires San Mateo County to submit a comprehensive report to the Legislature on the implementation of the pilot program.

¹ City of Carlsbad Ordinance NO. CS-509 [639071050624900000](#)

Implementation considerations. While the pilot program provides local flexibility, it may raise implementation challenges. San Mateo County has 20 incorporated cities, each of which may, or may not, adopt an e-bike ordinance under this bill—in addition to a county ordinance affecting unincorporated county areas. Many of these cities have porous borders and a bicyclist could easily pass through three or more cities on one ride, particularly on an e-bike which is well suited for traveling longer distances. It is possible that the cities in San Mateo County will take a piecemeal approach to passing ordinances authorized under this bill, as has been done in San Diego County. In this case, a child riding a class 1 e-bike could legally be riding in one city and then, minutes later, face citation in another city. Furthermore, an e-bike rider traveling from adjacent Santa Clara or San Francisco Counties may be unaware of differing local ordinances and thus cited.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2234 (Boerner, Chapter 823, Statutes of 2024) – Authorized cities within San Diego County and the county of San Diego to prohibit a person under the age of 12 from riding a class 1 or 2 electric bicycle.

AB 1778 (Connolly, Chapter 1005, Statutes of 2024) – Authorized cities in Marin and the county of Marin to prohibit persons under 16 from riding a class 2 electric bicycle and require everyone riding a class 2 electric bicycle to wear a helmet.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/24/26)

California Medical Association
California Orthopedic Association
City Council Member, City of San Carlos
City of Foster City
City of Redwood City
City of San Bruno
City of San Mateo
City/county Association of Governments of San Mateo County
Consumer Attorneys of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/24/26)

Streets for All

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing in support, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County states, “[i]f successfully enacted, AB 2595 would give our local jurisdictions the ability to work through their local processes to potentially implement local rules prohibiting the use of Class I and II e-bikes if certain conditions are met. This bill does not establish a mandate that cities implement this rule and mirrors existing laws in San Diego and Marin Counties.

“San Mateo has seen a rise in e-bikes on our streets, roads, and trails, many of them operated by youth who do not yet have a common understanding of the rules of the road, the power the bikes possess, or the ability to adequately control heavier Class II e-bikes.”

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition, Streets for All states, “[w]hile Streets For All shares the goal of improving safety for all road users, AB 2595 takes an ineffective and premature approach to addressing legitimate concerns. The Legislature has already authorized a similar e-bike pilot program in San Diego County, yet policymakers have not received sufficient data demonstrating whether that program has improved safety outcomes, changed rider behavior, or otherwise achieved its intended goals. Expanding this experimental approach to additional jurisdictions before evaluating the results of existing pilots undermines evidence-based policymaking. Rather than restricting access to a low-carbon transportation option based on unproven assumptions, the state should first assess the effectiveness of current pilot programs and prioritize education, training, and safe riding practices.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 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, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Chen, Flora, Hart, Hoover, Lee, Petrie-Norris, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Isabelle LaSalle / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
6/26/26 13:09:15

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2618
Author: Connolly (D)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 17-0, 6/16/26

AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Becker, Caballero, Gonzalez, Grove, Hurtado, McNerney, Niello, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Stern, Strickland, Wahab

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public Utilities Commission: commissioners: employment

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) commissioner from obtaining employment by an entity regulated by the CPUC for two years after the end of the commissioner's term of office.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Requires the Legislature to enact laws prohibiting a state officer, secretary of an agency, or state department director appointed by the Governor who has not resigned or retired from service prior to January 7, 1991, from lobbying before the Executive branch for 12 months after leaving office. (California Constitution, Article V, §14)
- 2) Establishes the CPUC, which is comprised of five members appointed by the Governor and approved by the Senate, for staggered six-year terms. Existing

law specifies that when a vacancy exists on the CPUC, a commissioner filling that vacancy shall serve the remainder of the term for that vacancy. Existing law also allows the Legislature to remove a CPUC commissioner with a vote of 2/3 of each house for the following reasons: incompetence, neglect of duty, or corruption. (California Constitution, Article XII, §1)

- 3) Authorizes the CPUC to establish its own procedures, subject to statutory requirements and due process. Authorizes any designated CPUC commissioner to hold a hearing or investigation or issue an order, subject to CPUC approval. (California Constitution, Article XII, §2)
- 4) Specifies that all the following entities are public utilities subject to control by the Legislature: private corporations and persons that own, operate, control, or manage a line, plant, or system for the transportation of people or property, transmission of telephone and telegraph messages, or the production, generation, transmission, or furnishing of heat, light, water, power, storage, or wharfage directly or indirectly to or for the public, and common carriers. Existing law authorizes the Legislature to designate additional classes of private corporations or other persons as public utilities. (California Constitution, Article XII, §6)
- 5) Defines a “public utility” subject to the CPUC’s jurisdiction as every common carrier, toll bridge corporation, pipeline corporation, gas corporation, electrical corporation, telephone corporation, telegraph corporation, water corporation, sewer system corporation, and heat corporation, where the service is performed for, or the commodity is delivered to, the public or any portion thereof. Whenever any of these entities delivers a service or commodity to the public for compensation, the entity is a public utility subject to regulation by the CPUC. (Public Utilities Code §216)
- 6) Prohibits a CPUC commissioner from having an official relationship with or having a financial interest in a person or corporation subject to CPUC regulation. Existing law requires a CPUC commissioner to resign from the CPUC or divest interests in a regulated entity if the commissioner acquires an interest in a person or corporation subject to CPUC regulation. Existing law also requires the CPUC to maintain updated conflict of interest code and prohibits a utility executive from serving as a commissioner within two years of leaving the utility’s employment. (Public Utilities Code §303)

- 7) Establishes a one-year “cooling off” period for certain state employees and officers that make decisions that could materially impact financial interests. This cooling off period prohibits these employees from representing individuals before the state agency or officers of the state agency for which the state employee worked during the 12 months before leaving office. (Government Code §87406)
- 8) Prohibits a California Energy Commission (CEC) commissioner from becoming a commissioner within two years of receiving compensation from any electric utility or engaging in the sale of any major facility component. Existing law also prohibits a CEC commissioner from obtaining employment from any electric utility, applicant before the CEC, or a person who engages in the sale or manufacture of any major facility component within two years of leaving the CEC. (Public Resources Code §25205)

This bill prohibits a CPUC commissioner from obtaining employment by an entity regulated by the CPUC for two years after the end of the commissioner’s term of office.

Background

Prior legislation attempted to address a potential imbalance of utility influence at the CPUC. Over the past decade, the Legislature has passed a number of bills aimed at addressing concerns about the degree of influence certain utilities may have over CPUC proceedings. In 2016, the Legislature passed SB 215 (Leno, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2016) to increase disclosure requirements regarding ex-parte communications and reform CPUC proceeding requirements. This legislation followed concerns about extensive ex-parte communications occurring between utility officers and certain CPUC staff and commissioners at that time. Ex-parte communication occurs when substantive discussions occur between a CPUC decision-maker and a stakeholder that has an interest in a proceeding before the CPUC. The Legislature also passed SB 19 (Hill, Chapter 421, Statutes of 2017), which established a variety of reforms at the CPUC, including prohibiting utility executives from serving as a CPUC commissioner within two years of leaving a utility’s employment. These reforms were intended to address the extent to which utilities’ relationships and communication with CPUC commissioners could provide the utilities with a disproportionate amount of influence over the CPUC and commission decision making.

Revolving doors and cooling off periods. The revolving door phenomenon occurs when an elected official or state officer leaves a government position to become an advocate for an industry for which they once made regulatory or legislative decisions. To address the potential conflicts of interest posed by revolving door employment, existing state law and rules by the Fair Political Practices Commission set requirements for “cooling off” periods that limit the ability to immediately switch from the regulatory or legislative side to the advocacy side of state decision making. Under existing law, most state officers and elected officials are subject to a one-year cooling off period. This bill establishes limitations on CPUC commissioners’ post-commission employment that are more restrictive than those applied to most other state officers or elected officials. However, existing statute also establishes a two-year cooling off period for CEC commissioners that would be similar to the limitations in this bill.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACA 9 (Boerner, 2026) modifies the CPUC’s authority over certain utilities and expand the number of commissioners on the CPUC from five to nine commissioners by adding four commissioners appointed by the Legislature. The bill also limits the CPUC’s authority to adopt procedures and limits commissioners’ ability to initiate proceedings. The bill was held by the author in the Senate Energy, Utilities and Communications Committee.

AB 2054 (Bauer-Kahan, 2023) among other provisions, would have prohibited the leadership at the CPUC and Public Advocate’s Office from receiving gifts or employment, for at least one year, from any entity subject to regulation by their body. The bill was held by the Senate Appropriations Committee.

SB 19 (Hill, Chapter 421, Statutes of 2017) established a number of CPUC reforms, including prohibiting a utility executive from serving as a commissioner on the CPUC within two years following the executive’s departure from the utility.

SB 215 (Leno, Chapter 807, Statutes of 2016) made various modifications to law governing the CPUC’s rules of practice and procedure to expand transparency for proceedings and reform rules for ex-parte communication occurring outside the official record of a proceeding.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)
California Democratic Party Rural Caucus
Consumer Watchdog
Teamsters California
The Utility Reform Network

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

AB 2618 helps ensure that utility rates are not being influenced by private utility companies. This bill strengthens California's revolving-door policies by prohibiting California Public Utility Commissioners from lobbying for private utility companies for 2 years after the end of their term. As California residents continue to face out-of-control rate hikes, weak ethics rules have allowed utility corporations to gather more influence over our regulatory system by recruiting former commissioners. This bill is a common-sense measure to ensure transparency within our regulatory rate-making process by closing the revolving-door.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 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, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Sarah Smith / E., U. & C. / (916) 651-4107
7/1/26 16:55:20

**** 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** ****

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 2691
Author: Addis (D), et al.
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/30/26

AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

NOES: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Elections: elective office: felony conviction

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a person convicted of felony sexual assault or human trafficking from running for or being elected to state or local office in California.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law prohibits a person from being a candidate for office or serving in elected office in California if the person has been convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving or offering to give any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of these crimes.

This bill adds specified felony sexual assault and specified felony human trafficking to those felony convictions that make a person ineligible to be a candidate for or serve in state or local office.

Background

The California Constitution states, “Laws shall be made to exclude persons convicted of bribery, perjury, forgery, malfeasance in office, or other high crimes from office or serving on juries.” To effectuate these constitutional prohibitions,

the Legislature has enacted various state laws, including various Penal Code and Government Code sections that enumerate events and actions which cause certain crimes to result in an elected official being disqualified from holding public office in the state.

AB 2410 (Fuentes, Chapter 160, Statutes of 2012) expanded this prohibition for persons convicted of crimes of public corruption to include running for office. Before AB 2410 took effect, the prohibition was on holding office. AB 2410 deemed accepting, giving or offering to give any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, and perjury to be crimes of public corruption and subjected those who had felony convictions for those crimes or conspiracy to any of those crimes ineligible to run for state or local office. This created a prohibition on running for office consistent with the constitutional prohibition on holding office.

Comments

Author's Statement. Elected office is a privileged position of influence and authority. People who commit the most serious crimes, those involving sexual violence and exploitation, must be barred from holding these powerful positions of public trust.

How Do We Know? When a candidate files a declaration of candidacy, they attest they meet the qualifications for the office, they have not been convicted of a crime of public corruption, and they will accept the nomination/election rather than withdraw. In some cases, such as for sheriff, county assessor, or district attorney, a candidate must submit documentation establishing they meet the qualifications for the office. The candidate files this documentation with a declaration, signed under penalty of perjury, certifying the information provided is true and correct. This bill makes no similar requirement to verify that a candidate meets its requirements.

Other States. According to the National Conference of State Legislatures, Florida and Utah have statutory and/or constitutional provisions related to candidate disqualification for conviction of a sex offense. In Florida, the right to hold office is revoked upon conviction of a felony and may be restored when a person is returned to their civil rights. This mirrors the process for voting rights revocation and restoration. Civil rights (including voting rights and office-holding rights) are restored automatically upon completion of a sentence, unless the person was convicted of a felony sexual offense or of murder, in which case they need to petition the governor for restoration of those rights. The governor can then choose to grant or deny those petitions for rights restoration on a case-by-case basis.

In Utah, a person convicted of grievous sexual assault against a child is permanently barred from serving as a member on the state board of education or on any local school board (both are elected boards).

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2753 (Soria) bars anyone who has ever been required to register as a sex offender from running for or being elected to state or local office in California. This bill failed passage in the Senate Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments.

AB 2410 (Fuentes, Chapter 160, Statutes of 2012) prohibits a person from being a candidate for office or serving in elected office in California if the person has been convicted of a felony involving accepting, giving or offering to give any bribe, the embezzlement of public money, extortion or theft of public money, perjury, or conspiracy to commit any of these crimes.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

CFT – A Union of Educators and Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
CHILD USA

County of Monterey

Peace Officers' Research Association of California

Prosopon Healing

San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors

Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors

Sexual Predator Accountability Institute

Stand With Survivors

Victim Policy Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Family Council

League of Women Voters of California

Smart Justice California, a Project Beyond Impact

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing in support of this bill, Child USA states:

Crimes of sexual violence and exploitation similarly reflect a profound abuse of power, coercion, and harm against vulnerable individuals. Such

conduct demonstrates a willingness to misuse authority in ways that fundamentally undermine public safety and community well-being.

Given the gravity of these offenses, it is essential that individuals convicted of them not be granted access to elected roles where they could again wield power in ways that endanger others. [This bill] provides an important safeguard by ensuring that those who have committed these serious crimes cannot hold positions intended to serve and protect the public.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition to this bill, Smart Justice says “the electorate should be responsible for making determinations about when and how a person’s prior convictions should impact their ability to run for and be elected to public office.” Specifically, Smart Justice notes:

California has a demonstrated commitment to providing opportunities for rehabilitation and second chances. This bill is fundamentally inconsistent with those values and fails to allow voters to consider important questions, including: whether a person seeking office has served their sentence, is meaningfully contributing to their community, and could honorably and productively serve in office. We believe it is the job of the voters and the democratic process to weigh these considerations - even if that means, as it frequently has, that the electorate chooses not to advance a candidate who has engaged in the behavior underlying the offenses addressed by this bill.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Flora, 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, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Gabriel, Macedo, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Stefani

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
7/1/26 16:55:21

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2692
Author: Irwin (D)
Amended: 4/29/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27 - Urgency

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

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

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common interest developments: reinstatement of terminated
declarations: County of Los Angeles

SOURCE: CAI-CLAC
Via De La Paz HOA

DIGEST: This bill allows a homeowner’s association (HOA) in Los Angeles County, until January 1, 2028, to reinstate an expired declaration via majority vote of all members, unless another threshold is specified in the governing documents.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the Davis-Stirling Act (Act) to govern the creation and operation of common interest developments (CIDs), including HOAs.
- 2) Defines a “declaration” as the recorded document that creates a CID and sets forth the applicable covenants, conditions, and restrictions (CC&Rs).

- 3) Provides that a declaration may be amended pursuant to the procedures specified in the declaration or as otherwise provided in the Act.
- 4) Requires approval of the HOA's membership for certain amendments to the declaration, generally based on the voter approval threshold specified in the governing documents.
- 5) Authorizes a court petition to approve amendments to a declaration when the HOA cannot obtain the required level of member approval, if specified statutory conditions are met.
- 6) Requires that a declaration and any amendment be recorded in the county recorder's office in order to be effective and enforceable.
- 7) Establishes election and voting procedures for associations, including requirements related to member voting, notices, and balloting.

This bill:

- 1) Establishes, notwithstanding any other law, a process to reinstate a terminated declaration for an HOA that expired pursuant to its stated term.
- 2) Authorizes reinstatement of the declaration upon approval of the HOA membership, as follows:
 - a) Requires approval by the percentage of HOA members specified in the declaration for extending its term; or,
 - b) If the declaration does not specify the percentage of members who must approve the extension of the declaration, a declaration may be reinstated if approved by a majority of all members.
- 3) Requires the reinstatement vote to be conducted in accordance with the Act, the HOA's governing documents, and any other applicable law. Requires a reasonably diligent effort to allow all eligible members to vote.
- 4) Provides that reinstatement of the declaration is effective after all of the following requirements are met:
 - a) Approval by the required percentage of members in 2);
 - b) Certification of that approval in a written, executed, and acknowledged document by the appropriate association officer; and,

- c) Recordation of the reinstated declaration in the county recorder's office.
- 5) Provides that the extension of the terms of the declaration made pursuant to this section shall be equal to the number of years of the initial term of the declaration or 20 years, whichever is less.
- 6) Requires the HOA to provide individual notice to all HOA members that includes a copy of the reinstated declaration, and a statement that the reinstated declaration has been recorded, within a reasonable timeframe of recordation.
- 7) Limits the applicability of these provisions to Los Angeles County.
- 8) Sunsets the reinstatement authority on January 1, 2028.

Background

Davis-Stirling Act. The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing 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.

CC&Rs. CC&Rs are the legally binding documents that establish the rules, restrictions, and rights that impact all HOA members, covering everything from architectural standards to pet policies to how the association itself is governed. Because CC&Rs are recorded against the property, they run with the land, binding current owners to the governing documents, as well as any future owners of a separate interest. CC&Rs often require amendments to address the changing needs of any given community. However, amending an HOA's CC&Rs is intentionally difficult. Most declarations require approval from a supermajority of all members, often ranging from 50-75% of all HOA members, not just all voting members. In a large HOA development, this can mean thousands of individual owners must

affirmatively cast ballots. This can present logistical challenges even under the best circumstances, as HOA voting rates tend to be low.

Under the Act, there is a process through which HOA members can seek to address this difficulty in obtaining a majority of votes of all HOA members: if an amendment to the HOA's CC&Rs falls short of the voting threshold required by the HOA documents, an HOA or member can petition a superior court to approve the amendment anyway, so long as the court finds the process was fair, the effort to reach members was diligent, and the amendment is reasonable. But even under the court petition process in existing law, at least 50% of members must have voted in favor of the proposed amendment. This bill reflects that majority approval threshold to allow for the reinstatement of a declaration to proceed.

Comments

- 1) *Author's statement.* "The 2025 LA Wildfires wreaked havoc on our communities—destroying homes, threatening retirement assets and leaving neighborhoods paralyzed. While some have been able to begin the process of rebuilding, others remain stuck due to a legal barrier. One specific condominium complex in Pacific Palisades discovered their governing documents—referred to as Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (CCRs)—expired shortly before the fires wiped out over half of their 107 units. Because of this minor oversight, the Homeowners Association (HOA) Board is legally prevented from taking any action, including voting to rebuild or sell. Residents have remained displaced for over a year as the Board sits on \$41 million in insurance funds that cannot be spent without valid CCRs. Via de la Paz remains one of the few naturally affordable housing options in Pacific Palisades and preserving this community is critical to addressing California's housing shortage. AB 2692 provides a tailored legislative fix to allow these fire victims to reinstate their HOA's expired CCRs. This bill is only applicable to Los Angeles County for one year until January 1, 2028, providing displaced residents with a narrow window to take appropriate action and move forward with recovery."
- 2) *The Aftermath of the Eaton and Palisades Fires.* On January 7th, 2025, the devastating Eaton and Palisades Fires ignited in Los Angeles County. The Eaton Fire ignited in Eaton Canyon, near Altadena, burning more than 14,000 acres and destroying over 9,400 structures. The Palisades Fire began in the Santa Monica Mountains, rapidly spreading across 23,000+ acres and destroying over 6,800 structures, primarily in the Pacific Palisades community of the City of Los Angeles. By the time the fires were fully contained on

January 31st, 2025, more than 16,000 homes and other structures were destroyed, the vast majority of which were located in what is referred to as the wildland-urban interface, or WUI. The WUI is where human development meets or mixes with the undeveloped natural environment or wildlands.

- 3) *Once the fires settled, next came more issues.* The 2025 L.A. fires have revealed a narrow, but consequential gap in existing law governing HOAs, arising in the unusual circumstance where a development's CC&Rs have expired, pursuant to its own terms, shortly before a disaster. Under the Act, declarations may be amended or extended by the HOA prior to expiration; however, existing law does not provide a mechanism to reinstate a declaration once it has terminated. In the rare case where a declaration expires without the HOA's knowledge, and a catastrophic event subsequently damages the property, the HOA may be left without a legally operative governance structure that is needed to coordinate rebuilding and disaster recovery. Further, if an association's CC&Rs do not spell out a specific voter threshold to extend the declaration, it is assumed it must receive unanimous approval – something which virtually no HOA will ever render on any issue, let alone a big decision like deciding the renewal of the association's declaration.

This issue bore out in an 107-unit condo development (Via de la Paz) in Pacific Palisades, which lost a majority of its units in the 2025 wildfires, only to discover that its declaration had expired in January of 2024, approximately one year before the disaster. Of the 107 homeowners in the community, 101 voted to reinstate the governing documents, with four not voting, and two voting in opposition. A unanimous vote would be required to reinstate the CC&Rs without a legislative fix. Due to the inability of the HOA to obtain unanimous approval, the community is unable to expend insurance funds or move forward with reconstruction. More broadly, the situation experienced in this condo community raises concerns about prolonged displacement of the residents and the potential long-term loss of housing in communities affected by disaster.

According to the author, compounding the crisis is the time-sensitive nature of recovery assistance. Some of the members of the HOA were approved for a \$150,000, zero-interest, 30-year loan from Habitat for Humanity, as well as an additional \$300,000 from the federal Small Business Administration. However, both programs require funds to be drawn down and construction to begin within strict post-disaster timelines, often within two years. If this recovery remains stalled in court, receivership, or legally ambiguous territory, these families risk losing access to the funds designed to help them rebuild.

- 4) *A targeted solution.* This bill proposes a limited, targeted solution by establishing a statutory process to reinstate an expired declaration upon approval of the membership at the threshold required to extend the declaration, or, if unspecified, by a majority vote. This bill requires certification and recordation of the reinstated declaration and applies only in Los Angeles County, with a sunset date of January 1, 2028. While, ideally, HOAs would take proactive measures to prevent CC&Rs from expiring, in this instance, a retroactive measure may be necessary. In providing for this retroactive pathway, the bill seeks to restore governance to affected HOAs and allow communities to access funding, coordinate rebuilding, and determine their path forward following disaster-related losses.
- 5) *Double-referral.* This bill was also heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 23rd, 2026, where it passed on a vote of 13-0.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/26/2026)

CAI-CLAC (Co-source)

Via De La Paz HOA (Co-source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/26/2026)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Those writing in support argue that this bill will provide a commonsense solution by creating a defined pathway for associations to reinstate a previously terminated declaration—ensuring continuity of governance, avoiding costly legal disputes, and protecting both associations and individual homeowners from unintended consequences.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: None received.

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: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
6/26/26 15:58:43

**** **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

¹ <https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-welfare-protection/policies>

removed from the family and placed into foster care. In 2025, the state's child 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

² <https://ccwip.berkeley.edu/childwelfare/reports/PITOMP/MTSG/omp/ab636/>

³ https://www.chapinhall.org/wp-content/uploads/CY_FA_IB0417.pdf

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

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 2779
Author: Irwin (D)
Amended: 6/9/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

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

AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla

NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Food labeling: quality dates, safety dates, and sell-by dates

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) provides that a food item for human consumption does not include a dietary supplement, as defined, and 2) includes an urgency statute for immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

- 1) Establishes the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act under the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) that provides quality standards and labeling standards for food, drugs, medical devices, and cosmetics manufactured and sold in the United States (21 CFR 101 et seq.).

Existing state law:

- 1) Establishes the Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law to regulate the packaging, labeling, and advertising of food, including dietary supplements, cosmetics, drugs, and medical devices in California (*Health and Safety Code Section 109875- 110040*).
- 2) Requires eggs being sold for human consumption to be labeled with all of the following (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 27644*):
 - a) The words “Sell-by” immediately followed by the month and day in bold type.
 - b) The “Sell-by” date shall not exceed 30 days from the date on which the eggs were packed, excluding the date of packing.
- 3) Requires milk and cream, at the time of sale to the consumer by a retail store, to have on the container a date established by the processor as the date upon which, in order to ensure consumer quality, the product is normally removed from the shelf or similar location from which the product is offered for sale to the consumer (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 36004*).
- 4) Requires raw shucked shellfish to bear a label that includes a “Sell by” date or a “Best if used by” date for packages with a capacity of less than one-half gallon, or the date shucked for packages with a capacity of one-half gallon or more (*Health and Safety Code Section 114039*).
- 5) Limits the refrigerated shelf life of packages of food using a reduced-oxygen packaging method where *Clostridium botulinum* is identified as a microbiological hazard to no more than 30 calendar days from packaging to consumption, except the time the product is maintained frozen, or the original manufacturer’s “Sell by” or “Use by” date, whichever occurs first (*Health and Safety Code Section 114057.1*).
- 6) Requires food manufacturers, processors, and retailers responsible for the labeling of food items, beginning July 1, 2026, to use "BEST if Used by" to indicate quality, and "Use by" to indicate safety of a food item, and prohibits the use of the term "sell by" (*Food and Agricultural Code Section 82001*).

This bill:

- 1) Provides that a food item for human consumption does not include a dietary supplement, as defined.
 - a) This bill would exempt dietary supplements from the labeling requirement that requires food manufacturers, processors, and retailers responsible for the labeling of food items, beginning July 1, 2026, to use “BEST if Used by” to indicate quality, and “Use by” to indicate safety of a food item, and prohibits the use of the term “sell by.”
- 2) Places an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the California Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:
 - a) To ensure the correct implementation of the statute and to minimize the disruption to California’s food industry it is necessary for this act to go into immediate effect.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Council for Responsible Nutrition
Natural Products Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

“AB 660 established a standardized statewide food date-labeling framework to help consumers better distinguish between food quality and food safety while reducing unnecessary food waste. However, dietary supplements were not intended to be included within the scope of that legislation. Unlike conventional foods, dietary supplements use expiration dates and other dating systems to communicate shelf life and ingredient potency in accordance with federal requirements and established industry practices.

AB 2779 provides a clarification by expressly excluding dietary supplements from AB 660's date-labeling requirements. The bill also

provides additional implementation flexibility by allowing manufacturers to use either capitalized or all-capitalized versions of the standardized date labels. AB 2779 will help ensure AB 660 is implemented as intended while providing regulatory certainty to manufacturers and avoiding consumer confusion.”

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: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
7/1/26 16:55:22

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2780
Author: Committee on Public Employment and Retirement
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-1, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public employees' retirement

SOURCE: California State Teachers' Retirement System (Co-sponsor)
State Association of County Retirement Systems (Co-Sponsor)

DIGEST: This bill is the annual public employment and retirement housekeeping bill that makes various minor, technical, and conforming changes to provisions of the Education Code and Government Code governing the California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS), the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS), the California Department of Human Resources (CalHR), and the County Employees Retirement Law (CERL).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes the following public retirement system segments: CalSTRS, which provides a defined benefit pension plan, a defined benefit supplement program, and a cash balance benefit program to certificated school employees. (Education Code (EC) §26000 et seq.); CalPERS, which provides a defined benefit pension to state employees, classified school employees, and employees of contracting public agencies. (Government Code § 20000 et seq.); and the

twenty separate County Employees Retirement Law (CERL) county retirement systems represented by the State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS) (Government Code §31450 et seq.).

This bill:

- 1) Makes technical, non-substantive, or non-controversial amendments to provisions of the Education Code related to CalSTRS, including:
 - a) Conforms the definition of “retired member activities” in the CalSTRS Cash Balance (CB) plan to the CalSTRS Defined Benefit (DB) plan’s definition by deleting obsolete references to creditable service activities and instead referencing service subject to CalSTRS membership. (Education Code (EC) §§ 22164.5 and 26135.7)
 - b) Clarifies that, for purposes of crediting unused sick leave as service credit, one day of unused sick leave is equivalent to the number of hours of creditable service performed in a day in that position on a full-time basis but no less than six hours. (EC § 22170.5)
 - c) Clarifies the board’s responsibility to minimize the risk of loss and to maximize the rate of return by conforming statutory language to controlling constitutional language. (EC § 22250)
 - d) Standardizes the timeframe for employers to notify employees of their CalSTRS eligibility and provide them with membership election forms to 10 working days within their date of hire. (EC §§ 22455.5 and 26300)
 - e) Clarifies that specified service retirement incentives do not apply to a service retirement benefit provided during the evaluation of a disability application unless and until the disability application is denied, thereby avoiding the necessity to reclaim overpayments if the disability retirement is approved. (EC § 24201.5)
 - f) Designates SB 327 (Laird, Chapter 708, Statutes of 2023)’s operative date as January 1, 2026, pursuant to the bill’s provisions requiring that a member’s service retirement effective date can be no more than 270 calendar days before CalSTRS receives their retirement application. (EC §§ 24201.5 and 24204)

- g) Specifies that the Service Retirement Application and Service Retirement Application Change Request forms must be received by the system within 30 days of the member's signature date and the spouse's or registered domestic partner's signature date, if applicable, to be considered valid. (EC § 24204)
 - h) Allows members who service retire and elect to receive their Defined Benefit Supplement (DBS) benefit as an annuity to change that annuity to a lump sum at any time after retirement as long as there is a balance of credits available to distribute. (EC §§ 24204 and 25009)
 - i) Clarifies that if a member elects a beneficiary option when re-retiring after reinstatement, the entire subsequent service retirement benefit is modified by the appropriate option factor to actuarially offset costs. (EC §§ 24209, 24209.3 and 24210)
 - j) Clarifies that an additional earnings credit (AEC) is applied to all DBS and CB accounts that have a balance as of June 30, regardless of whether the account balance is transferred to the Annuitant Reserve after June 30. (EC §§ 25006 and 26606)
 - k) Conforms the CB Benefit Program's definition of "service" to the DB Program's definition of service as amended by AB 1997 and makes conforming changes operative July 1, 2027. (EC §§ 26004, 26113, 26139 and 26139.5)
- 2) Makes technical, non-substantive, or non-controversial amendments to clarify specified portions of the Government Code related to CalPERS, including:
- a) Adds service in the California Council on Science and Technology fellows program to the list of service organizations including the Peace Corps, AmeriCorps VISTA (Volunteers In Service To America), and AmeriCorps for which a CalPERS member may purchase up to three years of service credit. (Government Code § 21023.5)
 - b) Amends the Public Employees' Retirement Law by updating various job classifications to be consistent with CalHR's ongoing efforts to update, eliminate, or consolidate various classifications. (Government Code §§ 20405 et seq.)

- 3) Makes technical, non-substantive, non-controversial amendments to clarify specified portions of the Government Code related to the County Employees Retirement Law including:
- a) Conforms CERL system board elections to similar laws applicable to CalPERS and CalSTRS board elections, clarifies “active member” means a member in county service, and makes related conforming changes. (Government Code §§ 31520 et seq.)
 - b) Conforms the CERL statute of limitations for recovery of overpayments relating to fraud or erroneous payments of death benefits, to the 10-year period applicable to CalPERS and the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA). (Government Code §§31540.5)
 - c) Replaces obsolete references to “earnable compensation” with the contemporary term “compensation earnable” and makes conforming changes. (Government Code §§ 31621.7, 31622, 31639.3, 31641, 31641.2, 31641.6, 31641.20, and Section 31641.21)
 - d) Clarifies that a CERL member who has reciprocity with one or more other systems, only receives one burial allowance, and only from the last system in which they are a member. (Government Code § 31789.6)
 - e) Clarifies that retiring “concurrently” from two or more retirement systems means retiring on the same date or on different dates, not to exceed a difference of 30 calendar days, provided that the member does not perform service subject to coverage under the other system between the two retirement dates. (Government Code § 31835.02)

Comments

Need for this bill? According to the author: “Each year, the various public employee retirement system segments may propose minor, technical, clarifying, or conforming changes to the various laws within their respective administrative jurisdictions to support and continue the efficient and effective administration of those laws. This bill represents those ongoing efforts.”

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 853 (Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement, Chapter 239, Statutes of 2025), made technical, conforming, clarifying, and noncontroversial changes to TRL, CERL, and PERL, for purposes of continued efficient and effective administration by the respective public employee retirement systems.

AB 2770 (Committee on Public Employment and Retirement, Chapter 117, Statutes of 2024), made technical, conforming, clarifying, and noncontroversial changes to TRL, CERL, and PERL, for purposes of continued efficient and effective administration by the respective public employee retirement systems.

AB 1997 (McKinnor, Chapter 690, Statutes of 2024), addressed compensation reporting challenges and other concerns encountered by employers, members and CalSTRS staff by simplifying sections of the Teachers' Retirement Law relating to creditable compensation and creditable service.

SB 885 (Committee on Labor, Public Employment and Retirement, Chapter 885, Statutes of 2023), made technical, conforming, clarifying, and noncontroversial changes to TRL, CERL, and PERL, for purposes of continued efficient and effective administration by the respective public employee retirement systems.

SB 327 (Laird, Chapter 708, Statutes of 2023), required a member's service retirement effective date to be no earlier than 270 calendar days prior to when CalSTRS receives their application.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 06/29/26)

California State Teachers' Retirement System (Co-sponsor)
State Association of County Retirement Systems (Co-Sponsor)
Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 06/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to California State Teachers' Retirement System (CalSTRS):

“This measure contains the annual provisions that make various minor, technical and conforming changes to the Teachers’ Retirement Law for the California State Teachers’ Retirement System (CalSTRS), alongside minor, technical and conforming changes in the County Employees Retirement Law.

“This bill is necessary to permit continued effective administration of CalSTRS. Any administrative costs associated with these provisions are minor and absorbable, and there are no program costs resulting from them.”

According to the State Association of California Retirement Systems (SACRS):

“This bill is necessary to make various technical, conforming, and minor changes to the Education and Government codes necessary for the efficient administration of the state’s public retirement systems. Specifically, this measure includes SACRS-sponsored provisions to clarify and improve administration within County Employees Retirement Law (CERL) systems. These changes include clarifying that deferred members are not eligible to vote in or run for active member Miscellaneous and Safety trustee elections; establishing a 10-year statute of limitations for the recovery of overpayments due to fraudulent death benefit reporting; codifying that only the final system is responsible for payment of a lump-sum burial allowance for reciprocal members; and defining “concurrent retirement” to allow reciprocal members to retire within 30 days of one another without overlapping service. Collectively, these provisions promote consistency, reduce administrative ambiguity, and strengthen program integrity across CERL systems.”

According to the Los Angeles County Employees Retirement Association (LACERA):

“These provisions are precisely the kind of clarifying and conforming changes that provide efficient and effective administration of CERL for LACERA and our fellow systems, consistent with our Board’s legislative policy of supporting technical and clarifying updates.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-1, 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, Garcia, 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, Schiavo,
Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks,
Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Gipson, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva,
Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Sanchez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Glenn Miles / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
7/1/26 16:55:22

**** END ****

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2781
Author: Committee on Judiciary , et al.
Amended: 4/8/26 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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Civil cases: filing fees

SOURCE: Superior Court of Los Angeles County

DIGEST: This bill adjusts the filing fee statutes to reflect the current amounts in controversy that were enacted through SB 71 (Umberg, Ch. 861, Stats. 2023). Specifically, this bill updates Government Codes sections 70613, 70613.5, 70614, and 70621, and Code of Civil Procedure section 116.23.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Establishes, through the Small Claims Act, small claims divisions in each superior court and establishes procedural guidelines for minor civil disputes in order to expeditiously, inexpensively, and fairly resolve such matters. (Code of Civil Procedure (Civ. Proc.) §§ 116.110 et seq.)
- 2) Provides that small claims courts have jurisdiction over specified cases, including for recovery of money, enforcement of delinquent tax payments, if the amount demanded does not exceed specified amounts ranging from \$3,125

to \$8,125. In addition to this jurisdiction, the small claims court has jurisdiction over actions brought by a natural person that do not seek more than \$12,500. (Code Civ. Proc. §§ 116.220, 116.221.)

- 3) Requires each county to make available individual assistance to advise small claims litigants and potential litigants without charge. (Code Civ. Proc. § 116.260.)
- 4) Provides that small claims actions do not require formal pleadings outside of a simplified claim form and do not permit pretrial discovery. Plaintiffs may not be represented by an attorney and have a limited right to appeal. The hearing and disposition must be informal with the object to dispense justice promptly, fairly, and inexpensively. (Code Civ. Proc. §§ 116.310-116.330, 116.510-116.530, 116.710.)
- 5) Provides that notwithstanding any law, including but not limited to, a law that classified an action or special proceeding as a limited civil case, an action or special proceeding shall be treated as a limited civil case only if all of the following conditions are satisfied, as specified:
 - a) The amount in controversy does not exceed \$35,000;
 - b) The relief sought may be granted in a limited civil case; and
 - c) The relief sought is exclusively of a type described in one or more laws that classify an action or special proceeding as a limited civil case or that provide that an action or special proceeding is within the original jurisdiction of the superior court, including, but not limited to, 22 specified provisions. (Code Civ. Proc. § 85.)
- 6) Designates a series of specific civil cases that are to be deemed limited civil cases where the amount in controversy is no more than \$35,000. Additional cases in equity are also identified. (Code Civ. Proc. § 86.)
- 7) Provides that a civil action or proceeding other than a limited civil case may be referred to as an unlimited civil case. (Code Civ. Proc. § 88.)
- 8) Provides that in limited civil cases the pleadings allowed are complaints, answers, cross-complaints, answers to cross-complaints, and general demurrers. Special demurrers are not allowed, and motions to strike are only allowed on the ground that the damages or relief sought are not supported by the allegations of the complaint. (Code Civ. Proc. § 92.) A plaintiff may serve,

and a defendant must then also complete, case questionnaires to elicit fundamental information regarding each party's case. (Code Civ. Proc. § 93.)

- 9) Imposes limits on discovery in limited civil cases. The court may authorize a party to conduct additional discovery as provided. The parties may also stipulate to additional discovery. (Code Civ. Proc. §§ 94, 95.)
- 10) Authorizes any party to appeal any judgment or final order in limited cases in accordance with the law governing appeals. (Code Civ. Proc. §§ 99-100.)
- 11) Provides that the uniform fee for filing the first paper in a limited civil case is \$330, except in a case where the amount demanded, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is \$10,000 or less, in which case the uniform fee for filing the first paper is \$205. The first page of the first paper shall state whether the amount demanded exceeds or does not exceed \$10,000. (Government (Gov.) Code § 70613.)
- 12) Provides that the uniform fee for filing the first paper in a limited civil case on behalf of any party other than a plaintiff is \$330, except in a case where the amount demanded, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is \$10,000 or less, in which case the uniform fee for filing the first paper is \$205. (Gov. Code § 70614.)
- 13) Provides that if the amount demanded in the limited civil case, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is \$10,000 or less, the fee for filing a petition for a writ or a notice of appeal to the appellate division of the superior court is \$205. (Gov. Code § 70621.)
- 14) Requires a filing fee of \$50 in a small claims case where the demand is more than \$1500 but less than or equal to \$5,000, and a filing fee of \$75 if a small claims case is more than \$5,000. (Code Civ. Proc. § 116.230.)
- 15) Requires that, if a plaintiff or petitioner files an amended complaint or other initial pleading that increases the amount demanded to an amount that exceeds \$10,000 but does not exceed \$25,000, a fee equal to the difference between the original filing fee and the filing fee for the new amount demanded to be charged to make up the difference between the filing fees. (Gov. Code § 70613.5 (a).)
- 16) Requires, if a party files a cross-complaint, amended cross-complaint, or amendment to a cross-complaint demanding an amount that exceeds \$10,000 but does not exceed \$25,000, a fee equal to the difference between the original

filing fee and the filing fee for the new amount to be charged to make up the difference between the filing fees. (Gov. Code § 70613.5 (b).)

This bill:

- 1) Provides that the uniform fee for filing the first paper in a limited civil case is \$330, except in a case where the amount demanded, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is \$12,500 or less, in which case the uniform fee for filing the first paper is \$205. The first page of the first paper shall state whether the amount demanded exceeds or does not exceed \$12,500.
- 2) Provides that the uniform fee for filing the first paper in a limited civil case on behalf of any party other than a plaintiff is \$330, except in a case where the amount demanded, excluding attorney's fees and costs is \$12,500 or less, the uniform fee for filing the first paper is \$205.
- 3) Provides that if the amount demanded in the limited civil case, excluding attorney's fees and costs, is \$12,500 or less, the fee for filing a petition for a writ or a notice of appeal to the appellate division of the superior court is \$205.
- 4) Requires a filing fee of \$50 for small claims cases with a demand of more than \$1,500 but less than or equal to \$6,250, and a filing fee of \$75 for cases if the amount of the demand is more than \$6,250.
- 5) Requires that, if a plaintiff or petitioner files an amended complaint or other initial pleading that increases the amount demanded to an amount that exceeds \$12,500 but does not exceed \$35,000, a fee equal to the difference between the original filing fee and the filing fee for the new amount demanded to be charged to make up the difference between the filing fees.
- 6) Requires that, if a party files a cross-complaint, amended cross-complaint, or amendment to a cross-complaint demanding an amount that exceeds \$12,500 but does not exceed \$35,000, a fee equal to the difference between the original filing fee and the filing fee for the new amount to be charged to make up the difference between the filing fees.

Background

Civil matters in California courts are broken up into three separate tiers. The jurisdiction of each is largely determined by the amount in controversy in the underlying case. The lower tiers, small claims court and limited civil cases, provide for restricted discovery and representation rights. The goal of maintaining these lower tiers is to expeditiously, inexpensively, and fairly resolve more minor civil

disputes. SB 71 (Umberg, Ch. 861, Stats. 2023) was enacted to increase the jurisdictional limits which had not been updated in decades. SB 71 increased the threshold for cases within the jurisdiction of the small claims court brought by a natural defendant from \$10,000 to \$12,500, as specified. The bill also raised the limit for small claims court jurisdiction in other specified actions. The bill raised the current jurisdictional limit for most limited civil cases from \$25,000 to \$35,000.

The author brings this bill on behalf of its sponsor, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, which asserts that the courts have experienced a revenue loss since they are collecting filing fees based on prior amount in controversy levels. This bill adjusts the filing fee statutes to reflect the current amounts in controversy that were enacted through SB 71. Specifically, this bill updates Government Codes sections 70613, 70613.5, 70614, and 70621, and Code of Civil Procedure section 116.23.

Comments

According to the author:

When the Legislature enacted SB 71 to raise the amount in controversy levels that guide filings in various civil cases, the Legislature did not make the corresponding adjustment to the amount in controversy references in various filing fee statutes. This has resulted in revenue losses for the courts as they are currently collecting filing fees based on the prior amount in controversy levels. In these difficult budget times, when every dollar matters for state agencies, this bill would adjust the filing fees to reflect accurate jurisdiction for filing civil matters.

The Superior Court of Los Angeles County, sponsor of the bill, writes the following in support of AB 2781:

Senate Bill 71 increased jurisdictional limits for small claims and limited civil cases, expanding small claims jurisdiction to \$6,250 or \$12,500 for actions filed by a natural person, and raising the limited civil jurisdictional cap from \$25,000 to \$35,000. These changes took effect on January 1, 2024.

However, several statutes governing civil filing fees, including Government Code Sections 70613, 70613.5, 70621, as well as Code of Civil Procedure Section 116.23, still reference outdated monetary thresholds. As a result, the current law contains conflicting fee triggers

based on the amount in controversy rather than case designation. This inconsistency creates uncertainty for litigants, complicates processing for court staff, and risks inconsistent fee application across California. AB 2781 addresses these issues by updating and harmonizing filing fee statutes to reflect the jurisdictional structure established by SB 71. Specifically, the bill ensures that limited civil filing fees apply uniformly to all cases with amounts in controversy of \$35,000 or less and eliminates outdated and confusing monetary thresholds.

These technical amendments will eliminate conflicting statutory language, promote consistent statewide application of filing fees regardless of county, reduce confusion for litigants, including self-represented litigants, and lessen administrative burdens on courts by reducing the risk of erroneous fee collection.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

Superior Court of Los Angeles County (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

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
7/1/26 16:55:23

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2782
Author: Committee on Judiciary
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/23/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello

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

SUBJECT: Judiciary omnibus

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various noncontroversial changes to existing law, including clarifying existing law, deleting obsolete statutes, modernizing certain statutes, updating cross-references, and making various other nonsubstantive changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes a petitioner seeking a default judgment in a dissolution of marriage proceeding to waive the final declaration of disclosure requirements in dissolution proceedings. (Family (Fam.) Code § 2110.)
- 2) Requires each party to a dissolution proceeding to serve on the other party a preliminary declaration of disclosure. (Fam. Code § 2104(a).)
- 3) Requires each party, or the attorney for each party, in a dissolution proceeding to serve on the other party a final declaration of disclosure and a current income and expense declaration, except by court order for good cause, before or at the

time the parties enter into an agreement for the resolution of property or support issues. (Fam. Code § 2105(a).)

- 4) Requires a fiduciary to allocate the receipt from interests in minerals, water, or other natural resources as a business under Probate Code Section 16432 in a specified manner. (Probate (Prob.) Code § 16350(a).)
- 5) Provides guidelines for allocation of receipts for a business or other activity conducted by a fiduciary if the fiduciary determines that it is in the interests of the beneficiaries to account separately for the business or other activity, as specified. (Prob. Code § 16342.)
- 6) Establishes the Automobile Sales Finance Act (or the Rees-Levering Motor Vehicle Sales Finance Act) to regulate the sales of automobiles pursuant to conditional sales contracts. (Civil (Civ.) Code §§ 2981 et seq.)
- 7) Establishes the California Combating Auto Retail Scams (CARS) Act. (Civ. Code §§ 1784.20 et seq.)
- 8) Defines “homestead” to mean a principal dwelling in which a judgment debtor or their spouse resided on the date the judgment creditor’s lien attached to the dwelling and in which the judgment debtor or their spouse resided continuously thereafter until the date of a court determination that the dwelling is a homestead. (Code Civ. Proc. § 704.710(c).)
 - a) A homestead is exempt from a sale to enforce a money judgment, except pursuant to a court order for sale if certain conditions are met. (Code Civ. Proc. § 704.720.)
 - b) The amount of a homestead exemption is the greater of: (1) the countywide median price for a single-family home in the calendar year prior to the calendar year in which the judgment debtor claims the exemption, not to exceed \$600,000; or (2) \$300,000. (Code Civ. Proc. § 704.730(a).)
 - c) The amount of a homestead exemption is to be adjusted annually for inflation, as specified. (Code Civ. Proc. § 704.730(b).)

This bill:

- 1) Exempts a petitioner and respondent in a dissolution of marriage proceeding in the case of a default judgment from the requirement that the parties exchange declarations of disclosures regarding property in a dissolution of marriage or registered partnership if the parties have an existing enforceable judgment of

legal separation that adjudicates or reserves jurisdiction over the division of property.

- 2) Corrects and updates cross-references in the Probate Code.
- 3) Deletes a vehicle contract cancellation option agreement from the definition of “cash price” under the Automobile Sales Finance Act.
 - a) Removes the requirement that a conditional sale contract disclose the amount charged for a contract cancellation option agreement.
 - b) Removes the requirement that the seller provide to a buyer prior to the execution of a conditional sale contract a description and the price of a vehicle contract cancellation option agreement.
- 4) Specifies that the homestead exemption ceiling amount is \$746,350 for the 2026 calendar year, and the floor amount is \$373,175 for the 2026 calendar year.
 - a) The ceiling and floor amounts are to be adjusted annually for inflation, beginning on January 1, 2027, by applying the multiplier produced by the change in the annual California Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers, published by the Department of Industrial Relations, during the prior fiscal year. On January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, this multiplier shall be calculated by dividing the CPI for the June ending the prior fiscal year by the CPI for the June immediately preceding the prior fiscal year.
 - b) Each ceiling and floor amount adjusted under a) is to be rounded to the nearest \$25.

Comments

This bill is the Assembly Judiciary Committee omnibus bill that makes various noncontroversial changes to existing law with the purpose of increasing efficiencies in the legislative process, conserving legislative resources, and eliminating the need to unnecessarily hear a number of technical, clarifying, or modest stand-alone bills that might otherwise have to be introduced and require individual consideration by the Legislature.

- 1) Makes updates to the Automobile Sales Finance Act to account for changes made in SB 766 (Allen, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2025).

In 2005, The Legislature sought to curb abusive practices by car dealers in AB 68 (Montañez, Ch. 128, Stats. 2005), known as the Car Buyer’s Bill of Rights.

The Car Buyer's Bill of Rights established a two day return window for used cars, capped at a valuation of \$40,000. Under this statute, a dealer was able to (and many did) require the customer to pre-pay for the ability to return the car. SB 766 expanded this option for customers to a three day right to cancel a vehicle purchase or lease under \$50,000, as long as the vehicle has fewer than 400 miles while in the customer's possession. (Civ. Code § 1784.43.) A dealer cannot require a customer to pre-buy this option, but may charge a fee not to exceed \$600 plus \$150. In lieu of this fee, a dealer that charged the customer a shipping fee for transporting the vehicle may retain the cost the dealer actually incurred for shipping. The bill also included disclosure requirements to notify customers of these options.

This bill makes changes to the Automobile Sales Finance Act to account for the above changes made in SB 766.

2) Makes clarifying changes to how the homestead exemption is to be adjusted.

The homestead exemption protects the value of a homeowner's primary residence in the event of a bankruptcy. Specifically, it provides that a specified portion of equity in a homestead is exempt from execution to satisfy a judgment debt. (Code Civ. Proc. § 704.730.) Effective January 1, 2021, the homestead exemption was set at the greater of the following: the countywide median sale price for a single-family home in the calendar year prior to the calendar year in which the judgment debtor claims the exemption, not to exceed \$600,000; or \$300,000. These amounts were to be adjusted annually for inflation beginning on January 1, 2022.

This bill specifies that the ceiling amount for the 2026 calendar year is the countywide median sale price for a single-family home in the calendar year prior to the calendar year in which the judgment debtor claims the exemption, not to exceed \$746,350. The floor amount is \$373,175 for the 2026 calendar year. The bill revises how these amounts are to be adjusted annually for inflation. The bill provides that the multiplier produced by the change in the annual California Consumer Price Index (CPI) for All Urban Consumers, published by the Department of Industrial Relations during the prior fiscal year, is to be applied. On January 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, this multiplier is to be calculated by dividing the CPI for the June ending the prior fiscal year by the CPI for the June immediately preceding the prior fiscal year. The ceiling and floor amounts adjusted are to be rounded to the nearest \$25.

- 3) Allows parties to a dissolution of marriage or domestic partnership who have an enforceable judgment of legal separation that has either adjudicated the division of property or reserved jurisdiction over the division to waive the preliminary and final declaration of disclosure requirements.

Married couples or those in a domestic partnership seeking to legally terminate their relationship can do so through either a separation or dissolution of marriage. Under a legal separation, the parties remain legally married allowing them to still benefit from certain aspects of a marriage, such as remaining on their spouse's health insurance, but separate financially. As part of this process, the parties are required to provide "preliminary disclosures" detailing each party's known assets and liabilities, as well as their "final disclosures," unless waived by stipulation or court order. A judgment of a legal separation adjudicates the same issues as a divorce judgment, with the sole exception that the parties maintain their legal relationship.

In some instances, parties who have legally separated and whose property divisions have been formally adjudicated may later decide to seek a full dissolution of their remaining legal relationship. Under existing law, the parties would once again need to complete their preliminary and final disclosures, despite the fact that a judge has already ordered a division of their property and assets. In recognition that this can be duplicative and unnecessary in some cases, this bill allows parties to a dissolution who have an enforceable judgment of legal separation that has either adjudicated the division of property or reserved jurisdiction over the division to waive the preliminary and final declaration of disclosure requirements.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/24/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/24/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

This broad measure makes modest updates to several policies falling within the Committee on the Judiciary that are insufficiently substantive to warrant a standalone bill. This bill exempts a petitioner and respondent from the

requirement to exchange declarations of disclosure in default judgment of dissolution proceedings if the parties have an existing enforceable judgment of separation that addresses property concerns, removes confusing reference to a child's "preference" in custody or visitation proceedings, removes reference to a vehicle contract cancellation option agreement, updates the ceiling and floor amounts for the homestead exemption, and corrects cross-references in the Code of Civil Procedure, Labor Code, and Probate Code.

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: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:09:16

**** END ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2784
Author: Committee on Judiciary
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: State Bar of California

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Board of Trustees (Board) of the California State Bar to fix the annual license fee for active licensees for 2027 in the same amount as 2026 and makes various other changes to the State Bar Act.

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, article VI, § 9; Business & Profession (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. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6010 et seq.; § 6016.)
- 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) Authorizes the State Bar to collect \$553 in fees from active licensees for the year 2025. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6140, 6140.55, 6140.6, 6140.9, 6140.10, 6140.11, 6140.13, 6140.14.)
- 4) Authorizes the State Bar to collect \$161 in fees from inactive licensees for the year 2025. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 6141, 6140.55, 6140.6, 6140.9, 6140.10, 6140.11, 6140.13, 6140.14.)
- 5) Authorizes the State Bar to provide the California Lawyers Association (CLA) with administrative and support services, including the collection of the CLA's membership dues in conjunction with the collection of the annual licensing fees. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6031.5.)
- 6) Specifies the manner in which funds for affinity programs are to be allocated to the CLA. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6141.3.)
- 7) Requires the State Bar to administer a Client Security Fund (CSF) to relieve or mitigate pecuniary losses caused by the dishonest conduct of licensees of the State Bar, foreign legal consultants registered with the State Bar, and attorneys registered with the State Bar under the Multijurisdictional Practice Program, arising from or connected with the practice of law. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6140.5.)
- 8) Requires the State Bar to transmit to the Legislature an annual report detailing the number of complaints regarding access issues related to the biannual state bar exam. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 6060.10.)

This bill:

- 1) Makes various findings and declarations of the Legislature related to the State Bar being a state agency.
- 2) Keeps license fees the same for 2027 as they were for 2026. Authorizes attorneys to file for inactive status through December 31 of the calendar year prior to becoming inactive.

- 3) Clarifies that a felony conviction, whether or not it involves moral turpitude, and a misdemeanor conviction involving moral turpitude constitutes cause for disbarment or suspension.
- 4) Provides that once a conviction is final, postconviction proceedings do not change the effect of the conviction for discipline purposes under the State Bar Act unless they result in a finding that the conviction is void for lack of subject matter jurisdiction or that the attorney convicted is factually innocent, in which case the court shall treat the conviction as if it did not occur.
- 5) Provides that when the State Bar requests records, communications, and documents as part of a disciplinary investigation they must be provided to the State Bar notwithstanding attorney-client privilege or the Attorney Work Product doctrine. Any information provided will not violate, waive, or extinguish the duty to maintain a client's confidence, attorney-client privilege, or the Attorney Work Product doctrine. All documents provided are to remain confidential unless disclosure is needed to fulfill the State Bar's duties under existing law, and these records are not public records under the California Public Records Act.
- 6) Authorizes the chief trial counsel or their designee to compel, by subpoena, the attorney who is the subject of an investigation.
- 7) Updates the notice transmitted to attorneys facing discipline to make clear that the failure to respond to the State Bar will result in a default judgment and loss of the right to practice law in California.
- 8) Provides that failure to reimburse the CSF as part of a license fee is a basis for suspension and repayment is a required condition to transfer the licensee's status from a suspension.
- 9) Specifies what information a financial institution is to provide the State Bar annually for Interest on Lawyer Trust Accounts (IOLTA).
- 10) Repeals the requirement of the State Bar to collect fees on behalf of CLA as of January 1, 2030, and makes conforming changes. Removes the requirement that the State Bar assist CLA in receiving recognition from the American Bar Association, as provided.

- 11) Clarifies that a voluntary association of attorneys may generate low-cost continuing legal education materials, subject to State Bar approval.
- 12) Authorizes the State Bar to meet in closed session for specified matters.
- 13) Revises the allocation of moneys from affinity programs, as provided, on and after January 1, 2030.
- 14) Prohibits a person or entity from holding themselves out as a law school unless they are accredited by the American Bar Association or the State Bar and award a juris doctorate degree.

Comments

Last year license fees remained static. (SB 253 (Umberg, Chapter 405, Statutes of 2025.)) This bill keeps license fees at the same amount in 2027 as they were this year. This bill also authorizes attorneys to file for inactive status through December 31 of the calendar year prior to becoming inactive.

In 2017, the Legislature enacted major reforms to the structure of the State Bar by separating its trade association functions from its regulatory functions. (SB 36 (Jackson, Ch. 422, Stats. 2017.)) The Legislature recognized the inherent conflict of interest in having a unified bar and made it clear that after deunification the State Bar was to focus on its core licensing, regulatory, and discipline functions. The trade association functions were transferred to the California Lawyers Association (CLA), a private, nonprofit corporation established in statute. As it has been almost 10 years since deunification occurred, this bill seeks to make further changes to effectuate the intent of SB 36.

Prior to SB 36, the trade association aspects of the State Bar were housed in what was referred to as the sections of the State Bar. In order to join a section of the State Bar, an attorney would make an election of their annual licensing fee statement. Due to this, SB 36 required that the State Bar collect CLA's dues as part of the annual licensing fee collection process, which at the time seemed prudent to ease the transition. However, this current practice makes the State Bar the only regulatory body in the state that oversees a profession while concurrently collecting dues for a trade association of its licensees. This practice seems incongruent with the role of a licensing and regulatory agency, which is further highlighted by the fact that CLA has the authority to lobby the State Bar. As such, this bill ends the requirement of the State Bar to collect fees on behalf of CLA as

of January 1, 2030, and makes conforming changes. To further complete the process of deunification, the bill removes the requirement that the State Bar assist CLA in receiving recognition from the American Bar Association.

The Assembly Judiciary Committee heard from several local bar associations that the phrasing of existing law relating to the generation of low-cost continuing education course materials may preclude them from developing their own low-cost continuing education program. Although the existing law appears to permit an “incorporated non-profit association of attorneys” to generate continuing education requirements, the law could be read to grant CLA the exclusive right to develop low-cost trainings. To ensure that all attorney associations can produce low-cost continuing education documents, this bill would delete the specific reference to CLA and replace that reference with the phrase “a voluntary association of attorneys.” This would not preclude CLA from creating continuing education materials, but will guarantee that all official bar associations can produce such materials as well. Nothing in this bill changes the existing requirement that the State Bar approve a continuing education provider.

As an additional aspect of the deunification of the State Bar was providing for the governance of how various affinity funds that were operated by the former sections of the State Bar would transfer to CLA and be used going forward. Section 6141.3 of the Bus. & Prof. Code requires certain funds to be utilized for “diversity, equity and inclusion, access to justice, and civic engagement efforts.” Last year, concerns were raised about a lack of transparency from CLA regarding the use of revenues generated from the State Bar “affinity programs.” The affinity programs are offered by CalBar Connect and are designed to provide discounts on services to attorneys, including malpractice insurance and other office management services. Currently, most of the revenue is provided to CLA and California Change Lawyers (the former charitable arm of the State Bar before deunification) with the remainder going to fund legal aid.

To ensure that these funds were being spent in an efficient manner, last year SB 253 (Umberg, Ch. 405, Stats. 2025) required CLA to report on how it spends its affinity revenues. That report, released in January 2026, provided top-line spending numbers but lacked the specificity stakeholders were seeking.

This bill provides that the State Bar act is not to be construed to affect or alter the status of the State Bar of California as a state agency within the judicial branch that serves as the administrative arm of the Supreme Court of California for matters relating to attorney admission, attorney discipline, and the regulation of the

practice of law. This provision is declaratory of existing law and is bolstered by the changes made by the Legislature in SB 36 to separate the bar from its professional association functions and require the State Bar to focus on its core missions of licensing, regulation, and discipline. This bill also makes a number of legislative findings and declarations to this effect, including that that no provision of the State Bar Act is to be construed to establish the State Bar as an entity independent of the State of California.

This bill also makes various other changes to enhance protection of the public including; changes to the discipline system and prohibiting person or entity from holding themselves out as a law school unless they are accredited by the American Bar Association or the State Bar and awards juris doctorate degrees.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/24/26)

State Bar of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/24/26)

1 individual

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

“AB 2784 is the annual vehicle to set the licensing fees for attorneys and make policy changes to the State Bar. This year’s measure critically holds the licensing fee flat and does not raise fees on attorneys. The bill also formally ends the somewhat awkward legal relationship between the State Bar and the California Lawyers Association where the State Bar was collecting the membership dues of a trade group consisting of the State Bar’s regulated community. Recognizing that no other legal trade organization is recognized in statute, the bill removes statutory references to the California Lawyers Association.

Finally, as is typical in the annual bar fee bill, the bill proposes several technical changes to the State Bar Act at the request of the agency to streamline State Bar governance and improve oversight of the legal industry.”

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, Gallagher, 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, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez,
Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
6/26/26 13:09:17

**** END ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

(916) 651-4171

AB 2792

THIRD READING

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
6/25/26 15:07:41

**** END ****

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE

Office of Senate Floor Analyses

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AB 2793

THIRD READING

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
6/25/26 15:07:42

**** 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 157
Author: Hoover (R), et al.
Introduced: 3/4/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975: 50th anniversary

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) For 50 years, the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 (SMARA) has served as California’s framework for balancing the extraction of essential minerals with the protection of the environment, public health, and local communities, ensuring that mined lands are reclaimed and returned to beneficial use.
- 2) SMARA recognizes that mineral resources are fundamental to strong communities, providing the raw materials for clean water, housing, transportation, and technology, while ensuring they are developed responsibly for the benefit of future generations.
- 3) The act established a framework of shared governance between local and state agencies, aligning community accountability with statewide oversight to sustain responsible mining and reclamation across California.
- 4) California remains among the nation’s leading producers of nonfuel minerals, with essential commodities such as aggregates, limestone for cement, gypsum, boron, and rare earth elements forming the foundation for housing, agriculture, transportation, water systems, and climate-resilient infrastructure.

This resolution commemorates the 50th Anniversary of the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975, honors the leadership of Senator John A. Nejedly, Governor Edmund G. “Jerry” Brown, Jr., and the many bipartisan policymakers,

local officials, and industry partners whose vision created SMARA, and reaffirms California's enduring commitment to responsible mineral resource management and environmental restoration.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Construction & Industrial Materials Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
7/1/26 16:55:24

**** **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** ****

CONSENT

Bill No: ACR 168
Author: Pacheco (D), et al.
Introduced: 3/26/26
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: California Law Revision Commission: studies

SOURCE: California Law Revision Commission

DIGEST: This measure, requested by the California Law Revision Commission (CLRC), grants approval to the CLRC to continue its study of 14 designated topics that the Legislature previously authorized or directed the CLRC to study. Additionally, the resolution grants approval to the CLRC to study two additional topics.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Authorizes the CLRC to study topics approved by concurrent resolution of the Legislature. (Gov. Code Sec. 8293.)
- 2) Prohibits an employee or member of the CLRC, with respect to any proposed legislation concerning matters assigned to the CLRC for study, to advocate for the passage or defeat of the legislation by the Legislature or the approval or veto of the legislation by the Governor, or appear before any committee of the

Legislature unless requested to do so by the committee or its chairperson. (Gov. Code Sec. 8288.)

This bill:

- 1) Makes the following findings:
 - a) that the CLRC is authorized to study topics set forth in the calendar contained in its report to the Governor and the Legislature that have been or are thereafter approved for study by concurrent resolution of the Legislature, and topics that have been referred to the Commission for study by concurrent resolution of the Legislature or by statute; and
 - b) that the CLRC, in its annual report covering its activities for 2025 and 2026, recommends continued study of 14 topics, all of which the Legislature has previously authorized or directed the CLRC to study, and the addition of two new topics of study.
- 2) Resolves that the Legislature approves for continued study by the CLRC the topics listed below:
 - a) Whether the law should be revised that relates to creditors' remedies, including, but not limited to, attachment, garnishment, execution, repossession of property (including the claim and delivery statute, self-help repossession of property, and the Commercial Code provisions on repossession of property), confession of judgment procedures, default judgment procedures, enforcement of judgments, the right of redemption, procedures under private power of sale in a trust deed or mortgage, possessory and nonpossessory liens, insolvency, and related matters.
 - b) Whether the California Probate Code should be revised, including, but not limited to, the issue of whether California should adopt, in whole or in part, the Uniform Probate Code, and related matters.
 - c) Whether the law should be revised that relates to real and personal property, including, but not limited to, a marketable title act, covenants, servitudes, conditions, and restrictions on land use or relating to land, common interest developments, powers of termination, escheat of property and the disposition of unclaimed or abandoned property, eminent domain, quiet title actions, abandonment or vacation of public streets and highways, partition, rights and duties attendant on assignment, subletting, termination, or abandonment of a lease, and related matters.

- d) Whether the law should be revised that relates to family law, including, but not limited to, community property, the adjudication of child and family civil proceedings, child custody, adoption, guardianship, freedom from parental custody and control, and related matters, including other subjects covered by the Family Code.
- e) Whether the law relating to discovery in civil cases should be revised.
- f) Whether the Evidence Code should be revised.
- g) Whether the law relating to arbitration, mediation, and other alternative dispute resolution techniques should be revised.
- h) Whether there should be changes to administrative law.
- i) Recommendations to be reported pertaining to statutory changes that may be necessitated by court unification.
- j) Whether the law of contracts should be revised, including the law relating to the effect of electronic communications on the law governing contract formation, the statute of frauds, the parol evidence rule, and related matters.
- k) Whether the law governing the place of trial in a civil case should be revised.
- l) Whether the Fish and Game Code and related statutory law should be revised to improve its organization, clarify its meaning, resolve inconsistencies, eliminate unnecessary or obsolete provisions, standardize terminology, clarify program authority and funding sources, and make other minor improvements, without making any significant substantive change to the effect of the law.
- m) Whether the law should be revised to provide special rules that would apply to an area affected by a state of disaster or emergency declared by the federal government, a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor, or a local emergency proclaimed by a local governing body or official.
- n) Whether the Education Code should be revised, including, but not limited to, provisions relating to reporting requirements placed on local education agencies.
- o) Whether the Code of Civil Procedure should be revised, including, but not limited to, whether the statutes governing writ procedures should be revised.

- 3) Specifies that the Legislature authorizes and requests the CLRC study, report on, and prepare recommended legislation to revise Chapter 6.5 and 6.8 of Division 20 of the Health and Safety Code, and related provisions, to improve the organization and expression of the law and that such revisions may include, but are not limited to, grouping similar provisions together, reducing the length and complexity of sections, eliminating obsolete or redundant provisions, and correcting technical errors, while ensuring that recommended revisions do not make any substantive changes to the law. The CLRC's report shall also include a list of substantive issues that the CLRC identifies in the course of its work, for possible future study.
- 4) Resolves that before commencing work on any project within the calendar of topics the Legislature has authorized or directed the CLRC to study, the CLRC shall submit a detailed description of the scope of work to the chairs and vice chairs of the Assembly Committee on Judiciary and the Senate Committee on Judiciary, and any other policy committee that has jurisdiction over the subject matter of the study, and if during the course of the project there is a major change to the scope of work, submit a description of the change.

Comments

The CLRC's enabling statute recognizes two types of topics the CLRC is authorized to study: (1) those that the CLRC identifies for study and lists in the Calendar of Topics that it reports to the Legislature; and (2) those that the Legislature assigns to the CLRC directly, by statute or concurrent resolution. Once the CLRC identifies a topic for study, it cannot begin to work on the topic until the Legislature, by concurrent resolution, authorizes the CLRC to conduct the study. Direct legislative assignments have become much more common in recent years, and many of the CLRC's recent studies were directly assigned by the Legislature. The CLRC is governed by Government Code Section 8293 which sets out the broad list of topics it is authorized to study. This authorization must be renewed in a concurrent resolution at least once per two-year legislative session. The most recent reauthorizations were through ACR 169 (Kalra, Resolution Chapter 138, Statutes of 2024) and ACR 24 (Chau, Resolution Chapter 108, Statutes of 2021).

This author-sponsored measure continues the authorization of the CLRC's studies on 14 topics and adds two additional topics for the CLRC to study. The new topics are: whether the Education Code should be revised including, but not limited to, provisions relating to reporting requirements placed on local education agencies; and whether the Code of Civil Procedure should be revised, including but not limited to, whether the statutes governing writ procedures should be revised.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Law Revision Commission (source)
Association of California School Administrators
California Association of School Business Officials
California School Boards Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

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
7/1/26 16:55:25

**** **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 187
Author: Jeff Gonzalez (R), et al.
Introduced: 4/28/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Men's Mental Health Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of June 2026 to be Men's Mental Health Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) According to the National Institute of Mental Health, men are at a higher risk for mental health conditions, including depression, anxiety, and substance use disorders, yet often men face barriers to seeking treatment.
- 2) Suicide rates among men remain disproportionately high, with data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention showing that men die by suicide at a rate nearly four times higher than those of the opposite gender.
- 3) Recognizing June as Men's Mental Health Month in California will help raise awareness, reduce stigma, and encourage policy initiatives that prioritize mental health services for men.
- 4) Various organizations, including mental health advocates, health care providers, and community groups, are committed to supporting men's mental health through outreach, education, and services.

This resolution proclaims the month of June 2026 to be Men's Mental Health Month.

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

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 88 (Jeff Gonzalez, Resolution Chapter 109, Statutes of 2025)

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
7/1/26 16:55:25

**** **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 194
Author: Pacheco (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/4/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Women's Equality Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes August 26, 2026, as Women's Equality Day and its historic importance to women's rights, including the battle to attain those rights in the past, present, and future.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The addition of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution on August 26, 1920, secured for women the right to vote, with full enfranchisement of African American, Asian American, Hispanic American, and Native American women to take nearly an additional 50 years to be realized.
- 2) Women are critical to a strong and vibrant California economy and play a pivotal role in spurring economic growth in California.
- 3) Women's earnings are still far too low compared to men's in California, and women are disproportionately employed in jobs that pay the minimum wage.
- 4) Women are also disproportionately disadvantaged by the stresses of poverty and the constraints of the social services system.
- 5) Ensuring the economic security of all California women and their families will benefit people in all communities who count on public policies to meet their basic needs, earn a decent living, and care for their families.

This resolution recognizes August 26, 2026, as Women's Equality Day and its historic importance to women's rights, including the battle to attain those rights in the past, present, and future.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 228 (Pellerin, Chapter 197, Statutes of 2024)
SCR 168 (Wahab, Chapter 186, Statutes of 2024)
HR 124 (Garcia, 2022, Adopted in the Assembly)
HR 124 (Garcia, 2021, Adopted in the Assembly)
SR 49 (Leyva, 2021, Adopted in the Senate)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

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
7/1/26 16:55:26

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

CONSENT

Bill No: ACR 210
Author: Jackson (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/21/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello,
Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg

SUBJECT: The Province of Gauteng in South Africa: sister state relationship

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution expresses the intent of the Legislature to formalize a sister state relationship between the Province of Gauteng in South Africa and the State of California, encouraging the strengthening of existing partnerships, and would call upon California's universities, research institutions, and public agencies to explore new memoranda of understanding with Gauteng-based counterparts in areas of mutual interest.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) California currently has 36 official sister state, friendship state, and cooperation agreement relationships throughout the world that are administered through the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (Go-BIZ), which manages international trade development, small business assistance, and assistance with state government, amongst other provisions. California's Sister, Friendship and Cooperation relationships are intended to encourage mutually beneficial diplomatic, economic, educational, and cultural exchanges between a particular global region and California.

This resolution:

- 1) Recognizes that the province of Gauteng is South Africa's economic engine, generating approximately one-third of the nation's gross domestic product in 2025, and serving as a continental hub for finance, innovation, manufacturing, and trade.
- 2) Recognizes that Gauteng is home to around 15,000,000 residents, the highest income population in South Africa, and recorded more than 312.5 billion rand, or about \$18.6 billion, in new investment commitments in 2025 across sectors including information and communication technology, manufacturing, logistics, green energy, and property development.
- 3) Recognizes that California and Gauteng share complementary strengths in technology, clean energy, research, advanced manufacturing, and creative entertainment industries, and both regions anchor major universities, innovation centers, and globally connected economies.
- 4) Recognizes Gauteng's Special Economic Zones, data center capacity, and leadership in the African Continental Free Trade Area create unique opportunities for California companies and institutions to expand economic, educational, and scientific engagement with Africa.
- 5) Acknowledges that California State University, Sacramento has established a memorandum of understanding with the Province of Gauteng addressing shared social and academic priorities, demonstrating that the foundation for meaningful people-to-people and institution-to-institution collaboration between California and Gauteng is already underway.
- 6) Recognizes that Gauteng played a central role in South Africa's transition from apartheid and continues to advance internationally recognized work in truth and reconciliation, restorative justice, and community healing, offering valuable insight for California's pledge to equity and justice for all.
- 7) Acknowledges that both California and Gauteng are committed to sustainable development, climate resilience, workforce training, and building inclusive economies that reduce inequality and expand access to opportunity.
- 8) Invites the people and government of the Province of Gauteng in South Africa to enter into a sister state relationship with California focused on high-impact

cooperation in economic development, innovation, education, sustainability, and cultural exchange.

Background

According to Statistics South Africa, Gauteng is South Africa's largest provincial economy, contributing 33.2 percent of national GDP in 2024, despite being the country's smallest province by land area. The province includes Johannesburg, Tshwane/Pretoria, and Ekurhuleni, and functions as the country's core commercial, financial, industrial, and transportation hub.

According to the Gauteng Provincial Treasury, the province remains South Africa's "economic powerhouse," although it faces the same pressures affecting the national economy, including weak growth, fragile demand, and employment challenges. Its economy is driven heavily by finance, real estate, business services, trade, manufacturing, logistics, and government services.

According to the U.S. Department of State, South Africa remains an important investment destination with a diversified economy, while the World Bank describes the country as holding a significant regional "anchor" role in southern Africa. Within that broader national context, Gauteng's concentration of corporate headquarters, financial markets, infrastructure, skilled labor, and public institutions makes it central to South Africa's economic competitiveness and a key gateway for investment into the region.

A 2024 feature in *BestColleges* reported that California State University Sacramento (CSUS) President Dr. Luke Wood and Gauteng Provincial Legislature Speaker Morakane Mosupye signed a memorandum of understanding between the university and the Gauteng Provincial Legislature during the launch of CSUS' Black Honors College in August 2024. According to the publication, the MOU is intended to promote international academic, cultural, and scientific exchanges between Sacramento State and the Gauteng Province. *BestColleges* further reported it is intended to support future educational collaboration, including opportunities for South African students to participate in CSUS' Black Honors College and related academic programs.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
7/1/26 16:55:27

****** 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 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 222
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/4/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the month of June 2026 as Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month, and urges all Californians to commemorate the month of June 2026 as Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) The month of June 2026 has been declared Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month to help educate the public on this debilitating disease, increase efforts to combat its human and economic costs, and encourage all Californians to take charge of their brain health.
- 2) California has 720,000 residents living with Alzheimer's disease, more than any other state in the nation. Californians with dementia will visit emergency departments nearly 1 million times per year and are readmitted to the hospital one out of five times after discharge.
- 3) Alzheimer's disease was the leading cause of death in adults 85 years of age and older, and the second leading cause of death overall, in California in 2024, as stated in the 2026 California State of Public Health Report.
- 4) Recent research published by the State Department of Public Health in 2021 indicates that, over the next 20 years, the impact of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia will increase dramatically. While the population of California will expand by 16 percent, the population of people living with Alzheimer's disease will expand by 127 percent.
- 5) Age is the greatest known risk factor for Alzheimer's disease, which has no proven way to prevent it and currently has no cure.

- 6) Californians invest in Alzheimer's disease research through the voluntary contribution funds and have raised more than \$25 million since its inception for research into treatments to slow the progression of, and develop a cure for, the disease.

This resolution declares June 2026 as Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month, and urges all Californians to commemorate the month of June 2026 as Alzheimer's Disease and Brain Awareness Month.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 75 (Weber Pierson, Resolution Chapter 135, Statutes of 2025)

ACR 204 (Soria, Resolution Chapter 142, Statutes of 2024)

ACR 64 (Bains, Resolution Chapter 119, Statutes of 2023)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

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

7/1/26 16:55:28

**** **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 ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 224
Author: Dixon (R) and Bauer-Kahan (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/10/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims June 23, 2026, as Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day in the State of California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

- 1) Social media presents significant risks, especially to adolescents, including the perpetuation and promotion of harmful and dangerous behaviors and connections.
- 2) Countless individuals and families have suffered harms, including death, because of experiences on social media platforms, including cyberbullying, harassment, exposure to sex trafficking, and exploitation.
- 3) Social media use has been linked to self-harming behavior and suicidal ideation in youth. Suicide has become one of the leading causes of death in children 15 to 19 years of age.
- 4) Commemorating Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day provides an opportunity to raise awareness about the detrimental effects of social media and to advocate for measures to effectively mitigate these harms.

This resolution urges individuals, communities, organizations, and social media platforms to observe Social Media Harms Victim Remembrance Day through activities such as remembrance ceremonies, educational events, and advocacy efforts aimed at raising awareness about social media harms and supporting victims and survivors.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
7/1/26 16:55:28

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AJR 17
Author: Celeste Rodriguez (D), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/23/26

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

NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Valladares

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-7, 8/25/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: The Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of
1929

SOURCE: Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA)

DIGEST: This resolution makes various findings regarding the importance and value of immigrants to the state and declares support for the federal Registry bills as a just approach to solving the nation's broken immigration system.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, through various authorities, that the federal government has the exclusive authority to regulate immigration and naturalization. (U.S. Constitution, Article I, § 8, clauses 3 and 4; *Arizona v. United States* (2012) 567 U.S. 387, 394.)
- 2) Grants the Attorney General of the United States the discretion to grant lawful admission for permanent residence to undocumented immigrants who meet the following requirements:
 - a) they are not inadmissible under Section 212 (a)(3)(E) or Section 212 (a) of the Immigration and Nationality Act insofar as it relates to criminals,

procurers and other immoral persons, subversives, violators of the narcotic laws or smugglers of aliens;

- b) entered the United States before January 1, 1972;
- c) have established continuous residence in the United States since entry;
- d) are of good moral character; and
- e) are not ineligible for citizenship or are not deportable under Section 237 (a)(4)(B) of the Immigration and Nationality Act. (8 U.S.C. § 1259.)

This resolution:

1) Declares that:

- a) the United States is a nation founded on the principles that all people are created equal and with the promise of freedom for all;
- b) our strength as a nation has always been greater when we welcome newcomers;
- c) California has the highest number of immigrants in the country;
- d) it has been nearly 40 years since any immigration reform has been passed by the federal government, and the current immigration system is unable to meet the needs of the present;
- e) California is home to nearly 10.9 million immigrants, the majority of whom have lived in the United States for more than 10 years;
- f) undocumented immigrants contribute significantly to California's economy;
- g) one in 10 California workers is undocumented, and that undocumented immigrants contribute 51.4 billion dollars in state and local taxes;
- h) California would benefit directly from Congress updating the immigration laws because it has been shown that providing citizenship to undocumented immigrants boosts the economy and increases the job market;
- i) In 2023, Congressional leaders introduced the "Renewing Immigration Provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929" bill that allows undocumented people living continuously in the United States for at least seven years the ability to apply for lawful permanent residency, from which approximately 8 million undocumented people may benefit;
- j) 80% of Californians believe that there should be a pathway to citizenship for undocumented immigrants;
- k) immigrant communities continue to organize around passing immigration reform, and in June of 2025, the Northern California Coalition for Just Immigration Reform completed a three-day walk from Vacaville to Sacramento this month to support the registry bills H.R. 4696 (Lofgren) and S. 2468 (Padilla); and
- l) passing immigration reform that recognizes the contributions and humanity of immigrants is in line with the state's and country's values.

- 2) Resolves the following by the Senate and Assembly of the state:
 - a) that a workable, humane, and just approach to solving the nation's broken immigration system would benefit California and the United States as a whole, and that the Registry bills should be supported; and
 - b) that the Secretary of the Senate transmit this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

Comments

California is home to about 10.9 million immigrants, accounting for 22% of the foreign-born population nationwide.¹ In 2023, 27% of the state's population was foreign born, the highest of any state. Of California's foreign-born population, about 45% are non-citizens, and about 1.8 million are undocumented. There are an estimated 133,000 undocumented children in California public K-12 schools, and one in five California children live in a mixed-status household where at least one member is not a U.S. Citizen.² According to a report from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, nearly 80 percent of undocumented immigrants in 2022 had been in the U.S. for more than a decade.³ Of all of the undocumented individuals in the United States as of 2022, about 48 percent lived in California.⁴

Immigrants are valuable members of their communities who also contribute considerably to the economy and tax rolls. In 2022, immigrants paid \$382.9 billion in federal taxes and \$196.2 billion in state and local taxes, including considerable amounts into social security and Medicare, public benefits which most immigrants are ineligible to receive.⁵ In California, it is estimated that immigrants contributed \$51.4 billion in state and local taxes in 2021.⁶ Immigrants also contribute to economic growth, with the Congressional Budget Office estimating that immigrants will add \$7 trillion to the economy over the next 10 years and \$8.7

¹ Marisol Cuellar Mejia et al., Fact Sheet: Immigrants in California, Public Policy Institute of California (Jan. 2026), available at <https://www.ppic.org/publication/immigrants-in-california/>.

² Migrant Policy Institute, "Profile of the unauthorized population: California" (accessed Apr. 13, 2025), <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/data/unauthorized-immigrant-population/state/CA#>; Office of Digital Services, "Immigration and California families," Ca.gov (accessed Apr. 13, 2025), <https://www.ca.gov/immigration/>.

³ Karen Aho, "Are more undocumented immigrants living in the U.S. now? Here's what the numbers say," *American Immigration Council* (Jun. 7, 2024) <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/blog/undocumented-immigrants-living-in-united-states-now/>.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Kevin Appleby, "The importance of immigrant labor to the US economy," *Center for Migration Studies* (Sept. 2, 2024) <https://cmsny.org/importance-of-immigrant-labor-to-us-economy/>.

⁶ State of California, "Immigration and California families," (accessed Jul. 6, 2025) <https://www.ca.gov/immigration/>.

trillion in growth in the Gross Domestic Product (GDP).⁷ In fact, economists estimate that providing a pathway to legal status to undocumented individuals would contribute \$1.2 trillion to the U.S. economy over ten years, and an extra \$184 billion per year in federal, state, and local taxes.⁸ By 2017 estimates, about 1.75 million workers in California are undocumented, accounting for nearly one in ten California workers.⁹

Beyond these clear economic and tax roll numbers, immigrants are important members of their communities who are entitled to dignity, due process, and a fair immigration system. Many immigrants live in mixed status families, in which at least one member of the family is a U.S. citizen. Being undocumented and under the constant threat of deportation and potential family separation has significant, negative impacts on undocumented Californians and their families. Research has shown that many immigrant youth experience high levels of mental health conditions like anxiety, depression, and post-traumatic stress due to fears of immigration enforcement and separation from their family due to immigration enforcement.¹⁰

An undocumented person may have entered the United States without any visa or immigration status, or they may have entered with an immigration status that has since expired. A person with a visa that is expiring is generally expected to renew or apply to adjust their status to a new category of immigration status or depart the United States. However, many visas do not allow for renewals or are only designed to be temporary, and eligibility for and availability of permanent immigration status – called lawful permanent residency (LPR), or a green card – is incredibly limited. Even those who qualify for a green card may have to wait a decade or even two decades due to backlogs and administrative delays to actually be able to receive it. Without immigration reform from Congress, the United States' immigration system continues to be broken and fails to provide meaningful opportunities for undocumented students and those who wish to stay in the United States to do so with immigration status.

For much of the nation's history, the federal government did not regulate immigration to the United States. Near the end of the Nineteenth Century and early Twentieth Century, as xenophobia and racism toward individuals of Asian descent

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ Joseph Hayes & Laura Hill, *Undocumented Immigrants in California*, Public Policy Institute of California (Mar. 2017), <https://www.ppic.org/publication/undocumented-immigrants-in-california/>.

¹⁰ Randy Capps & Michael Fox, "How the fear of immigration enforcement affects the mental health of latino youth," Migration Policy Institute (Dec. 2020), <https://www.migrationpolicy.org/news/how-fear-immigration-enforcement-affects-mental-health-latino-youth>.

grew in the U.S., Congress enacted a number of restrictive immigration laws that set numerical quotas, or limits, on immigrants from particular countries and that outright banned immigration from certain countries. The most infamous of these laws was the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882. The current immigration system was largely formed through the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1952, which established a comprehensive system for regulating immigration and removed explicitly race-based restrictions from the immigration laws.

Despite considerable organizing and advocacy for immigration reform over the last few decades, Congress has failed to deliver any considerable immigration reform since the 90s. The last major immigration reform legislation to be enacted by Congress was the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (IIRIRA), which generally placed more restrictions on immigration by expanding the bases by which a noncitizen may be deported, increasing the relationship between immigration law and criminal law, creating the expedited removal process, restricting asylum, and increasing immigration enforcement at the border.

The last major immigration reform legislation that provided a new opportunity for undocumented individuals to obtain legal status was the Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 (IRCA), which created an “amnesty” program to provide a pathway to legal status for millions of undocumented immigrants who had been living in the U.S. since at least 1982.

IRCA also adjusted the “registry,” a provision of immigration law that allows certain noncitizens who are undocumented or have temporary status to obtain lawful permanent status if they have been living in the United States since a specified date. The registry was originally created in 1929, and permitted any noncitizen who entered the U.S. prior to June 3, 1921, had continuously resided in the country since that date, demonstrated “good moral character,” was not deportable, and who had no lawful admission to apply for and obtain lawful permanent status.¹¹ Since 1929, the registry has been amended and updated multiple times. It was updated in 1958 to remove the requirement that individuals not be subject to a basis for deportation, instead excluding only those who had previously been granted lawful permanent resident status or who were ineligible to be admitted into the U.S. on certain criminal or national security grounds. In 1965, the required date of residence was updated to 1948, and in 1986, IRCA updated the date to January 1, 1972.

¹¹ American Immigration Council, *Legalization Through “Registry,”* (Sept. 28, 2021), <https://www.americanimmigrationcouncil.org/fact-sheet/legalization-through-registry/>.

The registry program has not been updated since IRCA; thus, it continues to require any potentially-eligible immigrant to have resided in the United States since 1972 in order to obtain its benefits. Considering that anyone who could meet this requirement is at least 53 years old, and that it has been almost 40 years since IRCA was passed, virtually no individuals are eligible for the registry at this time. Despite Congress's failure to pass immigration reform, 80% of Californians support of providing a pathway to citizenship for undocumented individuals in the United States.¹²

In recent years, as comprehensive immigration reform efforts have stalled, there has emerged a movement to update the registry. Doing so could provide many undocumented individuals in the U.S. the opportunity to receive LPR status, simply by virtue of the fact that they have lived in the U.S. for a considerable amount of time and meet the requirements for having good moral character. If, for example, the registry date was updated to 2010, estimates are that 6.8 million undocumented individuals would potentially be eligible to apply for LPR status through the registry.¹³

Considering this, U.S. Representative Zoe Lofgren (CA – 18) introduced a bill in Congress in 2023 that would update the registry. (H.R. 1511 (Lofgren, 2023).) Rather than update the registry date to a new date, as have all previous laws that have amended the registry program, H.R. 1511 would replace the registry date with a requirement that eligible individuals have resided in the U.S. for at least seven years. An estimated 8.3 million individuals could be eligible under H.R. 1511's revised registry provisions.¹⁴ While the bill was introduced, it did not pass out of committee or receive a vote. On July 27, 2023, Senator Padilla (CA) introduced S. 2606, which is substantially similar to Representative Lofgren's bill. It likewise did not receive a vote. Both bills are collectively called the "registry bills." These bills were reintroduced last year as H.R. 4696 (Lofgren, 2025) and S. 2468 (Padilla, 2025).

This resolution, after making a variety of findings related to the importance and value of immigrants to California and the United States, calls for the support of the Congressional bills that update the registry.

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

¹² Mark Baldassare, "Commentary: the importance of Californians' views on immigration policies," Public Policy Institute of California (Jun. 27, 2023), <https://www.ppic.org/blog/commentary-the-importance-of-californians-views-on-immigration-policies/>.

¹³ *Id.*

¹⁴ Andrew Moriarty, "Priority bill spotlight: renewing immigration provisions of the Immigration Act of 1929," FWD.us (Mar. 9, 2023) <https://www.fwd.us/news/immigration-registry-bill/>.

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/29/26)

Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles (CHIRLA) (source)
SEIU California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the author:

The immigration system in the United States is broken. There are millions of immigrants living, working, and contributing to our communities and economy who are living with fear and uncertainty. Joint Resolution 17 supports federal bills SB 2606 and HR 1511, urging Congress to modernize the Immigration Act of 1929, “The Registry Act”. The federal registry provision of the Act offered a pathway to permanent residency for people who resided in the US continuously for several years. However, the eligibility date requiring entry before 1972 has not been updated since 1986, and now the law is virtually obsolete. It also fails to recognize the reality of millions of long-term residents who have built lives, families, and careers in this country, including the 2 million Dreamers who were brought to this country as minors.

In California, where roughly 2.8 million undocumented immigrants live, updating the registry would provide much-needed stability for communities, strengthen the economy, and support a more compassionate and modern immigration system for the individuals who collectively contribute \$51.4 billion in state and local taxes. Legal residency would allow thousands of Californians to contribute more fully, secure better jobs, and invest in their families’ futures.

This resolution is a commonsense step that reflects our values and the urgent need for federal action. California must reaffirm its support for Congress in modernizing the immigration registry and ensuring that dignity and opportunity are extended to those who have proven their deep ties to our nation.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-7, 8/25/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, 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, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Bains, Bonta, Castillo, Davies, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis

Prepared by: Ian Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113

6/29/26 10:57:49

**** 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** ****

THIRD READING

Bill No: AJR 31
Author: Bryan (D), Bonta (D), Elhawary (D), Gipson (D), Jackson (D),
McKinnor (D), Ransom (D), Sharp-Collins (D) and Wilson (D), et al.
Introduced: 5/13/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NOES: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-11, 5/14/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Restoration of the Voting Rights Act of 1965

SOURCE: California Legislative Black Caucus

DIGEST: This resolution urges Congress to enact legislation to restore and strengthen the full protections of the Voting Rights Act of 1965 (VRA).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

- 1) Provides, pursuant to the 15th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, that “[t]he right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any state on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude.” The 15th Amendment authorizes Congress to enact legislation to enforce its provisions.
- 2) Prohibits, pursuant to Section 2 of the VRA, among other provisions, any “voting qualification or prerequisite to voting or standard, practice, or procedure” from being imposed by any “state or political subdivision in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color.” Section 5 of the VRA

requires certain states and covered jurisdictions to receive approval for any changes to law and practices affecting voting practices and procedures.

This resolution:

- 1) Calls upon Congress to act with all deliberate speed to enact legislation to restore and strengthen the full protections of the VRA.
- 2) Urges Congress to restore a functional preclearance regime, including a modernized coverage formula grounded in contemporary evidence of discrimination, ensuring that jurisdictions with a record of discriminatory practices must obtain federal approval before implementing voting changes.
- 3) Urges Congress to codify a robust, results-based standard under Section 2 of the VRA to explicitly reject the intent-focused narrowing of the VRA created by the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Louisiana v. Callais* and provide meaningful remedies to prevent and redress racial vote dilution and discriminatory districting.
- 4) Calls on Congress to honor the bipartisan legacy of the VRA by ensuring its protections remain fully effective in the face of contemporary threats.
- 5) Urges the President to sign such legislation promptly upon its passage.

Background

In 1965, Congress determined that state officials were failing to comply with the provisions of the 15th Amendment. As a result, Congress passed and President Johnson signed the VRA. The VRA, among other provisions, prohibits any “voting qualification or prerequisite to voting or standard, practice, or procedure” from being imposed by any “[s]tate or political subdivision in a manner which results in a denial or abridgement of the right of any citizen of the United States to vote on account of race or color.”

Section 2 of the VRA is a nationwide prohibition against voting practices and procedures, including redistricting plans and at-large election systems, poll worker hiring, and voting registration procedures, that discriminate on the basis of race, color, or membership in a language minority group. In *Louisiana v. Callais*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in April 2026 that Louisiana's congressional map was unconstitutional because race was used prominently in its design. The Court held that complying with Section 2 of the VRA did not justify race-based redistricting unless it met strict constitutional limits. The ramifications of this

decision are not fully known, but other states are evaluating how this decision affects a jurisdiction's current boundaries.

Section 2 also allowed the U.S. Attorney General or affected private citizens to bring lawsuits in federal court to challenge practices that may violate the VRA. In 2021, in *Brnovich v. DNC*, the U.S. Supreme Court made it more difficult to bring voter suppression claims through the judicial process.

Section 4 of the VRA set the criteria for determining whether a jurisdiction is covered under certain provisions of the VRA, including the requirement for review of changes affecting voting under Section 5.

Section 5 of the VRA requires certain states and covered jurisdictions to receive approval for any changes to law and practices affecting voting from the U.S. Department of Justice or the U.S. District Court of the District of Columbia to ensure the changes do not have the purpose or effect of "denying or abridging the right to vote on account of race or color." This is also known as a "preclearance" requirement.

The U.S. Supreme Court, in *Shelby County v. Holder* in 2013, held that a coverage formula in Section 4 of the VRA is unconstitutional and can no longer be used as a basis for subjecting jurisdictions to preclearance under Section 5 of the VRA. The Court did not directly strike down Section 5, which contains the preclearance requirements, but without Section 4, no jurisdiction will be subject to Section 5 preclearance unless Congress enacts a new coverage formula.

Comments

Author's Statement. The house is on fire. The systems that were erected to protect minority representation after the unconscionable actions of a nation that violently subjugated its Black citizens, are now again being used as an apparatus of oppression, repression and suppression. The Constitution is not self-executing. A brief journey into the electoral history of much of the nation shows that violence and terror have gone hand in hand with regulatory and legislative restrictions to crush the dreams and steal the future of Black communities by ensuring their voices were ignored and their votes did not count.

If our voice is our power, and voting is the primary expression of that power, the protections of access to the ballot box are the foundations on which we secure a just and fair democratic society.

We have seen these hurdles before—poll taxes, literacy tests, and moral character exams—all facially race-neutral, but all with the clear intent and effect of

suppressing the Black vote. Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere: California must not be silent. We are more than three-fifths of a human. We are not going back.

Related/prior legislation

SB 1164 (Cervantes) of 2026, among other provisions, repeals and replaces the California Voting Rights Act of 2001 with a state voting rights act that seeks to protect voters from voter suppression and vote dilution. The bill also creates a procedure for preclearance based off of the federal VRA.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Legislative Black Caucus (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 60-11, 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: Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Davies, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Lackey, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
7/1/26 16:55:29

**** END ****