2025-26 SESSION

SENATE
THIRD READING PACKET

THURSDAY, AUGUST 6, 2026

OFFICE OF SENATE FLOOR ANALYSES
651-4171

SENATE THIRD READING PACKET

Attached are analyses of bills on the Daily File for Thursday, August 6, 2026.

Note	Measure	Author	Location
	SB 918	Seyarto	Unfinished Business
	SB 1088	Blakespear	Unfinished Business
	SB 1175	Rubio	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 108	Archuleta	Unfinished Business
	SCR 142	Becker	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 145	Weber Pierson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 180	Valladares	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	SCR 182	Seyarto	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	SCR 186	Grayson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SCR 188	Pérez	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 191	Seyarto	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SCR 192	Stern	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SJR 7	Cervantes	Unfinished Business
	SR 108	Hurtado	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
	SR 109	Menjivar	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	SR 118	Niello	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	SR 119	Caballero	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 121	Alvarado-Gil	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 122	Valladares	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 123	Weber Pierson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 124	Weber Pierson	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 125	Hurtado	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	SR 126	Rubio	Senate Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 28	Schiavo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 40	Bonta	Assembly 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 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

\+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
	AB 177	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 180	Committee on Budget	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 230	Ransom	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 302	Bauer-Kahan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 312	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 350	Bonta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 387	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 502	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 739	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 744	Michelle Rodriguez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 871	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 912	Wilson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 939	Schultz	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 956	Quirk-Silva	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1112	Wallis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1128	Muratsuchi	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1145	Jeff Gonzalez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1199	Patterson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1267	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1278	Harabedian	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1338	Solache	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1377	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 1448	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1457	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1526	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1544	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1551	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1562	Jackson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1569	Davies	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	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 1607	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1615	Nguyen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1617	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1619	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1622	Blanca Rubio	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1627	Ávila Farías	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1632	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1636	Solache	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1637	Caloza	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1647	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1652	Patterson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
RA	AB 1656	Davies	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1657	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1659	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 1660	Schiavo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1665	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1679	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1684	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
	AB 1689	Quirk-Silva	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1693	Zbur	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1696	Stefani	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1697	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1712	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1713	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1722	Hadwick	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1738	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1756	Jeff Gonzalez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1758	Nguyen	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1760	Arambula	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1766	Krell	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1767	Berman	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1786	Harabedian	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1792	Michelle Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1793	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1794	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1801	Lee	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1809	Fong	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1811	Rogers	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1817	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1820	Schiavo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1821	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1824	Ramos	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1837	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1843	Elhawary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1848	Ransom	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 1860	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1873	Bennett	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
RA	AB 1875	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1876	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1886	Elhawary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 1892	Davies	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1894	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1897	Haney	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 1905	Schultz	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1908	McKinnor	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1910	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1912	Hadwick	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1913	Soria	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 1918	Dixon	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1923	Soria	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1928	Fong	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	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 1950	Harabedian	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1954	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1956	Valencia	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1957	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
	AB 1974	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1976	Wicks	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1977	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1982	Lowenthal	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 1991	Aguiar-Curry	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 1997	Lee	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 1999	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 2001	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2004	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2012	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2024	Nguyen	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2028	Chen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2035	Dixon	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2041	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2044	Petrie-Norris	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2050	Caloza	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 2052	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2061	Chen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2066	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2067	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2071	Hoover	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2075	Bennett	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2078	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2080	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2086	Ellis	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2089	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2110	Johnson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2118	Hoover	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2120	Solache	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
RA	AB 2121	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2125	Bennett	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2128	Haney	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2150	Haney	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2164	Bauer-Kahan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2168	Wicks	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 2179	Patel	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2180	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2181	Zbur	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2188	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2194	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2200	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2211	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2224	Hadwick	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2230	Ávila Farías	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2231	Ahrens	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2233	Ta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2248	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2257	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2262	Michelle Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2263	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
+	AB 2272	Caloza	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2274	Bains	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 2280	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2281	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2290	Lackey	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2292	Ward	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2296	Papan	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 2307	Sanchez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2312	Ávila Farías	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2322	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2341	Fong	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2346	Wilson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2361	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2372	Hoover	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2375	Blanca Rubio	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2380	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2390	Schiavo	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
RA	AB 2397	Ta	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2402	Boerner	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2409	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2413	Ransom	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2415	Hoover	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2418	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2425	Chen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2429	Blanca Rubio	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2433	Alvarez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2437	Chen	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2439	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2448	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2453	Michelle Rodriguez	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2458	Bennett	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2460	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2467	Committee on Education	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2471	Committee on Emergency Management	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2476	Ellis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2480	Ávila Farías	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2484	Alvarez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2499	Gipson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2502	Pellerin	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2503	Wallis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2512	Valencia	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2523	Fong	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2529	Johnson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2532	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2536	Blanca Rubio	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2538	Macedo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2542	Patterson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
	AB 2561	Valencia	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2562	Dixon	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	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 2576	Harabedian	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2577	Connolly	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2594	Lowenthal	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2595	Papan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2596	Gipson	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2601	Lee	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2613	Sharp-Collins	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2618	Connolly	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2636	Pacheco	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2644	Blanca Rubio	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2663	Rogers	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2674	Schiavo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2685	Committee on Agriculture	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2689	Ávila Farías	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
RA	AB 2691	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2697	Pellerin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2713	Wicks	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2728	Soria	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2731	Addis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2751	Alvarez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2760	Sharp-Collins	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2764	Ahrens	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2766	Ahrens	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2772	Committee on Business and Professions	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2776	Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2777	Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2778	Committee on Agriculture	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
	AB 2779	Irwin	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2782	Committee on Judiciary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2783	Committee on Judiciary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2784	Committee on Judiciary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2786	Committee on Elections	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2787	Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2788	Committee on Transportation	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2792	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AB 2793	Committee on Governmental Organization	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	AB 2794	Committee on Higher Education	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	AB 2795	Committee on Banking and Finance	Consent Calendar Second Legislative Day
+	ACR 61	Stefani	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 107	Bauer-Kahan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

Note	Measure	Author	Location
+	ACR 125	Alanis	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 149	Hart	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 157	Hoover	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 159	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	ACR 162	Hadwick	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 165	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 173	Carrillo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 176	Elhawary	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 187	Jeff Gonzalez	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 193	Aguiar-Curry	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 194	Pacheco	Special Consent Calendar No.30
+	ACR 207	Kalra	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 211	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	ACR 212	Macedo	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 214	Bryan	Special Consent Calendar No.30
+	ACR 216	Mark González	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	ACR 219	Papan	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 220	Nguyen	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 222	Michelle Rodriguez	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 223	Rogers	Special Consent Calendar No.30
	ACR 224	Dixon	Special Consent Calendar No.30
+	ACR 225	Blanca Rubio	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	ACR 226	Wilson	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
+	ACR 227	Sharp-Collins	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AJR 17	Celeste Rodriguez	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AJR 29	Berman	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File
	AJR 31	Bryan	Assembly Bills - Third Reading File

+ ADDS
RA Revised Analysis
* Analysis pending

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SB 918
Author: Seyarto (R), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 3/25/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 38-0, 4/16/26 (Consent)
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, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Reyes, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Menjivar, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Food facilities: retail food safety

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises the requirements for "passthrough window service openings" of a restaurant by allowing larger passthrough openings (currently limited to 432 square inches) if the passthrough window opening is equipped with both a self-closing device and an air curtain device.

Assembly Amendments of 6/11/26 delete the discretion of local enforcement agencies to approve larger passthrough openings, and instead simply requires the larger openings to adhere to the requirements to be equipped with a self-closing device and an air curtain device.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the California Retail Food Code (CalCode) to provide for the regulation of retail food facilities. Health and sanitation standards are established at the state level through the CalCode, while enforcement is charged to local agencies, carried out by the 58 county environmental health departments, and four city environmental health departments (Berkeley, Long Beach, Pasadena, and Vernon). [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §113700, et seq.]

2) Requires primary responsibility for the enforcement of the CalCode to be with the local enforcement agency, but provides that nothing prevents the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) from taking any necessary program or enforcement actions for the protection of public health and safety. Requires CDPH to provide technical assistance, training, standardization, program evaluation, and other services to local health agencies as necessary to ensure the uniform interpretation and application of the CalCode, when an appropriation is made for this purpose. [HSC §113713]

3) Defines a "food facility" as an operation that stores, prepares, packages, serves, vends, or otherwise provides food for human consumption at the retail level. Excludes various entities from the definition of a "food facility," including a cottage food operation, and a church, private club, or other nonprofit association that gives or sells food to its members and guests, and not to the general public, at an event that occurs no more than three days in any 90-day period. [HSC §113789]

4) Requires passthrough window service openings of a food facility to be limited to 216 square inches, not closer together than 18 inches, and be provided with a solid or screened window that is equipped with a self-closing device. Additionally, permits passthrough windows of up to 432 square inches if equipped with an air curtain device. [HSC §114259.2]

This bill:

1) Deletes the requirement that passthrough windows of 216 square inches or less have a self-closing device, and instead requires the window to be closed when not in use.

2) Deletes the requirement that passthrough windows of up to 432 square inches be equipped with an air curtain device, and instead requires these windows to have either an air curtain device or a self-closing device.

3) Requires a passthrough service opening that is larger than 432 square inches to be equipped with both a self-closing device and an air curtain device.

4) Requires a passthrough window or other service opening to be used specifically for food delivery operations and not as a general entrance or exit for employees or customers.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

"This bill will modernize California's drive-through service rules to reflect how restaurants operate today while maintaining strong food-safety protections. Current law was built around small passthrough windows and can unintentionally block modern designs like two-lane drive-throughs from serving customers efficiently from inside the building. This forces some restaurants to use workarounds that are less safe and take longer because employees must walk out through the entrance, navigate around drive-through traffic to reach the outer lane, deliver the order, then walk back the same way. This bill updates CalCode to allow bigger drive-through openings with required safety features like air curtains and self-closing doors. The bill also clarifies that these openings may only be used for passthrough service and not as regular pedestrian entrances. This fix keeps California's health and safety rules strong while making drive-throughs work better across the state."

Background

Background on problem this bill is addressing. According to the author, Chick-fil-A is an example of a restaurant that is seeking to better serve drive-thru customers by replacing the standard pass-through window with a larger opening that employees can use to walk food to a car in a second drive-thru lane, or to a car that is not first in line and therefore not adjacent to the pass-through window. The current maximum opening of 432 square inches equates to a window that is 18 inches wide and two feet high. However, in other states, Chick-fil-A has been approved to install a food delivery opening where the bottom half can remain closed and the top half serves as a traditional pass-through window, but the bottom half can also slide open to let the employee walk through to complete a delivery.

This bill would allow a local enforcement agency to approve a larger opening as long as it has an automatic closing mechanism along with an air curtain device to prevent flies from entering the restaurant. The current language in this bill prohibits this larger opening from being used as an entrance or exit for employees or customers. However, the author has proposed amendments, that have been negotiated and agreed to by the California Conference of Directors of Environmental Health (representing local enforcement officers), to clarify that that the opening is to be used specifically for food delivery operations and not as a "general entrance or exit" for employees or customers.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1470 (Haney of 2025), among other provisions, contained a similar modification to the pass-through window requirements in food facilities that is contained in this bill. AB 1470 also contained provisions to modify requirements related to grease traps, and other requirements of food facilities. *AB 1470 was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

AB 2550 (Gabriel of 2024), among other provisions, contained similar modifications to pass-through window requirements in food facilities as this bill. AB 2550 also required the Building Standards Commission to adopt building standards that reduce bathroom requirements for food facilities. *AB 2550 was held on the Senate Appropriations Committee suspense file.*

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

According to the Assembly Committee on Appropriations minor and absorbable costs to the Department of Public Health to respond to technical assistance questions from local environmental health agencies. Minor and absorbable costs to local environmental health agencies that inspect restaurants.

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/20/26)

California Association of Environmental Health Administrators
California Restaurant Association
Southwest California Legislative Council

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/20/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

This bill is supported by the Southwest California Legislative Council (SWCLC), which states that it removes unnecessarily restrictive regulations on food facility passthrough windows, providing meaningful operational relief for restaurants and drive-through businesses while maintaining appropriate health and safety standards. SWCLC states that drive-through window service is a significant part of the food service economy throughout Southwest California, and this bill modernizes outdated and overly prescriptive requirements, giving businesses greater design flexibility and allowing local enforcement agencies to approve appropriate alternative configurations, while preserving the health and safety intent of the law. The California Restaurant Association also supports this bill, stating that allowing restauranteurs to choose what pass-through window arrangements best suits their operation is essential to remaining current and maintaining a robust food service economy.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bryan, Calderon, Chen, Elhawary, Ellis, Papan, Ransom, Sanchez

Prepared by: Vincent D. Marchand / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
7/30/26 14:49:31

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 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 Unviersity 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 ******

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No: SCR 108
Author: Archuleta (D), et al.
Amended: 5/14/26
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 12-0, 4/14/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Deputy David Piquette Memorial Highway

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates a section of State Route (SR) 91 between the SR 90 junction and Weir Canyon Road in the County of Orange as the "Deputy David Piquette Memorial Highway".

Assembly Amendments: Moved the designated section of SR 91 from between Kraemer Boulevard and Tustin Avenue to between the SR 90 junction and Weir Canyon Road.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law assigns the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways, including the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

Senate Transportation Committee Policy:

The committee has adopted a policy regarding the naming of state highways or structures. Under the policy, the committee will consider only those resolutions that meet all of the following criteria:

1) The person being honored must be deceased or a former elected public official who has been out of office for at least 25 years.

2) The person must have provided extraordinary public service or some exemplary contribution to the public good and have a connection to the community where the highway is located.

3) The naming must be done without cost to the state. Costs for signs and plaques must be paid by local or private sources.

4) The author or co-author of the resolution must represent the district in which the facility is located, and the resolution must identify the specific highway segment or structure being named.

5) The segment of highway being named must not exceed five miles in length.

6) The proposed designation must reflect a community consensus and be without local opposition.

7) The proposed designation may not supersede an existing designation unless the sponsor can document that a good faith effort has uncovered no opposition to rescinding the prior designation.

This resolution:

1) Recounts the life and career of Deputy David Piquette.

2) Designates a portion of SR 91 from the junction of SR 90 at postmile R12.078 to west of Weir Canyon Road at postmile R14.108L, in the County of Orange, as the “Deputy David Piquette Memorial Highway”.

3) Requests Caltrans to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover that cost, to erect those signs.

Comments

Purpose of the resolution. According to the author, "Deputy David Piquette passed away on July 7, 2006, at the age of 34. Deputy Piquette was a Marine Corps veteran, a husband, and a father of two. After serving in the Persian Gulf and retiring from the Marine Corps, he served with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department for ten years as a defensive tactics instructor. His passing – caused by a collision on State Road 91 – was a tragic loss for his family, his colleagues, and the state of California. I am honored to be able to introduce SCR 108, to dedicate a portion of State Road 91 as the Deputy David Piquette Memorial Highway."

Background. David Stan Piquette was born in Irvine, California in 1972 to William and Lan Thi Piquette. Following his time at Irvine High School, Deputy Piquette served with the United States Marine Corp as part of the Security Forces Detail with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit. Upon returning to California, Deputy Piquette joined the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department where he worked as a Custody Deputy, Patrol Field Training Officer, and eventually a Defensive Tactics Instructor at the Department Training Bureau.

Deputy Piquette received multiple recognitions in his time with the Sheriff's Department, including Public Commendations, Unit Commander Commendations, and awards for Commendable Restraint and devotion to service. He was noted for being a tremendous worker and showing elite discipline and dedication is all his endeavors.

Outside of work, Deputy Piquette was a practiced athlete, having played football and wrestled in high school, and later being an avid runner, competing nearly every year in the Baker to Vegas Challenge Cup Relay. He was also a committed husband and father. He married his high school sweetheart, Shawna, with whom he had twin children, Justin David Piquette and Jordan Ashley Piquette.

On the morning of July 7, 2006, Deputy Piquette was driving to work on State Route 91 when he encountered a stove that had fallen from another vehicle. Deputy Piquette took evasive action to avoid striking the stove when he collided with a tractor-trailer. The trailer turned over on his vehicle, causing fatal injuries.

Deputy Piquette is deeply missed by many, who view him as having been a hero in all the roles of his life.

Consistent with committee policy. This resolution is consistent with committee policy.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/6/26)

Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs (ALADS)
Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/6/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bryan, Calderon, Chen, Elhawary, Ellis, Papan, Ransom, Sanchez

Prepared by: Samuel Myers / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
7/30/26 14:49:34

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: SCR 180
Author: Valladares (R), et al.
Introduced: 5/20/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SUBJECT: Hydrogen: decarbonization tool

SOURCE: California Hydrogen Business Council

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes hydrogen as a key decarbonization tool, support carbon-intensity based frameworks, encourages state agencies to prioritize hydrogen deployment, and urges coordination to ensure hydrogen projects advance specified outcomes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Under the California Climate Crisis Act (AB 1279 Muratsuchi, Chapter 337, Statutes of 2022), states that it is the policy of the state to achieve net zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions no later than 2045, and to ensure that by 2045 statewide anthropogenic GHG emissions are reduced to at least 85% below the 1990 level. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 38562.2)

2) States that it is the goal of the state to procure 100% of electricity from eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources by December 31, 2045. (Public Utilities Code (PUC) § 454.53)

3) Requires the California Air Resources Board CARB, by June 1, 2024, to prepare a hydrogen evaluation, including:

a) Policy recommendations to accelerate production and use of hydrogen, and specifically green hydrogen, to help achieve climate, clean energy, and clean air objectives;

b) Strategies supporting hydrogen infrastructure and end uses in difficult to decarbonize sectors;

c) Potential for other forms of hydrogen, outside of green hydrogen, to achieve emissions reductions;

d) An analysis of how curtailed electrical generation could be used to meet climate goals, including for the production of green hydrogen; and,

e) An estimate of emissions reductions the state could achieve through deployment of green hydrogen. (HSC § 38561.8)

This resolution:

1) Describes existing California clean energy and climate goals and requirements.

2) Positions hydrogen as one of the solutions to achieving said targets.

3) Advocates for the value of carbon intensity-based frameworks in assessing hydrogen production and use.

4) Describes considerations for hydrogen production, transportation, and end-use.

5) Resolves that the Legislature:

   a) Recognize hydrogen as a key decarbonization tool,

   b) Supports the continued development and refinement of carbon intensity-based frameworks,

   c) Encourages state agencies to deploy and use it, and

   d) Urges coordination among all levels of government and stakeholders to advance hydrogen.

Background

Hydrogen: when, where, and why? The environmental impacts of hydrogen, including effects on climate and air quality, can range from very favorable to very unfavorable, depending on production, delivery, end use, and the fuel the hydrogen is replacing. For example, hydrogen produced with fossil fuels and used in a

combustion application that replaces a renewable energy source is not a good environmental solution. However, hydrogen produced with zero-carbon energy and used in a zero-emission application that replaces diesel combustion has clear climate and air quality benefits.

The source of the hydrogen and the source of the energy used to split hydrogen plays a significant role in determining the lifecycle emissions associated with hydrogen use. Today, there are several means of hydrogen production and it is likely that these will evolve as technology advances.

Green hydrogen can result in almost no GHG emissions. Produced by electrolyzing water, green hydrogen is made using 100% renewable electricity to split hydrogen from water molecules. Less than 0.1% of hydrogen production globally comes from water electrolysis.

96% of the hydrogen today is considered to be gray hydrogen. Gray hydrogen is produced by heating natural gas, or methane, with steam to form syngas (a mixture of hydrogen and carbon monoxide and carbon dioxide). The syngas is separated to produce hydrogen. This process results in a relatively high release of GHGs.

Blue hydrogen attempts to mitigate some of the GHG emission release during the production of gray hydrogen by pairing production with carbon capture and storage. However, not all carbon dioxide emissions can be captured, and some carbon dioxide is emitted during the production of blue hydrogen. Carbon capture increases the cost and inefficiency of the production of blue hydrogen.

Currently hydrogen branded “renewable” is produced mainly by steam methane reformation of biomethane from North American landfills. SB 1505 (Lowenthal, Chapter 877, Statutes of 2006), requires 33% of the hydrogen produced for fueling stations that receive state funds be made from eligible renewable energy resources, including biomass, digester gas, landfill gas, solar, and wind. However, compliance is achieved largely on paper, through the use of credits from out of state renewable energy sources, rather than direct production and use of renewable hydrogen in California.

No matter how green it is, where hydrogen is used matters. There have been recent evaluations seeking to identify the “least-regrets” end-uses of hydrogen, especially given the costliness of initial hydrogen production and the varied emissions benefits of hydrogen usage in different sectors.

Earthjustice released a report in 2021 identifying promising applications for green hydrogen and ranking hydrogen use by least-regrets uses, sectors to explore with caution, and sectors where hydrogen is not a solution.[1] The report categorizes the least-regrets use for hydrogen as displacing fossil hydrogen in current industrial feedstocks. The usage of hydrogen in maritime shipping, aviation, and long-haul trucks and trains were categorized as "sectors to explore with caution." While Earthjustice categorized hydrogen usage in combustion in fossil gas power plants, gas-burning appliances in homes and commercial buildings, and cars, buses, and regional trucks as sectors where hydrogen is not a solution.

Another such report was released in 2024 by Energy Innovation, titled *Hydrogen Policy's Narrow Path: Delusions and Solutions*.[2] Similarly, the Energy Innovation report stated that, "Hydrogen will be important for achieving our climate goals, but it can do so if and only if it is truly clean and directed to appropriate applications. Straying from this narrow path can reverse, delay, or raise the cost of emission reductions while failing environmental justice goals" The report assessed the use of hydrogen across 12 sectors, and concluded that "The risk is high for hydrogen investments to do more harm than good. But there's still a chance to set a course where hydrogen delivers on its promises if government officials act wisely."

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, "SCR 180 recognizes hydrogen as an important decarbonization tool that can help California achieve its ambitious climate, air quality, energy reliability, and economic development goals. California has long been a leader in advancing innovative clean energy technologies, and hydrogen is increasingly being deployed to reduce emissions in sectors that are difficult to electrify, including heavy-duty transportation, industrial processes, ports, rail, aviation, maritime applications, and dispatchable power generation.

   "This resolution acknowledges that hydrogen pathways should be evaluated through transparent lifecycle carbon intensity standards that measure actual environmental performance. SCR 180 does not mandate any specific technology or project. Instead, it affirms the Legislature's support for a technology-neutral framework that encourages innovation, investment, job

[1] Reclaiming Hydrogen for a Renewable Future. Earthjustice. November 2021. **https://earthjustice.org/wp-content/uploads/hydrogen_2_pager_state_final.pdf**
[2] Esposito, Dan. Hydrogen Policy's Narrow Path: Delusions and Solutions. Energy Innovation. August 2024. **https://energyinnovation.org/report/hydrogen-policys-narrow-path-delusions-and-solutions/**

creation, and emissions reductions while helping California maintain its leadership in clean energy, clean air, and climate policy."

2) *Carbon intensity: not bad, but not the full picture*. Carbon intensity is a helpful measure of the lifecycle emissions associated with a resource, but it is not a silver bullet. In the same way that Diet Coke and water are both zero-calorie liquids that cannot fill all the same roles, two low carbon intensity applications of hydrogen may not be equal in all regards. The so-called "boundaries" of a life cycle assessment to assess a carbon intensity are not always clear, objective facts. According to carbon intensity alone, hydrogen made from the methane captured from dairy manure may be among the "cleanest" hydrogen available. However, that relies on ignoring the other externalities the production process creates, as well as requiring certain assumptions to be made about what would've happened to the methane otherwise.

   Of particular relevance to discussions of hydrogen today is the "Three Pillars" framework. Designed as part of the 2022 Inflation Reduction Act to support the development of a U.S. hydrogen economy, the federal Section 45V clean hydrogen production tax credit offers up to $3.00 per kilogram for the lowest carbon intensity hydrogen. Defining the carbon intensity of that hydrogen has driven significant discussion of how to define and verify clean hydrogen. In a situation where a hydrogen producer simply builds a new renewable energy resource to directly power their operations, this is a simple task. However, when energy attribute certificates (EACs) are used to account for clean electricity generated and used elsewhere, this quickly becomes wickedly complicated.

   In a white paper published in December of 2023, the U.S. Department of Energy sought to describe the necessary safeguards to ensure that electricity EACs used for hydrogen production truly contributed to reduced GHG emissions.[3] The framework used in that white paper has been colloquially referred to as the "Three Pillars" and has stood as an example of the robust considerations necessary to ensure nominal GHG emission reductions represent real-world improvements.

   After over a year of deliberations and over 30,000 public comments, the U.S. Treasury's final hydrogen 45V guidance established the rules for qualifying

[3] Assessing Lifecycle Greenhouse Gas Emissions Associated with Electricity Use for the Section 45V Clean Hydrogen Production Tax Credit. U.S. DOE. **https://www.energy.gov/sites/default/files/2023-12/Assessing_Lifecycle_Greenhouse_Gas_Emissions_Associated_with_Electricity_Use_for_the_Section_45V_Clean_Hydrogen_Production_Tax_Credit.pdf**

electrolytic hydrogen projects.[4] The rules generally maintain the "three pillars" overall structure — requiring producers to build and deliver clean power, at the time of production, to hydrogen projects to qualify for the tax credit.[5] Notably, some provisions of the final 45V guidance work different in California and Washington, due to the presence of certain state laws.

3) *Resolving to keep it in the mix*. As a resolution, this measure does not have force of law, nor does it compel or require any actions or decisions on hydrogen. Undoubtedly, hydrogen will play a role in California's decarbonized future. The scope and shape of that role is yet to be determined. While hydrogen can help the state decarbonize its economy, generally speaking, care should be taken to uphold rigor and nuance in considering each application. Regardless of the encouragement for hydrogen in this resolution, California should continue to use the best methodology and evidence available for each given application and decide accordingly when and where hydrogen is the best tool for the job.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1420 (Caballero, Chapter 608, Statutes of 2024), as heard by this committee, defined "renewable hydrogen" and "qualified clean hydrogen," and included those classes of hydrogen in a set of transportation fuel content standards; added them to two existing permit streamlining mechanisms created by recent legislation; and made changes to the RPS to enable their inclusion as eligible resources.

AB 2204 (Bennett, 2024) would require all hydrogen produced or used in California by date certain to be green hydrogen that excludes fossil fuels as a feedstock or an energy source in the production process, and that complies with any applicable requirements regarding the three pillars. AB 2204 was not heard in committee.

SB 414 (Allen, 2023) would have required CARB, in consultation with the CEC and CPUC, to develop an assessment of hydrogen use for specified applications including electricity generation. This assessment would include cost, energy efficiency, and health, safety, environmental, and climate risks. This bill died in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

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[4] Credit for Production of Clean Hydrogen and Energy Credit. 1/10/2025. Federal Register. **https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2025/01/10/2024-31513/credit-for-production-of-clean-hydrogen-and-energy-credit**

[5] Implementing the 45V Rule: What it Means for Green Hydrogen Projects. Taylor Krause, Evan Brooks, Nathan Iyer for RMI. March 3, 2025

SB 1075 (Skinner, Chapter 363, Statutes of 2022) directs CARB, in consultation with the CPUC and CEC, to develop an evaluation by June 1, 2024 which, among other things, evaluates the potential use for other forms of hydrogen (not green hydrogen), health and environmental impacts of various forms of hydrogen, and strategies to support hydrogen infrastructure.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/27/2026)

California Hydrogen Business Council (Source)
United States Hydrogen Alliance

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/27/2026)

None received

Prepared by: Heather Walters / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/3/26 17:24:40

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 191
Author: Seyarto (R)
Introduced: 7/2/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: California Emergency Preparedness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution This proclaims September 2026 as California Emergency Preparedness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) California has experienced a significant increase over the last decade in emergency situations that require individuals to prepare in advance.

2) These disasters include wildfires, earthquakes, snowstorms, floods, mudslides, and other occurrences that can leave Californians without power, food, or other essential items for days.

3) It is vital that residents and all levels of government have comprehensive plans in place before an emergency or natural disaster occurs.

4) National Preparedness Month aims to educate and empower Americans during outreach to prepare for and respond to all types of emergencies, including natural disasters and manmade emergencies.

5) National Preparedness Month focuses on plans that include access to adequate shelter, reserves of food and water, backup power for communication devices, plans for pets, and access to transportation.

This resolution encourages Californians to acknowledge the importance of planning for emergencies to protect themselves and their families.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 97 (Seyarto, Resolution Chapter 157, Statutes of 2025)
ACR 223 (Rodriguez, Resolution Chapter 195, Statutes of 2024)
SCR 75 (Ochoa Bogh, Resolution Chapter 8, Statutes of 2024)
ACR 112 (Rodriguez, Resolution Chapter 171, Statutes of 2023)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:31

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: SCR 192
Author: Stern (D), et al.
Amended: 8/3/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Open water lifeguards

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes open water lifeguards as first responders, in acknowledgment of their essential role in emergency response, public safety, and drowning prevention, as provided.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) California's open water lifeguards, employed by various cities, counties, fire departments, harbor districts, park districts, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and others, serve and protect beaches and lakes across the state and conduct aquatic rescues, respond to medical emergencies and traffic collisions, execute tactical extrications, and more, all of which fall under the tenets of a first responder classification.

2) The United States Lifesaving Association and the California Surf Lifesaving Association document that, based on statistics from 46 reporting California lifeguard agencies over the past 26 years from 2000 to 2025, inclusive, California's open water lifeguards have protected more than 4.5 billion patrons and performed an astounding 96 million preventative actions or mitigating incidents, and effected 1.4 million rescues.

3) Open water lifeguards not only protect human life but also safeguard property, preserve evidence, and protect the environment, which together represent the four core tenets commonly used to define a first responder.

4) In the performance of their duties, open water lifeguards routinely place themselves at significant risk to their own lives and physical safety in dynamic and hazardous ocean, surf, and shoreline environments.

5) Lifeguards have given their lives in the line of duty protecting the public on California's neighboring coastlines, including Newport Beach ocean lifeguard Ben Carlson, who died on July 6, 2014, while rescuing a distressed swimmer, a sacrifice memorialized by the Ben Carlson Memorial and Scholarship Foundation and honored by the lifesaving community statewide.

6) The Legislature recognizes the value of all California public agencies employing open water lifeguards, including, but not limited to, cities, counties, fire departments, harbor and port districts, park districts, and the Department of Parks and Recreation, formally recognizing open water lifeguards as first responders in their training frameworks, emergency planning documents, and mutual aid agreements, commensurate with the scope and gravity of the duties those lifeguards perform.

This resolution recognizes professional open water lifeguards, including, but not limited to, ocean lifeguards, lake lifeguards, and all nonsworn open water lifeguard personnel employed by state, county, municipal, and district agencies throughout California, as first responders in acknowledgment of their essential role in emergency response, public safety, and drowning prevention.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Crystal Cove Lifeguard Association
Long Beach Lifeguard Association
Santa Cruz State Lifeguard Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:32

****** 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 at 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 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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, Techology, 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 morrisi, 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 121
Author: Alvarado-Gil (R), et al.
Introduced: 6/29/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Killed in Action flag

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution honors and recognizes the Killed in Action flag as an emblem of sacrifice, remembrance, and respect for members of the United States Armed Forces who were killed in combat.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) The State of California suffered approximately 1,932 combat-related fatalities during World War I, more than 17,000 combat-related deaths during World War II, 1,743 confirmed killed in action during the Korean war, thousands of combat-related deaths during the Vietnam war, and more than 500 service members killed in action during the operations in Iraq and Afghanistan following September 11, 2001.

2) The Killed in Action flag was created in the State of California in 1993 through a grassroots effort led by combat veterans and veteran motorcycle riders seeking to establish a public symbol dedicated to members of the armed forces who gave their lives in combat.

3) The creation of the Killed in Action flag arose from the recognition that service members who are prisoners of war or missing in action are honored under the nationally recognized Prisoners of War or Missing in Action flag, while those who were confirmed killed in action lacked a separate and universally recognized symbol dedicated to their sacrifice.

This resolution encourages Californians to observe appropriate occasions, including, but not limited to, the last Monday of May for Memorial Day, November 11 for Veterans Day, July 4 for Independence Day, and military

remembrance ceremonies, by displaying the Killed in Action flag in honor of the fallen.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:33

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 122
Author: Valladares (R), et al.
Introduced: 7/2/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims November 2026 as Pancreatic Cancer Awareness Month in California and urges all Californians to take action to end pancreatic cancer.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1. In 2026, an estimated 67,530 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer, and 52,740 will die from the disease.

2. Despite its devastating impact, pancreatic cancer research continues to receive disproportionately low federal funding. In 2023, the National Cancer Institute (NCI) had a budget of nearly $7,700,000,000. In 2023, only $237,600,000 went towards pancreatic cancer research.

3. The Pancreatic Cancer Action Network (PanCAN) is a national patient advocacy organization that takes bold action to improve the lives of everyone impacted by pancreatic cancer by advancing scientific research, building community, sharing knowledge, and advocating for patients. The organization has invested $249,000,000 in pancreatic cancer research and scientific programs to advance the field.

4. The good health and well-being of the residents of California are enhanced as a direct result of increased awareness about pancreatic cancer and research into early detection, causes, and effective treatments.

This resolution recognizes that federal funding is not keeping pace with the tremendous interest and commitment by the scientific community to advance pancreatic cancer research.

Related/Prior Legislation

SR 62 (Valladares, 2025, Adopted in Senate)
HR 129 (Valladares, 2021, Adopted in Assembly)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:34

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 123
Author: Weber Pierson (D)
Introduced: 7/2/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Medically Supportive Food and Nutrition Services

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes the critical role that medically supportive food and nutrition plays in reducing chronic disease and advancing health equity.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Medically supportive food and nutrition, commonly known as "food as medicine," are food-based interventions integrated into health care used to prevent, treat, and reverse diet-sensitive medical conditions.

2) The delivery of high-quality medically supportive food and nutrition interventions is driven by contracts with community-based providers who offer culturally relevant and patient-centered services, uphold high nutrition and quality standards, and collaborate with other local organizations and health care providers to support overall patient health.

3) An evaluation conducted by the State Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) which examined the cost-effectiveness of medically supportive food and nutrition under CalAIM found that implementation of these services led to reduced health care spending, with an 18.7% reduction in costs for inpatient services, a 6% reduction in costs for outpatient services, and a 20% reduction in per-member per-month emergency room costs.

4) Prioritizing the sourcing of high-quality food from California regenerative or organic farms or ranches, including from socially disadvantaged or beginning farmers or ranchers, offers multiple benefits to human health, California's economy, and the environment to reach California's climate goals by 2045.

This resolution recognizes the value of transparency, accountability, and continuous improvement in strengthening the implementation and effectiveness of medically supportive food and nutrition services throughout California.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2348 (Bonta of 2026, in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File)
AB 1975 (Bonta, 2024) – Vetoed by Governor Newsom

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:34

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 124
Author: Weber Pierson (D), et al.
Introduced: 7/2/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month of 2026

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of September 2026 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Ovarian cancer continues to cast a long and painful shadow over countless families, stealing the lives of mothers, daughters, sisters, and friends far too soon, and leaving in its wake a legacy of loss and grief.

2) Ovarian cancer is the most fatal of all female reproductive system cancers. The five-year survival rates for ovarian cancer, by time of diagnosis, are as follows: 93.1% for women diagnosed in an early stage, 74.5% for women diagnosed in an intermediate stage, and 30.8% for women diagnosed in an advanced stage.

3) Ovarian cancer makes up only 2.5% of all female cancer cases, yet it causes 5 percent of cancer deaths due to its low survival rate. Early detection offers the greatest hope for survival, yet ovarian cancer remains one of the most difficult cancers to diagnose at an early stage. There is no simple and reliable way to screen for this disease, symptoms are often not clear until later stages, and most women are diagnosed without being at high risk.

4) It is essential to actively encourage all women to engage in early preventive care and routine screenings for ovarian cancer. It is equally important that we empower women with the knowledge and confidence to listen to their bodies and seek medical attention when they notice unexplained symptoms such as bloating, pelvic or abdominal pain, difficulty eating, or urinary urgency, or other symptoms that may otherwise go overlooked.

5) Each September, during Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month, we pause to remember those we have lost, honor those who continue to bravely confront this disease, and recommit ourselves to supporting survivors, caregivers, and all those working tirelessly to improve outcomes and raise public awareness of ovarian cancer.

This resolution proclaims the month of September 2026 as Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 221 (Papan, Resolution Chapter 193, Statutes of 2024)
SR 56 (Weber Pierson, 2025) – Adopted in Senate.
SR 101 (Caballero, 2024) – Adopted in Senate.
ACR 111 (Papan, Resolution Chapter 170, Statutes of 2023)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:35

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 125
Author: Hurtado (D)
Introduced: 8/3/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Pakistani-American relations

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution commemorates Pakistani-American relations, and urges all Californians to join in celebrating the friendly relations between these two nations.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) With diligence, fortitude, and an enduring belief in the American dream, Pakistani immigrants have helped to turn emergent areas within the State of California into thriving and respectable communities, while raising their children to be productive Pakistani Americans.

2) Pakistani Americans have become an integral part of mainstream American society and have made important contributions as Californians in the fields of finance, technology, law, medicine, education, sports, media, the arts, the military, and government, as well as other areas.

3) Celebrating Pakistani-American relations provides the people of California with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, and history of Pakistani Americans, and to appreciate the challenges and opportunities before Pakistani Americans.

4) As the Pakistani American community prepares for a new era and creates a new history, Pakistani Americans must instill in younger generations the proper appreciation for the courage and values of their forefathers, a deep sense of affinity with their roots, and pride in their own cultural heritage so that they may better contribute to the great State of California, rich with ethnic and cultural diversity.

This resolution commemorates Pakistani-American relations, and urges all Californians to join in celebrating the friendly relations between these two nations.

Related/Prior Legislation

HR 115 (Reyes, 2024); Adopted in Assembly.

SR 105 (Newman, 2024); Adopted in Senate.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:36

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: SR 126
Author: Rubio (D)
Introduced: 8/3/26
Vote: Majority

SUBJECT: Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares the month of September 2026 as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month and encourages individuals, businesses, and organizations throughout the state to participate in activities and events that promote the awareness of childhood cancer and support families affected by this devastating disease, not just during September, but throughout the year.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), childhood cancer is the leading cause of death by disease for children in the United States. The American Cancer Society estimates that approximately 9,680 children in the United States under 15 years of age will be diagnosed with cancer in 2026.

2) Childhood cancer treatment is handled by a team of pediatric oncologists, pediatric surgeons, radiation oncologists, pediatric oncology nurses, nurse practitioners, and physician assistants. Some of the most important members of a pediatric cancer patient's team are experienced parents who navigate and advocate on behalf of their children.

3) Childhood Cancer Awareness Month is an important nationwide tool for raising awareness among governmental officials about the public nature and scope of this problem.

This resolution celebrates the progress of all related organizations in aiding children battling pediatric cancer while simultaneously renewing their commitment to the cause.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 80 (Roth, Resolution Chapter 202, Statutes of 2024)

SCR 71 (Rubio, Resolution Chapter 7, Statutes of 2024)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:37

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 28
Author: Schiavo (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/16/25
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez
NO VOTE RECORDED: Dahle

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

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar
NO VOTE RECORDED: Dahle

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 5-1, 8/3/26
AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Dahle

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-9, 5/29/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) establishes a protocol for CalRecycle to require a corrective action plan in the event of a subsurface elevated temperature event at a landfill, and 2) authorizes the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to establish a multiagency coordination group (MCG) to investigate and provide recommendations for addressing a landfill's subsurface elevated temperature event, and specifies that CalRecycle may impose a penalty of up to

$100,000 per day to landfill operators that do not follow the requirements of the corrective action plan or recommendations of the MCG, among other provisions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Gives local and regional authorities the primary responsibility for controlling stationary source air pollution and establishes 35 air pollution control districts in the state (Health & Safety Code (HSC) §40000 et seq.).

2) Establishes requirements for handling and disposing of solid waste, as well as the permitting and operation of solid waste facilities (Public Resources Code (PRC) §43000 et seq.).

3) Requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt certification requirements for local enforcement agencies (LEAs) that cover the permitting, inspection, and enforcement of regulations at solid waste facilities, as well as inspection and enforcement of litter, odor, and nuisance regulations (PRC §43200).

4) Authorizes a city or county to declare a local emergency, giving them full power to provide mutual aid to any affected area. Under a locally declared emergency, state agencies can provide mutual aid, personnel, equipment, and other available resources (Government Code (GC) §8630-8634).

5) Requires, under Section 60.36f of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills to install gas collection and control systems to comply with various federal regulations on landfill emissions.

This bill:

1) Requires that landfill operators take certain actions in the case of a subsurface elevated temperature event, including:
   a) Notify the department, state water board, State Air Resources Board, local enforcement agency, local air pollution control district, local health department, State Department of Public Health, and the appropriate regional water quality control board;
   b) Provide subsurface gas and waste temperature data to those agencies;

c) Take any action that CalRecycle deems necessary to mitigate and resolve the subsurface elevated temperature event, including, but not limited to, creating a corrective action plan.

2) Specifies requirements for the owner or operator of the solid waste landfill to meet if they are required to have a corrective action plan, including:

   a) Complete a cost assessment for implementing the corrective action plan and for reimbursing the multiagency coordination group, and furnish evidence of financial ability to implement the corrective action plan;

   b) Revise the closure and postclosure maintenance plan to account for additional costs resulting from the subsurface elevated temperature event;

3) Specifies that if the owner and operator of a solid waste landfill cannot sufficiently cover the cost to manage and implement a corrective action plan, the Attorney General may, if warranted, pursue an action against the parent company of the owner and operator of the solid waste landfill.

4) Authorizes CalRecycle to become the enforcement agency for all or part of the solid waste landfill, and to recover its reasonable and necessary costs for being the enforcement agency.

5) Specifies that CalRecycle will adopt regulations to implement the reporting and corrective action plan requirements of the bill and that CalRecycle will provide regular updates to the affected communities on the subsurface elevated temperature event.

6) Authorizes The Secretary for Environmental Protection to coordinate a multiagency coordination group (MCG) to investigate and provide recommendations on how to achieve resolution of a subsurface elevated temperature event. The owner and operator of a solid waste landfill that experiences a subsurface elevated temperature event shall reimburse the multiagency coordination group for all reasonable and necessary costs.

7) Requires that within 60 days of the MCG developing recommendations, the county public health department shall conduct an initial community health needs assessment and the owner or operator of the solid waste landfill shall post that information on its internet website. Specifies that the MCG can request subsequent community health needs assessments, and the local county public health department shall hold at least two public hearings in the affected communities to discuss the findings of the health needs assessment.

8) Requires the owner or operator of the solid waste landfill to submit or revise and submit an air monitoring and sampling plan to the MCG and the local air district within 30 days of MCG requesting the plan, and begin implementing the plan 30 days after submitting it.

9) Authorizes CalRecycle or local enforcement agencies to impose an administrative civil penalty up to of $100,000 per day for failing to contact agencies or meet the conduct of a corrective action plan as described above in (1) and (2).

    a) Specifies that the penalties will be deposited into a new Landfill Subsurface Fire Mitigation Community Fund at the State Treasury, and CalRecycle will continuously appropriate the funds to mitigate harm to people and communities impacted by a subsurface elevated temperature event.

10) Defines "Subsurface elevated temperature event" to mean an event where subsurface gas or waste temperatures at a solid waste landfill persistently exceeds 131°F over a substantial area, as determined by CalRecycle.

Background

Landfill Construction. Landfill construction is governed by a comprehensive regulatory framework encompassing federal, state, and local statutes administered by multiple agencies. Site development requires the installation of engineered infrastructure systems, including, at minimum:

a) Gas monitoring and extraction wells
b) Lateral piping for gas conveyance
c) Groundwater monitoring and extraction wells
d) Instrumentation for continuous or periodic measurement of temperature, gas concentration and composition, and moisture content

Design specifications—including well spacing, monitoring device selection, and monitoring frequency—are determined by site-specific factors such as landfill footprint, depth, operational age, and active or closed status.

Landfill Fires. According to CalRecycle, California currently has 299 operating and closed landfills. While surface fires at landfills are relatively common, large-scale subsurface fires of the type addressed by this legislation have been rare; CalRecycle has documented only 3–4 such incidents over the past 20–30 years. No

federal or state agency maintains comprehensive statistics on landfill fire occurrences. Landfill fires are classified into two primary categories:

Surface Fires. Surface fires typically result from the inadvertent acceptance of flammable materials, which ignites at or near the landfill surface. These events are characterized by visible flames and are generally detected and suppressed rapidly.

*Subsurface Fires***.** Subsurface fires do not produce visible flames but involve sustained combustion analogous to smoldering charcoal, continuing as long as fuel remains available. There are two types of subsurface fire:

Subsurface Elevated Temperature (SET) Fires. SETs generally occur at shallower depths in a landfill and result from excessive oxygen infiltration, which accelerates microbial activity and elevates internal temperatures. Indicators include rapid landfill settlement, smoke or smoldering odors emanating from the landfill or gas extraction system, and thermal damage to gas collection wells (e.g., melting or collapse).

Elevated Temperature Landfill (ETLF) Fires. ETLFs typically occur at greater depths and are initiated by exothermic chemical reactions triggered by heat generated during biological decomposition. Characteristic indicators include elevated moisture content (produced by chemical reactions), increased oxygen, carbon dioxide, and dihydrogen concentrations, elevated gas pressure and flow rates, and altered leachate chemistry.

Once initiated, both SET and ETLF fires can propagate through the landfill mass, sustained by oxygen and waste, while remaining undetectable by visual observation.

Landfill Monitoring 101. Municipal Solid Waste landfill monitoring requirements are set by federal regulations established by the U.S. EPA, and the frequency of the monitoring depends largely on what is being monitored. Generally speaking, the following requirements apply to most large-scale landfills that are actively accepting waste:

Monthly Monitoring. Wellheads at landfills using gas collection and control systems (GCCS) must conduct monthly monitoring of items such as temperature, oxygen, nitrogen, methane and pressure levels. Landfill covers are inspected monthly to identify and repair issues such as exposed waste, leachate breakouts, and erosion gullies.

Quarterly Monitoring

a) Surface emissions monitoring (SEM) is done quarterly to ensure methane emissions are kept below a certain level and to assess how effectively the GCCS is working.
b) Components containing landfill gas under pressure must be monitored for leaks.
c) Groundwater elevations are typically measured to determine groundwater gradient and direction.
d) Chemical analysis of groundwater samples may also be required, especially if certain constituents are detected at elevated levels.

Weekly Monitoring. The overall integrity of a landfill site, including the cover material, drainage structures, potential erosion areas, and leachate piping and storage facilities, is often inspected weekly.

Pursuant to Federal Law in 40 CFR 60.34(f), landfill operators are required to operate gas collection systems for each area, cell, or group of cells. Landfill gas wellheads must generally maintain temperatures below 131°F. Operators may request a waiver to operate at higher temperatures if they can demonstrate that the elevated temperature will not result in fire initiation or significantly impair anaerobic decomposition by killing methanogenic organisms. Such waivers require U.S. EPA approval.

Landfill design and operational practices influence subsurface fire risk, severity, and duration. The U.S. EPA provides general guidance correlating internal landfill temperatures with operational status:
90–131°F: Normal operating range
131–145°F: Potential presence of exothermic chemical reactions
Above 145°F: Inhibition of methane generation
Above 165°F: Cessation of biological activity; elevated fire risk

While temperature is an important characteristic indicating the presence of a landfill fire, temperature alone is not a definitive indicator of an active or imminent subsurface fire. Additional diagnostic parameters include the carbon dioxide-to-methane ratio, hydrogen concentration, rate of landfill settlement, and excess leachate generation.

How to prevent or stop a landfill fire? Containing and putting out a subsurface landfill fire is challenging for a number of reasons. To begin with, it is impossible to see where the fire is and where it is spreading. Some of the steps landfill operators can take are:

a. Installing more gas extraction wells to remove heat-generating gases and reduce pressure buildup;
b. Removing the liquid from landfills, which will help to reduce heat;
c. Removing oxygen;
d. Installing geomembrane covers to prevent oxygen from entering the landfill; and/or
e. Creating physical barrier – such as digging into the landfill and pouring in concrete – to cut off the fire's access to fuel.

The Chiquita Canyon Landfill Fire. The Chiquita Canyon Landfill is a 639-acre facility located in Castaic, an unincorporated community of approximately 19,000 residents in northern Los Angeles County. Approximately 400 acres were permitted for solid waste disposal; prior to closure in December 2024, the facility received nearly 25% of Los Angeles County's municipal solid waste. Since at least May 2022—a period exceeding four years—a subsurface fire has been active at Chiquita Canyon. The fire originated in a deep, inactive portion of the landfill and has since expanded to an estimated footprint of more than 90 acres. The incident has generated over 27,000 complaints to the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and has produced substantial volumes of leachate containing elevated benzene concentrations, posing risks to public health and the environment.

Regulation of landfill emissions. CARB implemented the landfill methane rule (LMR) to monitor and reduce methane emissions from landfills, in 2010. LMR requires owners and operators of certain landfills to install and operate gas collection and control systems, monitor surface methane concentration and other performance parameters, repair emission exceedances and other performance issues, source test, keep records of these actions and data, and report certain information to CARB or the air districts. LMR allows air districts to voluntarily enter into memoranda of understanding with CARB to implement and enforce the regulation and to assess fees to cover costs. Currently, 22 of the 35 local air districts are implementing and enforcing LMR.

In addition to CARB, federal, State, and local agencies all play a role in regulating landfills including but not limited to:

a. Local air districts in California play a lead role in regulating stationary sources of air pollution, including issuing permits for landfill GCCS. Local air districts regulate enclosed flares and other landfill gas combustion devices used to destroy methane and co-pollutants, and respond to nuisance and odor complaints

b. CalRecycle regulates solid waste handling, processing, and disposal activities to protect public health and safety and the environment by supporting solid waste local enforcement agencies.
c. The State Water Resources Control Board and their nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively, the Water Boards) regulate discharges to land that could impact surface water and groundwater quality, including regulatory and permitting requirements for landfills.
d. The Department of Toxic Substances Control regulates facilities for disposal of hazardous waste.
e. U.S. EPA regulates emissions of volatile organic compounds from landfills through requirements similar to those in the LMR.

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, "The Chiquita Canyon Landfill has been smoldering and releasing toxic gas into communities within Assembly District 40 for over four years and is the largest on-going public health and environmental emergency in Los Angeles. Current regulations and statutes are woefully inadequate to prevent and address this disaster. Assembly Bill 28 will take it a step further by ensuring landfills continually monitor their facilities for increased temperatures, require landfills to be transparent with surrounding communities, and outline progressive enforcement actions that local and state agencies must take if landfill operators fail to successfully implement a corrective action plan."

2) *What has changed in the world since AB 28 left committee?* In November 2025, the CARB board voted to update the State's landfill methane rule for the first time in 15 years. This update includes specific processes for monitoring, reporting, and dealing with elevated subsurface temperature events at landfills. The regulation establishes a tiered response framework for elevated subsurface temperatures at landfill gas collection wells, triggered at two critical thresholds: 131°F (55°C) and 145°F (62.8°C). These requirements apply to interior wellheads and are designed to detect and prevent subsurface fires. The new provisions include a shorter timeline by which landfill operators must respond to a leak, and new monitoring requirements for landfills with and without gas collection and control systems. The state will also begin requiring operators to respond to detected leaks via third-party technology verified by CARB — including the agency's own California Satellite Methane Project.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 27 (Shiavo, 2025) would have provided a personal and a corporate income tax exemption for any payments a person or a company received as compensation related to the Chiquita Canyon Landfill fire. The bill was held in the Senate Appropriations committee.

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

CalEPA estimates ongoing costs of about $572,000 annually (General Fund) to implement the provisions of this bill including participation in a multiagency coordination group established to investigate, monitor, and advise on subsurface elevated temperature events (SETs); provision of analysis and technical expertise; and service as a liaison with agencies, departments, and the public.

CalRecycle estimates one-time costs of $3 million spread over 3 years and ongoing costs of approximately $2.64 million annually (Integrated Waste Management Fund) to develop methodologies to evaluate community impacts, develop specialized expertise necessary to mitigate harm to a person or community affected by a SET, develop and implement regulations, provide enforcement support, coordinate with affected communities, provide support and technical assistance to local enforcement agencies, participate in the multiagency coordination group, and oversee the expenditure of mitigation funds, among other things.

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) estimates ongoing costs of $750,000 annually (Waste Discharge Permit Fund) to participate in the multiagency coordination group, assist in investigations, and provide recommendations to achieve resolutions for SET at existing landfills, among other things.

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) estimates ongoing costs of $940,000 annually (Cost of Implementation Account) to participate in the multiagency coordination group, provide technical analysis of subsurface gas and waste temperature data, provide technical expertise, consult on air monitoring analysis, serve as a community liaison, and provide support, among other things.

The Office of Environmental Health Hazards Assessment (OEHHA) estimates ongoing costs of $324,000 annually (General Fund) to implement the additional tasks associated with the multiagency coordination group and to design and carry out additional community science investigations as needed.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) anticipates its costs would be minor and absorbable.

The above costs may be at least partially offset by reimbursements made by the owners and operators of landfills that experience SETs (Landfill Subsurface Fire Mitigation Community Fund).

To the extent that CalRecycle imposes and collects the penalty of up to $100,000 per day on landfill operators that do not follow the requirements of the corrective action plan or recommendations of the MCG, unknown but potentially significant penalty revenues (Landfill Subsurface Fire Mitigation Community Fund).

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/2026)

350 Bay Area Action
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
350 Humboldt
350 Sacramento
Breast Cancer Prevention Partners
California Comminuties Against Toxics
California Environmental Voters
California League of United Latin American Citizens
Californians Against Waste
Center for Environmental Health
Central California Environmental Justic Network
Central California Environmental Justice Network
Citizens for Chiquita Canyon Closure
Clean Water Action
Cleanearth4kids.org
Climate Action California
Climate Reality Project, Orange County
Climate Reality Project, San Fernando Valley
Coalition for Clean Air
County of Los Angeles Board of Supervisors
Elder's Climate Action Norcal
Elders Climate Action Socal Chapter
Facts Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety
Facts: Families Advocating for Chemical & Toxics Safety
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Full Circle Future
Glendale Environmental Coalition
Green Policy Initiative
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Mothers Out Front

Mothers Out Front Marin
Mothers Out Front Silicon Valley
Northern California Elders Climate Action
Placer Earth Care Action
San Francisco Baykeeper
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Socal Elders Climate Action
The Climate Reality Project Orange County Chapter
The Climate Reality Project South Central Coast
The Climate Reality Project, Bay Area Chapter
The Climate Reality Project, California State Coalition
The Climate Reality Project, Los Angeles Chapter
The Climate Reality Project, Riverside County Chapter
The Climate Reality Project, Sacramento Chapter
The Climate Reality Project, San Fernando Valley CA Chapter
Val Verde Civic Association
Valley Improvement Projects

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

1heartcares of LA Jolla, San Diego, Del Mar, Oceanside and LA Mesa.
AAA Global Trading INC
Apex Diesel Repair
Bluezone Health Solutions
Clever Investor, INC.
Cofacc
County of Kern
Del Mar Dog Rescue
Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Cerritos (FAC3)
Filipino American Chamber of Commerce of Greater San Diego
First Finance Lending INC
Fix Auto Poway
Jesse Miranda Center for Hispanic Leadership
Mapleview Bnm LLC
Marshall Bnm LLC
Mena Cc INC
Middle Eastern and North American Chamber of Commerce & Clever Community Development, INC.
Mike's Holdings LLC
New Beginnings CDC
Newcomers Support and Development

Orange; County of
Republic Services
Resource Recovery Coalition of California
Robin Hilton Land and Tree Company, INC.
Saban - South Asian Biz America Network
Salon2000 by Je Gems
Sd Business Solutions, INC
Sweetwater Bnm LLC
Time in Destiny

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/2026)

California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance
Recology
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Swana California Chapters Legislative Task Force
Waste Connections, INC.
Wm (waste Management)

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-9, 5/29/25
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, DeMaio, Hadwick, Hoover, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Alvarez, Bryan, Chen, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Lackey, Nguyen, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Tangipa, Ward

Prepared by: Brynn Cook / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 17:02:46

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 40
Author: Bonta (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 7-1, 6/11/25
AYES: Menjivar, Durazo, Limón, Padilla, Richardson, Rubio, Wiener
NOES: Grove
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares, Gonzalez, Weber Pierson

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 4-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Allen, Gonzalez, Menjivar
NOES: Valladares, Dahle
NO VOTE RECORDED: Hurtado

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-9, 4/21/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Environmental Quality Act: environmental impact reports: coal handling, storage, and export

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires that new projects for the handling, storage, or export of more than 5 million tons per year of coal of be reviewed in an environmental impact report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that certain conditions, including changing the type of coal or increasing the quantity of coal handled, stored, or exported, would trigger a subsequent EIR, among other provisions.

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 negative declaration, or 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 Resources Code (PRC) §21000 et seq.)

2) Requires a lead agency or responsible agency to prepare a subsequent or supplemental EIR only if specified events occur, such as when new information, which was not known and could not have been known at the time the EIR was certified as complete, becomes available. (PRC §21166(c))

This bill:

1) Requires that an EIR, pursuant to CEQA, be conducted for new projects that handle, store, or export 5 million short tons of coal or more per year.

2) Specifies that a subsequent environmental impact report will be required for expanded projects that handle, store, or export 5 million short tons of coal or more per year if any of the following apply:

   a) There is a change in the type of coal handled, stored, or exported.
   b) There is a significant change in the quantity of coal handled, stored, or exported.
   c) The environmental impact report is 10 or more years old.

3) Requires that a lead agency shall not certify an EIR pursuant to these provisions unless the project proponent demonstrates enforceable mitigation measures to fully mitigate PM2.5 and PM10 fugitive dust emissions.

Background

1) *Coal through Oakland Port.* The Oakland Bulk and Oversized Terminal (OBOT) is a planned bulk export terminal at the former Oakland Army Base, located on Port of Oakland. When the Oakland Army Base closed in 1999, part of the property reverted to the City of Oakland while another portion went to the Port of Oakland. In 2009, the Port of Oakland secured Trade Corridor Improvement Fund (TCIF) funding for a project to develop warehouse space, logistics facilities, and a rail terminal on the site. By diverting freight from

trucks to trains, the new rail terminal complex was expected to reduce diesel particulate matter emissions while simultaneously increasing the efficiency of goods movement through the port.

In 2013, City of Oakland and OBOT signed a Development Agreement. In 2015, plans for the development, including that the developer of OBOT had arranged $53 million in Utah funding in exchange for coal shipping rights, sparked public backlash. Despite the controversy, the city finalized a 66-year Ground Lease with OBOT in 2016, but then separately passed an ordinance banning coal handling and storage within Oakland, a move reinforced by state legislation cutting off public funding for coal port projects (SB 1279 (Hancock Chapter 215, Statutes of 2016)). OBOT responded by suing, arguing the coal ban was unconstitutional and preempted by federal law, and in 2018 a federal judge ruled in the developer's favor, finding the city's health and safety evidence insufficient to justify the ban — though the ruling left open the possibility that Oakland could try again with stronger evidence. Rather than revisit the ban, the city instead terminated OBOT's lease over missed construction deadlines, and after settlement talks collapsed in 2022, the dispute shifted to state court over whether the city had breached its contract.

Oakland lost this case at the trial court level and again on appeal, and in September 2025 the California Supreme Court declined further review, bringing the decade-long legal fight to a close in OBOT's favor. As a result, OBOT now has a clear legal path to build the terminal, with the coal ban effectively dead as applied to this project. As planned, OBOT would export up to 7.4–10 million tons of coal per year, primarily from Utah, by rail through West Oakland.[1]

2) *Expected Health Impacts of Coal at OBOT*. A 2023 CARB-funded assessment found that passing coal trains significantly increase ambient PM2.5 concentrations. [2] PM2.5 exposure is causally linked to a wide range of adverse health outcomes, including premature mortality, cardiovascular and respiratory diseases, adverse birth outcomes, and cognitive/developmental impairments. Health risks are present even at concentrations below current regulatory standards, with no known safe level of PM2.5. The most vulnerable populations- infants, children, elderly, people of color, low-income residents, and those with pre-existing health conditions – bear a disproportionate burden

[1] https://www.phi.org/press/study-backs-oaklands-case-for-blocking-coal-terminal/
[2] **https://ucdavis.app.box.com/s/sh55sgeix0r39k07zfsai1tcamux8qpw**

of exposure and health impacts.[3]

Several studies, including those commissioned by the City of Oakland during their legal battle against OBOT's coal shipping plans, have examined the health implications of shipping and handling millions of tons of coal through the port of Oakland specifically. In 2016, A panel of public health experts conducted a Health Impact Assessment, and concluded that coal trains significantly increase concentrations of fine particulate matter (PM2.5) in communities along rail lines due to emissions of both coal dust and diesel exhaust[4]. These findings were supported in a 2024 study by the UC Davis Air Quality Research Center.[5] This study modeled PM2.5 exposure along the rail corridor from Oakland to Martinez, finding that coal train pollution would have significant health effects that disproportionately impact communities of color and people who are young, old, or have low incomes. The City of Oakland commissioned a study (Environmental Science Associates, 2016) ahead of the City Council's vote on a coal ban, which concluded that coal dust from the proposed terminal would worsen air quality, and that the degraded air quality would impact largely low-income and minority neighborhoods.
Another study by UC Berkeley Energy and Resources Group, analyzed the proposed Oakland bulk export terminal. It concluded that coal transport would generate hazardous fugitive coal dust and diesel emissions, leading to measurable increases in asthma, heart disease, hospitalizations, and mortality for nearby West Oakland residents and workers.

The study also reviewed the potential mitigations that have been proposed, including covering the rail cars carrying the coal and storing the coal indoors at the Army Base, and found that these mitigations are unproven and largely experimental.[6]

3) *Ranking the naughty list: Types of coal and their health impacts.* There are four main types (or ranks) of coal: anthracite, bituminous, subbituminous, and lignite.

[3] **https://www.mdpi.com/1660-4601/8/6/1755**
[4] *An Assessment of the Health and Safety Implications of Coal Transport through Oakland*,
[5] stro B, Fang Y, Sospedra MC, Kuiper H, Ebisu K, Spada N. Health impact assessment of PM2.5 from uncovered coal trains in the San Francisco Bay Area: Implications for global exposures. Environ Res. 2024 Jul 1;252(Pt 1):118787. doi: 10.1016/j.envres.2024.118787. Epub 2024 Mar 29. PMID: 38555092; PMCID: PMC11467780.
[6] An Assessment of the Health and Safety Implications of Coal Transport through Oakland Public Health Advisory Panel on Coal in Oakland Oakland, California June 14, 2016

Lignite. Lignite is softest type of coal and has the lowest carbon and energy content of the four. It contains up to 70% water by weight: because so much energy is lost evaporating that water during combustion, lignite is among the most polluting coals per unit of usable energy produced.

Sub-bituminous. This type of coal contains less water and is more energy dense than lignite. However, it has less carbon, more water and is a less efficient source of heat for boilers than bituminous coal, though it is often lower in sulfur content than eastern bituminous coals, which somewhat reduces its sulfur dioxide and acid rain contribution.

Bituminous coal. This is the most commonly used type of coal in the US: it is denser and more carbon-rich, and burns hotter and more efficiently than lignite or sub-bituminous coal. It is mined chiefly in the Midwest and Appalachian regions and commonly used in power plant boilers for generation of electric power. Its principal environmental liability is its high sulfur content that when burned creates oxides of sulfur. Utilities often blend high-sulfur Appalachian bituminous coal with low-sulfur Powder River Basin coal specifically to manage SOx emissions and regulatory compliance costs.

Anthracite. This is the highest and rarest rank, has the greatest carbon content (up to 95% carbon) and burns the cleanest and most efficiently of the four types, producing the least pollution per unit of energy, but it is rare and used primarily in specialized applications (like steel smelting).

Across all ranks, the core health and environmental concerns are similar in kind but differ in magnitude: fine particulate matter (PM2.5) and coal dust released during mining, transport, and combustion are linked to respiratory and cardiovascular disease; sulfur and nitrogen oxides contribute to acid rain and smog formation; mercury and other trace heavy metals can bioaccumulate in waterways and food chains.

4) *CEQA and EIRs.* CEQA is designed to (a) make government agencies and the public aware of the environmental impacts of a proposed project, (b) ensure the public can take part in the review process, and (c) identify and implement measures to mitigate or eliminate any negative impact the project may have on the environment. CEQA is enforced by civil lawsuits that can challenge any project's environmental review. Nonprofits, private individuals, public agencies, advocacy groups, and other organizations can all file lawsuits under CEQA.

Under CEQA, projects (unless they have a specific exemption) must undergo environmental analysis. This process starts with an initial study which determines what level of further environmental review is needed for a given project. If a project has no significant effects on the environment, or if those effects can be fully mitigated, the project can move forward with a negative declaration (ND) or mitigated negative declaration (MND). If the initial study finds that the project has potential significant effects on the environment, then a full EIR is required. An EIR provides thorough environmental review of a proposed project, analyzing the significant direct and indirect environmental impacts of a proposed project on water quality, transportation, air quality and greenhouse gas emissions, terrestrial and aquatic biological resources, surface and subsurface hydrology, land use and agricultural resources, aesthetics, geology and soils, recreation, public services and utilities such as water supply and wastewater disposal, and cultural resources, among other factors. The EIR also includes proposed mitigation measures for any significant effects that it identifies. It also requires a consideration of alternatives to the proposed project, and a consideration of cumulative and growth-inducing impacts.

5) *Subsequent and Supplemental EIR.* When an EIR has been prepared for a project, no further environmental review is needed, except in the following circumstances:
(a) Substantial changes are proposed in the project which will require major revisions of the environmental impact report.
(b) Substantial changes occur with respect to the circumstances under which the project is being undertaken which will require major revisions in the environmental impact report.
(c) New information, which was not known and could not have been known at the time the environmental impact report was certified as complete, becomes available.

In these cases, the project would have to do a subsequent EIR. A subsequent EIR is given the same public review process as a project EIR, providing another opportunity for public engagement with the new information.

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, “California's environmental review framework was not built for what is happening in West Oakland right now. The Trump administration has invoked a Cold War-era emergency law to direct $75

million toward the construction of a bulk coal export terminal on one of the most environmentally overburdened communities in California, a community that was designated a first-year priority under AB 617's Community Air Protection Program precisely because of its documented cumulative pollution burden.

"The environmental review that the terminal's operators rely upon is over a decade old. It did not account for the type of coal now planned, nor the volumes now projected, which have grown dramatically. And it predates peer-reviewed, CARB-funded science establishing that coal trains measurably increase dangerous levels of fine particulate matter in the communities they pass through. AB 40 closes that gap. It ensures that before any public agency issues a discretionary approval for a large-scale coal terminal in California, there is a full Environmental Impact Report that reflects the actual coal, the actual volume, and the actual science, and that where significant air quality impacts are found, the developer must demonstrate enforceable mitigation before any approval can be issued."

2) *Beautiful Coal*. In June of 2026, President Trump announced that he would invoke the Defense Production Act, a Cold War-era emergency law, to allocate nearly $700 million into coal plants and a new Oakland export terminal under the guise of national security. In announcing the action, President Trump said, "Starting this summer, the West Gateway project will break ground and by summer 2028, over 12 million tons of clean beautiful coal per year will be shipped to countries all around the world."

   Given the potentially significant environmental impact of coal transportation, and the rapid timeline, it may be prudent to ensure that full CEQA review is carried out in its entirety for this (or any comparable) project. AB 40 ensures that this will be the case by requiring large scale coal handling projects to go through a full EIR, rather than an ND/MND or exemption, and requiring that changes to the type of coal or significant increases in coal being handled would trigger a subsequent EIR.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1279, Hancock Chapter 215, Statutes of 2016, prohibits the California Transportation Commission (CTC) from programming or allocating funds for any new bulk-coal terminal project proposed on or after January 1, 2017

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

350 Bay Area Action
350 Humboldt
Apen Action
Bay Area-system Change Not Climate Change
Biofuelwatch
California Environmental Voters
California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Californians for Energy Choice
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Environmental Health
Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment
Citizens' Climate Lobby
City of Alameda
Clean Water Action
Cleanearth4kids.org
Climate Action California
Climate Future California
Climate Reality Project Bay Area Chapter
Coalition for Clean Air
Common Vision
Communities for a Better Environment
Earthjustice
East Bay Democratic Socialists of America
East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative
Elders Climate Action Northern California Chapter
Elders Climate Action Southern California Chapter
Emeryville; City of
Extinction Rebellion San Francisco Bay Area
Facts Families Advocating for Chemical and Toxics Safety
Fossil Free California Votes
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Green Party of Alameda County
Greenaction for Health and Environmental Justice
Healthy Martinez
Labor Rise Climate Jobs Action Group
No Coal in Oakland
Oil and Gas Action Network

Our City Sf
Pesticide Action and Agroecology Network
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Los Angeles
Planning and Conservation League
Reimagine Richmond
Resource Renewal Institute
Richmond Shoreline Alliance
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
San Francisco Baykeeper
San Francisco Policy Action Team / Climate Reality Bay Area
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Scientist Rebellion Turtle Island West
Sierra Club
Sierra Club California
Skyline Community Church Ucc
Solidarityinfoservice
Spur
St. Columba Catholic Church
Stop Oak Expansion Coalition
Sunflower Alliance
The Climate Center
United Native Americans
Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club
West Berkeley Alliance for Clean Air and Safe Jobs
West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project
West Oakland Neighbors
Youth Vs. Apocalypse

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/2026)

Bay Area Council
California Business Properties Association
California Business Roundtable
California Chamber of Commerce
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Railroads
California Retailers Associaiton
Insight Terminal Solutions, LLC
Naiop California
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association
Western States Petroleum Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-9, 4/21/25
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, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Ellis, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Papan, Ramos, Sharp-Collins

Prepared by: Brynn Cook / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 14:57:25

****** 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 armers 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-tine 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 internation 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.

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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

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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

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6/17/26 16:28:18

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

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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

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6/17/26 16:28:17

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

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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 saward credit for prior learning opportunities at community colleges, among other conforming changes.

12) Requires the CCCCO 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 CCCCO 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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.

California Department of Public Health (CDPH)

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 230
Author: Ransom (D), et al.
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Pest control: Pierce's disease

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: 1) This bill extends the Pierce's Disease Control Program within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), and the Pierce's Disease Management Account within the CDFA Fund indefinitely. 2) This bill states the provisions of the bill will become inoperative on a specified date if the Secretary of CDFA finds that a favorable vote in a referendum has not been given for the continued implementation of the provisions regarding the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board. 3) This bill also changes the name of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy Winged Sharpshooter Board to the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

1) Establishes the Pierce's Disease Control Program (PDCP) within the CDFA. PDCP was established to slow the spread of the glassy-winged sharpshooter and

minimize the impact of Pierce's Disease in California (Food and Agricultural Code Section § 6046).

2) Establishes the Pierce's Disease Management Account to allow certain money to be used to combat Pierce's disease and its vectors.

3) States the PDCP and the Pierce's Disease Management Account shall become inoperative on March 1, 2031, and as of January 1, 2032, is repealed unless a later enacted statute that is enacted before January 1, 2032, deletes or extends the dates on which it becomes inoperative and is repealed.

4) Creates the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board to help further the interests of the industry concerned. Existing law prescribes the functions and repeals these provisions on March 1, 2031 (Food and Agricultural Code Section § 6047.3).

5) Establishes that producers, handlers, or processors who are directly affected by a marketing order may vote under the California Marketing Act using a referendum method.

   a) States approval of a referendum requires a specified percentage of the number of producers or handlers and a specified percentage of the volume of the commodity produced or handled during a given period.

   b) Under the referendum procedure, a 30-day voting period is allowed with an extension not to exceed 15 days[1].

This bill:

1) Changes the name of the Pierce's Disease and Glassy-Winged Sharpshooter Boad to the Winegrape Pest and disease Prevention Board.

2) Extends the operation of the PDCP and the Pierce's Disease Management Account within CDFA indefinitely, except that this bill makes these provisions inoperative on a specified date if the Secretary finds that a favorable vote in a referendum has not been given for the continued implementation of the provisions regarding the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board.

3) States no later than June 30, 2030, the Secretary shall hold one or more public hearings to determine whether the operation of this article should be continued.

[1] https://www.cdfa.ca.gov/mkt/mkt/refstats/

Thereafter, the Secretary shall conduct the review process as necessary, but not less frequent than once every five years.

4) States if the Secretary finds a substantial question of opposition does not exist among affected producers under this article, the operation of this article shall continue in effect without a referendum.

5) States if the Secretary finds after a hearing that a substantial question of opposition exists among affected producers under this article regarding whether the operation of this article should be continued, the Secretary shall submit the article for approval using the following voting procedures set forth in this section and Sections 6047.22 to 6047.27, inclusive:

   a) If the secretary determines the requirement for referendum has been met, the secretary shall establish a list of persons eligible to vote on the continued implementation of this article.

   b) As used in this subdivision, "substantial question of opposition" means opposition to the substance of the petition among currently affected producers and is not intended to mean a particular number of producers.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

CA Assn of Winegrape Growers
Family Winemakers of California
Wine Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

> "California produces some of the highest quality winegrapes in the world, supporting thousands of jobs, local communities, and a globally recognized industry. To protect the health of winegrapes across California, the Pierce's Disease Control Program and the Pierce's Disease/Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Board have helped protect California vineyards from devastating pests and diseases, preserving both growers' livelihoods and the state's agricultural heritage. The board and

program have expanded to include far more than Pierce's Disease prevention since their inception.

These programs are a shining example of the success of a strong public-private partnership between the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the winegrape producers who help guide and support these prevention and response efforts. AB 230 reaffirms California's commitment to safeguarding winegrapes from invasive pests and emerging threats to winegrape health by renaming the board the Winegrape Pest and Disease Prevention Board, a title that better reflects its broad mission and responsibilities. The bill also ensures the continued operation of these successful programs by removing the sunset date, providing the stability and long-term certainty needed to protect California vineyards for generations to come."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 1/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Papan, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
8/5/26 14:57:34

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 302
Author: Bauer-Kahan (D)
Amended: 6/30/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-0, 7/15/25
AYES: Umberg, Allen, Arreguín, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Niello, Valladares

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Cabaldon, Seyarto, Gonzalez, McNerney, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-11, 5/23/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil and parental communication: extracurricular activities: addictive feeds

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill, beginning with the 2027-28 school year, prohibits a local educational agency (LEA) from (1) excluding a pupil from participating in any extracurricular activity, including sports and clubs, due to the pupil not having or using addictive feeds and (2) using addictive feeds as the only means of contacting pupils or pupils' parents or guardians.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires the governing board of a school district that maintains one or more schools containing any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, as a condition for the receipt of specified school funding allocations, to establish a school district policy regarding participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities by pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive. Requires that the criteria applied to extracurricular and cocurricular activities ensure that pupil participation is conditioned upon satisfactory educational progress in the previous grade level. (Education Code (EC) § 35160.5)

2) Defines "extracurricular activity" for the purposes of #1 above as a program that has all of the following characteristics:

   a) The program is supervised or financed by the school district.

   b) Pupils participating in the program represent the school district.

   c) Pupils exercise some degree of freedom in either the selection, planning, or control of the program.

   d) The program includes both preparation for performance and performance before an audience or spectators.

3) Authorizes the governing board of a school district to adopt, as part of its policy on participation in extracurricular and cocurricular activities, provisions that would allow a pupil who does not achieve satisfactory educational progress, as specified, in the previous grade period to remain eligible to participate in extracurricular or cocurricular activities during a probationary period. (EC § 35160.5)

4) Provides that the parents and guardians of pupils enrolled in public schools have a right and should have the opportunity, as mutually supportive and respectful partners in the education of their children within the public schools, to be informed by the school, and to participate in the education of their children, as specified, including the following:

   a) To be notified on a timely basis if their child is absent from school without permission.

b) To receive the results of their child's performance on standardized tests and statewide tests and information on the performance of the school that their child attends on standardized statewide tests.

c) To be informed of their child's progress in school and of the appropriate school personnel whom they should contact if problems arise with their child.

d) To have access to the school records of their child.

e) To receive information concerning the academic performance standards, proficiencies, or skills their child is expected to accomplish.

f) To be informed in advance about school rules, including disciplinary rules and procedures, attendance policies, dress codes, and procedures for visiting the school. (EC § 51101)

5) 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. (EC § 48980)

6) Establishes the intent of the Legislature that opportunities for participation in athletics be provided on an equitable basis to all students. (EC § 49021)

7) Authorizes the governing board of a school district, a county board of education, or the governing body of a charter school to adopt a policy to limit or prohibit the use by its pupils of social media while the pupils are at a schoolsite or while the pupils are under the supervision and control of an employee or employees of that school district, county office of education (COE) or charter school. (EC § 48901.8)

8) Defines "addictive feed" as an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application, or a portion thereof, in which multiple pieces of media generated or shared by users are, either concurrently or sequentially, recommended, selected, or prioritized for display to a user based, in whole or in part, on information provided by the user, or otherwise associated with the user or the user's device, unless any of the following conditions are met, alone or in combination with one another:

a) The information is not persistently associated with the user or user's device and does not concern the user's previous interactions with media generated or shared by others.

b) The information consists of search terms that are not persistently associated with the user or user's device.

c) The information consists of user-selected privacy or accessibility settings, technical information concerning the user's device, or device communications or signals concerning whether the user is a minor.

d) The user expressly and unambiguously requested the specific media or media by the author, creator, or poster of the media, or the blocking, prioritization, or deprioritization of such media, provided that the media is not recommended, selected, or prioritized for display based, in whole or in part, on other information associated with the user or the user's device, except as otherwise permitted by this chapter and, in the case of audio or video content, is not automatically played.

e) The media consists of direct, private communications between users.

f) The media recommended, selected, or prioritized for display is exclusively the next media in a preexisting sequence from the same author, creator, poster, or source and, in the case of audio or video content, is not automatically played.

g) The recommendation, selection, or prioritization of the media is necessary to comply with state law or regulation. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) § 27000.5)

This bill:

1) Prohibits an LEA from excluding a pupil from participating in any extracurricular activity, including sports and clubs, due to the pupil not having or using addictive feeds, beginning with the 2027-28 school year.

2) Prohibits an LEA from using addictive feeds as the only means of contacting pupils or pupils' parent or guardians.

3) Encourages LEAs to inform pupils and pupils' parents or guardians about the pupils' rights established by this bill in its pupil handbook or a similar document made generally available to pupils and their parents or guardians.

4) Defines "addictive feed" as meaning an internet website, online service, online application, or mobile application, or a portion thereof, in which multiple pieces of media generated or shared by users are, either concurrently or sequentially, recommend, select, or prioritize for display to a user's device, in whole or in part, on information provided by a the user, or otherwise associated with the user or the user's device, unless any of the following conditions are met:

   a) The information is not persistently associated with the user or the user's device and does not concern the user's previous interactions with media generated or shared by others.

   b) The information consists of search terms that are not persistently associated with the user or user's device.

   c) The information consists of user-selected privacy or accessibility settings, technical information concerning the user's device, or device communications or signals concerning whether the user is a minor.

   d) The user expressly and unambiguously requested the specific media or media by the author, creator, or poster of the media, or the blocking, prioritization, or deprioritization of that media, provided that the media is not recommended, selected, or prioritized for display based, in whole or in part, on other information associated with the user or the user's device, except as otherwise permitted by this chapter and, if the media is audio or video content, is not automatically played.

   e) The media consists of direct, private communications between users.

   f) The media recommended, selected, or prioritized for display is exclusively the next media in a preexisting sequence from the same author, creator, poster, or source and, if the media is audio or video content, is not automatically played.

   g) The recommendation, selection, or prioritization of the media is necessary to comply with state or federal law.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "Schools are increasingly reliant on social media and addictive feeds for communication and networking with students and families. Children are forced to join addictive platforms in order to participate in school clubs and activities that enrich their school experience. By forcing teens onto platforms which prey on them, schools are feeding into the increasing mental health crisis largely caused by social media usage. AB 302 prohibits schools from using addictive feeds as the sole form of communication with students or parents/guardians and ensures that students have access to after school clubs and activities without having to join potentially dangerous platforms."

Addictive feeds. Consistent with existing law, this bill defines addictive feeds as websites, apps, and services in which multiple pieces of media generated or shared by users are, either concurrently or sequentially, recommend, select, or prioritize for display to a user's device, in whole or in part, on information provided by a the user, or otherwise associated with the user or the user's device. Addictive feeds or algorithms are often utilized by social media platforms to capture the attention of a user and prolong their engagement and total use or screen time.

In 2023, the U.S. Surgeon General issued an advisory about the effects of social media use on youth mental health. In the advisory, the Surgeon General issued a call for urgent action by policymakers, technology companies, researchers, families, and young people alike to gain a better understanding of the full impact of social media use, maximize the benefits and minimize the harms of social media platforms, and create safer, healthier online environments to protect children. The advisory stated the following:

- While social media may offer some benefits, there are ample indicators that social media can also pose a risk of harm to the mental health and well-being of children and adolescents.

- Children are affected by social media in different ways, including based on cultural, historical, and socio-economic factors. Among the benefits, adolescents report that social media helps them feel more accepted (58%), like they have people who can support them through tough times (67%), like they have a place to show their creative side (71%), and be more connected to what's going on in their friends' lives (80%).

- Studies have also shown a relationship between social media use and poor sleep quality, reduced sleep duration, sleep difficulties, and depression among youth.

- More research is needed to determine the full impact social media use has on nearly every teenager across the country.

According to a 2020 article in the *Journal of Affective Disorders*, "Is social media screen time really associated with poor adolescent mental health?", a greater amount of time spent on social media was associated with an increased risk of self-harm, depression, and lower levels of self-esteem in 13–15-year-old girls. Findings were similar for weekday and weekend use.

Some research has suggested that there is likely a correlation between the increased use of technology and smartphone use and the increased rates of teenage anxiety and depression. A widely cited book by Dr. Jean Twenge, a professor of psychology at San Diego State, iGen, presents evidence of an increase in depression and suicide among American teenagers that may be caused by increased mobile device screen time and social media use.

Examples of students being excluded. This bill prohibits an LEA from excluding a student from participating in extracurricular activities, including clubs and sports, due to the student not having or using addictive feeds. The author's office has provided the following anecdotal examples of when students have been excluded or pressured due to their nonuse of platforms that utilize addictive feeds:

a) A Southern California student was required to create an Instagram account in order to communicate with members of their high school baseball team. When their parent indicated that they did not approve of their child using the app, the parent was advised to start a profile on the student's behalf.

b) A Southern California student was required to create a SnapChat account in order to communicate with members of their high school water polo team.

c) A Northern California student shared that they were removed from their student leadership position due to them not having an Instagram account.

In these scenarios, it is not clear whether there was a formal policy enforced by the LEA requiring students to create social media accounts that use addictive feeds or if the requirement was more of an informal rule. Because the requirements for

membership or participation in a student club or sport are determined locally, it is difficult to quantify how widespread these exclusions are.

Parent communications. Generally, for matters involving an individual student, school administrators and LEA staff directly contact parents and guardians through traditional means of email, phone call, or written notice sent home with students. Recently, many schools have also launched dedicated school messaging services and apps to streamline and standardized communication between parents, teachers, and school leaders. For more general updates intended for broader audiences, LEAs may also maintain official social media accounts and pages to share updates, school news, and general reminders with students, their families, and community members.

This bill prohibits LEAs from using addictive feeds as the only means of contacting students and their parents or guardians. It does not prohibit LEAs from utilizing platforms that use addictive feeds, such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, to continue sharing general updates with parents and community members.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/30/26)

Common Sense Media
Distraction-Free Schools California
Healthier-Tech

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/30/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-11, 5/23/25
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Solache, Stefani, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Ta, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Bryan, Chen, Flora, Jeff Gonzalez, Hoover, Nguyen, Sanchez, Sharp-Collins, Soria, Valencia, Wicks

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
7/2/26 8:41:28

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 387
Author: Alanis (R)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 3/13/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Nevaeh Youth Sports Safety Act

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises the requirement that a youth sports organization ensure its athletes have access to an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) during any official practice or match, starting January 1, 2028, by allowing a public or private local facility with a permanent sports infrastructure to procure and maintain an AED, in which case the public or private local facility would be responsible for ensuring access to the AED.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines a "youth sports organization" as an organization, business, nonprofit entity, or a local governmental agency that sponsors or conducts amateur sports competitions, training, camps, or clubs in which persons 17 years of age or younger participate. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §124235(b)(4)]

2) Requires a youth sports organization, beginning January 1, 2028, to ensure that its athletes have access to an AED during any official practice or match, defined as a sport session in which live action or one or more drills are conducted, or a match, as scheduled by the youth sports organization, the coach, or other designee of the organization. [HSC §124238 and §124238.5]

3) Requires, beginning January 1, 2027, a youth sports organization to ensure that its coaches are certified, and recertified every two years, to perform cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and operate an AED and that there is a written cardiac emergency response plan, as specified. [HSC §124238.5(b)]

4) Requires a youth sports organization to comply with certain requirements related to athletes suspected of sustaining a concussion or head injury, or who has passed out or fainted, including removal from the athletic activity and a prohibition on returning until he or she is evaluated by a licensed health care provider. Requires youth sports organizations to give both a concussion and head injury information sheet, and a sudden cardiac arrest (SCA) information sheet, to each athlete on an annual basis. [HSC §124235]

5) Requires each coach, administrator, and referee, umpire, or other game official of the youth sports organization to successfully complete concussion and head injury and SCA prevention education at least once, either online or in person, before supervising an athlete in an activity of the youth sports organization. [HSC §124235(a)(5)]

6) Requires "SCA prevention education and educational materials" and a "SCA information sheet" to include, at a minimum, information relating to cardiac conditions and their potential consequences, the signs and symptoms of SCA, best practices for removal of an athlete from an athletic activity after fainting or a suspected cardiac condition is observed, steps for returning an athlete to activity, and what to do in the event of a cardiac emergency, which includes calling 911, performing hands-only CPR, and using an AED if available. [HSC §124235(b)(3)]

7) Establishes the California Youth Football Act, which establishes additional requirements on youth sports organizations that conduct a tackle football program, including requiring a minimum of one certified emergency medical technician, state-licensed paramedic, or higher-level medical professional to be present during all games, and requiring coaches to annually receive first aid, CPR, and AED certification. [HSC §124240, et seq. and §124241(h) and (i)]

8) Requires, as part of the California Youth Football Act, that at least one independent nonrostered individual, appointed by the youth sports organization, to be present at all practice locations, and requires the individual to hold current certifications in first aid, CPR, AED, and concussion protocols. [HSC §124241(j)]

9) Requires a school district or charter school that offers any interscholastic athletic program to acquire at least one AED for each school that participates in the program, and encourages the school district or charter school to ensure that the AED is available for the purpose of rendering emergency care or treatment within a recommended three to five minutes of SCA to pupils, spectators, and any other individuals in attendance at the program's on-campus activities or events, and to ensure that the AED is available to athletic trainers and coaches and authorized persons at these activities or events. [EDC §35179.6]

10) Requires a person or entity that acquires an AED to comply with all regulations governing its placement, notify an agent of the local emergency medical services agency of the existence, location, and type of AED acquired, ensure that the AED is maintained and tested according to the operation and maintenance guidelines of the manufacturer, ensure that it is tested at least biannually and after each use, ensure that an inspection is made of all AEDs on the premises at least every 90 days for potential issues related to operability, and ensure that maintenance and testing records are maintained. [HSC §1797.196]

11) Exempts a person or entity that acquires an AED for emergency use from liability for any civil damages resulting from the use of the AED if the person or entity has complied with the requirements in 8) above. [CIV §1714.21(d)]

12) Exempts any person who, in good faith and not for compensation, renders emergency care or treatment by use of an AED at the scene of an emergency from liability for any civil damages resulting from any acts or omissions in rendering the emergency care. [CIV §1714.21(b)]

This bill:

1) Revises the requirement that a youth sports organization ensure its athletes have access to an AED during any official practice or match, by assigning responsibility for ensuring access to an AED as follows:

a) Permits a public or private local facility with a permanent sports infrastructure, as defined by this bill, to procure and maintain an AED for use during an official practice or match permitted by the facility, and in these cases, requires the facility to ensure that the youth sports organization as access to the AED; or,
b) If an AED is not available at a public or private local facility, requires the youth sports organization to ensure there is access to an AED.

2) Defines "permanent sports infrastructure," as a fixed, nontemporary facility or structure designed and maintained for the purpose of hosting organized sports activities that is regularly permitted, rented, leased, or otherwise granted permission of use for youth sports programs.

3) Clarifies that a public or private local facility with a permanent sports infrastructure, in addition to a youth sports organization, is required to ensure that its AED is maintained and tested.

4) Requires a public or private local facility to work in collaboration with the youth sports organization to ensure that any AED that is installed at the public or private local facility is accessible to youth sports organizations at the time of official practices or matches permitted by the facility.

5) Requires a public or private local facility that has installed an AED at the facility to work with the youth sports organization to identify means to share the financial costs associated with ensuring that the AED is maintained and accessible at the facility.

Comments

According to the author:

> This bill would require public or private local facilities with a permanent sports infrastructure, that have installed an AED, ensure youth sports organizations have access to those AEDs. SCA is the number one killer of student athletes. Having an AED present during official practices or matches can be the difference between life and death for youth athletes. Timely intervention of SCA remains critical for the safety of youth athletes. This bill would continue to require youth sports organizations to be responsible for ensuring athletes have access to AEDs during official practices or matches if the facility has not installed an AED.

Background

Background on SCA. According to the National Heart, Blood, and Lung Institute, SCA is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, and usually causes death if not treated within minutes. SCA is not the same as a heart attack. A heart attack is when blood flow to the heart is blocked (a "circulation" problem), and SCA is when the heart malfunctions and suddenly stops beating unexpectedly (an "electrical" problem). However, SCA can happen after or during recovery from a heart attack. Ventricular fibrillation (v-fib), a type of arrhythmia, causes most SCAs. During v-fib, the heart's lower chambers do not beat normally, and instead quiver very rapidly and irregularly and little or no blood is pumped to the body. Other problems with the heart's electrical system can also cause SCA. For example, SCA can occur if the rate of the heart's electrical signals becomes very slow and stops. SCA also can occur if the heart muscle does not respond to the heart's electrical signals. Coronary heart disease; severe physical stress; certain inherited disorders; and structural changes in the heart can also cause SCA.

According to the American College of Cardiology (ACC), when playing sports, an athlete's heart is working faster and pumping harder. Adrenaline is pumped throughout the body, and the heart needs more oxygen than normal. Dehydration, fever, or changes in electrolytes can also play a part. In people whose hearts are not normal to begin with, these extra stresses can sometimes trigger the electrical system of the heart and cause SCA. While rare, SCA is the leading medical cause of death in young athletes. ACC states that warning signs during exercise include passing out, dizziness, chest pain, shortness of breath, and seizures. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that every year in the U.S., approximately 2,000 patients younger than 25 years will die of SCA. The likelihood of child and young adult SCA for those with underlying cardiovascular disease is increased by athletic participation. According to a study published in December 2017, a loss of consciousness in athletes during sports activity is usually not immediately recognized as SCA and time is wasted by checking breathing and body movement. Immediate CPR and defibrillation with an AED should be initiated if an athlete is experiencing SCA. Without defibrillation, the probability of surviving declines by 10% per minute.

Background on AEDs. According to the American Heart Association (AHA), an AED is a lightweight, portable device that delivers an electric shock through the chest to the heart. The shock can stop an irregular rhythm and allow a normal rhythm to resume in a heart in SCA. The AED has a built-in computer, which

assesses the patient's heart rhythm, determines whether the person is in cardiac arrest, and signals whether to administer the shock. Inside the AED box are pads and a diagram that shows where to place them on the bare skin. Once the device is turned on, a voice tells the person using it exactly what to do. The AHA states that more than 15% of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur in a public location, and therefore public access to AEDs and community training have a large role to play in early defibrillation. However, the number of patients who have an AED applied by a bystander remains low, occurring after only 10.2% of public cardiac arrests. According to the AHA, nine in ten cardiac arrest victims who receive a shock from an AED in the first minute live. The AHA states that children over age eight can be treated with a standard AED, and for children ages one through eight, the AHA recommends the pediatric attenuated pads that are purchased separately.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 310 (Alanis, Chapter 254, Statutes of 2025) delayed the implementation of the requirement, from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2028, that youth sports organizations ensure their athletes have access to an AED during any official practice or match. AB 310 requires youth sports organizations to ensure their coaches are certified to perform CPR and operate an AED, and have a written cardiac emergency response plan, beginning January 1, 2028.

AB 1467 (Alanis, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2023) requires a youth sports organization that elects to offer an athletic program to ensure that by January 1, 2027, its athletes have access to an AED during any official practice or match.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/27/26)

American Youth Soccer Organization
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation
Los Angeles School Police Management Association
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/27/26)

Association of California School Administrators
California Association of Joint Powers Authorities
California Association of School Business Officials
California State Association of Counties
City of Belmont
City of Buena Park
City of Corona
City of Lancaster
City of Santa Rosa
Los Angeles Unified School District
Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management
Rural County Representatives
Sonoma County Regional Parks
Urban Counties of California

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

This bill is supported by AYSO, which states that this bill represents a thoughtful, practical approach to improving athlete safety without placing undue burdens on the volunteer-driven programs that form the backbone of youth sports. This bill allows organizations to continue delivering safe, inclusive, and accessible opportunities for children to play, grow, and thrive. AYSO states that passing this bill is vital to ensuring youth sports remain a positive and sustainable part of California's communities.

The Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation supports this bill, stating that this bill builds upon California's existing youth sports safety standards by closing a loophole requiring public and private local facilities with permanent sports infrastructure to procure, maintain, and provide access to AEDs during youth sports activities. According to the Eric Paredes Save a Life Foundation, SCA is the leading cause of death on school campuses and number one killer of student athletes, and that an estimated 23,000 youth are stricken annually by cardiac conditions across the country. Fragmented youth leagues often travel across various fields and lack the financial capability or permanent authority to manage physical hardware at the facilities they rent. This bill ensures life-saving equipment remains reliably on-site, fully functional, and accessible precisely when a cardiac emergency happens.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

Oppose unless amended. Sonoma County Regional Parks Department has concerns that the definition of "permanent facilities" described in this bill is, in fact, undefinable and can lead to a litany of ambiguities as to the scope and number of devices required to achieve compliance. Additionally, this bill clouds and exacerbates questions surrounding immunity protections given the disconnect between facility and AED ownership and facility user groups. Sonoma County Parks recommends that this bill be under consideration as a two-year bill, or failing that, to adopt an alternative approach to prevent possible unintended consequences.

Opposition. A coalition of opponents, including the California State Association of Counties, the Rural County Representatives of California, the Association of California School Administrators, Urban Counties of California, and the Los Angeles Unified School District, wrote jointly in opposition. This coalition notes that existing law already requires youth sports organizations to ensure their athletes have access to an AED at every practice and match by January 1, 2028, and that this bill would transfer that obligation to facility owners – including schools and parks. This shift amounts to a significant unfunded mandate, and the coalition argues that the costs, burden, and risks brought by this bill are necessary for public agencies, particularly at a time of severe fiscal challenges and uncertainty.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 3/13/25
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hoover, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bauer-Kahan, Essayli, Gabriel, Garcia, Hadwick, Hart, Irwin, Lee, Ortega, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Valencia, Ward

Prepared by: Vincent D. Marchand / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/3/26 17:24:30

****** 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 disinformation can skew voter behavior by deceiving voters, impacting voter turnout, calling results into question, and generally undermining faith in our elections, their security, and democratic systems. Though a noteworthy example is the deepfake voice message of President Biden spread through New Hampshire to discourage voters from participating in the primary election in 2024, AI-generated disinformation is becoming more widespread in elections both in the United States and internationally.

Although Governor Newsom signed AB 2839 in 2024 to prevent the distribution of digitally altered, materially deceptive campaign advertisements and other election communications during the time leading up to an election, several entities challenged the law alleging First Amendment violations, and a federal district court in Sacramento struck down the law. This bill seeks to narrow AB 2839 in several small but important ways to better withstand constitutional challenges and protect election integrity in the age of AI."

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
7/31/26 16:20:46

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

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 744
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
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: 69-0, 5/8/25 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverage control: tied-house restrictions: exceptions: off-sale retail services

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill redefines the definition of "single-serve containers" to mean between 50 to 500 milliliters for distilled spirits and between 187 milliliters and 500 milliliters for wine for purposes of a current exception in law that allows licensees to perform specified services for off-sale licensees. Under current law, licensees are authorized to perform certain services for off-sale licensees, including rotating and rearranging brands of distilled spirits and wine in single-serve containers owned or sold by the licensee. For these purposes, current law defines "single-serve containers" to mean containers of distilled spirits and wine that have a standard fill of a maximum of 355 milliliters, or approximately 12 fluid ounces.

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) Separates the alcoholic beverage industry into three component parts, or tiers, of the manufacturer (including breweries, wineries, and distilleries), wholesaler, and retailer (both on-sale and off-sale). This is referred to as the "tied-house" law or "three-tier" system. Generally, other than exceptions granted by the Legislature, the holder of one type of license is not permitted to do business as another type of licensee within the "three-tier" system.

3) Creates various exceptions to tied-house restrictions, including permitting a licensee to perform services for off-sale licensees by rotating the brand or brands that are owned or sold by the licensee performing the service on shelves and in refrigerated boxes, as specified.

4) Creates a tied-house restriction exception which permits a licensee to perform specified services for off-sale licenses including, among other things, rotating or rearranging the brands owned or sold by the licensee, as specified. This exception is limited to beer, and brands of distilled spirits in single serve containers, and wine in single-serve containers. For these purposes, current law defines "single-serve containers" to mean containers that have a standard fill, as defined by federal law, of between 50 and 355 milliliters (approximately 12 fluid ounces) for distilled spirits and between 187 and 355 milliliters for wine.

5) Creates the beer and wine wholesaler license, which allows the licensee to acquire beer and wine from suppliers and sell to other wholesalers and to retailers.

This bill redefines the definition of "single-serve containers" to mean between 50 to 500 milliliters for distilled spirits and between 187 milliliters and 500 milliliters for wine for purposes of a current exception in law that allows licensees to perform specified services for off-sale licensees.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "California's alcohol beverage marketplace has evolved significantly in recent years, with consumers increasingly purchasing wine in alternative package formats designed for individual consumption. However, California law continues to define 'single-serve' wine and

spirits containers as one containing between 187 milliliters and 355 milliliters, a standard that no longer reflects many products available in today's market. As a result, wine and spirits products packaged in containers larger than 355 milliliters but intended for single-person consumption and that are ready to drink products are excluded from existing merchandising exceptions available under California's tied-house laws. This creates unnecessary operational challenges for retailers and suppliers and treats substantially similar products differently based solely on package size."

Furthermore, this bill modernizes California law by expanding the definition of a single-serve wine and spirits container from 355 milliliters to 500 milliliters. The measure does not expand alcohol sales, create new licenses, or alter tied-house protections. Instead, it updates an existing exception to reflect current consumer products and industry practices."

Tied-house Laws. State and federal law prohibit certain relations between those engaged in the production, distribution, and retail sale of alcoholic beverages. The term "tied-house" is derived from a common practice in England whereby a bar or public house was "tied" - by ownership, contractual obligations, or other influences - to a specific manufacturer. In some instances, that model encouraged intemperance in alcohol consumption, as retailers would offer generous favors to manufacturers, such as expensive business meals and gifts, which added costs that needed be recouped through aggressive product promotion. Tied houses were also subject to undue influence from manufacturers, who sometimes used their influence to force tied houses to sell their products and exclude other manufacturers' products.

As a result, after the repeal of prohibition in 1933, California's current "three-tier" system was introduced. The original policy rationale for this body of law was to: a) promote the state's interest in an orderly market; b) prohibit the vertical integration and dominance by a single producer in the market place; c) prohibit commercial bribery and to protect the public from predatory marketing practices; and, d) discourage and/or prevent the intemperate use of alcoholic beverages.

Current Exception. Existing law generally prohibits manufacturers, winegrowers, and distributors from providing anything of value, including services to retail licensees. However, current law does allow a licensee to perform services for off-sale licensees by rotating the brand or brands that are owned or sold by the licensee performing the service on shelves and in refrigerated boxes, as specified.

In addition, existing law creates a tied-house exception for rearranging brands, including on floor displays, among other actions with the licensee's permission. In 2021, AB 1149 (Villapudua, Chapter 271, Statutes of 2021) was signed into law which expanded upon this exception to also apply to brands of distilled spirits and wine in single-serve containers for the purpose of stocking, rotating, displaying, and merchandising the product by specified distributor licensees at off-sale retail outlets. The bill defined "single-serve containers" to mean containers that have a standard fill, as defined by federal law, of between 50 and 355 milliliters of distilled spirits and between 187 and 355 milliliters for wine.

This bill instead defines "single-serve containers" to mean containers that have a standard fill of between 50 to 500 milliliters (approximately 17 fluid ounces) for distilled spirits and between 187 and 500 milliliters for wine.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1149 (Villapudua, Chapter 271, Statutes of 2021) extends a tied-house exception to limitations provided for beer, to also apply to brands of distilled spirits and wine in single-serve containers for the purpose of stocking, rotating, displaying, and merchandising the product by specified distributor licensees at off-sale retail outlets.

AB 1445 (Plescia, 2008) would have expanded the permitted services relating to the rotating, restocking, and rearranging of alcoholic beverages within licensed premises of the off-sale retail licensee. (Never heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

AB 1407 (Wesson, Chapter 699, Statutes of 1999) modified existing provisions in the ABC Act relating to wine auction sales, event permits, and the manner by which a manufacturer or distributor may stock or rotate their products at off-sale establishments.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Anheuser-Busch
California Beer and Beverage Distributors
California Family Beer Distributors
Distilled Spirits Council of the United States

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Family Beer Distributors, "California retailers today sell a growing variety of ready-to-drink wine and spirits products packaged in cans, cartons, and other innovative formats. Many of these products are packaged and marketed in formats comparable to products already covered under current law but fall outside the existing statutory threshold solely because of container size. As a result, suppliers may merchandise a qualifying 355 mL product but are prohibited from providing the same service for comparable products packaged in 375 mL or 500 mL containers (sizes that are authorized by state and federal law). This inconsistency creates unnecessary operational challenges for retailers and wholesalers without advancing any policy objective."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/8/25
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, 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, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Boerner, Carrillo, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Irwin, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Wallis

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
8/5/26 14:57:33

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 871
Author: Stefani (D), et al.
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BANKING & F.I. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Grayson, Niello, Cervantes, Hurtado, Reyes, Richardson, Strickland

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 1/22/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mandated reporters of suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult

SOURCE: California Elder Justice Coalition
County Welfare Directors Association of California

DIGEST: This bill requires mandated reporters of suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult to report suspected abuse to the Federal Bureau of Investigations and requires financial institutions to train their employees who are mandated reporters on how to escalate concerns internally and how to make required reports.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (EADACPA) that generally provides civil protections and remedies for victims of elder and dependent adult abuse and neglect. (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 15600 et seq.)

2) Provides that "financial abuse" of an elder or dependent adult occurs when a person or entity does any of the following:

   a) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.

   b) Assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult for a wrongful use or with intent to defraud, or both.

   c) Takes, secretes, appropriates, obtains, or retains, or assists in taking, secreting, appropriating, obtaining, or retaining, real or personal property of an elder or dependent adult by undue influence, as defined. (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 15610.30(a))

3) Provides the following related to mandated reporting of suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult:

   a) Defines "mandated reporter of suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult" as all officers and employees of financial institutions, including banks, credit unions, and other depository institutions.

   b) Requires a mandated reporter to report known or suspected financial abuse to an adult protective services agency or local law enforcement agency as soon as practicably possible if the person has direct contact with the elder or dependent adult or reviews or approves the elder or dependent adult's financial documents, records, or transactions, or who has observed or has knowledge of an incident that reasonably appears to be financial abuse, or who reasonably suspects that abuse.

   c) Provides that a mandated reporter of financial abuse who fails to make a report, as required, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed $1,000, unless the failure is deemed willful, then a civil penalty not to exceed $5,000, which shall be paid by the employer of the mandated reporter, as specified. (Welfare and Institutions Code Section 15630.1)

This bill:

The following provisions become operative on January 1, 2028.

1) Requires a mandated reporter to report suspected financial abuse of an elder or dependent adult to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Internet Crime

Complaint Center (IC3) within two working days. Provides that a violation of this requirement is not subject to civil penalties described in 3) c) of the Existing Law Section above.

2) Requires a financial institution to provide annual training to its mandated reporters on how to escalate internally and report suspected financial abuse of an elder or a dependent adult to both local and federal authorities, including, but not limited to, the Federal Bureau of Investigation Internet Crime Complaint Center and the Federal Trade Commission.

3) Within 48 hours of filing a report pursuant to 1) above, requires a financial institution to notify the elder or dependent adult identified in the report that the financial institution filed a report on behalf of the elder or dependent adult and that the financial institution encourages the elder or dependent adult to also file a report with IC3, as specified. Provides that a violation of this requirement is not subject to civil penalties described in 3) c) of the Existing Law Section above.

Comments

1) *Purpose*. According to the author:

> AB 871 seeks to add an additional investigative tool to address elder financial abuse by requiring financial institutions to include in their trainings that reports should also be made to the FBI's Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3). IC3 is an especially important reporting mechanism because it is available only to law enforcement and shows a nationwide, real time picture of reports across the country, allowing local law enforcement to coordinate and share information if they see similar patterned scams in other jurisdictions besides their own. Critically, if enough information is provided within the first 72 hours to IC3, some financial transactions can be stopped and assets recovered for victims.

2) *Elder financial exploitation is a big problem.* Elder financial exploitation is a large and growing problem. Elder financial exploitation refers to the illegal use of an older adult's funds, property, or assets, and it is the most common form of elder abuse. Reports to the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) tallied more than $7.7 billion in losses in 2025 from over 200,000 victims aged 60 or older.[1] This total represents a startling increase over five years when approximately 100,000 victims reported $1 billion in losses in 2020. The

[1] https://www.ic3.gov/AnnualReport/Reports/2025_IC3Report.pdf

incidence of crime is increasing rapidly, and the amount lost in each case has increased nearly sevenfold. The average loss per victim in 2025 was $38,500, and more than 12,000 victims reported losses of more than $100,000 per incident.

Several factors converge to make elder financial exploitation an increasingly concerning problem. Most prominently, the United States faces a demographic wave as the Baby Boomer generation enters retirement age. Older Americans, in aggregate, have accumulated a tremendous amount of wealth. In 2022, Boomer households held $77 trillion in wealth, with the top 10% of households accounting for 70% of that wealth.[2] Unfortunately, common health effects of aging include cognitive and physical changes that elevate the risks of financial exploitation.

Adding to these factors, criminals are using technology to design and perpetrate ever more convincing frauds and scams that create an increasingly threatening and risky environment for vulnerable populations. The most common crime types affecting older adults are phishing/spoofing, tech support scams,[3] investment scams, identity theft, and romance frauds. Scammers often initiate these crimes online or over the phone. In recent years, criminals are relying more frequently on the use of crypto financial assets to steal value from elders, with crypto associated with over $4.3 billion of fraud losses reported by elder adults to IC3 in 2025. With the broader use and expanded capabilities of AI tools, IC3 began collecting data in 2025 about AI-related crimes, and this category is expected to grow substantially over the coming years.

3) *California's efforts to protect against elder financial abuse.* The state of California has recognized for decades that elders and dependent adults face risks of abuse and negligence that calls for heightened responsibilities of the people who care for them and their property. One of the state's first substantive actions came in 1985, when it enacted mandated reporting requirements for adult care custodians, health practitioners, and employees of a county adult protective services agency or a local law enforcement agency, if those persons knew about or had reason to suspect that an elder or dependent adult had been

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[2] **https://www.pewresearch.org/short-reads/2026/02/11/are-baby-boomers-wealthier-than-previous-generations-of-older-adults/**

[3] Tech support scammers impersonate well-known tech companies, offering to fix non-existent technology issues or renewing fraudulent software or security subscriptions. In 2021, the IC3 observed an increase in complaints reporting the impersonation of customer support, which has taken on a variety of forms, such as financial and banking institutions, utility companies, or crypto exchanges. Many victims report being directed to make wire transfers to overseas accounts, purchase large amounts of prepaid cards, or mail large amounts of cash via overnight or express services.

the victim of physical abuse.[4] The law required these mandated reporters to make their reports to adult protective services or local law enforcement immediately, or as soon as possible, by telephone and to prepare and send a written report within 36 hours.

Over time, as the Legislature learned more about the propensity and kinds of abuse perpetrated against elders and dependent adults, the law has expanded. In 1991, the Legislature added a cause of action related to fiduciary abuse to the Elder Abuse and Dependent Adult Civil Protection Act (EADACPA), as this area of law became to be known. The concept of "fiduciary abuse" would evolve to "financial abuse" in 1998 as the Legislature acted to strengthen laws against elder abuse by broadening mandated reporting requirements and imposing penalties for crimes involving financial abuse.[5]

Anticipating that elder financial exploitation would increase in prevalence, the Legislature expanded the scope of mandated reporter requirements to financial institutions in 2005.[6] The author of the legislation argued that:

> Because financial abuse often occurs in transactions at banks, savings and loans, and credit unions, employees there are well situated to identify and prevent financial abuse. Many times, a financial institution is the only potential defense against elder financial abuse. If they do not report elder financial abuse, those incidents may not be found or may be caught too late to recover lost assets or prevent complete depletion of elders' funds.[7]

4) *What is IC3 and what role does IC3 play in combatting elder financial abuse?* The Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) is the central repository at the FBI for the collection of cyber-enabled crime complaints. Cyber-enabled crime includes any illegal activity that is assisted using cyber-related means. Cyber-enabled crime involves the use of internet technology to communicate false or fraudulent representations to consumers. In addition to websites, emails, and chat rooms, almost all telephone calls utilize internet technology.[8]

After a person files a complaint, trained analysts at the IC3 review and research the complaints and, when appropriate, disseminate information to law

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[4] Chapters 1120 and 1164, Statutes of 1985
[5] AB 1780 (Murray, Chapter 980, Statutes of 1998), SB 1715 (Calderon, Chapter 935, Statutes of 1998), and SB 2199 (Lockyer, Chapter 946, Statutes of 1998).
[6] SB 1018 (Simitian, Chapter 140, Statutes of 2005)
[7] Assembly Committee on Judiciary on Senate Bill 1018 (2005-2006 Regular Session), July 7, 2005, p. 5.
[8] **https://www.ic3.gov/Home/FAQ**

enforcement and partner agencies. The IC3 does not conduct investigations, but rather, law enforcement agencies that receive information from IC3 use their discretion to determine if a given complaint will lead to an investigation or prosecution. IC3 does not collect evidence, and their online complaint form does not accept attachments.

Within IC3, the FBI created the Recovery Asset Team in 2018, which streamlines communications with financial institutions and FBI field offices to assist in the freezing of funds for fraud victims via the Financial Fraud Kill Chain. This approach is tailored for funds sent via wire and relies on expeditious and complete reporting of the crime. In 2025, this process was able to assist in freezing $33 million in elder fraud cases, relative to the reported loss of $65 million, reflecting an approximate 50% success rate in recovering funds that otherwise would have been lost to criminals.

5) *How this bill seeks to reduce the incidence of elder financial abuse.* This bill focuses on training the staff of financial institutions on how to escalate suspicions of elder financial abuse internally within their organizations and how to report their suspicions to IC3 and Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The bill requires mandated reporters to report their suspicions to IC3 within two working days and, within 48 hours of making a report to IC3, to notify their customer about the report and encourage the customer to make their own supplementary report to IC3.

   The policy interventions proposed by this bill occur near the end of the scam process. By the time the requirements of this bill are necessary, a victim has been in contact with the scammer, the scammer has convinced the victim to send money to the scammer, and the victim has requested their financial institution to transfer funds. In most cases, the best case scenario is that the reporting required by this bill will aid law enforcement in either clawing back the funds through a mechanism like the Financial Fraud Kill Chain or that the information reported will aid law enforcement in apprehending one or more suspects, successfully bringing a criminal action against the suspect(s), and recovering stolen funds that can be returned to victims. In some cases, scammers seek to steal funds via multiple transactions over a period of time, and law enforcement intervention spurred by the reporting required by this bill may disrupt some schemes from draining more funds from victims. That being said, this bill can only be seen as a partial response to the scam epidemic, and stronger, upstream policy interventions are still necessary in order to bend the curve on the rapidly escalating scale of scam losses.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/6/2026)

California Elder Justice Coalition (co-source)
County Welfare Directors Association of California (co-source)
AARP
Alzheimer's Association
Alzheimer's Greater Los Angeles
Alzheimer's Orange County
Alzheimer's San Diego
California Assisted Living Association
California Collaborative for Long-term Services and Supports
California Long Term Care Ombudsman Association
California Retired Teachers Association
California State Association of Counties
Contra Costa County
County of Alameda
County of Humboldt
County of Kern
County of Riverside
County of Sacramento
County of Ventura
Lake County Department of Social Services
Little Hoover Commission
Retired Public Employees Association
San Diego County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/6/2026)

California Bankers Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The County Welfare Directors Association of California, as co-sponsor, writes:

> The FBI reports that over $3 billion was lost in elder fraud scams in 2023 nationwide.. The IC3 provides the public with a convenient reporting system to submit information to the FBI concerning suspected internet-facilitated crime. Information gathered by the system is analyzed and used for investigative and intelligence purposes, as well as public awareness, to help combat future financial exploitation.

> Financial institutions are uniquely positioned to help prevent financial loss due to offering services and products helping consumers manage their finances. Banks and other financial institutions are already required to report suspected abuse to law enforcement, but many only report to their local police department or possibly adult protective services. Reporting to local authorities is essential, but additional reporting to federal agencies can provide investigative support to local agencies. The sooner the abuse is reported to federal authorities, the more likely the stolen funds will be recovered. Reporting within the first 24-48 hours is critical to intervening and recovering stolen money, especially through cyber scams…
>
> The passage of this bill would provide additional support in finding and stopping criminals, clarify for financial institutions about how to most effectively report abuse, and allow reports to be made quickly thus increasing the chance of recovering stolen funds.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The California Bankers Association writes that their concerns include:

- "expanding mandated reporting to additional agencies risks generating a significant volume of reports that are unlikely to result in meaningful investigative or enforcement outcomes. Financial institutions already operate under extensive and overlapping state and federal reporting obligations, and any new reporting requirement should be carefully calibrated to ensure it meaningfully contributes to fraud prevention."

- "the provision requiring financial institutions to share reporting information with clients and encourage them to submit complaints within 24 to 48 hours upon the discovery of potential abuse. In practice, many banks operate under established escalation protocols in which a transaction is flagged and reviewed by a centralized fraud or risk team rather than resolved by a frontline teller. These review teams often do not have immediate access to the customer, and the review process may take time to determine whether a transaction is in fact suspicious or simply unusual. As a result, this notification requirement may not be operationally feasible in all cases."

- "a more effective and balanced legislative approach would place greater responsibility on social media and telecommunications companies to prevent scams at their source, rather than continuing to shift downstream responsibility to banks after consumer harm has already occurred."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 1/22/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, 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, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Flora, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Schiavo

Prepared by: Michael Burdick / B. & F.I. / 916-651-4102
7/30/26 14:49:16

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 912
Author: Wilson (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/3/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District: trustees

SOURCE: Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District

DIGEST: This bill makes changes to the board composition and compensation of the enabling act of Vallejo Flood and Wastewater district.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District (VFWD) governed by, and under the control of, eight trustees.

   a) Requires that seven of the trustees are the seven members of the City Council of the City of Vallejo.

   b) Requires the eight member-at-large trustee to be appointed by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Solano, as specified.

2) Prescribes the compensation of each trustee to receive $100 per month for their services as a trustee of the board and may receive their actual and necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties as trustee, as provided.

3) Prescribes the member-at-large or alternate receive $100 for each district meeting attended, as provided.

    a) Prohibits the trustee or alternate from being compensated for more than three meetings or $300 in any calendar month.

4) Requires certain bodies to prepare annually a list of, among other things, all appointive terms that will expire during the next calendar year, known as the Local Appointments List.

    a) Prescribes the rules for filing unscheduled vacancies of boards, commissions, or committees for which the legislative body has the appointing power.

This bill:

1) Modifies VFWD's governing board to comprise of five trustees:

    a) Two trustees and an alternate appointed by and selected from among the councilmembers of the City of Vallejo;

    b) One trustee and an alternate appointed by, and selected from among, the County board of supervisors of Solano County. The appointed trustee must reside within the boundaries of VFWD and the appointed alternate must be a member whose supervisorial district includes territory within the boundaries of VFWD; and

    c) Two at-large trustees, appointed by the majority of the remaining members of the board of trustees, who reside within the boundaries of VFWD and each is neither a city councilmember of the City of Vallejo nor a member of the board of supervisors of Solano County;

        i) Appointment of the two at-large trustees is subject to Local Appointment List requirements;

        ii) States the first term of the first at-large trustee is until December 31, 2027, and is appointed to a four-year term thereafter. The first term of the second at-large trustee is until December 31, 2029, and is appointed to a four-year term thereafter.

2) Allows the district to compensate each trustee or alternate $100 for each district meeting, not to exceed $300 a month.

3) Makes other technical changes.

Background

California state and local officials who negotiate, make, or vote on public contracts are subject to two main conflicts of interest laws: Section 1090 et seq. of the Government Code (known simply as "Section 1090") and the Political Reform Act of 1974.

Section 1090. Section 1090 formalized the longstanding common law rule prohibiting public officials—including board members, officers, and employees—from having a personal financial interest in the contracts they participate in awarding while exercising their official capacities. Financial interest has been liberally interpreted by the courts and includes the property and income of a public official's spouse. The consequences of violating Section 1090 are severe: a contract that runs afoul of the law is void, even if the affected official did not intend to receive a personal benefit. Willful violators can also face criminal penalties ranging from fines to prison time, plus a lifetime ban on holding public office.

Section 1090 contains several exceptions. In particular, state law identifies 18 situations that do not constitute financial interests, but that present some risk of undue influence. These "remote interests" include when a public contract would financially benefit a public official's minor child or a nonprofit corporation at which a public official is also a non-salaried officer. Section 1090 requires an official with a remote interest to publicly disclose their interest, note the interest in the public record, and abstain from voting on the contract or influencing the other board members. The government body on which they sit may only approve the contract if there are sufficient votes to pass it without the interested official. Thus, only public officials that sit on multi-member boards may use the remote interest exception; officers and employees may not. The courts and the Attorney General have found there is an additional, non-statutory exception to Section 1090: a "rule of necessity" that allows an interested public official to participate in a contract if (1) the government agency must contract for essential services but no other source is available, and (2) the board or official is the only authority that can legally act on the matter.

The Political Reform Act. In 1974, California voters passed Proposition 9 to create the Political Reform Act (PRA), along with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC), the agency tasked with enforcing the PRA through administrative and civil penalties. In 2013, the Legislature expanded the FPPC's jurisdiction to include Section 1090 (AB 1090, Fong, Chapter 650, Statutes of

2013). The PRA is broader than Section 1090 because it prohibits any state or local public official from using his or her official position to influence any "governmental decision" in which the official has a financial interest. The PRA also applies to decisions that will have a material financial effect on a member of the official's "immediate family," which the Legislature has defined as a government official's spouse or dependent children. The PRA supersedes most other conflict of interest laws, including Section 1090, in the case of an inconsistency. Public officials must therefore consider whether a conflict exists under either the PRA or Section 1090, or both.

Common Law Conflict of Interest. In 1850, California's first Legislature adopted the English common law as the state's basic legal framework, insofar as it did not conflict with state statutes or the state and federal Constitutions. This legal framework remains in place today. Independent of Section 1090 and the PRA, California courts continue to apply the common law doctrine against conflicts of interests to invalidate public contracts tainted by self-dealing, even in situations when Section 1090 or the PRA do not apply. In several recent opinions, the Attorney General's Office has suggested the common law doctrine against conflicts of interest is broader than Section 1090 and the PRA, even prohibiting public contracts that raise only potential conflicts of interest, or even the mere appearance of impropriety. For example, the Attorney General has opined that a contract that benefits the adult child of a public official might be prohibited under common law, even though neither the PRA nor Section 1090 consider it a financial interest. Courts can void a contract that violates this common law doctrine.

Incompatible office law. SB 274 (Romero, Chapter 254, Statutes of 2005) codified the common law rule against public officials holding incompatible offices. Incompatible office law generally prohibits a public officer, including, but not limited to, an appointed or elected member of a governmental board, commission, committee, or other body from simultaneously holding two public offices that are incompatible. A public office is incompatible when any of the following circumstances are present:

- Either of the offices may audit, overrule, remove members of, dismiss employees of, or exercise supervisor powers over the other office or body;
- Based on the powers and jurisdiction of the offices, there is a possibility of a significant clash of duties or loyalties between the offices; or
- Public policy considerations make it improper for one person to hold both offices.

Notwithstanding these circumstances, state law can expressly authorize the simultaneous holding of the particular offices. When a public officer takes on a second office that is incompatible, state law deems they forfeit the first office.

Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District (VFWD). In 1952, the Legislature created the Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District in Solano County. The governing board consisted of four members: two Solano county supervisors, and two City of Vallejo councilmembers. In 1955, Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District board increased to five, adding one public member at-large. Each member received a compensation of $100 per meeting, not to exceed $600 a month. In 1995, City of Vallejo and Vallejo Sanitation and Flood Control District sponsored legislation to change the board composition to eight board members: seven councilmembers from the City of Vallejo and one member at-large (AB 1388, Brown, Statutes of 1995). The Solano County Board of Supervisors appoint the one member at-large who is either a Solano County Supervisor from the 1st or 2nd District or a resident that lives within the unincorporated area of the district. AB 1388 also reduced the compensation to $100 per meeting, not to exceed $300 a month for the one member at large and alternates. The City of Vallejo councilmembers are compensated $100 a month for their service and expenses. In 2017, the district was renamed to Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District (VFWD) (SB 205, Senate Governance and Finance Committee, Chapter 387, Statutes of 2017).

VFWD is a special district responsible for providing wastewater collection and treatment services, as well as flood control and stormwater management, within its service boundaries which include the City of Vallejo and portions of the surrounding unincorporated area of Solano County. VFWD plays an essential role in protecting public health, maintaining critical infrastructure, and managing flooding and wastewater impacts for residents and businesses within its jurisdiction. VFWD reports the current governance model has created operational and legal complexities, particularly in circumstances involving negotiations, litigation, fiduciary responsibilities, and matters implicating attorney-client privilege between the City of Vallejo and the district. While trustees recuse themselves from individual matters, overlapping governing responsibilities can still create governance challenges and quorum concerns that complicate VFWD operations and decision-making.

Comments

According to the author, "AB 912 proposes amendments to the Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District's Enabling Act to modernize the composition of the District's

Board of Trustees and improve governance efficiency, responsiveness, and operational effectiveness. The bill would modify the Board's composition to reduce governance conflicts, improve fiduciary independence, and ensure the District can continue to effectively manage long-term infrastructure and service responsibilities."

Back to the future. The original enabling act for VFWD established a balanced governance structure with the City of Vallejo and County of Solano with each appointing two trustees to the governing board. AB 1388 subsequently revised this structure by expanding the governing board to include the full City of Vallejo council and one at-large member. When these changes took effect, the City of Vallejo experienced significant growth and annexation, resulting in VFWD's boundaries becoming largely contiguous with the city. In addition, the County of Solano indicated at the time they had a desire to reduce its role on the district board as they were currently serving as decision-makers in an area of which they had limited jurisdiction. According to VFWD, the current governance structure has created practical challenges. Because more than the majority of the board also serve as councilmember for the city of Vallejo, conflicts of interest frequently require recusals, making it difficult to achieve a quorum and conduct district business. This bill seeks to address these governance challenges by revising the board structure to improve the district's ability to conduct its affairs, maintain continuity of operations, and continue providing services to the public.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Vallejo Flood and Wastewater District (Source)
City of Vallejo
County of Solano

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/3/25
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, 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, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

Prepared by: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 14:57:32

****** 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 956
Author: Quirk-Silva (D), et al.
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 7-1, 6/10/26
AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Padilla, Pérez
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Caballero, Ochoa Bogh

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-4, 5/23/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires local agencies to ministerially approve two detached, new construction Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) on a lot with an existing or proposed single-family dwelling.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines an ADU as an attached or a detached residential dwelling unit that provides complete independent living facilities for one or more persons and is located on a lot with a proposed or existing primary residence. It must include permanent provisions for living, sleeping, eating, cooking, and sanitation on the

same parcel as the single-family or multifamily dwelling is or will be situated on.

2) Defines a Junior ADU (JADU) as a unit that is no more than 500 square feet in size and contained entirely within a single-family residence. A junior accessory dwelling unit may include separate sanitation facilities or may share sanitation facilities with the existing structure.

3) Requires a local agency to ministerially approve an application to develop one attached or one detached ADU and up to one JADU on a lot with an existing or proposed single-family dwelling.

4) Establishes, within the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act, rules and regulations governing the operation of common interest developments (CIDs) and the respective rights and duties of a homeowners' associations (HOA) and its members. Requires the governing documents of a CID, and any amendments to the governing documents, to be adopted through HOA elections in accordance with specified procedures.

5) Deems void and unenforceable any covenant, condition, or restriction (CC&R) contained in any deed, contract, security instrument, or other instrument affecting the transfer of, or any interest in, real property, and any provision of the CID governing documents, that effectively prohibits or restricts:

   a) Installation of a solar energy system.

   b) Installation or use of a video or television antenna.

   c) Installation of low-water using plants, artificial turf, and other synthetic surface that resembles grass.

   d) Installation or use of an EV charging station within the owner's unit or designated parking space.

   e) Display or affixation of one or more religious items on any entry door frame to a dwelling.

   f) Construction or use of an ADU or JADU on a lot zoned for single-family residential use that meets the requirements of existing law regarding ADUs and JADUs.

This bill requires a local agency to ministerially approve an application to develop up to two detached ADUs and up to one JADU on a lot containing an existing or

proposed single-family dwelling, and clarifies that CC&Rs in CID governing documents apply on a lot zoned to allow single-family developments.

Background

ADUs/JADUs. ADUs, also known as mother-in-law units or granny flats, are additional living spaces that have a separate kitchen, bathroom, and exterior access independent of the primary residence; ADUs may be attached or detached from the primary residence. A JADU is a unit of up to 500 square feet within the primary residence. ADU/JADU law has evolved over the years to lower barriers to ADU development, which has resulted in a surge in ADUs built in California. SB 1069 (Wieckowski, Chapter 720, Statutes of 2016) and AB 2299 (Bloom, Chapter 735, Statutes of 2016) permitted ADUs by-right on all residentially-zoned parcels in the state. By permitting an ADU as a second unit on all single-family lots, these laws effectively doubled their allowed density. According to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), between 2016-2023, the number of ADUs permitted annually in the state grew from 1,336 to 26,924, a 20-fold increase. In 2023, ADUs comprised more than 21% of all homes permitted statewide.

Comments

Author's Statement. "AB 956 is a critical step toward addressing California's housing crisis by making it easier for families to build the housing they need. Too many families are trapped by outdated restrictions when they need space for aging parents, adult children, or essential rental income. This bill cuts through the red tape and ensures that more Californians can access flexible, affordable housing options. The future of our communities depends on solutions like this: expanding housing, keeping families together, and ensuring every Californian has a place to call home."

ADUs, JADUs, duplexes and urban-lot splits. Existing law requires local agencies to allow up to four units to be developed on most single-family parcels across the state; specifically, SB 9's duplex provisions when used in concert with ADU law and JADU law, require a local agency to allow up to four units (a duplex, and two ADUS) on an existing or proposed parcel that is only zoned to allow the development of one single-family dwelling. SB 9 also requires a local agency to allow a property owner to subdivide a single-family parcel and create two units on each parcel (either a duplex, or a primary dwelling and an ADU/JADU). This configuration also allows up to four units to be built on an existing single-family parcel, but it spreads the units across two newly subdivided parcels. The urban-lot

split provisions of SB 9 specify that a local agency is only required to allow a total for two units on any parcel created though an urban-lot split. This limitation means that the statutorily imposed upzoning of existing single-family parcels cannot be used create more than four units per original parcel, thus avoiding the potential for an SB 9 development or ADU law to trigger Density Bonus Law (DBL) which applies to projects that include five or more units. This bill specifies that local agencies are not required to approve a JADU in conjunction with two detached ADUs, effectively maintaining consistency with SB 9's functional cap of four units per parcel.

Clarifying ADU Law and Davis-Stirling. This bill will clarify two items in ADU law related to HOAs. AB 670 (Friedman, Chapter 178, Statutes of 2019), voids any CC&R in a planned development that prohibits or unreasonably restricts the construction of an ADU on a lot zoned *for* single family development. According to the author of AB 670, that bill was intended to address the fact that "many HOAs have restrictions on what can or cannot be done with their dwelling units, including the ability to have a second unit or ADU." The Friedman bill, as originally passed by the State Assembly, did not specify that its provisions applied to CC&Rs adopted by CIDs at all. Senate amendments clarified that the prohibitions applied to CC&Rs affecting any interest in a "planned development." AB 670 also applies to lots that are zoned "for" single family development, rather than lots zoned "to allow" for single family development. In practice these two ambiguities can be interpreted to authorize CIDs to prevent the development of some ADUs. Additionally, for the CIDs that are required to allow the development of ADUs, the law could be read as specifying that these CIDs can prohibit ADUs on parcels that are zoned allow for more than one unit (even if only one unit exists on the parcel). This bill will specify that ADU law applies to any lot in a CID that allows single family development.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Apartment Association
California Yimby
East Bay for Everyone
Leadingage California
South Pasadena Residents for Responsible Growth
Southern California Obtainable Housing
Yolo Yimby
Zillow Group

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Cities for Local Control
California Fire Chiefs Association
City of Burbank
City of Carlsbad
City of Chino Hills
City of Cupertino
City of LA Habra
City of Lakewood CA
City of Milpitas
City of San Marcos
City of Thousand Oaks
City of Torrance
City of Tulare
City of Yorba Linda
Equitable Land Use Alliance (ELUA)
Fire Districts Association of California
League of California Cities
Marin County Council of Mayors and Council Members
Neighbors for a Better San Diego
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters argue that AB 956 expands housing opportunities by allowing local agencies to approve more detached ADUs on properties with an existing or proposed single-family home. By clarifying state law and eliminating confusion around ADU allowances, AB 956 removes unnecessary barriers and ensures that more Californians can access flexible, affordable housing solutions.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Opponents argue that while AB 956 seeks to expand housing opportunities, it does not adequately account for local infrastructure planning considerations and the resources necessary to support additional residential development. Essential infrastructure utility systems, including water, sewer, gas, electricity, and roadways, have been planned, constructed, and maintained in accordance with locally adopted regulations. Authorizing increased density without consideration of local infrastructure planning and service capacity may create challenges in maintaining the long-term reliability and efficiency of essential services.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-4, 5/23/25

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, DeMaio, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hoover, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Ortega, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Boerner, Davies, Dixon, Macedo
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bryan, Calderon, Castillo, Chen, Ellis, Hart, Irwin, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Petrie-Norris, Sanchez, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Tangipa, Wicks, Wilson

Prepared by: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 14:57:32

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1128
Author: Muratsuchi (D) and Quirk-Silva (D)
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 8-2, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Allen, Caballero, Reyes, Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Niello, Valladares
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby, Durazo, Laird

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/2/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mobilehome parks: rent caps

SOURCE: Mobile Home Residents Association

DIGEST: This bill prohibits the management of a mobilehome park from increasing the gross rental rate for a mobilehome park tenancy over any 12-month period by more than three percent plus the percentage change in the cost of living, up to five percent.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Mobilehome Residency Law (MRL), which regulates the rights, responsibilities, obligations, and relationships between mobilehome park management and park residents. (Civil (Civ.) Code §§ 798 et seq.)

2) Requires mobilehome rental agreements to be in writing and to include certain information including the length of the tenancy, the rent, and the rules and regulations of the park. (Civ. Code §§ 798.15 et seq.)

3) Requires park management to provide a homeowner written notice of any increase in rent at least 90 days before the increase takes effect. (Civ. Code § 798.30.)

4) Prohibits a mobilehome park management from, over the course of any 12-month period, increasing the gross rental rate for a tenancy in the mobilehome park by more than three percent plus the percentage change in the cost of living, or five percent, whichever is lower, of the lowest gross rental rate charged in the past 12 months. (Civ. Code § 798.30.5.)

5) Permits, for a tenancy in which no homeowner from the prior tenancy remains in lawful possession of the mobilehome space, mobilehome park management to establish the initial rental rate for the space, unless a local agency or jurisdiction has adopted an ordinance, rule, regulation, or initiative measure that limits the allowable rental rate for a new tenancy. (Civ. Code § 798.30.5.)

6) Exempts from the provisions described in (4) and (5) a mobilehome space restricted by deed, regulatory restriction, or other recorded document as affordable housing, a mobilehome space constructed and maintained in connection with any higher education institution, a mobilehome space subject to any ordinance, rule, regulation, or initiative measure that restricts annual rent increases to a greater amount, and a mobilehome space within a resident-owned mobilehome park. (Civ. Code § 798.30.5(e).)

7) Limits the applicability of (4) through (6) to qualified mobilehome parks, defined as a mobilehome park that is located within and governed by the jurisdictions of two or more incorporated cities.

8) Sunsets the provisions described in (4) through (6) on January 1, 2030.

This bill:

1) Removes the limitation of the application of (4) through (6), above, to only those mobilehome parks located within and governed by the jurisdictions of two or more incorporated cities, thereby expanding those provisions statewide.

2) Specifies that the rent caps described in (4) and (5), above, apply to all rent increases of a mobilehome park occurring on or after January 5, 2026. Specifies that, for any rent increases above the permissible amount between January 5, 2026 and January 1, 2027, the applicable rent on January 1, 2027 must be the

rent as of January 5, 2026, plus the maximum permissible increase. Specifies that management shall not be liable to a homeowner for any corresponding rent overpayment.

3) Permits the management of a mobilehome park that increased the rental rate for a tenancy on or after January 5, 2026 and before January 1, 2027 by an amount less than the maximum amount, to increase rent twice within 12 months of January 5, 2026, but to no more than the maximum rental rate increase.

4) Extends the sunset for these provisions from January 1, 2030, to January 1, 2036.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/24/26)

Mobile Home Residents Association (source)
Access Reproductive Justice
ACT -LA
Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE Action)
Bayside Village Homeowners Association
California Coalition for Rural Housing
California Community Land Trust Network
California Community Land Trust Office
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAEJ)
Coalition to Protect Manufactured Home Communities
Council of Community Housing Organizations
County of Los Angeles
Courage California
Del Mar Estates Home Owners Alliance
East Bay Housing Organizations
East Contra Costa Community Leaders Network
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Health in Partnership
Housing California
Housing Justice As Health Equity Collaborative
Housing Now!
Housing Rights Committee of San Francisco
Huntington Shorecliffs Association
Inland Equity Community Land Trusts

Kennedy Commission
Legal Aid of Sonoma County
Long Beach Forward
Long Beach Residents Empowered
Monterey County Renters United
Mountain Homeless Coalition
Noho Home Alliance
Oakland Tenants Union
Office of Congressman Mike Thompson
Pacifica Housing 4 All
Pacifica Social Justice
Parable of the Sower Intentional Community Cooperative
Public Law Center
Resilience Orange County
Skyline Mobile Home Park Hoa
South Bay Community Land Trust
Starting Over, Inc.
Strategic Actions for a Just Economy (SAJE)
Tenants Together
Tenants United Anaheim
Thai Community Development Center
Urban Habitat
Working Partnerships USA

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/24/26)

Apartment Association of Greater Los Angeles
California Association of Realtors
California Mobilehome Parkowners Alliance
California Rental Housing Association
Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League
Western Manufactured Housing Communities Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the Mobilehome Resident Coalition, which is the sponsor of AB 1128:

> As introduced in June 2026, AB 1128 takes a necessary step forward by expanding rent cap protections to all California manufactured/mobile home communities unless they already have local rent control protections that offer

more favorable rent increase caps. The bill also exempts mobilehome resident-owned communities because they set their own rents.

Many of our members are seniors on fixed incomes, veterans, people with disabilities, and working families who cannot afford the steep, arbitrary rent increases imposed by corporate park owners. By capping annual gross rental rate increases to the lower of 5% or 3% plus the percentage change in the cost of living, AB 1128 provides the housing stability necessary to prevent displacement and homelessness.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

According to the California Association of Realtors and a number of other groups that oppose AB 1128:

AB 1128 fails to align with the rent-increase caps for apartments as determined by AB 1482 (Chiu), which allows annual increases of 5% plus an inflation adjustment of up to 10%. Without explanation, AB 1128 imposes a far lower cap of 3% plus an inflation adjustment of only up to 5%, unfairly discriminating against all mobilehome parks in the state. Mobilehome parks are a critical part of California's rental housing inventory and deserve equal treatment, particularly as rising operating costs often exceed standard inflationary adjustments.

Unlike traditional homes, whose value is tied to land, mobilehomes are depreciating assets that lose value over time and eventually require replacement. Rent caps, while intended to protect residents, can perversely increase the sale prices of the homes themselves. In non-rent-controlled areas, identical mobilehomes often sell for roughly $100,000, while in rent-controlled parks, prices can exceed $400,000. This distortion disproportionately harms low- and moderate-income families who must pay inflated prices or secure loans above the home’s actual value, reducing overall affordability. Overly restrictive caps lock both buyers and sellers into an unsustainable system, discouraging investment in maintenance and improvements, and ultimately making housing less attainable for those who need it most.

We, the signers of this letter, recognize the need to address rising costs, but rent control is a convenient band-aid over deeper structural issues. Mobilehome park rents are driven by real factors such as skyrocketing insurance costs, litigation over unforeseen service disruptions, rising labor expenses, and higher property taxes. Imposing a 3% to 5% cap without any mechanism to account for capital

improvements or essential expenditures and a reasonable rate of return, proper consideration of prior Executive Orders and local ordinances imposing rent freezes during emergencies, or parks operating with long term lease agreements with limited rent increases places owners under financial stress and threatens the long-term viability of these communities. Simply put, without procedural safeguards, AB 1543 punishes investment, imperils housing quality, and undermines the very affordability it claims to protect.

According to the Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League, which is also opposed to AB 1128:

Unlike traditional renters, many mobilehome residents have mortgages, and all mobilehome residents are responsible for paying for home maintenance required by the state Mobilehome Park Maintenance Program, which oversees health and safety standards.

In addition to paying a base rent and a mortgage, many mobilehome leases also include annual pass-through provisions for insurance, capital improvements, government-related expenses, uninsured losses, "market catch-up" increases which take effect near the end of the lease term, and resale increases.

These all reflect dollar amounts and money that must be paid by mobilehome residents who are already on fixed and very low or modest incomes.

AB 1128, as amended, will increase rents. Even a one percentage point rental adjustment may not seem much, but living on small dollars makes us vulnerable to small margins.

And amending the bill to apply solely to the City of Torrance will unleash a torrent of commas … one comma at a time …. One more city at a time … one after another. You will erode the 1996 vote of Californians, and raise rents for more people than not. The Legislature can give us assurances, but many of them won't be here when we suffer the consequences.

As a result, we request the bill:

1. Reflect a .75% of CPI, but not more than 3% of the annual base rent, which are percentages and numbers established across local mobilehome ordinances;
2. Reflect vacancy control ensuring affordability for mobilehomes, which is also established across local mobilehome ordinances;

3. Include an arbitration process at the expense of the park owners who seek to challenge a fair rate of return, and which has been established across local mobilehome ordinances.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/2/25
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, 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, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

Prepared by: Ian Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
7/30/26 14:49:17

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1145
Author: Jeff Gonzalez (R) and Wallis (R)
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 6/3/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vehicles: local regulation: Department of Transportation

SOURCE: County of Riverside

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), in reviewing a proposed ordinance or resolution submitted by a local authority to regulate traffic on a state highway, to consider the cost of the proposed ordnance or resolution compared to any possible alternative solution; and 2) requires Caltrans, if they reject the proposed ordinance or resolution, to provide written reasons and justifications for the rejection to the local authority.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Vests Caltrans with the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways.

2) Defines "commercial vehicle" to mean a motor vehicle of a type required to be registered, pursuant to current law, used or maintained for the transportation of

persons for hire, compensation, or profit or designed, used, or maintained primarily for the transportation of property.

3) Authorizes Caltrans to restrict the use of, or close, any state highway whenever they consider such closing or restriction of use necessary for the protection of the public; or for the protection of such highway from damage during storms or during construction, improvement or maintenance operations.

4) Authorizes local authorities, for those highways under their jurisdiction, to adopt rules and regulations by ordinance or resolution, on various matters, including regulating traffic by means of specified official traffic control devices and prohibiting the use of particular highways by certain vehicles.

5) Authorizes that a local authority that enacted an ordinance or resolution prohibiting the use of a particular highway by certain vehicles to impose a fine or a penalty of up to $100 for a violation.

6) Authorizes specified proposed ordinances or resolutions to be effective as to any state highway, or part thereof, if the proposed ordinance or resolution is submitted to Caltrans approval prior to the enactment, as specified.

This bill:

1) Requires Caltrans, in reviewing, and approving or rejecting, a proposed ordinance or resolution submitted by a local authority to regulate traffic on a state highway, as defined, to do both of the following:

   a) Consider the cost of the proposed ordinance or resolution compared to any possible alternative solution to the issue that the proposed ordinance or resolution is addressing; and,

   b) Requires Caltrans, if they reject the proposed ordinance or resolution, to provide written reasons and justifications for the rejection to the submitting local authority.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, “Highway safety is critical to the wellbeing of communities throughout California. Highway 74 and many rural roads across the state serve as vital lifelines for residents traveling to work,

school, medical appointments, and other essential destinations. Yet many of these routes continue to face serious safety challenges, including deteriorating road conditions, increasing traffic demands, and accidents involving overweight or improperly routed commercial trucks. The tragic loss of Anza resident Tristin Bourgeois on October 31, 2024, serves as a painful reminder of the consequences of these hazards. His death left behind a grieving family and community and underscores the urgent need for stronger enforcement, improved road maintenance, and greater accountability in transportation planning. AB 1145 would help address these concerns by increasing transparency, accountability, and public engagement in transportation decisions affecting rural and mountain communities throughout California. The bill would require CalTrans, in reviewing alternatives submitted by local agencies, to evaluate associated costs and provide written explanations when recommendations are rejected. While it does not dictate the outcome of any transportation study, AB 1145 ensures that local voices are heard and that communities receive meaningful responses regarding decisions that impact public safety. The loss of Tristin Bourgeois reminds us that transportation decisions have real human consequences. AB 1145 is an important step toward ensuring safer roads and a more transparent process for the communities that depend on them."

2) *California's Highway System*. California has a large network of highways and local streets and roads, consisting of almost 400,000 lane miles of pavement and over 25,000 bridges. The state highway system, owned and managed by Caltrans, is made up of roughly 51,000 lane miles and 13,000 bridges, including both federal and state highways. The state highway system provides mobility to millions of Californians, and serves as a major lifeline for goods movement, shepherding billions of dollars of products throughout the state every year.

3) *Which trucks can drive on which highways?* There are two categories of truck tractor-semitrailers that are legal to operate on the roads in California. So-called Green trucks, also known as Surface Transportation Assistance Act (STAA) trucks, are a type of large commercial truck permitted under federal law to operate mostly on the Interstate Highway System and certain designated primary routes. The other type of trucks are so-called Black trucks, which are also called California legal trucks. Overall, Green STAA trucks are much longer than the standard Black trucks, which are limited to a maximum of 65 feet for overall length. Therefore, as mentioned, Green STAA trucks are much more restricted on what routes they can use in the state. Black trucks can

operate widely throughout California on Interstates and have access to the entire state highway system except where specifically prohibited.

Trucks are also regulated by kingpin-to-rear-axle (KPRA), which measures how far the trailer's rear axle group can be from the kingpin. KPRA controls off-tracking, or how far the trailer's rear wheels cut inside the tractor's turning path. A longer KPRA means more inward drift, which can cause the trailer to swing into curbs, medians, or adjacent lanes.

Caltrans maintains the California Truck Network Map for state highways as the official government source for truck route information. All the truck routes in California are color coded to represent which types of trucks are allowed to travel on which routes in the state. Additionally, there is specific signage for certain allowable uses and advisories, such as a terminal access route which allows Green STAA trucks to exit the interstate and travel onto certain state and local streets for first and last mile. Also, many routes are considered KPRA Advisory routes, with signage in bright yellow warning trucks above a specified KPRA to avoid the route for safety reasons.

4) *State Route 74 raises serious concerns*. State Route 74 (SR 74) is a 93-mile east–west highway extending from Interstate 5 in the City of San Juan Capistrano in Orange County to the southern city limits of Palm Desert in Riverside County. East of the City of Hemet, SR 74 transitions into an undivided two-lane highway passing through forested and winding terrains before reaching Palm Desert. At least twelve hairpin curves exist between Hemet and Palm Desert, with posted signage and advisory speeds; however, many of the turns cannot be navigated safely by large vehicles. SR 74 is a 65-foot Black California legal truck route with a posted KPRA advisory distance of 30 feet or less. This advisory warns commercial vehicle drivers that the route may not be well-suited for long wheelbases or trailer vehicles.

   Residents of Riverside County have been concerned about the amount of trucks travelling along this route. Also, several hairpin curves have been identified as an operational and safety concern for large vehicles. As noted by the author, tragically, in October 2024, Tristan Bourgeois was killed driving to work on SR 74. A large dump truck pulling a trailer, both full of sand, lost control coming down the switchbacks above Palm Springs, tipped over, and collided with his pickup truck. Mr. Bourgeois was 27 years old.

His family started a petition drive to make SR 74 safer by limiting the use of the highway by certain trucks. The petition called for several changes, including a portable California Highway Patrol (CHP) weigh station, better Caltrans enforcement of restrictions on truck length and weight, improved signage advising trucks to use pullouts, a GPS warning system advising trucks to avoid the highway altogether, and a Caltrans study on accidents along the highway.

To begin this work, the author introduced this bill last year. As passed by the Assembly, the bill called for Caltrans to conduct a study on SR 74 collecting specified data from the past 10 years, including the number fatal and nonfatal accidents, the number of incidents involving truck trailers, the number and types of citations issued for violations, including, weight-limit violations, and the number of instances in which an accident was caused by brake failure. Additionally, the bill required Caltrans to develop recommendations to improve safety.

5) *What can locals do about it?* As this bill wound its way through the legislative process, Riverside County decided to move forward to make SR 74 safer. Current law allows local agencies to propose truck restrictions on highways under their jurisdiction by ordinance or resolution. For any restrictions that would apply to a state highway, the proposed ordinance or resolution must be submitted to Caltrans for approval.

   Caltrans has established guidelines for this process. The Caltrans Truck Restriction Process identifies the steps to be taken by local agencies when proposing a truck restriction on a state highway. Specifically, the process requires a local agency to:

   - *Prepare a draft truck restriction ordinance or resolution.* Requires the local agency to submit a draft ordinance or resolution detailing the justification for the truck restriction.

   - *Prepare an initial study.* Requires the local agency to prepare a study which provides the information necessary to justify the restriction and indicates whether the proposed restriction is subject to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The study requires input from Caltrans, the local agency, and CHP, as well as comments from the trucking industry, affected industries, and citizen groups.

- *Public review.* Requires the local agency to give public notice of the proposed restriction, including conducting a public hearing.

- *Receive comments and prepare a final truck restriction report.* Requires that all public comments be considered and resolved. The local agency must then complete a final report, including the draft ordinance or resolution, and submit it to the Caltrans District Office whom then forwards it to Caltrans headquarters.

- *Caltrans traffic operations submits recommendation to the Caltrans Director's office.* Caltrans Traffic Operations, in cooperation with the Legal and Environmental Division prepares a recommendation for the Caltrans Director.

- *Caltrans Director issues a written approval.* If approved by Caltrans, the Caltrans Director issues a written approval of the truck restriction and the draft ordinance or resolution.

- *Pass final truck restriction ordinance or resolution.* Requires the local agency to approve a final version of the ordinance or resolution.

- *Erect restriction signs and enforce restriction.* Requires Caltrans to erect needed signage at each end of the affected portion of the highway.

There are a number of examples of state route segments with specific truck restrictions based on factors such as the number of axles, gross weight, length, and cargo type. According to Caltrans, there are currently 25, some of which were put in place through the process described above and some were approved by the Legislature.

Last summer, Riverside County commissioned the required initial study for possible truck restrictions on a portion of SR 74, which include seven of the hairpin curves. The draft, which was finished in March 2026, is currently being reviewed by Caltrans and CHP. The county will then proceed to solicit public comment on the study. The County has determined that the proposed restrictions would not require a CEQA analysis.

The study notes that many of the existing state route segments with specific restrictions, "were enacted due to recurring safety and operational issues on mountainous roads with steep grades or limited shoulder areas. The main

concern is often off tracking even at low speeds, where long wheelbases and trailer combinations require trucks to encroach on the centerline or shoulders to complete tight turns."

The study includes recommended action, stating that "The analysis supports the finding that the constrained roadway on SR 74 justifies the restriction of vehicles with more than three axles on the 20.5-mile segment between the SR 371 Junction to the Palm Desert city limits in both travel directions, as vehicles of that axle configuration cannot consistently stay within the traveled way at this segment."

Finally, the study analyzed possible alternatives to the truck restrictions, "An alternative to the restriction of vehicles with more than three axles would be to widen the roadway at all the hairpin locations, especially in the Carrizo Road to Palm Desert segment, by several feet to help accommodate the swept-path movements of large trucks. However, this alternative is considered largely infeasible due to the magnitude and scale of engineering design, construction costs, and environmental impacts."

6) *AB 1145 seeks to make Caltrans more deliberative and transparent*. Since Riverside County moved forward with the initial study to begin the truck restriction process with Caltrans, the author recently amended this bill to focus on a statewide approach requiring Caltrans to be more deliberative and transparent with these local agency requests.

Specifically, as part of Caltrans existing Caltrans Truck Restriction Process, the bill requires Caltrans to consider the costs of the proposed ordinance or resolution compared to any possible alternative solution to the issue that the proposed ordinance or resolution is addressing. As noted by in the draft Riverside study, the alterative identified is widening the highway at certain points to accommodate the bigger trucks. The cost of widening a highway, especially with the conditions and terrain of SR 74's location, would be extremely difficult and at a huge cost. This bill would require Caltrans to have to fully examine and weigh these factors in their decision making.

Additionally, if Caltrans rejects the proposed ordinance or resolution, they must provide written reasons and justifications for the rejection to the submitting agency. The Legislature has previously signaled to Caltrans that more transparency in decision making about projects is warranted. Specifically, SB 960 (Wiener, Chapter 630, Statues of 2024), requires Caltrans to document

and post to their website a justification if they do not include complete streets facilities on a project in a manner consistent with their guidance.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

County of Riverside (source)
2 individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing as the sponsor of this bill, Riverside County states, "While the current version of this measure removes earlier State Route 74 specific safety study provisions, the County believes that AB 1145 would facilitate the establishment of resilient, ready, and connected communities. Our primary objective includes making Highway 74, a vital transportation corridor for businesses, commuters, and tourists, safer given that frequent accidents and hazardous road conditions have negatively impacted travel efficiency and economic activity in the region.

"AB 1145 is an important piece of legislation that will address road safety concerns that have plagued this region for years."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 78-0, 6/3/25
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, Ellis, 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, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Lee

Prepared by: Melissa White / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 14:57:31

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1199
Author: Patterson (R)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/22/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Menjivar, Niello, Richardson, Strickland, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Smallwood-Cuevas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/25 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Medical staff: health care provider credentialing

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes hospitals to conduct medical staff reappointments and related competency reviews at least every three years rather than every two years.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Enacts the Medical Practice Act, which provides for the licensure and regulation of physicians and surgeons. (Business and Professions Code BPC §§ 2000 et seq.)

2) Establishes the Medical Board of California (MBC) responsible for administering and enforcing the Medical Practice Act. (BPC § 2001)

3) Establishes the Osteopathic MBC (OMBC), which regulates osteopathic physicians and surgeons under the Osteopathic Act who possess effectively the same practice privileges and prescription authority as those regulated by MBC but with a training emphasis on diagnosis and treatment of patients through an integrated, whole-person approach. (BPC §§ 2450 et seq.)

4) Provides that references to the MBC or the term "board" refer to the OMBC where that board exercises the functions granted to it by the Osteopathic Act. (BPC § 2451)

5) Provides that the regular practice of medicine in a licensed general or specialized hospital with five or more physicians on the medical staff constitutes unprofessional conduct unless the hospital has adopted rules governing the operation of the hospital that, among other requirements, provide for a self-governing medical staff, periodic review of clinical experience and patient records, and the appointment of medical staff members. Provides that appointments to the medical staff shall be made by the hospital governing board and, except for initial appointments, shall be made for a period of not more than two years. (BPC § 2282.)

6) Provides that physicians and surgeons licensed by OMBC are to be accorded equal professional status and privileges as physicians licensed by MBC. Requires hospitals that grant staff privileges to osteopathic physicians and surgeons to provide for appointments to the medical staff by the governing board and, except for initial appointments, limits those appointments to a period not exceeding two years. (BPC § 2453.)

7) Authorizes licensed general acute care hospitals and acute psychiatric hospitals to provide health care services outside the traditional hospital building in alternative settings, subject to approval and oversight by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Requires that services provided in these alternative settings remain under the responsibility of the hospital's governing body and medical staff and be subject to applicable licensing, quality, and patient safety requirements. (Health and Safety Code § 1275.6)

This bill:

1) Authorizes hospitals to conduct medical staff reappointments and related competency reviews at least every three years rather than every two years.

2) Requires the governing body of a general acute care hospital and an acute psychiatric hospital to require that the medical staff establish controls that are designed to ensure the achievement and maintenance of high standards of professional ethical practices, including the provision that all members of the medical staff be required to demonstrate their ability to perform surgical or other procedures competently and to the satisfaction of an appropriate medical staff committee or committees, at the time of original application for appointment to the medical staff and every three years thereafter. Prohibits CDPH from requiring a general acute care hospital or an acute psychiatric hospital to undertake routine reappointments more frequently than every three years.

Background

According to the federal Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS), the accreditation period for most health care providers and suppliers participating in Medicare is 36 months. CMS recognizes several national accrediting organizations whose accreditation programs are deemed to meet or exceed applicable Medicare requirements, and many of these organizations operate on a three-year accreditation cycle. This framework has become a common model for periodic review and oversight of health care facilities and services participating in federal health care programs.

One of the nation’s largest health care accrediting organizations, The Joint Commission, accredits and certifies more than 22,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. In 2022, The Joint Commission revised its hospital accreditation standards to permit practitioner reappointment and reprivileging at intervals not to exceed three years, replacing its previous two-year maximum cycle. The organization stated that the change was intended to reduce administrative burden while preserving hospitals' responsibility to continuously evaluate practitioner competence, professional performance, and clinical privileges through ongoing review processes. Other nationally recognized accrediting organizations, including DNV Healthcare USA and the Accreditation Association

for Ambulatory Health Care, generally conduct facility accreditation reviews on three-year cycles recognized by CMS.

California's statutory framework governing hospital medical staff appointments predates these more recent accreditation changes. Under BPC sections 2282 and 2453, appointments to a hospital's medical staff by the governing board, other than initial appointments, may not exceed two years in duration. Historically, hospitals have used these periodic reappointment reviews to evaluate a practitioner's licensure, training, competence, professional conduct, and clinical privileges. In addition to formal reappointment cycles, hospitals are generally required through accreditation standards, peer review programs, quality assurance activities, and medical staff bylaws to continuously monitor practitioner performance and patient safety throughout the appointment period.

Supporters of conforming California law to current accreditation standards argue that extending the maximum interval between formal reappointments would align state law with prevailing national practices and reduce administrative burden on hospitals and medical staff offices. They further note that hospitals would remain responsible for ongoing oversight activities, including peer review, professional practice evaluation, licensure verification, quality monitoring, and corrective action when warranted. As a result, proponents contend that extending the interval between formal reappointments may streamline administrative processes while preserving existing patient safety safeguards and quality assurance mechanisms.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Hospital Association
California Medical Association
Physician Association of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters note that this bill represents a commonsense update to state law that would align California with current federal and national accreditation standards without weakening patient protections or diminishing hospital oversight of physician competence. Supporters write that hospitals retain the ability and obligation to take immediate action when issues

related to quality, competence, or conduct are identified, stating that this bill would simply eliminate a redundant administrative requirement for practitioners who have no identified performance concerns. Supporters say the bill would allow hospitals, physician leaders, and medical staff professionals to spend less time on repetitive paperwork and more time on activities that directly improve patient care, support the health care workforce, and strengthen quality oversight.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/25
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, 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: Bennett, Jeff Gonzalez, Nguyen

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
8/5/26 14:57:31

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1267
Author: Pellerin (D), Dixon (R), Petrie-Norris (D) and Quirk-Silva (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 7/2/25
AYES: Menjivar, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Limón, Padilla, Richardson, Rubio, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 7-0, 8/29/25
AYES: Caballero, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Dahle, Grayson, Richardson, Wahab

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Weber Pierson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-8, 6/2/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Marriage: prohibition on minors

SOURCE: California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
Unchained at Last

DIGEST: This bill repeals provisions permitting a person under the age of 18 from entering into a marriage or a domestic partnership with parental consent, thereby establishing the state's minimum marriage and domestic partnership age at 18 years.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that the right to marry is a fundamental right. (California Constitution (Cal. Const.), art. I, § 7.5.)

2) Defines "minor" as an individual under 18 years of age. (Family (Fam.) Code, § 6500.)

3) Limits a minor's ability to give legal consent or be legally liable for their actions, including:

   a) Providing that a minor is civilly liable for a wrong done by the minor, but is not liable for exemplary damages unless the minor was capable of knowing that the act was wrongful. (Fam. Code, § 6600.)

   b) Providing that a minor may, in some cases, make a contract in the same manner as an adult; however, a minor cannot give a delegation of power, make a contract relating to real property, or make a contract relating to personal property not in the immediate possession or control of the minor, and the minor may, in most cases, disaffirm a contract within a reasonable time afterwards. (Fam. Code, §§ 6700, 6701, 6710.)

   c) Providing that a minor may consent to certain medical and mental health treatments, including medical care related to the prevention or treatment of pregnancy (at any age), treatment for injuries caused by intimate partner violence (at age 12 years or older), and treatment for opioid use disorder (12 years of age for most treatments; 16 years of age for opioid use disorder treatments involving buprenorphine). (Fam. Code, §§ 6920-6930.)

   d) Providing that a minor aged 16 years or older may, with the consent of a parent or court approval, enlist in the Armed Forces of the United States. (Fam. Code, § 6950.)

4) Provides that two unmarried persons 18 years of age or older, who are not otherwise disqualified, are capable of consenting to and consummating marriage or a domestic partnership. (Fam. Code, §§ 297.1, 301.)

5) Notwithstanding 4), permits an unmarried person under 18 years of age and otherwise qualified to consent to a marriage or domestic partnership with the consent of a parent or guardian and a court order. If the minor has no parent or guardian capable of consenting, the court may grant permission as well as issue the order. (Fam. Code, §§ 297.1, 302, 303.)

6) Establishes the procedure by which a minor may obtain a court order to enter into a marriage or domestic partnership, as required under 5), as follows:

a) Family Court Services must separately interview the parties intending to marry and, if applicable, at least one of the parents or guardians of each party who is a minor. If more than one parent or guardian is interviewed, they must be interviewed separately.

b) Family Court Services must prepare and submit to the court a written report containing an assessment of potential force, threat, persuasion, fraud, coercion, or duress by either of the parties or their family members relating to the intended marriage, as well as Family Court Services' recommendation for either granting or denying the parties permission to marry. If Family Court Services knows or reasonably suspects that either party is a victim of child abuse or neglect, Family Court Services shall submit a report of the known or suspected child abuse or neglect to the county child protective services agency.

c) After receiving the Family Court Services report, the court must separately interview in camera (privately and off the record) each of the parties prior to making a final determination regarding the court order, and consider whether there is evidence of coercion or undue influence on the minor.

d) If the court issues an order granting permission to marry or enter into a domestic partnership, and if one or both of the parties is a minor, the parties shall be eligible to request a marriage license no earlier than 30 days from the time the court issued the order.

e) As parts of its order granting permission to marry or enter into a domestic partnership, the court, if it considers necessary, shall require the parties to the prospective marriage or domestic partnership to participate, prior to the marriage or establishment of the domestic partnership, in counseling concerning social, economic, and personal responsibilities incident to the marriage or domestic partnership; the parties shall not be required to confer with religious counselors of any denomination. In determining whether to order counseling, the court shall consider, among other factors, the availability of the parties to pay for counseling; the court may impose a reasonable fee to cover the cost of counseling provided by the court or county, which shall be used exclusively to cover the cost of the counseling services.

f) For purposes of the data collection in 13)-16), the court order granting permission to enter into the marriage or domestic partnership must include the gender and date of birth of each party.

g) Upon the issuance of an order granting permission to enter into the marriage or domestic partnership, the minor shall be provided with information regarding the rights and responsibilities of an emancipated minor; the circumstances under which a marriage or domestic partnership may be determined to be void or voidable and adjudged a nullity; the procedures for legal separation and dissolution of a marriage or termination of a domestic partnership; telephone numbers for the National Domestic Violence Hotline and the National Sexual Assault Hotline; and the conditions under which an unemancipated minor may leave home and seek to remain in a shelter or otherwise live separately from the minor's parent or guardian and whether their consent is required, the rights of an unemancipated minor to apply for a protective order or restraining order to prevent abuse, and the rights of a minor to enter into contracts, including for legal services and mental health counseling. (Fam. Code, §§ 297.1, 304.)

7) Exempts, from the interview, report, and 30-day waiting period requirements set forth in 6), a minor who is 17 years of age and has achieved a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate, or a minor who is 16 or 17 years of age and who is pregnant or whose prospective spouse or domestic partner is pregnant. (Fam. Code, §§ 297.1(h), 304(f).)

8) Requires the court order and written consent of the parent(s) or guardian(s) of each minor entering into a domestic partnership to be filed with the clerk of the court and a certified copy of the order to be filed with the Secretary of State with the Declaration of Domestic Partnership. (Fam. Code, § 297.1 (a).)

9) Requires the Secretary of State to create a document, available to the public on request, that is updated annually by March 1 of each year, disaggregated by county, containing specified information concerning domestic partnerships registered in the preceding calendar year and in which one or both of the parties were minors at the time the domestic partnership was established. (Fam. Code, § 298.8.)

10) Requires the local registrar of marriages to submit to the State Registrar, at least annually, specified information concerning marriage certificates accepted for registration by them during the same calendar year and in which one or both of the parties were minors at the time of solemnization of the marriage. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code, § 102356(a).)

11) Requires the State Registrar to create a document, and make the document available to the public on request, updated annually by March 1 of each year,

disaggregated by county, containing the information received from the local registrars under 10). (Health & Saf. Code, § 102233.)

12) Provides that a marriage is voidable and may be adjudged a nullity if, at the time of the marriage, certain conditions existed, including that the party who commences the proceeding to have the marriage adjudged a nullity was a minor, unless the party entered into the marriage with the requisite court order and permission from a parent or guardian. (Fam. Code, § 2210.)

13) Establishes the crime of unlawful sexual intercourse with a minor, provided the perpetrator is not the spouse of the minor. (Pen. Code, § 261.5.)

This bill:

1) Prohibits a person under 18 years of age from marrying or entering into a domestic partnership.

2) Repeals all provisions related to the court order procedure for a minor to enter into a marriage or domestic partnership, the State Registrar's annual compilation of minor marriage numbers, and a local registrar's obligation to report minor marriage certificates to the State Registrar.

3) Makes all marriages involving a minor entered into after the effective date of this measure voidable at the election of the person who was a minor at the time of the marriage.

Comments

Without parental consent, a person can't legally get married, or enter into a domestic partnership, in California until they're 18 years of age. California is one of three states, however, that has no minimum age for entering into a marriage or domestic partnership with parental consent and approval of a court. The process by which such court approval can be obtained, as put in place by SB 273 (Hill, Chapter 660, Statutes of 2018) requires, among other things, the minor who wishes to get married to be interviewed privately on two separate occasions to ensure that they are not being coerced or threatened into the marriage or domestic partnership.

This bill eliminates the provisions permitting a person under the age of 18 to get married or enter into a domestic partnership under any circumstances, including when the minor is emancipated.

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

The Senate Appropriations Committee passed this bill pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Commission on the Status of Women & Girls (co-source)
Unchained At Last (co-source)
AHA Foundation
American Atheists
Atheists United
California Catholic Conference
California Women's Law Center
California Freethought Day
California National Organization for Women
Central Valley Justice Coalition
CleanEarth4Kids.org
Conference of California Bar Associations
County of Santa Clara
Diamond Collective
Equality Now
Family Violence Appellate Project
FFRF Action Fund
Global Girls Worldwide Women
Girls Inc. of Los Angeles
Indivisible San Jose
Love Never Fails
Muslims for Progressive Values
Protect Our Defenders
Safe House Project
Secular Student Alliance
Tahirih Justice Center
Together We Will
UltraViolet Action
Zonta International, District 9
Zonta Newport Harbor
Approximately 480 individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

ACLU California Action

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the County of Santa Clara:

This bill would correct California's dangerous, archaic laws that allow a parent and/or a judge to enter a minor of *any age* into marriage – making California's laws a stunning outlier not only in the United States but also globally. California Department of Public Health data show 88 minors were entered into marriage here between 2019 and 2025, including girls as young as 15 who were wed to men in their 20s and 30s.

Disturbingly, a child-marriage license is a "get out of jail free" card for a would-be child rapist, since sex with a child is considered rape unless the perpetrator first marries the child.

Minors can easily be forced to marry or to stay in a marriage before they turn 18 and get the full rights of adulthood. Regardless of their maturity level, minors even a day before their 18th birthday cannot easily leave home, get help from an advocate, enter a domestic violence shelter, retain an attorney or bring a legal action independently. This is why, globally, all marriage before age 18 is considered forced marriage, which is a form of modern slavery.

Further, child marriage destroys American girls' health, education and economic opportunities, and increases their risk of experiencing violence. Those who marry before 18 have a 70-80% chance of divorcing, which brings additional hardship and instability. The U.S. State Department calls marriage before 18 a "human rights abuse." The United Nations calls it a "harmful practice."

AB 1267 would end this human rights abuse and bring California in line with states across the nation – including Oregon and Washington – and countries around the world that are making their marriage age 18, no exceptions.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to ACLU California Action:

Prohibiting minors from marrying in every case is a departure from California's longstanding commitment to honoring minors' ability to make important personal decisions for themselves, particularly in the realm of reproductive autonomy. Just as minors have the right to decide to have an abortion or to carry a pregnancy to term (or to seek a restraining order) on their own, they should maintain the right to marry, with robust protections in place to prevent coercion and abuse. We understand that young people need support when they find themselves in abusive and coercive relationships, and that a one-size-fits-all approach does not work to address the unique circumstances each young person may be facing. Forced, *extralegal* "marriages" are part of a complex global problem with roots in misogyny, poverty, social norms, and instability,

which demands a context-specific approach to address the underlying problems that drive it.

Marriage can provide critical legal protection for pregnant minors and young parents — including emancipation, the right to consent to their own medical care, and access to spousal benefits unavailable to unmarried partners. Under Cal. Fam. Code § 7002, marriage is one of only three pathways to emancipation for a minor, which in turn triggers § 7050's grant of full health care autonomy — the right to consent to medical, dental, and psychiatric care without parental approval. An absolute ban eliminates this avenue without providing any equivalent substitute.

A total marriage ban could also drive young people who are already in abusive relationships further underground, out of reach of social services. Parents who coerce their children into relationships may not be deterred by a ban on legal marriage and instead could insist on religious or other forms of cultural marriage outside of the legal system and with none of the protections that the current system provides.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-8, 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, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, 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, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Gallagher, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez
NO VOTE RECORDED: Chen, Flora, Hadwick, Lackey, Ta

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 14:57:30

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

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(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1278
Author: Harabedian (D)
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BANKING & F.I. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Grayson, Niello, Cervantes, Hurtado, Reyes, Richardson, Strickland

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 1/29/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mortgages: hazard insurance proceeds: interest

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill specifies the allowable payment methods by which a financial institution can satisfy its obligation to pay interest on funds held in a loss draft account, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law requires a financial institution that makes loans upon the security of real property containing only a one- to four-family residence and located in this state or purchases obligations secured by the property and that holds hazard insurance proceeds in a loss draft account pending property rebuilding or repair shall pay interest on those funds at a rate of at least 2% simple interest per annum. Requires the interest to be credited to the loss draft account annually or upon termination of the account, whichever is earlier. (Civil Code Section 2954.85)

This bill:

1) Allows the interest on hazard insurance proceeds to be paid with a check, as specified, drawn by a financial institution payable at or through a bank directly to the borrower.

2) Provides that a check that is uncashed 90 calendar days after delivery be cancelled at no cost to the borrower and the amount credited to the loss draft account.

Comments

According to the author:

> Beginning January 1, 2026, existing law requires financial institutions to pay borrowers 2% simple interest on post-loss insurance proceeds held in escrow following property damage or loss for certain properties impacted by the January 2025 Los Angeles-area wildfires. AB 1278 expands the methods by which borrowers may receive that accrued interest by authorizing financial institutions to pay interest directly to homeowners by check, ensuring disaster survivors can fully access the funds owed to them during the rebuilding process.

Background

Last year, the author of this bill authored AB 493 (Harabedian, Chapter 103, Statutes of 2025), which was one of many bills introduced in response to the wildfires in Los Angeles in January 2025. AB 493 requires that mortgage servicers pay at least 2% interest on funds held by the mortgage servicer that were paid by an insurer related to property damage caused by the fires.

When a home with an outstanding mortgage is damaged or destroyed, the insurance company typically pays out the claim to the lender, not directly to the homeowner who is the borrower on the mortgage loan. This practice is compelled by property insurance contracts that often contain a mortgagee, loss payee, or lenders loss payable clause, which are designed to protect a mortgage lender in the event that the property securing the mortgage is damaged, known as an insured loss event. Navigating through an insured loss event requires actions of the borrower/property owner, the insurer, and the mortgage servicer.[1]

[1] A mortgage servicer is an entity that interacts with borrowers after a loan has been originated and the borrower begins to repay the loan. A mortgage servicer collects payments from the borrower and manages any associated escrow account.

The mortgage servicer plays a key role, along with the insurance company, in working with a borrower when the borrower's property experiences an insured loss event. Mortgage servicers are expected to ensure the proof of loss claim is filed timely with the insurer and to monitor the disbursement of insurance loss proceeds. Mortgage servicers undertake a variety of activities in this process, including the following:

- Determining if the property can be legally rebuilt.
- Obtaining complete details on the damage to the property and determining the needed repairs.
- Discussing with the borrower any plans for repairing the property.
- Immediately issuing the borrower a check for any amount designated for contents (for example personal property) or living expenses.
- Depositing insurance funds retained by the servicer pending disbursement for repair or reconstruction.
- Reviewing and approving the final plans for repair, including obtaining the necessary bids to repair the property.
- Monitoring and inspecting repairs as completed to verify the repairs comply with the final repair plan.
- Disbursing funds for repairs, often based on periodic inspections of the progress of the repair work.[2]

The process for repairing or rebuilding a damaged home, particularly in an area affected by a widespread disaster, is often time-consuming and cumbersome. While the insurance proceeds usually arrive within weeks or a few months, the process for clearing debris, rebuilding damaged infrastructure, finding contractors, developing plans, and constructing the repair or rebuild of the home often takes more than a year, sometimes stretching over several years. During this time, the insurance proceeds are placed in a bank account by the mortgage servicer.

This bill allows the interest that accrues on hazard insurance proceeds to be paid to the borrower with a check or electronic payment methods. This change provides

[2] These activities were taken from the Fannie Mae servicing guide, which provides the duties and expectations for mortgage servicers who are servicing loans purchased by Fannie Mae, a government-sponsored enterprise that supports liquidity within the mortgage financing system. **https://servicing-guide.fanniemae.com/svc/b-5-01/insured-loss-events**

more flexibility to mortgage servicers in how they comply with the required payment of interest.

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

This bill was ordered to the floor by the Senate Appropriations Committee pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Realtors
California Credit Union League

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: California Credit Union League writes in support, "representing credit unions serving more than 14 million Californians, we write to express our support for AB 1278, with the recent amendments. AB 1278 will give lenders and borrowers flexibility on how they wish to receive post-loss insurance payouts from an escrow account."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 1/29/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, 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, Bauer-Kahan, Chen, Ellis, Flora, Gipson, Lee, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Valencia

Prepared by: Michael Burdick / B. & F.I. /
8/5/26 14:57:29

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1338
Author: Solache (D)
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-3, 5/27/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Department of Transportation: transferred property: City of Lynwood

SOURCE: City of Lynwood

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), upon request from the City of Lynwood, to develop and enter into an agreement with the city to transfer the deed restriction imposed on a property, as defined, to an adjacent property.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Vests Caltrans with full possession and control of all state highways and all property and rights on property acquired for state highway purposes.

2) Authorizes Caltrans to acquire, either in fee or in any lesser estate or interest, any real property that it considers necessary for state highway purposes.

3) Defines “excess real property” to mean all land and improvements situated outside of calculated highway right-of-way lines not needed or used for highway or other public purposes, including, but not limited to, those leased to public agencies, as defined, and available for sale or exchange.

4) Requires Caltrans to adopt rules and regulations to determine which real property outside of calculated right-of-way lines is no longer needed or used for highway or other public purposes, and which is available for sale or exchange.

5) Authorizes Caltrans, if they determine that real property or an interest therein, previously or hereafter acquired by the state for highway purposes, is no longer necessary for those purposes, to sell, contract to sell, sell by trust deed, or exchange the real property or interest therein in the manner and upon terms, standards, and conditions established by the California Transportation Commission (CTC).

This bill:

1) Defines “Fernwood Avenue property” to mean the parcel owned by the City of Lynwood, located in the City of Lynwood between Fernwood Avenue and Imperial Highway, legally described and identified as Parcels 1 and 2 in the City of Lynwood Certificate of Compliance having Instrument Number 20250434105, and to be developed as affordable and market-rate housing.

2) Defines “Imperial Highway property” to mean the parcel located in, and owned by, the City of Lynwood, legally described in the Caltrans Director’s Deed having Instrument Number 20170260321, and formerly identified as the Caltrans Parcel Number DD 058166-01-01.

3) Requires Caltrans, upon request from the City of Lynwood, to develop and enter into an agreement with the city to release and remove the deed restriction imposed on the Imperial Highway property if all the following requirements are met:

   a) The City of Lynwood agrees to transfer the deed restriction to the Fernwood Avenue property.

   b) The Fernwood Avenue property is equal to or greater in size than the Imperial Highway property.

c) The Fernwood Avenue property is appraised at a value equal to, or greater than, the appraised value of the Imperial Highway property on a per-acre basis.

d) The deed restriction to be applied to the Fernwood Avenue property is 45 years, beginning on the date that the deed restriction is recorded.

4) Stipulates that the appraised value of the Imperial Highway property shall be based on the appraised value of the parcel at the time of its acquisition from the department, and the appraised value of the Fernwood Avenue property shall be based on the appraised value of the parcel at the time of the transfer of the deed restriction.

5) Requires the City of Lynwood, if they enter into an agreement with Caltrans, to submit a report to the Legislature, including the Assembly and Senate Committees on Transportation, on the use of the bill to develop the Imperial Highway property and the Fernwood Avenue property.

6) Requires the report to be submitted within one year of the agreement and annually thereafter until the planned development projects are completed.

7) Requires each report to include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

a) Plans for the development of the properties, including types of development.

b) The status of any pending projects on the properties.

c) The number of affordable housing units, affordability level, and size of units.

d) Any public financing or grants that were used to build the developments.

8) Contains findings and declarations to support the purpose of the bill.

9) Declares that a special statute is necessary because of the unique nature of the Imperial Highway property located in the City of Lynwood in the County of Los Angeles and the state's goal and commitment to affordable and market-rate housing.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "AB 1338 would help the City of Lynwood resolve a unique land utilization issue in order to develop a mix of affordable housing and retail space for the benefit of the surrounding, underserved community. The larger project area will be designed and developed to provide affordable housing and public benefit to the City and would ensure that the public use remains for an extended time."

2) *Caltrans excess property*. Under current law, Caltrans has the ability to sell or exchange property considered "excess," meaning real property acquired by the state for a transportation purposes that is no longer necessary for those purposes. Excess property is sold at auction, either by an oral public auction or a sealed bid auction. Under certain circumstances, excess property may be offered for sale directly to adjoining property owners. It may also be offered for direct sale to public agencies if the property is to be used for a public purpose. Under state and federal law, Caltrans must set the price of excess property at current fair market value, however, Caltrans can offer property to public agencies for less than fair market value for a continued public use, such as parks. CTC is tasked with developing the terms, standards, and conditions for any property sale. Additionally, CTC approves the final sale or transfer of any excess property at a public meeting.

3) *City of Lynwood purchased Caltrans property and cleaned it up*. The City of Lynwood is a city in Los Angeles County located near South Gate and Compton and has a population of roughly 67,000. The city owns multiple adjoining parcels of land directly adjacent to Interstate 105 in the west part of the city that were purchased at two different times from Caltrans as part of the department's excess property process. The so-called Fernwood Avenue property was purchased by the city in 2004. The so-called Imperial Highway property was purchased from Caltrans in 2016.

   Both properties were purchased for fair market value and approved by CTC. As a condition of the sale, the Caltrans Director's Deed, which conveyed the property, required that it be used exclusively for public purposes for a period of 15 years from the recorded date of the deed. The deed also states that if the property ceases to be used exclusively for public purposes Caltrans may terminate the deed, and the property would revert to Caltrans. Current state law does not define what a public purpose is for the purposes of Caltrans and CTC's approval processes.

The property is part of the larger site, when coupled with the previously purchased Caltrans property, and noting that the full site required major environmental remediation to be ready for development. The city spent approximately $10 million on environmental cleanup.

4) *Now the City wants to develop the property*. The City of Lynwood has been working with a developer to design and construct a mixed-use development which would encompass both the Fernwood Avenue property and the Imperial Highway property. The planned development would include commercial buildings, affordable apartments, and for-sale townhomes. Specifically, the project is broken into two phases. Phase I includes commercial development with four new commercial buildings, including three drive-thrus and one multi-tenet retail space. Phase II includes a 54-unit affordable apartment complex. Half of the affordable units would be restricted for very low-income households, earning less than 50% Area Medien Income (AMI), and the remaining half for low-income households, earning less than 60% AMI. Phase II also includes 20 for-sale townhomes.

   According to the City of Lynwood, the entire project has been environmentally cleared. The Phase I commercial development is ready to go to construction. The Phase II residential projects are currently in the design phase. Phase II would be partially funded by revenue from the commercial development. Additionally, the city is working with the developer on possible funding sources for the affordable housing components of the residential project. Specifically, the city is working with the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), which provides grant and loans from the Affordable Housing Trust Funds for capital funding, Section 8 Project-Based Vouchers (PBVs), and Project-Based Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (PBVASH) Vouchers for the creation and operation of eligible permanent affordable multifamily rental housing units. However, the location of property for the Lynwood development may put the project in jeopardy. LACDA's most recent guidelines, published April 2026 prior to a new round of funding, included language specifically stating that housing projects located within 500 feet of a freeway may only be considered for funding if all other eligible projects have been considered for funding and funds are still available.

5) *The City can't locate the housing where the deed restrictions are*. As described above, both properties that would include the multi-use development were purchased through Caltrans excess property process. Both contained a 15-year

deed restriction requiring the property to be used for a public purpose. Although public purpose is not defined in state law, the city expressed its intent to build affordable housing on the site. The 15-year clock on the Fernwood Avenue property has run out, meaning the city may develop the property for any type of use, including commercial. However, the deed restriction on the Imperial Highway property still has roughly 6 years.

The problem identified by the city and the reason for this bill is that the Imperial Highway Property abuts Interstate 105, within 500 feet, and would therefore not be able to compete for needed affordable housing funds. Additionally, as mentioned, there are serious health and safety concerns with building housing that close to the freeway and it would require mitigation.

6) *The City needs to swap*. This bill would essentially swap the deed restriction requiring development for public purposes from the Imperial Highway property to the Fernwood Avenue property. The city and the developer have moved forward with the project, planning for the Imperial Highway deed restriction to either be cancelled or swapped. Specifically, this bill requires Caltrans, upon request from the city, to develop and enter into an agreement to release and remove the deed restriction imposed on the Imperial Highway property. This bill further defines the requirements for the agreement. Additionally, to keep the Legislature up to date on the development project, the bill requires the city to submit an annual report on the use of the provisions of the bill to develop the properties.

7) *Do we need a bill to make it happen?* The City of Lynwood originally contacted Caltrans District 7 in 2023 to request the removal of the deed restriction. Caltrans informed the city that the deed restriction was included pursuant to CTC's procedures for the sale of excess property, and that Caltrans did not have authority to approve the city's request to reassign the deed restriction and stating that, "parties are legally bound to follow the terms in the agreement." According to the author, he contacted CTC in February 2025 on behalf of the city. The city and author communicated numerous times with CTC over the course of 2025, but no final resolution was reached. Additionally, the author introduced AB 1168 in 2025 to require Caltrans to release and remove the deed restriction on the Imperial Highway property. The bill did not move forward; however, the author sent a letter co-signed by Assembly Transportation Chair Wilson to CTC in August 2025 requesting assistance with the matter.

It is unclear who has the authority to possibly come to agreement with the city through administrative means and whether it is allowable under state law and policy. Caltrans is responsible for the identification, sale, and transfer of its excess property, including issuing a Director's Deed with the terms of the sale and any restrictions. However, CTC is ultimately responsible for approving those actions through a vote of the commission in a public meeting.

Additional questions arise as to what activities are considered development for a public purpose under state and federal law and regulations. As mentioned, the term is undefined in state law. Affordable housing development is critical to meet the state's housing goals and comply with the Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA). It is conceivable that affordable housing could be interpreted as a public purpose in California.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

City of Lynwood (source)
Diversity Builders Alliance
Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn
Lynwood Sports Association
Lynwood Unified School District
Lynwood Unified School District
Primestor Development
U.S. House of Representatives - Office of Congresswoman Nanette Barragan (CA-44)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing in support of this bill, Los Angeles County Supervisor Janice Hahn states, "California is in a housing crisis, and the State has made housing production one of its most urgent priorities. AB 1338 reflects exactly the kind of local-state partnership and creative problem-solving that is needed to meet that challenge. The City of Lynwood is a fully built-out community with limited land available for new development. Every city-owned parcel is precious, and the City has worked diligently to make the most of this one — completing environmental remediation, complying with the Surplus Land Act,

and engaging in a thorough disposition process. AB 1338 removes the last structural barrier standing between Lynwood and the housing its residents need."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-3, 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, Dixon, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, 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
NOES: DeMaio, Ellis, Patterson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Jeff Gonzalez, Nguyen

Prepared by: Melissa White / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 14:57:29

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

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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1448
Author: Hart (D), et al.
Amended: 8/4/26 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 modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment 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; 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; requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment; and

limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas not in the state's marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/4/26 reinstate the existing exception to the prohibition on the State Lands Commission's issuance of new oil and gas leases on state tide and submerged lands when state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells upon adjacent federal lands and limit the exception to areas not in state marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries; update references to federal Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2018 to January 1, 2026; provide additional explicit criteria for the State Lands Commission to consider when determining whether to approve the assignment of an existing oil and gas and mineral lease; and make additional conforming and technical changes.

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) Limits the provision in the California Coastal Sanctuary Act 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 to those areas not in state marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries.
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 OCS leases issued after January 1, 2026, except as provided.
3) Requires the State Lands Commission or local trustee before approving a lease renewal, extension, amendment, or modification for the operation of oil- and gas-related infrastructure on tide and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific OCS leases issued after January 1, 2026 to consider additional explicit factors, such as whether the lease renewal, extension,

amendment or modification may impact public trust resources and values, among others, as provided.

4) Specifies that an increase in the volume of oil and gas conveyed across state waters for the purposes of a lease renewal, extension, amendment, or modification includes by commencing, increasing, intensifying, or restarting production from the Pacific OCS, as provided.

5) Requires the State Lands Commission to consider whether the approval of an assignment, transfer, or sublease of an oil and gas and mineral lease or sublease is in the best interests of the state and will protect the state's public trust resources. Requires, instead of authorizes, the State Lands Commission to consider whether a proposed assignee is likely to comply with the terms of the lease or permit, as provided, including the following additional criteria:

   a) The proposed assignee's history of accidents, including oil spills.

   b) Whether the proposed assignee has the capability and experience to protect the public trust resources and values of the state, as specified.

   c) Confirmation that the proposed assignee has submitted a bond to the State Lands Commission in an amount no less than the cost of decommissioning the assigned facilities, as provided.

6) Makes various technical and conforming 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 7/31/26)

Center for Biological Diversity (co-source)
Environmental Defense Center (co-source)
Oceana (co-source)
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 and County of San Francisco
City of Encinitas
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 Marin
County of San Mateo
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 Netwwork
Sacred Places Institute for Indigenous Peoples
St. Joseph Justice Center
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 7/31/26)

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
8/5/26 16:20:52

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1457
Author: Bryan (D)
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/16/25
AYES: Limón, Seyarto, Allen, Grove, Hurtado, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SENATE FLOOR: 37-0, 8/29/25 (Consent)
AYES: Alvarado-Gil, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Choi, Cortese, Dahle, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Grove, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Seyarto, Smallwood-Cuevas, Stern, Strickland, Umberg, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Allen, Jones, Reyes

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/3/25 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: General plan: environmental justice element: disadvantaged communities

SOURCE: Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment,
State of California Attorney General Rob Bonta

DIGEST: This bill requires cities and counties to adopt an environmental justice element on or before June 30, 2028, and requires certain community engagement procedures.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires every county and city to adopt a general plan with seven mandatory elements: land use, circulation, housing, conservation, open space, noise, and safety.

2) Requires the general plan to either include an eighth element on environmental justice, or related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, if the city or county has a disadvantaged community within its jurisdiction (SB 1000, Leyva, Chapter 587, Statutes of 2016).

3) Requires the environmental justice element or related goals must identify disadvantaged communities and identify objectives and policies to:

   a) Reduce the unique or compounded health risks in disadvantaged communities by means that include, but are not limited to, the reduction of pollution exposure, including the improvement of air quality, and the promotion of public facilities, food access, safe and sanitary homes, and physical activity;

   b) Promote civil engagement in the public decisionmaking process; and

   c) Prioritize improvements and programs that address the needs of disadvantaged communities.

4) Requires cities and counties to comply with these requirements upon adopting or revising two or more elements of the general plan concurrently.

This bill:

1) Requires a city or county with a disadvantaged community to adopt an environmental justice element, or environmental justice goals, policies, and objectives in other elements, by the earliest of either the adoption or next revision of two or more elements concurrently on or after January 1, 2018; or June 30, 2028.

2) Requires those cities and counties to meaningfully involve disadvantaged communities in the development, adoption, and implementation of the environmental justice element, or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, using methods that are designed to effectively involve disadvantaged communities based on local conditions and circumstances.

3) Requires cities and counties to:

   a) Conduct outreach to disadvantaged communities to encourage and receive input by holding at least two public workshops to receive and consider public input. Workshops must be held at times and locations that are readily accessible to residents of disadvantaged communities and that include both in-person and online virtual options. A city or county may choose to hold additional workshops.

   b) Provide notice of any public workshop, hearing, or other opportunity to provide input in the three most commonly spoken languages in disadvantaged communities in the jurisdiction, based on United States Census Bureau data.

   c) Implement at least two other methods to meaningfully involve disadvantaged communities, and two methods of notifying disadvantaged communities of opportunities to provide input. The bill lists examples of options for meaningful involvement and notice that cities and counties may, but are not required to, use.

   d) Maintain a website where it posts:

      i) Drafts of the environmental justice element or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements;

      ii) The adopted environmental justice element or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements;

      iii) Other relevant materials; and

      iv) Information about public workshops, hearings, and other opportunities to provide input, translated into the three most commonly spoken languages in disadvantaged communities in the city, county, or city and county, based on United States Census Bureau data.

4) Spells out procedures cities and counties must follow to receive input on the environmental justice element or policies, goals, and objectives in other elements. These procedures include to:

   a) Release an initial draft of the environmental justice element, or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, for public review at least 90 days prior to adoption;

   b) Make the initial draft of the environmental justice element, or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements, available for public input and comment for at least 45 days; and

   c) Consider and incorporate public comments received and releasing a new draft for public review, input, and comment at least 15 days prior to adoption.

5) Requires cities and counties to meaningfully consider and incorporate the input and recommendations of disadvantaged communities, and:

   a) Compile and summarize public input;

   b) Provide the summary and any written public comments received to each member of the legislative body of the city, county, or city and county before adoption; and

   c) Include the summary in the environmental justice element or the related goals, policies, and objectives integrated in other elements.

Background

SB 1000 guidance. Following the enactment of SB 1000, the Office of Planning and Research released updated general plan guidelines in 2020 that included information and recommendations to local governments on implementing SB 1000. Subsequently, the Attorney General published guidance on SB 1000 implementation in 2023. Both documents emphasized the need for meaningful engagement with disadvantaged communities as a part of developing an environmental justice element. The Attorney General's guidance states, "Environmental injustices often result from excluding communities from land use planning processes…[C]ommunity engagement is especially important for

developing environmental justice policies because local governments will not be able to develop compliant policies without involving the community." The guidance goes on to identify best practices, including to

- Establish an environmental justice advisory committee;
- Partner with local community organizations and trusted community leaders;
- Consult with Native American Tribes;
- Select meeting times and locations that are convenient for the community, and offer opportunities for childcare, along with virtual options;
- Ensure language access by translating written materials and ensure interpretation is available at meetings; and
- Establish metrics to assess the effectiveness of their community engagement.

Progress on adoption of environmental justice elements. When the Legislature added a requirement for an environmental justice element, or consideration of environmental justice throughout other elements, the goal was to ensure that all land use decisions took environmental justice into account. However, in the 10 years since, many cities and counties have not enacted an environmental justice element or otherwise addressed environmental justice throughout their general plans. Although definitive counts are difficult to develop, a 2023 policy brief from the University of California, Irvine, and the University of North Carolina, Charlotte, found that of the 238 cities and 29 counties with census tracts that are overburdened by environmental health issues, only 33 jurisdictions had general plans that included environmental justice provisions.[1]

Attorney General Rob Bonta and the Center on Race, Poverty, and the Environment wants the Legislature to ensure that cities and counties with disadvantaged communities adopt environmental justice elements or goals, policies, and objectives, as envisioned by SB 1000.

Comments

[1] Michelle E. Zuñiga, Assistant Professor, Geography & Earth Sciences, UNC Charlotte, and Michael Méndez, Assistant Professor, Urban Planning & Public Policy, UC Irvine. "The Emergence of Environmental Justice in General Plans: Lessons from California's Senate Bill 1000."

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "Ten years ago, SB 1000 was signed into law, requiring local jurisdictions to include environmental justice in their general plans when updating 2 or more elements, yet gaps in transparency and compliance remain. Every Californian should have the opportunity to live in a community that is healthy and safe. AB 1457 promotes community engagement in environmental justice element development, ensuring that community voices are central to local planning decisions and that no neighborhood is left behind. This bill prioritizes transparency and sets a compliance deadline for existing requirements."

Time's up. While definitive counts are not available, it appears that many cities and counties with disadvantaged communities have not yet implemented SB 1000. This doesn't necessarily mean they are in violation of the law: SB 1000 allowed cities and counties to wait to comply with the bill until they update two or more elements of their general plan simultaneously to ease implementation for cities and counties. Additionally, because SB 1000 allowed cities and counties to incorporate environmental justice policies throughout their general plans, instead of centralizing them in a standalone element, some cities and counties may have complied with SB 1000's requirements in a manner that is not readily apparent to outside observers. Nonetheless, progress has been slower than many have hoped on incorporating environmental justice into planning efforts. AB 1457 requires local governments to comply with SB 1000's requirements by a certain date. For those that haven't complied, this timeframe could be aggressive, considering other planning-related duties that the Legislature imposes on them, such as changes to their permitting procedures required by housing streamlining legislation, requirements to adopt truck routes to reduce impacts from logistics uses, open space planning requirements, and others. Do local governments have the capacity to simultaneously fulfill the Legislature's varied goals?

Gut and amend. As introduced, AB 1457 repealed the sunset provision from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's "qualified entities" program, and required the program's curriculum to conform to the Department's "Home Ignition Zone/Defensible Space Inspector" course plan. The June 4th amendments struck the contents of the bill and inserted the current provisions regarding environmental justice elements.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment (co-source)
State of California Attorney General (co-source)
350 Bay Area Action
350 Humboldt
Asian Pacific Environmental Network Action
California Environmental Justice Alliance (CEJA) Action
California Environmental Justice Coalition
California Environmental Voters
California Nurses for Environmental Health and Justice
Catholic Charities of Stockton
Center for Biological Diversity
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCAEJ)
Center for Environmental Health
Central California Asthma Collaborative
Central California Environmental Justic Network (CCEJN)
Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy
Clean Water Action
Cleanearth4kids.org
Climate First: Replacing Oil & Gas (CFROG)
Climate Resilient Communities
Coalition for Clean Air
Committees for Land, Air, Water and Species
Communities for a Better Environment
Dayenu: a Jewish Call to Climate Action
East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice
Endangered Habitats League
Environmental Defense Center
Food & Water Watch
LA Waterkeeper
Leadership Counsel for Justice & Accountability
Mercury Press
Physicians for Social Responsibility - Los Angeles
Planning and Conservation League
Poder Sf
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP)
Sacramento Environmental Justice Coalition
San Diego 350
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
Sf Baykeeper
Sierra Club California

Sunflower Alliance
The Climate Center

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
League of California Cities
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Urban Counties of California (UCC)

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 6/3/25
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, 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, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 14:57:28

****** 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 1544
Author: Krell (D), et al.
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Court proceedings: media access

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits a judicial officer, peace officer, or other law enforcement officer from blocking any member of the press or public from accessing a court facility that is open to the public and makes a violation of this prohibition subject to civil penalties under the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires, unless otherwise specified in law, that the sittings of every court are to be open to the public. (Code of Civil Procedure (Civ. Proc.) § 124(a).)

2) Prohibits a court from excluding the public from a proceeding because remote access is available, unless it is necessary to restrict or limit physical access to protect the health or safety of the public or court personnel. (Code Civ. Proc. § 124(b).)

3) Provides, under the constitutions of both California and the United States, that in all criminal prosecutions, the accused has a right to a speedy and public trial. (U.S. Const., Amdt. 6; Cal. Const, Art. I, § 13.)

4) Provides, under U.S. Supreme Court case law, that the public has a First Amendment right to attend criminal trials.

   a) However, this right is presumptive and not absolute. It may be overcome by a showing that closing the proceedings serves a higher interest and that closure is narrowly tailored to serve that interest. (See *Richmond Newspapers, Inc. v. Virginia* (1980) 448 U.S. 555; see also *Press Enterprise Co. v Superior Court of California* (1984) 464 U.S. 501, and *Press-Enterprise Co. v Superior Court of California* (1986) 478 U.S. 1.)

5) Provides, under the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act, that if a person or persons, whether or not acting under color of law, interfere or attempt to interfere, by threats, intimidation, or coercion, with the exercise or enjoyment of any rights secured by the Constitution or laws of the United States, or by the Constitution or laws of the state of California, the Attorney General, or any district attorney or city attorney, is authorized to bring a civil action for equitable relief and a civil penalty. (Civil (Civ.) Code § 52.1(b).)

6) Permits a person whose exercise or enjoyment of rights were interfered with in violation of the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act to institute a civil action in their own name and on their own behalf for damages, as specified. (Civ. Code § 52.1(c).)

7) Provides that every court has the power to do specified things, including:

   a) preserve and enforce order in its immediate presence;
   b) provide for the orderly conduct of proceedings before it, or its officers; and
   c) enforce order in the proceedings before it, or before a person or persons empowered to conduct a judicial investigation under its authority. (Code Civ. Proc. § 128(a).)

This bill:

1) Prohibits a judicial officer, peace officer, or other law enforcement officer from prohibiting a member of the press or public from entering a courtroom, court facility, or other location where a court proceeding that is open to the public is

being conducted, except as necessary for the court to maintain order and manage proceedings pursuant to Section 128 of the Code of Civil Procedure, or any other applicable statute or rule of court.

2) Provides a judicial officer, peace officer, or other law enforcement may be subject to civil penalties pursuant to the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act for a violation of the prohibition in 1.

3) Specifies that nothing in this bill is to be construed to limit, restrict, or reduce any right of access provided by law.

Comments

Since the start of its second term, the Trump Administration has expanded immigration enforcement and altered the immigration system at an unprecedented scale. In the past year, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) have conducted unprecedented, destructive sweeps of entire communities and cities. The author and proponents of this bill note that federal officials are imposing new, and possibly unconstitutional barriers, on reporters and other members of the public from observing immigration deportation proceedings in federal immigration courts. The author of this bill instituted a lawsuit in federal court against the Executive Office for Immigration Review under the Freedom of Information Act requesting documents and other information regarding immigration raids conducted at the John Moss Federal Building in Sacramento.[1] In may of last year, federal authorities conducted sweeping arrests of at least 39 people after they attended immigration court hearings in Sacramento at the John Moss Federal Building.[2] In June, more arrests occurred and federal authorities prohibited access to attorneys, family members, and journalists from observing immigration court hearings.[3]

In response, this bill prohibits a judicial officer, peace officer, or other law enforcement officer from blocking any member of the press or public from accessing a court facility that is open to the public. A judicial officer, peace officer,

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[1] *Krell v. Executive Officer for Immigration Review,* Case No.: 2:26-cv-00395; Asm. Maggy Krell, Press Release, (Feb. 12, 2026), *New lawsuit demands transparency from federal immigration officers for abuses in Sacramento area*, available at https://krell.asmdc.org/press-releases/20260212-new-lawsuit-demands-transparency-federal-immigration-officers-abuses.

[2] Felicia Alvarez, Abridged (Feb. 12, 2026), *Sacramento lawmaker sues over arrests at ICE offices, alleges 'coverup'*, available at https://www.abridged.org/news/sacramento-lawmaker-sues-over-arrests-at-ice-offices-alleges-coverup/.

[3] *Ibid*.

or other law enforcement person is subject to civil penalties under the Tom Bane Civil Rights Act for a violation of this prohibition.

The Tom Bane Civil Rights Act provides a right of action against a person who interferes with the rights of an individual afforded by the United States and California constitutions, and other federal and state laws, whether or not the person was acting under color of law. An action can be brought by the Attorney General or any district attorney or city attorney in California for injunctive and other equitable relief, "in order to protect the peaceable exercise or enjoyment of the right or rights secured." The prosecuting entity may also seek a civil penalty of $25,000 to be assessed individually against each person violating this law. Such penalties are provided to the individuals whose rights are determined to have been violated. The individual whose rights were violated is also authorized to bring an action on their own behalf for damages, injunctive relief, and other appropriate equitable relief to protect the peaceable exercise or enjoyment of the right or rights secured.

As noted above, the author's concerns are federal immigration proceedings. However, this bill's provisions apply only to state court proceedings because the state cannot dictate policy to the federal government. Though the state cannot force the federal government to allow access to immigration courts, denying such access flies in the face of longstanding U.S. Supreme Court precedent and basic tenets of our democracy. The Sixth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution grants the right to a "speedy and public trial" and that right belongs to the defendant. This safeguards the defendant by ensuring they receive a fair and open trial and are not subject to abuse by the judge or other court officers. The First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution protects the right of the public and the press to observe the actions of the government. The First Amendment does not include express language granting public access to trials; however, the U.S. Supreme Court has consistently held that public access to criminal trials is a necessary consequence to the freedoms of speech and press, but that the right is not absolute. (See *Richmond Newspapers, Inc. v. Virginia* (1980) 448 U.S. 555; see also *Press Enterprise Co. v Superior Court of California* (1984) 464 U.S. 501, and *Press-Enterprise Co. v Superior Court of California* (1986) 478 U.S. 1.) The court rulings noted that the presumption of a public trial may be overcome by showing that closing the proceedings serves a higher interest and that closure is narrowly tailored to serve that interest. (*Ibid*.)

California also protects the right to public trials. (See Article I, Section 13 of the California Constitution, which is the corollary to the Sixth Amendment of the U.S.

Constitution.) Existing Section 124 of the Code of Civil Procedure, which this bill is amending, expressly allows public access to trials and judicial proceedings. The California Supreme Court has also held that the public has a state constitutional right to observe most court proceedings. (*NBC Subsidiary, Inc. v. Superior Court* (1999) 20 Cal. 4th 1178.)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Acacia Center for Justice
California Broadcasters Association
California Civil Liberties Advocacy
Responsive Gov Action

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

Riverside County Sheriff's Office

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

> As the U.S Supreme Court once wisely said, "People in an open society do not demand infallibility from their institutions, but it is difficult for them to accept what they are prohibited from observing." *Richmond Newspapers, Inc. v. Virginia* 448 U.S. 555, 572 (1980). Both federal and California law have long valued open access to our court system. But in the wake of reporters, attorneys, and members of the public being blocked from immigration court, at a time when immigrants are being arrested at routine immigration check ins as well as state court appearances, we must fortify laws protecting access, so that the public may bear witness. Earlier this year I filed a lawsuit to push for basic transparency. AB 1544 ensures that we never backslide on our commitment to a free press and open and accessible courts.

The California Civil Liberties Advocacy writes in support stating:

> A free and independent press is a cornerstone of a functioning democracy. AB 1544 reinforces First Amendment principles and promotes transparency in the judicial system by ensuring that authorized members of the media cannot be arbitrarily excluded from public court proceedings. Public confidence in the courts depends not only on fairness in outcomes, but also on openness within the process. This measure helps ensure that court

proceedings remain accessible to the broader public through responsible journalistic coverage.

AB 1544 also reflects the realities of the modern media landscape by recognizing a wide range of legitimate news organizations, which supports the evolving ways Californians receive information while maintaining standards of professionalism and accountability.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Riverside County Sheriff's Office (RSO) writes in opposition

RSO recognizes and supports the important role of the press and public transparency within California's judicial system. However, AB 1544 raises significant operational, legal, and public safety concerns by imposing liability exposure upon sheriff personnel for courthouse-access decisions that are generally established and controlled by the judicial branch, not law enforcement agencies. […]

Nevertheless, under AB 1544, deputies enforcing judicially established restrictions or courthouse operational protocols may face allegations that such enforcement interfered with a perceived statutory or constitutional right of access. This improperly places sheriff personnel in the untenable position of choosing between enforcing court directives and risking potential civil liability under the Bane Act. […]

In closing, AB 1544 improperly shifts liability exposure onto sheriff personnel for judicially controlled access decisions over which law enforcement often has little or no policymaking authority. The bill creates operational uncertainty, increases litigation exposure, and undermines the ability of sheriff departments to safely and effectively maintain courthouse security.

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: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 14:57:27

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1569
Author: Davies (R) and Chen (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

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Pupil safety: electric bicycle: safety and training program

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE), in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), to develop a standardized electric bicycle (e-bike) safety and training program for pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires the CHP to develop statewide safety and training programs based on evidence-based practices for users of e-bikes, including, but not limited to, general e-bike riding safety, emergency maneuver skills, rules of the road, and laws pertaining to e-bikes. (Streets and Highways Code (SHC) § 894)

2) Defines "electric bicycle" as a bicycle equipped with fully operable pedals and an electric motor that does not exceed 750 watts of power. Additionally defines the following electric bicycle classes:

   a) A "class 1 electric bicycle," or "low-speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle," is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, that is not capable of exclusively propelling the bicycle, except as specified, that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 20 miles per hour, and that is not capable of providing assistance to reach speeds greater than 20 miles per hour.

   b) A "class 2 electric bicycle," or "low-speed throttle-assisted electric bicycle," is 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 miles per hour.

   c) A "class 3 electric bicycle," or "speed pedal-assisted electric bicycle," is a bicycle equipped with a motor that provides assistance only when the rider is pedaling, that is not capable of exclusively propelling the bicycle, except as specified, and that ceases to provide assistance when the bicycle reaches the speed of 28 miles per hour, and equipped with a speedometer. (Vehicle Code (VEH) § 312.5)

3) Specifies that a class 1 or class 3 e-bike may have start assistance or a walk mode that propels the electric bicycle on motor power alone, up to a maximum speed of 3.7 miles per hour. (VEH § 312.5)

4) Prohibits a person under 16 years of age from operating a class 3 e-bike. (VEH § 21213)

5) Authorizes the governing board of any school district, as specified, to provide time and facilities to local law enforcement agencies, other public agencies, and organizations, as specified, that provide bicycle, scooter, e-bike, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter safety instruction, for bicycle, scooter, e-bike, motorized bicycle, or motorized scooter safety instruction. (Education Code (EC) § 51860)

This bill:

1) Requires, on or before March 1, 2028, the CDE, in consultation with the CHP, to develop a standardized e-bike safety and training program for pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

2) Specifies that the safety and training program shall include, not be limited to, an online component consisting of instructional videos and a knowledge-based comprehensive assessment covering the rules of the road; operating differences between the classes of e-bikes; required safety equipment; and the civil and criminal implications of operating noncompliant e-bikes that exceed legal speed limits.

3) Authorizes the CDE and the CHP to collaborate with local law enforcement agencies or local governments that have already implemented e-bike training programs to ensure the referenced in #1 reflects proven best practices.

4) Encourages local educational agencies (LEA) or parent organizations, in collaboration with local law enforcement agencies of local governments, to offer training demonstrations to pupils and parents on e-bike operations related to safe mounting, braking, signaling, yielding, and riding protocols. Authorizes the administration of these training demonstrations on school campuses and at designated community facilities.

5) Defines the following terms:

   a) "Classes of electric bicycles" includes "class 1 electric bicycles," "class 2 electric bicycles," and "class 3 electric bicycles," as defined in Section 312.5 of the VEH.

   b) "Local educational agency" means a school district, county office of education, or charter school.

Comments

1) *Need for the bill*. According to the author, "The rapid rise of high-speed e-bikes on our campuses has outpaced our current safety laws, leading to a preventable surge in student injuries. We cannot continue to allow minors to operate motorized vehicles in heavy school-zone traffic without the fundamental road safety knowledge required to protect themselves and others. AB 1569 creates a common-sense standard by requiring the Department of Education and the California Highway Patrol to develop a new comprehensive online training program for students to take. By passing this measure, we are providing our youth with the essential tools for responsible riding and ensuring that the commute to school is safe for every student, pedestrian, and driver in our community."

2) *The existing CHP e-bike safety standards and training program.* In 2022, the Legislature passed AB 1946 (Boerner Horvath, Chapter 147, Statutes of 2022),

requiring the CHP to develop statewide safety standards and training programs for e-bikes. The resulting training program, accessible through the CHP's Vulnerable Road Users resource page, features lessons on general e-bike riding safety, best practices and considerations for selecting an e-bike, emergency maneuver skills, rules of the road, and laws pertaining to e-bikes. After reviewing 10 sections, users are asked to complete an 18-question quiz to test their knowledge. If they score above 80%, they are provided with a blank certificate of completion to which they may date and affix their name, then use it to certify that they have fulfilled an e-bike safety and training course.

3) *Age appropriate e-bike safety training.* Existing law prohibits persons under the age of 16 from operating a class 3 e-bike; however, no such statewide age restrictions exist for class 1 and 2 e-bikes. While the CHP's e-bike safety and training course may prove effective for adult audiences who have more familiarity with road rules based on their driving experience, its accessibility, comprehensibility, and relevancy to children and younger teenagers may vary. At present, the CHP e-bike training program is primarily presented in written text, with a few short videos and visual demonstrations. The lessons cite California statutes with varying levels of complexity, which may be beyond a particular student's reading comprehension level.

   Recognizing the need for developmentally appropriate training, some schools compiled resource pages on their websites to connect parents and students with youth centered safety training options. Some have taken further steps to partner with local organizations to provide in-person safety courses as part of their locally adopted e-bike safety or registration policies.

   This bill requires the CDE, in consultation with the CHP, to develop a standardized e-bike safety and training program for pupils in grades 7 to 12, inclusive. It also authorizes the CDE and CHP to work with local law enforcement agencies and local governments that have implemented electric bicycle training programs already to ensure the program reflects proven best practices.

4) *E-bikes are an increasingly common pediatric public health problem*. In a 2023 analysis of National Electronic Injury Surveillance System (NEISS) data conducted by the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI), researchers found that the rate of pediatric e-bike injuries increased between the years of 2011 and 2020. The analysis identified 3,945 e-bike, 23,389 moped, and 2.05 million bicycle injuries over the analysis years and found that the age group most commonly affected by e-bike injury (44.3%) was 10-13 years old.

The proportion of injuries requiring hospitalization was significantly higher for e-bikes (11.5%) compared to mopeds and bicycles (7.0% and 4.8%, respectively). In cases where helmet use or absence was reported, 97.3% of e-bike riders were without a helmet at the time of injury, compared to 82.1% of pedal bicycle riders and 87.2% of moped riders. Compared to riders on pedal bicycles or mopeds, children on e-bikes had infrequent helmet use and an increased rate of hospitalization.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

American Automobile Association of Northern California, Nevada & Utah
California Children's Hospital Association
California Orthopedic Association
California School Boards Association
City of Carlsbad
City of Coronado
City of Fillmore
City of Orinda
City of Rancho Cucamonga
City of Redwood City
City of Roseville
City of Yorba Linda
Communities in Schools
Communities in Schools of Los Angeles
League of California Cities
National Coalition for Safer Roads
Santa Monica Spoke
Scripps Health
Southwest California Legislative Council
Street Racing Kills
Streets Are For Everyone
Streets for All
Town of Hillsborough
West Hollywood Bicycle Coalition

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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
8/5/26 14:57:27

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

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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 ******

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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 ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1607
Author: Mark González (D), et al.
Amended: 3/26/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 4/20/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Emergency medical services

SOURCE: California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
Emergency Medical Services Administrators' Association of California

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset date, from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2037, on both the portion of the Maddy Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Fund that provides funding for pediatric trauma centers, and on a provision that authorizes counties to levy an additional penalty in the amount of $2 for every $10 on fines and penalties imposed on all criminal offenses for deposit in the Maddy EMS Fund.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law: Establishes the Emergency Medical Treatment and Labor Act (EMTALA), which requires hospitals with an emergency department (ED) to provide an appropriate medical screening examination to determine whether or not an emergency medical condition exists to any requesting individual. Requires, if

the hospital determines that the individual has an emergency medical condition, to provide either:

a) Within the staff and facilities available at the hospital, further medical examination and treatment as required to stabilize the medical treatment; or,

b) Transfer of the individual to another medical facility that can provide the appropriate treatment. [42 U.S. Code §1395dd]

Existing state law:

1) Establishes provisions similar to the federal EMTALA law that require a hospital with an ED to provide emergency services and care to any person regardless of their ability to pay. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1317]

2) Establishes the Maddy EMS Fund, which authorizes each county to establish an EMS fund, upon the adoption of a resolution by the board of supervisors. [HSC §1797.98a]

3) Requires the amount in a Maddy EMS Fund, reduced for administration and a reserve, to be utilized to reimburse physicians and surgeons and hospitals for patients who do not make payment for EMS and for other EMS purposes as determined by each county, according to the following schedule:

   a) 58% of the balance of the fund distributed to physicians for emergency services provided by all physicians, except those employed by county hospitals, in general acute care hospitals that provide basic, comprehensive, or standby emergency services up to the time the patient is stabilized;

   b) 25% of the fund distributed only to hospitals providing disproportionate trauma and emergency medical care services; and,

   c) 17% of the fund distributed for other EMS purposes as determined by each county, including, but not limited to, the funding of regional poison control centers. Authorizes funding to be used for purchasing equipment and for capital projects only to the extent that these expenditures support the provision of emergency services and are consistent with the intent of the fund. [HSC §1797.98a(b)(5)]

4) Requires each county to levy an additional penalty in the amount of $7 for every $10, or part of $10, upon every fine, penalty, or forfeiture imposed and collected by the courts for all criminal offenses, including all offenses involving a violation of the Vehicle Code. Requires a portion of these additional penalty

funds to support the Maddy EMS Fund. [Government Code (GOV) §76000(a) and HSC §1797.98a(c)]

5) Authorizes, in addition to the penalties in Existing Law 4) above, the county board of supervisors to levy an additional penalty in the amount of $2 for every $10, or part of $10, upon every fine, penalty, or forfeiture imposed and collected by the courts for all criminal offenses, including violations related to the control of alcoholic beverages, and all offenses involving a violation of the Vehicle Code, for purposes of supporting the Maddy EMS Fund. Sunsets this additional penalty on January 1, 2027. [GOV §76000.5]

6) Requires, of the penalty funds collected from the additional $2 penalty, 15% to be utilized to provide funding for all pediatric trauma centers throughout the county, both publicly and privately owned and operated. This is known as "Richie's Fund." Requires the expenditure of this money to be limited to reimbursement to physicians, and to hospitals for patients who do not make payment for emergency care services provided to pediatric trauma patients at trauma centers and other hospitals providing care to pediatric trauma patients, or at pediatric trauma centers, including the purchase of equipment. Authorizes local EMS agencies to conduct a needs assessment of pediatric trauma services in the county to allocate these expenditures. Requires counties that do not maintain a pediatric trauma center to utilize Richie's Fund to improve access to, and coordination of, pediatric trauma and emergency services in the county, with preference for funding given to hospitals that specialize in services to children, and physicians who provide emergency care for children. Sunsets the provisions establishing Richie's Fund on January 1, 2027. [HSC §1797.98a(e)]

7) Requires each county establishing a Maddy EMS fund to report to the California EMS Authority (EMSA) on the implementation and status of the EMS fund. Requires EMSA to compile and forward a summary of each county's report to the Legislature. [HSC §1797.98b]

This bill:

1) Extends the sunset date, from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2037, on the portion of the Maddy EMS Fund that provides funding for reimbursement to physicians and hospitals for pediatric trauma care.

2) Extends the sunset date, from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2037, on the provisions in law that authorize counties to levy an additional penalty in the amount of $2 for every $10, or part of $10, upon every fine, penalty, or

forfeiture imposed and collected by the courts for all criminal offenses for purposes of deposit in the Maddy EMS Fund.

Comments

According to the author of this bill:

> California's EDs are the health care safety net and the front lines of any public health emergency. With numbers on the rise, over 15 million Californians visit an ED across the state each year. The Maddy Fund was designed to support patients and providers, ensuring those who need care can receive it and those who provide care can be reimbursed for it. Without the Maddy Fund, we will see ED across this state, including at rural hospitals, shutter their doors.

Background

EMTALA. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Congress enacted EMTALA in 1986 to ensure public access to emergency services regardless of ability to pay. EMTALA requires that anyone coming to an ED requesting evaluation or treatment of a medical condition receives a medical screening examination. If a patient has an emergency medical condition, the hospital must provide stabilizing treatment, irrespective of the patient's insurance status or ability to pay. If the hospital does not have the capabilities required to stabilize the patient, then the hospital is required to provide an appropriate transfer to a hospital that can provide the necessary treatment. A hospital that has the needed specialized capabilities and capacity may not refuse to accept the transfer. This requirement to provide emergency care also applies to undocumented immigrants and unhoused individuals. Once the hospital admits the individual as an inpatient for further treatment, however, the hospital's obligation under EMTALA ends.

Emergency physicians. The American Board of Medical Specialties defines emergency physicians as physicians who focus on the immediate decision making and action necessary to prevent death, or any further disability, both in the pre-hospital setting by directing emergency medical technicians and in the ED. Emergency physicians provide immediate recognition, evaluation, care, stabilization, and disposition of adult and pediatric patients in response to acute illness and injury. The Medical Board of California states that the Corporate Practice of Medicine doctrine prohibits the direct employment of physicians by hospitals, with some exceptions. This prohibition is intended to minimize undue influence or interference with the physician's judgement and physician-patient

relationship. Hospitals instead contract with emergency medicine practice groups or third-party management organizations to staff their EDs. Therefore, emergency physicians bill separately from the hospital for their specialty services. The California Medical Billing & Revenue Management highlights that the urgent and unpredictable nature of emergency services often leads to issues such as out-of-network billing and challenges in collecting payments from uninsured or underinsured patients.

Maddy EMS Fund. According to EMSA, in 1987, the Legislature concluded that EMS providers, "bore higher costs for their services but often received only partial or no payments from patients." In response, SB 12 (Maddy, Chapter 1240, Statutes of 1987) established the Maddy EMS Fund to allow counties to help provide reimbursement to physicians and hospitals for treating uninsured patients seeking emergency services. SB 12 permits participating counties to levy an additional penalty of $7 for every $10 upon every fine, penalty, or forfeiture imposed and collected by the courts for all criminal offenses, including all offenses that involve a violation of the Vehicle Code, to provide funding for the Maddy EMS Fund.

Richie's Fund. SB 1773 (Alarcon, Chapter 841, Statutes of 2006) built onto SB 12 by adding an additional penalty assessment of two dollars for every ten dollars on applicable fines, penalties, and forfeitures, and requires, of the money deposited from this additional penalty assessment, 15% to provide funding for all pediatric trauma centers, including reimbursement to physicians and hospitals providing care to pediatric trauma patients, with a sunset date of January 1, 2009. This portion of the Maddy EMS Fund is known as "Richie's Fund." The Legislature has since then extended the authorization for counties to continue collecting for the Richie's Fund several times. Currently, this authorization extends through January 1, 2027.

Maddy EMS Fund Statewide Report Summary. Each county with an established Maddy EMS Fund is required to report to the EMSA annually on the implementation and status of the fund. The most recent Maddy EMS Fund Statewide Report of FY 2022-23 states that 51 counties have established the Maddy EMS Fund, and 37 of those counties have established the Richie's Fund. Alameda, Modoc, Mono, and Nevada Counties did not submit reports to the EMSA and are therefore not included in the reported data. At the start of the fiscal year on July 1, 2022, the balance reported was $32 million. The total penalty revenue deposited, reimbursements, interest, and other deposits totaled $46.7 million. Combined with the beginning balance, as well as with the maintained reserve, the total funds available for disbursement in fiscal year (FY) 2022-23 were approximately $80 million. In the FY 2022-23, the distributions totaled $47.9

million. Of that amount, $3 million was allocated to the Richie's Fund, $23 million to physicians, and $9 million to hospitals. The remaining amount was used for county administration costs and other discretionary EMS. The fiscal year ending balance on June 30, 2023, totaled $34 million.

Pediatric trauma care. A statistical briefing from the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality titled "Overview of Pediatric ED Visits, 2015" states that pediatric ED visits constitute roughly 20% of all ED visits in the U.S. Moreover, KidsData by the Population Reference Bureau found that there were over 1.5 million pediatric ED visits in California in 2020. The briefing further notes that more than 60% of pediatric ED visits in the U.S. in 2015 were covered by Medicaid. Pediatric ED visits for patients without insurance were less common, constituting 6.4% and 2.7% of treat-and-release and admitted pediatric ED visits, respectively.

A 2025 journal article in *JAMA Pediatrics* titled, "Pediatric Readiness and Trauma Center Access for Children," found in their cross-sectional study of children in the U.S. that access to pediatric trauma care was not universal, and that children living in rural areas were less likely to have access to timely care at a pediatric trauma center. Their analysis also found that pediatric trauma centers continue to be concentrated in metropolitan areas. In fact, the 2025 news article in the *San Francisco Chronicle* reported that Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital, a major trauma center with the only full-time inpatient pediatric unit between the North Bay and the Oregon Border, closed in March of 2026. While the hospital's ED will continue providing pediatric care, those who need to be admitted will be transferred to pediatric-ready hospitals in San Francisco, Oakland, or Sacramento. The chief medical officer for Northern California for Providence Medical Group and Clinical Network stated that, "As a not-for-profit health care organization primarily serving Medicare and Medi-Cal patients, repurposing the inpatient pediatric unit to expand adult inpatient capacity, where demand is significantly higher, enables us to align our limited resources with the evolving needs of the community." This closure follows recent trends across the U.S. According to the 2024 research letter, "National Trends in Pediatric Inpatient Capacity," in *JAMA Pediatrics*, U.S. hospitals closed nearly 30% of pediatric units, compared to 4% of inpatient adult units, between 2008 and 2022.

H.R. 1. H.R. 1, a vast budget reconciliation bill, makes a number of changes primarily to lower taxes, increase funding for immigration control and national defense, and restrict access to, and funding for, SNAP and Medicaid. Medicaid payments were reduced by defunding family planning providers that provide abortions, prohibiting new or increased provider taxes to fund Medicaid and

requiring a gradual reduction of existing provider taxes, capping the rate the state may set for certain services, reducing the federal share of payment for emergency services to adults with unqualified immigration status, and making changes in allowable payments under federal waiver programs. H.R.1 also made a number of changes to the Medicaid eligibility rules, which were enacted to reduce the number of people receiving assistance through the Medicaid program.

The UC Berkeley Labor Center estimates that 1.87 million adults in the state will lose coverage due to the work requirements, and 270,000 will lose coverage due to the semiannual eligibility redeterminations. The most recent estimate from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) in the *Implementation Plan for New Federal Eligibility and Enrollment Changes Under H.R. 1,* released on January 29, 2026, estimates up to 1.8 million will lose coverage due to work requirements, increased renewals, and the normal churn of individuals transitioning from Medi-Cal to Covered California. DHCS has also shared that approximately 200,000 immigrants will no longer have satisfactory immigration status due to the H.R. 1 change regarding immigrant eligibility and, according to the current Governor's budget proposal, will lose full-scope Medi-Cal. This means that emergency physicians and hospitals will likely see an increase of patients without insurance as the federal changes come into effect.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians (co-source)
Emergency Medical Services Administrators' Association of California (co-source)
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
American College of Surgeons: Southern and San Diego Chapters
American Medical Response West
California Ambulance Association
California Children's Hospital Association
California Fire Chiefs Association
California Hospital Association
California Medical Association
California State Association of Counties
California State Sheriffs' Association
Children's Specialty Care Coalition
County Health Executives Association of California
County of Alameda
County of Contra Costa

County of Kern
County of Napa
County of San Diego
County of Ventura
County of Yolo
County of Yuba
Dignity Health Marian Regional Medical Center
Health Officers Association of California
National Association of EMS Physicians
North Coast EMS
Northern California EMS, Inc.
Santa Barbara Cottage Hospital
SHARP Healthcare
Sierra - Sacramento Valley EMS Agency

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

American Civil Liberties Union California Action
Debt Free Justice California

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The co-sources of this bill, the California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians and the Emergency Medical Services Administrators' Association of California, write that emergency care in this state is in crisis. In the past decade, ED visits are up, and wait times continue to increase. ED closures are also on the rise, with closures like Glenn Medical Center leaving entire counties without access to emergency care. The U.S. Census Bureau reported California's uninsured rate for 2024 was 5.9%, or 2.3 million individuals. However, the proportion of uninsured patients can be much higher in the ED, as it is often the only place that these individuals can access care. Changes to Medi-Cal as a result of H.R.1 are estimated to drastically increase the number of uninsured over its implementation period. This massive loss of coverage as a result in the changes in eligibility would likely raise the proportion of uninsured ED visits. The co-sponsors add that in order to help offset the increasing costs of uninsured ED visits in California, it is important to preserve each county's ability to supplement their Maddy EMS Fund. The County of Alameda asserts that within their county, this funding supports a healthcare system that faces substantial emergency care demand. Across all hospitals in their county, EDs provide an estimated 350,000 emergency visits annually, reflecting the vital role emergency services play in protecting public health and responding to urgent medical needs. The County of Alameda states that allowing the Maddy EMS Fund provisions to sunset would increase uncompensated care burdens on hospitals and emergency

physicians, placing additional financial strain on safety-net providers and potentially affecting physician staffing levels, trauma care capacity, ED operations, and patient access to care. The American Academy of Pediatrics (Academy) furthers that in California alone, there were over 1.5 million ED visits among children ages 0-17 in a single year. Many of these visits involve injuries or acute conditions requiring rapid access to appropriately equipped facilities and trained personnel. The Academy states that trauma remains the leading cause of death and disability among children in the U.S., and outcomes are significantly improved when children receive care at designated pediatric trauma centers. The current requirement that 15% of the funds from the additional penalties are directed toward pediatric trauma and emergency services has helped strengthen pediatric readiness, improve coordination, and support regional systems of care. Without sustained funding, children, particularly those in rural or underserved communities, may face longer transport times and reduced access to specialized care.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Both American Civil Liberties Union California Action (ACLU) and Debt Free Justice California (DFJC) oppose this bill unless it is amended to fund the Maddy EMS Fund through more sustainable means, such as through general fund dollars or a progressive excise tax. Although ACLU and DFJC support the accessibility of EMS, they oppose this bill as the funding source for the Maddy EMS Fund is an ineffective and regressive revenue source for these essential medical services. They note the California Supreme Court's recent ruling in *People v. Kopp*, which held that fees assessed to individuals must consider those individuals' ability to pay such fees; concluding that this will likely reduce the revenue previously generated from the EMS Fund fee and will necessitate additional funding for EMS to allow services to continue operating at their current capacity. California's persistent poverty crisis and the *People v. Kopp* decision will make collections for the Maddy EMS Fund increasingly unstable. Furthermore, ACLU and DFJC add that research demonstrates that criminal fees cause lasting financial and emotional harm to individuals impacted by the judicial system and their families, often forcing many to choose between putting food on the table and paying their debt.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-1, 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, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, 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, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez,

Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bonta, Flora, Lackey, Patterson, Celeste Rodriguez, Tangipa, Ward

Prepared by: Margarita Niemann / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
7/30/26 14:49:17

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1615
Author: Nguyen (D)
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 79-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Firearms: unsafe handguns

SOURCE: Chief Probation Officers' of California; State Coalition of Probation Organizations

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the sale or purchase of a handgun that does not appear on the Department of Justice (DOJ) roster of "not unsafe" handguns for use as a service weapon by sworn members of a county probation department, provided that the sworn member of the department has satisfactorily completed specified firearms training.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Sets forth a definition of "unsafe handgun" for both revolvers and pistols, which applies to the provisions listed below.

   a) A revolver meets the definition of "unsafe handgun" if it 1) does not have a safety device that causes the hammer to retract to a point where the firing pin does not rest upon the primer of the cartridge, 2) does not meet the firing requirements for handguns, as specified, or 3) does not meet the drop safety requirement for handguns.

b) A pistol meets the definition of "unsafe handgun" if 1) it does not have a positive manually operated safety device, as specified, 2) it does not meet the firing requirement for handguns, 3) it does not meet the drop safety requirement for handguns, 4) it does not have a chamber load indicator, 5) it does not have a magazine disconnect mechanism if it has a detachable magazine, or 6) it is not designed and equipped with a microscopic array of characters used to identify the pistol, as specified (see more below). (Penal [Pen.] Code § 31910, subds. (a), (b).)

2) Requires DOJ, on and after January 1, 2001, to compile, publish, and thereafter maintain a roster listing all of the pistols, revolvers, and other firearms capable of being concealed upon the person that have been tested by a certified testing laboratory, have been determined not to be unsafe handguns, and may be sold in this state, as specified. The roster shall list, for each firearm, the manufacturer, model number, and model name. (Pen. Code, § 32015, subd. (a).)

3) Provides that DOJ may charge every person in California who is licensed as a manufacturer of firearms, as specified, and any person in California who manufactures or causes to be manufactured, imports into California for sale, keeps for sale, or offers or exposes for sale any pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person in California, an annual fee not exceeding the costs of preparing, publishing, and maintaining the roster of firearms determined not be unsafe, and the costs of research and development, report analysis, firearms storage, and other program infrastructure costs, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 32015, subd. (b)(1).)

4) Provides that a person in this state who manufactures or causes to be manufactured, imports into the state for sale, keeps for sale, offers or exposes for sale, gives, or lends an unsafe handgun shall be punished by imprisonment in a county jail not exceeding one year, and that other specified violations may be punished by specified civil penalties. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (a).)

5) Sets forth several exemptions to the penalties above, including for the manufacture or importation into this state of a prototype handgun for the sole purpose of testing of that handgun to determine whether it is prohibited, as specified, for the importation or lending of a handgun by employees or authorized agents of entities determining whether such a weapon is prohibited, for firearms listed as curios or relics, and for the sale or purchase of a handgun that is sold to or purchased by specified law enforcement agencies, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (b)(1)-(4).)

6) Exempts from the penalties set forth in Penal Code § 32000, subdivision (a), the sale or purchase of a handgun for use as a service weapon, if the handgun is sold to, or purchased by, any of several specified entities, including county probation departments, for use by, or sold to or purchased by, sworn members of those entities who have satisfactorily completed the basic course of training offered by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) or, before January 1, 2021, have satisfactorily completed the firearms portion of a training course prescribed by the POST, and who, as a condition of carrying that handgun, complete a live-fire qualification prescribed by their employing entity at least once every six months. (Pen. Code 32000, subd. (b)(6).)

7) Exempts from the penalties set forth in Penal Code § 32000, subdivision (a), the sale or purchase of a handgun, if the handgun is sold to, or purchased by, any of several other specified entities for use as a service weapon by the sworn members of those entities who have satisfactorily completed the basic course of training offered by the POST or, before January 1, 2021, have satisfactorily completed the firearms portion of a training course prescribed by the POST, and who, as a condition of carrying that handgun, complete a live-fire qualification prescribed by their employing entity at least once every six months. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (b)(7).)

8) Provides that a licensed firearms dealer shall not process the sale or transfer of an unsafe handgun between a person who has obtained an unsafe handgun pursuant to the exemptions set forth in Section 32000, subdivision (b)(6)-(7), and a person who is not exempt from the penalties specified in Penal Code Section 32000. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (c)(1).)

9) Provides that a person who obtains or has use of an unsafe handgun pursuant to an exemption set forth in Section 32000, subdivision (b)(6)-(7) shall, when leaving the handgun in an unattended vehicle, lock the handgun in the vehicle's trunk, lock the handgun in a locked container and place the container out of plain view, or lock the handgun in a locked container that is permanently affixed to the vehicle's interior and not in plain view, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (c)(2).)

10) Requires the DOJ to maintain a database of unsafe handguns obtained pursuant to several of the exemptions to the penalties in Penal Code Section 32000 described above, and provides that a person or entity that is in possession of an unsafe handgun obtained pursuant to those exemptions shall notify the DOJ of any sale or transfer of that handgun within 72 hours of the sale or transfer, as specified. (Pen. Code, § 32000, subd. (e)(1)-(2).)

This bill:

1) Removes county probation departments from an existing exemption to prohibitions relating to the sale, import and transfer of unsafe handguns, and instead sets forth a standalone exemption for the sale or purchase of an unsafe handgun for use as a service weapon, if the handgun is sold to or purchased by a county probation department for use by, or sold to or purchased by, sworn members of the department who have satisfactorily completed the firearms portion of a training course prescribed by POST.

2) Specifies that as a condition of carrying that unsafe handgun, a sworn member of a county probation department shall complete a live-fire qualification prescribed by their employing entity at least once every three months.

Comments

In 1999, the Legislature passed SB 15 (Polanco, Chapter 248, Statutes of 1999), also known as the Unsafe Handgun Act (UHA), which made it a misdemeanor for any person in California to manufacture, import for sale, offer for sale, give, or lend any unsafe handgun, with certain specific exceptions. SB 15 defined an "unsafe handgun" as a handgun that (1) does not meet a specified "drop safety" test, (2) does not meet specified firing tests, and (3) does not have a requisite safety device. The law also required DOJ to compile and publish a roster listing all of the handguns and concealable firearms that they deem "not unsafe" and which are certified for sale in the state.

California's unsafe handgun law also contains a tiered exemption scheme for specified law enforcement entities, set forth in Penal Code Section 32000, establishing three groups of entities that are subject to varying prerequisites for purchase, eligibility to purchase for personal use, and restrictions on resale of un-rostered handguns. The first, most permissive tier of exempt law enforcement entities and individuals includes the DOJ, police departments, sheriff's officials, marshal's offices, the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation, California Highway Patrol, any district attorney's office, any federal law enforcement agency, and the military or naval forces of the United States or California. Sworn members belonging to these entities may purchase non-roster handguns for personal use and may generally sell or transfer the non-roster handgun to any firearm eligible purchaser at a licensed firearm dealer. Sworn members belonging to the second tier of exempt law enforcement entities, which includes county probation departments, are permitted to purchase non-roster handguns solely for use as service weapons, as long as they have completed specified training, and may only resell the firearms to sworn members of exempt

agencies. The third exemption tier is similar to the second in most respects except that individual members of the exempt entities may not purchase non-rostered firearms directly, and may only use such firearms purchased by the entities themselves.

AB 2699 (Santiago, Chapter 289, Statutes of 2020), was the most recent measure modifying California's tiered system of exemptions from the state's unsafe handgun law. AB 2699 added greater restrictions and limitations on the acquisition and usage of unsafe handguns by law enforcement agencies. As a compromise, additional law enforcement entities were added to the list of agencies that could acquire and use non-rostered firearms but additional limitations were placed on those agencies. These limitations included that the sale of an un-rostered handgun to an agency is only authorized if the handgun is to be used as a service weapon by a peace officer who has successfully completed the basic course prescribed by POST and who completes a live-fire qualification with the handgun at least every six months. AB 2699 also required the DOJ to account for and maintain a database of unsafe handguns obtained pursuant to the law enforcement exemptions in Penal Code section 32000, and authorized the DOJ to levy civil penalties for failure to report the sale or transfer of an unsafe handgun pursuant to those exemptions.

According to the Author and sponsor of the bill, the Chief Probation Officers of California, the impetus behind this bill is a drafting error in AB 2699 that included probation officers in the second tier of exempted entities, which, as stated above, must have completed a POST basic training course. Negotiations regarding AB 2699 failed to take into account that probation officers are not POST certified. Rather, the training requirements for county probation officers are mandated through the Standards and Training for Corrections Division of the Board of State and Community Corrections. Accordingly, this bill removes county probation departments from the exemption tier requiring sworn members in that tier to complete a POST basic course, and creates a standalone provision providing that sworn members of county probation departments are not subject to the prohibition against the purchase or sale of non-rostered handguns, provided that the purchase or sale is for use as a service weapon and the sworn members using such firearms have satisfactorily completed a POST firearms training course. The bill also requires sworn members of probation departments who use non-roster firearms to complete a live-fire qualification prescribed by their employing entity at least once every three months.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Chief Probation Officers' of California (co-source)
State Coalition of Probation Organizations (co-source)
Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs
California Fraternal Order of Police
Long Beach Police Officers Association
Los Angeles County Probation Officers Union, Afscme Local 685
Peace Officers Research Association of California
Riverside Sheriffs Association
Sacramento County Deputy Sheriffs Association
Sacramento County Probation Association
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Employees' Benefit Association
San Diego County Probation Officers Association
San Joaquin County Probation Officers Association
Santa Ana Police Officers Association
Supervising Deputy Probation Officers Union, Teamsters Local 986

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

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: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 14:57:26

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1617
Author: Alanis (R)
Amended: 7/2/26 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: 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.

Senate Floor Amendments of 7/2/26 streamline reporting of Form 303 from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) instead of requiring entities that operate a HHW collection facility to submit that report to DTSC and update outdated provisions.

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 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 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 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:

1) Requires Form 303 to report information for the prior calendar year, instead of the previous fiscal year to the CUPAs and CalRecycle.

2) Requires CalRecycle to provide a copy of Form 303 to DTSC.

3) 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.

   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 HWCL 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 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. Allowing for the departments under CalEPA to share the reporting information also streamlines reporting processes. 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. This 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 7/24/26)

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 (CSAC)
Californians Against Waste
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/24/26)

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: Taylor McKie / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/3/26 17:24:30

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

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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 Seante 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, eight, ninth, and alternate retired members, and in counties having a board of investments, the fifth, sixth, seventh, eight, 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, eight, 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
7/1/26 16:54:56

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1622
Author: Blanca Rubio (D) and Carrillo (D)
Introduced: 1/22/26
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

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: Electrified security fences

SOURCE: AMAROK LLC
Bay Area Council
The Family Business Association

DIGEST: This bill removes the January 1, 2028 sunset for provisions that prohibit local cities, counties, and cities and counties from prohibiting the installation and operation of an electrified security fence on specified industrial, manufacturing, or commercial property, or from requiring a permit or approval for such fences, except as specified, when the fence is compliant with various requirements for electrified security fences.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines, for purposes of the below-described provisions, "electrified security fence" to mean any fence, other than an electrified fence as defined in Food and Agriculture Code section 17151, that:

a) is powered by an electrical energizer, driven by solar-charged batteries of no more than 12 volts of direct current that has an impulse repetition rate that does not exceed 1 hertz, and an impulse duration that does not exceed 10 milliseconds; and

b) is used to protect and secure manufacturing or industrial property, or property zoned under another designation, but legally authorized to be used for a commercial purpose that stores, parks, services, sells, or rents vehicles, vessels, equipment, materials, freight, or utility infrastructure within an outdoor lot or yard, provided that the secured area does not include any existing residential or hospitality uses. (Civil (Civ.) Code § 835(a).)

2) Permits an owner of real property to install and operate an electrified security fence on their property, if:

a) the property is not located in a residential zone and falls within the description of property described in (1)(b), above;

b) the electrified security fence meets the standards and specifications of the International Electrotechnical Commission for electric security fence energizers in "International Standard IEC 60335, Part 2-76: 2018;"

c) the electrified security fence is identified by prominently placed warning signs that are legible from both sides of the fence, and the warning signs:

i. are placed at each gate and access point, and at intervals along the fence not to exceed 30 feet;

ii. are adjacent to any other signs relating to chemical, radiological, or biological hazards; and

iii. are marked with a written warning or a commonly recognized symbol for shock, a written warning or a commonly recognized symbol to warn people with pacemakers, and a written warning or commonly recognized symbol about the danger of touching the electrified security fence in wet conditions;

d) the height of the electrified fence does not exceed 10 feet or 2 feet higher than an existing nonelectrified perimeter fence or wall, whichever is greater, and the fence is located behind a nonelectrified perimeter fence or wall that is not less than five feet tall; and

e) the electrified security fence includes a device that enables first responders to deactivate the electrified security fence in response to an emergency, if utilized by a city, county, or city and county. (Civ. Code § 835(b).)

3) Permits an electrified security fence to interface with a monitored alarm device in a manner that enables the alarm system to transmit a signal intended to summon the business, a monitoring service, or both the business and a monitoring service, in response to an intrusion or burglary. (Civ. Code § 835(c).)

4) Prohibits an owner of real property that is not the type of property described in (1)(a), above, from installing and operating an electrified security fence where a local ordinance prohibits the installation or operation of an electrified security fence, and permits a local ordinance to prohibit the installation and operation of an electrified security fence that does not comply with the requirements described in (1) through (3), above. Specifies that a local ordinance that prohibits or regulates only the installation or operation of an electrified fence as defined by the Food and Agricultural Code shall not be construed to apply to an electrified security fence, as defined in the above-described provisions. (Civ. Code § 835(d).)

5) Prohibits a city, county, or city and county ordinance, regulation, or code from prohibiting the installation and operation of an electrified security fence that meets the requirements of (1) through (3), above, and that is used to protect and secure real property described in (1)(b), above, nor require a permit or approval that is in addition to an alarm system permit issued by the city, county, or city and county. (Civ. Code § 835(d)(2).)

6) Permits a city, county, or city and county to require an administrative permit confirming the fence meets the requirements of this section if it is on a property abutting a property in residential use, or within 300 feet of a public park, childcare facility, recreation center, community center, or school facility. (*Id.*)

7) Specifies that nothing in the above described provisions shall be construed to alter the authority of a jurisdiction to adopt and enforce an ordinance relating to nonelectrified perimeter fences or walls as legally authorized, if applicable. (Civ. Code § 835(e).)

8) Repeals the amendments made to Civil Code section 835 by AB 2371 (Carrillo, Ch. 235, Stats. 2024) on January 1, 2028. (Civ. Code § 835(f).)

9) Defines “electrified fence” for purposes of the Food and Agriculture Code to mean any fence and appurtenant devices, including, but not limited to, fences and devices used in animal control, and including, but not limited to, a fence consisting of a single strand of wire supported by posts or other fixtures, which has an electrical charge or is connected to a source of electrical current, and which is so designed or placed that a person or animal coming into contact with the conductive element of the fence receives an electrical shock. Clarifies that an electrified fence, for its provisions, does not include an electrified security fence as described in Section 835 of the Civil Code. (Food and Agriculture Code § 17151.)

This bill removes the sunset provisions described in (8), above, thereby making the provisions described in (1) through (7) permanent.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/21/2026)

ARAMOK, LLC (co-source)
Bay Area Council (co-source)
Family Business Association of California (co-source)
Alfred Louie INC Bakersfield
Anaheim Chamber of Commerce
Arcadia Chair Company
Bolthouse Fresh Foods
Bragg Companies
Brandt Ag Products
Bravo Concrete Services INC
Cal Fire Local 2881
California Chamber of Commerce
California Fuels and Convenience Alliance
California Manufacturers and Technology Association
California Trucking Association
CFR CLASSIC LLC
Cleansleeves.com
Copart Inc.
Crystal Geyser Water Company
David Knott Inc.
E-recycling of California
Fleet Yards Inc.
Franco Logistics

Gachina Landscape Management
Gary Scelzi Motorsports
GDN Southwest LLC
Golden State Fasteners and Supply Company
Golden State Logistics
Green Trucking LLC
KeepSafe StorAll
Lewis & Tibbits Inc.
Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce
Long Beach Chamber of Commerce
nGROUP Performance Partners
North Bakersfield Toyota
OK Tire and Automotive Tire Pros
Peace Officers Research Association of California
Pomona Chamber of Commerce
Quantum Freight LLC
Regent Cold Storage
Republic Services
Sacramento Truck Center
Self Storage Association
Service West
Stotz Equipment Montclair
Sworx Bottling
Titan Worldwide
Vestis
Waste Management
West Ventura County Business Alliance
Yolo Food Bank

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/21/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Family Business Association, Bay Area Council, and AMAROK, LLC, the sponsors of this bill:

> AB 1622 would repeal the January 1, 2028, sunset date clause put into law as part of the revisions to Civil Code Section 835 made by AB 2371 (Carrillo and Flora, 2024), which was enacted as an urgency bill on September 14, 2024. AB 2371 made modest but critical reforms to the local government permitting protocol governing electrified security fence alarm systems. These reforms have

made a substantial difference for businesses statewide that store valuable assets outdoors and are targets for criminal activity such as theft, vandalism, arson, and threats to employee safety.

Prior to the enactment of AB 2371, businesses confronted a disparate and unpredictable array of requirements and delays by local governments in obtaining a permit to install an electrified security fence alarm system, forcing businesses in numerous jurisdictions to wait up to five years for issuance of the permit. AB 2371 harmonized the criteria and permitting for local governments such that, as of January 31, 2026, more than 800 businesses have benefited under the updated law, enabling these businesses to install these security systems on average in 19 days.

The implementation of AB 2371 has been highly successful, without issues or concerns by local governments. However, AB 2371 included a sunset clause of January 1, 2028. In light of the success of the permitting reforms established by AB 2371, AB 1622 would repeal the sunset date, providing both businesses and local governments with the certainty needed to ensure employers can access the tools necessary to protect employees and remain operational.

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 Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/3/26 17:24:31

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1636
Author: Solache (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Cerritos Community College District: data sharing

SOURCE: Cerritos College

DIGEST: This bill requires the Cerritos Community College District (CCD), in consultation with the California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office (CCCCO), by April 1, 2027, to develop a recommended prototype for Cerritos CCD to compile and transmit personally identifiable student information to the CCCCO for the limited and express purpose of creating a student record for enrollment in credit coursework at the California Community Colleges (CCCs).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the 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) Requires the governing board of a CCD to admit to the CCC any California resident, and may admit any nonresident, possessing a high school diploma or its equivalent. (EC § 76000)

3) Requires the BOG to adopt regulations that permit the governing board of a CCD to allow applications for admission, student residency determination forms, and other documents to be submitted electronically, and requires that applicants and students be informed of the relative security of the information they submit electronically. (EC § 70901.1)

4) Requires every CCD be under the control of a governing board, and requires the governing board of a CCD to establish, maintain, operate, and govern each CCC within their district in accordance with law. (EC § 70902)

5) Establishes the Information Practices Act and declares that the right to privacy is a personal and fundamental right protected by Section 1 of Article I of the Constitution of California and by the United States Constitution and that all individuals have a right of privacy in information pertaining to them. (Civil Code § 1798 and 1798.1)

6) Establishes the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), which protects the privacy of student education records. The law applies to all schools that receive funds under an applicable program of the U.S. Department of Education. (20 United States Code § 1232g; 34 Code of Federal Regulations Part 99)

7) Provides, pursuant to the California Constitution, that all people are by nature free and independent and have inalienable rights. Among these is the fundamental right to privacy. (California Constitution Article I, § 1)

This bill:

1) Requires the Cerritos CCD, in consultation with the CCCCO, by April 1, 2027, to develop a recommended prototype for Cerritos CCD to compile and transmit personally identifiable student information to the CCCCO for the limited and express purpose of creating a student record for enrollment in credit coursework at the CCCs.

2) Requires Cerritos CCD to compile and transmit the personally identifiable student information to the CCCCO in a manner that complies with all applicable state and federal privacy laws, for the specified method, and permits the specified method to use existing system capabilities used to create a student record at the CCCs.

3) Requires the Cerritos CCD, in consultation with the CCCCO, (1) to identify the minimum amount of personally identifiable student information required to be compiled and transmitted by Cerritos CCD to create a student record for course enrollment at the CCCs, and (2) to make recommendations on how the data should be collected, transmitted, and stored to best protect student data and adhere to data privacy standards.

4) Requires the Cerritos CCD, in collaboration with the CCCCO and the California Department of Education (CDE), to include a proposed form or process as part of the recommended prototype to obtain informed consent from participating students, and when required by law, a parent or guardian.

5) Requires the specified form or process to include, but not be limited to, the following:

   a) A description of the program, including its status as a pilot and its purpose as an application process specifically for CCCs.

   b) How the pilot application process differs from CCCApply and CCCStart.

   c) How student data will be handled at all stages of the process, including acquisition, transmission, and storage.

6) Requires the CCCCO, by September 1, 2027, to review and approve the Cerritos CCD's recommended prototype.

7) Requires the CCCCO to approve the Cerritos CCD's recommended prototype unless the CCCCO determines, based on specific written findings, that a specific element of the recommended prototype is inconsistent with this bill or cannot be implemented due to an identified legal or technical deficiency.

8) Permits the Cerritos CCD to submit a revised recommended prototype addressing the identified deficiencies, and requires the CCCCO to complete review and approval of the revised recommended prototype on or before September 1, 2027.

9) Permits the governing board of Cerritos CCD, upon approval of the CCCCO of the recommended prototype, to enter into a data sharing agreement with the governing board of a partnering local educational agency (LEA) to exchange

personally identifiable student information, as specified, for the limited and express purpose of creating a student record for course enrollment at the CCCs.

10) Requires the personally identifiable student information exchanged under a data sharing agreement (1) to be compiled and transmitted by Cerritos CCD to the CCCCO using the recommended prototype and (2) to only be used by Cerritos CCD and the CCCCO for the limited and express purpose of creating a student record for course enrollment at the CCCs.

11) Requires the data sharing agreement to include a requirement for an LEA to obtain the express written consent of a student who is at least 18 years old or a student's parent or guardian to exchange the personally identifiable information pursuant to the data sharing agreement.

12) Requires, by January 1, 2031, Cerritos CCD, in consultation with the CCCCO, to submit a report to the Legislature on the effectiveness of these provisions in accomplishing the purpose of providing seamless enrollment of participating students of a partnering LEA in courses offered by Cerritos CCD.

13) Defines "partnering local educational agency" as a school district, county office of education, or charter school that meets both of the following: a) has a partnership with Cerritos CCD as authorized through a College and Career Access Pathways partnership or the California College Promise, and b) is geographically located within the service area of Cerritos CCD.

14) Repeals these provisions on January 1, 2032.

Comments

1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, "For high school students within the Cerritos Community College District service area, the existing CCCApply process can add unnecessary friction. Students may be required to re-enter information already captured in K–12 systems, and the application process can delay the point at which Cerritos College is able to provide advising, financial aid support, orientation, and enrollment preparation. AB 1636 authorizes Cerritos College to enter into seamless access to community college data-sharing agreements with eligible local educational agencies in its service area. These agreements must be approved by both governing boards in public meetings and must comply with applicable state and federal privacy laws."

2) *The current CCC application process through CCCApply and commonly held concerns.* CCCApply was launched in 2011-12, and it allowed potential students to apply for admission to any CCC through a common online application. A prospective CCC student must undergo a two-step process:

   - First, create an online profile to apply through OpenCCC, which includes providing personally identifying information, such as your name, email address, home address, phone number, and Social Security Number or Taxpayer Identification Number. Once the profile is established, a student receives a statewide student record called a CCCID.

   - Second, after receiving a CCCID, a student can apply to a CCC through CCCApply, and they are prompted to fill out a maximum of 203 data points—and not all of which are required for every student—to help determine a student's overall education status, if a student is eligible for financial aid, if a student requires basic needs services, and/or the type of program the student is applying to attend.

   The entire application can take an hour to complete, on average. After applying and registering for the CCC, the student is then able to enroll in coursework and begin the process of orienting themselves as a CCC student.

   A February 2021 web post from the Academic Senate for the California Community Colleges (ASCCC) highlighted several commonly held concerns with CCCApply at the time, including: a) the length of time it takes to complete the application (an average of 45 minutes per application as of 2018), b) inconsistencies in the application across colleges because each college can set its own application requirements, and c) requiring a dual enrollment student to complete a CCCApply application a second time if they want to register and enroll at a CCC. This bill intends to allow Cerritos CCD to work with certain K-12 students to bypass the CCCApply process to register for credit courses, and the author indicates that the length of the application was a key factor in putting forward this bill.

   AB 3101 (Carrillo, Chapter 553, Statutes of 2018) sought to address concerns about an overly lengthy CCCApply process. AB 3101 required the CCCCO to revise CCCApply such that only data required by the federal and state law, or that is otherwise deemed necessary by the Chancellor, is collected during the process. AB 3101 also exempted a student seeking to enroll exclusively in noncredit courses from CCC residency classification requirements, which was anecdotally reported to have significantly shortened the noncredit application.

3) *The CCC system is now replacing CCCApply with CCCStart.* The CCCCO currently is leading an initiative called "Reimagine Apply", which is a statewide effort to create a new application system, called CCCStart, largely to address fraud prevention. The new system is intended to be a clearer, single application with fewer, smarter questions and meant to create less confusion as logic-driven paths in the application will adjust to a student's situation. According to the CCCCO, students should be able to get through CCCStart more quickly than CCCApply, and there should be a 20% to 60% reduction in the number of questions, depending on the student's journey type (i.e., noncredit, credit, international, or dual enrollment) and a student's answers to questions.

   The plan is for CCCStart to go live for the first wave of 11 districts in June 2026, and will be rolled out with three additional waves, with all districts to have at least begun to adopt the new application system by January 2027. The current timeline for CCCApply to be phased out is by the end of June 30, 2027. The timing of this bill is such that it seeks a technological solution through CCCApply, even as that system is expected to be phased out by the middle of 2027.

4) *This bill seeks to automate CCC admission and registration for credit courses for certain K-12 students, but some answers will still need to be provided by students.* This bill requires the CCCCO to create a tool to allow certain K-12 students in Cerritos CCD's service area to bypass the current CCCApply process to expedite their registration for credit courses. According to Cerritos CCD, they aim to replicate a process that they use to create a batch of student records for noncredit students—effectively bypassing CCCApply—and this process is operated through a collaborative partnership between Cerritos CCD, participating LEAs, and the CCCCO. This process leverages existing technology known as the Multi Account Creation Tool, which was released statewide in 2024 and was originally intended to register incarcerated students who did not otherwise have access to OpenCCC to create a CCCID.

   Though LEAs would have access to the majority of the student information needed to complete CCCApply, an LEA may not have every required data point, and certain information—such as residency-related information and major—may need to be provided directly by the student or parent/guardian to Cerritos CCD. According to Cerritos CCD, in these situations, the LEA would provide the student data to Cerritos CCD that it has authority to share through a data-sharing agreement, and Cerritos CCD would then securely collect any

remaining required information directly from the student through a consent-based process.

According to Cerritos CCD, once the LEA-provided data and any necessary student-provided information are complete, Cerritos CCD would transmit the information to the CCCCO as part of the secure batch upload process.

5) *Questions about the batch upload process.* According to Cerritos CCD, using the noncredit batch upload process, they have been able to generate CCCIDs and bypass the CCCApply process for students registering for noncredit coursework, and through this bill, Cerritos CCD seeks to create a comparable credit batch upload process tool to register K-12 students at the CCCs. However, it is unclear if a credit batch upload process tool would be able to bypass CCCApply as expeditiously because the credit application can be significantly longer and more involved than the noncredit application. This is largely attributable to questions on residency and educational goals on the credit application. Because of underlying differences between the credit and noncredit application, it is unclear if the additional resources needed to create this tool would be marginal or substantial.

Related and Prior Legislation

AB 731 (Fong, 2025) would have made various changes to the College and Career Access Pathways (CCAP) program, including the authorization of a single application for student participation, permitting the use of an online platform, and modifying CCAP reporting requirements to include additional outcome measures. This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 3101 (Carrillo, Chapter 553, Statutes of 2018) requires the CCCCO, by July 31, 2019, to revise the CCC online application process, known as CCCApply, so that only data that is required by the federal government, state law, or that is otherwise necessary, as determined by the CCCCO, is collected during the process. AB 3101 also exempted a student seeking to enroll exclusively in noncredit courses at a CCC from CCC residency classification requirements.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Cerritos College (source)
ABC Unified School District
City of Norwalk
Downey Unified School District

Norwalk La Mirada Unified School District
Western Association for College Admission Counseling

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 14:57:25

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1652
Author: Patterson (R), et al.
Introduced: 1/28/26
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 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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: State agencies: regulations and legislation: nondisclosure agreements

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) prohibits an elective or appointive officer of a state agency, acting in their official capacity, from entering into, or requesting that another individual enter into, a nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation, except as specified; and 2) provides that any nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation entered into, or requested by an elective or appointive officer of a state agency acting in their official capacity after the effective date of this legislation, shall be void and unenforceable, except as provided.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Prohibits Members of the Legislature from entering into, or requesting that another party enter into, a nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of proposed legislation, and makes any nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of proposed legislation void and unenforceable. (Government (Gov.) Code § 8923 (a)-(b).)

2) Provides an exception for nondisclosure agreements, or portions thereof, that prevent only the disclosure of trade secrets, financial information, or proprietary information, as specified. (Gov. Code § 8923 (c).)

3) Provides that the people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business and, therefore, the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny. Specifies that any law or rule that limits the public right of access shall be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation. (California Constitution, art. I, § 3.)

4) Provides that, in enacting the California Public Records Act, the Legislature, mindful of the right of individuals to privacy, finds and declares that access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state. (Gov. Code § 7921.000.)

This bill:

1) Prohibits an elective or appointive officer of a state agency acting in their official capacity from entering into or requesting that another individual enter into, a nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation, except as specified.

2) Specifies that any nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation entered into or requested by an elective or appointive officer of a state agency acting in their official capacity after the effective date of this bill shall be void and unenforceable, except as provided.

3) Specifies that 1), above, does not prohibit an elective or appointive officer of a state agency from entering into or requesting a nondisclosure agreement that prevents only the disclosure of trade secrets, private financial information, or proprietary information.

4) Specifies that 2), above, does not make void and unenforceable a nondisclosure agreement, or portion of a nondisclosure agreement, that prevents only the disclosure of trade secrets, private financial information, or proprietary information.

5) Defines "discussion" as direct or indirect communications engaged in by individuals for the purpose of reaching a decision regarding a proposed regulation or legislation.

6) Defines "drafting" as developing language for a proposed regulation or legislation pursuant to this chapter.

7) Defines "negotiation" as any form of direct or indirect communication whereby individuals who have opposing interests discuss the form of any proposed regulation or legislation that may resolve a dispute involving those interests.

Comments

A nondisclosure agreement is a provision in a contract that binds the parties to secrecy regarding information specified in the contract. Nondisclosure agreements typically specify that damages will be imposed if a party violates the nondisclosure agreement.

Last year, the Legislature enacted AB 1370 (Patterson, Chapter 191, Statutes of 2025), to prohibit members of the Legislature from entering into nondisclosure agreements related to legislative negotiations. In early 2024, reports surfaced that negotiators of two bills were asked to sign nondisclosure agreements.[1] Although there is no evidence that this actually occurred and counsel is unaware of any instance in which a legislator or staff of the legislature has requested anyone sign a nondisclosure agreement related to legislation, the author brought AB 1370 forward to prohibit the practice.

This year, the author is expanding this prohibition to apply to elective or appointive officers of a state agency. Specifically, this bill prohibits an elective or appointive officer of a state agency acting in their official capacity from entering into, or requesting that another individual enter into, a nondisclosure agreement relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation, except if it prevents only the disclosure of trade secrets, private financial information, or proprietary information. Any nondisclosure agreement

[1] Zavala, Ashley, *Non-disclosure agreements were used in negotiations of California's landmark fast food worker law* (March 7, 2024), available at: https://www.kcra.com/article/california-fast-food-law-panera-newsom-nda/60117858 [as of Aug. 4, 2025].

relating to the drafting, negotiation, or discussion of a proposed regulation or legislation entered into or requested by an elective or appointive officer of a state agency acting in their official capacity after the effective date of this legislation shall be void and unenforceable, except if it prevents only the disclosure of trade secrets, private financial information, or proprietary information.

According to the author:

> Last year the legislature unanimously approved AB 1370 which prohibited members of the legislature from entering or requesting another party to enter into non-disclosure agreements related to the drafting, negotiations, and discussions on legislation. The reason is because we believe in transparency and we wanted to clear up the obvious: NDAs simply don't belong in government; in the same vein, it should apply to the Governor's Office and administrative agencies.

Oakland Privacy writes the following in support:

> While there can be appropriate uses for non-disclosure agreements in certain circumstances, specifically to protect legitimate proprietary information, we agree that legislative debate around bills and significant regulatory rules are almost never going to be one of those appropriate uses.
>
> By its very nature, the legislative and Administrative Procedure Act processes are intended to be an open airing of issues and concerns to arrive at the best possible policy approach. And how decision-making bodies engage in that process is the material evidence that voters use to decide if they wish to return those members or their appointers to office. When that process is invisible or obscured, there is a significant democracy deficit that harms both parties and the integrity of government.
>
> [. . .]
>
> It is simply that as a matter of public policy, non-disclosure agreements outside of a very narrow window relating to specific proprietary business information, have no place in legislative and rule-making processes. We acknowledge that negotiations, especially on controversial issues and under time pressure, can be difficult to hammer out in the bright light of an audience, but it is exactly that spotlight that ensures that stakeholders are heard and issues are aired out. These processes are not backroom deals.
>
> We would also add that the Administrative Procedure Act allows and has relatively transparent procedures for holding some materials confidential or

filing under seal when necessary and compelling reasons are publicly articulated and ruled on by an administrative law judge. There really should be no need for ad-hoc non-disclosure agreements.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Association of Licensed Investigators
California Business Roundtable
California Civil Liberties Advocacy
Oakland Privacy

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

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: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 16:51:02

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1656
Author: Davies (R)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
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: San Diego District Attorney's Office

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.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/3/26 are chaptering amendments that incorporate changes from AB 2052, which 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 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.

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 8/3/26)
San Diego District Attorney's Office (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 District Attorneys Association

California Family Resource Association
California Narcotic Officers' Association
California Reserve Peace Officers Association
California State Sheriffs' Association
Child Abuse Prevention Center
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 8/3/26)
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:

> 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 Farías, 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. /
8/5/26 14:57:35

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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. Finaly 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 retraining 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: 8/4/26 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: 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. This bill (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 or public guardian with respect to the property or the safe-deposit box, in addition to existing law that discharges them of finial liability. Lastly, this bill (3) revises the statutory form certificate of authority for public guardians and establishes a statutory form certificate of authority for public administrators, as provided.

Senate amendments of 8/4/26 authorize access to a safe-deposit box, whether held in the sole name or not in the name of the beneficiary, for the purpose of inspection and removal of any will or instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains and requires information concerning property held in the name of the decedent to

be provided to a public administrator; and make various other changes to fix cross-references and use consistent terms.

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 the safe-deposit box, in addition to existing law that discharges them of liability with respect to the property.

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) Authorizes access to a safe-deposit box by a public administrator, whether held in the sole name or not in the name of the beneficiary, for the purpose of inspection and removal of any will or instructions for disposition of the decedent's remains. Requires information concerning property held in the name of the decedent to be provided to a public administrator, whether or not held in the sole name of the beneficiary.

5) Makes conforming and other nonsubstantive changes.

Comments

Public administrators are officers of a county authorized under the Probate 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 this 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.

The amendments of August 4, 2026 removed all prior opposition to the bill.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

California State Association of Public Administrators, Public Guardians, and Public Conservators (sponsors)
Alameda County Board of Supervisors
California State Association of Counties
County Behavioral Health Directors Association
County of Humboldt
County of Kern
County of Santa Clara
Rural County Representatives of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

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 the 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
8/5/26 16:20:52

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 1679
Author: Mark González (D) and Wicks (D), et al.
Amended: 8/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 4-2, 6/17/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 8-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Smallwood-Cuevas
NOES: Valladares, Grove
NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Local pop-up small business program

SOURCE: Independent Hospitality Coalition

DIGEST: This bill requires cities and counties to allow pop-up small businesses to operate on a temporary basis.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows, under the California Constitution, cities and counties to "make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." It is from this fundamental power (commonly called the police power) that cities and counties derive their

authority to regulate behavior to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public—including land use authority.

2) Regulates businesses that sell food under the California Retail Food Code (CRFC), as specified.

This bill:

1) Requires cities and counties to allow pop-up small businesses to operate on a temporary basis. Requires a city or county to allow temporary commercial activation authorization for a pop-up small business to operate in an eligible commercial space for a period not exceeding 120 days.

2) Defines:

   a) "Eligible commercial space" to mean an existing building or tenant space that meets all of the following requirements:

      i) The local jurisdiction allows commercial use in the building;

      ii) It meets applicable health and safety standards associated with the use proposed to be conducted in the building;

      iii) It is not currently undergoing structural alteration;

      iv) It does not require modification of fire-resistant elements;

      v) For food facilities, it is fully enclosed by floors, walls, and ceiling.

   b) "Eligible temporary use" to mean commercial activity occurring within either a Group B (Business) or Group M (Mercantile) occupancy that can house no more than 49 occupants. It specifically excludes Assembly, Institutional, Residential, or High-Hazard occupancies. For food facilities, the "eligible temporary use" must be consistent with limited food preparation under the CRFC.

   c) "Pop-up small business" to mean a temporary commercial operation conducted in an existing commercial or mixed-use building pursuant to a temporary commercial activation authorization, which is an authorization a city or county issues to a pop-up small business to operate temporarily, as specified.

3) Requires every city and county to allow temporary commercial activation authorization for a pop-up small business to operate in an eligible commercial

space for a period not exceeding 120 days. A city or county can pause or modify development standards and discretionary requirements that are triggered by permanent occupancy. It must consider modifying or pausing parking standards, improvements or dedications, requirements that would trigger a full building system update, and discretionary land use procedures. They can also:

a) Renew or extend this authorization;

b) Establish eligible uses and operational limits consistent with the bill;

c) Adopt fire, accessibility, and health and safety standards appropriate for temporary use;

d) Impose fees not exceeding the reasonable costs of program administration;

e) Establish enforcement mechanisms and penalties for noncompliance; and

f) Require an application for permanent occupancy under applicable local processes for continued operation if the cumulative duration of an eligible temporary use in a single eligible commercial space exceeds 12 months within any 24-month period.

4) Provides that a city or county is not required to create a new program if it has an existing permitting framework that meets the requirements of the bill.

5) Prohibits a temporary commercial activation authorization from being used for:

a) Structural alteration;

b) Modification of fire-resistant elements; or

c) Change to a higher risk occupancy classification under the California Building Code.

6) Allows, notwithstanding any other law, a temporary commercial activation authorization to be used to change occupancies between Group B (Business) and Group M (Mercantile), if specified conditions are met.

7) A temporary commercial activation authorization must comply with the California Building Code and the California Fire Code. Local fire officials can impose additional safety conditions necessary to protect occupants and the public. The bill includes specified accessibility requirements and requires cities and counties to provide guidance materials on accessibility compliance to a temporary commercial activation authorization.

8) Adds pop-up businesses to the list of food facilities and requires them to comply with all applicable provisions regulating limited food preparation under the CRFC. A food facility seeking to operate pursuant to temporary commercial activation authorization cannot begin operations until the local enforcement agency determines, following a field evaluation conducted by the local enforcement agency, that the commercial space can support an operation consistent with limited food preparation. Notwithstanding any other law, a local enforcement agency responsible for environmental health can impose additional temporary food safety requirements consistent with the CRFC.

9) Includes numerous provisions affirming the application of other state and local laws to temporary commercial activations.

10) Includes findings and declarations to support its purposes.

Background

California Retail Food Code. Businesses that sell food are regulated under the California Retail Food Code (CRFC). The CRFC lays out the requirements that food retailers must meet, including operational practices, equipment standards, and standards for facilities, such as kitchens and restrooms. County offices of environmental health—and the environmental health departments in four cities—regulate retail food operations. The CRFC differentiates among permanent food facilities, mobile food facilities, temporary food facilities, cottage food operations, microenterprise home kitchens, and other types of food retail, and has differing rules for each.

The CRFC includes the structural, equipment, and operational requirements for all California retail food facilities. Any person proposing to build or remodel a food facility must submit building plans to the enforcement agency for review and receive plan approval before starting any new construction or remodeling of a facility for use as a retail food facility. The enforcement agency must approve or reject plans within 20 business days after receipt by the enforcement agency; if they don't they are deemed approved. A local building department cannot issue a building permit for a food facility until it has received plan approval from the enforcement agency.

Pop-ups. Pop-up businesses are temporary retail or restaurant spaces that open in existing spaces for a limited time. Pop-ups can offer unique customer experiences, and the limited duration of a pop-up can drive a sense of scarcity, increasing interest in the business. Business owners may conceive of pop-ups around themes, holidays, events, or promotions. As cities and counties across California seek to

revitalize their downtowns following the COVID-19 pandemic, some have turned to pop-ups to generate interest and act as a foothold for additional commercial activity. One prominent example is the City and County of San Francisco's Vacant to Vibrant program, which is a partnership between a local community group and the City that helps small businesses collaborate with local property owners to create pop-ups in downtown San Francisco for durations of three months. For pop-ups seeking to transition to full-time occupancy of a space after that period, the Vacant to Vibrant program works with the City's Office of Small Business to encourage transition to permanent occupancy.

The Independent Hospitality Coalition wants the Legislature to make it easier to open pop-ups.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "Despite growing recognition that pop-up businesses are an effective way to activate vacant spaces, there is no consistent permitting framework across California's local jurisdictions. These small businesses must navigate a confusing, fragmented, and costly system that was never designed with pop-ups in mind.

   "AB 1679 would remove these barriers by establishing a single, statewide "Temporary Commercial Activation Permit' for pop-up businesses. In my own district, empty storefronts sit side-by-side with businesses seeking an opportunity. This bill creates a clear, accessible way to bring those spaces back to life."

2) *Home rule*. Economic development and public welfare are two goals that sometimes conflict, and local residents elect their city councilmembers and county supervisors to balance these competing interests. Pop-up businesses can encourage economic development, revitalize neighborhoods, and generate sales tax dollars, among other benefits, but may come with impacts to the surrounding community that may not be fully mitigated if they don't go through the same level of review that permanent occupancies do. AB 1679 directs local governments to establish programs to allow pop-up businesses. It provides significant flexibility in how the programs are designed, so local governments can tailor them to their needs. However, local governments that do not want to allow pop-ups will be required to permit them to some degree as a result of this bill.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Independent Hospitality Coalition (source)
Betsy Restaurant
California Community Foundation
California Downtown Association
Central City Association of Los Angeles
Civil Coffee
Immigrants Rising
Inclusive Action for the City
Little Tokyo Service Center
Los Angeles Historic Core Business Improvement District (historic Core B.i.d.)
Tea At Shiloh
The Chocolate Dispensary
Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3)
Woon

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

City of Galt

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, 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: Hadwick, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 14:57:36

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1689
Author: Quirk-Silva (D)
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

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

SUBJECT: Juvenile courts: temporary probate guardianship

SOURCE: Alliance for Children's Rights

DIGEST: This bill allows a dependency court to terminate temporary probate guardianship at any hearing if it is in the best interests of the minor.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Outlines who may file a petition for guardianship and specifies that any relative or other person on behalf of a minor (or the minor themselves if 12 years of age or older) may file a petition to appoint a guardian of the person, estate, or both. Requires the petition to include the names and addresses of parents, legal custodians, and relatives within the second degree. (Probate Code [PROB] § 1510)

2) Authorizes the appointment of a temporary guardian if the court finds there is good cause. Specifies this can only be filed on or after a petition for a permanent guardian has been made, pursuant to 1) above. (PROB § 2250(a-b))

3) Requires a notice of the hearing for the appointment of a guardian be given to specific parties, including a minor 12 years of age or older, parents, and any person having legal custody or serving as the guardian. (PROB § 1511 (b))

4) Outlines the process for the court to refer a minor to the county child welfare services agency (county) if there is a concern that the child has been or is at risk of being abused or neglected. Requires the probate court, if a proposed ward is suspected of being abused or neglected, to refer the matter in writing to the county. Requires, upon receiving the referral, the county to immediately investigate to determine if juvenile dependency proceedings should be started. Requires the county to generally report its findings and conclusions back to the probate court within three weeks. Prohibits the probate court from determining the guardianship petition until the county has completed its investigation and submitted its report. (PROB § 1513(b))

5) Establishes the standards and timelines for the appointment of a guardian, which includes requiring the court to wait for investigations to be completed before a guardian can be appointed. Requires the court to act in the best interest of the child and mandates specific screening requirements for the proposed guardian to ensure the safety and well-being of the minor. (PROB § 1514 and 1516*)*

6) Establishes procedures and criteria for the initial detention hearing of a child taken into temporary custody. Requires the court to order the release of the child unless there is prima facie showing that the child has been abused or neglected. (Welfare and Institutions Code [WIC] § 319)

7) Establishes the process for a person or the probate court to request that a social worker investigate whether a child should be made a dependent of the court due to abuse or neglect. Requires, upon the application or a referral from the probate court, the social worker to immediately investigate. Provides the social worker three weeks to receive the application or referral to decide whether to file a dependency petition. (WIC § 329)

8) Governs the procedures that allow individuals to ask the juvenile court to review a social worker's decision not to file a petition for dependency, after they have already requested such an investigation under existing law in 7) above. (WIC § 331)

This bill allows a dependency court to terminate or modify a probate guardianship at any regularly scheduled hearing without the 45 days' notice usually required, if it is in the best interests of the minor.

Comments

According to the author, "When a child enters the dependency system, courts need to be able to act quickly to ensure that child receives the services, support, and stability they need. AB 1689 provides a simple procedural clarification that helps prevent unnecessary delays when a child transitions from a temporary probate guardianship into the dependency system, allowing courts to focus on what matters most, which is the best interests of the child."

Child Welfare System (CWS). CWS is the system of intervention of 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 possible[1]. 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 well-being and avoid court involvement, or a child is 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 CWS.

Temporary Probate Guardianship. A parent who is unable to care for their child temporarily may make arrangements for the child to be cared for by another adult, but custody cannot be given to another adult without a court order. Probate guardianship is a court-ordered relationship that gives an adult legal and physical custody of a child. That adult becomes the guardian and has the right to make parental decisions about the child's care, residence, education and medical treatment. Probate guardianship does not automatically terminate parental rights; it only transfers custody. This arrangement may occur in cases where parents cannot take care of their children, but the dependency system is not yet involved. This bill seeks to address the issue of when there is a probate guardianship and then a dependency case involving the same child is opened, resulting in dual jurisdiction over the same child. This bill will allow, at any dependency hearing, for the dependency court to terminate the temporary probate guardianship without having to provide a 45-day notice to the parties. Having a minor be involved in both probate guardianship and a dependency case can result in conflicting court orders, delays, and limit access to services and supports.

[1] https://www.cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/child-welfare-protection/policies

Related/Prior Legislation:

AB 260 (Stone, Chapter 578, Statutes of 2021) established processes to ensure abused or neglected children are not improperly diverted into probate guardianships in lieu of the foster care system and required the Judicial Council to develop a form regarding the differences between probate guardianships and the foster care system.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/27/26)

Alliance for Children's Rights (sponsor)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/27/26)

None received

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: Heather Hopkins / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
7/30/26 14:49:18

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1693
Author: Zbur (D), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 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 BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/22/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Menjivar, Niello, Richardson, Strickland, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Accelerated retailer building plan approval: tenant improvements

SOURCE: California Retailers Association

DIGEST: This bill requires a local building or permitting department to allow an applicant to have a qualified professional certifier self-certify plans for a tenant improvement relating to a retailer, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows, under the California Constitution, cities and counties to "make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." It is from this fundamental power (commonly called the police power) that cities and counties derive their authority to regulate behavior to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

2) Establishes the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations), which contains building standards and regulations as adopted by the California Building Standards Commission (BSC). These standards include, among other requirements, structural standards for building safety (the Building Code), fire safety standards (the Fire Code), energy efficiency standards (the Energy Code), and standards for green buildings (CalGreen). The BSC updates the Building Standards Code on a three-year cycle—the BSC published new standards that went into effect on January 1, 2026. Once adopted at the state level, cities and counties in California then enact an ordinance to adopt the codes. New construction and improvements to existing buildings must comply with the current building codes, and improvements to an existing building may trigger additional code upgrades for other parts of a building.

3) Requires local agencies to contract with a private entity on a temporary basis to perform the plan checking function, upon request of an applicant for a building permit, if there is an excessive delay in checking plans for a building permit for construction or a remodel or tenant improvement to non-residential buildings of up to three stories. Excessive delay means 50 days after submission of a complete application, or a total of 60 days if there was a resubmittal of the application. Local agencies that are required to contract out can charge an applicant fees in an amount necessary to defray costs directly attributable to hiring someone to perform plan checking services.

4) Requires, pursuant to AB 671 (Wicks, 2025), a local building or permitting department to allow an applicant to have a qualified professional certifier certify that the plans for a tenant improvement relating to a restaurant comply with applicable building, health, and safety codes. The law applies to restaurants, defined as a retail food establishment that prepares, serves, and vends food directly to the consumer. The law excludes fast food restaurants and tenant improvements subject to plan review requirements under the California Retail Food Code.

5) Specifies qualifications for qualified professional certifiers and procedures for submitting an application. It also requires the local building department to approve or deny an application within 20 business days of receiving it. If the local building department does not approve or deny the application within this time period, the certified plan is deemed approved for permitting purposes, provided that all fees and required documents have been submitted. AB 671 also establishes various enforcement measures, required the qualified professional certifier to be liable for damages or injury, and waives local government liability.

This bill:

1) Requires, notwithstanding any other law, a local building or permitting department to allow an applicant to have a qualified professional certifier certify that the plans for a tenant improvement relating to a retailer comply with applicable building, health, and safety codes.

2) Defines "retailer" as any person that is engaged in the business of making retail sales direct to the general public and "tenant improvement" as any change to the interior of the building. It also requires the qualified professional certifier to be a licensed engineer or architect that has specified liability insurance coverage and five years of experience in commercial design or plan checking.

3) Requires the tenant improvements proposed to be permitted pursuant to the bill to comply with all applicable building, health, and safety codes. The professional certifier must prepare an affidavit attesting that the tenant improvement plans comply with all applicable laws and regulations, and either the certifier or the applicant must attest that the retailer is eligible for the program.

4) Requires the local building department to approve or deny the application within 20 business days of receiving a complete application.

5) Provides that, if a complete application is denied during that period, the applicant may resubmit corrected plans addressing the deficiencies identified in the denial. The local building department must approve or deny each subsequent resubmission within 10 business days of receipt. This bill provides that self-certification does not exempt a tenant improvement from other mandatory construction inspections, including, but not limited to, fire, health, and structural inspections conducted during or after construction.

6) Allows local building departments can charge permit fees to applications using a qualified professional certifier.

7) Requires local building or permitting departments must conduct a random audit of no less than 20% of all tenant improvements submitted for self-certification every week. Those audits must be initiated within five business days after the permit is issued and must review the submitted plans for compliance with applicable laws. If an audit reveals material noncompliance, the local building department or local permitting department must provide a plan check correction notice within 10 business days of the audit's initiation.

8) Allows a city or county to adopt:

   a) By ordinance, additional qualifications or requirements for a qualified professional certifier, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

      i) A requirement to register with the city or county prior to certifying plans under the program;

      ii) Training requirements that must be completed prior to certifying plans under the program;

      iii) Payment of fees not to exceed the reasonable cost of implementing the program; and

      iv) Penalties that may include decertification as a qualified professional certifier in that jurisdiction or reasonable administrative fines for either willful noncompliance or two or more instances in which the qualified professional certifier attested to certifying noncompliant plans.

   b) Requirements that do either of the following, provided that the requirements do not prohibit or effectively prohibit the use of a qualified professional certifier:

      i) Limit the size of an eligible structure to no less than 10,000 square feet; and

      ii) Specify the types of businesses or occupancies that are eligible.

9) Provides that a qualified professional certifier is liable for any damages arising from negligent plan review, requires that the applicant indemnify the local agency from any injury arising from construction, and provides that a public entity or public employee is not liable for an injury caused by their actions

related to a permit issued under the program. It also establishes making a false statement in a certification as grounds for disciplinary action by specified state licensing bodies against a qualified professional certifier.

10) Provides that the bill does not authorize the displacement of public employees.

11) Requires the use of a qualified professional certifier shall be strictly temporary in nature, and prohibits local agencies from reducing, eliminating, or failing to fill budgeted civil service positions within the building department as a result of the use of a qualified professional certifier.

12) Includes findings and declarations to support its purposes.

Background

Administrative permit approvals. A builder may need a range of administrative permits from the local agency in order to actually complete the work to construct or modify a building. These permits can include building permits and other permits for: demolition; grading; excavation; electrical, plumbing, or mechanical work; encroachment in the public right-of-way; roofing; water and sewer connections or septic systems; fire sprinklers; and home occupations.

City and county building departments enforce the provisions of State Housing Law, the California Building Standards Code, and local zoning codes that specify the allowable forms and uses of buildings within a city or county's jurisdiction. Within building departments, the positions responsible for evaluating building permits for compliance include building officials, inspectors, plan checkers, and civil engineers. State law also allows local agencies to hire private entities on a temporary basis to perform plan checking services. Some agencies contract out a portion of their workload during especially busy times, or certain portions of the building permit review process, such as reviewing compliance with energy efficiency requirements. Other local agencies contract out nearly all plan checking functions to a private firm.

Retailers. According to some estimates, California is home to over 500,000 retailers across approximately 1.1 billion square feet of space. In general, a retailer is any person or business that sells tangible personal property in the course of business for purposes other than resale. Retailer is a very broad category encompassing many types of businesses, such as general retail, food, beverage, and dining, vehicle and fuel-related businesses, specialized or regulated goods retailers, and service-based retailers.

Tenant improvements. While specific definitions vary across local governments, tenant improvements generally include commercial additions, or remodels of the interior of an existing building or structure. This can range from minor changes to interiors to complete changes in use from one type of business to another. Tenant improvements generally require building permits and often other health and safety reviews to ensure that the spaces that the public occupies are safe. Tenant improvements can revitalize commercial areas by allowing new businesses in, help existing local businesses stabilize and grow their physical footprint, or modernizing to make spaces more attractive.

Retailers report that plan reviews for tenant improvements can take months. Data provided by the California Retailers Association shows that one member sees significant variation in permit approval times for tenant improvements, ranging from as long as seven months to as short as one week. On average, a permit for this retailer took on average eight weeks to be approved in 2025. The California Retailers Association wants the Legislature to require local governments to allow self-certification of tenant improvements for retailers.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "Brick-and-mortar retailers are essential to vibrant neighborhoods and local economic recovery, but too often businesses—especially small and family-owned ones—face months-long permitting delays just to make interior improvements to existing buildings. Those delays hurt workers, communities, and commercial corridors still recovering from the pandemic, recent fires, and prolonged vacancies. AB 1693 offers a commonsense solution. For interior improvement projects, it allows licensed architects or engineers to certify that plans meet all building and safety codes, while requiring local governments to act on complete applications within clear, predictable timelines—with full oversight intact. At a time when retailers are competing with online shopping and navigating real economic challenges, we owe them a permitting process that is fair, efficient, and predictable."

Help me help you. Cities and counties compete to attract land uses that generate local revenues and shun land uses that need expensive public services. This "fiscalization of land use" has been documented since at least the mid-1980s. According to a 2025 paper, "Studies on the fiscalization of land use have highlighted the desirability of retail uses— particularly shopping centers, car dealerships, and big-box retail—because, in addition to generating property tax revenue, retail generates sales and payroll taxes and has lower service demands compared to residential development." As a result, cities and counties may

deprioritize approval of housing and favor commercial development. AB 1693 proposes to accelerate tenant improvements by truncating local review of permits by deeming a permit approved if the local agency doesn't move quickly enough. This approach implies that absent a disincentive, local governments may let tenant improvement permits languish. However, it is unclear whether willful obstinance on the part of local governments leads to delay for these projects, given their fiscal incentives. Instead, local building departments are often underfunded and short-staffed. An alternative approach to assist local agencies in expediting permitting for tenant improvements would be to enhance local government revenues to ensure that they can retain enough competent staff.

Too soon? Cities and counties have only been required to allow self-certification of restaurant tenant improvements under AB 671 since January 1, 2026. AB 1693 applies essentially identical requirements and procedures to tenant improvements for a wide variety of businesses after just over six months. Without a longer track record of restaurant tenant improvements under AB 671, the Legislature may not have sufficient information to evaluate whether the program is working and what pitfalls may emerge. Is AB 1693 premature?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Retailers Association (source)
California Chamber of Commerce
California Downtown Association
Construction Employers' Association
Greater Conejo Valley Chamber of Commerce
South Pasadena Residents for Responsible Growth
United Chamber Advocacy Network Ucan
Westside Council of Chambers of Commerce (WC3)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Building Officials
City of Camarillo

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/14/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, 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: Alvarez, Arambula, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 14:57:36

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1696
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-1, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Emergency services and care: nurse-midwives

SOURCE: California Nurse-Midwives Association

DIGEST: This bill prohibits provisions of law requiring hospitals to stabilize patients with an emergency medical condition, or when they are in active labor, without regard to ability to pay, from requiring supervision of a certified nurse-midwife in the labor and delivery unit, obstetric triage, or dedicated emergency obstetric evaluation unit, when the nurse-midwife is practicing within their scope of practice.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Licenses and regulates hospitals, including a general acute care hospital, by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Permits general acute care hospitals, in addition to the basic services all hospitals are required to offer, to be approved by CDPH to offer special services, including, among other services, an emergency department (ED). [Health and Safety Code (HSC)§1250 and §1255, et seq.]

2) Requires EDs, under the federal Emergency Medical Treatment and Active Labor Act (EMTALA) and also under similar provisions of state law (state EMTALA), to provide emergency screening and stabilization services without regard to the patient's insurance status or ability to pay. Both federal and state EMTALA impose this requirement on any hospital that operates an ED. [42 USC §1395dd and HSC §1317]

3) Defines "emergency services and care," under state EMTALA, as medical screening, examination, and evaluation by a physician, or, to the extent permitted by applicable law, by other appropriate persons under the supervision of a physician, to determine if an emergency medical condition or active labor exists and, if it does, the care, treatment, and surgery, if within the scope of that person's license, necessary to relieve or eliminate the emergency medical condition, within the capability of the facility. [HSC §1317.1(a)(1)]

4) Defines "active labor," for purposes of state EMTALA, as labor at a time which either of the following would occur: (1) there is inadequate time to effect safe transfer to another hospital prior to delivery; or, (2) a transfer may pose a threat to the health and safety of the patient or the fetus. [HSC §1317.1(c)]

5) Prohibits a person needing emergency services and care from being transferred from a hospital to another hospital for any nonmedical reason (such as the person's inability to pay for any emergency service or care) unless certain conditions are met, including that the person is examined and evaluated by a physician, including, if necessary, consultation prior to transfer, and also has been provided with emergency services so that it can be determined, within reasonable medical probability, that the transfer will not create a medical hazard to the person. [HSC §1317.2]

6) Defines "consultation," for purposes of state EMTALA, as the rendering of an opinion or advice, prescribing treatment, or the rendering of a decision regarding hospitalization or transfer by telephone or other means of communication. Specifies "consultation" includes review of the patient's medical record, examination, and treatment of the patient in person by a consulting physician, or by other appropriate licensed persons acting within their scope of license under the supervision of a consulting physician, who is qualified to give an opinion or render the necessary treatment. [HSC §1317.1(i)]

7) Specifies, for purposes of state EMTALA, that a patient is "stabilized" when, in the opinion of the treating physician, or other appropriate licensed persons acting within their scope of licensure under the supervision of a treating physician, the patient's medical condition is such that, within reasonable

medical probability, no material deterioration of the patient's condition is likely to result from, or occur during, the release or transfer of the patient. [HSC §1317.1(j)]

8) Licenses and regulates nurses, including certified nurse-midwives (CNMs) through the Board of Registered Nursing. States that the certificate to practice nurse-midwifery authorizes the holder to attend cases of low-risk pregnancy and childbirth, and to provide prenatal care, intrapartum care, and postpartum care, as specified. [Business and Professions Code [BPC] §2700 et seq. and §2746.5]

9) Defines "low-risk pregnancy," for purposes of the scope of practice of CNMs, as a pregnancy in which all of the following conditions are met:

   a) There is a single fetus;

   b) There is cephalic presentation at the onset of labor;

   c) The gestational age of the fetus is between 37 and 42 weeks at the time of delivery;

   d) Labor is spontaneous or induced; and,

   e) The patient has no preexisting disease or condition, arising out of the pregnancy or otherwise, that adversely affects the pregnancy and that the CNM is not qualified to independently address. [BPC §2746.5]

This bill prohibits state EMTALA from requiring physician supervision of a CNM in the labor and delivery unit, obstetric triage, or dedicated emergency obstetric evaluation unit, when the CNM is providing care to the extent authorized by their scope of practice, or when the CNM is specifically requested by the treating physician to provide obstetric consultation, notwithstanding provisions of state EMTALA that permit other appropriate licensed persons, acting within their scope of license under the supervision of a physician, to examine and evaluate, provide consultation, or determine whether a patient is stabilized.

Comments

According to the author:

> California is facing a worsening shortage of obstetric providers; labor and delivery units are closing around the state. Mandatory physician supervision decreases access to care by superficially limiting the ability of nurse-

midwives to act at the top of their license and increases costs by requiring redundancy in care delivery. Further, per the Legislative Analyst's Office Analysis of California's Physician-Supervision Requirement for Certified Nurse-Midwives, physician supervision is "unlikely to improve patient safety and quality." The California state Legislature responded in 2020 via SB 1237 (Dodd) by eliminating physician supervision of nurse-midwives, with clear statutory delineation of when physician involvement is required. However, the Health and Safety Code still requires that nurse-midwives have physician supervision for patients who come to the hospital and require the EMTALA-mandated medical screening and evaluation. This means that a nurse-midwife can evaluate and treat the same patient for the same issue without physician supervision if they are in the clinic or admitted to the hospital, but is required to have physician supervision if the care episode falls under EMTALA. This causes confusion for patients, for nurse-midwives, and for hospital staff. This bill is needed to eliminate confusion about when a patient is appropriate for nurse-midwife care or when the nurse-midwife requires physician supervision.

Background

EMTALA. EMTALA was passed to address the problem of hospitals refusing to treat indigent, uninsured, or Medicaid patients, or "dumping" these patients by transferring them to county hospitals or other charity hospitals. Federal EMTALA obligates Medicare-participating hospitals that offer emergency services to provide a medical screening and treatment for an emergency medical condition, including active labor, regardless of an individual's ability to pay. State EMTALA imposes its obligation on any hospital that operates an ED, and has similar requirements to federal EMTALA. Hospitals are required to provide stabilizing treatment for patients with an emergency medical condition. A patient is "stabilized" when their medical condition is such that, within reasonable medical probability, no material deterioration of the patient's condition is likely to result from their release or transfer. If a hospital is unable to stabilize a patient within its capability, the patient is required to be transferred to an appropriate facility with the necessary specialized treatment services. Once a patient is stabilized, if they need post-stabilization care, the hospital will typically seek more information about the medical history of the patient, including whether they have insurance.

EMTALA definition of emergency department includes labor and delivery units. As described above, both state and federal EMTALA apply to hospitals with an ED. In implementing regulations, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) define "dedicated emergency department" as any department or facility of

the hospital that either: (1) is licensed by the state as an ED; (2) held out to the public as providing treatment for emergency medical conditions; or (3) one-third of visits to the department in the preceding calendar year actually provided treatment for emergency medical conditions on an urgent basis. In explaining this definition, CMS stated that the third prong of this definition includes individuals who may present as unscheduled ambulatory patients to units, including labor and delivery units or hospital urgent care centers, where patients are routinely evaluated and treated for emergency medical conditions. In other words, because pregnant patients regularly go into labor and come to the labor and delivery unit of a hospital on an unscheduled basis, this makes the labor and delivery unit an "emergency department" under EMTALA.

The author and sponsor point out that because EMTALA covers labor and delivery units where CNMs work, CNMs should be able to provide the necessary EMTALA-required medical screening, consultation, or determination of whether the patient is stable enough for discharge or transfer without supervision, as long as it is within their scope of practice (low-risk pregnancies).

Background on CNMs. CNMs are advanced practice registered nurses who have specialized education and training to provide primary care, prenatal, intrapartum, and postpartum care. These individuals are licensed by the California Board of Registered Nurses (BRN), have acquired additional training in the field of obstetrics, and are certified by the American College of Nurse Midwives. In order to obtain a certificate to practice as a CNM, the applicant must provide proof to the BRN that they have either graduated from a BRN approved program in nurse-midwifery or satisfied equivalent standards as set forth in the BRN's regulations. The nurse-midwifery certificate authorizes the CNM to attend cases of *low-risk* pregnancy and childbirth, as well as immediate care for the newborn, along with family planning and interconception care.

Prior to 2020, CNMs were required to practice under the supervision of a physician under standardized procedures and protocols. Standardized procedures were developed collaboratively by nurses, physicians, and the administration of the organized health care system. While supervision by a physician was required for CNMs to provide patient care, that supervision did not require the physical presence of a physician, and physicians were limited to supervising no more than four CNMs at a time.

SB 1237 (Dodd, Chapter 88, Statutes of 2020) revised the current practice authorization for CNMs. SB 1237 eliminated the requirement for a CNM to practice midwifery according to standardized procedures or protocols with a

physician. By doing this, SB 1237 did not change the scope of work that a CNM could perform, but permitted a CNM to perform their work without physician supervision.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 667 (Dodd, Chapter 497, Statutes of 2023) clarifies a CNM's authority to treat and provide care for common gynecologic conditions; permits a CNM to admit or discharge a patient if a CNM has privileges at a general acute care hospital; clarified that a CNM is a practitioner for purposes of certifying a disability; and, includes CNMs as a laboratory director for purposes of performing specified laboratory tests, among other technical changes.

SB 1237 (Dodd, Chapter 88, Statutes of 2020) removes the requirement for a CNM to practice midwifery according to standardized procedures or protocols with a physician; revised the provisions defining the practice of midwifery; authorizes a CNM to attend cases out of a hospital setting; authorizes a CNM to furnish or order drugs or devices in accordance with standardize protocols with a physician; requires a CNM to provide specified disclosures to a patient; and, establishes new reporting a data collection requirements.

SB 233 (Pavley, Chapter 333, Statutes of 2011) clarifies the state EMTALA law to explicitly permit appropriate licensed personnel to perform consultations and treatment in an emergency department if within their existing scope of practice.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Nurse-Midwives Association (source)
Access Reproductive Justice
American Nurses Association/California
Aria Medical
Board of Registered Nursing
California Association for Nurse Practitioners
California Association of Nurse Anesthesiology
California Clinical Nurse Specialist Association
California Latinas for Reproductive Justice
California Women's Law Center
Gender Equity Policy Institute
March of Dimes
National Health Law Program

Nurses for Sexual & Reproductive Health
Reproductive Freedom for All California
Western Center on Law & Poverty, Inc.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

This bill is sponsored by the California Nurse-Midwives Association, which states that "most CNMs provide direct patient care in hospital settings on labor and delivery units, evaluating and treating patients who present with a variety of pregnancy and postpartum health concerns. The triage area of a labor and delivery unit serves as an ED for pregnant and postpartum individuals. Individuals present to triage when they are experiencing contractions and want to know if they are in labor. They might also present with other urgent issues not appropriate for assessment in the clinic, such as severe headaches, nausea and vomiting, abdominal pain, or infection related to breastfeeding. When CNMs provide care in labor and delivery triage, this care falls under the category of "emergency services and care," regulated by the state EMTALA provisions of state law. These sections are California's core patient-protection laws for emergency care, and ensure people who need emergency services and care are not refused treatment or improperly transferred because of their ability to pay, insurance status, or other nonmedical reasons. Currently, this code section requires that non-physicians must act under physician supervision when providing emergency services and care, including consultation and stabilization. However, the state removed this requirement of physician supervision for CNMs in 2020, and this bill would update the law to reflect CNMs current practice authority."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-1, 5/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, 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: Sanchez
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Dixon, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Vincent D. Marchand / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 14:57:37

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1697
Author: Kalra (D)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 27 - Urgency

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

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-5, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Employment contracts: stay-or-pay provisions: contract date

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill delays for one year, until January 1, 2027, the effective date of AB 692 (Kalra, Chapter 703, Statutes of 2025) which prohibits an employment contract from including any provisions that require a worker to assume a debt if their employment concludes before the end of the contract's term, as specified, and includes an urgency clause.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) For contracts entered into *on or after January 1, 2026*, makes it unlawful to include in any employment contract, or to require a worker to execute as a condition of employment or a work relationship, a contract term that does any of the following:

a) Requires the worker to pay an employer, training provider, or debt collector for a debt if the worker's employment or work relationship with a specific employer terminates.
b) Authorizes the employer, training provider, or debt collector to resume or initiate collection of or end forbearance on a debt if the worker's employment or work relationship with a specific employer terminates.
c) Imposes any penalty, fee, or cost on a worker if the worker's employment or work relationship with a specific employer terminates.
(Business and Professions Code §16608(b)(1))

2) Exempts certain types of contracts from the above prohibition, including:

a) A contract entered into under any loan repayment assistance program or loan forgiveness program provided by a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
b) A contract related to the repayment of the cost of tuition for a transferable credential, provided that specified conditions are met.
c) A contract related to enrollment in an apprenticeship program approved by the Division of Apprenticeship Standards.
d) A contract for the receipt of a discretionary or unearned monetary payment, including a financial bonus, at the outset of employment that is not tied to specific job performance, provided that all of the following conditions are met:
   i) The terms of any repayment obligation are set forth in a separate agreement from the primary employment contract.
   ii) The employee is notified that they have the right to consult an attorney regarding the agreement and provided with a reasonable time period of not less than five business days to obtain advice of counsel prior to executing the agreement.
   iii) Any repayment obligation for early separation from employment is not subject to interest accrual and is prorated based on the remaining term of any retention period, which shall not exceed two years from the receipt of payment.
   iv) The worker has an option to defer receipt of the payment to the end of a fully served retention period without any repayment obligation.
   v) Separation from employment prior to the retention period was at the sole election of the employee, or at the election of the employer for misconduct.
e) A contract related to the lease, financing, or purchase of residential property, as specified. (Business and Professions Code §16608(b)(2))

3) Provides that a contract that is unlawful under the above prohibition is void and contrary to public policy as a restraint of engaging in a lawful profession, trade, or business. (Business and Professions Code §16608(c) & Labor Code §926(a))

4) Authorizes a worker, or a worker representative acting on behalf of a worker(s), to bring a civil action for specified civil penalties and relief for a violation of these provisions. Any person found liable for a violation shall be liable for actual damages sustained by the worker or workers on whose behalf the case is brought, or five thousand dollars ($5,000) per worker, whichever is greater, in addition to injunctive relief, and reasonable attorney's fees and costs. (Labor Code § 926(b)(c))

This bill delays the effective date of the above provisions for one year so that the prohibitions apply to contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2027 and includes an urgency clause for the delay.

Background

"Stay or Pay" Provisions & Training Repayment Agreement Provisions (TRAPs): Employer-driven debt, also known as "stay or pay" provisions, refers to debt obligations incurred by individuals through employment arrangements that include employer provided training, equipment, or supplies, in exchange for worker commitments to work with the employer for a specified amount of time. Contract provisions specific to training are also known as Training Repayment Agreement Provisions or "TRAPs." These arrangements require the worker to reimburse the employer for such expenses if the worker leaves the job before the specified date, even if the worker is fired or laid off.

AB 692 (Kalra, Chapter 703, Statutes of 2025). In response to the abusive use of these provisions, the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed AB 692 (Kalra) last year to prohibit, with some exceptions, an employment contract from requiring a worker to pay certain penalties, fees, costs, or debts related to employment or education if the worker's employment or work relationship terminates. In his signing message for the bill, Governor Newsom stated the following:

"I commend the author for advocating on behalf of workers who are trapped in employment contracts that impose significant financial repercussions for leaving their jobs. California has long been a national leader in adopting policies that promote competition for top talent. This includes the state's longstanding

prohibition on noncompete clauses, a policy that has helped attract top talent. So called “debt traps” in employment contracts appear to be a modern variation of noncompete agreements, keeping employees in their positions longer than necessary, stifling innovation, and preventing workers from reaching their full potential.

However, there is still more work to be done. I encourage the Legislature to enact follow-up legislation in 2026 to accommodate the collective bargaining process. Allowing these issues to be resolved through the collective bargaining process is appropriate because those agreements are tailored to the unique needs of workers and their employers.”

The provisions of AB 692 took effect January 1, 2026. This bill (AB 1697) would delay the effective date of the above provisions for one year so that the prohibitions apply to contracts entered into on or after January 1, 2027 and includes an urgency clause. Violations that occurred between January 1, 2026 and the date the bill is signed would continue to be violations if engaged in during that period. However, from the date of the bill being signed and January 1, 2027 none of these prohibitions would be in place.

[NOTE: Please see the Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee analysis on this bill for more background information and information on more prior and related legislation.]

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

National Football League

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The National Football League is in support of the measure and write:

“AB 692, signed into law in 2025, addresses “stay-or-pay” provisions in employment contracts and makes unlawful certain agreements that require workers to assume debt upon separation from employment. We appreciate the Legislature’s intent to protect workers from exploitative practices and support policies that promote fair competition and worker mobility. However, as the Governor

acknowledged in his signing message, there is "more work to be done" to accommodate the collective bargaining process, and he encouraged follow-up legislation in 2026 to allow these issues to be resolved through collective bargaining. Professional sports operate under comprehensive Collective Bargaining Agreements (CBAs) negotiated in good faith between leagues and players' associations. Certain provisions implicated by AB 692 may be interpreted to intersect with these collectively bargained agreements in ways that were not intended by the author.

AB 1697 is an urgency measure that simply provides an implementation delay until January 1, 2027, allowing the Legislature, professional sports, and the Administration time to address these unintended impacts."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 61-5, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Hadwick, Hoover, Macedo, Sanchez
NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Johnson, Lackey, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa

Prepared by: Alma Perez-Schwab / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
8/5/26 14:57:38

****** 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 schedule 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 1713
Author: Ransom (D)
Amended: 7/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public postsecondary education: students with disabilities: verification: academic accommodations

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill (1) requires the California Community Colleges (CCCs) and the California State University (CSU), and requests the University of California (UC), to accept a student's individualized education program (IEP), Individual Program Plan (IPP), or Section 504 plan as verification of disability for purposes of requesting academic accommodations; (2) prohibits public postsecondary institutions from requiring students to obtain new or additional diagnostic evaluations solely to verify a disability, while authorizing institutions to request supplemental information necessary to evaluate accommodation requests and determine appropriate reasonable accommodations; and (3) clarifies that an IEP, IPP, or Section 504 plan serves only to verify the existence of a disability and does not require a public postsecondary institution to provide the accommodations, modifications, or services identified in those documents.

Senate Floor amendments of 7/1/26 (1) expand this bill to recognize an Individual Program Plan (IPP) developed by a regional center as documentation that may be used to verify a student's disability; (2) clarify that public postsecondary institutions may request supplemental information reasonably necessary to

evaluate a student's request for accommodations and assess the student's functional limitations for purposes of determining appropriate reasonable accommodations, while prohibiting institutions from using that information to dispute or invalidate the underlying disability determination; and (3) specify that an IEP, IPP, or Section 504 plan serves only to verify the existence of a disability and does not require a public postsecondary institution to provide the specific accommodations, modifications, or services identified in those documents.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability under Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and requires entities receiving federal financial assistance, including public postsecondary institutions, to provide equal access to educational opportunities for individuals with disabilities.

2) Prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities under the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA).

3) Prohibits postsecondary educational institutions that receive state financial assistance from discriminating on the basis of disability or other protected characteristics.

4) Defines "disability" for purposes of the Equity in Higher Education Act to mean a mental or physical disability.

5) Expresses legislative intent to provide funding for Disabled Student Programs and Services (DSPS) at the CCCs, including funding for disability-related counseling, mobility assistance, interpreter services, testing accommodations, specialized tutoring, and other supports for students with disabilities.

6) Requires, beginning in fall 2026, the CSU to establish, and requests the UC and independent institutions to establish, a Disability Access and Compliance Training Program to ensure campus personnel understand their legal responsibilities related to accommodations for students with disabilities.

7) Provides that provisions of the Donahoe Higher Education Act do not apply to the UC unless adopted by the Regents.

This bill:

1) Defines the following terms for purposes of this bill:

a) "504 plan" to mean a plan adopted pursuant to Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1974.

b) "IEP" to mean an individualized education program adopted pursuant to state and federal special education law.

c) "IPP" to mean an individual program plan developed pursuant to Article 2 (commencing with Section 4640) of Chapter 5 of Division 4.5 of the Welfare and Institutions Code.

d) "Local educational agency" to mean a school district, county office of education, or charter school.

e) "Public higher education institution" to mean a campus of the CCCs, the CSU, or the UC.

2) Requires, beginning September 1, 2027, a public higher education institution that requires documentation to verify a student's disability for purposes of academic accommodations to accept an IEP, IPP, a Section 504 plan, or any combination thereof, issued by a local educational agency (LEA) or regional center, as verification of the student's disability.

3) Prohibits, beginning September 1, 2027, a public higher education institution from requiring a student to obtain a new or additional diagnostic evaluation to verify a disability if the student has provided an IEP or Section 504 plan documenting the disability.

4) Authorizes a public higher education institution to request supplemental information reasonably necessary to evaluate a student's request for academic accommodations, assess the functional limitations associated with the student's disability, and determine appropriate reasonable accommodations.

5) Prohibits a public higher education institution from using supplemental information to invalidate or dispute a student's disability as documented in the student's IEP or Section 504 plan.

6) Specifies that an IEP, IPP, or Section 504 plan accepted pursuant to this bill serves only to verify the existence of a student's disability and does not require a public higher education institution to provide the accommodations, modifications, or services identified in those documents.

7) Requires implementation of this bill to be consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 and Section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973.

8) Specifies that this bill does not apply to a public higher education institution's implementation of Title IX of the federal Education Amendments of 1972.

9) Applies this bill's provisions to the UC, contingent upon action by the Regents.

Comments

Need for this bill. According to the author, "AB 1713 is focused on providing students with disabilities recognition of their unique needs to ensure they are able to participate in California's world-renowned higher education system without difficulty or discrimination. AB 1713 will require institutions of higher education to accept a student's diagnosis from their IEP or Section 504 Plan from their previous educational institution, fast-tracking their access to the accommodations they need and allowing them to spend more time in the classroom and less time in the doctor's office."

Standardizing the disability verification practices across California's public higher education systems. This bill addresses the documentation process students with disabilities encounter when seeking accommodations in higher education. Under current practice, postsecondary institutions may establish their own standards regarding what documentation is necessary to verify a disability and determine eligibility for accommodations. As a result, documentation standards and verification practices may vary across campuses and higher education segments.

This bill establishes a statewide standard requiring public postsecondary institutions to accept an IEP, IPP, or Section 504 plan as sufficient documentation that a disability exists, while still preserving institutional discretion to determine appropriate accommodations in the higher education environment.

K-12 and higher education disability systems serve different legal and operational purposes. The provisions of this bill operate between two distinct disability accommodation systems. In the K-12 system, schools are responsible for identifying students with disabilities, evaluating eligibility, and proactively developing plans and services intended to support student success. By contrast, higher education institutions generally operate under an access-based framework in which students self-identify, request accommodations, and participate in an interactive process to determine reasonable accommodations.

As a result, while IEPs, IPPs, and Section 504 plans may establish the existence of a disability, the accommodations provided in K-12 settings do not necessarily translate directly into the postsecondary environment. This bill appears to acknowledge that distinction by requiring institutions to accept these documents for disability verification purposes, while still permitting institutions to request supplemental information necessary to determine reasonable accommodations at the college level.

Could reduce duplicative evaluation costs and administrative burdens for some students. Students with disabilities transitioning from the K-12 system into higher education may encounter differing institutional documentation requirements when seeking accommodations. In some cases, students who previously received services pursuant to an IEP or Section 504 plan may nonetheless be asked to obtain updated medical or psychoeducational evaluations to verify a disability in the postsecondary setting.

This bill establishes greater consistency across California's public higher education systems by requiring institutions to recognize existing K-12 disability documentation as sufficient verification of a disability. To the extent students would otherwise be required to obtain additional evaluations solely for verification purposes, this bill could reduce both administrative burdens and out-of-pocket costs associated with securing accommodations.

At the same time, this bill preserves institutional authority to request supplemental information necessary to determine reasonable accommodations in the postsecondary environment, recognizing that accommodations appropriate in K-12 settings may not always translate directly to higher education coursework, instructional models, or campus environments.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/8/26)

California Association for Postsecondary Education and Disabilities
California Community Colleges, Chancellor's Office
Southwestern Community College District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/8/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
7/30/26 14:49:19

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1722
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
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: 64-0, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Endangered Species Act: take prohibition: self-defense

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits the imposition of a civil, administrative, or criminal penalty for a violation of the take prohibition for listed and candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act if the defendant used necessary and reasonable force to protect themselves, a member of their family, or any other individual from immediate bodily harm, as provided, among other provisions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes that no civil penalty shall be imposed for violation of Endangered Species Act (ESA) if it can be shown by a preponderance of the evidence that the defendant committed an act based on a good faith belief that he was acting to protect himself or herself, a member of his or her family, or any other

individual from bodily harm, from any species listed as endangered or threatened under ESA.. (16 U.S.C. §1540 (a)(3)

2) Establishes that it shall be a defense to prosecution under ESA if the defendant committed the offense based on a good faith belief that he was acting to protect himself or herself, a member of his or her family, or any other individual, from bodily harm from any species listed as endangered or threatened under the federal ESA. (16 U.S.C. §1540 (b)(3))

Existing state law:

1) Prohibits a person from taking, or attempting to take, any species the commission determines to be an endangered or threatened species or candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). (Fish and Game Code (FGC) §§2080, 2085)

2) Establishes that the punishment for any violation of take prohibited under CESA is punishable by a fine of $25,000–$50,0000 for each violation or imprisonment in county jail for not more than one year, or both a fine and imprisonment. (FGC §12008.1)
   a) Permits a judge, before whom a person is being tried for the taking of an endangered or threatened species, among other animals, with the court's discretion and upon conviction of that person, to order the forfeiture of any proceeds resulting from the take of the animal. (FGC §12159.5)
   b) Requires a judge to order the forfeiture of any device or apparatus that is used in committing the offense. (FGC §12157 (b))

3) Defines "take" to mean to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill. (FGC §86)

4) Establishes that an individual is not guilty of a violation of the prohibited take or injury of a mountain lion if it is demonstrated that, in taking or injuring the mountain lion, the individual was acting in self-defense or in defense of others. (FGC §4800)

5) Exempts from the prohibition to hunt, trap, or otherwise take a bobcat, situations where the take of the bobcat was based on a good faith belief that the take was necessary to protect a person from immediate bodily harm from the bobcat, as specified. (FGC §4156)

6) Makes it unlawful to take a bird, mammal, reptile, or amphibian except as provided in the FGC or regulations adopted pursuant to the FGC. (FGC §2000)

7) Provides that a person who maliciously and intentionally maims, mutilates, tortures, or wounds a living animal, or maliciously and intentionally kills an animal, is guilty of a crime punishable, with certain exceptions including Penal Code 599c, as provided. (Penal Code §597(a))

8) Provides that no part of the Penal Code shall be construed as interfering with any of the laws of this state known as the "game laws," or any laws for or against the destruction of certain birds, nor must this title be construed as interfering with the right to destroy any venomous reptile, or any animal known as dangerous to life, limb, or property, or to interfere with the right to kill all animals used for food, or with properly conducted scientific experiments or investigations performed under the authority of the faculty of a regularly incorporated medical college or university of this state. (Penal Code §599c)

This bill:

1) Prohibits the imposition of a civil or administrative penalty for a violation of the prohibition on take of a listed or candidate species under CESA if it can be shown by a preponderance of evidence that the defendant used necessary and reasonable force to protect themselves, a member of their family, or any other individual from immediate bodily harm from the species, as provided.

2) Provides that it is a defense to prosecution on take of a listed or candidate species under CESA if the defendant used necessary and reasonable force to protect themselves, a member of their family, or any other individual from immediate bodily harm from the species.

3) Requires a person who committed a take or attempted to take an animal that is a listed or candidate species under CESA pursuant to 1) or 2) to report it to the department within 24 hours. On or before July 1, 2032, requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to prepare a report on the take of species pursuant to this provision, as specified.

4) Makes a legislative finding and declaration that the federal ESA establishes a defense against civil penalties and prosecution for the take of a federally-listed species based upon a good faith belief that they were acting to protect themselves or others, as provided.

5) States legislative intent to establish a similar defense to that available under the federal ESA against the imposition of civil and criminal penalties for the take of an animal listed under CESA when it is necessary due to the threat posed by the animal to a human, as provided.

6) Provides that no reimbursement is required for state-mandated costs incurred by a local agency or school district, as provided.

[Note: Additional information regarding this bill may be found in the Senate Natural Resources and Water and Senate Judiciary Committees' bill analyses.]

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association
California Deer Association
California Houndsmen for Conservation
California Rifle & Pistol Association
County of Shasta
County of Siskiyou
HOWL for Wildlife
Rural County Representatives of California
Sacramento Safari Club
Safari Club International – Golden Gate Chapter
Safari Club International – San Francisco Bay Area Chapter
San Diego County Wildlife Federation
The Black Brant Group
The Wild Sheep Foundation – California Chapter
Tulare Basin Wetlands Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

Angel's Furry Friends Rescue
Animal Cruelty Club, Hueneme High School
Animal Rescue Mission
Animal Rescuers for Change
Animal Wellness Action
Beezy's Rescue
Berkeley Animal Rights Center
better Together Forever
Born Again Animal Rescue and Adoption
Compassionate Bay
Concerned Citizens Animal Rescue, Inc.
Direct Action Everywhere
EartHeart
Feline Lucky Adventures

Giantmecha Syndicate
Greater Los Angeles Animal Spay Neuter Collaborative
Hugs and Kisses Animal Fund
Jamie Brianna's Legacy Fund
Latino Alliance for Animal Care Foundation
Lockwood Animal Rescue Center
Long Beach Spay & Neuter Foundation
Los Angeles Democrats for the Protection of Animals
NY4Whales
Pet Loss Support Group
Pibbles n Kibbles Animal Rescue
Plant-Based Advocates
Project Minnie
RABBIT SAVIOR
Real Good Rescue
Seeds 4 Change
Senior Citizens for Humane Education and Legislation
Social Compassion in Legislation
START Rescue
The Canine Condition
The Spayce Project
Underdog Heroes, Inc.
Women United for Animal Welfare

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "Rural residents in California are subjected to much higher rates of wildlife conflict from larger predatory species that can reasonably threaten a person, requiring them to protect themselves. The California Endangered Species Act (CESA) prohibits the 'take' of a listed species, including actions such as hazing with rocks, sticks and pepper spray, without clear exceptions for situations involving immediate threats to human life. As a result, individuals who act to protect themselves or others from bodily harm may still face civil, administrative, or even criminal penalties. Assembly Bill 1722 establishes a clear, good-faith self-defense protection under CESA, aligning California law with the federal Endangered Species Act, which already recognizes this defense. In emergency situations when seconds count, law enforcement officials warn that the lack of clarity in current law creates significant public safety risks. This bill ensures ranchers, hunters, hikers, and people enjoying the outdoors have certainty they can protect themselves and their families if they encounter a dangerous predator."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Writing in opposition in a joint sign-on letter, Social Compassion in Legislation argues, "AB 1722 raises concerns regarding the precedent it sets for the treatment of wildlife in California. By creating a statutory defense that materially alters how the California Endangered Species Act (CESA) is enforced, AB 1722 opens the door to abuse by poachers."

"Under current law, the take of listed species is strictly prohibited unless authorized in advance through established, science-based processes overseen by the Department of Fish and Wildlife. AB 1722 shifts away from that structure by allowing individuals to assert that they used 'necessary and reasonable force' to prevent 'immediate bodily harm,' thereby avoiding both civil and criminal liability."

"In practice, once an animal is killed, it is often impossible to objectively determine whether lethal force was truly necessary, whether nonlethal alternatives were available, or whether the situation rose to the level of immediate harm required by the statute. This creates significant enforcement challenges."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 5/28/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patterson, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Berman, Boerner, Connolly, Elhawary, Gabriel, Jackson, Lee, Ortega, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Zbur

Prepared by: Katharine Moore / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
8/5/26 14:57:39

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1738
Author: Carrillo (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/17/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Ashby

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 7-2, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Padilla
NOES: Seyarto, Ochoa Bogh
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-0, 5/22/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: State Housing Law: remote inspections

SOURCE: Permit Power,
SPUR

DIGEST: This bill requires cities and counties to offer a homeowner or contractor the option of a remote virtual inspection for specified projects in single- or two-family dwelling units.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes State Housing Law (SHL) to ensure uniform statewide code enforcement to protect the health, safety, and general welfare of the public and occupants of housing and accessory buildings.

2) Establishes the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) within the Department of General Services. Requires CBSC to adopt building standards and codify those standards in the California Building Standards Code.

3) Authorizes any officer, employee, or agent of an enforcement agency to enter and inspect any building or premises whenever necessary to secure compliance with, or prevent violation of, SHL, the California Building Standards Code, and other rules and regulations.

4) Requires local building departments to complete inspections of permitted residential work for 1- to 10-unit residential projects that are no more than 40' tall within 10 business days of receiving notice of completion.

5) Allows the governing body of any county or city, including a charter city, to prescribe fees for permits, certificates, or other forms or documents required or authorized by SHL or rules and regulations adopted pursuant to SHL and prohibits these fees from exceeding the amount reasonably required to administer or process these permits, certificates, or other forms or documents, or to defray the costs of enforcement required by SHL to be carried out by local enforcement agencies, as specified.

6) Requires, if the local enforcement agency fails to conduct an inspection of permitted work for which permit fees have been charged pursuant to 5), above, within 60 days of receiving notice of the completion of the permitted work, the permittee to be entitled to reimbursement of the permit fees. The local enforcement agency shall disclose in clear language on each permit or on a document that accompanies the permit that the permittee may be entitled to reimbursement of permit fees.

This bill:

1) Requires a city or county to offer a homeowner or contractor the option of requesting a Remote Virtual Inspection (RVI) for inspections required by a building permit for any of the following projects in single- or two-family dwelling units:

    a) Residential heat pump water heaters, including the alteration, extension, or replacement of components of an existing electrical system to support the installation of a heat pump water heater.

i) As part of the electrical work appurtenant to the installation of the residential heat pump water heater, the local agency shall not be required to allow for RVIs of new or upgraded main electrical services as part of the included scope, but may at their discretion elect to remotely inspect new electrical service installations in support of residential heat pump water heater installations.

b) Subject to the discretion of the inspector, residential heat pump heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems (HVAC), including the alteration, extension, or replacement of components of an existing electrical system to support the installation of a heat pump HVAC system.

i) As part of the electrical work appurtenant to the installation of the residential heat pump HVAC system, the local agency shall not be required to allow for RVIs of new or upgraded main electrical services as part of the included scope, but may at their discretion elect to remotely inspect new electrical service installations in support of residential heat pump HVAC system installations.

c) Residential reroofs.

d) Photovoltaic systems with an alternating current nameplate rating less than or equal to 15 kilowatts and energy storage systems.

e) Smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.

2) Requires a remote inspection to be conducted offsite, with the homeowner or contractor using one of the following methods, at the discretion of the local construction inspector:

a) Videoconferencing.

b) Recorded photos and videos.

3) Requires that, if a local agency requires an RVI, the contractor must disclose to the homeowner that the inspection is required to be conducted remotely.

4) Exempts a city with a population of fewer than 5,000 people, or a county with a population of fewer than 150,00 people, and each city within those counties.

5) Requires a city or county with a population of greater than 50,000 to comply with the bill's requirements by January 1, 2028. Other cities and counties (except those that are exempt) have an additional six months to comply.

6) Requires a city or county to offer a remote inspection at no greater cost and with no greater delay than in-person inspection. It allows local agencies to adopt reasonable protocols governing the technical conduct of an RVI, including to ensure that:

   a) The inspector is able to adequately observe the work that is the subject of the RVI, as specified;

   b) The work shown in the RVI is the actual work performed under the building permit, at the permitted location, and the video or photo inspection begins at the street, clearly showing the property address at the front of the building or proof of location; and

   c) The technology and broadband connectivity used during the RVI are sufficient for the inspector to reliably observe and verify the work.

7) Allows, if a homeowner or contractor fails an RVI, a construction inspector to, at their discretion, conduct future inspections required by that building permit remotely or in person. The bill also provides that it does not limit, supersede, or otherwise abridge the authority of a construction inspector, after they have attempted to verify compliance with applicable codes and regulations, to terminate that remote inspection and require that the inspection be conducted in person.

8) Allows a city or county, if the homeowner or contractor is found to have willfully misrepresented the work that is the subject of an RVI, to temporarily ban the homeowner or contractor from using RVIs for up to 6 months for the first offense and 12 months for subsequent offenses.

9) Applies specified liability protection for cities and counties and their employees to RVIs and includes findings and declarations to support its purposes.

10) Allows a city or county to adopt or implement remote inspections in a manner more permissive, or allowing additional types of building permits to be inspected remotely, than provided in the bill.

Background

Building inspections. Once the building permits are issued and construction begins, the construction phase involves a separate layer of local government oversight through building inspections. These inspections ensure that the actual construction work complies with approved plans, building codes, and safety regulations. Local agency inspectors review critical aspects of construction such as structural components, electrical and plumbing systems, fire safety measures, energy efficiency, and accessibility requirements, at multiple stages of the project. Inspections occur throughout construction, from foundation and framing to final issuance of a certificate of occupancy, ensuring building safety and compliance with the approved set of plans at every step.

Remote Virtual Inspections (RVIs). During the COVID-19 pandemic, cities and counties explored alternative ways of performing inspection to preserve public health. Some jurisdictions adopted "Remote Virtual Inspections" (RVIs), which allow building inspectors to review permitted construction work without being physically present at the jobsite. Instead, the inspection is conducted using video, photographs, or similar technology while a contractor, property owner, or other representative is present at the site and follows the inspector's directions, or records media to be sent to the inspector.

Some jurisdictions have continued to offer RVIs following the pandemic, while others have returned primarily to in-person inspections. Approximately 19 out of the 540 cities and counties in California currently allow some use of RVIs for portions of their inspection workload.

Research by SPUR argues that the current system that generally requires in-person inspection increases costs for homeowners. SPUR notes that the total number of inspections of single family homes ranges from 110,000 to 200,000 a year in California. SPUR interviewed heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) contractors for the project, who reported waiting 2 to 6 hours for inspections that take 5 to 15 minutes. This wait time drives costs of $600 to $1,000 per inspection. SPUR argues that RVIs:

- Reduce travel costs and environmental impacts and free up time for building inspectors to focus on new construction;

- Accelerate the clean energy transition by reducing costs and delays when installing a heat pump water heater or HVAC, upgrading electrical panels, or installing solar panels;
- Reduce work backlogs, shorten permitting timelines, minimize disruptions at job sites, and lower renovation costs;
- Improve inspector safety; and
- Streamline disaster recovery by reducing permit delays, improving efficiency, and enabling faster rebuilding.

Clean energy advocates want the Legislature to require local agencies to adopt RVIs.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "Like many of you, I'm a homeowner, and have also experienced the frustration of waiting weeks for an inspection on a simple home renovation. Even once the inspection date is booked, a routine inspection that only takes 15 minutes can take hours, forcing homeowners to take a day off work and a day of lost pay. Even beyond the money lost from missing work, the cost of delaying these inspections can also cost hundreds if not thousands of dollars.

   "AB 1738 proposes an alternative to this, by giving homeowners the choice to request a remote virtual inspection for simple home renovations. These remote inspections are already happening throughout the state; 19 different jurisdictions already offer some form of remote inspections. This bill will require local jurisdictions to allow remote virtual inspections upon request for simple renovations. This is a simple, commonsense affordability measure that will help homeowners save time and money."

2) *Safety or convenience*. It is relatively clear that RVIs increase convenience for homeowners, contractors, and building officials when having permitted work inspected. Historically, however, the purpose of inspections has been to preserve public safety and hold contractors accountable to ensure that work performed on behalf of homeowners is done correctly. By removing the physical presence of a building inspector and limiting them to visual and audio means of inspecting, RVIs may not allow the same depth of investigation of the details of construction as an in-person inspection. For example, it may be more difficult for a building inspector to ensure that an electrical connection is tight absent physically touching it. This raises concerns that RVIs could result in

substandard work that may pose a safety hazard. AB 1738 lets homeowners and contractors, not building officials, determine when an RVI may be suitable for certain types of permits. A building official that identifies issues can request an in-person inspection, but the default remains remote. Supporters of the bill argue that there is no difference in safety between RVIs and in-person inspections, while building officials and local governments state that safety issues will go undiscovered. Is the convenience of RVIs worth the potential safety impacts?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Permit Power (co-source)
SPUR (co-source)
Alexander Walker-griffin, Councilmember, City of Hercules
Ben Bartlett, Councilmember, City of Berkeley
City of El Monte, Mayor Pro Tem, Viviana Longoria
City of Oakland, Mayor Barbara Lee
Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez, First District, City of Los Angeles
Councilmember Terry Taplin, Berkeley
Devin Murphy, Mayor Pro Tempore, City of Pinole
Eunisses Hernandez, Councilmember, City of Los Angeles
Igor Tregub, Vice Mayor, City of Berkeley
Janani Ramachandran, Councilmember, City of Oakland
Lindsey P. Horvath, County Supervisor, Los Angeles County
Rebecca Saltzman, Councilmember, City of El Cerrito
Salvador Melendez, Councilmember, City of Montebello
Terry Taplin, Councilmember, City of Berkeley
Tim Sandoval, Mayor, City of Pomona
Victor Preciado, Councilmember, City of Pomona
Zac Unger, City of Oakland Councilmember
350 Bay Area Action
350 Conejo / San Fernando Valley
350 Humboldt County
350 South Bay Los Angeles
350 Southland Legislative Alliance
Abundant Housing Los Angeles
Acterra: Action for a Healthy Planet
Activesgv
Advanced Energy United

All-electric California
Apartment Association of Orange County
California Apartment Association
California Center for Sustainable Energy
California Climate Action
California Environmental Voters
California Yimby
Casita Coalition
Central City Association of Los Angeles
City and County of San Francisco
City of Baldwin Park
City of Oakland
City of Pico Rivera
Clean Earth 4 Kids
Cleanearth4kids.org
Climate Action California
Climate Resolve
Community Action to Fight Asthma
East Bay Rental Housing Association
East Bay Yimby
Fresnans Against Fracking
Grow the Richmond
Habitat for Humanity California
Healing and Justice Center
Housing Action Coalition
Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator
Los Angeles Climate Reality Project
Megafire Action
Menlo Spark
Mountain View Yimby
Napa-solano for Everyone
Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC)
Northern Neighbors Sf
Palisades Recovery Coalition
Peninsula for Everyone
Physicians for Social Responsibility - San Francisco Bay
Redwood Energy
Regional Asthma Management & Prevention
Regional Asthma Management and Prevention (RAMP)
San Diego Building Electrification Coalition

San Francisco Bay Area Planning & Urban Research Association (SPUR)
San Francisco Bay Physicians for Social Responsibility
San Jose Yimby
San Mateo Forward
Santa Cruz Climate Action Network
Santa Cruz Yimby
Santa Rosa Yimby
Sf Yimby
South Bay Yimby
South Pasadena Residents for Responsible Growth
Sustainable Claremont
The Climate Center
The Two Hundred for Homeownership
U.s. Green Building Council
Vector Green Power, LLC
Ventura County Yimby
Yes! in Redwood City
Yimby Action
Yimby Los Angeles
Yimby Monterey Peninsula
Yimby Slo
Zillow Group

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Building Officials
City of Beverly Hills
City of Brentwood
City of La Verne
City of Thousand Oaks
League of California Cities

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-0, 5/22/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Gabriel, Gallagher, Irwin, Jackson, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Schiavo, Ta, Valencia

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 14:57:39

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1756
Author: Jeff Gonzalez (R)
Amended: 3/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Off-highway vehicle recreation: City of Needles

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset of an existing off-highway motor vehicle (OHV) "combined use" highway pilot project in the City of Needles by five years, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) to administer and manage the state park system, including state vehicular recreation areas, which provide OHV recreational opportunities.

2) Defines an OHV to be a motorcycle, snowmobile, sand/dune buggy, all-terrain vehicle, jeep, or other vehicles as specified.

3) Defines highway as "a way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. Highway includes street."

4) Establishes OHV rules and regulations of the "off-road" including those governing registration, license, speed, safety, age, unauthorized access, reckless driving, compliance with, for example, signage, environmental protection, and anti-littering requirements. Any operator of an OHV must be able to reach and operate all controls necessary to safely operate the OHV.

5) Authorizes a local entity, DPR or a federal agency to designate a highway or a portion of a highway of three miles or less for "combined use" by a registered OHV for purposes of connecting, for example, OHV trail segments or an OHV recreational area to a service or lodging facility if the highway can also safely accommodate regular vehicle traffic.

6) Prior to the designation of a "combined use" highway, requires a local entity, the Director of Parks and Recreational or a federal agency to first notify the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (CHP) and prohibits a designation in which CHP determines would constitute a potential safety hazard.

7) Authorizes the above entities to promulgate necessary rules and regulations and install appropriate signage, as approved by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans). A "combined use" designation is only effective upon installation of such signage.

8) Permits a registered OHV with an appropriate license plate to be operated on a local or state two-lane highway but only to cross the highway; an OHV may cross a highway with more than two lanes but only a place designated by Caltrans or a local authority.

9) Prohibits an OHV from being operated on a combined-use highway under the following circumstances:

    a) During the hours of darkness;

    b) On a highway that does not have an operational stoplight;

    c) Without rubber tires; and,

d) Without a valid driver's license of the appropriate class and insurance.

10) Until January 1, 2028, authorizes the City of Needles to create a pilot project to designate "combined-use" highways on city roads, with the concurrence of CHP, for a total of no more than 10 miles per highway segment for purposes of linking existing OHV trails, trailheads, and services to Bureau of Land Management or United States Forest Service lands. Provides that the pilot is intended to provide a unified system of trails for OHVs, preserve traffic safety, improve natural resource protection, reduce off-highway vehicle trespass on private land, and minimize impacts on city residents.

11) Requires the City of Needles to submit two reports to the Legislature by January 1, 2027:

a) The first report, to be prepared in consultation with CHP, Caltrans, and DPR, requires an evaluation of the safety and effectiveness of the pilot, including its impact on traffic flows, safety, and OHV usage on existing trails; and,

b) The second report, to be prepared in consultation with Department of Fish and Wildlife and the Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District, requires an evaluation of any impacts on cultural resources and archaeological sites, streambed modifications and water quality impacts, impacts on wildlife and aquatic habitat, native plants, traffic, particulate pollution, and noise.

12) Authorizes DPR to conduct, until January 1, 2030, an OHV "combined-used" pilot project at Red Rock Canyon State Park for no more than 10 miles per highway segment subject to the same or similar conditions as the City of Needles pilot project.

This bill:

1) Extends by five years to January 1, 2033, an OHV "combined use" highway pilot project in the City of Needles for purposes of linking existing OHV trails on federal lands and connecting OHV recreational areas with service and lodging facilities in order to create a unified system of OHV trails, preserve traffic safety, improve natural resource protection, reduce off-highway vehicle trespass on private land, and minimize impacts on city residents.

2) Extends by five years to January 1, 2032, two reports due to the Legislature on the safety and effectiveness of the pilot and any impacts to natural or cultural resources.

3) Provides that any "combined use" highways appropriately designated by the City under the pilot first created by AB 2152 (Smith, Chapter 185, Statutes of 2022) remain valid and effective for the extended duration of the pilot pursuant to this bill.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "AB 1756 is necessary to extend the City of Needles' Off-Highway Motor Vehicle (OHV) Pilot Program to January 1, 2033, to allow meaningful evaluation of its safety, environmental, and economic outcomes. The Legislature has recognized Needles as a remote, rural, and disadvantaged community of approximately 5,200 residents, geographically isolated by over 140 miles of desert and surrounded by heavily used federal recreation lands. Tourism is a primary economic driver, and the pilot was designed to create a unified, regulated system linking federal trails to lodging, fuel, and local businesses, supporting the local economy while reducing trespass and unmanaged access.

   "Although authorized in 2022 under Vehicle Code §38026.2, the majority of the pilot period was consumed by engineering analysis, public outreach, and CHP safety concurrence. With the 9.20-mile Master Plan adopted in 2025, the program is only now entering implementation. This bill does not expand authority—it provides sufficient time to measure rural economic impact and safety performance."

2) *Extension of the City of Needles pilot.* The City of Needles is located in San Bernardino County and the Mojave Desert region of Southern California. It is mostly surrounded by federal lands, much of which is used for outdoor recreation, including OHV recreation, including those under the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the Bureau of Reclamation.

   Following precedent set by similar OHV pilots the Legislature approved for Inyo County and Red Rock Canyon State Park, the Legislature authorized the City of Needles to create its five-year pilot in 2022. For the next three years, the City undertook extensive planning and compliance activities, including

engineering and traffic safety analysis, coordinated with federal and state entities, and held public workshops.

The City Council adopted its "OHV Master Plan", codifying the pilot, on September 9, 2025, with the concurrence of CHP, and a related signage plan on January 13, 2026. The Master Plan consists of 12 "combined-use" roadways, most of which are less than one mile, originating from locations within City limits and connecting to BLM lands. It is currently procuring signage; after installation and a public workshop, it anticipates announcing the official opening of the "combined-use" highways later in 2026.

Assuming this timeframe and without the extension provided by this bill, the public will have less than two years to access "combined-use" highways. Accordingly, it is reasonable to extend the current sunset through 2033 not only to allow for public use, but so the City can collect sufficient data to fulfill the statutory requirement of evaluating the pilot's safety, environmental outcomes, enforcement impacts, and rural economic benefits.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

City of Needles
San Bernardino County
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
Sci California Coalition

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, 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, Lee, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 14:57:40

****** 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. / 7/1/26 16:54:58

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1760
Author: Arambula (D)
Amended: 6/3/26 in Senate
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 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Dentistry

SOURCE: Dental Board of California

DIGEST: This bill makes several substantive, technical amendments to the Dental Practice Act administered by the Dental Board of California (DBC).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Dental Practice Act (Act) to regulate the practice of dentistry and be administered and enforced by the Dental Board of California (Board or DBC). (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 1600 *et. seq.*)

2) Defines "dentistry" as the diagnosis or treatment, by surgery or other method, of diseases and lesions and the correction of malpositions of the human teeth,

alveolar process, gums, jaws, or associated structures; diagnosis or treatment may include all necessary related procedures as well as the use of drugs, anesthetic agents, and physical evaluation. (BPC § 1625)

3) Provides that any person is eligible to take an examination before the DBC upon making application and meeting specified requirements, including furnishing evidence of financial responsibility or liability insurance for injuries sustained or claimed to be sustained by a dental patient in the course of the examination as a result of the applicant's actions. (BPC § 1628(c))

4) Prohibits an applicant who has been issued a dental diploma from a foreign dental school that has not been approved by the board from being eligible for examination until the applicant has successfully completed a minimum of two academic years of education at a dental college approved by the board, unless the applicant successfully completed the requirements of BPC Section 1628.2 on or before December 31, 2008. (BPC § 1628(e))

5) Exempts an applicant from reexamination on a subject in subsequent examinations before the board within two years after the examination on which the applicant received a grading of 85 percent. An applicant who fails to pass the examination after three attempts is not eligible for further reexamination until the applicant has successfully completed a minimum of 50 hours of education for each subject which the applicant failed in the applicant's last unsuccessful examination, as specified. (BPC § 1633)

6) Establishes requirements for the Licensure by Credential (LBC) pathway and requires applicants to submit proof of an active and unrestricted license issued by another state, district, or territory of the United States to practice dentistry that is not subject to any current or pending disciplinary action such as revocation, suspension, or probation. (BPC § 1635.5(a))

7) Requires the DBC to review the impact of the LBC pathway on availability of dentists in California and report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature, as specified, by January 1, 2008. (BPC § 1635.5(c))

8) Requires a holder of a license issued under the LBC pathway before January 1, 2006, who committed to complete the remainder of the five years of clinical practice requirement by a contract either to practice dentistry in a facility or to teach or practice dentistry in an accredited dental education program approved by the Board, to complete only two years of service under the contract in order to fulfill the clinical practice obligation. (BPC § 1635.5(f))

9) Requires licensed dentists who wish to perform elective facial cosmetic surgery to possess a permit to perform specified categories of elective facial cosmetic surgical procedures. (BPC § 1638.1)

10) Requires the board to appoint a credentialing committee to review the qualifications of each applicant for a facial cosmetic surgery permit; requires the committee to recommend to the board whether or not issue a permit upon completion of the review of an applicant; states the permit may be unqualified, entitling the permitholder to perform any facial cosmetic surgical procedure authorized or it may contain limitations if the credentialing committee is not satisfied that the applicant has the training or competence to perform certain classes of procedures, or if the applicant has not requested to be permitted for all procedures authorized by the permit. (BPC § 1638.1(e)(1))

11) Establishes licensure requirements by the DBC as a registered dental assistant in extended functions (RDAEF), including completing an extended functions postsecondary program approved by the board that teaches the duties that an RDAEF was allowed to perform pursuant to board regulations prior to January 1, 2010, and a course as specified by BPC § 1753.5. (BPC § 1753)

12) Authorizes an RDAEF licensed on or after January 1, 2010, to perform additional procedures under direct supervision and pursuant to the order, control, and full professional responsibility of a licensed dentist, as specified. (BPC § 1753.5(b))

13) Defines a dental assistant as an individual who, without a license, may perform basic supportive dental procedures, as defined, under the supervision of a licensed dentist. (BPC § 1750 (a))

14) Requires a dental assistant to complete a board-approved course in radiation safety to perform radiographic procedures. (BPC § 1750(f)(3))

15) Requires a radiation safety course to have the primary purpose of providing theory, laboratory, and clinical application in radiographic techniques; establishes criteria for DBC approval of a radiation safety course provider; defines course provider responsibilities, prerequisites (including completion of a Board-approved infection control course), curriculum, and requirements for students to demonstrate successful completion to the Board. (BPC § 1754.5)

This bill makes various amendments to complete policy reforms that were discussed during the sunset review of DBC and initiated by the board's sunset vehicle, SB 1454 (Ashby, Chapter 483, Statutes of 2024).

Background

Dental Board and Sunset Review of Licensing Board and Programs. The DBC is responsible for licensing and regulating dental professionals in California. the DBC licenses an estimated 112,000 dental professionals, of which approximately 43,000 are fully licensed dentists; 46,000 are registered dental assistants (RDAs); and 2,300 are registered dental assistants in extended functions (RDAEFs). The DBC is also responsible for setting the duties and functions of an estimated 50,000 unlicensed dental assistants.

In March 2024, the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (Committees) began their comprehensive sunset review oversight of ten regulatory entities, including the DBC. The Committees conducted two oversight hearings and the Board's sunset extension bill, SB 1453 (Ashby, Chapter 483, Statutes of 2024), enacted policy reforms that were discussed in the Background Paper prepared by Committee staff for the Board.

This bill makes amendments that, with the benefit of hindsight, could have been proposed for inclusion in SB 1453 to carry out the intent of the policy areas being amended. Consequently, the amendments of this bill are not substantive policy changes; rather they are conforming or clarifying amendments to policy areas that were revised by SB 1453.

Licensure by Portfolio Pathway. Licensure by portfolio was an alternative pathway to licensure as a dentist in California, available to applicants since November 2014. Under portfolio licensure requirements, instead of taking a single examination, students built a portfolio of completed clinical experience and clinical competency examinations in six subject areas over the normal course of their clinical training during dental school. The portfolio option gave students in California an alternative to being tested on a live patient over the course of one weekend. The applicant's portfolio was assessed for demonstration of experience and competencies following a letter of good standing signed by the dean of the applicant's dental school. The applicant must also pass Parts I and II of the National Board Written Examinations.

Concerns were raised because California had the distinction of being one of the first states to pursue this method of qualifying for licensure so dentists who obtained their license through the portfolio pathway may face difficulties when seeking reciprocal acknowledgment of qualification by other states. DBC was tasked during the prior sunset review oversight in 2019 with answering whether the process is an effective alternative to conventional examinations. Following the

sunset review oversight discussions, DBC requested DCA's Office of Professional Examination Services (OPES) to review the Portfolio Examination for continued use for California licensure of dentists. In its final report on the Portfolio Examination, OPES raised several psychometric issues of concern, which were discussed by the DBC.

OPES recommended that DBC initiate a process to eliminate the Portfolio Examination as a pathway to licensure, a proposal that DBC approved, suggesting amendments to BPC Sections 1632, 1632.5, and 1632.55, and a repeal of BPC Section 1632.1, which were enacted by SB 1454. Subsequent to SB 1454, additional amendments were identified that were necessary to eliminate references and requirements of licensure by portfolio, which are proposed by this bill.

Licensure by Credential (LBC) Pathway. According to DBC, requirements in BPC §1635.5 for the LBC pathway prompted many questions and complaints from applicants seeking clarification on several aspects of the requirements such as: what qualifies as "otherwise restricted" under the law; minimal practice requirements for licensure; residency credit towards licensure; changes in clinical practice contracts; and what constitutes failure to comply or complete those contracts and the consequences to the underlying license.

The board recommended amending (BPC § 1635.5) to clarify clinical practice work requirements and how much credit residency programs will count towards the total hours required for licensure. The board also requested adding a requirement for those seeking work credit through a contractual agreement to teach and/or practice dentistry to submit written documentation verifying compliance with the requirement. This would further specify how many hours per week an applicant must work and/or teach under such a contractual agreement.

SB 1454 made significant changes to clarify how many hours would be credited toward meeting clinical practice requirements to qualify for licensure under the LBC pathway. This bill makes technical amendments to this section.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Dental Board of California (source)
California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers
California Dental Assistants Association
California Extended Functions Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The Dental Board of California writes, "This bill consolidates technical, non-controversial, and substantive cleanup items approved by the Board—In public meetings between November 2024 and February 2026—to refine various provisions of the Dental Practice Act (DPA) and ensure statutory language aligns with current regulatory standards and consumer protection needs. While these items are typically addressed during the Sunset Review process, waiting for the Board's next cycle in 2028–2029 would leave in place several statutory impediments and inconsistencies for effective administration of the DPA."

California Association of Dental Assisting Teachers writes in support, "The dental assisting community, along with key stakeholders, has worked diligently over several years to address infection control standards. We believe the provisions outlined in this bill are practical, well-balanced, and in the best interest of patient safety, the dental workforce, and the public."

California Dental Assistants Association writes, "Over the past several years, the dental assisting community—working collaboratively with key stakeholders—has made significant efforts to strengthen infection control standards. We believe this bill reflects those efforts, offering practical, well-balanced provisions that prioritize patient safety, support the dental workforce, and serve the broader public interest."

California Extended Functions Society notes, "The dental assisting community, along with key stakeholders, has worked diligently over several years to address infection control standards. We believe the provisions outlined in this bill, as a starting point for entry-level dental assistants, to be practical, well-balanced, and in the best interest of patient safety, the dental workforce, and the public."

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: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
8/5/26 14:57:41

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

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(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1767
Author: Berman (D)
Amended: 6/23/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Department of Consumer Affairs: public members of boards: conflicts of interest

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill defines "close family member" as including, but not limited to, a parent or child, for the purposes of avoiding conflict of interest when a public member is appointed to a board within the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA). Requires each board within DCA to adopt regulations to determine whether any relationship with a licensee of a board other than parent-child should prevent an individual from serving as a public member on that board within DCA.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Establishes the DCA comprised of specified boards, bureaus, and commissions vested with the authority to license and regulate various professions and vocations, and to enforce the standards and regulations set forth. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 100 *et. seq.*)

2) Defines "Board," for the purpose of identifying entities to which provisions relating to public members apply, as a board, advisory board, commission, examining committee, committee or other similarly constituted body exercising powers under the BPC. (BPC § 452)

3) Enumerates 38 entities that comprise the DCA, including 27 boards, one commission, and one committee. (BPC § 101)

4) Prohibits a public board member from being a current or past licensee of the board, or a close family member of a licensee, to avoid potential for a conflict of interest. (BPC § 450.2)

5) States that boards in DCA are established for the purpose of ensuring that those private businesses and professions deemed to engage in activities which have potential impact upon the public health, safety, and welfare are adequately regulated in order to protect the people of California. (BPC § 101.6)

6) Provides that each board comprising DCA exists as a separate unit, and has the functions of setting standards, holding meetings, and setting dates thereof, preparing and conducting examinations, passing upon applicants, conducting investigations of violations of laws under its jurisdiction, issuing citations and holding hearings for the revocation of licenses, and the imposing of penalties following those hearings, insofar as these powers are given by statute to each respective board. (BPC § 108)

7) Prohibits a public or lay member of a board under the DCA from being, or having been within the five years preceding their appointment, any of the following:

   a) An employer, officer, director, or substantially full-time representative of an employer or group of employers,

   b) A person maintaining a contractual relationship, or

   c) An employee. (BPC § 450)

8) Establishes an exception that a board member may be, or may have been within five years preceding their appointment, for purposes of relationships described in 4), engaged in an employment or contractual relationship with a licensee of the board so long as the relationship does not constitute more than two percent of the overall practice or business of the licensee. (BPC §§ 450(a) – 450(c))

9) Prohibits a public member from having any financial interest in any organization that is subject to regulation by the board of which they are a member either at the time of their appointment or during their tenure in office. (BPC § 450.3)

10) Prohibits a public or lay member from engaging in pursuits which lie within the field of the industry or profession regulated by the board of which they are a member, or providing representation to the industry or profession, during the term of their service or within the five-year period preceding their appointment. (BPC § 450.5)

11) States that if, as part of its functions, any board delegates any duty or responsibility to be performed by a single board member, public or lay members cannot:

    a) Prepare, administer, or grade examinations, or

    b) Inspect or investigate licensees, their manner or method of practice or business, or their place of practice or business. (BPC § 451)

12) Requires each newly appointed board member to complete a training and orientation program offered by the DCA regarding, among other things, their functions, responsibilities, and obligations as a board member, within one year of assuming office. (BPC § 453)

This bill:

1) Defines “close family member” as including, but not limited to, a parent or a child for the purposes of avoiding a potential for a conflict of interest of a public member of a board within the DCA.

2) Requires each board within DCA to adopt regulations to provide guidance on determining whether relationships with a licensee of that board other than a parent-child should prohibit an individual from serving as a public member of that board.

Background

Department of Consumer Affairs Boards. Within DCA's 38 regulatory entities, there are 27 boards, one commission, and one committee (boards) that regulate California's professions and vocations. Boards are semi-autonomous regulatory bodies vested with decision-making authority independent of the administration. Board members commonly serve four-year terms, but term lengths may vary

depending on the board and appointment date. Boards are comprised of members of the regulated profession appointed by the Governor, or "professional" members, and non-licensee members, or "public" members, who are appointed by the Governor and the Legislature.

Board members make policy decisions that impact licensees, review licensee disciplinary cases, establish minimum standards, act as stewards over program's budget, and have many other functions that require public members to have an objective viewpoint in their decision-making process. Any bias, such as a financial or personal interest, that informs a board member's judgement could lead to flawed policies, diminished consumer protection, and reduced public confidence in the board's ability to achieve its mission.

Public Member Close relationships. Existing law establishes qualifications and limitations of public board member appointments (BPC §§ 450-453), including those of a public member to a board who is a close relative of a licensee of that board. However, "close relative," is not defined. This bill would define "close relative," as a parent or child and require each DCA board to adopt regulations to expand upon that limitation to define which familial relationship(s) should be prohibited from serving as a public member to avoid potential for conflict of interest.

This bill does not provide a deadline for implementation so presumably, DCA's boards would integrate the regulation required by this bill into their rulemaking calendar as workload and time permits.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

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: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
8/5/26 14:57:42

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

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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 1793
Author: Ward (D) and Rogers (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 7-2, 6/22/26
AYES: Wahab, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Menjivar, Richardson, Umberg
NOES: Niello, Strickland
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/24/26
AYES: McNerney, Ashby, Becker, Grayson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-1, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Cash payments: calculation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill establishes the California Common Cents Act (Cents Act) to require merchants to round the portion of a transaction paid with legal tender to the nearest amount divisible by five cents after discounts, taxes, fees, and surcharges are calculated. Specifies how rounding applies to transactions involving both cash and noncash payment methods, provides that rounding does not affect the amount processed through electronic payment systems, authorizes the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) to adopt implementing regulations, and provides a safe harbor from state and local liability for merchants complying with the Cents Act.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Division of Measurement Standards (DMS) under the California Department of Food and Agriculture, which is responsible for supervising the weights and measures program throughout the state and ensuring equity in the marketplace. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) §§ 12100 et seq.)

2) Requires county sealers of weights and measures to enforce state weights and measures laws, inspect commercial weighing and measuring devices, verify the accuracy of retail transactions, and protect consumers against fraud and misrepresentation in commercial transactions. (BPC §§ 12200-12246.)

3) Establishes California's weights and measures laws governing commercial transactions involving weighing, measuring, counting, and pricing practices and administered by DMS and county sealers of weights and measures. Requires the inspection and testing of commercial weighing and measuring devices used in commerce, including devices used to determine the quantity of goods sold to consumers. (BPC §§ 12500 et seq.)

4) Establishes California's point-of-sale scanner inspection program and authorizes county sealers to verify that the price charged to a consumer at checkout matches the price represented to the consumer. (BPC §§ 13300-13332.)

5) Prohibits a retailer from charging a price for an item that exceeds the lowest price posted, advertised, marked, displayed, or quoted for that item and authorizes enforcement of retail pricing accuracy requirements. (BPC §§ 12024.2, 13300 et seq.)

6) Imposes a sales and use tax on retailers for the privilege of selling tangible personal property at retail in this state and authorizes retailers to collect sales tax reimbursement from customers. (Revenue and Taxation Code §§ 6051, 6201.)

7) Provides that United States coins and currency are legal tender for all debts, public charges, taxes, and dues. (31 United States Code (U.S.C.) § 5103.)

8) Authorizes the United States Department of the Treasury and the United States Mint to produce and issue coins and currency for circulation. (31 U.S.C. §§ 5111-5112.)

This bill:

1) Establishes the California Common Cents Act, operative July 1, 2027, and defines specified terms for purposes of the Act. Requires a merchant, when the total transaction price is paid entirely with legal tender, to round the total transaction price as follows:

   a) A total transaction price ending in one cent, two cents, six cents, or seven cents must be rounded down to the nearest amount divisible by five cents.

   b) A total transaction price ending in three cents, four cents, eight cents, or nine cents must be rounded up to the nearest amount divisible by five cents.

   c) Exempts various transactions from the rounding requirements.

2) Requires a merchant, when payment is made using a combination of legal tender and one or more other payment methods, to round the portion of the total transaction price equivalent to the amount paid with legal tender in the same manner as a transaction paid entirely with legal tender. Provides that rounding in a transaction involving both legal tender and a noncash payment method must not alter or affect the exact amount authorized, cleared, or settled through a noncash payment system.

3) Requires a refund paid in whole or in part with legal tender to be rounded in the same manner as the total transaction price.

4) Provides that a merchant selling goods or services is not in violation of state or local requirements, laws, regulations, or standards based on a lawful action taken in compliance with the Cents Act.

5) Requires any rounding adjustment to be disregarded when computing an applicable tax, fee, surcharge, related reimbursement, or the measure of that tax, fee, surcharge, or reimbursement.

6) Prohibits a person, in connection with a retail transaction subject to cash rounding, from collecting an amount greater than the amount permitted after applying the rounding requirements.

7) Subjects a violation of the prohibition against collecting an excessive amount to the same remedies, penalties, inspection authority, and enforcement procedures applicable to an overcharge under weights and measures laws.

8) Provides that the overcharge and enforcement provisions do not apply to the calculation, reporting, or remittance of taxes administered by the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA). Authorizes CDTFA to adopt regulations to implement the requirement that rounding adjustments be disregarded for purposes of computing applicable taxes, fees, surcharges, and reimbursements.

Background

According to the U.S. Department of the Treasury (Treasury), penny production is being suspended because the total production cost of a penny rose from 1.3 cents to 3.69 cents over the past decade. The U.S. Mint projects roughly $56 million in immediate annual savings from stopping production. As the Federal Reserve will continue to recirculate the roughly 114 billion pennies already in existence for as long as possible, pennies remain legal tender and retain their value. A July 2025 brief from the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond (Economic Brief No. 25-27, The Cost of Rounding Cash Transactions to Eliminate Pennies) examined the likely effects of penny elimination on consumers and concluded that the primary consumer impact is likely to result from the rounding of cash transactions, rather than from changes in the underlying prices of goods and services.

Retail pricing is generally set by the merchant at the item level and then processed through a point-of-sale system that applies discounts, coupons, and applicable state and local sales tax before the customer pays. In California, sales tax is imposed on retailers but retailers may collect sales tax reimbursement from customers. Retailers must report and pay sales tax to CDTFA based on their taxable sales. Today, a price ending in $0.97, for example, can be charged and paid exactly in cash with pennies. Recent reporting on Treasury's penny phaseout plan notes that businesses may increasingly round cash transaction totals to the nearest nickel as pennies become scarcer in circulation. Treasury guidance states that businesses may round cash transactions and cites the National Conference of State Legislatures' recommendation for "symmetrical rounding," under which transaction totals ending in 1, 2, 6, or 7 cents are rounded down and totals ending in 3, 4, 8, or 9 cents are rounded up. Treasury notes that it is working with point-of-sale system providers and stakeholders to facilitate implementation of rounding practices in order to minimize consumer confusion.

Industry groups and economists have noted that the elimination of the penny will have operational consequences for retailers and cash-paying consumers, even if the overall economic impact is expected to be relatively small. According to the National Retail Federation (NRF), the principal concern is not the loss of the penny

itself, but the lack of uniform rules governing how businesses should round cash transactions. The NRF has supported federal legislation that would establish a consistent nationwide rounding standard, arguing that customers may become confused if different retailers adopt different rounding practices and that legislative clarity is needed to ensure fairness and compliance with consumer protection laws.

The banking industry has expressed similar concerns. According to the American Bankers Association (ABA), as pennies become less available, banks and retailers may need to round cash transactions to the nearest nickel, similar to practices adopted in Canada and Australia after those countries discontinued their lowest-denomination coins. The ABA notes that electronic payments would continue to be processed to the exact cent, while only cash transactions would be subject to rounding.

This bill does not eliminate the penny or alter the calculation of prices, taxes, fees, or surcharges but establishes a uniform statewide method for determining the final cash amount exchanged when exact penny settlement is no longer practical.

Weights and Measures. California's weights and measures laws are designed to protect both consumers and honest businesses by ensuring that commercial transactions are conducted fairly, accurately, and transparently. According to the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) Division of Measurement Standards (DMS), California's measurement system is intended to promote equity in the marketplace by ensuring that consumers receive the quantity of goods and services for which they pay and that businesses compete on a level playing field. DMS serves as the state’s primary authority for weights and measures enforcement and works in partnership with county sealers of weights and measures to inspect commercial weighing and measuring devices, verify pricing accuracy, and investigate consumer complaints.

County sealers of weights and measures are responsible for enforcing California’s weights and measures laws at the local level. Among their duties, county officials inspect retail point-of-sale systems, verify scanner accuracy, test weighing and measuring devices, ensure advertised prices match prices charged at checkout, and investigate instances in which consumers may be overcharged. The overarching purpose of these programs is to ensure that consumers receive exactly what is represented and charged in a commercial transaction.

As the federal government phases out production of the penny, cash transactions may increasingly require rounding to the nearest five cents. Although the underlying sales price, discounts, and taxes may continue to be calculated to the penny, the final cash payment amount may no longer be capable of exact

settlement when pennies are unavailable. This raises issues similar to those traditionally addressed by California's weights and measures laws: ensuring consumers understand how prices are calculated, ensuring merchants apply rounding consistently, and ensuring that customers are not systematically overcharged or undercredited through the transaction process.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Fuels and Convenience Alliance
California Grocers Association
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
California Association for Micro Enterprise Opportunity
Cinema Association of California
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

San Fernando Valley Alliance

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters write that this bill provides much-needed clarity and uniformity for retailers and consumers by establishing a standardized approach to rounding cash transactions to the nearest nickel… By applying rounding to the final, post-tax purchase price or change, AB 1793 also avoids complications with sales tax calculations and discourages pricing strategies that could disproportionately impact cash-paying consumers. Supporters say that this bill reduces the risk of inconsistent practices and helps ensure customers are treated equitably regardless of where they shop and that the bill will simplify cash handling, reduce the administrative burden associated with one-cent coins, and improve transaction efficiency for both businesses and consumers. According to supporters, a standardized rounding rule reduces transaction issues, speeds up checkout times, and eliminates the need for businesses to maintain penny supplies that have become increasingly scarce and outdated and supporters not that in the absence of federal legislation on cash transaction rounding, it is essential that California provides clarity.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-1, 5/21/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González,

Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, 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, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: DeMaio

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Chen, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Hadwick, Hoover, Lackey, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Sarah Mason / B., P. & E.D. /
8/5/26 14:57:42

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1801
Author: Lee (D)
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
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 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-1, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-17, 4/16/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Public agencies: approval: detention facilities

SOURCE: Immigrant Legal Resource Center

DIGEST: This bill clarifies the process by which a city, county, city and county, or public agency thereof must provide public notice and public opportunity to be heard before the public entity can execute or approve various documents or permits for the building or reuse of an existing building by a private corporation, contractor, or vendor to house or detain persons for civil immigration custody.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Prohibits state law enforcement agencies from using agency or department moneys or personnel to investigate, interrogate, detain, detect, or arrest persons for immigration enforcement purposes, as specified, place peace officers under

the supervision of federal agencies, use immigration authorities as interpreters for law enforcement matters, transfer an individual to immigration authorities unless authorized by a judicial warrant, provide office space exclusively dedicated to immigration authorities, and contract with the federal government for the use of law enforcement agency facilities to house individuals as federal detainees for the purposes of civil immigration custody, as specified. (Government [Gov.] Code § 7284.6.)

2) Requires a private detention facility responsible for the custody and control of a prisoner or civil detainee to comply with various requirements, including:

   a) All appropriate state and local building, zoning, health, safety, and fire statutes, ordinances, and regulations, and with the minimum jail standards, as specified;

   b) That it select and train personnel in accordance with selection and training requirements adopted by the Board of State and Community Corrections; and

   c) That it maintain insurance coverages, as specified. (Penal [Pen.] Code § 9506.)

3) Requires a private detention facility to comply with and adhere to the detention standards of care and confinement agreed upon in the facility's contract for operations, and permits an individual injured by a tortious action of an operator of a private detention facility to bring a civil action for relief when the operator commits a tortious action that fails to comply with the detention standards of care and confinement. Permits such an individual to recover their reasonable attorney's fees and costs, in the court's discretion. (Gov. Code § 7320.)

4) Prohibits a city, county, city and county, or local law enforcement agency that does not, as of January 1, 2018, have a contract with the federal government or any federal agency or a private corporation to house or detain noncitizens for purposes of civil immigration custody, from entering, on or after January 1, 2019, into a contract with the federal government or any federal agency or a private corporation, to house or detain in a locked detention facility noncitizens for purposes of civil immigration custody, and prohibits a city, county, city and county, or local law enforcement agency that, as of January 1, 2018, has an existing contract with the federal government or any federal agency or a private corporation to detain noncitizens for civil immigration custody, from renewing

or modifying that contract in a manner that would expand the maximum number of contract beds that may be utilized to house or detain noncitizens for civil immigration custody. (Civil [Civ.] Code § 1670.9.)

5) Prohibits a city, county, city and county, or public agency from, on or after January 1, 2018, approving or signing a deed, instrument, or other document related to a conveyance of land, or from issuing a permit for the building or reuse of existing buildings by a private corporation, contractor, or vendor to house or detain noncitizens for civil immigration proceedings, unless the city, county, city and county, or public agency has:

   a) Provided notice to the public of the proposed conveyance or permitting action at least 180 days before the execution of the conveyance or permit; and

   b) Solicited and heard public comments on the proposed conveyance or permit action in at least two separate meetings open to the public. (Civ. Code § 1670.9(d).

6) Specifies, for its purposes, a "notice of a public hearing" means a notice that includes the date, time, and place of a public hearing, the identity of the hearing body or officer, a general explanation of the matter to be considered, and a general description, in text or by diagram, of the location of the real property, if any, that is the subject of the hearing. (Gov. Code § 65094.)

This bill:

1) Clarifies that a city, county, city and county, or public agency thereof, including any board or commission, shall not approve or execute a deed or instrument, or other document related to the conveyance of land, permit or modification of a permit, or any other document significant to the public entity's approval, regardless of whether authority to issue the approval lies with the legislative body, advisory body thereto, or administrative staff.

2) Clarifies that the required 180-day notice to the public of the proposed action related to the building or reuse of a building for civil immigration custody must be provided before approval or execution of the proposed action, and that the notice must:

   a) Comply with Gov. Code section § 65094;

b) Be dated and posted on the applicable public entity's website;

c) Be physically posted at the public entity's headquarters;

d) Be published in at least one local newspaper of general circulation within the jurisdiction, or if there is no such newspaper, posted in at least three public places within the jurisdiction;

e) Broadcast weekly over local radio stations in the top five languages spoken in the applicable jurisdiction for the duration of the 180-day notice period;

f) Be provided in the top five languages spoken in the applicable jurisdiction; and

g) Include access to any documents related to the proposed action, including but not limited to, any related applications or reports.

3) Requires the city, county, city and county, or the public agency thereof to promptly provide access to any documents related to the proposed action, at a minimum in hard copy format at its physical headquarters during business hours and in electronic format on its internet website, upon request and subject to the exemptions from disclosure specified in California Public Records Act.

4) Requires the city, county, city and county, or public agency thereof to solicit and hear public comments on any of the proposed actions in at least two separate meetings open to the public, and requires that the first meeting be held at least 30 business days after the 180-day public notice, and the second hearing at least 30 days after the first hearing. Requires translation for public comment to be provided in the most widely spoken language, other than English, in the jurisdiction, according to the most recent census.

5) Requires each public meeting to be noticed pursuant to Gov. Code section § 65090, and to be clearly noticed as a stand-alone item on a meeting agenda pursuant to Gov. Code sections related to the meetings of cities, counties, and other agencies.

6) Specifies that these requirements apply to a charter city and independently to a city, county, city and county, and public agency thereof, including but not limited to, any board, commission, or agency of any city, county, and city and county.

7) Makes various findings and declarations that ensuring public input in the potential approval of private detention centers is a matter of statewide concern, and thus that it applies to all cities, including charter cities.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/29/26)

Immigrant Legal Resource Center (source)
ACLU California Action
Buen Vecino
California Immigrant Policy Center
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Center for Human Rights and Constitutional Law
Centro Binacional Para El Desarrollo Indigena Oaxaqueño (CBDIO)
Chinese for Affirmative Action
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
Disability Rights California
Empowering Marginalized Asian Communities
Freedom for Immigrants
Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Inland Empire Immigrant Youth Collective
Jakara Movement
Law Foundation of Silicon Valley
Oakland Privacy
Orange County Rapid Response Network
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN)
Souls Offering Loving and Compassionate Ears Solace
South Bay People Power
Southeast Asia Resource Action Center
Western Center on Law & Poverty, Inc.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/29/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the Immigrant Legal Resources Center, which is the source of AB 1801:

> AB 1801 promotes transparency and accountability by ensuring that local communities receive meaningful notice and opportunity to engage in local

decision-making regarding immigration detention centers. It is crucial that communities have a meaningful voice in decisions that could impact their neighborhoods for decades. While California already outlaws local government entities from entering into any new immigration detention contracts with private prison corporations and also mandates that localities provide public notice when considering permits for detention facilities, AB 1801 addresses crucial loopholes to ensure that local communities have meaningful notice with enough time to have their voices heard.

AB 1801 establishes and reinforces clearer expectations around public notice, access to documents, and opportunities for community engagement. In doing so, it champions a fundamental principle of democratic governance: that decisions affecting local communities should be made openly and with meaningful public participation.

The impact of detention facilities on local communities couldn't be greater, especially with heightened immigration enforcement and limited local resources. Private detention contracts are often 15 years or longer, and they rely heavily on local communities to operate, including roads, water, and emergency services. When local governments opt to approve these centers, they force constituents to share their valuable resources. It is incumbent on the state to fortify any avenues where constituents can voice their concerns and strengthen government transparency and information access.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 54-17, 4/16/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, 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, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Berman, Bonta, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Harabedian, Hart, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Ian Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/3/26 17:24:32

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1811
Author: Rogers (D), et al.
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Smallwood-Cuevas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio

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

SUBJECT: Health professionals

SOURCE: Association of California Healthcare Districts (co-source)
Rural County Representatives of California (co-source)

DIGEST: This bill defines a health professional shortage area (HPSA) as either one currently recognized by the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), an area recognized as HPSA by HHS on January 1, 2025, or an area determined by the Department of Health Care Access and Information (HCAI) to have a shortage of health professionals. Updates reporting requirements for boards of healing arts licensees and registrants to include specified information used for designating a HPSA and requires healing arts boards to collect this data at the time of licensure or registration and requires boards to provide this information to HCAI monthly.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires HCAI to collect, analyze, and publish data about health care workforce and health professional training, identify areas of health workforce shortages, and provide scholarships, loan repayments, and grants to students,

graduates, and institutions providing direct patient care in areas of unmet need. Establishes the Health Workforce Education and Training Council within HCAI to coordinate California's health care workforce education and training to meet the state's health care needs. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §128050 and §128250]

2) Establishes HCAI to, among other functions, collect, analyze, and publish data about health care workforce and health professional training, identify areas of health workforce shortages, and provide scholarships, loan repayments, and grants to students, graduates, and institutions providing direct patient care in areas of unmet need. [HSC §127000 and §127825, et seq.]

3) Requires the Medical Board of California (MBC) and other health care licensing boards to request workforce survey data at least biennially at the time of licensure or registration renewal for submission to HCAI for future workforce planning. Requires MBC or the Department of Consumer Affairs to provide the data to HCAI quarterly. Requires HCAI to maintain the confidentiality of the data collected and only release it in an aggregated format. [Business and Professions Code (BPC) §502]

This bill:

1) Updates reporting requirements for boards of healing arts licensees and registrants to include the licensees' and registrants' primary and secondary areas of practice, hours worked in inpatient and outpatient care, hours worked providing direct outpatient primary care services, whether the licensee or registrant accepts Medicaid, and whether the licensee or registrant offers a formal sliding fee scale.

2) Requires healing arts boards to collect the licensee and registrant data at the time of licensure or registration, and to provide the data to HCAI monthly, rather than quarterly.

3) Defines "HPSA" as any of the following:

   a) A HPSA designated or recognized by HHS;
   b) An area designated or recognized as a HPSA by DHHS on January 1, 2025, regardless of whether it remains so designated or recognized by DHHS; or,
   c) An area determined by HCAI to have a shortage of health professionals.

4) Permits HCAI to revoke a designation of a HPSA within the state.

5) Repeals this definition on January 1, 2035.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> HPSA designations are a critical tool for identifying where resources and workforce programs are most needed to serve underserved populations. In the author's district, there are many rural clinics and hospitals at risk of having their designation withdrawn. By safeguarding and expanding HPSA eligibility, this bill helps reduce health disparities, protect rural and tribal health infrastructure, and ensure that vulnerable communities continue to receive essential health and mental health services. This bill ensures that these areas remain eligible for state programs that place physicians and other health professionals where they are needed most.

HPSAs. HPSAs, as defined by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), can be geographic areas, populations, or facilities that have a shortage of primary, dental, or mental health care providers. To gain a HPSA designation, state primary care offices conduct needs assessments in their states, determine what areas, populations, or facilities are eligible for designation, and submit applications to HRSA via the Shortage Designation Management System (SDMS). The SDMS contains provider datapoints (national provider identifiers, clinical practice activity, provider practice locations, hours worked at each location, populations served and amount of time a provider spends serving specific populations), mapping data from the Environmental System Research Institute, demographic data from the Census Bureau, health-related data from the Center for Disease Control and Prevention National Vital Statistics, and Federally Qualified Health Center/Look-A-Like data. HRSA uses the SDMS to review state applications and either approve or deny the designation. According to the HRSA Data Warehouse, California contains over 1,500 HPSAs. As of December 31, 2025, California is the state with the most primary care HPSA designations, with 661 designations that encompass populations of about seven million people, according to KFF. Approximately 1,045 primary care physicians need to be added to achieve a population-to-primary care physician ratio of 3,500 to 1 (3,000 to 1 where high needs are indicated) to remove all primary care HPSA designations in the state.

Changes in California's 2025 HPSA designations. HRSA requires that states update HPSA designations every three years, notifying states of any updates or corrections needed to maintain their HPSA designations. If states do not update those designations or they no longer meet the criteria, HRSA withdraws the designation in July. According to HCAI, due to a recent update of SDMS to

integrate the 2020 Census data, the boundaries of many of California's HPSAs changed, leading to over 300 designations that needed to be reviewed and updated manually by HCAI. According to HCAI, staff reductions at HRSA and SDMS system outages and errors further slowed HCAI review. As of March 2026, HCAI reported that 164 HPSA designations remained uncorrected and face withdrawal in July 2026. To aid HCAI's evaluation of HPSA designations, this bill requires healing arts licensing boards to request certain provider data used in determining HPSAs from licensees at the time of licensure or registration, and to report this data to HCAI monthly.

Effects of HPSA designation withdrawal. If HPSAs are withdrawn, facilities and providers may no longer be eligible or prioritized for certain state or federal programs. Federal programs like the National Health Service Corps, Nurse Corps, the Indian Health Service Loan Repayment Program, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) HPSA Bonus Payment Program, the CMS Rural Health Clinic Program, and J-1 Visa Waiver all use HPSAs for resource distribution. Similarly, state programs like expedited medical licensure and Office of Health Workforce Development loan repayment and scholarship programs, like the Licensed Mental Health Service Provider Education Program and the Health Professions Career Opportunity Program, also use HPSA designation to allocate resources, according to HCAI.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Association of California Healthcare Districts (co-source)
Rural County Representatives of California (co-source)
Adventist Health
AltaMed Health Services
Antelope Valley Medical Center
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Association of Health Facilities
California Democratic Party Rural Caucus Rural Caucus
California Dental Hygienists' Association
California Hospital Association
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties
Del Puerto Health Care District
Desert Healthcare District and Foundation

District Hospital Leadership Forum
Eden Health District
Fallbrook Regional Health District
Healthy Petaluma District and Foundation
Inland Empire Health Plan Foundation
LeadingAge California
Mayers Memorial Healthcare District
Plumas District Hospital
Private Essential Access Community Hospitals
Providence
Salinas Valley Health
San Bernardino Mountains Community Hospital District
Sequoia Healthcare District
Sierra View Health Care District
Soledad Community Health Care District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: A coalition letter from the co-sources of this bill (The Association of California Healthcare Districts and the Rural County Representatives of California), with the California Hospital Association, California Association of Health Facilities and many other hospitals and health care districts, write that maintaining HPSA designations is essential to the state's ability to identify and support high-need communities. They share that in 2026, 285 of approximately 5,000 California HPSA designations are proposed for withdrawal, despite continued workforce shortages in those areas. Without state action, the loss of these designations will jeopardize access to critical programs for healthcare providers in underserved areas. By requiring collection of additional workforce data in the re-licensing surveys for health care professionals, this bill ensures that HCAI has all the information required to verify HPSA designations for the federal government in the future. AltaMed shares that HPSA designations are vital workforce tools that support the recruitment and retention of healthcare professionals serving medically underserved communities, and the loss of HPSA designations would exacerbate existing workforce shortages, and make it more difficult to ensure timely access to primary care, dental care, and behavioral health services for the hundreds of thousands of patients who rely on safety-net providers. Adventist Health shares that they, as one of the largest rural health clinic systems in the nation, are concerned that roughly 100 HPSA designations could be withdrawn on July 1, which may affect workforce incentives, reimbursement add-

ons, and eligibility for federal programs until areas are redesignated. They appreciate that this measure could afford some protection for California's HPSAs by maintaining the state designations for state purposes. The California Academy of Family Physicians states that this bill establishes a more durable and comprehensive definition of a HPSA in California law, ensuring that California retains a more accurate and responsive framework for identifying communities with ongoing health care workforce shortages.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Speech-Language Pathology and Audiology and Hearing Aid Dispensers Board has an Oppose Unless Amended position, requesting the inclusion of a minimum six-month delayed implementation period following enactment to ensure their online applications can be properly updated and tested to comply with new data collection requirements.

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: Natalie Gehred / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:04:18

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1820
Author: Schiavo (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Electric vehicle charging stations: permit fees

SOURCE: Coalition for Clean Air
Electric Vehicle Charging Association

DIGEST: This bill prohibits, until January 1, 2036, a city or county from charging a permit fee for an EV charging station for a multifamily dwelling that exceeds a specified amount.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows a city or county to make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary, and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws. This includes land use authority and the power to enact zoning ordinances and specify permitting requirements for development projects within their jurisdiction.

2) When a local agency charges fees for building permits (or other regulatory fees), Article XIIIC, §1 of the California Constitution prohibits those fees from exceeding the estimated reasonable cost of issuing licenses, administrative

costs, and enforcement of the program for which the fee is charged. Building permit fees generally pay for the cost of the project plan examination by city and county departments and on-site inspection, but can also include the costs reasonably necessary to prepare and revise the plans and policies that a local agency is required to adopt before it can make any necessary findings and determinations. Fees charged in excess of the estimated reasonable cost of providing the services are taxes and must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the public.

3) Prohibits, under the California Constitution, a local agency from charging fees that exceed the estimated reasonable cost of issuing licenses, administrative costs, and enforcement of the program for which the fee is charged. Fees charged in excess of the estimated reasonable cost of providing the services are taxes and must be approved by a 2/3 vote of the public.

4) Pursuant to AB 1236 (Chiu, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2015) and subsequent legislation:

   a) Requires cities and counties to administratively approve an application to install an EV charging station through the issuance of a building permit or similar nondiscretionary permit.

   b) Limits review of an application is limited to the building official's review of whether it meets all health and safety requirements of local, state, and federal law.

   c) Allows a county or city may require an applicant to apply for a use permit if the building official makes a finding, based on substantial evidence, that the EV charging station could have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety. The decisions of the building official may be appealed to the planning commission of the local agency.

   d) Requires that EV charging stations meet state and local laws including the state building code, electrical code, energy code, fire code, and any locally adopted building codes that are more restrictive than state standards.

   e) Prohibits a local agency from denying an application for a use permit to install an EV charging station unless it makes written findings based upon substantial evidence in the record that the proposed installation will have a specific, adverse impact upon the public health or safety, and there is no feasible method to satisfactorily mitigate or avoid the specific, adverse impact. The findings must include the basis for the rejection of potential

feasible alternatives of preventing the adverse impact. Any conditions imposed on an application to install an EV charging station must be designed to mitigate the specific, adverse impact upon the public health and safety at the lowest cost possible.

f) Deems an application to install an EV charging station complete if the local building official hasn't identified deficiencies after:

   i) Five business days for applications to construct at least one and up to 25 charging stations at a single site; or

   ii) 10 business days for applications to construct over 25 charging stations at a single site.

g) Deems *approved* an application to install an EV charging station 20 business days after the application was deemed complete for an installation of up to 25 charging stations at a single site, or 40 business days for an installation of more than 25 charging stations, if the building official hasn't acted on the application.

5) Caps, until January 1, 2034, the fees that cities and counties can impose on solar energy systems at $450 (plus $15 per kilowatt [kW] for each kW above 15kW) for a residential system and $1,000 (plus $7 kW for each kW between 51kW and 250 kW, and $5 per kW for each kW above 250 kW) for a commercial system.

6) Allows cities and counties to exceed these caps if they make a written finding and adopt a resolution or ordinance showing substantial evidence of the need to charge more than what the cap allows to issue the permit.

This bill:

1) Prohibits a city or county from charging a permit fee for an EV charging station that exceeds $500 plus $5 per kilowatt for each kW between 51kW and 250kW, plus $2 for every kilowatt above 250kW, for a level 2 EV charging station installed at a new or existing multifamily housing development.

2) Allows a city or county to exceed this cap if it provides substantial evidence of the reasonable cost to issue the permit as part of a written finding and an adopted resolution or ordinance.

3) Applies the bill's requirements beginning July 1, 2027, but a city or county with a population of fewer than 200,000 residents has an additional six months, until January 1, 2028, to comply.

4) Defines its terms, includes findings and declarations to support its purposes, and sunsets on January 1, 2036.

Background

As an alternative to gasoline-based vehicles, California has more electric vehicles (EVs)—and the charging stations used to fuel them—than any other state in the nation. California has established ambitious EV infrastructure and vehicle targets for the state—250,000 shared EV chargers, including 10,000 direct current fast chargers, by 2025. These targets were set to put California on the path to host 5 million zero emissions vehicles (ZEVs) by 2030.

The state currently has over 1.9 million EVs on the roads and over 200,000 chargers to support them as of September 2025, according to the California Energy Commission. This is more than double the number of chargers statewide in 2022, and nearly five times as many as in 2019.

EV charger streamlining. Responding to the patchwork of California's EV permitting structure and the uncertainty it posed to installers, in 2015, AB 1236 (Chiu, Low, Chapter 598, Statutes of 2015) placed significant new requirements into law regarding applications to install EV charging stations. AB 1236 requires counties and cities to administratively approve an application to install EV charging stations through the issuance of a building permit or similar nondiscretionary permit. Review of an application is limited to the building official's review of whether it meets all health and safety requirements of local, state, and federal law.

AB 1236 also requires every local agency to adopt an ordinance that creates an expedited, streamlined permitting process for EV charging stations. Local agencies must adopt a checklist of all requirements with which EV charging stations must comply to be eligible for expedited review. An application that satisfies the information requirements in the checklist is deemed complete. A local agency must approve the application and issue all required permits once the local agency confirms the application and supporting documents are complete and meet the requirements of the checklist. If a local agency receives an incomplete application, it must issue a written correction notice detailing all deficiencies in the application and any additional information required to be eligible for expedited permit issuance.

More recently, AB 970 (McCarty, Chapter 710, Statutes of 2021) updated these requirements to deem an application to install an EV charging station complete if the local building official hasn't identified deficiencies after:

- Five business days for applications to construct at least one and up to 25 charging stations at a single site; or
- 10 business days for applications to construct over 25 charging stations at a single site.

AB 970 also deems *approved* an application to install an EV charging station 20 business days after the application was deemed complete for an installation of up to 25 charging stations at a single site, or 40 business days for an installation of more than 25 charging stations, if the building official hasn't acted on the application.

EV charger permitting costs. Building permit fees generally pay for the cost for city or county departments to review and inspect construction projects, including EV charger stations. According to data provided by the EV charging industry, permits for commercial EV charging installations cost around $120 per charger on average. However, these costs vary widely. Some installations face essentially no permitting costs, while others cost over $1,000 per charger. These costs vary not just across jurisdictions, but within jurisdictions, depending on the installation.

According to some estimates, residential permits in major cities and counties in California range from $75 to $400 or more for coastal jurisdictions that have specific requirements for salt tolerance.[1]

To encourage the development of solar energy systems (solar photovoltaic panels and other systems that capture solar energy for use), state law caps the fees that cities and counties can impose on these systems. Modeled off the solar energy system permit fee caps, the Electric Vehicle Charging Association and the Coalition for Clean Air want the Legislature to reduce the permit fees that local agencies charge for permitting EV chargers.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "To achieve a clean transportation transition, California will need to build hundreds of thousands more chargers by 2030. However, the cost to permit chargers can vary wildly county by county, sometimes far above the actual cost to issue the permit. AB 1820 is an

[1] https://www.leadflowgod.com/resources/costs/ev-charger-cost-orange-county/

important step towards preparing our electrical vehicle infrastructure for the needs of tomorrow This measure will standardize the cost of permit fees for electric vehicle chargers making their development and installation more affordable for the public and more predictable for developers."

2) *Zero sum game.* Under the California Constitution, local governments cannot charge fees that exceed the reasonable cost of issuing a permit. This bill caps fees on EV charger permits, which reduces costs for the installers of EV chargers, which may be homeowners or commercial companies. But it could also limit cost recovery for jurisdictions whose expenses exceed these thresholds. City councils or boards of supervisors in these jurisdictions that face a financial gap as a result of the bill will face three choices: take a potentially unpopular vote to exceed the statewide caps, reducing their reviews of EV charger installations, or divert funds away from other public needs.

3) *Law of unintended consequences.* The Legislature has enacted numerous measures to address concerns relating to EV charger permitting that have removed local discretion, required local agencies to permit EVs based on checklists, focused reviews exclusively on health and safety, and required expedited permitting. At this point, it is unclear that local permitting rules remain a significant obstacle to EV charger deployment. First, the number of EV chargers in California is already rapidly growing, increasing fivefold in the past seven years (from about 42,000 in 2019 to 201,000 to today). Second, a February 2024 report by Stanford University's Institute for Economic Policy Research identified local staff capacity as a constraint and recommended alleviating staff shortages as another means to accelerate permitting, along with technical assistance and grant funding to enact ordinances. This bill may result in cuts to the fees that fund local building departments and the staff that permit EV charging stations. To the extent that local agencies scale back permitting efforts to meet the requirements of the bill, this bill may hinder, rather than help, EV charger permitting efforts.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Coalition for Clean Air (co-source)
Electric Vehicle Charging Association (co-source)
Abb E-mobility, INC.
Alliance for Automotive Innovation
American Ev Jobs Alliance; the
American Lung Association of California

Autel
California Apartment Association
California Center for Sustainable Energy
Center for Biological Diversity
Chargepoint, INC
Chargie
Environment California
Epic Charging
Evgo
Evmatch
Green Latinos
Green Water & Power
Green Wealth Energy
Natural Resources Defense Council
Swtch
Terawatt
Tesla
Union of Concerned Scientists
Valley Can (clean Air Now)
Xeal

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

California Building Officials
California Contract Cities Association
California Municipal Utilities Association
California State Association of Counties
City of Camarillo
City of Glendora
City of La Mirada
City of Lakewood
City of Los Alamitos
City of Norwalk
City of Redwood City
City of San Mateo
League of California Cities
Northern California Power Agency
Rural County Representatives of California
Solano County Board of Supervisors

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/26/26

AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, 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, Nguyen, Ortega, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Gipson, Muratsuchi, Pacheco, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:18

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1821
Author: Pacheco (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Wahab

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-12, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Public Records Act: agency response time

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill specifies that the number of days an agency has to make a determination on a request for records of whether the agency is in possession of the requested records and whether they will be disclosed is 10 business days, and that this 10-day period can be extended for specified unusual circumstances for 14 business days.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

1) Provides, pursuant to the California Constitution, 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 are required to be open to public scrutiny. (California Constitution, art. I, § 3(b)(1).)

   a) Requires a statute to be broadly construed if it furthers the people's right of access, and narrowly construed if it limits the right of access. (Cal. const. art. I, § 3(b)(1).)

b) 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. (Cal. const. art. I, § 3(b)(1).)

2) Governs the disclosure of information collected and maintained by public agencies pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA). (Government Code §§ 792.000 et seq.)

   a) States that, the Legislature, mindful of the right of individuals to privacy, finds and declares that access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state. (Gov. Code § 7921.000.)

   b) Defines "public records" as any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics. (Gov. Code § 7920.530.)

   c) Defines "public agency" as any state or local agency. (Gov. Code § 7920.525(a).)

3) Provides that all public records are open to inspection at all times during the office hours of a state or local agency and every person has a right to inspect any public record, unless the record is exempt from public disclosure. Any reasonably segregable portion of a record shall be available for inspection by any person requesting the record after deletion of the portions that are exempted by law. (Gov. Code § 7922.525.)

   a) Some records are prohibited from being disclosed and other records are permissively exempted from being disclosed. (See e.g. Gov. Code §§ 7920.505 & 7922.200.)

   b) There are several general categories of documents or information that are permissively exempt from disclosure under the CPRA essentially due to the character of the information. The exempt information can be withheld by the public agency with custody of the information, but it also may be disclosed if it is shown that the public's interest in disclosure outweighs the public's interest in non-disclosure of the information. (*CBS, Inc. v. Block* (1986) 42 Cal.3d 646, at 652.).

4) Requires a public agency to make a determination within 10 days of a records request on whether the agency is in possession of the requested records and whether they are disclosable records, either in part or full, including an explanation for the agency's determination and an estimated date and time the records will be made available. (Gov. Code § 7922.535(a).)

5) Authorizes an agency to extend the response period in 4), above, by 14 days in specified "unusual circumstances." (*Id.* at subd. (b)(1)-(6).)

This bill:

1) Specifies that the response period in 4), above, is 10 business days.

2) Specifies that the response period in 5), above, is 14 business days.

Comments

Access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state. (Gov. Code § 7921.000.) In 2004, the right of public access was enshrined in the California Constitution with the passage of Proposition 59 (Nov. 3, 2004, statewide general election),[1] which amended the California Constitution to specifically protect the right of the public to access and obtain government records: "The people have the right of access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business, and therefore . . . the writings of public officials and agencies shall be open to public scrutiny." (Cal. Const., art. I, sec. 3 (b)(1).) In 2014, voters approved Proposition 42 (Jun. 3, 2014, statewide direct primary election)[2] to further increase public access to government records by requiring local agencies to comply with the CPRA and the Ralph M. Brown Act[3], and with any subsequent statutory enactment amending either act, as provided. (Cal. Const., art. I, sec. 3 (b)(7).)

Under the CPRA, public records are open to inspection by the public at all times during the office hours of the agency, unless exempted from disclosure. (Gov. Code § 7922.252.) A public record is defined as any writing containing

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[1] Prop. 59 was placed on the ballot by a unanimous vote of both houses of the Legislature. (SCA 1 (Burton, Ch. 1, Stats. 2004)).
[2] Prop. 42 was placed on the ballot by a unanimous vote of both houses of the Legislature. (SCA 3 (Leno, Ch. 123, Stats. 2013)).
[3] The Ralph M. Brown Act is the open meetings laws that applies to local agencies. (Gov. Code §§ 59450 et. seq.)

information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by any public agency regardless of physical form or characteristics. (Gov. Code § 7920.530.) The California Supreme Court stated in *City of San Jose v. Superior Court* ((2017) 2 Cal.5th 608, at 617):

> Given the strong public policy of the people's right to information concerning the people's business [Gov. Code § 7921.000] and the constitutional mandate to construe statutes limiting the right of access narrowly (Cal. Const. art. I, § 3, subd. (b)(2)), all public records are subject to disclosure unless the Legislature has *expressly* provided to the contrary.

The courts have also held that the CPRA "was enacted for the purpose of increasing freedom of information by giving members of the public access to information in the possession of public agencies." (*Filarsky v. Superior* Court (2002) 28 Cal.4th 419, at 425.)

The CPRA requires a public agency to make a determination within 10 days of a records request on whether the agency is in possession of the requested records and whether they are disclosable records, either in part or full, including an explanation for the agency's determination and an estimated date and time the records will be made available. (Gov. Code § 7922.535(a).) The CPRA allows an agency to extend that response period by 14 days in specified "unusual circumstances." (*Id*. at subd. (b).) These "unusual circumstances" are: (1) needing to search for and collect the requested records from facilities that are separate from the office processing the request; (2) needing to search for, collect, and appropriately examine a voluminous amount of separate and distinct records that are demanded in a single request; (3) needing to consult with another agency having substantial interest in the determination of the request or among two or more components of the agency having substantial subject matter interest therein; (4) needing to compile data, to write programming language or a computer program, or to construct a computer report to extract data; (5) when the agency is unable to access its electronic servers or systems, due to a cyberattack, in order to search for and obtain a record that the agency believes is responsive to a request and is maintained on the servers or systems in an electronic format; or (6) when needed to search for, collect, and appropriately examine records during a state of emergency proclaimed by the Governor in the jurisdiction where the agency is located. (*Id*. at subd. (b)(1)-(6).)

This bill provides that the number of days an agency has to respond as described above, is 10 *business* days and for unusual circumstances, an additional 14 *business* days to respond. Proponents argue that a business-day standard ensures

agencies have the full intended amount of working days to prepare initial responses to record requests. Some opponents contend that the current calendar-day deadlines do not present an undue burden to agencies, and any further extensions will slow down a process that many advocates argue is already severely delayed.

Widespread reports of burdensome delays in accessing public records has been a problem reported to the Committee by advocates for many years. Unnecessary delays undermine the important public policy goals of transparency and accountability that the CPRA promotes to ensure a robust and healthy democracy. However, specifying that the response time is business days recognizes that most agencies are not open on weekends and holidays and provides breathing room to agencies in managing their day-to-day operations.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Alameda County Office of Education
Association of California School Administrators
California Association of Recreation & Park Districts
California Association of School Business Officials
California Clerk of the Board of Supervisors Association
California Municipal Clerks Association
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties
City of Bakersfield
City of Bellflower
City of Buena Park
City of Canyon Lake
City of Capitola
City of Carlsbad
City of Cloverdale
City of Concord
City of Corona
City of Coronado
City of Cupertino
City of El Cajon
City of El Cerrito
City of Fontana
City of Foster City
City of Grass Valley

City of Hesperia
City of Los Alamitos
City of Modesto
City of Monterey Park
City of Moorpark
City of Mountain View
City of Needles
City of Norwalk
City of Oakland
City of Oxnard
City of Paramount
City of Pico Rivera
City of Rancho Cucamonga
City of Redding
City of Riverside
City of Rohnert Park
City of Rolling Hills
City of Rolling Hills Estates
City of San Jose
City of Santa Monica
City of Scotts Valley
City of St. Helena
City of Sunnyvale
City of Thousand Oaks
City of Tulare
City of Vacaville
City of Woodland
Coachella Valley Water District
County of Fresno
County of Inyo
County of Kern
County of Mendocino
County of Monterey
County of Napa
County of Riverside
County of Solano
CPRA Processors Working Group
Dublin San Ramon Services District
League of California Cities
Los Angeles Unified School District

Mckinleyville Community Service District
Orange County Council of Governments
Orange County Fire Authority
Rural County Representatives of California s
San Bernardino County
Shasta County Board of Supervisors
Town of Hillsborough
Urban Counties of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

Adu Rights.org
Alliance for Boys and Men of Color
Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment (ACCE) Action
American Friends Service Committee
Anti Police-terror Project
Association of Alternative Newsmedia Publishers
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action, California
Black Lives Matter California
CAIR California
California Advocates for Nursing Home Reform
California Coalition for Sheriff Oversight
California Faculty Association
California League of United Latin American Citizens
California News Publishers Association
California Rural Legal Assistance Foundation
Californians for Pesticide Reform
Cancel the Contract
Care First California
Center for Juvenile Law and Policy, Loyola Law School
Center for Policing Equity
Check the Sheriff
Child Care Law Center
Cleanearth4kids.org
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (CURYJ)
Community Legal Services in East Palo Alto
Courage California
Dignity and Power Now
Disability Rights California
Disability Rights Education & Defense Fund (DREDF)
East Bay Sanctuary Covenant

Environmental Working Group
Family Violence Appellate Project
Fight for the Future
Friends of the Eel River
Gente Organizada
Humboldt Waterkeeper
In Our Care San Mateo County
Inland Coalition for Immigrant Justice
Justice Teams Network
Justice2jobs Coalition
LA Defensa
LA Voice
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC)
Local 148 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union
Los Angeles Community Action Network
Los Angeles Press Club
Mexican-american Legal Defense and Ed Fund [maldef]
National Housing Law Project
National Lawyers Guild - Los Angeles (NLG-LA)
Orale: Organizing Rooted in Abolition Liberation and Empowerment
Orange County Rapid Response Network
Parents Against Child Sexual Abuse
Partnership for the Advancement of New Americans
Pillars of the Community
Public Counsel
Public Interest Law Project
Reform Whittier
San Diego Pro Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists
Saving Lives in Custody California
Secure Justice
Services, Immigrant Rights and Education Network (SIREN)
Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition
Starting Over Strong
Stop Lapd Spying Coalition
Surfrider Foundation
The Ark
The Black Alliance for Just Immigration
The Daily Californian
The Wage Justice Center

Transparent California
Trial Impact Project
Unite Here Local 11
University of Florida, College of Journalism and Communications
University of San Francisco Racial Justice Clinic
Western Electrical Contractors Association
Youth Justice Coalition (note - There Is No Drop Down List Available.)
Youth Law Center (UNREG)
18 individuals

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

The California Public Records Act (CPRA) serves as a tool for transparency and accountability in government. By allowing the public to access records related to official actions and decision-making, the CPRA empowers communities to hold government accountable and helps ensure public institutions remain responsive.

In recent years, public agencies have seen a significant increase in public records requests. As digital communication has expanded, submitting requests – often in high volume – has become easier than ever. Some requests are unusually large or require substantial staff time to fulfill. When a small number of requests consume a disproportionate share of resources, agencies can face challenges keeping up with all requests in a timely manner while still providing essential services.

AB 1821 specifies that processing agencies' response times should be tied to business days rather than calendar days. This small change ensures that agencies' timelines actually align with the hours they work. As a result, agencies may continue to respond to requests in a timely manner without being held to timelines that fall outside of standard business or processing hours.

The California Special Districts Association writes:

[…] Under current law, requests made pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA) require that a public agency, within 10 days from receipt of the request, determine whether the request, in whole or in part, seeks copies of disclosable public records in the possession of the agency. In unusual circumstances, an agency is permitted to extend that time, but they remain prohibited from specifying a date that would result in an extension for more than 14 days. Neither of these timeframes account for the fact that public agencies generally grant staff weekends and holidays off; during those periods, the time an agency has remaining to respond to a CPRA request continues tolling,

notwithstanding the fact that there are no staff members available to be responsive to a request or search for records. AB 1821 would rectify this discrepancy by providing that the 10-day and 14-day periods referenced above span business days rather than calendar days, thereby solving the issue encountered when weekends and holidays fall within the timeframe of a CPRA request. […]

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Disability Rights California writes in opposition, stating:

AB 1821's proposed shift from a calendar to a business day timeline would normalize delay and further disadvantage communities that depend on timely access to information. This erodes the value of time-sensitive information and weakens public oversight. The Legislature has repeatedly recognized that prompt access is essential to democratic accountability, especially in areas like policing, incarceration, and public spending where transparency gaps disproportionately harm marginalized communities. Extending response times would compound existing inequities, making it harder for people to challenge government decisions, participate in civic life, and advocate for justice.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-12, 5/27/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Dixon, Ellis, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Bains, Davies, DeMaio, Gallagher, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bennett, Bryan, Castillo, Chen, Elhawary, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Hadwick, Jackson, Ortega, Celeste Rodriguez, Ward

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:04:20

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1843
Author: Elhawary (D)
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 8-1, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas
NOES: Grove
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares, Menjivar

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-13, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Communicable diseases: hepatitis C

SOURCE: End Hep C San Francisco (co-source)
San Francisco AIDS Foundation (co-source)

DIGEST: This bill prohibits health plans and insurers from subjecting direct-acting antiviral drugs that are medically necessary for the treatment of hepatitis C to prior authorization.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 and the California Department of Insurance (CDI) to regulate health insurers under the Insurance Code. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1340, et seq. and Insurance Code (INS) §106, et seq.]

2) Prohibits health plans/insurers from subjecting antiretroviral drugs that are medically necessary for the prevention of AIDS/HIV, including preexposure

prophylaxis (PrEP) and postexposure prophylaxis (PEP), to prior authorization or step therapy, except that if the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approves one or more therapeutic equivalents of a drug, device, or product for the prevention of AIDS/HIV, in which case health plans/insurers are only required to cover at least one therapeutically equivalent version without prior authorization or step therapy. [HSC §1342.74(a) and INS §10123.1933(a)]

3) Excludes, from health plan/insurer prior authorization requirements, health care services that have been approved by the plan/insurer 90% or more times, as determined by DMHC/CDI after evaluation of health plan and insurer reporting. This law does not apply to drugs that are on tier three or tier four of a health plan/insurer's formulary, and sunsets on January 1, 2034. [HSC §1367.025(c)(4) and INS §10133.52(c)(4)]

This bill:

1) Prohibits health plans/insurers from subjecting direct-acting antiviral (DAA) drugs, that are medically necessary for the treatment of hepatitis C, to prior authorization. Specifies that if the FDA has approved one or more therapeutic equivalents of a pangenotypic drug, device, or product for the treatment of hepatitis C, this bill does not require a health plan/insurer to cover all of the therapeutically equivalent versions without prior authorization, if at least one pangenotypic and therapeutically equivalent version is covered without prior authorization.

2) Requires health plan/insurers' clinical criteria for hepatitis C treatment and prior authorization to align with the current guidelines and the standard of care consistent with the standards of the American Association for the Study of Liver Diseases and the Infectious Diseases Society of America (AASLD-IDSA), or generally accepted clinical practice guidelines of another nonprofit health care provider professional association, or specialty society pertaining to clinical hepatology or infectious disease.

3) Prohibits health plans/insurers, for the purpose of determining prior authorization for hepatitis C treatment, from requesting:

    a) A liver biopsy;
    b) Genotype testing;
    c) Proof of sobriety;
    d) Fibrosis staging thresholds;
    e) Documentation of elastography or other measures of liver stiffness;

f) Ultrasound documentation; or,
g) A specialist referral or evaluation.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> Hepatitis C is a life-threatening disease that disproportionately affects marginalized communities if left untreated, but it is highly curable, with modern treatments curing over 95% of infections. The author continues that this bill ensures health plans follow current medical guidelines and eliminate extra requirements that are not medically necessary for accessing treatment. The author concludes that by streamlining access to care, this bill helps prevent serious health complications, reduces transmission, saves lives, reduces long-term healthcare costs, and moves California closer to eliminating hepatitis C.

Hepatitis. Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by infection from the hepatitis C virus (HCV), which is transmitted through exposure to infected blood or bodily fluids. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), acute hepatitis C occurs within the first six months of exposure to HCV; chronic hepatitis C occurs if acute hepatitis C is not recognized and treated and the virus is not cleared by the body within six months. According to the California Health Benefits Review Program (CHBRP) review of this bill, studies estimate that acute hepatitis C leads to chronic infection in most patients (80% to 85%). The majority of individuals with acute and chronic hepatitis C are asymptomatic, and evidence suggests that one-third of people with hepatitis C are unaware of their infection status and can unknowingly transmit the virus to others. Studies estimate that on average one person with HCV infection transmits the virus to one to four other people. HCV is primarily transmitted by sharing contaminated needles, syringes, or other equipment used to prepare or inject drugs; other risk factors for transmission include multiple sexual partners, nonprofessional tattoo or piercing, prior incarceration, workplace exposure to needle sticks, or being born to an HCV-infected woman. Individuals with hepatitis C can develop cirrhosis (advanced, irreversible scarring of the liver that leads to liver failure), liver cancer, and other liver- and non-liver-related complications and are at increased risk of premature death. Approximately two to four million people in the U.S. had hepatitis C. In 2023, the CDC found that there were 4,966 new reported cases of acute hepatitis C nationwide, but estimates new acute HCV infections at 69,000 after adjusting for underreporting. Based on California Department of Public Health data from 2018 (the most recent statewide surveillance data available), the annual rate of newly reported cases of chronic hepatitis C is estimated at 89 cases per 100,000

population in California (about 35,500 cases), which is a 10% decrease from 2017. According to 2023 CDC data, there were 11,194 deaths with hepatitis C listed as a cause of death in the U.S. (2.52 deaths per 100,000 population).

Hepatitis C screening and treatment. AASLD-IDSA, the CDC, and the U.S. Preventive Services Task Force recommend universal one-time HCV screening for adults aged 18 years and older. The purpose of antiviral treatment regimens for HCV infection is to prevent long-term health complications of chronic HCV infection. According to CHBRP, despite recommendations for universal HCV screening, studies have found delays in diagnosis and linkage to treatment for patients with HCV. A large national study published in the journal *Digestive Diseases* in September 2025 identified delayed diagnosis in 90% of patients with chronic hepatitis C, and 75% of patients experienced liver complications, despite availability of DAA treatment. This study also found that the majority of hepatitis C patients started DAA treatment after a liver complication had occurred, and only 6% of nondelayed diagnosis patients started DAA treatment more than two years before liver complications occurred. For individuals with HCV infection, the AASLD/IDSA guidelines include simplified HCV treatment algorithms for adults who have never been treated without cirrhosis. These simplified algorithms decrease requirements for pretreatment assessments for uncomplicated patients and are intended to be used by any health care provider knowledgeable about HCV treatment as long as they can consult a specialist if needed. The AASLD-IDSA guidelines recommend DAA treatment for all adults with acute or chronic HCV infection (except for individuals with short life expectancy). There are currently five DAA treatments available. Typical treatment duration is 8 to 12 weeks; some patients with decompensated cirrhosis receive treatment for 24 weeks. Three DAAs are pangenotypic (the treatments specified in this bill, applicable to any HCV genotype) and considered first-line treatment.

Although the guidelines continue to recommend interventions and lifestyle changes to prevent further liver damage, they no longer condition initiation of antiviral therapy on abstinence from alcohol or sobriety testing, genotype testing, or other tests for cirrhosis. According to CHBRP, as guidelines have continued to evolve, prior authorization requirements have not kept pace with updated guidelines by continuing to require pretreatment assessments. Pretreatment assessments commonly required as part of prior authorization requirements include those prohibited under this bill.

Prior authorization. Prior authorization is a form of utilization review or utilization management. California has a standardized form for prior authorization submissions. If a health plan or insurer fails to respond to the prior authorization

request within 72 hours for nonurgent requests, and within 24 hours if exigent circumstances exist, upon the receipt of a completed form, the request is deemed granted. In 2023, at the request of the Legislature, CHBRP conducted a survey of California-regulated plans and insurers and found that overall, between 5% and 15% of all covered medical services, and between 16% and 25% of pharmacy benefits, were subject to prior authorization requirements. While there were significant differences among plans, some of the most frequently requested services and treatments were not necessarily the most expensive categories of treatments. Many under the medical benefit were services or treatment for ongoing care, such as behavioral health services and physical, occupational, or speech therapies. Some were rare or more expensive, but with low utilization rates.

SB 306 process. A growing number of bills have been introduced over the past ten years to remove health plan and insurer prior authorization requirements for a variety of health care services and treatments. Last year the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, SB 306 (Becker, Chapter 408, Statutes of 2025), which will exempt health care services that have high approval rates (90% or higher) from prior authorization by health plans and insurers. During the debate over SB 306, supporters stated that insurance companies frequently use prior authorization as a cost-control tool, but that it often results in delays or denials of essential treatments for patients. SB 306 set up a process by which high-approval services do not require prior authorization. In July 2026, plans and insurers began reporting information to their regulators about prior authorization approval rates, and regulators are required to publish a list of services that receive prior authorization at least 90% of the time. Beginning January 1, 2028, health plans and insurers will cease requiring prior authorizations for services with high approval rates as identified by the regulators. DMHC/CDI are also required to publish a report regarding the impact of the cessation of prior authorization requirements and include data on the volume of covered health care services subjected to prior authorization, statistics on prior authorization requests and determinations, administrative costs, timely access to care, enrollee health outcomes, and data on reinstatements of prior authorization.

SB 306 allows health plans and insurers to continue prior authorizations on a variety of services, such as a novel application of existing therapy, services by an out-of-network or noncontracting provider, clear and convincing concerns about fraud or clinically inappropriate care, and services that are used differently from the use approved or cleared by the FDA. Additionally, outpatient drugs in Tier 3 or Tier 4 of a drug formulary are excluded from the SB 306 process. Tier 3 and Tier 4 drugs are defined in existing law as brand name drugs that generally have a

preferred and less costly therapeutic alternative at a lower tier and specialty drugs. The drugs specified under this bill are Tier 3 and 4 drugs.

CHBRP report. 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:

a) Benefit Coverage. Among the 13.2 million enrollees with a state-regulated pharmacy benefit, CHBRP estimates 5.7 million enrollees (43%) are in plans or policies out of compliance with this bill due to prior authorization requirements, and 7.5 million enrollees (57%) are in plans or policies that are compliant. This bill would not exceed essential health benefits.
b) Medical Effectiveness. There is very strong evidence that DAAs are effective at treating hepatitis C, with cure rates above 95% for most medications. There is strong evidence that there is no difference in effectiveness among DAAs. There is some evidence that removing prior authorization requirements leads to increased utilization of DAAs and not enough research to determine whether removing prior authorization for DAAs improves health outcomes.
c) Cost Impacts. Among the 3,423 enrollees with a state-regulated pharmacy benefit that included prior authorization requirements at baseline who are diagnosed with hepatitis C within the first year, approximately 10% (or 342 enrollees) would receive DAAs. Postmandate, these enrollees would avoid an estimated 924 pretreatment tests and services per year from the removal of prior authorization requirements, resulting in an annual estimated decrease of $346 in costs per enrollee. Furthermore, postmandate, CHBRP estimates the treatment rate for enrollees diagnosed with hepatitis C would increase to 11%, leading to 34 additional enrollees receiving DAAs to treat hepatitis C at a cost of $33,000 per course of treatment. Of these newly treated enrollees, 95% are estimated to be cured, reducing average annual costs associated with clinical complications of untreated hepatitis C by $7,650 per enrollee, resulting in the change in their expenses to range from a decrease of $895 to an increase of $644 depending on the market segment and plan design. Total annual premiums would increase by $708,000, paid by employers and enrollees ($0.0020-$0.0134 per member per month). This premium increase applies to all enrollees regardless of whether they use the benefit. Aggregate cost sharing among enrollees who use DAAs would decrease by $40,000.

d) Public Health Impacts. CHBRP projects no measurable public health impact at the population level due to the small, estimated increase in utilization. However, this bill would likely yield health and quality-of-life improvements for the 34 additional enrollees using DAAs and the 342 enrollees avoiding pretreatment assessments no longer required under prior authorization. Barriers related to cost sharing and access to screening and treatment may remain.
e) Long-Term Impacts. Recent updates to HCV treatment guidelines have expanded eligibility, decreased requirements for testing and monitoring, and emphasized that HCV treatment can often be managed by nonspecialist providers. Increased uptake of the recently updated guidelines in conjunction with the removal of prior authorization is likely to increase the number of nonspecialists prescribing DAA therapy for patients with HCV infection, thereby increasing access to treatment and cure.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

End Hep C San Francisco (co-source)
San Francisco AIDS Foundation (co-source)
Access Support Network
AIDS Healthcare Foundation
APLA Health
Beyond AIDS Foundation
Bienestar Human Services
California Academy of Preventive Medicine
California & Hawai'i Chapter of the American Academy of HIV Medicine
California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network
California Life Sciences Association
California Medical Association
Community Health Project Los Angeles
County Health Executives Association of California
DAP Health
Drug Policy Alliance
GLIDE
Health Access California
Health Officers Association of California
HealthRIGHT 360
Insurance Commissioner Ricardo Lara / California Department of Insurance
Kedren Community Health Center

Liver Coalition of San Diego
National Health Law Program
Sunburst Projects

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: San Francisco AIDS Foundation and End Hep C SF write that the definitive medical guidelines for hepatitis C treatment in the U.S., published by AASLD-IDSA, recommend timely treatment for almost all people living with HCV. The guidelines also note that treating hepatitis C is highly cost-effective. Treating hepatitis C saves the health care system money. This stands to reason: the cost of a single course of medication is much lower than the cost of treating a lifetime of complications like cirrhosis and liver failure (and the cost of treating one person with HCV is clearly lower than the cost of treating multiple people to whom the first person may otherwise transmit the virus). Supporters state that based on the AASLD-IDSA guidelines and cost-effectiveness analyses, the Department of Health Care Services has in recent years eliminated from the Medi-Cal Rx formulary all potential barriers to treatment, including prior-authorization requirements. In contrast, many commercial health insurers selling policies in California do impose prior authorization requirements on treatment. In addition, as part of their processes, many of these insurers request information or procedures that are no longer required for treatment. For example, some insurers ask for the "genotype" (i.e., distinct genetic strain) of the patient's HCV, but current medications treat all genotypes (i.e., are "pangenotypic"). Others request liver biopsies, which are not recommended before HCV treatment–but are costly and dangerous. Requiring prior authorization for HCV medications and requesting unnecessary information or procedures as part of their processes, often results in people with HCV not getting the treatment they need. Both surveys of providers and analyses of patient data indicate that prior authorization causes delays in care, treatment abandonment, and ultimately worse health. Many people with HCV have a history of injection drug use and/or incarceration, so may face a high level of instability in their lives. This puts them at elevated risk of falling out of care due to barriers such as prior authorization. About two thirds of people who have private insurance and are diagnosed with HCV do not successfully initiate treatment within 360 days; prior authorization is one reason why.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Association of California Life & Health Insurance Companies and California Association of Health Plans

(ACLHIC/CAHP) writes that while they appreciate the intent of this bill, they oppose the provisions of the bill that would limit a health plan's/insurer's ability to conduct prior authorization. Just last year, the Legislature enacted SB 306, establishing a comprehensive regulatory process to evaluate the use of prior authorization and determine which services and medications should be exempt from those requirements. As part of that process, the Legislature specifically considered whether specialty drugs, particularly higher-cost Tier 3 and Tier 4 medications, should be exempt. Ultimately, they determined these medications should remain subject to prior authorization requirements. That decision reflected the significant costs associated with many of these medications and the important role prior authorization can play in helping ensure enrollees receive clinically appropriate treatment at the lowest available cost. By removing prior authorization requirements for certain drugs used to treat hepatitis C, this bill would deviate from the Legislature's recent and deliberate policy decision to maintain utilization management safeguards for higher-cost specialty medications. Additionally, ACLHIC/CAHP remain concerned with the provision of the bill that would codify specific clinical criteria and treatment guidelines into statute. While clinical guidelines can help inform evidence-based care and establish the efficacy and safety of diagnostic tests or therapeutic interventions, codifying them into law is problematic because medical evidence and standards of care evolve over time. Guidelines are intended to support, not replace, individualized clinical decision-making, and patient needs may vary significantly from the populations on which the guidelines are based. As a result, statutory clinical requirements risk becoming outdated and may reduce the flexibility needed to incorporate new evidence and advances in care.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-13, 5/21/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, 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, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Dixon, Garcia, Jeff Gonzalez, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Wallis

Prepared by: Melanie Moreno / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:04:20

****** 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 it 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 it's 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: 8/4/26 in Senate
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.

Senate Floor amendments of 8/4/26 add double-jointing language to ensure that the amendments made by both this bill and SB 1107 to Education Code Section 17250.20 become operative if both bills are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

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.

7) Includes double-jointing language to ensure that the amendments made by both this bill and SB 1107 to Education Code Section 17250.20 become operative if both bills are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

Comments

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."

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.

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.

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.

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 8/5/26)

International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (co-source)
State Building and Construction Trades Council of California (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
Western States Council Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transportation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

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
8/5/26 16:20:51

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1873
Author: Bennett (D)
Amended: 5/27/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

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

SUBJECT: County of Ventura: fire suppression: backup energy source

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises existing requirements, set to take effect July 1, 2030, for Ventura County water suppliers to extend the time for mobile or mutual aid backup energy sources to come online from 60 minutes to 90 minutes after a loss of power, requires water suppliers to notify the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services if that backup power is not available within 90 minutes, sets a July 1, 2027, deadline to develop an emergency preparedness plan, and adds a new assessment item to the existing post-fire reporting requirements.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Commencing July 1, 2030, requires a water supplier, as specified, to have access to sufficient backup energy sources to operate critical fire suppression infrastructure needed to apply water for at least 24 hours for the purpose of fire

suppression in high or very high fire hazard severity zones (HFHSZ or VHFHSZ, respectively) in Ventura County, as specified, or have access to alternative sources of water supplied by a different water supplier or agency, as specified. (Water Code (WAT) §7080(a)(1))

2) Authorizes a water supplier to use mobile backup energy sources or procure an energy source via an established mutual aid agreement provided that the backup energy source can provide power within 12 hours of the National Weather Service alerting the region of a red flag warning and provide power for at least 24 hours after a loss of power and within 60 minutes of a loss of power. (WAT §7080(a)(2))

3) Requires a water supplier to establish an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing water service in coordination with the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services (VC OES) and the Ventura County Fire Department (VCFD). (WAT §7080(d)(1)(A))

4) Requires a water supplier, if the National Weather Service alerts the region of a red flag warning, to initiate action under the above-described emergency preparedness plan. (WAT §7080(d)(2)).

5) Requires the VCFD, in cooperation with the water supplier, to make a report if any fire damages and makes uninhabitable more than 10 residential dwellings within the service area of the water supplier. The report is required to include:

   a) Whether water tanks were filled at an appropriate level for fire suppression, as outlined in the emergency preparedness plan.

   b) Whether disruption of water delivery due to lack of electricity was timely and appropriately mitigated by the water supplier.

   c) Whether critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources met certain fire safety standards developed by the VCFD.

This bill:

1) Extends the time for mobile or mutual aid backup energy sources to come online from 60 minutes to 90 minutes after a loss of power, or as soon as practically possible after deenergization. Requires the water supply to notify VC OES as soon as practically possible, but no later than 3 business days after a loss of power, if the backup energy source does not provide power within 90 minutes of a loss of power.

2) Requires the emergency preparedness plan to be established by July 1, 2027.

3) Adds a new assessment item to the post-fire reporting requirements that would require VCFD to include whether a water supplier that used mobile backup energy source or mutual aid agreement for a backup energy source notified the VC OES due to a loss of power and the amount of time critical infrastructure for that water supplier experienced a loss of power.

[Note: For additional information on this bill, see the Senate Natural Resources and Water and Senate Emergency Management Committees' bill analyses.]

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Professional Firefighters
City of Thousand Oaks
County of Ventura

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "Ventura County has experienced its three most destructive fires in the last 8 years - Thomas (2017), Woosley (2018), and Mountain (2024). Last year, I authored AB 367 to ensure that Ventura County will be able to use its resources to their maximum effectiveness. As that bill moved through the process I committed to working with cities in my district to address potential implementation concerns. This bill, AB 1873, reflects the collaborative discussion we had with our local water suppliers about their implementation issues. It makes sensible changes that preserve the integrity of last year's bill while creating more efficient paths towards effective implementation."

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: Katharine Moore, Genevieve Wong / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
8/5/26 15:04:21

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1875
Author: Hart (D), et al.
Amended: 8/4/26 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.

Senate Floor amendments of 8/3/2026 make a non-substantive change and add co-authors.

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 8/3/26)

California Baptist Capitol Ministry
California Women's Law Center
Coalition of California Welfare Rights Organizations
Domestic Violence Solutions
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office
Santa Barbara Women's Political Action Committee
Sacramento Regional Family Justice Center Foundation

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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
8/5/26 16:20:51

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1876
Author: Addis (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/12/26
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 7-1, 6/3/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez
NOES: Grove
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-1, 6/23/26
AYES: Umberg, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Niello
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-17, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health care coverage: nondiscrimination

SOURCE: California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network
Equality California
Gender Justice LA
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
The TransLatin@ Coalition
TransFamily Support Services

DIGEST: This bill 1) codifies a federal regulation to prevent a person from being excluded from enrollment or participation in, denied the benefits of, or subjected to discrimination by any state health plan or health insurer on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex; and 2) defines "discrimination on the basis of sex" to include but not be limited to discrimination on the basis of sex

characteristics, including intersex traits; pregnancy or related conditions; sexual orientation; gender identity; and sex stereotypes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes the federal Affordable Care Act (ACA), which, among other provisions, establishes health insurance coverage requirements for Americans and federal subsidies available through health care marketplaces (exchanges) for those Americans who qualify. (Pub. L. No. 111-148)

2) Establishes, in Section 1557 of the ACA, that an individual shall not, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any health program or activity that receives federal financial assistance or under any program or activity that is administered by a federal entity. (42 U.S.C. §18116)

Existing state law:

1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 (Knox-Keene Act) and the California Department of Insurance (CDI) to regulate health insurers under the Insurance Code. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1340, et seq. and Insurance Code (INS) §106, et seq.]

2) Prohibits a health plan or specialized health plan from denying a contract because of the race, color, national origin, ancestry, religion, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, or age of any contracting party, prospective contracting party, or person reasonably expected to benefit from that contract as a subscriber, enrollee, member, or otherwise. Deems it a violation for any health plan to utilize marital status, living arrangements, occupation, sex, beneficiary designation, ZIP Codes or other territorial classification, or any combination thereof for the purpose of establishing sexual orientation. “Sex” and “gender” have the same meaning. [HSC §1365.5]

3) Prohibits an admitted insurer, licensed to issue life or disability insurance, from failing or refusing to accept an application for insurance, to issue that insurance to an applicant, or issue or cancel that insurance, under conditions less favorable to the insured than in other comparable cases, except for reasons applicable alike to persons of every race, color, religion, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, national origin, ancestry, or sexual orientation.

Prohibits race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, or sexual orientation from constituting a condition or risk for which a higher rate, premium, or charge may be required of the insured for that insurance. [INS §10140]

4) Deems it a violation of 3) above, for any insurer to consider sexual orientation in its underwriting criteria or to utilize marital status, living arrangements, occupation, sex, beneficiary designation, ZIP Codes or other territorial classification within this state, or any combination thereof for the purpose of establishing sexual orientation or determining whether to require a test for the presence of HIV or antibodies to that virus, where that testing is otherwise permitted by law. [INS §10140]

5) Defines "sex" to have the same meaning as "gender." "Gender" 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. [INS §10140]

This bill:

1) Prohibits a subscriber, enrollee, policyholder, or insured from being excluded from enrollment or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subject to discrimination by, any health plan or health insurer licensed in California on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability, or sex.

2) Includes as "discrimination based on sex" discrimination based on sex characteristics, including intersex traits; pregnancy or related conditions; sexual orientation; gender identity; and sex stereotypes.

3) Prohibits a health plan or health insurer from:
   a) Denying or limiting health care services, including those typically or exclusively provided to, or associated with, individuals of one sex, to an individual based upon the individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or gender otherwise recorded;
   b) Denying or limiting, on the basis of an individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or gender otherwise recorded, a health care professional's ability to provide health care services if the denial or limitation has the effect of excluding individuals from participation in, denying them the benefits of, or otherwise subjecting them to discrimination on the basis of sex under a covered health plan or health insurance policy;
   c) Adopting or applying any policy or practice of treating individuals differently or separating them on the basis of sex in a manner that subjects any individual to more than de minimis harm, including by adopting a policy

or engaging in a practice that prevents an individual from participating in a health plan or health insurance policy consistent with the individual's gender identity; and,

d) Denying or limiting health care services sought for purpose of gender transition or other gender-affirming care that the health plan or health insurance policy would otherwise cover if that denial or limitation is based on an individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or gender otherwise recorded.

4) Prohibits a health plan or health insurer from doing any of the following:
   a) Denying, canceling, limiting, or refusing to issue or renew health plan enrollment, health insurance coverage or other health-related coverage, or denying or limiting coverage of a claim, or imposing additional cost-sharing or other limitations or restrictions on coverage, on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or any combination thereof;
   b) Having or implementing marketing practices or benefit designs that discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, disability, or any combination thereof, in health plan or health insurance coverage or other health-related coverage;
   c) Denying or limiting coverage, denying or limiting coverage of a claim, or imposing additional cost-sharing or other limitations or restrictions on coverage, to an individual based upon the individual's sex assigned at birth, gender identity, or gender otherwise recorded;
   d) Having or implementing a categorical coverage exclusion or limitation for all health care services related to gender transition or other gender-affirming care;
   e) Otherwise denying or limiting coverage, denying or limiting coverage of a claim, or imposing additional cost-sharing or other limitations or restrictions on coverage, for specific health care services related to gender transition or other gender-affirming care if such denial, limitation, or restriction results in discrimination on the basis of sex; and,
   f) Having or implementing benefit designs that do not provide or administer health plan or health insurance coverage or other health-related coverage in the most integrated setting appropriate to the needs of qualified individuals with disabilities, including practices that result in the serious risk of institutionalization or segregation.

5) Does not require access to, or coverage of, a health care service for which a health plan or health insurer has a legitimate, nondiscriminatory reason for denying or limiting access to, or coverage of the health care service or determining that the health care service is not clinically appropriate for a

particular individual or fails to meet applicable coverage requirements. Prohibits a health plan's or health insurer's determination from being based on lawful animus or bias or constitute a pretext for discrimination.

6) Requires a health plan's or health insurer's evidence of coverage and disclosure forms to include specified information in a notice to enrollees or insureds regarding the requirements of this bill.

Comments

According to the author:

> The Trump Administration has taken steps to dismantle long-standing discrimination protections embedded in Section 1557 of the ACA. This bill takes proactive steps to codify these non-discrimination protections into California statute ensuring that all Californians maintain equitable access to healthcare.

Background

Section 1557. Title I of the ACA, "Quality, Affordable Health Care for All Americans," establishes Section 1557 which provides that, except as otherwise provided in title I of the ACA, an individual shall not, on the grounds prohibited under title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, or section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under, any health program or activity, any part of which is receiving federal financial assistance, including credits, subsidies, or contracts of insurance, or under any program or activity that is administered by an executive agency or any entity established under title I of the ACA. This applies to health programs or activities administered by recipients of federal financial assistance from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), HHS-administered health programs or activities, and title I entities that administer health programs or activities.

Section 1557 and associated rulemaking have been subject to a variety of challenges. Injunctions prohibiting enforcement of gender identity in the definition of sex discrimination are in place and will remain in place unless or until new regulations are promulgated or a federal administration takes a different action. According to the California Senate Judiciary Committee analysis of this bill, in 2020, the Supreme Court held in *Bostock v. Clayton County* that "discrimination on the basis of sex" under the federal Title VII, which prohibits discrimination in

the workplace on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin, extends to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. Additionally, the analysis indicates "Several federal district court judges issued nationwide injunctions to prevent HHS's interpretation of Section 1557 and the final rule from taking effect. As it stands, there is no definitive federal court ruling on whether the rationale of *Bostock v. Clayton County* applies to Section 1557. The Ninth Circuit has, however, held that Bostock's rationale applies in claims for discrimination on the basis of gender identity under Title IX, suggesting it would do the same in a Section 1557 challenge."

Executive Order 14187. This executive order issued by President Trump on January 28, 2025, directed the Secretary of the federal HHS to end gender-affirming care for people 18 years and younger under Section 1557 and to withdraw Biden Administration guidance extending Section 1557 to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity. The California Senate Judiciary Committee analysis of this bill indicates that this executive order "facially discriminates against transgender youth and 18-year-olds, denying them treatments that are still available to cisgender individuals." Portions of this and other actions by the Trump administration have been enjoined on a nationwide basis, including any associated funding freezes but Section 1557 is still operative because a president cannot override an act of Congress with an executive order.

Trans-Inclusive Care. According to DMHC, Trans-Inclusive Care is defined in state law as "comprehensive health care that is consistent with the standards of care for individuals who identify as transgender, gender diverse, or intersex (TGI), honors an individual's personal bodily autonomy, does not make assumptions about an individual's gender, accepts gender fluidity and nontraditional gender presentation, and treats everyone with compassion, understanding, and respect." DMHC indicates that DMHC licensed health plans and CDI licensed insurers are required by California law to provide health plan enrollees and insureds who identify as TGI with medically necessary gender affirming care.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 418 (Menjivar of 2025) in addition to the same discrimination protections as in this bill, would have permitted a person to receive coverage for a 12-month supply of federal Food and Drug Administration-approved prescription hormone therapy, and necessary supplies for self-administration, prescribed by an in-network provider and dispensed at one time, as specified, and contained an urgency clause that would have made the bill effective upon enactment. The bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom who wrote in the veto message:

This bill would require health plans and insurers to cover a 12-month supply of federal Food and Drug Administration-approved prescription hormone therapy, and necessary supplies for self-administration, prescribed by an in network provider and dispensed at one time without utilization management (UM).

I appreciate the author's intent to ensure patient access to the comprehensive care they need. While there are provisions of this bill that are worthy of support, I am concerned about the limitation on the use of UM, which is an important tool to ensure enrollees receive the right care at the right time. Prohibiting this cost containment strategy is likely to result in an increase in enrollee premiums to offset costs incurred by health plans and insurers. At a time when individuals are facing double-digit rate increases in their health care premiums across the nation, we must take great care to not enact policies that further drive up the cost of health care, no matter how well-intended.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network (cosource)
Equality California (cosource)
Gender Justice LA (cosource)
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California (cosource)
The TransLatin@ Coalition (cosource)
TransFamily Support Services (cosource)
Access Reproductive Justice
American Civil Liberties Union California Action
Advocates for Trans Equality
Alliance for TransYouth Rights
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
American Association of University Women - California
American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists - District IX
Asian Americans Advancing Justice - Southern California
California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists
California Behavioral Health Association
California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls

California Federation of Teachers
California Foundation for Independent Living Centers
California Legislative LGBTQ Caucus
California Pan - Ethnic Health Network
California Podiatric Medical Association
California Primary Care Association Advocates
California Psychological Association
California Service Employees International Union
City and County of San Francisco Department on the Status of Women
City of West Hollywood
County Behavioral Health Directors Association
Courage California
Disability Rights California
El/La Para Translatinas
Gender Affirming Professionals
Health Access California
Hmong Innovating Politics
Justice in Aging
LGBTQ Connection
LGBTQ+ Inclusivity, Visibility, and Empowerment
Los Angeles LGBT Center
Los Angeles LGBTQ+ Chamber of Commerce
Lyon-Martin Community Health Services
Mirror Memoirs
National Health Law Program
Oakland Privacy
ParivarBayArea
Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Clayton-Concord
PFLAG Fresno
PFLAG Oakland-East Bay
PFLAG Sacramento
PFLAG San Diego County
PFLAG San Jose/Peninsula
Placer LGBTQ+ Center
Rainbow Families Action Bay Area
San Francisco AIDS Foundation
Saturn’s Wish
The Children's Partnership
The Landing Spot
The San Diego LGBT Community Center

Transgender Health and Wellness Center
Western Center on Law & Poverty, Inc.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Family Council
Californians United for Sex-based Evidence in Policy and Law
Concerned Women for America
Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender
International Foundation for Therapeutic and Counseling Choice
Lesbians Advocating for a Resilient Future
LGB Alliance Foundation
LGB Courage Coalition
Our Duty
Serving Family Values Alliance
Women Are Real
Women's Declaration International USA, Inc.
Women's Liberation Front

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: This bill is cosponsored by the TransLatin@ Coalition to ensure that TGI, LGBTQ+, and non-English speaking people, along with pregnant people seeking abortion care services, cannot be denied or limited coverage for medically necessary health care. The TransLatin @ Coalition writes, "Given the Federal Administration's deliberate efforts to roll back these protections, formalizing these protections on the state level is increasingly vital. In the first month of this administration, the President issued sixty-four executive orders, one of which is Executive Order 14187. This executive order functions as a denial of the existence of TGI people and consequently directs federal agencies to withhold funding from healthcare institutions and providers that offer gender-affirming care." Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California., another cosponsor, supports public policy that fosters a social climate of acceptance, non-discrimination, destigmatization, and legal justice for all. Equality California, another cosponsor, writes that this bill strengthens and reaffirms California's nondiscrimination protections to ensure TGI people can access medically necessary care without discrimination. Also, a cosponsor, the California LGBTQ Health and Human Services Network writes that this bill is a vital shield that guarantees the right to inclusive, respectful, and life-saving healthcare regardless of the shifting political climate in Washington D.C. Gender Justice LA, an additional cosponsor, writes with recent federal actions rolling back these protections, California has both the opportunity and responsibility to lead by ensuring that all residents can continue to rely on fair and equitable access to

health care, and enshrining these provisions into state law through this bill will protect vulnerable communities from discrimination and ensure equal treatment for vulnerable communities. Disability Rights California believes that personal independence is a basic right for every person, including a person's right to develop their personality, to express hopes and dreams, and to make choices that permit the Dignity of Risk (a concept that ensures informed decision-making by helping a client understand the risks associated with an action while not attempting to force them to choose what is viewed culturally or socially as better).

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The California Family Council writes "by treating an insurer's denial of coverage as unlawful discrimination, this bill removes insurers' discretion to assess medical necessity, long-term risks, and evolving scientific evidence, particularly when the patient is a minor. These interventions carry serious lifelong consequences, including impacts on bone density, fertility, cardiovascular health, and neurological development… Additionally, this bill poses serious religious liberty concerns." Concerned Women for America Legislative Action Committee writes "the long-term consequences of these interventions – such as hormone treatments and surgical procedures – on the natural development of the human body remain largely unknown. Moreover, these medical procedures often lead to irreversible outcomes, which can have lasting effects on an individual's physical and psychological well-being. The side effects and complications associated with experimental drugs and treatments may increase the need for ongoing medical care and pharmaceuticals in the future, which could place a health financial burden on patients and the broader healthcare system." The Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender writes "this bill is a coverage mandate that requires insurers to cover a category of interventions regardless of the quality of evidence supporting them. This bill will harm Californians, mandating coverage for medical interventions that an increasing body of international and national evidence has found to be not only unsafe but actively harmful – interventions that disproportionately affect gender nonconforming minors, gays and lesbians, youth on the autism spectrum, and vulnerable adults. Section (b)(3)(D) of the proposed legislation prohibits any 'categorical coverage exclusion' for 'gender transition' or 'gender-affirming care,' ensuring that this cohort receives damaging medical interventions unsupported by credible evidence." LGB Alliance USA writes "1367.0435 purports to allow for 'legitimate, nondiscrimination reason' for denying claims, it still allows for litigation of claim denials that are due to 'unlawful animus or bias or constitute a pretext for discrimination.' This could make any claim denial subject to legal scrutiny, potentially resulting in insurance providers being afraid of making medically appropriate decisions for transgender patients… This bill ignores the vulnerabilities of LGB Californians, ignores the

hazards of gender medicalization in youth, and dangerously conflates gender identity with sex in medical care."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 56-17, 5/4/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, 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, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Bennett, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen

Prepared by: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:04:17

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1886
Author: Elhawary (D)
Amended: 6/16/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-21, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Wards: probation

SOURCE: Alliance for Boys & Men of Color
California Alliance for Youth and Community Justice
California Youth Connection
California Youth Defender Center
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice
Fresh Lifelines for Youth
National Center for Youth Law
Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition
W. Haywood Burns Institute
Western Center on Law & Poverty

DIGEST: This bill removes the exclusion of wards who have been ordered to be under the supervision of the probation officer in specified out-of-home placements from the general 12-month limitation on juvenile probation.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) States that the purpose of the juvenile court law is to provide for the protection and safety of the public and each minor under the jurisdiction of the juvenile

court and to preserve and strengthen the minor's family ties whenever possible, removing the minor from the custody of the minor's parents only when necessary for the minor's welfare or for the safety and protection of the public. Requires the juvenile court and other public agencies charged with enforcing, interpreting, and administering the juvenile court law to consider the safety and protection of the public, the importance of redressing injuries to victims, and the best interests of the minor in all deliberations. (Welfare (Welf.) & Institutions (Inst.) Code, § 202, subds. (a) & (d).)

2) Provides that a minor between 12 and 17 years of age, inclusive, who violates any law defining a crime, and a minor under 12 years of age who is alleged to have committed murder or a specified sex offense, is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, which may adjudge the minor to be a ward of the court. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.)

3) Provides that the juvenile court may retain jurisdiction over a ward until the person attains 21 years of age, except that if the wardship is based on the commission of a specified serious offense, the juvenile court may retain jurisdiction until age 23, unless the ward would have faced an aggregate sentence of seven years or more in criminal court, in which case the juvenile court may retain jurisdiction until age 25. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 607, subds. (a)-(c).)

4) Authorizes the juvenile court to place a ward of the court on supervised probation. Authorizes the court to make any reasonable orders for the care, supervision, custody, conduct, maintenance, and support of the ward. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 727.)

5) Prohibits a minor adjudged to be a ward of the court who is subject to an order of probation, with or without supervision of the probation officer, from remaining on probation for a period that exceeds 12 months from the most recent disposition hearing, except as specified. Specifies that a court is not precluded from holding progress review hearings at any point prior to 12 months from the most recent disposition hearing. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (a).)

6) Authorizes a court may extend the probation period after a noticed hearing and upon proof by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the ward's and the public's best interest, consistent with Section 202. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (b).)

7) Requires the probation agency to submit a report to the court detailing the basis for any request to extend probation. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (b)(1).)

8) Requires the court to provide the ward and the prosecuting attorney with the opportunity to present relevant evidence. Provides that the court has discretion to receive evidence by testimony, declaration, and other documentary evidence. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (b)(2).)

9) Requires the court, in cases in which the court finds by a preponderance of the evidence a basis for extending probation, to state the reasons for the findings orally on the record. Requires the court to also set forth the reasons in an order entered upon the minutes if requested by either party or when the proceedings are not being recorded electronically or reported by a court reporter. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (b)(3).)

10) Requires, if the court finds good cause to continue the noticed hearing, probation to continue until completion of the noticed hearing, provided that continuance is only as long as necessary. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (b)(4).)

11) Requires the court, if it extends probation at the noticed hearing, to schedule and hold subsequent noticed hearings for the ward not less frequently than every six months for the remainder of the wardship period. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (c).)

12) Specifies that termination of a ward's probation before the end of a twelve-month period is permitted. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (d).)

13) Requires the court to comply with the provisions of existing law prior to terminating jurisdiction over a youth who is a minor or was a nonminor or ward subject to an order for foster care placement. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (e).)

14) Provides that the limit on a youth's probation term does not apply to any ward whom the court ordered the care, custody, and control of the minor or nonminor to be under the supervision of the probation officer, as specified, for foster care placement. Prohibits the requirement to comply with the provisions of Section 607.2 from being the sole basis for continuing an order imposing terms and conditions of probation. Provides that if the court retains jurisdiction, the ward shall not be subject to a removal petition directing an out-of-home placement or a violation of probation. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (f).)

15) Provides that the limit on a youth's probation term does not apply to a ward while serving a custodial commitment to a juvenile hall, juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (g).)

16) Provides that the limit on a youth's probation term does not apply to any ward who is transferred from a secure youth treatment facility (SYTF) to a less restrictive program (LRP) or to any ward who is discharged from an SYTF pursuant to a probation discharge hearing. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 602.05, subd. (h).)

17) Requires the court to hold a hearing prior to terminating jurisdiction over a ward who satisfies any of the following criteria:

    a) Is a minor subject to an order for foster care placement as a ward who has not previously been subject to the jurisdiction of the court, as specified.
    b) Is a nonminor who was subject to an order for foster care placement as a ward on the day he or she attained 18 years of age.
    c) Is a ward who was subject to an order for foster care placement as a dependent of the court at the time the court adjudged the child to be a ward of the court, as specified. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 607.2, subd. (a).)

This bill:

1) Prohibits, prior to the court's termination of jurisdiction over a youth in foster care, the requirement to comply with existing law pertaining to the termination of that jurisdiction, from being a basis for extending the probation period. Provides that if the procedures described in Section 607.2 cannot be completed before the end of the period of probation, the court may maintain jurisdiction beyond the end of the probation period for the purpose of compliance. Prohibits the court from imposing any terms and conditions of probation or any other conditions of performance or compliance on the ward during this period of extended jurisdiction.

2) Deletes a provision of existing law that states that the general limit on a juvenile probation term does not apply to a minor or nonminor who is on supervised probation and in a foster care placement.

Background

There are a number of dispositional outcomes available to the juvenile court for minors who are before the court based on the commission of a crime, including diversion, informal probation, and wardship probation. For minors placed on wardship probation, the court may order probation with or without the supervision of a probation officer.

The California Department of Justice reported that in 2024, over 11,000 youth in California were placed on wardship probation. (Office of the Attorney General, *Juvenile Justice in California* (2025), p. 40, available at <https://data-openjustice.doj.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2025-07/Juvenile%20Justice%20In%20CA%202024%20final.pdf .) The report included the percentage of each type of juvenile court disposition (e.g., wardship, informal probation, dismissed, etc.) within each racial or ethnic category, and indicated that 43.2% of White youths were placed on wardship probation, 54.2% Hispanic youths were placed on wardship probation, 49.7% Black youths were placed on wardship probation, and 41.6% of youth identified as "Other" were placed on wardship probation. (*Id*. at p. 41.)

AB 1376 (Bonta, Chapter 575, Statutes of 2025), established a presumptive 12-month limit that a ward may remain on probation. Welfare and Institutions Code section 602.05 authorizes a court to extend the probation period after a noticed hearing and upon proof by a preponderance of the evidence that it is in the ward's and the public's best interest. Existing law requires the court to hold noticed hearings for the ward not less frequently than every 6 months for the remainder of the wardship period if the court extends probation.

Notably, AB 1376 excluded from the 12-month limitation on probation any ward that has been ordered to be under the supervision of the probation officer for placement in specified out-of-home placements; any ward serving a custodial commitment to a juvenile hall, juvenile home, ranch, camp, or forestry camp; and, any ward who is transferred from an SYTF to an LRP or who has been discharged from an SYTF.

Proponents of the bill argue that AB 1376 excluded foster youth, creating an inequity that this bill seeks to address. To address this concern, this bill prohibits, prior to the court's termination of jurisdiction over a youth in foster care, the requirement to comply with existing law pertaining to the termination of that jurisdiction, from being a basis for extending the probation period. However, the

bill provides that if the procedures described in Section 607.2 cannot be completed before the end of the period of probation, the court may maintain jurisdiction beyond the end of the probation period for the purpose of compliance but the court is prohibited from imposing any terms and conditions of probation or any other conditions of performance or compliance on the ward during this period of extended jurisdiction. This bill also deletes a provision of existing law that states that the general limit on a juvenile probation term does not apply to a minor or nonminor who is on supervised probation and in a foster care placement.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

Alliance for Boys & Men of Color (co-source)
California Alliance for Youth and Community Justice (co-source)
California Youth Connection (co-source)
California Youth Defender Center (co-source)
Communities United for Restorative Youth Justice (co-source)
Fresh Lifelines for Youth (co-source)
National Center for Youth Law (co-source)
Sister Warriors Freedom Coalition (co-source)
W. Haywood Burns Institute (co-source)
Western Center on Law & Poverty (co-source)
A New Path
Alianza for Opportunity
All of US or None-Sacramento
All of US or None Riverside
Alliance of Californians for Community Empowerment Action
Asian Solidarity Collective
Back to the Start
BAY-Peace
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action, California
Bridges of Hope CA
Brotherhood Crusade
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
California Coalition for Women Prisoners
California Community Foundation
California for Safety and Justice
California Public Defenders Association
California School-Based Health Alliance

Californians for Safety and Justice
Californians United for a Responsible Budget
Cancel the Contract
Cancel the Contract Antelope Valley
Center for Juvenile Law and Policy, Loyola Law School
Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice
Children Now
Children's Defense Fund-CA
Coalition of California State Tribes
Coleman Advocates for Children & Youth
Community Interventions
Community Works
Consumer Attorneys of California
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Equity California
Essie Justice Group
Fair Chance Project
Families Inspiring Reentry & Reunification 4 Everyone
Felony Murder Elimination Project
Freedom 4 Youth;
Fresno Barrios Unidos
Friends Committee on Legislation of California
Glide Foundation
Hoops 4 Justice
Initiate Justice
Initiate Justice Action
Insideout Writers
Integral Community Solutions Institute
Jesse's Place Organization
Legal Services for Prisoners With Children
Local 148 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union
Los Angeles Brotherhood Crusade - Black United Fund
MILPA Collective
Nuestra Causa
Peace and Justice Law Center
Peace United Church of Christ, Santa Cruz
Pillars of the Community
Restore 180
Restoring Hope California
San Francisco Public Defender

Smart Justice California
The California Youth Justice Project
Ujima Adult and Family Services
Underground Grit
Universidad Popular
Urban Peace Institute
Urban Peace Movement
Youngsters for Change
Youth Alliance
Youth Law Center
Youth Leadership Institute

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

Association of Orange County Deputy Sheriffs
California Judges Association
California State Sheriffs' Association
Chief Probation Officers' of California
Sacramento County Probation Association
San Joaquin County Probation Officers Association
State Coalition of Probation Organizations

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-21, 5/28/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Papan, Pellerin, Ransom, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Alanis, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gipson, Irwin, Nguyen, Pacheco, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Soria, Valencia

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. / 916-651-4118
7/30/26 14:49:20

****** 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: Author

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.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/3/2026 make technical nonsubstantive technical clarifications and update cross-references.

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

1) *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."

2) *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.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/2026)

Community Associations Institute – California Legislative Action Committee

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

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.

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
8/5/26 16:20:50

****** 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 Distrct

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 LAFCD's agreement, "[the entity conducting the spreading] shall be responsible for and shall fully compensate and reimburse [LACFCD] immediately upon request in connection with any damage to [LACFCD's] property or facilities caused directly or indirectly by the replenishment connection or any water flowing therefrom." Thus, if water imported from the SWP were to contain invasive mussels that damaged the facility, the San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District would be responsible for mitigating the situation.

It is unknown whether all water agencies and receiving agencies that would be impacted by this bill have similar provisions within their agreements.

See Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee policy analysis of this bill for complete background information.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/22/2026)

San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Co-source)
Upper San Gabriel Valley Municipal Water District (Co-source)
Burbank Water and Power
California Municipal Utilities Association
City of Azusa
San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership
San Gabriel Valley Water Association
Three Valleys Municipal Water District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/22/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "[s]everal water agencies in Los Angeles County are being blocked from delivering imported water needed to replenish groundwater despite complying with state law and developing approved plans to address invasive mussels. These disruptions undermine the court-ordered management of the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Basin and threaten the primary drinking water source for more than 1.5 million residents, many in disadvantaged communities.

"AB 1894 ensures that critical water decisions affecting the entire state are made consistently at the state level and not through a patchwork of conflicting local rules. By aligning policy with science and existing law, this bill protects our water supply, supports emergency response needs, and upholds California's commitment to the human right to water while prioritizing strategies to mitigate the threats of the invasive Golden Mussel."

According to a coalition letter representing various water agencies, including the co-sponsors of the bill, AB 1894 would "establish clarification of the adherence of state law and regulatory guidelines when it comes to preventing, controlling, and eradicating of the newly immersed invasive golden mussel, along with other invasive species." Additionally, "the interruption of the imported water delivers also threatens the 1973 Main San Gabriel Basin Groundwater Adjudication, which expressly relies on the continued delivery of imported water to offset overdraft and maintain sustainability. Imported water deliveries are not discretionary for the Basin; it is a fundamental element of the groundwater adjudication's physical solution."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to the Valley Ag Water Coalition, writing in an opposed unless amended position, there are 4 main issues. First, "the bill usurps the authority of a groundwater recharge facility owner to protect its investment in design, permitting, and construction of the facility, and removes control of the facility from the owner by requiring it to accept the importation of water supplies from known infested bodies of water."

Second, the bill's "broad preemption of local authority could ultimately increase risks to water supply reliability by importing invasive mussels into an area that is not infested. … AB 1894 would expose … areas to infestation of golden mussels through the forced importation of State Water Project supplies from the north."

Third, "if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of the water supply system – not the entity importing the water – would be required to prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system … . AB 1894, in

effect, shifts the burden from the entity creating the problem to the operator of the water supply system that [accepts the water]."

Finally, the coalition argues that "[golden mussels] are not directly known to pose a direct threat to human health, but they do create significant safety and infrastructure risks that can be indirectly affect public well-being. Therefore, the health and safety risk exception provided …would be unlikely to ever apply."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/4/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Boerner, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bennett, Bonta, Caloza, Chen, Muratsuchi

Prepared by: Genevieve Wong / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
6/24/26 16:32:20

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1897
Author: Haney (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
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: Mentally disordered offenders: criteria for commitment

SOURCE: San Francisco District Attorney's Office

DIGEST: This bill requires a psychiatrist or psychologist, when evaluating an incarcerated person for a commitment as an offender with a mental health disorder (OMHD), to consider specified factors in determining whether the person represents a substantial danger of physical harm to others as a result of a severe mental health disorder; and authorizes a court to conduct the OMHD hearing in the county of commitment to state prison upon stipulation of the petitioner, prosecuting attorney, and defense counsel in the county of commitment to state prison.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that the Legislature finds that there are incarcerated individuals who have a treatable, severe mental health disorder that was one of the causes of, or was an aggravating factor in, the commission of the crime for which they were incarcerated. Provides that the Legislature finds that if the severe mental health disorders of those incarcerated individuals are not in remission or cannot be

kept in remission at the time of their parole or upon termination of parole, there is a danger to society, and the state has a compelling interest in protecting the public. Provides that the Legislature finds that in order to protect the public from those persons, it is necessary to provide mental health treatment until the severe mental health disorder that was one of the causes of or was an aggravating factor in the person's prior criminal behavior is in remission and can be kept in remission. (Penal [Pen.] Code, § 2960, subdivision [subd.] (a).)

2) Provides that the Legislature further finds and declares the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) should evaluate each incarcerated individual for severe mental health disorders during the first year of the person's sentence, and that incarcerated individuals with severe mental health disorders should be provided with an appropriate level of mental health treatment while in prison and when returned to the community. (Pen. Code, § 2960, subd. (b).)

3) Allows the Board of Parole Hearings (BPH), upon a showing of good cause, to order an incarcerated person to remain in custody for up to 45 days past the person's scheduled release date for a full OMHD evaluation. Defines good cause to mean circumstances where there is a recalculation of credits or a restoration of denied or lost credits, a resentencing by a court, the receipt of the incarcerated individual into custody, or equivalent exigent circumstances which result in there being less than 45 days prior to the person's scheduled release date for the OMHD evaluation. (Pen. Code, § 2963.)

4) Requires incarcerated persons who meet the following criteria to be deemed an OMHD and be treated by the Department of State Hospitals (DSH) as a condition of parole:

    a) The incarcerated person has a severe mental health disorder that is not in remission or that cannot be kept in remission without treatment.
    b) The severe mental health disorder was one of the causes of, or was an aggravating factor in, the commission of a crime for which the person was sentenced to prison.
    c) The incarcerated person has been in treatment for the severe mental health disorder for 90 days or more within the year prior to the person's parole or release.
    d) The person's severe mental health disorder indicates that the person represents a substantial danger of physical harm to others. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (a)-(d).)

5) Defines "severe mental health disorder" as an illness, disease, or condition that substantially impairs the person's thought, perception of reality, emotional process, or judgment; or that grossly impairs behavior; or that demonstrates evidence of an acute brain syndrome for which prompt remission, in the absence of treatment, is unlikely. Specifies that "severe mental health disorder" does not include a personality or adjustment disorder, epilepsy, intellectual disability or other developmental disabilities, or addiction to or abuse of intoxicating substances. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (a)(2).)

6) Defines "remission" as a finding that the overt signs and symptoms of the severe mental health disorder are controlled either by psychotropic medication or psychosocial support. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (a)(3).)

7) Provides that a person "cannot be kept in remission without treatment" if during the year prior to the question being before the BPH or a trial court, the person has been in remission and has been physically violent, except in self-defense, or has made a serious threat of substantial physical harm upon the person of another so as to cause the target of the threat to reasonably fear for their safety or the safety of their immediate family, or the person has intentionally caused property damage, or has not voluntarily followed the treatment plan. Provides that in determining if a person has voluntarily followed the treatment plan, the standard is whether the person has acted as a reasonable person would in following the treatment plan. (*Ibid*.)

8) Outlines the process by which a person is evaluated to determine whether someone meets the criteria of an OMHD. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (d).)

9) Requires the crime for which the person was sentenced to prison to meet the following criteria:

    a) The defendant received a determinate sentence.
    b) The crime is one of the following: voluntary manslaughter; mayhem; kidnapping; a robbery wherein it was charged and proved that the defendant personally used a deadly or dangerous weapon in the commission of that robbery; carjacking if the defendant personally used a deadly or dangerous weapon in the commission of the carjacking; rape; sodomy by force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury on the victim or another person; oral copulation by force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury on the victim or

another person; lewd acts on a child under 14 years of age; continuous sexual abuse; sexual penetration by force, violence, duress, menace, or fear of immediate and unlawful bodily injury on the victim or another person; arson; a felony in which the defendant used a firearm; igniting an explosive or destructive device; attempted murder; any crime not enumerated in which the person used force or violence, or caused serious bodily injury; or a crime in which the perpetrator expressly or impliedly threatened another with the use of force or violence likely to produce substantial physical harm in a manner that a reasonable person would believe and expect that the force or violence would be used. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (e).)

10) Provides that "substantial danger of physical harm" does not require proof of a recent overt act. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subd. (g).)

11) Allows the incarcerated person to request a hearing before BPH for the purpose of proving that the person meets the OMHD criteria. Provides that the person may file a petition in the superior court in the county in which the person is incarcerated or being treated. Provides that the burden of proof is on the person or agency who certified the person as an OMHD. Provides that the incarcerated person has the right to a jury trial and the right to be represented by an attorney. Provides that the standard of proof is beyond a reasonable doubt, and if the trial is by jury, the jury verdict must be unanimous. (Pen. Code, § 2966, subds. (a), (b).)

12) Requires CDCR, if the court or jury finds that the person does not meet the OMHD criteria and the person is eligible for release, to notify the probation department of the county of supervision of the pending release within five working days of the court order and work with the county of supervision to coordinate the orderly and safe release of the incarcerated person. (Pen. Code, § 2966, subd. (b).)

This bill:

1) Requires a psychiatrist or psychologist, in determining whether the incarcerated person represents a substantial danger of physical harm to others as a result of their severe mental health disorder, to consider all of the following:

   a) The incarcerated person's history of violence that was related to their severe mental health disorder.
   b) The incarcerated person's current mental status.

c) The incarcerated person's recent behavior and treatment response.
d) The incarcerated person's current capacity to inflict physical harm on others, including their age, physical condition, and other present limitations.
e) Any clinically relevant factor bearing directly on the risk of physical harm to others.

2) Authorizes the court to conduct the OMHD hearing in the county of commitment to state prison upon stipulation of the petitioner, prosecuting attorney, and defense counsel in the county of commitment to state prison.

Background

An OMHD commitment, formerly known as a mentally disordered offender commitment, is a post-prison civil commitment to further detain a person with a severe mental health disorder. The OMHD Act is designed to confine a mentally ill individual who is about to be released on parole when it is deemed that that the person's mental illness not only contributed to the commission of a violent crime but also continues to make them dangerous to others. Rather than release the person to the community, CDCR paroles the incarcerated person to the supervision of the state hospital, and the individual remains under hospital supervision throughout the parole period.

Penal Code section 2962 lists the criteria that must be proven for an initial OMHD certification: the incarcerated person has a severe mental disorder; the severe mental disorder was one of the causes or an aggravating factor in the commission of the offense; the disorder is not in remission or capable of being kept in remission without treatment; the incarcerated person was treated for the disorder for at least 90 days in the year before their release; and by reason of the severe mental disorder, the person poses a substantial danger of physical harm to others. (Pen. Code, § 2962, subds. (a)-(d).)

The initial determination that the incarcerated person meets the OMHD criteria is made administratively. The person in charge of treating the incarcerated person and a practicing psychiatrist or psychologist from DSH evaluate the incarcerated person. If it appears that the incarcerated person meets the OMHD criteria, the chief psychiatrist then will certify so to BPH.

The incarcerated person may request a hearing before BPH to require proof that they qualify as an OMHD. If BPH determines that the person meets the criteria of an OMHD, the person may file a petition in the superior court of the county in

which they are incarcerated or are being treated for a hearing on whether they, as of the date of the board hearing, meet the criteria. (Pen. Code, § 2966, subd. (a).) The person is entitled to a jury trial, which can be waived. The jury must unanimously agree that the allegations of the petition were proven beyond a reasonable doubt. If the court or jury reverses the BPH determination, the court must stay the execution of the decision for up to 30 days to allow for an orderly release of the person. (Pen. Code, § 2966, subd. (b).) If the court or jury finds that the person does not meet the OMHD criteria and the person is eligible for release, CDCR must notify the probation department of the county of supervision of the pending release within five working days of the court order and work with the county of supervision to coordinate the release of the incarcerated person. (*Ibid*.)

Under current law, an OMHD must receive inpatient treatment unless there is reasonable cause to believe that the person can be safely and effectively treated on an outpatient basis. (Pen. Code, § 2964.) If the person's severe mental disorder is put into remission during the parole period and can be kept in remission, DSH must discontinue treatment. (Pen. Code, § 2968.) However, if prior to the termination of parole, the person's severe mental disorder is not in remission or cannot be kept in remission without treatment, the medical director of the state hospital that is treating the person must notify the district attorney who can file a petition in the superior court for continued involuntary treatment for one year. (Pen. Code, § 2970.)

This bill requires a psychiatrist or psychologist, in determining whether the incarcerated person represents a substantial danger of physical harm to others as a result of their severe mental health disorder, to consider all of the following:

- The incarcerated person's history of violence that was related to their severe mental health disorder.
- The incarcerated person's current mental status.
- The incarcerated person's recent behavior and treatment response.
- The incarcerated person's current capacity to inflict physical harm on others, including their age, physical condition, and other present limitations.
- Any clinically relevant factor bearing directly on the risk of physical harm to others.

This bill also authorizes the court to conduct the hearing in the county of commitment to state prison upon stipulation of the petitioner, prosecuting attorney, and defense counsel in the county of commitment to state prison.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

San Francisco District Attorney's Office (source)
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 15:04:16

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1905
Author: Schultz (D), et al.
Amended: 8/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 49-16, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Juveniles: custodial interrogation

SOURCE: California Innocence Coalition
California Public Defenders Association

DIGEST: This bill 1) prohibits a law enforcement officer from seeking to obtain information or statements from a person who was 17 or younger at the time the crime was committed and under 26 at the time of custody, and the information or statements are sought by undercover officers or informants; and 2) requires the court to consider a violation of this prohibition in adjudicating the admissibility of statements obtained and determining the credibility of an officer.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/3/26 specify that the prohibition on undercover law enforcement officers or informants seeking statements or information from a person in custody who is under 26 and who was under 18 at the time of the crime does not apply when the officer or informant reasonably believed the information sought was necessary to protect against an imminent threat to life and the questions were limited to those reasonably necessary to obtain information about the imminent threat, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that persons may not be compelled in a criminal case to be a witness against themselves. (California Constitution [Cal. Const.], Article [art.] I, § 15.)

2) Requires, prior to a custodial interrogation, and before the waiver of any Miranda rights, a youth 17 years of age or younger shall consult with legal counsel in person, by telephone, or by video conference. Prohibits waiver of the consultation. (Welfare and Institutions [Welf. & Inst.] Code, § 625.6, subd. (a).)

3) Requires the court, in adjudicating the admissibility of statements of a youth 17 years of age or younger made during or after a custodial interrogation, to consider the effect of failure to comply with the consultation requirement, as well as any willful violation in determining the credibility of a law enforcement officer. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.6, subd. (b).)

4) Specifies that the consultation requirement does not apply to the admissibility of statements of a youth 17 years of age or younger if both of the following criteria are met:
   a) The officer who questioned the youth reasonably believed the information he or she sought was necessary to protect life or property from an imminent threat; and
   b) The officer's questions were limited to those questions that were reasonably necessary to obtain that information. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.6, subd. (c).)

5) Exempts probation officers from complying with the consultation requirement in their normal course of duties, as specified. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.6, subd. (d).)

6) Prohibits a law enforcement officer from employing threats, physical harm, deception, or psychologically manipulative interrogation tactics during a custodial interrogation of a person 17 years of age or younger relating to the commission of a misdemeanor or felony. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 625.7, subd. (a).)

7) Requires that a minor taken into a place of confinement be advised of the right to make at least two phone calls, one completed to a parent or guardian, or a

responsible relative, or employer and one to an attorney. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 627, subd. (b).)

8) Requires the custodial interrogation of a juvenile suspected of committing murder to be electronically recorded in its entirety. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 626.8, see also Penal [Pen.] Code, § 859.5.)

9) Provides that when a minor is taken into temporary custody before a probation officer, and it is alleged that the minor has violated a law defining a crime, the probation officer must advise the minor that anything the minor says can be used against him, and advise the minor of their constitutional rights, including the right to remain silent and the right to counsel. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 627.5.)

This bill:

1) Prohibits a law enforcement officer from seeking to obtain information or statements from a person when both of the following apply:
   a) The person was 17 years of age or younger at the time the crime was committed and under 26 years of age at the time of custody.
   b) The person is in custody and the information or statements are sought by law enforcement officers working undercover or by individuals working in collaboration with, or acting as agents of, law enforcement.

2) Requires the court to consider, in adjudicating the admissibility of statements obtained in violation of the above prohibition, the effect of failure to comply with that prohibition and, additionally, to consider any willful violation in determining the credibility of a law enforcement officer.

3) Provides that its provisions only apply to a statement obtained on or after January 1, 2027.

Background

"*Miranda* warnings" are a series of admonitions that are typically given by police before interrogating a suspect of a crime. The purpose of *Miranda* warnings is to advise people who have been arrested of their constitutional right against self-incrimination. They are the product of the landmark Supreme Court decision *Miranda v. Arizona* (1966) 384 U.S. 436. In deciding that case, the Supreme Court imposed specific, constitutional requirements for the advice an officer must provide prior to engaging in custodial interrogation and held that statements taken

without these warnings are inadmissible against the defendant in a criminal case. Specifically, the Court held that prior to any questioning, the suspect must be warned that he has a right to remain silent, that any statement made may be used as evidence against him, and that he has a right to the presence of an attorney, either retained or appointed. (*Id*. at p. 444.)

In order for *Miranda* warnings to apply, an individual must be subjected to "custodial interrogation." A suspect is "in custody" if a reasonable person in a similar situation would not feel free to end the interrogation and leave. (*Miranda*, *supra*, 384 U.S. at p. 444.) Custody does not require a person to be at the police station, or in handcuffs, or in the back of a police car, but rather that the police have deprived the suspect of his or her freedom of action in some significant way. (*Ibid*.) An "interrogation" is "any words or actions on the part of officers (other than those normally attendant to arrest and custody) that the officer should know are reasonably likely to elicit an incriminating response from the suspect." (*Rhode Island v. Innis* (1980) 446 U.S. 291, 301.) Such questioning can be in the form of an officer asking the suspect direct questions, or it can be indirect in the form of comments or actions by the officer that the officer should know are likely to produce an incriminating reply. (*Ibid*)

In an extension of the Court's holding in *Miranda*, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Illinois v. Perkins* (hereinafter "*Perkins*") (1990) 496 U.S. 292, that while *Miranda* forbids coercion, it does not prohibit mere strategic deception by taking advantage of a suspect's misplaced trust in someone thought to be a fellow inmate. (*Perkins*, 496 U.S. at p. 299.) In *Perkins*, two undercover agents posing as inmates were placed in defendant's cell to investigate a murder. One agent asked defendant if he had ever killed anyone. Defendant then proceeded to describe the murder at length. The Court held *Miranda* warnings were not required because the discussion between the suspect and undercover agent did not implicate the concerns underlying *Miranda*, because there is no element of police coercion.

However, as part of a concurrence that formed the basis for the plurality judgment of the Court in *Perkins*, Justice Brennan focused on the fact that the defendant in *Perkins* had not invoked his right to remain silent or to an attorney before making statements to the undercover police officer – only that the undercover officer was not required to issue the warning before attempting to illicit a statement. (See *Perkins*, 496 U.S. at 300, fn. *; *Edwards v. Arizona* (1981) 451 U.S. 477, 482 (holding a waiver of rights must be knowing, intelligent, and voluntary).) However, if Perkins had invoked, the issue would be whether he waived that right.

In *People v. Orozco*, the court agreed that, even where the defendant invokes their right to counsel pursuant to *Miranda*, defendant's statements to his girlfriend, who was acting as an agent of law enforcement, did not warrant exclusion because the statements were not made in a custodial setting and the element of coercion was not present. (*People v. Orozco* (2019) 32 Cal.App.5th 802, 814.) In that case, since the girlfriend was free to disclose any information the defendant shared, the fact that the police had contacted her about eliciting a statement from the defendant did not result in a *Miranda* violation.

In contrast to *Orozco*, however, the Court in *People v. Zapata* excluded the defendant's statements which were elicited by sheriff deputies posing as inmates after Zapata invoked his right to counsel. (*People v. Zapata*, 118 Cal. App. 5th 529.) In *Zapata*, the critical fact was that the defendant did not waive his rights and was then questioned by sheriff deputies posing as inmates in jail. (*Zapata*, 118 Cal.App. 5th at pp. 541-542.) Therefore, Zapata's *Miranda* rights were violated, and the statements were suppressed. However, the outcome may have been different if the police had used third parties to illicit a statement rather than doing it themselves.

Perkins operations, while useful in obtaining incriminating statements, can also constitute a violation of defendant's rights against self-incrimination. This is especially true for young people who may feel compelled to "brag" or make incriminating statements even when they did not commit the crime simply to impress the listener.

Specific Concerns Interrogating Youth. A growing body of research indicates that adolescents are less capable of understanding their constitutional rights than their adult counterparts, and also that they are more prone to falsely confessing to a crime they did not commit. (*See* Luna, *Juvenile False Confessions*: *Juvenile Psychology, Police Interrogation Tactics, And Prosecutorial Discretion* (2018) 18 Nev. L.J. 291, <https://scholars.law.unlv.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1733&context=nlj .) The research suggests that "[b]ecause adolescents are more impulsive, are easily influenced by others (especially by figures of authority), are more sensitive to rewards (especially immediate rewards), and are less able to weigh in on the long-term consequences of their actions, they become more receptive to coercion." (*Id.* at p. 297, citing various scientific journals.) The context of custodial interrogation is believed to exacerbate these risks. In fact, prior research has shown that 35 percent of proven false confessions were obtained from suspects under the age of 18. (Drizin & Leo, *The Problem of False Confessions in*

the Post-DNA World (2004) 82 N. C. L. Rev. 891, pp. 906-907, available at <https://scholarship.law.unc.edu/nclr/vol82/iss3/3/ .)

In recognition of the susceptibility of youth to making false confessions, the Legislature enacted SB 395 (Lara, Chapter 681, Statutes of 2017), which required minors under the age of 16 to consult with an attorney prior to any custodial interrogation by a police officer. SB 203 (Bradford, Chapter 335, Statutes of 2020), expanded the protections from custodial interrogation to 16 and 17 year olds. Most recently, AB 2644 (Holden, Chapter 289, Statutes of 2022), prohibited law enforcement officers from employing threats, physical harm, deception, or psychologically manipulative interrogation tactics during a custodial interrogation of a person under 18. As originally introduced, AB 2644 applied to individuals up to 25 years old.

The proponents of this bill assert that individuals in custody who are up to 26 should also receive some protections from interrogation or other law enforcement tactics to gather information while in custody because research has found that cognitive development continues into the mid-20s. It is well-documented that the prefrontal cortex—the part of the brain responsible for executive functions such as focus, long-term planning, and impulse control—matures last, until after age 25. (See Ellen Barlow, *Under the Hood of the Adolescent Brain* (Oct. 17, 2014), available at <https://hms.harvard.edu/news/under-hood-adolescent-brain ; Johnson, et al., *Adolescent Maturity and the Brain: The Promise and Pitfalls of Neuroscience Research in Adolescent Health Policy*, Journal of Adolescent Health (Sept. 2009), available at <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC2892678/ .) In large part due to the research on brain development, Youth Offender Parole eligibility was expanded in 2017 to include individuals who committed their crime prior to age 26. (AB 1308, Stone, Chapter 675, Statutes of 2017.) In the context of juvenile justice, young adults up to age 25 are considered "transitional age youth." (See Pen. Code, § 1000.7, which established a deferred entry of judgment pilot program allowing certain defendants who committed their crime between 18-24 to be housed in a juvenile facility and receive supportive services in lieu of serving time in a county jail.)

This bill prohibits a law enforcement officer from seeking to obtain information or statements from a person when both of the following apply:

- The person was 17 years of age or younger at the time the crime was committed and under 26 years of age at the time of custody.

- The person is in custody and the information or statements are sought by law enforcement officers working undercover or by individuals working in collaboration with, or acting as agents of, law enforcement.

This bill additionally requires the court to consider, in adjudicating the admissibility of statements obtained in violation of the prohibition, the effect of failure to comply with that prohibition and, additionally, to consider any willful violation in determining the credibility of a law enforcement officer. The provisions only apply to a statement obtained on or after January 1, 2027.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Innocence Coalition (co-source)
California Public Defenders Association (co-source)
ACLU California Action
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Felony Murder Elimination Project
Initiate Justice
Justice2Jobs Coalition
La Defensa
Local 148 Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union
San Quentin Skunkworks
Smart Justice California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California State Sheriffs' Association
Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association
Peace Officers Research Association of California
Riverside County Sheriff's Office
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department
San Diego County Sheriff's Office

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 49-16, 5/27/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen,

Ortega, Papan, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Alanis, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Flora, Gipson, Hoover, Lackey, Pacheco, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Soria, Ta, Wallis

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 16:20:49

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

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 1912
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 3/25/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

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

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

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

SUBJECT: Deer: archery season: concealed firearms

SOURCE: California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association
California Deer Association

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a hunter to carry a firearm during the archery-only hunting season for deer.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires a hunting license, issued by the department for the taking of birds and mammals. (Fish and Game Code (FGC) §§3031–3040)

2) Prohibits the take (i.e., hunting) of a deer without first procuring a deer tag or permit. (FGC §4330)

3) Authorizes any resident of the state, 12 years of age or over, to possess one deer tag. Further authorizes that person to possess a second deer tag, as provided. (FGC §4332)

4) Provides for an archery season preceding times when deer may be taken during a general open hunting season. (FGC §4370)

    a) Requires a minimum of three days between archery and general open hunting seasons on deer.

5) Prohibits a person hunting deer during archery season from carrying or having in their immediate control, any firearm of any kind. Exempts active or honorably retired peace officers from this prohibition. Allows those peace officers to carry a firearm capable of being concealed during archery season, but prohibits them from taking the deer with the firearm. (FGC §4370)

6) Prohibits a person, through carelessness or neglect, from leaving a game mammal or the flesh of that animal from going needlessly to waste. (FGC §4304)

7) Exempts a licensed hunter from the prohibition of carrying a firearm in a public place or on any public street while masked so as to hide the person's identity, as long as the licensed hunter is actually engaged in lawful hunting, or while going directly to or returning directly from the hunting expedition. (Penal Code §25300)

8) Exempts licensed hunters or fishermen carrying pistols, revolvers, or other firearms capable of being concealed upon the person while engaged in hunting or fishing, or transporting those firearms unloaded when going to or returning from the hunting or fishing expedition from the crime of concealing a firearm. (Penal Code §25400)

This bill:

1) Removes the prohibition that a hunter attempting to take deer during archery season not carry or have in their possession a firearm of any kind.

2) Removes an exception, previously only granted to peace officers, to allow a person to carry a firearm capable of being concealed while taking a deer with a bow and arrow, as a conforming change.

[NOTE: See the Senate Committee on Natural Resources and Water and Senate Committee on Public Safety bill analyses for additional background on this bill.]

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/1/26)

California Bowmen Hunters/State Archery Association (co-sponsor)
California Deer Association (co-sponsor)
Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
Cal-Ore Wetland and Waterfowl Council
California Hawking Club
California Houndsmen for Conservation
California Rifle & Pistol Association
California Waterfowl Association
Congressional Sportsmen's Foundation
HOWL for Wildlife
National Wild Turkey Foundation – California State Chapter
Rocky Mountain Elk Association
Sacramento Safari Club
Safari Club International – California Coalition
Safari Club International – San Francisco Bay Chapter
San Diego County Wildlife Federation
Shasta County Board of Supervisors
Suisun Resource Conservation District
The Black Brant Group
Wild Sheep Foundation – California Chapter

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/1/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "California's archery deer hunters often venture deep into remote wilderness where help may be hours away. While other hunters and anglers are allowed to carry firearms for personal protection, deer archery hunters are prohibited under current law. Assembly Bill 1912 simply allows these hunters to carry a firearm for self-defense while maintaining the integrity of the archery season by continuing to require that deer be taken with a bow. This commonsense reform ensures that hunters can protect themselves from dangerous wildlife and criminal activity while recreating in California's backcountry."

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: Katharine Moore / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
7/30/26 14:49:22

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1913
Author: Soria (D)
Amended: 5/7/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Licensure: emergency equipment

SOURCE: California State Sheriffs' Association

DIGEST: This bill authorizes an employee or volunteer registered with a specified law enforcement agency to operate emergency equipment if they complete an emergency equipment training.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires an applicant for a driver's license to submit to an examination appropriate to the type of motor vehicle or combination of vehicles the applicant desires a license to drive. (Vehicle Code (VEH) §12804.9)

2) Provides that a class A vehicle includes the following: a combination of vehicles if a vehicle being towed has a gross vehicle weight rating of more than

10,000 pounds, a vehicle towing more than one vehicle, a trailer bus, and the operation of all vehicles under class B and class C. (VEH § 12804.9)

3) Provides that a class B vehicle includes the following: a single vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds, single vehicle with three or more axles, as specified, a bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds, except a trailer bus, a farm labor vehicle, a single vehicle with three or more axles or a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 26,000 pounds towing another vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, a house car over 40 feet in length, and the operation of all vehicles covered under class C. (VEH §12804.9)

4) Provides that a class C vehicle includes the following: a two-axle vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,000 pounds or less, as specified, a two-axle vehicle weighing 4,000 pounds or more unladen when towing a trailer coach not exceeding 9,000 pounds, a house car of 40 feet in length or less, a three-axle vehicle weighing 6,000 pounds gross or less, a house car of 40 feet in length or less or a vehicle towing another vehicle with a gross vehicle weight rating of 10,000 pounds or less, a two-axle vehicle weighing 4,000 pounds or more unladen when towing either a trailer coach or a fifth-wheel travel trailer not exceeding 10,000 pounds gross vehicle weight rating, as specified, a two-axle vehicle weighing 4,000 pounds or more unladen when towing a fifth-wheel travel trailer exceeding 10,000 pounds, but not exceeding 15,000 pounds, as specified, a vehicle or combination of vehicles with a gross combination weight rating of 26,000 pounds or less, as specified, firefighting equipment, provided that the equipment is operated by a person who holds a firefighter endorsement, as specified; a motorized scooter, a bus with a gross vehicle weight rating of 26,000 pounds or less, except a trailer bus. (VEH § 12804.9)

This bill:

1) Authorizes an employee of, or a volunteer registered with, a specified law enforcement agency, to operate emergency equipment pursuant to this bill.

2) Requires an employee or volunteer described above, in order to operate emergency equipment, to complete training that includes all of the following:

    a) A classroom portion of at least 16 hours taught by an instructor who meets or exceeds the standards adopted by the specified law enforcement agency for the operation of emergency equipment.

b) A driver training portion of at least 14 hours that includes directly-supervised behind-the-wheel training by an instructor approved by the specified law enforcement agency, and who possesses a minimum of five years of experience as an emergency vehicle operator.

c) A written emergency equipment operation examination.

3) Requires instructors for the training program to meet both of the following requirements:

a) Possess a valid California class A or class B license, or alternatively, possess a class C license having completed the emergency equipment operation training under this bill and possessing at least five years of experience operating emergency equipment.

b) Be certified as a qualified training instructor or training officer by the State of California, the federal government, or a county training officers' association.

4) Requires a training program participant to possess a valid California class C license.

5) Defines "emergency equipment," for purposes of this bill, to mean a motor vehicle or combination of vehicles that meets the definition of a class A or class B vehicle, as specified, subject to the following limitations:

a) The motor vehicle shall not exceed 45 feet in length, and the towed vehicle, if applicable, shall not exceed 30,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating, whichever is greater.

b) The motor vehicle or combination of vehicles shall be used to travel to and from the scene of an emergency situation, to and from a place where emergency equipment is repaired or repositioned, or to transport equipment used in the control of an emergency situation and that is owned, leased, rented by, or under the exclusive control of a specified law enforcement agency.

6) Specifies that an authorized emergency vehicle that has been issued a license by the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to operate in response to emergency calls is not "emergency equipment."

7) Specifies that vehicles operated pursuant to this bill are not exempt from the provisions of Division 15 of the Vehicle Code, which, among other things, establishes requirements related to the size, weight, and load of vehicles.

8) Expands the definition of a class C motor vehicle to include emergency equipment, as defined above, provided the equipment is operated by a person who has completed the emergency equipment training established by this bill.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, “While effective law enforcement and public safety protection often requires the use of specialized vehicles, many law enforcement staff and volunteers do not possess a class A or B driver license that would normally be required to operate this equipment. AB 1913 will allow law enforcement staff and volunteers to operate specified emergency equipment with a class C driver license having completed a rigorous course of training. This bill will protect public safety by allowing more qualified individuals to operate certain equipment without a specific type of commercial driver license without sacrificing training and education on the part of the operators.”

Commercial driver’s licenses. In California a basic driver’s license is known as a class C driver’s license. With it a driver can operate a standard vehicle or truck for personal use on California roadways. It also allows for towing smaller, lighter weight trailers not for compensation. In order to operate or tow larger vehicles and trailers, a driver needs a commercial driver’s license (CDL). Federal law requires each state to have minimum standards for licensing of commercial drivers. California has developed licensing and testing requirements for drivers of commercial vehicles that equal or exceed federal standards. There are three classes of CDLs:

a) Commercial A: Any legal combination of vehicles with a gross combination weight rating (GCWR) of 26,001 pounds or more, provided the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of the vehicle(s) being towed is in excess of 10,000 pounds.

b) Commercial B: Any single vehicle with a GVWR of more than 26,000 pounds, any such vehicle towing a vehicle not in excess of 10,000 pounds GVWR, or a 3-axle vehicle weighing over 6,000 pounds.

c) Commercial C: Used for the operation of buses with a GVWR of 26,000 pounds or less, to transport hazardous materials, and used to transport large tanks carrying liquids or gaseous materials.

Getting a CDL can be an arduous process that involves a knowledge test, medical examination, driver's history check, identity verification, permit process, skills test (including a road test), minimum hours of behind-the-wheel training, payment of various fees, and the successful completion of Entry Level Driver Training conducted by a registered training provider.[1] The California State Sheriffs' Association, the sponsors of this bill, contend that some law enforcement agencies struggle to find employees and volunteers with CDLs to operate or tow emergency equipment which falls into the CDL category.

This bill is modeled after the firefighter endorsement. In order to avoid the arduous CDL process for the operation of firefighting equipment, the Legislature passed AB 1648 (Jeffries, Chapter 360, Statutes of 2010) in 2010. That bill created California's firefighter endorsement, which is a special certification added to a driver's license that authorizes employees or volunteers of fire departments to drive firefighting equipment that would typically require a class A or B CDL. To qualify for a firefighter endorsement, an applicant must meet specific training, testing, and employment requirements.

Operating emergency equipment for a law enforcement agency. Similar to fire departments, some law enforcement agencies rely on employees and volunteers to operate the departments' large emergency equipment, but struggle to find employees and volunteers with CDLs. According to the California State Sheriffs' Association, "[t]hese employees and volunteers may be asked to operate specialty equipment including mobile command posts and vehicles that transport other equipment on heavy trailers. Much of this equipment ordinarily requires an operator to possess a class A or B driver license, which reduces the pool of people available to operate this equipment and subsequently respond. Sheriffs' offices struggle with recruiting sworn and non-sworn personnel (volunteers), especially those with class A or B driver licenses." Supporters of this bill also emphasize that smaller, resource-constrained law enforcement agencies in particular struggle to recruit individuals with CDLs.

[1] **DL 650, California Commercial Driver Handbook**

Under this bill, law enforcement agency employees and volunteers would be able to complete a classroom and behind-the-wheel training program, and subsequent examination, to allow them to operate the agency's emergency equipment. Emergency equipment is defined as vehicles that meet the definition of a class A or class B vehicle (see CDL classification above), with the following limitations:

a) The motor vehicle may not exceed 45 feet in length and the towed vehicle, if applicable, may not exceed 30,000 pounds gross vehicle weight or gross vehicle weight rating, whichever is greater; and,

b) The motor vehicle must be used to travel to and from the scene of an emergency situation, to travel to and from a place where the emergency equipment is repaired or repositioned, or to transport equipment that is used in an emergency situation and that is owned or leased by a law enforcement agency.

Training requirements. This bill lays out specific training requirements an applicant must meet to qualify to operate the emergency equipment. The training must include:

a) A classroom portion of at least 16 hours taught by an instructor who meets or exceeds the standards adopted by the law enforcement agency for the operation of emergency equipment.

b) A driver training portion of at least 14 hours that includes directly-supervised behind-the-wheel training by an instructor approved by the law enforcement agency who possesses a minimum of five years of experience as an emergency vehicle operator.

c) A written emergency equipment operation examination.

The instructors for the training program must possess a valid California class A or class B commercial driver's license, or, alternatively, they can have a class C license with the certification authorized under this bill if they possess at least five years of experience operating emergency equipment. Additionally, instructors must be certified as a qualified training instructor or officer by the state, federal government, or a county training officers' association.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California State Sheriffs' Association (source)
California Police Chiefs Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Isabelle LaSalle / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:16

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

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 1119306.

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,** 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
7/2/26 11:46:03

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1923
Author: Soria (D), et al.
Amended: 8/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 8/5/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NOES: Choi

SUBJECT: Local ballot measures: County of Fresno

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill directs the board of supervisors to place an initiative on the November 3, 2026 general election ballot in Fresno County to extend for 30 years, and adopt a new spending plan for, the local transportation sales tax.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Permits, pursuant to the California Constitution, initiative powers to be exercised by the electors of each city or county under procedures provided by the Legislature.

2) Allows the electors of any county, pursuant to state statute, to propose an ordinance to the county board of supervisors by submitting an initiative petition containing signatures of registered voters in the county equal to 10% of the number of votes cast in the last gubernatorial election.

3) Requires the board of supervisors to either adopt the ordinance or submit it to the voters at the next statewide election occurring not less than 88 days later. (If the ordinance imposes a tax, then it must go before the voters, as the board of supervisors may not impose a tax under the California Constitution.)

4) Permits the board of supervisors, prior to taking either action in 3) of existing law, to refer the initiative to a county agency or agencies for up to 30 days to report on the fiscal, land use, infrastructure funding, business attraction and retention, or specified other impacts of the initiative.

5) Prohibits a local government from imposing, extending, or increasing any tax, unless it is submitted to the electorate. General taxes must pass by a majority vote and special taxes by a two-thirds vote for the initiative to succeed in imposing the tax.

This bill:

1) Requires any initiative petition the Fresno County Registrar of Voters (ROV) certified as sufficient on or before July 8, 2026, to be submitted without alteration to the voters at the November 3, 2026 statewide general election.

2) Directs the Fresno County Board of Supervisors and the Fresno County ROV to perform all acts required to place any such qualified initiative on the ballot.

3) Finds and declares this special statute is necessary because of the unique fiscal circumstances facing the County of Fresno arising from the expiration of its local transportation tax.

4) Contains an urgency clause.

Background

Since 1987, Fresno County has had a local sales tax dedicated to funding transportation improvements. "Measure C," the 1986 ballot measure that created the sales tax, was originally approved for 20 years and then was reauthorized by voters in 2006. The approval for the half-cent of sales tax dedicated to transportation purposes expires in June 2027.

The Fresno Council of Governments tried to find community consensus on a plan to extend the tax but failed. This led to an initiative to extend the transportation sales tax increment but with a new spending plan. The initiative spending plan dedicates 25% of the revenue to transit and 65% to local road repair. The remainder goes to regional connectivity, innovation, and administration. This spending plan generated local disagreement over placing the measure on the ballot. The spending plan shifts the local sales tax revenues from a focus on freeways, highways, and roads to a focus on local road repair, transit, and routes for bicycles and pedestrians.

The citizens' initiative faced delays in qualifying for the ballot, but ultimately qualified on July 8, well ahead of the 88 days before the November election that state law requires. State law requires, however, that the Fresno County Board of Supervisors take action to place the initiative on the ballot. On July 14, the board met and had concerns about the new spending plan's impact on the county finances, infrastructure funding, and business climate. The board exercised its authority to request a 30-day study of these impacts. The time for this study extends past the 88th day, thus pushing the initiative off of the November ballot and onto the March 2028 statewide ballot.

Comments

1) *Author's Statement.* In 1986, Fresno County voters approved Measure C, a half-cent sales tax to fund transportation projects. Measure C has invested more than $2.1 billion into improvements to local roads, making local highways safer and more efficient, improving transportation services for rural communities and seniors, and more. After 40 years of supporting Fresno County Transportation infrastructure and services, authorization for Measure C will end unless it is renewed by a new voter approved initiative.

   To continue the benefits provided by Measure C, over 32,000 Fresno County residents signed petitions to qualify the Fresno County Transportation Improvement Act (FCTIA) initiative for the November 2026 ballot. Despite meeting the signature threshold, three county supervisors voted to delay the measure until March 2028 by ordering a 30-day study of the initiative instead of submitting it to voters for consideration. This procedural delay will likely cause the measure to miss the November ballot deadline by just one business day. This bill will prevent this misuse of Fresno County's authority from withholding this important initiative from the ballot.

2) *Unprecedented Legislative Action.* Staff is unaware of any other legislation that placed an item on a local ballot contravening the action of the county board of supervisors, as this bill would do. This bill makes a legislative finding that it is necessary as the existing transportation sales tax will expire in 2027.

3) *Upland and Proposition 43.* In 2017, the California Supreme Court held in *California Cannabis Coalition v. City of Upland*, (3 Cal. 5th 1047), the requirement in Article XIIIC of the California Constitution that general taxes must be submitted to the electorate at a regularly scheduled general election, where members of the local governing board are subject to election, did not apply to taxes proposed by voter initiative. Groups seeking to impose special taxes by majority vote by initiative argued that, if the *Upland* Court held the

general election requirement in the constitution did not apply to initiatives, then neither did the two-thirds vote requirement for special taxes in the same article of the constitution. According to the Senate Committee on Revenue and Taxation, at least seven such special taxes imposed by voters in various local agencies across the state have been approved by a majority vote, and no court thus far has invalidated them.

ACA 22 (Wicks, Resolution Chapter 132, Statutes of 2026) placed Proposition 43 on the November 2026 general election ballot, and would, if passed by the voters, provide that beginning on January 1, 2027, no local government, including the electorate of a local government exercising the initiative power, may impose, extend, or increase any special tax, except as otherwise provided, unless and until that tax is submitted to the electorate and approved by a two-thirds vote.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Luis Chavez, Fresno County Supervisor, District 3
Mayor Adam Flores-Cornejo, City of San Joaquin
Mayor Alma Beltran, City of Parlier
Mayor Freddy Valdez, City of Firebaugh
Mayor Gilbert Garcia, City of Orange Cove
Mayor Jerry Dyer, City of Fresno
Mayor Juan Mejia, City of Fowler
Mayor Maria Pacheco, City of Kerman
Mayor Nathan Vosburg, City of Coalinga
Mayor Rey León, City of Huron
Mayor Victor Martinez, City of Mendota
Mayor Vong Mouanoutoua, City of Clovis
Amalgamated Transit Union Local 1027
Another Level Training Academy
California Bicycle Coalition
California Conference of Carpenters
California Environmental Voters
California Faculty Association, Fresno Chapter
Center for Community Transformation at Fresno Pacific University
Central Labor Council, Fresno-Madera-Tulare-Kings Counties, AFL-CIO
Central Valley Community Foundation
Central Valley Partnership

Central Valley Urban Institute
Citizens Climate Lobby, Fresno Chapter
City of Fresno Professional Employees Association
City of San Joaquin
ClimatePlan
Community Justice Center
Cultiva LA Salud
Every Neighborhood Partnership
Faith in the Valley
Familias En Accion
Fresno Building Healthy Communities
Fresno City Employees Association
Fresno Interfaith Climate Alliance
Fresno State Center for Community Voices
Fresno Unified School District
Friends of Calwa
Highway City Community Development, INC.
Hmong Innovating Politics
Jackson Community Development Corporation
Jakara Movement
Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
League of Women Voters of Fresno
Live Again Fresno
Medical Advocates for Healthy Air
Mennonite Community Church
Mothers Helping Mothers
Move California
Natural Resources Defense Council
North Coast States Carpenters Union
Organización Las Panchas
People for Bikes
Planned Parenthood Advocates Mar Monte
Presbytery of San Joaquin
Prophet Muhammad Center
Public Advocates
Reading and Beyond
Regenerate California Innovation, INC.
Safe 2 School, Inc.
Saint Rest Baptist Church of Fresno
SEIU 521

State Center Community College
SEIU California
State Center Federation of Teachers
Streets for All
The Children's Movement Fresno
Transform
United San Joaquin
Youth Leadership Institute
Several individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

Board of Directors of the Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation
Fresno County Board of Supervisors
Fresno County Farm Bureau
Fresno-Madera-Tulare-Kings Building and Construction Trades Council
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: A coalition of local community groups and labor unions write in support asserting the bill "would protect the democratic process and let the electorate determine if they want to vote to maintain a critical transportation funding source that will support safety, mobility, economic development, and neighborhood wellbeing." Specifically, supporters note:

> Delaying the (initiative) measure with no successor in place will have significant negative impacts on cities and residents throughout the county. The health and safety of our residents will be at risk, as streets and roads will continue to deteriorate and needed safety improvements will be delayed. All jurisdictions, most critically for smaller cities, will lose critical local matching funds needed to compete for state and federal transportation grants. Jobs will be lost, and our economy will take a significant hit: an independent economic analysis concluded that the measure would create thousands of new jobs and generate billions more in labor income and substantial economic output over its 30-year life.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Fresno County Board of Supervisors writes in opposition:

This measure is anti-process and sets a terrible precedent to circumvent local authority for the purpose of placing a specific item, which failed a random sample initial signature review, on the November 2026 ballot. (This bill) also eliminates the request of a study called for by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors to

review a tax that will generate over $7 billion of taxpayer dollars over the next 30 years.

> The current process, followed by the Fresno County Board of Supervisors, ensures fair and open elections. Local decisions are best left to local elected officials, who answer to the constituents they represent. (This bill) circumvents local authority, handing that power to the State of California.

The Fresno-Madera-Tulare-Kings Building Trades Council opposes the bill, citing a lack of enforceable provisions in the initiative that guarantee the construction employment benefits initiative sponsors claim. The Building Trades Council states that voters, taxpayers, and workers deserve an independent assessment of those claims before being asked to approve a 30-year measure and urges allowing the county to complete its lawful 30-day review to promote the integrity of the electoral process.

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/5/26 16:20:49

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1928
Author: Fong (D), et al.
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Sex equity: sexual harassment complaints

SOURCE: Equal Rights Advocates
The Survivors Pro Bono

DIGEST: This bill requires the governing board of each postsecondary institution, as defined, as a condition to receive state financial assistance, to permit each complainant or respondent of a sexual harassment complaint to have a support person, in addition to an advisor, accompany the parties of a sexual harassment complaint during the grievance procedures and during any stage of the process, whether adjudicated through federal or state law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes Title IX, providing that, in part, "no person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any educational program

or activity receiving Federal financial assistance." (United States Code (USC) Title 20, Chapter 38, § 1681 (colloquially known as Title IX))

2) Outlines the required response, pursuant to Title IX, of a postsecondary higher education institution when the institution is made aware of an alleged sexual harassment incident on campus, which include a requirement for a formal complaint, a grievance procedure for an investigation into whether the incident based on a standard of evidence occurred, a hearing by which advisors are provided an opportunity to cross-examine, and a method of appealing the outcome of the grievance process. (Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 34, Subtitle B, Chapter 1, Part 106, Subpart D, § 106.45)

3) Defines sexual harassment as a form of sex discrimination and as conduct on the basis of sex that satisfies at least one of the following:

    a) *Quid pro quo harassment*. An employee of the postsecondary education institution conditions aid, benefit, or services to a postsecondary education institution's education program or activity on the individual's participation in unwelcome sexual conduct.

    b) *Hostile environment harassment.* Unwelcome conduct determined by a reasonable person to be so severe, pervasive, and objectively offensive that it effectively denies a person equal access to the recipient's education program or activity.

    c) *Specific offenses.* Sexual assault, dating violence, domestic violence, and stalking, as defined in the USC. (CFR, Title 34, Subtitle B, Chapter 1, Part 106, Subpart A, § 106.2)

Existing state law:

1) Establishes the policy of the State of California that all persons, regardless of their sex, should enjoy freedom from discrimination of any kind in their postsecondary educational institution of the state. (Education Code (EC) § 66281.5)

2) Requires each postsecondary educational institution in the state to have a written policy on sexual harassment, including information on the complaint process, to be available on its website, and requires the written policy on

sexual harassment to include information on where to obtain the specific rules and procedures for reporting charges of sexual harassment for pursuing available remedies, both on and off campus. (EC § 66281.5)

3) Requires the governing board or body of each postsecondary institution, as a condition of receiving state financial assistance, to comply with all of the following requirements as specified:

   a) Disseminating a notice of nondiscrimination to specified individuals.

   b) Designating at least one employee of the institution to coordinate its efforts to comply with and carry out the responsibilities of this section.

   c) Adopting rules and procedures within the policies required by Title IX and state law for the prevention of sexual harassment.

   d) Adopting and publishing on its website grievance procedures that provide for prompt and equitable resolution of sexual harassment complaints filed by a student against an employee or another student, as well as establishing grievance procedures that satisfy multiple requirements, as specified.

   e) Publishing in a prominent place on its website—with accompanying text clearly associating them with the sexual harassment and sexual violence grievance processes—the name, title, and contact information of specified individuals.

   f) Providing specified training to each employee engaged in the grievance procedures related to sex discrimination, including sexual violence, which would include: i) trauma-informed investigatory and hearing practices to help ensure an impartial and equitable process; ii) best practices for assessment of a sexual harassment of sexual violence complaint; iii) best practices for questioning of the complainant, respondent, and witnesses; and iv) implicit bias and racial inequities, both broadly and in school disciplinary processes.

   g) Ensuring, if an institution has on-campus housing, that residential life student and nonstudent staff, or their equivalent, annually receive training on how to handle, in a trauma-informed manner, reports made to them of sexual harassment or sexual violence, and situations in

which they are aware of sexual harassment or sexual violence, in student residential facilities.

h) Notifying employees of the obligation to report harassment to appropriate school officials.

i) Providing training to all employees on the identification of sexual harassment, including the person to whom it should be reported. (EC § 66281.8)

4) Defines "postsecondary institution" as a campus of the University of California, the California State University, or the California Community Colleges, a private postsecondary educational institution, or an independent institution of higher education that receives state financial assistance. (EC § 66281.8)

5) Defines "state financial assistance" as any funds or other form of financial aid appropriated or authorized pursuant to state law, or pursuant to federal law administered by any state agency, for the purpose of providing assistance to any educational institution for its own benefit or for the benefit of any pupils admitted to the educational institution. Requires that "state financial assistance" include, but not be limited to: a) grants of state property, or any interest therein, b) provision of the services of state personnel, and c) funds provided by contract, tax rebate, appropriation, allocation, or formula. (EC § 213)

6) Defines sexual harassment and sexual violence as the following:

a) "Sexual harassment" as unwelcomed sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature made by someone from or in the work or educational setting in which specific conditions are met. "Sexual harassment" also includes sexual battery, sexual violence, and sexual exploitation.

b) "Sexual violence" as physical sexual acts perpetrated against a person without the affirmed consent of the person, and these acts include rape and sexual battery. (EC § 66262.5)

7) Requires, as a condition of receiving state funds for student financial assistance, a public postsecondary educational institution to provide an

advisor to a student receiving a notification of an alleged violation of the institution's student code of conduct, if requested by the student. (EC § 66283)

This bill:

1) Requires the governing board of each postsecondary institution, as defined, as a condition to receive state financial assistance, to permit each complainant or respondent of a sexual harassment complaint to have a support person, in addition to an advisor, accompany the parties of a sexual harassment complaint during the grievance procedures and during any stage of the process.

2) Updates the grievance procedures for a postsecondary institution, as a condition of receiving state financial assistance, such that each student party be afforded the opportunity have *both* a support person of their choice and an advisor of their choice accompany the student party during any stage of the process, including, but not limited to, reporting, investigation, hearing, sanctioning, or any informal resolution, as opposed to the student parties having *either* a support person or an advisor.

Comments

1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, "Resolving campus sexual violence complaints is a lengthy and emotional process that can create new trauma for those involved, especially as implementation of state protections has been uneven. Some institutions, like the University of California (UC) and Claremont Colleges, allow students to be accompanied by both an advisor and a separate support person throughout the grievance process. Others, including the California State University (CSU) system, Stanford University, and the University of Southern California, allow only a single advisor or a support person. Non-student parties are excluded from state protections altogether."

   The author continues, "Advisors and support persons serve different functions. An advisor helps a student navigate complex procedural aspects of the process and often conducts cross-examinations at required hearings. A support person provides emotional support, which is important given that the process itself can be retraumatizing for survivors and emotional for those responding to allegations of misconduct. … AB 1928 ensures that each party to a Title IX proceeding at a postsecondary institution can have both a support

person and an advisor accompany them at all stages of the campus grievance process."

2) *Federal and state sexual harassment complaint resolution proceedings.* To address concerns that advocates and higher education institutions had with the then-proposed 2020 Title IX regulations, state lawmakers proposed legislation that intended to make Title IX the floor for the protections afforded to students on campus. Specifically, SB 493 (Jackson, Chapter 303, Statutes of 2020) requires, by January 1, 2022, except as specified, that any postsecondary institution that receives state financial assistance, comply with various requirements pertaining to student sexual harassment protections and, provide students with procedural protections relating to claims of sexual harassment.

According to the author, SB 493 intended to "address deficiencies in state law as it concerns institutions of Higher Education, which is particularly important in light of the rampant epidemic of campus sexual assault. The bill delineates processes for schools to respond to allegations of sexual harassment and violence, including notice and posting requirements (to ensure students are aware of such processes and their rights) as well as transparent procedures for investigating complaints to ensure a fair and equitable process for all parties."

SB 493 was signed by the Governor prior to the 2020 Title IX regulations becoming finalized, and it stipulated that if any of the provisions conflicted with federal law, that provision would be considered inoperable. Colleges and universities in the state have, in effect, interpreted the landscape of changes to federal Title IX regulations and state law relating to protecting students relating to claims of sexual harassment to mean that if a case falls under the jurisdiction of Title IX, it shall be processed in accordance with the 2020 Title IX regulations, and if a case does not fall under the jurisdiction of Title IX, it will be processed in accordance with SB 493.

According to the Assembly Higher Education Committee analysis on this bill that was heard on April 7, 2026, the primary differences between the 2020 Title IX regulations and Education Code Section 66281.8 are as follows:

State Requirements Pursuant to SB 493	Federal Requirements Pursuant to 2020 Title IX Regulations
Applies to sexual harassment incidents involving student complainants or filers of the complaint.	Applies to sexual harassment incidents involving student and employee complainants or filers of the complaint.
Defines sexual harassment having to be severe OR pervasive for the complaint to be processed by the institution.	Defines sexual harassment as being severe AND pervasive for the complaint to be processed by the institution.
Allows for the investigation of a claim of harassment if the event transpired outside a campus-sanctioned event if there is an impact on a student's ability to access education.	Stipulates the incident must have occurred as part of an educational activity within the United States.
Does not require live hearings in all circumstances.	Does require live hearings for any complaint.
Requires cross-examinations during hearing to occur by the hearing officer.	Allows cross-examination during a hearing to occur and for the cross-examinations to be conducted by the advisor.

3) *Differences between an advisor and a support person.* This bill seeks to allow a complainant or respondent of a sexual harassment complaint to have both a support person and advisor accompany them during any stage of the process, including the grievance procedures, as opposed to permitting *either* a support person or advisor. According to the author, "support persons and advisors serve different functions: an advisor helps a student navigate the procedural aspects of the grievance process and is responsible for conducting cross examination at required hearings, while a support person provides emotional support. Both roles are integral to the grievance process: an advisor can be useful given the quasi-judicial nature of sexual violence proceedings, while a support person is important given that the process itself can be retraumatizing for survivors and emotional for those responding to allegations of misconduct."

Related and Prior Legislation

SB 493 (Jackson, Chapter 303, Statutes of 2020) requires postsecondary institutions to adopt rules and procedures for the prevention of sexual harassment,

and adopt and post on their websites the grievance procedures to resolve complaints of sexual harassment.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Equal Rights Advocates (co-source)
The Survivors Pro Bono (co-source)
American Association of University Women of California
Associated Students of the University of California Sexual Violence Commission
ASUCD Sexual Assault Awareness and Advocacy Committee
California State University
California Women's Law Center
Consumer Attorneys of California
Empowering Women of Color Club at Santa Ana College
Messaging for Success
Public Counsel
Sexual Violence Free Stanford
Stanford ACLU Chapter
Stanford Sexual Health Peer Resource Center
Starting Over Inc.
Survivors + Allies of UCLA
University of California
Women's Foundation California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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
8/5/26 15:04:15

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 Busses 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 axel 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1950
Author: Harabedian (D)
Amended: 3/18/26 in Assembly
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/22/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Civil actions: mediation

SOURCE: Superior Court of Los Angeles County

DIGEST: This bill establishes a pilot program authorizing the Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles to order a case into mediation, regardless of whether the amount in controversy exceeds the $75,000 limit under existing law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "mediation" as a process in which a neutral person or persons facilitate communication between the disputants to assist them in reaching a mutually acceptable agreement. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.1.)

2) Prohibits the court from ordering a case into mediation where the amount in controversy exceeds $50,000 until January 1, 2027.
    a) The determination of the amount in controversy shall be made in the same manner as provided in Section 1141.16 and, in making this determination, the court shall not consider the merits of questions of

liability, defenses, or comparative negligence. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.5.)

3) Prohibits the court from ordering a case into mediation where the amount in controversy exceeds $75,000 on and after January 1, 2027.
    a) The determination of the amount in controversy shall be made in the same manner as provided in Section 1141.16 of the Code of Civil Procedure and, in making this determination, the court shall not consider the merits of questions of liability, defenses, or comparative negligence.
    b) Prohibits a case from being ordered into mediation unless all of the following conditions are met:
        i. the case has been set for trial;
        ii. at least one party has notified the court of its interest in mediation;
        iii. there are no ongoing discovery disputes impacting the case;
        iv. the parties have been notified of their option to stipulate to a mutually agreeable mediator; and
        v. the parties have the ability to mediate through the use of remote technology upon the stipulation of all parties.
    c) If the parties do not stipulate to a mutually agreeable mediator within 15 days of the date the case is submitted to mediation, the court shall select a mediator, at no cost to the parties, pursuant to standards adopted by the Judicial Council.
    d) All parties and counsel attending the mediation shall comply with subdivision (a) of Rule 3.894 of the California Rules of Court, except that the parties may utilize any means of remote technology in accordance with the stipulation provided in paragraph (6) of subdivision (a).
    e) Mediation ordered shall conclude in the form of a mutually acceptable agreement or statement of nonagreement, as described in Section 1775.9 of the Code of Civil Procedure, no later than 120 days before the set trial date.
    f) Any mediation shall not delay the set trial date.
    g) The determination and any stipulation of the amount in controversy shall be without prejudice as to any finding on the value of the case. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.5.)

4) Provides that the determination of the amount in controversy shall be made by the court and the case referred to arbitration after all named parties have appeared or defaulted. The determination shall be made at a case management conference or based upon review of the written submissions of the parties, as provided in rules adopted by the Judicial Council. The determination shall be

based on the total amount of damages, and the judge may not consider questions of liability or comparative negligence or any other defense. At that time the court shall also make a determination whether any prayer for equitable relief is frivolous or insubstantial. The determination of the amount in controversy and whether any prayer for equitable relief is frivolous or insubstantial may not be appealable. No determination pursuant to this section shall be made if all parties stipulate in writing that the amount in controversy exceeds the amount specified. The determination and any stipulation of the amount in controversy shall be without prejudice to any finding on the value of the case by an arbitrator or in a subsequent trial de novo. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1141.16.)

5) Provides that in the courts of the County of Los Angeles and in other courts that elect to apply this section of law, all at-issue civil actions in which arbitration is otherwise required, whether or not the action includes a prayer for equitable relief, may be submitted to mediation by the presiding judge as an alternative to judicial arbitration. Any civil action otherwise within the scope of this title in which a party to the action is a public agency or public entity may be submitted to mediation. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.3.)

This bill:

1) Establishes a pilot program for the Superior Court of Los Angeles County that authorizes a court to order cases to mediation regardless of the amount in controversy requirement of $75,000.
    a) All other requirements under existing Section 1775.5 of the Code of Civil Procedure must still be met.

2) Provides that any case ordered to mediation under the pilot program is entitled to up to three hours of no-cost mediation services provided by a court-sanctioned mediation program.

3) Authorizes parties subject to mediation to appear remotely.

4) Prohibits any mediation ordered from delaying or serving as grounds to continue the set trial date or otherwise delay or continue any expedited procedures.
5) Requires the Superior Court of Los Angeles County to transmit a report to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Judiciary on or before January 31, 2028,

and annually thereafter, containing all of the following information regarding any case ordered to mediation:

a) the number of cases ordered to mediation;
b) the number of cases in which the trial date was delayed after being ordered to mediation; and
c) the number of cases in which a full or partial settlement was reached as a result of mediation.

6) Requires, to the extent feasible, that the Superior Court of Los Angeles report the data in 5) by case type.

7) Repeals these provisions on January 1, 2032.

Comments

"Mediation" is the process in which a neutral person or persons facilitate communication between the disputants to assist them in reaching a mutually acceptable agreement. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.1.) The law currently provides a narrow authorization for courts to force a case into mediation without the parties consent. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.5.) The law provides that in the courts of the County of Los Angeles and in other courts that elect to do so, all at-issue civil actions in which arbitration is otherwise required may be submitted to mediation, as provided. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.3.)

Beginning on January 1, 2027, a court is prohibited from ordering a case into meditation if the amount in controversy exceeds $75,000 and certain conditions are not met. These conditions include:

- that the case has been set for trial;
- that at least one party has notified the court of its interest in mediation;
- that there are no ongoing discovery disputes impacting the case;
- that the parties have been notified of their option to stipulate to a mutually agreeable mediator; and
- that the parties have the ability to mediate through the use of remote technology upon the stipulation of all parties. (Code Civ. Proc. § 1775.5.)

If the parties do not stipulate to a mutually agreeable mediator within 15 days of the date the case is submitted to mediation, the court must select a mediator, at no cost to the parties, pursuant to standards adopted by the Judicial Council. If mediation is ordered under these provisions, all parties and attorneys of record

must attend all mediation sessions and, if any party is insured under a policy of insurance that provides or may provide coverage for a claim that is a subject of the action, a representative of the insurer with authority to settle or recommend settlement of the claim must attend all mediation sessions. Attendance may be through the use of remote technology upon the stipulation of the parties. Any ordered mediation cannot delay the set trial date. The determination and any stipulation of the amount in controversy is to be without prejudice as to any finding on the value of the case.

This bill seeks to establish a pilot program for the Superior Court of Los Angeles County that would allow cases to be ordered to mediation regardless of the amount in controversy. All other conditions of Section 1775.5 would still apply. Any case ordered to mediation under the pilot program would be entitled to up to three hours of no-cost mediation services provided by a court-sanctioned mediation program. Parties subject to mediation under the bill are allowed to appear remotely. Any mediation ordered cannot delay or serve as grounds to continue the trial date or otherwise delay or continue any expedited procedures.

In order to ensure that data on the pilot program is collected, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County is required to transmit a report to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Judiciary on or before January 31, 2028, and annually thereafter, containing all of the following information regarding any case ordered to mediation:

- the number of cases ordered to mediation;
- the number of cases in which the trial date was delayed after being ordered to mediation; and
- the number of cases in which a full or partial settlement was reached as a result of mediation.

To the extent feasible, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County is also required to report the data by case type. This data will allow the Legislature to review the pilot project and whether or not removing the amount on the case in controversy for mandatory mediation produces positive results. The pilot project sunsets on January 1, 2032.

The sponsor of the bill, the Superior Court of Los Angeles County, notes that over the past three years, “civil filings in Los Angeles County – both limited and unlimited – have surged by approximately 67 percent. In the past year alone, the Court’s Civil Division received more than 110,000 new unlimited civil filings and

nearly 175,000 new limited civil filings. On average, a new civil case is filed in our Court approximately every two minutes of every working day." They argue that the current threshold does not take into account regional differences around the state that affect courts, factors which are significant in Los Angeles County, including case volume, court capacity, and cost of living.

The Superior Court of Los Angeles County, the sponsor of the bill, writes:

[…] Although California's mandatory mediation threshold will increase to $75,000 on January 1, 2027, most civil filings in Los Angeles County already exceed that amount. As a result, the Court and litigants in our jurisdiction are unlikely to realize substantial benefits from the statutory change. Moreover, a single statewide monetary threshold does not reflect the significant differences in case volume, court capacity, and economic conditions among California's counties, differences that are particularly pronounced in a jurisdiction as large and complex as Los Angeles County.

This bill builds on the Court's substantial investment in alternative dispute resolution. Through its Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Office and the launch of its digital ADR platform in 2025, the Court has expanded access to mediation and streamlined the referral process for litigants. A Judicial Council evaluation found that mediation achieved an approximately 50 percent resolution rate, reduced trial rates by 30 percent, and shortened time to resolution by an average of 23 days. These outcomes reduce litigation costs, conserve judicial resources, and improve timely access to justice for all court users. […]

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Superior Court of Los Angeles County (source)
Judicial Council of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

> AB 1950 establishes a Los Angeles County–specific pilot program to expand access to court-ordered mediation and improve civil case resolution.

Between 2022 and 2025, unlimited civil filings increased by 39 percent, causing immense pressure on the court system.

In response to this rapid caseload growth, AB 1950 moves civil cases into early, collaborative mediation thereby reducing trial court dockets and judicial backlog. This approach will accelerate access to justice and lower costs for both litigants and the court system. By expanding access to mediation and prioritizing early resolution, AB 1950 advances a more efficient, equitable, and responsive civil justice system for Los Angeles County.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/22/26
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, 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, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Gabriel, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta, Wicks

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:04:14

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1954
Author: Ward (D)
Amended: 8/4/26 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 BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello, Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Municipal golf courses: reservations

SOURCE: California Alliance for Golf

DIGEST: This bill enacts the Protecting Access to Reservations Act, which prohibits a person or operator of a third-party golf reservation service platform from listing, advertising, promoting, selling, or transferring reservations for a golf course owned by a local agency on a third-party reservation service platform without a written agreement with the golf course operator, except as specified.

Floor Amendments of 8/4/26 address concerns from the Department of Justice.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

1) Establishes the Unfair Competition Law (UCL) and defines "unfair competition" to mean and include any unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business act or practice and unfair, deceptive, untrue, or misleading advertising and any act prohibited by Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 17500) of Part 3 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code. (Bus. & Prof. Code §§ 17200 et seq.)

2) Provides that any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition may be enjoined in any court of competent jurisdiction. Any person may pursue representative claims or relief on behalf of others only if the claimant meets the standing requirements of Business and Professions Code Section 17204 and complies with Section 382 of the Code of Civil Procedure, but these limitations do not apply to claims brought under this chapter by the Attorney General, or any district attorney, county counsel, city attorney, or city prosecutor in this state. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17203.)

3) Holds any person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition liable for a civil penalty not to exceed $2,500 for each violation, which shall be assessed and recovered in a civil action brought in the name of the people of the State of California by the Attorney General, by any district attorney, by any county counsel authorized by agreement with the district attorney in actions involving violation of a county ordinance, by any city attorney of a city having a population in excess of 750,000, or by a county counsel of any county within which a city has a population in excess of 750,000, by any city attorney of any city and county, or, with the consent of the district attorney, by a city prosecutor in any city having a full-time city prosecutor, in any court of competent jurisdiction. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17206(a).)

4) Requires that the penalties collected pursuant to the UCL to be used for enforcement of consumer protection laws and provides for the distribution of those funds based on the entity bringing the action, as specified. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 17206(c).)

5) Prohibits a person from using, without the consent of the registrant, any reproduction, counterfeit, copy, or colorable imitation of a mark registered under the Model State Trademark Law in connection with the sale, distribution, offering for sale, or advertising of goods or services if such use is likely to cause confusion or mistake, or to deceive as to the source of origin of the goods or services. (Bus. & Prof. Code § 14245(a)(1).)

This bill:

1) Enacts the Protecting Access to Reservations Act (Act).

2) Prohibits a person or operator of a third-party golf reservation service platform from listing, advertising, promoting, selling, or transferring reservations for a golf course owned by a local agency on a third-party reservation service platform without a written agreement with the golf course operator, except as specified.

   a) If a golf course operator does not post their cancellation policy on the internet website where the reservation is secured, an individual who paid for a golf course reservation may sell or transfer the golf course reservation for no more than the total amount that the individual paid to acquire the reservation.

   b) The authority provided in a written agreement does not extend to an affiliate website or other internet platform unless the written agreement explicitly provides that authority to that affiliate website or internet platform.

3) Provides that any violation of the Act constitutes an unlawful business act or practice within the meaning of the UCL.

4) Defines the following terms for purposes of the Act.

   a) "Affiliate" means any entity that, directly or indirectly, through one or more intermediaries, controls, is controlled by, or is under common control with, another entity.

   b) "Golf course" means a golf course and its accessory facilities and services that are owned by a local agency. "Golf course" includes clubhouses, driving ranges, golf cart storage, locker and shower facilities, and sales facilities.

   c) "Golf course operator" means either of the following:

      i) a local agency operating a golf course; or

      ii) an entity operating a golf course through a contractual relationship with the local agency, including a license, lease, or management agreement.

d) "Local agency" means a county, city and county, city, or charter city. "Local agency" includes a special district and joint powers authority.

e) "Third-party golf reservation service platform" means a website, mobile application, or other internet platform that is owned or operated by an entity other than a golf course operator and that offers or arranges reservations for on-premises service for a customer at a golf course.

5) Makes the following Legislative findings and declarations.

a) The State of California is home to many golf courses that attract tourists from around the world. They also provide recreational, social, health, and charitable benefits to the residents of the communities in which they are located.

b) There are over 200 courses in California that are municipally owned by a mix of state, city, county, city and county, and charter cities. Because these public courses are parts of publicly owned park systems, they operate per-pricing structures that make them maximally available to local residents, seniors, juniors, schools, school athletic teams, and local clubs and civic organizations. This pricing creates a demand for tee times that, in California's urban areas, are among the highest if not the highest in the nation.

c) Tee time brokers have become a significant issue throughout the state. By booking tee times en masse and selling, reselling, and brokering them at inflated prices on a secondary market, they substantially reduce the already strained supply of recreational opportunities available to California residents and harm the ability of the state's municipal golf course owners to operate them per a maximally affordable business model providing maximal equitable public access.

d) This Act addresses a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, Section 2 of this act applies to all cities, including charter cities.

Comments

The author and sponsor note that California has over 200 publicly owned and operated golf courses and when tee times are bought up by third-party websites and sold for more than the original price it creates an unfair system that disadvantages the public. Public golf course fees are much lower than those at privately owned

courses, which helps to ensure that they are available and affordable to local residents. Tee time brokers use automated bots to buy desirable tee times at public golf courses and then resell them for a profit on their websites.[1] This same issue has been seen with concert tickets[2] and restaurant reservations.[3] This bill seeks to address this issue by prohibiting a person or operator of a third-party golf reservation service platform from listing, advertising, promoting, selling, or transferring reservations for a golf course owned by a local agency on a third-party reservation service platform without a written agreement with the golf course operator, except as specified.

A coalition of supporters note that:

> When the ubiquity of 3rd party brokering became a front page story in Los Angeles and other California urban areas in 2024, municipalities adopted various forms of reservation protocols that mitigated the problem but in the end were not capable of solving it – protocols that involved additional expense to their patrons.

The U.S. Attorney's Office indicted two men for failing to report $1.1 million in income, including money from operating a tee time broker website in 2025.[4] A Press Release from the California Attorney General's Office regarding the indictment states:

> As part of their business, the brothers reserved thousands of tee times for resale at numerous golf courses nationwide, including at least 17 different public courses across Southern California. The brothers created a monopoly of Los Angeles and Orange County area golf course tee times by securing the most sought-after early morning slots, often within seconds of their release to the public. As a result, the brothers made it more difficult and more expensive for members of the public to reserve tee times at these courses without paying them an additional booking fee, particularly during the COVID-19 pandemic. […] In total, between 2021 and 2023, the Kim brothers earned nearly $700,000 from their tee time brokering business.[5]

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[1] Matt Hamilton, L.A. Times, (Mar. 9, 2025), *L.A. touts success at blocking tee time brokers from city golf courses*, available at https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-03-19/success-blocking-tee-time-brokers-from-city-golf-courses.
[2] See AB 1720 (Haney, 2026).
[3] See AB 1640 (Stefani, 2026).
[4] Cal. A.G., Press Release, (Sept. 12, 2025), *Identical Twins Who Moonlighted as Golf Tee-Time Brokers Charged with Failing to Report More Than $1.1 Million in Income to IRS*, available at https://www.justice.gov/usao-cdca/pr/identical-twins-who-moonlighted-golf-tee-time-brokers-charged-failing-report-more-11.
[5] *Ibid*.

This bill provides that any violation of the Act constitutes an unlawful business act or practice under the UCL. The UCL protects consumers against unlawful, unfair, or fraudulent business practices and advertising. The UCL provides remedies for "anything that can properly be called a business practice and that at the same time is forbidden by law." (*Cel-Tech Communications, Inc. v. Los Angeles Cellular Telephone Co*. (1999) 20 Cal.4th 163, 180 [citations omitted].) The UCL provides for civil penalties to be assessed and recovered from violators in the name of the people of California by various governmental agencies and specifically details how the proceeds from those actions are to be distributed and used.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Alliance for Golf (source)
California Association of Recreation & Park Districts
California Golf Course Owners Association
California Special Districts Association
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
City of Los Angeles
City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks
City of San Clemente
City of San Diego
City of Thousand Oaks
County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation
Golf Course Superintendents Association of America
Latina Golfers Association
League of California Cities
Northern California PGA
San Francisco Public Golf Alliance
Southern California Golf Association
Southern California PGA

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

> Golf is an incredibly popular sport in California, and its courses attract tourist from all around the world. This legislation is necessary to prevent bad actors from taking advantage of reservations systems for personal gain, as well as taking opportunities from local residents whose taxpayer dollars go towards the upkeep and maintenance of those public and municipal facilities.

A coalition of supporters, including the sponsor of the bill, write in support stating:

> There are over 220 golf courses in California that are municipally owned by cities, counties, charter cities, and the state. As part of publicly owned park systems, these courses operate per business models that eschew maximal revenue generation in favor of making them maximally available to local residents, seniors, juniors, school athletes, local clubs and civic organizations. Because California's urban areas are among the most golf-starved in the nation, this model creates a demand for tee times second to none. It has also created opportunities for 3rd party tee time brokers to capture and broker tee times at inflated prices and in the process substantially reduce the already strained supply of recreational opportunities available to California residents. […]
>
> AB 1954 maintains those features of 3rd party arrangements that benefit the consumers of public golf course offerings and the public agencies that provide them, while allowing those public agencies the continued ability to manage those offerings for the benefit of the communities that are in the final analysis the owners of those offerings by balancing the needs of cost recovery and long-term capital reinvestment with the public interest served by offering specialized access to local residents, juniors, seniors, students, school athletes, local clubs, civic organizations, and local charities, and in the cases of some of the state's largest urban parkland golf systems, revenues over and above cost recovery that is then dedicated to non-golf park/recreation programs that would otherwise require public funding.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/21/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, 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, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Carrillo, Chen, Flora, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Wilson

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 16:20:48

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1956
Author: Valencia (D), et al.
Amended: 5/11/26 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 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Suicide prevention

SOURCE: Generation Up

DIGEST: This bill adds boys and young men to the list of highest risk populations on which the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP) can focus its prevention activities. Requires OSP, by July 1, 2028, to provide a report to the Legislature on strategies to implement these activities.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to be vested with all the duties, powers, purposes, functions, responsibilities, and jurisdiction as they relate to public health, as specified. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §131050]

2) Permits CDPH to establish OSP with responsibilities to include providing information and technical assistance to statewide and regional partners regarding best practices on suicide prevention policies and programs; conducting state-level assessment of regional and statewide suicide prevention policies and practices; monitoring and disseminating data to inform prevention efforts at the state and local levels; convening experts and stakeholders, including stakeholders representing populations with high rates of suicide, to encourage collaboration and coordination of resources for suicide prevention; and, reporting on progress to reduce rates of suicide. [Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §131300(a)]

3) Permits OSP to focus activities on groups with the highest risk, including youth, Native American youth, older adults, veterans, and LGBTQ people. [WIC §131300(b)]

This bill:

1) Adds boys, as a population to receive special attention under the category of "youth," and young men as an additional category to the list of highest risk populations on which OSP can focus its suicide prevention activities.

2) Requires OSP, by July 1, 2028, to provide a report to the Legislature on strategies to implement the activities focused on boys and young men. Sunsets this reporting requirement on July 1, 2032.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> California is facing a mental health crisis, and young men and boys are at the center of it. Four out of five youth suicides are male, accounting for nearly 80% of suicides statewide. These statistics represent more than data points: they represent sons, brothers, and fathers whose lives were lost. Despite this clear disparity, targeted outreach and interventions for young men remain limited, even though they face distinct barriers to seeking help, including stigma, isolation, and a lack of messaging that resonates with their experiences. This bill recognizes this gap and directs greater focus toward prevention strategies that better reach and support this population. California has the opportunity to do better and strengthen its response to a crisis that continues to affect families and communities all across the state.

In 2024, suicide was the 10th leading cause of death in the U.S., accounting for 48,824 deaths nationwide (13.7 per 100,000 people) and 2.2 million estimated attempts (1.5 times increase from 2023), according to the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's website. Suicide-related deaths were four times higher among males (38,977) compared to females (9,847). Among youth and young adults ages 15 to 34, suicide is the second leading cause of death. However, suicide rates in this age group decreased slightly from 2023 to 2024, declining from 15.9 to 15.2 per 100,000 (4%). Firearms were the most common method of death by suicide, accounting for more than half of all suicide deaths (57%).

In California, according to CDPH's "2026 California State of Public Health Report," there were 4,042 suicides in 2024. Overall suicide rates in California increased somewhat from 2000 through 2019 with a slight drop observed during the first year of the pandemic (2020), followed by fairly stable rates since then. The number of suicide deaths in 2024 represents a decrease from the number of suicide deaths (4,191) in 2023. The most common mechanism for Californians aged 25 and younger was suffocation, comprising 38.9% of these suicide deaths. There were 30,535 non-fatal self-harm-related emergency department visits in 2024, with the majority (54.4%) among individuals 24 or younger.

CDPH highlights Governor Newsom's Executive Order (EO), regarding suicide rates for boys and young men, and states it is participating in the coordinated statewide response to improve mental health, reduce stigma, and expand access to meaningful education, work, and mentorship opportunities for this population. OSP also led two Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative workstreams, including the Youth Suicide Reporting and Crisis Response Pilot Program, which aimed to strengthen local systems for rapid report and response to youth suicides and suicide attempts in 10 counties, and the Never a Bother youth suicide prevention campaign. The Never a Bother campaign, co-created with over 420 youth from across California, is part of the state's ongoing effort to increase awareness of suicide warning signs, share suicide prevention and mental health resources, build life-saving intervention skills, and promote help seeking behavior for youth and young adults—before, during, and after a crisis. In its first year, the campaign generated more than 1.12 billion impressions, while community-based grantees offered over 4,600 engagement activities that supported 106,000+ direct interactions with youth and caregivers.

Governor's EO. In July 2025, Governor Newsom signed Executive Order N-31-25 directing California state agencies to launch a coordinated response to the rising

suicide rates among young men and boys, which he called an urgent and growing crisis. The EO proclaimed in part that young men are more disconnected from school, work, and relationships than ever before, with nearly one-in-four men under 30 years old reporting that they have no close friends (a five-fold increase since 1990) with higher rates of disconnection for young Black males, citing that a lack of social connection is associated with increased risk of poor health, including mental health disorders, poverty, and even premature death. The EO further stated that college enrollment and completion rates for men have dropped significantly over the past decade, and the school suspension rate for boys is more than double the rate for girls, with even higher rates for Black and American Indian and Native Alaskan boys. The EO ordered the creation and continuation of various initiatives under Governor Newsom's Administration, such as:

a) Directing the California Health and Human Services Agency, in consultation with the Department of Health Care Services, CDPH, and other relevant departments, to develop recommendations to address the suicide crisis among young men within existing initiatives, including the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative and other components of the Master Plan for Kids' Mental Health; to support the mental health and help-seeking behavior of boys, men, and the communities that support them, including those affected by violence; and, to access timely services and seek treatment if needed, including development of pathways for men and boys in need to participate in improved behavioral health services that are expanding through California's Mental Health for All Plan and the Master Plan for Kid's Mental Health;
b) Requiring the Governor's Office of Service and Community Engagement, in consultation with the Office of the First Partner and the Executive Director of the State Board of Education, to identify opportunities for promoting and enhancing the participation of men and boys in service opportunities through California Volunteers;
c) Requiring the Executive Director of the State Board of Education, and requesting the California Department of Education and California Commission on Teacher Credentialing, to identify opportunities within the initiatives underway as part of the more than $1 billion invested to strengthen the teacher workforce to improve recruitment of men as teachers and school counselors, including review of outreach, marketing, and promotional materials and partnerships with institutions of higher education; and,
d) Requiring other agencies and departments within the Governor's Administration to assist in the efforts directed by the EO if requested, and requesting agencies and departments not subject to the Governor's authority to do the same.

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Generation Up (source)
American Institute for Boys and Men
California Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry
California Alliance of Caregivers
California Behavioral Health Association
California Charter Schools Association
California Medical Association
Health Officers Association of California
Orange County Asian and Pacific Islander Community Alliance, Inc.
Orange County Association for Mental Health
Orange County Medical Association
Orange County United Way
Rebecca Bender Initiative
United Nations Association of Orange County
Wilton Rancheria

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Generation Up, sponsor of this bill, and other supporters, state that the challenges boys and young men face, such as stigma around mental health conditions, isolation and masculinity norms are often exacerbated for young men in communities of color, where access to mental health resources may already be limited or looked down upon. Despite these disparities, young men and boys are not explicitly recognized as a priority population within existing suicide prevention frameworks. Without targeted outreach, many at-risk individuals may remain disconnected from the support systems that could prevent mental health crises and suicide attempts.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell,

Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Dixon, Lee, Papan, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Reyes Diaz / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:04:13

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1957
Author: Pacheco (D)
Amended: 8/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Mortgages: foreclosure

SOURCE: United Trustees Association

DIGEST: This bill narrows the process by which certain eligible bidders may purchase a residential property of one to four units that was sold at a foreclosure sale by making a matching or greater bid, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes comprehensive procedures for conducting a non-judicial foreclosure sale, pursuant to a power of sale in the deed or mortgage, through a public auction conducted by a trustee (also known as the "trustee's sale"). (Civil (Civ.) Code §§ 2924g & 2924h.)

2) Requires a trustee to distribute the proceeds of a trustee's sale in an order of priority, starting with the costs and expenses of the sale, the payment obligation secured by the mortgage that is the subject of the sale, any junior liens, and then to the borrower. (Civ. Code § 2924k.)

3) Provides a process for a specified eligible bidder to meet or exceed the highest bid at a trustee's sale, if the eligible bidder's bid is received by the trustee within 45 days of the trustee's sale, as specified. (Civ. Code § 2924m.)

4) Defines, for the purposes of the process described in 3), above, an "eligible bidder" to mean:

   a) an eligible tenant buyer;
   b) a prospective owner-occupant;
   c) a nonprofit association, nonprofit corporation, or cooperative corporation in which an eligible tenant buyer is a voting member or director;
   d) an eligible nonprofit corporation that:
      i. has a determination letter from the IRS affirming its tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status;
      ii. has its principal place of business in California;
      iii. has board members whose primary residences are all in California;
      iv. has as one of its primary activities the development and preservation of affordable rental or home ownership housing in California; and
      v. is registered and in good standing with the Attorney General's Registry of Charities and Fundraisers;

      (1) a limited liability company wholly owned by one or more eligible nonprofit corporations described in (c) or (d);
      (2) a community land trust, as defined;
         a. a limited-equity housing cooperative, as defined; or
      (3) the state, the Regents of the UC, or a county, city, district, public authority, or public agency. (Civ. Code § 2924m(a)(3).)

5) Defines a "prospective owner-occupant" to mean a natural person who presents to the trustee an affidavit or declaration stating that:

   a) They will occupy the property as their primary residence within 60 days of the trustee's deed being recorded;
   b) They will maintain their occupancy for at least one year;
   c) They are not acting as the agent of any other person or entity in purchasing the real property, and
   d) They are not the foreclosed upon borrower, or related to or affiliated with the foreclosed upon borrower, as specified. (Civ. Code § 2924m(a)(1).)

6) Defines an "eligible tenant bidder" to mean a natural person who, at the time of the trustee's sale:

   a) Is occupying the property as their primary residence;
   b) Is occupying the real property under a rental or lease agreement entered into as the result of an arm's-length transaction that was entered into before recording of the owner's default, and provides evidence of this;
   c) Is not the borrower or trustor, or the child, spouse, or parent of the borrower or trustor;
   d) Is not acting as the agent of any other person or entity in purchasing the real property; and
   e) Has not filed a petition under the U.S. Bankruptcy Code, as specified. (Civ. Code § 2924m(a)(2).)

7) Permits the Attorney General or a county counsel, city attorney, or district attorney to bring a civil action for specific performance or any other remedy at equity or law to enforce the provisions relating to bids by eligible bidders described in (3) through (6), above. (Civ. Code § 2924m(j).)

8) Specifies that the provisions described in (3) through (7), above, regarding bids by eligible bidders, sunsets and are repealed on January 1, 2031. (Civ. Code § 2924m(m).)

This bill:

1) Removes the "prospective owner occupant" category of eligible bidder for the purposes of the post-sale bidding process described in (3), above, instead defining "eligible bidder" as either:

   a) an "eligible tenant bidder" or
   b) an "eligible community bidder."

2) Requires that "eligible tenant bidder" means, in addition to existing requirements, a tenant who will maintain occupancy for at least one year pursuant to a deed restriction contained within a trustee's deed executed by the trustee that is enforceable as described in (8), below.

3) Defines "eligible community bidder" to mean any of the entities described in (4)(c) through (h), above.

4) Requires that an eligible nonprofit corporation under the "eligible community bidder" category, as described in (4)(d), above, to meet additional specified requirements required of nonprofits that may bid on deed-restricted housing in existing law, as specified.

5) Limits the residential properties eligible for the post-sale bidding process under (3), above, to:

   a) If the party submitting a bid is an eligible community bidder, the property is residential real property of four or fewer units sold at a trustee's sale pursuant to a power of sale contained in a first lien deed of trust or mortgage; or
   b) If the party submitting a bid is an eligible tenant bidder, the property is residential real property of four or fewer units sold at a trustee's sale pursuant to a power of sale contained in a first lien deed of trust or mortgage where:

      i. the city or county in which the property is located has issued a certificate of occupancy that was valid on the date of the trustee's sale and the property was not subject to a red tag or a substandard building code violation preventing occupancy on the date of the sale; and
      ii. the fair market value of the property is equal to or less than the maximum Federal Housing Administration loan limits, as specified.

6) Permits a trustee to reasonably rely on affidavits and declarations regarding bidder eligibility, and specifies that the trustee does not have a duty to investigate or verify the information contained within the affidavit or declaration of the bidder's eligibility. Specifies that the trustee is not liable to any person or entity on any claim arising from an eligible bidder's affidavit or declaration of their eligibility.

7) Requires a trustee, within 30 days of a sale being deemed final, to return any losing bid to the bidder that submitted it.

8) Permits the Attorney General, county counsel, city attorney, or district attorney to bring an action for, in addition to existing specified remedies, a civil penalty equal to one-third of the fair market value of the property, where a bid was submitted by a person or entity that is not entitled to submit a bid.

9) Makes various conforming changes.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/05/26)

United Trustees Association (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/05/26)

California Association of Realtors
Consumer Federation of California
Legal Assistance for the Elderly
Neighborhood Partnership Housing Services Inc.
Northern California Land Trust
Oakland Community Land Trust
Public Counsel
Rise Economy

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the United Trustees Association, which is the sponsor of AB 1957:

> AB 1957 protects homeowners' equity in their homes by correcting unintended consequences arising from the passage of SB 1079 in 2020. This well-intentioned bill was designed to assist tenants and other first-time homebuyers to become owners of residential property by participating in the nonjudicial foreclosure process. The subject is quite technical, but in brief the idea was this: following a foreclosure sale of a house, certain eligible groups would be allowed to outbid the highest bidder at the foreclosure sale and become owners of the property within 45 days after the foreclosure.
>
> Although certainly not intended by the author of SB 1079 five years ago, the unintended consequence was that unscrupulous actors in the foreclosure world learned to manipulate the SB 1079 process by posing as "prospective owner-occupants" or using eligible tenants as "straw buyers" or even forming sham nonprofit entities to outbid the high bid at the public foreclosure sale.
>
> These unscrupulous actors, who are nothing more than for-profit "flippers" of real estate, should have been bidding at the foreclosure sales themselves. Instead, they learned to wait until after the sale, swooping in to claim properties for as little as $1 more than the high bid at the sales. We have seen the system disincentivize bidding at foreclosure sales, which is bad for homeowners losing their homes to foreclosure sales. The whole purpose of the public, transparent

sale is to encourage high bidding so that homeowners can receive as much of their equity as possible.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to the California Association of Realtors, which opposes AB 1957:

SB 1079 created a carefully balanced framework that provides eligible bidders, including prospective owner-occupants, a meaningful opportunity to acquire foreclosed homes following a trustee's sale. The Legislature adopted this policy to help counteract the growing concentration of residential housing in the hands of institutional investors and to promote pathways to homeownership for California families. Indeed, expanding opportunities for owner occupancy was a central objective of SB 1079.

By eliminating prospective owner-occupants from the post-sale process, AB 1957 would undermine one of the principal policy goals of SB 1079 and shift a significant advantage back to investors and other large-scale purchasers with greater access to capital. As a practical matter, many prospective homeowners rely on the post-sale bidding process as one of the few remaining avenues to compete for ownership opportunities in an increasingly challenging housing market. Removing them from eligibility would substantially reduce those opportunities and further limit access to homeownership.

Prospective owner-occupants also play an important role in promoting neighborhood stability and long-term community investment. Owner-occupied housing is associated with lower vacancy rates, greater community engagement, and stronger neighborhood outcomes. Excluding prospective owner-occupants from the process would run counter to these longstanding housing policy objectives.

At the same time, C.A.R. recognizes concerns regarding potential misuse of the owner occupant provisions and supports reasonable safeguards to ensure that the post-foreclosure bidding process operates as intended. Rather than eliminating prospective owner-occupants altogether, we respectfully request amendments that preserve their eligibility while establishing appropriate guardrails to deter abuse.

Specifically, C.A.R. has proposed amendments requiring prospective owner-occupants to record an owner-occupancy deed restriction, execute an affidavit affirming their intent to occupy the property as their principal residence, and be subject to meaningful civil penalties for knowingly violating these requirements. These provisions would help ensure that only bona fide owner-

occupants utilize the preference while maintaining access to homeownership opportunities for California families.

Preserving legitimate owner-occupant participation while strengthening enforcement against bad actors would better advance the Legislature's original intent and maintain meaningful pathways to homeownership.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 5/26/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hoover, Irwin, 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, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NOES: Schiavo
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Bauer-Kahan, Castillo, Garcia, Hart, Jackson, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez, Zbur

Prepared by: Ian Dougherty / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:04:12

****** 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 Fun
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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1976
Author: Wicks (D)
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Allen, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar
NOES: Valladares, Dahle

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 49-19, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Streets and highways: pedestrian and bicycle facilities

SOURCE: Streets for All

DIGEST: This bill exempts the development of pedestrian malls from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and limits cities' and counties' ability to deny or delay pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements, among other provisions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows a city to "make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." It is from this fundamental power (commonly called the police power) that local

governments derive their authority to regulate behavior to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

2) Allows local agencies to adopt rules and regulations prohibiting entry to or exit from any street if it is necessary to implement the circulation element of its General Plan.

3) Enacts the Pedestrian Mall Law (PML) of 1960 to create a statewide process to build pedestrian malls in recognition that in certain areas in cities, and particularly in retail shopping areas, there is a need to separate pedestrian travel from vehicular travel, and that the separation is necessary to protect the public safety or otherwise to serve the public interest and convenience. Under PML, a city or county can establish a pedestrian mall to prohibit vehicular traffic on a pedestrian mall, and pay property owners for damages resulting from establishing a pedestrian mall from the general fund or via assessment.

4) Provides that, to establish a pedestrian mall, the city or county must adopt a resolution declaring its intent describing the pedestrian mall, notifying the public of the opportunity to protest the mall's establishment at a public hearing, and describing how the city or county will pay for damages to property owners. Not less than 90 days before the public hearing, the city or county must post the resolution on all affected streets and intersections and record the resolution with the county recorder. No later than 45 days before the public hearing, the city or county must mail the resolution to affected property owners. At the public hearing, the city or county must hear all objections, protests, and claims. If at least a majority of affected property owners protest the mall's establishment, the city or county cannot establish the mall, and must wait a year before it brings it up again.

5) Provides that property owners that might suffer damage due to the pedestrian mall can file a claim of damages to the city or county's clerk. At the public hearing, the city or county can allow for any damage claims. If there are unsettled claims, the city or county must direct that action to the relevant superior court in the nature of an eminent domain claim.

6) Provides that, under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), a lead agency determines whether a project is exempt from CEQA, or if it must do an initial study to determine if a project will have significant effects on the environment. If a project has no effect on the environment or effects that can be mitigated, the lead agency prepares a negative declaration (ND) or mitigated ND (MND). If the project will have significant impacts, the lead agency prepares an environmental impact report (EIR) to evaluate and propose

mitigation measures for any effects on the environment, including impacts or likely impacts to land, air, water, minerals, flora, fauna, ambient noise, and historic or aesthetic significance.

This bill:

1) Prohibits a city or county from holding a community input meeting to reconsider, delay, or prevent implementation of a proposed pedestrian or bicycle safety project if that project is included in an approved plan that will be implemented as part of the circulation element of the city or county's general plan, after that project has passed 90% design, as specified.

2) Prohibits, at a public meeting when a contract is awarded or when county or city staff are directed to begin the construction of a pedestrian or bicycle safety project, or anytime thereafter, the bill would prohibit the city or county from terminating the project unless the city or county makes at least one specified finding at a public meeting.

3) Prohibits a city or county from requiring a petition to request the installation of a traffic-calming measure to contain the signatures of more than a majority of the total number of persons whose residences are located within 1,000 feet of the proposed traffic-calming measure, as specified.

4) Establishes a CEQA exemption for pedestrian malls meeting existing CEQA criteria for location, labor standards, and public transparency.

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, "While many of California's transportation laws are well-intentioned, there are a number of laws and regulations that have become overly burdensome when implementing much-needed bicycle and pedestrian-related safety measures and projects. Bicycle and pedestrian-related transportation projects have run into outdated regulations that discourage action, raise costs, and lead to delays. AB 1976 would update existing laws and regulations in order to provide more streamlined processes for projects that provide additional safety measures and accessibility for local communities to walk and live safely."

2) *Not so fast.* The state empowers local officials to make decisions that principally affect only their residents. This ensures that local governments can be responsive to the needs and concerns of their residents. Rather than leave decisions about how best to engage with the local community when it comes to

bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements, this bill imposes a statewide limitation to the steps local agencies can take when considering bicycle and pedestrian improvements. Specifically, the bill limits the types of public input meetings that local agencies can hold to gather community feedback once design is 90% complete. Additionally, if a local agency wants to ensure that a bicycle or pedestrian safety improvement shares broad community input, it can no longer institute a protest process that requires more than majority approval of affected residents. Finally, it limits when local agencies can stop pedestrian improvements already underway unless they make findings on the public benefits or fiscal constraints that justify terminating the project. This bill does this to limit the ways a local agency can try to misuse public input to interfere with bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements. However, it may also limit legitimate opportunities for the public to express their concerns with the proposed project. It is unclear whether the potential misuse of public input justifies state-imposed limitations to the public's ability to provide input on bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements. Local officials may be better suited to make determinations regarding the amount of public input on bicycle and pedestrian safety improvements in their jurisdictions.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Streets for All (Source)
AARP
Active San Gabriel Valley
California Yimby
Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates
San Diego County Bicycle Coalition
South Pas Active Streets
Spur
Sustainable Claremont
Transform
Walk San Francisco
One individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Contract Cities Association
California State Association of Counties
County of Fresno
League of California Cities

Rural County Representatives of California
Urban Counties of California (UCC)

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 49-19, 5/28/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Ramos, Ransom, 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, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Arambula, Bains, Boerner, Flora, Gabriel, Irwin, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:12

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

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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 ******

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE
Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 1982
Author: Lowenthal (D), et al.
Amended: 8/3/26 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 JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 4/23/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: On-sale general public premises: drink lids and drug testing devices

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill repeals the January 1, 2027, sunset date on the requirement for Type 48 licensees (Bar, Night club) to provide or sell to their customers a drink lid or drug testing device and post specified notices about the availability of drink lids and drug testing devices.

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) 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 restaurants or bar). An "off-sale" license authorizes the sale of all types of alcoholic beverages for consumption off the premises in original sealed containers.

4) Establishes the Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) Training program that requires the Department of ABC to develop, implement, and administer a curriculum for an RBS training program for servers of alcohol and their managers, as specified. Alcohol servers are required to successfully complete an RBS training course offered or authorized by the Department of ABC.

5) Requires, beginning on January 1, 2027, RBS training to include best practices on how to prevent or protect a person from drink spiking and best practices if a person has been drugged from drink spiking, as defined.

6) Requires on-sale public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night club) licensees, until January 1, 2027, to offer for sale to their customers drug testing devices at a cost not to exceed a reasonable amount based on the wholesale cost of those devices, as specified and to, upon, request, provide a lid with a customer's drink, as defined.

7) Requires on-sale public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night club) licensees to contact and provide specified information to law enforcement or emergency medical services when they are notified by a customer that the customer or another customer believes they have been a victim of drink spiking.

8) Requires that certain licensees, including Type 48 licensees, must maintain a sign reading, "No Person Under 21 Allowed" at or near each public entrance. The sign must be visible from the exterior. In addition, a sign of like size and content must be posted at a prominent place inside the licensed premises.

This bill repeals the January 1, 2027, sunset date on the requirement for Type 48 licensees (Bar, Night club) to provide or sell to their customers a drink lid or drug testing device and post specified notices about the availability of drink lids and drug testing devices.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "drink spiking remains one of the most insidious threats facing Californians today. Unlike other dangers, it is invisible – you cannot see it, taste it, or smell it. Victims have no warning, and by the time they realize what has happened, the harm is already done – leaving them vulnerable to assault, sexual violence, and other serious crime. AB 1013 and AB 2375 took direct aim at this threat, requiring bars and nightclubs to make drug testing strings and lids available on site. Both bills passed each legislative chamber without a single no vote – a testament to how seriously Californians take this issue. AB 1982 ensures the progress endures. Allowing these protections to sunset would be moving backward, leaving Californians more vulnerable than before."

Type 48 Alcohol License. A Type 48 alcohol license, also known as an "On-Sale General Public Premises" license allows for the sale of beer, wine, and distilled spirits for consumption on the premises. These types of licenses are generally used for bars or nightclubs. Food service is not required and minors are not allowed to enter and remain. According to the Department of ABC's website there are approximately 2,421 Type 48 licenses in the state.

Drink Spiking. According to information provided by the author's office and various media outlets, it's difficult to find comprehensive, up-to-date statistics on the prevalence of drink-spiking/drugging but various state officials and police departments from across the country have stated that it is a problem that needs to be addressed. For example, the Boston Police Department (BPD) has issued various statements warning the public to be mindful of alcohol consumption while in the city's bars and clubs. This was after the department said it's "become aware of numerous social media posts from various individuals who state that they were victims of drink spiking at local area bars." These drugs can cause disorientation, confusion, and temporary paralysis or loss of consciousness, according to the BPD. The drugs can also make potential victims vulnerable to the intentions of a suspect. BPD officials reminded anyone going out to bars or clubs in the city to be aware of where your drink is at all times, never leaving it unattended. They also suggest making sure a drink is served directly by the bartender or server.

In California, the Long Beach Department received, on average, about 25 reports per year from people who felt they had been drugged, while out with friends, possibly by something slipped into their drink. In response to these reports, in 2023 the City of Long Beach launched a pilot program named SipSafe Long Beach that will provide residents with a free test strip that can identify specific drugs in a beverage. Distribution of drug detection test strips and educational outreach are both part of the pilot program. The test strip user drops a small amount of drink fluid onto the test strip, which changes color to a specific shade if a drug is present. The distribution of the strips and other details are still being worked out. The city's Health Department is in charge of managing the program.

Following reports of people feeling as though they had been drugged (or "roofied") at West Hollywood nightlife establishments, the City of West Hollywood has also launched a similar program that included outreach and distribution of disposable test kits that check for illegal substances in drinks. Numerous locations (restaurants, bars, clubs, etc.) have received more than 12,000 test kits, according to reports. The test strips are free, and some bars leave containers of them out for patrons to use.

It should be noted that over the years, the Department of ABC has developed community-oriented policing approaches involving local merchants in deterring crime. It is designed in a manner that fosters and protects the health, safety, welfare, and economic well-being of the people of the State of California.

New Requirements on Type 48 Licensees. In 2023, Governor Newsom signed AB 1013 (Lowenthal, Chapter 253, Statutes of 2023) which requires on-sale public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night club) licensees, until January 1, 2027, to offer for sale to their customers drug testing devices, upon request. The drug testing devices shall be available for sale to customers, at a price not to exceed a reasonable amount based on the wholesale cost. Alternatively, they may be given to customers free of charge. The bill also required licensee to post the following notice in a prominent and conspicuous location: “Don’t get roofied! Drink spiking drug test kits available here. Ask a staff member for details.”

The law impacted approximately 2,400 businesses statewide. A licensee is not liable for a defective test or inaccurate test result. Failure to make those products available could result in possible fines and violations by ABC. While the department generally takes an educational approach, including multiple warnings to licensees before any fines and violations are issued, licensees would nonetheless

be responsible for ensuring these products are always available for purchase. The Department of ABC will not sell or provide kits, and does not recommend or endorse any specific company that does.

Two years ago, the Governor also signed AB 2375 (Lowenthal, 2024, Chapter 714, Statutes of 2024) requiring on-sale public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night Club) licensees, until January 1, 2027, to, upon, request, provide a lid with a customer's drink, as defined.

This bill removes the January 1, 2027, sunset dates for both bills, thereby making their provisions permanent.

Drink Spiking Prevention Lids. Drink spiking prevention lids are specially designed covers or seals for drink containers designed to safeguard beverages from being tampered with, specifically to prevent the authorized addition of dangerous substances.

There are various designs. For example, some are sealed lids that completely cover the drink's opening, with or without a small hole for a straw. There are also stretchable covers, which are generally elastic covers that can be stretched over different sizes of cups or glasses. While some are quite simple, having the same design as a sticker that attaches to the top of a glass, others can have advanced features. For example, some have detection mechanisms whereby the lid can detect the presence of foreign substances and change color or trigger an alert.

Prior/Related Legislation

AB 668 (Lowenthal, 2025) would have required, beginning July 1, 2026, and until January 1, 2029, any person who obtains a catering authorization or daily on-sale license for the sale of alcoholic beverages at a large outdoor event to offer drug testing devices, provide drink lids upon request, and comply with notification and signage requirements related to drink spiking, as specified. (Held in the Senate Appropriations Suspense File)

AB 1524 (Lowenthal, Chapter 679, Statutes of 2024) requires the California State University and each community college district and encourages the University of California, independent institutions, and private postsecondary education institutions, to stock drug testing devices in the health center located on each campus, free of cost.

AB 2375 (Lowenthal, Chapter 714, Statutes of 2024) requires on-sale general public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Nightclub) licensees to offer for sale to their customers, upon request, a lid with a customer's drink.

AB 2389 (Lowenthal, Chapter 310, Statutes of 2024) requires on-sale public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night club) licensees to contact and provide specified information to law enforcement or emergency medical services when they are notified by a customer that the customer or another customer believes they have been victim of drink spiking.

AB 2402 (Lowenthal, Chapter 829, Statutes of 2024) the bill requires the Responsible Beverage Services training courses, on or before July 1, 2027, to include best practices on how to prevent or protect a person from drink spiking, as specified.

AB 1013 (Lowenthal, Chapter 353, Statutes of 2023) requires on-sale general public premises (Type 48 – Bar, Night club) licensees to offer for sale to their customers drug testing devices at a cost not to exceed a reasonable amount based on the wholesale cost of those devices)

AB 1221 (Gonzalez Fletcher, Chapter 847, Statutes of 2017) establishes the RBS Training Act of 2027, and requires the Department of ABC, on or before January 1, 2020, to develop, implement, and administer a curriculum for an RBS training program, as specified. Additionally, the bill requires, beginning July 1, 2021, an alcohol server, as defined, to successfully complete an RBS training course offered or authorized by the Department of ABC.

SB 1182 (Galgiani, Chapter 893, Statutes of 2016) provides that the possession of gamma hydroxybutyric acid (GHB), flunitrazepam (Rohypnol), or ketamine with the intent to commit a sex crime, as defined, is a felony, punishable for 16 months, two years, or three years.

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 8/3/26)

Alcohol Justice
The Night's Watch
Sexual Harassment & Assault Prevention + Prevention

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Night's Watch, "drink spiking and drug-facilitated sexual assault remain persistent and underreported threats in nightlife spaces. These incidents not only cause serious, long-term harm to individuals, but also impact the public's perception of nightlife safety and undermine public confidence in nightlife spaces and the broader nighttime economy. As the state of California continue to emphasize nightlife as essential to downtown revitalization & economic recovery, it is essential that the state provides clear standards and prevention tools to reduce the risks of sexual violence perpetration in these spaces."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 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, 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, Gabriel, Celeste Rodriguez, Wicks

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
8/5/26 15:04:11

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1991
Author: Aguiar-Curry (D)
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE GOVERNMENTAL ORG. COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Rubio, Valladares, Archuleta, Ashby, Blakespear, Cervantes, Dahle, Hurtado, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Smallwood-Cuevas, Wahab, Weber Pierson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil, Richardson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverages: market research study: taste testing

SOURCE: Wine Institute

DIGEST: This bill authorizes, until January 1, 2032, specified alcohol licensees to furnish tastes of alcoholic beverages as part of a bona fide market research study undertaken by or for the licensee for the sole purpose of measuring consumer perceptions with respect to the sensory characteristics of the alcoholic beverages, as specified.

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) Separates the alcoholic beverage industry into three separate component parts, or tiers, of the manufacturer (including, breweries, and distilleries), wholesaler/distributor, and retailer. This is referred to as the "tied-house" law or "three-tier" system.

4) Authorizes licensed manufacturers and retailers to offer free or paid samples, provided they hold the proper license and adhere to specified requirements, including tasting limits. Tastings are permitted on-site at wineries, breweries, or in designated, separated areas of retail stores. In some cases, tastings are limited in quantity and duration, and only authorized personnel may serve alcoholic beverages.

5) Establishes the Responsible Beverage Service (RBS) Training Program that requires the Department of ABC to develop, implement, and administer a curriculum for servers of alcohol and their managers, as specified. Alcohol servers are required to successfully complete an RBS training course offered or authorized by the Department of ABC.

This bill:

1) Authorizes a licensed winegrower, licensed beer manufacturer, licensed distilled spirits manufacturer, licensed craft distiller, licensed brandy manufacturer, licensed rectifier, or licensed wine rectifier to furnish tastes of alcoholic beverages as part of a bona fide market research study for the sole purpose of measuring consumer perceptions with respect to the sensory characteristics of the alcoholic beverages.

2) Provides that the tasting may be conducted, subject to all of the following:

    a) The licensee shall strictly adhere to all state, federal, and local statutory and regulatory provisions that apply to furnishing or consumption of an alcoholic beverage.
    b) Only an individual certified under the RBS training program shall be employed to administer or assist with the taste testing.

3) Prohibits a taste testing participant from being provided more taste samples than is reasonably necessary to formulate an opinion relates to the sensory characteristics of an alcoholic beverage.

4) Prohibits a licensee from giving an inducement or compensation, other than monetary, to a consumer for participation in the taste testing. The monetary payment for any bona fide market research study shall not exceed $500 per participant and all participants are required to receive the same uniform payment.

5) Prohibits the licensee from allowing the same person to participate in more than three of the licensee's taste tests per year.

6) Prohibits a person who holds a wholesaler or retail license, is an employee or agent of a wholesaler or retailer, or has an ownership interest in a wholesaler or retail license from participating in a taste testing.

7) Prohibits the taste testing from being used as a means or subterfuge for furnishing to consumers alcoholic beverage samples prohibited by this bill or the Department of ABC's rules.

8) Requires the licensee to maintain records of all market research taste tests for a minimum of three years.

9) Includes a sunset date of January 1, 2032.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "California's alcoholic beverages producers are known around the world for their quality and innovation, but right now, our laws don't allow them to do basic consumer research like tastings to test consumers' perception of sensory characteristics (like taste and smell). Sensory tastings are common practice across the food and beverage industry and give producers valuable feedback to improve products and respond to changing consumer preferences. Alcoholic beverages producers were previously able to conduct these kinds of tastings under the Department of ABC's guidance until 2009. This bill restores that ability in a transparent and consistent way. AB 1991 simply creates a clear framework to allow these tastings for legitimate market research, ensuring that California businesses have the tools they need to stay competitive and continue leading in a global marketplace."

Previous Authorization. Prior to 2009, the Department of ABC allowed alcoholic beverage manufacturers to conduct supplier-sponsored tastings for market research purposes. It should be noted that the previous authorization prohibited market research studies from being conducted at any location licensed by the Department of ABC or any location that could reasonably be construed as associated with a licensed premises. That authorization further required that the identity of the manufacturer not be disclosed to participants and that test samples not be identified by brand or manufacturer.

While this bill does not incorporate those prohibitions, it includes several provisions designed to ensure that qualifying studies constitute bona fide market research. Notably, the bill was recently amended to prohibit participation by any person holding a wholesale or retail license or any person with an ownership interest in a wholesale or retail license. This targeted restriction is intended to safeguard the integrity of the three-tier system and prevent retailers and distributors from being improperly influenced to purchase a licensee's brands.

These previously authorized activities allowed manufacturers to evaluate consumer responses to new and existing products in a structured and controlled setting. However, the underlying guidance was ultimately rescinded by the Department of ABC due to the absence of express legislative authority. Under current law, alcohol tastings are permitted in certain instructional and limited promotional contexts, generally tied to educational activities, retail settings, or other regulated environments. Market research tastings, by contrast, are a well-established tool across consumer product industries. In the alcoholic beverage sector, sensory evaluations enable manufacturers to measure consumer perception of attributes such as flavor profile, aroma, balance, mouthfeel, and overall appeal. The data gathered through these evaluations are designed to support informed decision-making in the areas of product innovation, refinement, and market competitiveness.

Under the bill, licensed winegrowers, beer manufacturers, distilled spirits manufacturers, craft distillers, brandy manufacturers, and rectifiers would be authorized to provide tastes of alcoholic beverages for market research purposes. All participants would be required to be 21 years of age. Qualifying studies must constitute bona fide market research conducted solely to evaluate consumer perceptions of sensory attributes, including taste, aroma, and mouthfeel. Participants are to be encouraged to sample only the amount necessary to form an informed opinion, rather than consuming full servings. Finally, any data, analyses, or conclusions derived from such tastings may not be used for advertising or promotional purposes.

Among other changes, recent amendments established a $500 cap on monetary compensation that may be provided to participants and require licensees to maintain records of all market research taste tests for a minimum of three years.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 917 (Laird, 2026) increases, among other things, the number of licensees allowed to conduct instructional tastings from one to three licensees at a certified farmers' market. (Pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee)

SB 1273 (Cabaldon, 2025) revises various advertising prohibitions for specified alcohol licensees when conducting instructional tastings events at a retailer's location, to, among other things, to include videos of up to 60 seconds and removes the requirement that the specified information and any pictures, illustrations, or depictions in the advertisement be relatively inconspicuous in relation to the advertisement as a whole. (Pending on the Assembly Floor)

AB 89 (Committee on Governmental Organization, Chapter 306, Statutes of 2021) Added distilled spirits wholesalers to the list of licensees that a retailer is not required to purchase or sell alcoholic beverages from when selling marketing data to that wholesaler.

AB 2452 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 705, Statutes of 2018) revised various advertising prohibitions for alcohol licensees when conducting instructional events at a retailer's location, to, among other things, allow for pictures, illustrations, and depictions of the retailer's premises.

AB 1891 (Levine, Chapter 273, Statutes of 2018) adds craft distillers to the list of licenses authorized to conduct an instructional tasting event at an off-sale retailer's premises and instruct consumers at on-sale retail licensed premises on the history, nature, values, and characteristics of their distilled spirits.

AB 774 (Levine, Chapter 107, Statutes of 2015) provides that a certified farmers' market beer sales permit shall also authorize an instructional tasting event on the subject of beer at a certified farmers' market, including any permitted community event area adjacent to, and operated in conjunction with, a certified farmers' market, located within the county or an adjacent county of the physical location of the licensed beer manufacturer, under specified conditions.

SB 1101 (Wolk, Chapter 177, Statutes of 2010) clarified that winemakers who participate in instructional events or "meet the winemaker dinners," held at a retailer's licensed premises for consumers, may offer minimal samples, no more than three one-ounce tastes, of wine from "bottles."

AB 605 (Portantino, Chapter 230, Statutes of 2010) added new provisions to the ABC Act authorizing the Department of ABC to issue to the holder of an "off-sale" retail license an "instructional tasting license" for the purpose of furnishing tastings of alcoholic beverages to consumers, subject to certain limitations.

AB 2134 (Chesbro, Chapter 149, Statutes of 2010) created a new tied-house exception in the Act that allows licensed brewers to conduct and participate in events called "Beer Maker Dinners" for consumers held at an on-sale retail licensed premise.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Wine Institute (Source)
Anheuser-Busch Companies
Distilled Spirits Council of the United States
Family Winemakers of California
Insights Association
Napa Valley Vintners

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

Alcohol Justice

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Wine Institute, "at a challenging time for alcohol beverage manufacturers, the industry is seeking new ways to reach and engage with legal alcohol beverage customers. These market research tastings allow them to hear firsthand what appeals to potential customers at a sensory level and develop products that they would find appealing."

The Family Winemakers of California state, "our members represent small and growing wineries that rely on innovation, direct consumer engagement, and data-informed decision-making to remain competitive in an increasingly challenging marketplace. California's wine industry continues to struggle amid dozens of local, global, and industry challenges threatening and causing the closure of family-owned wineries across the state. Expanding opportunities for winemakers

to stay informed with consumers' preferences is essential to support the industry amid this historic downturn. Sensory tasting to market research offers a responsible and controlled method for producers to evaluate product quality, refine offerings, and responds to evolving consumer tastes."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to Alcohol Justice, "we stress that there are no guidelines that would dissuade unethical practice. There is no statutory definition of 'bona fide market research,' including no restrictions on recruitment, no boundaries around remuneration, and no limits on the content and duration of the sessions. There is no opportunity for the Department of ABC to review research plans, and very limited ability for the department to exercise oversight absent sting operations. This lack of guardrails all but guarantee bad actors will use 'market research' as an opportunity to exert opportunity to exert heretofore proscribed influence over retailers, wholesalers, regulators, and legislators."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, 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, Hoover, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 1997
Author: Lee (D)
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/17/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 8-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-3, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Land use: housing development approvals: timelines and processes

SOURCE: AIDS Healthcare Foundation

DIGEST: This bill expedites the timeline for approval or disapproval of certain affordable housing development projects.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows, pursuant to the California Constitution, cities and counties to "make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws."

2) Requires public agencies to act fairly and promptly on applications for development permits, including housing, under the Permit Streamlining Act (PSA), including that "lead agencies," which are public agencies that have principal responsibility for approving a project, must approve or deny the project within:

   a) 180 days of certifying an environmental impact report (EIR);

   b) 90 days of certifying an EIR for a housing project;

   c) 60 days of certifying an EIR for a housing project that is at least 49% affordable to very low or low-income households and the project has applied or will apply for state or federal financial assistance;

   d) 60 days of adopting a negative declaration under CEQA, determining a project is exempt from CEQA, or receiving a complete application if the project is subject to ministerial review; and

   e) 60 to 90 days, depending on project size, of receiving a complete application for a housing project that qualifies for a CEQA exemption pursuant to AB 130 (Committee on Budget, 2025), unless specified tribal consultation is ongoing.

3) Deems approved the application if the agency fails to approve or disapprove the application in the applicable time period.

This bill:

1) Requires a lead agency under the PSA to approve a housing project within 30 days of the certification of an EIR for housing project that is at least 90% affordable to very low or low-income households and the project has applied or will apply for state or federal financial assistance, as specified.

2) Makes technical and conforming changes.

Comment

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "AB 1997 reduces from 60 days down to 30 days the period of time a lead agency has to approve or deny an affordable housing project's environmental impact report (EIR) after the lead agency certifies the EIR. This faster timeline only applies to projects that are 90% affordable to very-low or extremely-low income households, and requires the project applicant to have provided written notice to the agency specifics about the

project's financing. This narrow and very focused streamlining will move 90% affordable housing projects faster."

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

AIDS Healthcare Foundation (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

City of La Verne

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-3, 5/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, 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, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Irwin, Sanchez, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Boerner, Dixon, Johnson, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:10

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

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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 “teletriage” and “teleconsultation” to better alight 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
Eartheart
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 ******

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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 ******

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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 supervisorial 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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2012
Author: Hoover (R) and Wicks (D), et al.
Amended: 5/20/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vehicles: transportation of manufactured homes

SOURCE: California Housing Consortium

DIGEST: This bill makes various changes to the annual and special permitting requirements for the transport of manufactured homes by the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans), as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Authorizes Caltrans, in consultation with the California Highway Patrol (CHP), to impose permit conditions, including routing requirements and escort vehicle requirements, necessary to ensure safe movement of oversized loads.

2) Authorizes Caltrans and local authorities to issue special and annual permits for the movement of manufactured homes and mobilehomes, subject to specified terms and conditions to ensure public safety and highway protection.

3) Establishes requirements governing the transportation of manufactured homes on highways, including restrictions and conditions related to width, safety equipment, and operational requirements.

4) Defines a "Highway" as a way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. A highway includes a street.

This bill:

1) Provides that, when transporting a manufactured home, as defined, a mover is not required to obtain an additional special permit issued by Caltrans if the mover has obtained a Caltrans-issued annual permit to transport manufactured homes.

2) Clarifies that for the provisions specified in this bill, "manufactured housing" includes components or modules of factory-bult housing, as defined.

3) Makes additional technical changes.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "California's housing crisis requires creative solutions to increase affordability and availability. Factory-built housing and manufactured homes offer an innovative approach to alleviating the housing shortage across our state. AB 2012 clarifies that individual special permits are not required to transport modules if an applicant has already obtained an annual permit. This will reduce the overall transportation costs for manufactured homes and ensure more affordable housing options are available to Californians."

2) *Caltrans-Issued Permits*. The Caltrans Transportation Permit Manual specifies four main types of transportation permits: single trip, repetitive, variance, and annual. Each of these is considered a type of special permit.

   A single-trip (i.e. special permit) is issued for a load or vehicle exceeding 8'-6" in width, 14' in height, or 80,000 pounds in weight, and is valid for one-way travel from Point A to Point B. The permit is valid for seven days and is good for one trip. Permit applicants prepare a safe route by checking all horizontal and vertical clearances, as well as bridge weight restrictions. If the same route is

used for multiple one-way trips, a repetitive permit may be issued for loads up to 12 feet wide, 14'-6" high, and 90 feet long. A repetitive permit is valid for up to 90 days. For loads exceeding 15 feet in width, 17 feet in height, or 135 feet in length, a variance permit is issued, which is a type of single trip permit. A variance permit may require a CHP escort to move the load.

An annual permit is issued for a load or vehicle up to 12 feet in width, 14 feet in height, and 40 feet distance from kingpin to rear axle. These permits are valid for one year. Permit applicants do not prepare a specific route; rather, annual permit holders may travel on all designated / approved routes.
Caltrans weekly notifies the hauler of any restrictions on those approved routes.

Regarding manufactured homes, annual permits are issued for loads up to 12 feet in width, 14 feet in height, and combined lengths up to 105 feet using California pilot car maps. These limits allow uniform statewide travel without requiring route-specific engineering review. A single-trip (i.e. special) permit is issued for manufactured homes between 12 and 16 feet in width because exceeding annual permit parameters (width, height, and length) requires verification of bridge clearances, overhead structures, turning radii, and overall route feasibility.

Supporters of this measure assert that as the state attempts to address its housing supply issues, more is needed to improve the efficiencies of transporting manufactured homes in and throughout California to assist in tackling the housing supply issue. The provisions specified in this bill attempt to take a step forward in improving efficiencies by eliminating the requirement for a transporter to apply for a special permit to transport a manufactured home if they have already applied and been approved for an annual permit by Caltrans.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Housing Consortium (Source)
California Conference of Carpenters
Eden Housing
Modular Building Institute
Villa Technologies, INC

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Jackson, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:09

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2024
Author: Nguyen (D), et al.
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-3, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Outdoor advertising displays: permits: landscaped freeways: relocation agreements

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various changes to the permit application and removal / relocation processes pertaining to outdoor advertising displays (billboards) along state highways, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides, under the Outdoor Advertising Act (OAA), for the regulation by the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) of an advertising display, as defined, within view of public highways. OAA regulates the placement of an off-premises advertising display along highways that generally advertises business conducted or services rendered, or goods produced or sold at a location other than the property where the display is located. OAA prohibits a person, as defined, from placing an advertising display within the areas affected by the Act without a permit.

2) Prohibits, via OAA, Caltrans from denying or delaying the acceptance of a permit application for a new advertising display along a portion of a new alignment of an interstate or primary highway on the basis that the highway project has not been accepted by the department as complete if the section of highway is open to the use of the public for vehicular travel within 1,000 feet of the location specified in the permit application.

3) Prohibits, via OAA, except as provided, placing or maintaining an advertising display on property adjacent to a portion of a freeway that has a specified coverage area of landscaping or trees at the same or elevated grade of the main-traveled way. OAA further authorizes removal of an advertising display that violates that prohibition, as specified.

4) Provides any advertising display which is now, or hereafter becomes, in violation of current law (i.e. landscaped freeways), as defined, shall be subject to removal three years from the date the freeway has been declared a landscaped freeway by the director or the director's designee.

5) Provides the governing body of any city, county, or city and county may enact ordinances, including, but not limited to, land use or zoning ordinances, imposing restrictions on advertising displays adjacent to any street, road, or highway equal to or greater than those imposed by the Act, as specified. No city, county, or city and county may allow an advertising display to be placed or maintained in violation of the OAA.

6) Allows local governments to designate zones where advertising displays may be placed or relocated. Provides that any government entity may enter into a relocation agreement for an advertising display and that the display may be placed in the same location or a different location, including a different city or county. Further provides that a relocated or existing advertising display may be converted to a message center pursuant to a relocation agreement between the sign owner, permit owner and a local government entity that does not result in a net increase in advertising displays on a landscaped freeway.

7) Defines "relocation" for these purposes to include removal of an advertising display and construction of a new display to substitute for the display removed.

8) Grants Caltrans the ability to allow any lawfully erected display to be increased in height at its permitted location, provided the height increase or conversion would not cause a reduction in federal aid highway funds or an increase in the

number of displays within the state which does not conform to OAA, as described.

This bill:

1) Clarfies that Caltrans shall not deny or delay the acceptance, review, processing, or determination of a permit application for a new advertising display along a portion of a new alignment of an interstate or primary highway on the basis that the highway project has not been accepted by the department as complete if the section of highway is open to the use of the public for vehicular travel within 1,000 feet of the location that is specified in the permit application.

2) Provides an advertising display that becomes noncompliant with OAA due to a landscaped freeway designation shall be subject to removal with payment of compensation, as required under existing law, or to relocation, as authorized by this measure. The landscaped displays would be subject to removal or relocation three years after the adjacent section of freeway is declared landscaped by Caltrans, as specified.

3) States this measure would not prohibit any governmental entity from entering into a relocation agreement and would require Caltrans to issue a permit, without any additional consideration and without requiring a local entity or state agency to pay compensation, as defined, for a display that is being placed pursuant to a relocation agreement with another governmental entity, if the relocated display meets the defined requirements, as specified.

4) Makes technical and clarifying changes.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "AB 2024 is about making sure existing law is applied consistently. Currently, delays in processing permits and inconsistent handling of relocation create unnecessary setbacks for projects. This bill provides clear direction so permits are processed on time and projects can move forward."

OAA: a history. Since 1933, Caltrans has enforced the OAA which contains comprehensive standards and regulations for outdoor advertising displays. Caltrans regulates the placement of outdoor advertising displays visible from California highways. Outdoor advertising displays require a permit from Caltrans if they are within 660 feet from the edge of the right-of-way and viewed primarily by persons

traveling on the main-traveled way of the freeway. In order to enforce the requirements for outdoor advertising under the federal Highway Beautification Act and the State's OAA, Caltrans regularly inspects freeways and highways that are part of the National Highway System.

The OAA regulates the size, illumination, orientation, and location of advertising displays adjacent to and within specified distances of interstate or primary highways, and, with some exceptions, specifically prohibits any advertising display from being placed or maintained on property adjacent to a section of landscaped highway.

The Act generally does not apply to “on premises” advertising displays, which include those advertising the sale of the property upon which it is placed or that advertise the business conducted, services rendered, or goods produced or sold on the property. Local governments regulate on-premises displays, except for certain safety requirements. Lastly, existing law includes a number of exceptions to the OAA and assigns Caltrans the responsibility of reviewing and permitting signs that qualify for these exceptions.

Relocation of billboards. Over the years, local cities, counties, and billboard companies have collaborated through the OAA to create mutually beneficial relocation agreements. These agreements effectively remove billboards from neighborhoods and main streets and relocate them to industrial or commercial areas along highways. As part of this process, local governments and sign companies often establish revenue-sharing arrangements that provide important funding for public programs and services. A relocated display may be upgraded to a message center at its new site, provided it complies with spacing rules and all other requirements of the OAA. Caltrans is not required to approve or sign a relocation agreement between a display owner and a local jurisdiction.

A relocation agreement enables a local entity to continue development in a planned manner without expenditure of public funds. The development may be a "taking" to accommodate a capital project, such as a street widening, or to give effect to a local law or regulation, such as one that establishes a historic district. Either type of development would require the local entity to pay fair market value for the "taking."

However, in practice, relocation provisions have not always been applied consistently, and additional requirements have at times been imposed that are not clearly supported in statute. These inconsistencies have led to increased project

costs and delays. AB 1673 (Pacheco, Chapter 590, Statutes of 2023), clarified the definitions of “relocation,” “relocated display,” and related terms. That bill also explicitly authorizes converting an advertising display to a message center, such as a display that allows changeable digital content rather than a static image.

Caltrans project acceptance. The "acceptance" of a highway project is the final step in the project delivery process where Caltrans confirms the construction project has been "completed" in accordance with the agreed contract specifications, approved plans, and applicable regulations. Ultimately, this is the formal step that marks the transition from active construction to full operational use. Several components of the project acceptance process include, but are not limited to, final inspection by Caltrans engineers, "punch list" completion, and the contractor submitting the final documentation for the project. In certain instances, Caltrans may relieve the contractor of the responsibility for maintaining and protecting completed portions of a highway
project. This action, otherwise known as "maintenance and protection relief," may occur when Caltrans determines that the work on a specific segment meets contract specifications and is ready for operational use. It's important to note that while this action is available, the Caltrans Construction Manual stresses that this action should only be considered when very specific criteria are met.

Last year, SB 364 (Strickland, Chapter 313, Statutes of 2025) attempted to further clarify Caltrans review process when considering a permit application for a new outdoor advertising display (billboards) along a freeway or highway, as specified. More specifically, the bill was intended to remedy an administrative issue by directing Caltrans to review submitted outdoor advertising applications along highway project segments if the section of highway is open to the use of the public for vehicular travel within 1,000 feet of the location specified in the permit application. According to the sponsor, while prior legislation addressed permit acceptance, applications may still be accepted but not processed, creating unnecessary delays and uncertainty for both public agencies and permit holders. This measure is intended to bring further clarity to Business and Professions Code § 5367.

Landscaped freeways. In keeping with the policy of encouraging highway beautification, advertising is generally prohibited along freeways classified as “landscaped”, as defined in Caltrans Outdoor Advertising Regulations. The Federal Highway Administration (FHA) generally leaves the determination of “landscaped” to the states, which provides some flexibility in permitting advertising. Caltrans has an administrative process to declassify a freeway as non-

landscaped, thus permitting an advertising display if all other permit requirements are met. Some are concerned that Caltrans' process is too rigid, which results in one-off legislation to exempt individual billboards or locations from the state rules (though never from the FHA requirements).

This bill provides that when an advertising display becomes noncompliant with the OAA due to a freeway being designated as a landscaped freeway (meaning it's upgraded with greenery and stricter visual standards), the display must either be removed with payment of compensation, as required under existing law, or relocated, as authorized by this measure. The removal or relocation must occur three years after the date on which the director (or their designee), declares the freeway to be a landscaped freeway and its character has been changed accordingly. The three-year period has been part of state law since 1953. It does not require signs to be removed within that timeframe; rather, it establishes the minimum amount of time a sign may remain before it can be required to be removed.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Realtors
California State Outdoor Advertising Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

Scenic America

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-3, 5/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, 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, Hoover, Johnson, 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, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Irwin, Schiavo, Valencia
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bennett, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:09

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2028
Author: Chen (R)
Introduced: 2/17/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BANKING & F.I. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Grayson, Niello, Cervantes, Hurtado, Reyes, Richardson, Strickland

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

SUBJECT: Deferred deposit transactions: assessments

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) to include specified information in an invoice or assessment notice related to the annual pro rata assessment levied on licensees of the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Provides the California Deferred Deposit Transaction Law (DDTL), a licensing framework administered by the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) that regulates the provision of deferred deposit transactions (more commonly known as "payday loans"). (Division 10 of the Financial Code, commencing with Section § 23000)

2) Requires each licensee to pay its pro rata share of all costs and expenses incurred by DFPI in administering the DDTL, as specified. Provides that the assessment is the proportion that a licensee's total dollar amount of deferred deposit transactions made bears to the aggregate total dollar amount of deferred

deposit transactions made by all DDTL licensees, as specified. Provides a minimum assessment amount of $250 per licensed location per year. (Financial Code Section § 23016)

This bill:

1) Requires DFPI to provide the following information in an invoice or assessment notice issued to a DDTL licensee:

   a) The total costs and expenses reasonably incurred in the administration of this division, as estimated by the commissioner, for the ensuing year.

   b) Any deficit actually incurred or anticipated in the administration of the program in the year in which the assessment is made.

   c) The aggregate total dollar amount of deferred deposit transactions made by all licensees.

   d) The licensee's total dollar amount of deferred deposit transactions.

   e) The number of license locations operated by the licensee.

Comments

The DFPI licenses and oversees a variety of businesses in the financial services industry, such as state-chartered banks and credit unions, money transmitters, nonbank lenders, mortgage lenders, debt collectors, and payday lenders. The costs incurred by DFPI in regulating these businesses are recovered through fees and assessments charged to licensed businesses. Rather than requiring the General Fund to cover these expenses, the regulated entities bear the costs.

The DDTL is a licensing law that covers lenders providing certain short-term credit instruments, familiarly known as "payday loans." In 2024, the author of this bill authored AB 3148 (Chen, Chapter 252, Statutes of 2024) which shifted the apportionment of annual assessments under the DDTL from one based on physical locations to a pro rata model based primarily on a licensee's share of payday loans originated in the prior year. This change had the effect of increasing costs for payday lenders operating exclusively online while reducing costs for lenders that rely primarily on brick-and-mortar storefronts to originate payday loans.

The California Financial Service Providers (CFSP) is a trade association representing payday lenders and supporters of this bill. CFSP states the rationale for this bill in its support letter:

Last year, each licensee was unexpectedly faced with an annual assessment that was much higher than anticipated. Not only did DFPI neglect to provide licensees with any warning before issuing invoices, but the department also refused to provide an explanation afterwards. Licensees were left unable to determine whether higher costs stemmed from increased program expenses, deficit recovery, or other factors. This lack of transparency makes it difficult for the industry to budget and plan for future operations, a key component of running a business.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Financial Service Providers

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Michael Burdick / B. & F.I. /
8/5/26 15:04:08

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2035
Author: Dixon (R)
Amended: 4/22/26 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: 13-0, 6/30/26
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: Common interest developments: declarations: amendments

SOURCE: Third Laguna Hills Mutual

DIGEST: This bill allows a superior court to approve a change to the governing documents in a homeowner's association (HOA), meeting specified criteria, if the change is approved by 37% of the owners, rather than 50%.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that an HOA or a member of an HOA may petition the superior court of the county to reduce the percentage of affirmative votes required to amend a declaration when the declaration requires more than 50% approval of the membership, or members having more than 50% of the votes in more than one class in a voting structure with more than one class.

2) Establishes that the petition must include documentation such as the governing documents, the full amendment text, copies of any solicitation materials, an explanation of the reason for amendment, and vote results.

3) Provides that the court may approve the amendment if it finds that:

   a) Proper notice of the hearing was given to specified parties (at least 15 days);

   b) The balloting complied with governing documents and applicable law;

   c) A reasonably diligent effort was made to permit all eligible members to vote;

   d) More than 50% of the votes actually cast supported the amendment, including a majority of each required voting class; and,

   e) The amendment is reasonable and approval is not otherwise improper.

4) Authorizes the court to confirm the amendment as validly approved on the basis of affirmative votes actually received during the balloting period; after making the findings required in 3).

5) Provides that an amendment is not effective until it has been recorded in every county in which the HOA is located. Provides that amendment shall have the same force and effect as if the amendment were adopted in compliance with every requirement imposed by the governing documents.

6) Requires after recordation, the HOA deliver an individual notice to all members with a copy of the amendment.

This bill:

1) Adds an option for HOA members to approve amendments to their governing documents with 37% of the vote of the owners, rather than the standard 50% threshold, by petitioning a superior court, if all of the following are met:

   a) The HOA is a senior citizen housing development;

   b) The HOA has more than 6,000 separate interests (units);

   c) More than 25% of the separate interests are occupied by tenants; and,

   d) The declaration has not been amended in at least 35 years.

Background

Davis-Stirling Act (Act). The Act went into effect in 1986 and is the primary state law governing Common Interest Developments (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 dispute resolutions 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.

Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions (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 a unique situation in which,

even under good faith attempts to meet the 50% voter threshold requirement, a large HOA has been unable to and cannot update their CC&Rs via this process.

Comments

Author's statement. "AB 2035 provides a commonsense solution to allow large, senior citizen common interest developments to amend significantly out of date declarations when they are unable to reach quorum requirements established by their CC&Rs. Some HOAs, such as Third Laguna Hills Mutual, are unable to meet quorum requirements for amendments to their CC&Rs and the current statutory alternative to reduce quorum requirements to 50% is insufficient. AB 2035 creates an additional alternative to reduce quorum requirements to 37% when the common interest development meets specified conditions. Specifically, the common interest development is required to be a senior citizen housing development, must contain at least 6,000 separate interest, more than 25% of those interests are occupied by non-owner residents, and that the development's declaration has not been amended in 35 years. This alternative will allow large, senior citizen developments to amend their CC&Rs when they are unable to meet quorum requirements while maintaining strong guardrails to ensure an equitable outcome. By maintaining the existing court petition process used for quorum reduction requests, AB 2035 ensures that this exception will only be used in specific, unique and necessary situations."

A very narrow solution. The Third Laguna Hills Mutual HOA is the largest HOA within the broader Laguna Hills Village—a massive residential community for senior citizens in Orange County which comprises over 90% of the city of Laguna Hills. With over 6,000 units, many of which are owned by people living abroad and/or not within the community full-time, the community has faced major obstacles to updating its CC&Rs, and has been unable to do so since 1988, leaving many provisions of these governing documents out of compliance with changes in state HOA law. That inability is not for a lack of trying. The association has spent hundreds of hours and well over $100,000 trying to turn out the vote in two separate elections, with the hope of at least meeting the voter threshold to petition CC&R amends to the superior court. However, even with these extensive and costly efforts, the HOA has only managed to get approximately 40% of their membership to vote. This stalemate has left crucial governing documents out-of-date and unreflective of not only statutory changes, but also modern advances in HOAs, like the need to regulate the installation and operation of electric vehicle charging stations, as well as virtual mediums for delivering notices and conducting certain business.

While this bill's allowance of sub-majority (37%) approval as eligible for a superior court petition could raise concerns about democratic governance, the bill seems well-tailored to only impact this specific community and enable its members to benefit from clearer, up-to-date governing documents. Given the high costs associated with the two election turnouts, it is worth considering how those costs may be passed onto the members, some of whom may be on fixed incomes due to their age and/or retirement status. Additionally, this bill does not mean amendments to the CC&Rs will automatically be granted upon meeting the lower threshold—the presiding Superior Court Judge will retain authority to ensure all processes were followed and that amendments proposed are reasonable and comply with all relevant statutes.

While exact data on the average membership size of age-restricted senior HOAs is difficult to obtain, the California Association of HOAs reports that the average size of an HOA in California is 276 residents.[1] Taking that figure, compared to the more than 6,000 residents in the Third Laguna Hills Mutual HOA, it is not clear whether concerns about other communities seeking similar carveouts would bear out. Due to the unique size and ownership characteristics of this specific HOA, and the fact that essential governing documents have not been updated in more than three decades, there seems to be clear rationale as to why this targeted solution is a standalone one.

Opposition. The California Association of Realtors (CAR) wrote the following in opposition to the bill, "While senior communities often have high levels of engagement, proposed amendments can sometimes be legally problematic, creating governance and enforcement challenges. Additionally, creating a special exemption for one HOA sets a concerning precedent."

Double-referral. This bill is also referred to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2692 (Irwin, 2026) — would allow an HOA whose CC&Rs expired prior to a natural disaster, as defined, to reinstate those CC&Rs with majority approval of the membership of the HOA. *This bill is currently pending in the Assembly.*

AB 1458 (Ta, Chapter 303, Statutes of 2023) — authorized a lower quorum requirement for HOA elections of directors under specified circumstances.

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

[1] The California Associations of Homeowners Associations. *Our Objective HOA Data & Statistics.* Accessible here: **https://www.calassoc-hoa.com/about-us/our-objective-hoa-data-statistics/**.

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/22/26)

Third Laguna Hills Mutual (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/22/26)

California Association of Realtors

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters of the bill argue that it is a precise measure intended to empower a single HOA community that experiences unique challenges and has been unable to update its CC&Rs for nearly four decades.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Opponents of the bill argue that it could set a concerning precedent from which many other HOAs would ask for lower thresholds to petition changes and depress homeowner involvement in decisions.

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
7/30/26 14:49:23

****** 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 LEMSA, 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 LEMSA. [HSC §1797.223(c)]

7) Prohibits medical control by a LEMSA 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 LEMSA's 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 2044
Author: Petrie-Norris (D)
Introduced: 2/17/26
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

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

SUBJECT: Building standards: approval or adoption: cost of compliance estimate

SOURCE: Bay Area Council
California Building Industry Association

DIGEST: This bill requires that the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) deny a proposed building standard if it finds that the initial statement of reasons (ISOR) is submitted without a completed statement of estimated cost compliance, including the related assumptions used to determine the estimate.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the CBSC within the Government Operations Agency and requires CBSC to receive proposed building standards from state agencies for consideration in on a 3-year code adoption cycle, with procedures that ensure adequate public participation, notice and justification, technical review, and opportunities for advisory input before adoption by CBSC.

2) Requires any building standard adopted or proposed by state agencies to be submitted to, and approved or adopted by, CBSC prior to codification.

Requires standards submitted for approval to include an analysis written by the proposing agency, which justifies the approval using the following criteria:

a) The proposed building standard does not conflict with, overlap with, or duplicate other building standards;

b) The proposed standard is within the parameters established by enabling legislation and is not within the exclusive jurisdiction of another agency;

c) The public interest requires the adoption of the building standard, which includes, but is not limited to, health and safety, resource efficiency, fire safety, seismic safety, building and building system performance, and consistency with environmental, public health, and accessibility statutes and regulations;

d) The proposed standard is not unreasonable, arbitrary, unfair, or capricious;

e) The cost to the public is reasonable, based on the overall benefit to be derived;

f) The proposed standard is not unnecessarily ambiguous or vague;

g) The applicable national specifications, published standards, and model codes have been incorporated where appropriate;

h) The format of the proposed standard is consistent with that adopted by the CBSC; and,

i) The proposed standard, if it promotes fire and panic safety, as determined by the State Fire Marshall (SFM), has the written approval of the SFM.

3) Requires every agency subject to the Administrative Procedure Act (APA) to prepare and submit an ISOR for proposing the adoption, amendment, or repeal of a regulation, which must include certain information, including for building standards, the estimated cost of compliance, the estimated potential benefits, and the related assumptions used to determine the estimates.

4) Requires agencies promulgating regulations to analyze the potential impact of a proposed regulation on businesses or job creation in the state and potential financial impacts on state agencies.

5) Requires state agencies adopting building standards that impact housing to include estimated benefits and costs of compliance, as well as underlying assumptions, in an ISOR.

This bill provides that if the CBSC finds that the ISOR is submitted without a completed statement of estimated cost of compliance, including the related assumptions used to determine the estimate, as required, the CSBC shall not approve or adopt the proposed or adopted building standard.

Background

The Building Standards Process. The California Building Standards Law establishes the process for adopting state building standards by the CBSC. Statewide building standards are intended to provide uniformity in building development across the state. The CBSC's duties include the following: receiving proposed building standards from state agencies for consideration in each triennial and intervening building code adoption cycle; reviewing and approving building standards submitted by state agencies; adopting building standards for state buildings where no other state agency is authorized by law; and publishing the approved building standards in the California Building Standards Code.

Most building standards currently in use in California are developed and vetted at the national level every three years by technical organizations, academics, and trade associations that develop consensus standards, which are then incorporated into the International Building Code (IBC), the national model code used by most U.S. jurisdictions. At the state level, agencies with jurisdictional authority then review the IBC and amend as necessary for California's specific needs, *e.g.,*:

- SFM is responsible for the development of building standards that provide for fire and life safety within residential buildings, such as means of egress, fire alarm systems, and fire extinguishing systems.

- Department of Housing and Community Development is responsible for the development of residential building standards, such as those in single-family and multifamily dwellings, as well as dormitories, hotels, motels, and accessibility in privately funded multifamily dwellings.

- Division of the State Architect (DSA) is responsible for the development of building standards to promote structural safety and accessibility in public schools, essential service buildings, commercial facilities, and public housing.

After the proposal of building standards by state agencies, the proposals undergo a public vetting process. A code advisory committee composed of experts in a particular scope of code reviews the proposed standards, followed by public

review. The proposing agency considers feedback and may then amend the standards and re-submit them to the CBSC for consideration. CBSC reviews and adopts the standards and files them with the Secretary of State for codification and publishing, and there is an 180-day period during which local agencies file modifications and changes to the state codes. The new codes then take effect January 1st of the subsequent year following publication.

Updates and changes to building standards are adopted on two timelines: through the triennial code adoption cycle which occurs every three years, and through the intervening code adoption cycle which provides an update to codes 18 months after the publication of the triennial codes. Regulatory activities for each cycle begin over two years before the effective date of the codes.

As a matter of practice, the Legislature typically offers guidelines or directs agencies to consider certain standards, rather than *requiring* the adoption of specific standards, in order to provide flexibility and allow for subject matter experts to determine suitability and weigh the many considerations that must be evaluated when recommending new or modified building standards.

AB 130 Building Standards Freeze. The Legislature and Governor have enacted multiple directives to research and propose new building standards in recent years, including for rainwater catchment, electric vehicle charging, water efficiency and reuse, adaptive reuse projects, "single stair" apartments exceeding three stories, and beyond. Some of the most impactful mandates in recent years have also come from outside stakeholders or the adopting agencies themselves (rather than the Legislature), like solar panel mandates and fire sprinkler requirements. There are several legitimate and important concerns that are addressed by these and many other elements of building standards for housing. However, the framework for proposing and adopting new standards can leave agencies in silos regarding the volume or costs of new proposals that counterpart agencies are also simultaneously developing. Cost analyses are performed on each individual modification or for each respective chapter, not on the accumulation of the entirety of changes in each intervening or triennial cycle across all agencies. Holistic review is therefore difficult and while individual standards may increase costs by what appears a reasonable amount, the cost of all cumulative changes may be less reasonable.

In response to concerns regarding the rapid pace of modifications to building standards, the deadly Los Angeles fires of January 2025, and a need to find methods to stem increases in housing construction costs, the Legislature and Governor enacted several significant changes to building standards in the 2025

housing budget trailer bill, AB 130 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 22, Statutes of 2025). The most significant change to building standards included a freeze to any new building standards or changes to existing building standards affecting residential units at both the state and local level until June 1st, 2031, with limited exceptions. The bill also curtailed the practice of incorporating significant new building standards into the codes via the intervening code cycle (instead, only technical or emergency changes may be made in this manner), and allowed phased residential developments utilizing model home designs to continue using approved building permits until those designs substantially change, or for a period of 10 years, rather than at each new code cycle.

Comments

Author's statement. "California's world-leading building standards have increased energy efficiency while protecting the health and safety of residents. However, these benefits have costs. Existing law requires state agencies to publish any cost estimates that come about from a proposed change to the building code. Unfortunately, many agencies provide inadequate information, denying the public the opportunity to determine if the benefits outweigh the costs. This bill is a straightforward transparency measure to ensure that agencies provide an honest accounting of the costs associated with a proposed building standard change."

The regulatory process for building standards. Because building standards qualify as regulations, their adoption is subject to the APA, which establishes the general process for the adoption of regulations. As part of the APA, an entity proposing new or amended regulations must prepare and submit to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) a notice of the proposed action and an ISOR for proposing the change in regulation. Among other things, the ISOR must include a statement of the specific purpose for each change, the problem the agency intends to address, and the rationale for why the change is reasonably necessary to carry out the purpose and address the problem for which it is proposed. The ISOR must also enumerate the benefits anticipated from the regulatory action, both monetary and non-monetary, and include evidence to support an initial determination that the change may have or will not have a significant, statewide adverse impact directly affecting business. The notice of proposed action that accompanies the ISOR must include, among other things, a statement of whether or not the changes would have a significant effect on housing costs and, separately, a description of all cost impacts known to the agency that a representative private person or business would necessarily incur in reasonable compliance with the proposed action. If the agency is unaware of cost impacts on private persons or businesses, it may state that

instead. AB 1612 (Lara, Chapter 471, Statutes of 2012) required the ISOR for any amendment to a model building code that impacts housing to include the estimated cost of compliance, the estimated potential benefits, and the related assumptions used to determine the estimates. For changes in the model codes themselves, AB 1612 required the ISOR to include the estimated cost of compliance, the estimated potential benefits, and the related assumptions used to determine the estimates for that specific change only if an interested party has made a request to the agency to examine that specific section. State agencies developing building standards that relate to housing must publicly substantiate how the cost of the new standards is determined.

Although existing law requires an agency to include the assumptions behind the cost analysis of a proposed standard, the analysis can be incomplete or not comprehensive. To give the analysis more weight, this bill will require CBSC to deny a proposed building standard if it finds that the ISOR is submitted without a completed statement of estimated cost compliance, including the assumptions used to determine the estimate.

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Bay Area Council (co-source)
California Building Industry Association (co-source)
Air-conditioning Heating and Refrigeration Institute
American Subcontractors Association-california
Boma California
California Apartment Association
California Business Properties Association
California Chamber of Commerce
California Construction and Industrial Materials Association
California Council for Affordable Housing
California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance
California Housing Consortium
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Manufacturers and Technology Association
Construction Employers' Association
Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
Naiop California

Spray Foam Coalition
Zillow Group

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 15:04:07

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2050
Author: Caloza (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 7-1, 6/16/26
AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez, Grayson

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: 4-1, 8/3/26
AYES: Cervantes, Cabaldon, Richardson, Wahab
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Dahle, Grayson

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-7, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Common interest developments: reserve accounts

SOURCE: CAI-CLAC

DIGEST: This bill requires homeowner's associations (HOAs), beginning January 1, 2032, to fund HOA reserve accounts in accordance with their reserve study and specifies the mechanisms from which the accounts shall be funded.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law, related to the Davis-Stirling Act:

1) Notwithstanding more restrictive limitations, prohibits an HOA from imposing the following without the approval of a majority of a quorum of members:

   a) A regular assessment that is more than 20% greater than the regular assessment for the association's preceding fiscal year; or

   b) Special assessments which, in the aggregate, exceed 5% of the budgeted gross expenses of the HOA for that fiscal year.

2) Allows HOAs to impose emergency assessments without member approval for specified urgent expenses, including court-ordered obligations, disaster-related repairs, or threats to health and safety.

3) Requires an HOA board, at least once every three years, to conduct a reasonably competent and diligent visual inspection of the accessible areas of the major components that the HOA is obligated to repair, replace, restore, or maintain as part of a reserve study, when the replacement value of those components meets a specified threshold.

4) Requires an HOA board to review the reserve study annually and consider and implement necessary adjustments to reserve fund planning.

5) Requires reserve studies to include, at a minimum:

   a) Identification of major components the HOA is required to repair, replace, restore, or maintain with a remaining useful life of less than 30 years;

   b) Identification of the probable remaining useful life of the components identified in a).

   c) Estimated repair, replacement, restoration, and maintenance costs associated with the components identified in a).

   d) Estimated annual reserve contributions necessary to defray the costs identified in c); and,

   e) A reserve funding plan to identify how the HOA plans to fund the contributions estimated in d).

6) Provides that "major components" include gas, water, and electrical service lines where the HOA is responsible for maintenance or replacement.

This bill:

1) Sunsets the existing HOA reserve study requirements on January 1st, 2032, and, beginning on that date, revises the study with the following requirements:

   a) Requires the HOA, rather than the board, to conduct a reasonably competent and diligent visual inspection of major components at least once every three years as part of a reserve study;

   b) Requires the HOA to update the reserve study annually; and,

   c) Requires the HOA to consider and implement necessary adjustments to reserve funding based on the annual review.

2) Retains existing reserve study content requirements, including identification of major components, their remaining useful life, cost estimates to repair, replace, restore, or maintain them, and a reserve funding plan, but:

   a) Revises the calculation from an "annual contribution" to an "annual reserve account transfer;" and,

   b) Adds a requirement that the study include the minimum reserve contribution level necessary to prevent the reserve account balance from falling below zero over a 30-year period.

3) Requires the reserve study to include a statement informing the association that, beginning January 1, 2032, state law will require an association to take certain actions if the HOA projects the reserve account balance to fall below zero over a 30-year period, including transferring a minimum of 15% of its gross annual budget to the reserve account and, under specified conditions, levying a reserve funding special assessment, as prescribed.

4) If an HOA's reserve account balance is expected to fall below zero over a 30-year period, requires the HOA to transfer a minimum of 15% of its gross annual budget to its reserve account each year until its reserve account balance is no longer to projected to fall below zero.

   a) Requires, if the annual budget transfer is insufficient to meet the projected need, the HOA to levy a one-time reserve funding special assessment, subject to the same provisions of a standard special assessment.

   b) If that amount is insufficient, the HOA shall have the members vote on an amount exceeding the special assessment cap.

c) Provides that a one-time reserve funding special assessment may not be levied again within a 9-year period.

5) Provides that all funds collected through the reserve funding special assessment shall be deposited in the HOA's reserve account and considered reserve funds.

6) Provides that the bill's provisions regarding annual budget transfers and reserve funding special assessments shall become operative on January 1st, 2032.

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 (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. "California is home to thousands of common interest developments (CIDs), where homeowners rely on their association to maintain shared property and ensure long-term safety and financial stability. In my district alone, 70% of associations are 20 years or older and 73% are condominiums.

Communities are managing aging buildings that require significant long-term maintenance. While state law requires associations to conduct reserve studies and plan for major repairs, it does not require them to fund those future obligations. By 2027, Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac will raise from 10% to 15% the minimum an association has to focus on reserves. If an association cannot meet this requirement, owners will have trouble selling due to a lack of mortgage financing. Strong neighborhoods are built on financial preparedness. California homeowners deserve the peace of mind knowing their HOAs are equipped with the tools and resources they need to meet the long-term needs of their community. With secure reserve funding, communities can maintain infrastructure proactively, avoid costly special assessments, and support long-term housing affordability."

The Importance of Funding HOA Reserves. HOA reserves are funds set aside by an HOA to pay for major components that the association is obligated to repair, replace, restore, or maintain (*e.g.,* residential roof replacement, major pool repairs, paving of association-owned roads, etc.). By carefully planning for reserves and raising funds over time through budgeted regular assessments, HOAs can plan for large, anticipated expenses in a way that does not trigger sudden, burdensome special assessments for HOA members.

When an HOA's reserves are not well-funded, the association may struggle with deferred maintenance and its associated consequences without new assessments. Additionally, according to the bill's sponsor, "Many lenders are now refusing to write mortgages for condominiums if the association has underfunded reserves. Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac require an association to have a minimum of 10% in reserves and will increase that level to 15% starting in 2027." This bill is intended to address those issues by requiring an HOA to fund its reserve to at least the minimum contribution level determined by the reserves study that is already required in existing law.

HOA Reserve Studies. Under existing law, HOAs are required to periodically assess their long-term repair and replacement obligations through reserve studies. At least once every three years, the HOA board must conduct a reasonably competent and diligent visual inspection of the accessible areas of major components for which the association is responsible, where the replacement value of those components is at least one-half of the association's gross budget, excluding reserves, and must review that study annually and make appropriate adjustments to its reserve analysis. The reserve study must identify major components with less than 30 years of remaining useful life, estimate their remaining life and repair or replacement costs, calculate the annual contribution needed to fund those obligations, and include a reserve funding plan. In this sense,

existing law requires HOAs to periodically identify foreseeable capital needs and map out a strategy to pay for them.

However, while the Act requires reserve planning, it does not mandate actual funding at any particular level. As a result, some HOAs may defer reserve contributions to avoid near-term assessment pressure, even if that increases future risk. Rather than spreading costs over time through gradual increases in regular assessments that contribute to the annual budget, this can lead to large, one-time assessments when major components ultimately fail, even when the need for repair or replacement was foreseeable and identified in prior reserve studies. Furthermore, underfunding can then spill into broader financing and insurance problems. For example, Fannie Mae's current condo project standards treat projects with significant deferred maintenance or unsafe conditions as ineligible until repairs are completed, require lenders to scrutinize special assessments, and note that projects budgeting less than 10% of HOA assessment income toward reserves may be at increased risk of deferred maintenance and special assessments. Fannie Mae also requires adequate master property insurance for condo projects and has suspended waivers for certain project insurance deficiencies, which means deteriorating conditions or weak project finances can make HOA units harder to finance and thus sell.

Unexpected Costs & Other Affordability Issues. In order to balance the need for funding HOA reserves with the desire to protect homeowners from unforeseen large expenses, this bill was amended to change the mechanism for funding reserves. As written, if an HOA's projected reserve account balance is expected to fall below zero over a 30 year period, the HOA would be required to transfer a minimum of 15% of its gross annual budget to its reserve account each year until its reserve account balance is no longer to projected to fall below zero. This could help ensure that HOAs are using their annual budget more strategically to take reserves into account, which may be more beneficial to homeowners since the budget is funded by more predictable regular assessments. This bill was also amended to require an HOA to levy a one-time reserve funding special assessment—subject to the same cap provisions as a standard special assessment—to make up any gap in funding needed that is not fulfilled by the annual budget transfer. If that amount is still insufficient, then the HOA shall have the HOA membership vote on an amount exceeding the cap. These measures could help improve member participation in consequential financial decisions made by the HOA.

Double-referral. This bill was also heard in the Senate Judiciary Committee on June 30th, 2026, where it received a vote of 12-0.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1007 (Menjivar, 2026) —among other things, would cap HOA regular assessments, without a vote of the members, at an increase of no more than 8% from the previous regular assessment. *This bill was held in the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee at the request of the author.*

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

CAI-CLAC (Source)
California Association of Community Managers (CACM)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

California Association of Realtors
Center for California Homeowner Association Law
Consumer Federation of California
Housing and Economic Rights Advocates (HERA)

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters of the bill argue that it will help ensure HOAs are actually funding their reserves to prevent major unforeseen expenses that are passed onto homeowners. They also argue that due to evolving federal lending requirements, properly funded HOA reserves are critical to ensure lenders continue to underwrite mortgages for homes in HOAs.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: Opponents of the bill argue that setting the minimum reserve funding threshold at an amount not to fall below zero over a 30-year period, rather than a higher defined amount, may not do enough to prevent issues surrounding poorly-funded reserves, such as deferred maintenance. They also argue that requiring reserve funding levels may worsen affordability in HOAs.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-7, 5/11/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Ellis, Gallagher, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Sanchez

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bains, Castillo, Chen, Flora, Hoover, Lackey, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria, Ta

Prepared by: Ryan Hardmeyer / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 16:20:47

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2052
Author: Stefani (D)
Amended: 8/4/26 in Senate
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: Alzheimer's Association

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.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/3/26 are chaptering amendments that incorporate changes from AB 1656, which requires a 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.

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) For the purposes of the above provisions, defines “elder” to mean a person who is 65 years of age or older. (Pen. Code, § 368, subd. (g).)

6) For the purposes of the above provisions, defines “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:

   - When a person has been held to answer for a public offense and an information is not filed against the person within 15 days.

   - 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.

   - 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. 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. 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. 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. 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 8/3/26)

Alzheimer's Association (source)
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 County District Attorney's Office
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 8/3/26)

ACLU California Action
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
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. /
8/5/26 16:20:46

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2061
Author: Chen (R), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE INSURANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Padilla, Niello, Becker, Menjivar, Richardson, Rubio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Jones

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California FAIR Plan Association: data

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the California Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan (FAIR Plan) to post quarterly on its website, the number of policies it issued in each ZIP Code and its risk exposure; and 2) removes the requirement that the FAIR Plan publish its telephone number in all general distribution telephone directories in the state.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the FAIR Plan to assure the stability of the property insurance market, to assure the availability of basic property insurance, as defined, to encourage maximum use of the normal insurance market in obtaining basic property insurance provided by admitted insurers and licensed surplus line brokers.

2) Specifies that rates for the FAIR Plan shall not be excessive, inadequate, or unfairly discriminatory, shall be actuarially sound so that premiums are

adequate to cover expected losses, expenses and taxes, and shall reflect investment income of the plan.

This bill:

1) Requires the FAIR Plan to post quarterly on its website, the number of policies it issued in each ZIP Code and its risk exposure.

2) Removes the requirement that the FAIR Plan publish its telephone number in all general distribution telephone directories in the state.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 69 (Calderon, 2025). Enacts various provisions to assist FAIR Plan policyholders in securing coverage outside of the FAIR Plan. These provisions include providing policyholder information to interested insurers and agents or brokers of record simultaneously, while also making policyholders aware of additional coverage options. Pending in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 1680 (Calderon, 2026). Creates greater ability for the California Department of Insurance to ensure accountability and coverage options in the FAIR Plan. Pending in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 234 (Calderon, Chapter 474, Statutes of 2025). Required the Speaker of the Assembly and the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Rules to serve as nonvoting, ex officio members of the governing committee, and authorized each to name a designee to serve in their place.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Little Hoover Commission

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Little Hoover Commission:

"In its 2024 report, *Building a Stronger Home Insurance Market for California*, the Commission found it difficult to answer basic questions about the state's home insurance market using information currently available from the Department of Insurance. As a result, the Commission recommended that the Department

modernize its website with timely and accessible information. Part of this recommendation included adding online data about the number of homeowners policies of the FAIR Plan, total written exposure, and the number of non-renewals and cancellations of the FAIR Plan, amongst many other data points.

AB 2061 would be a step toward making information about homeowners insurance more accessible and informative, which is critical as more Californians rely on the FAIR Plan as a market of last resort. For this reason, the Little Hoover Commission supports this bill."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/26
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, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, 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: Bonta, Lee, Ortega, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Brandon Seto / INS. / (916) 651-4110
8/5/26 15:04:22

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2066
Author: Celeste Rodriguez (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Triggering event: pregnancy

SOURCE: United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals

DIGEST: This bill establishes pregnancy as a triggering event for an individual to enroll in or change individual health plans, or add a dependent, during a special enrollment period.

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; and the Medi-Cal program, administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), under which low-income individuals are eligible for medical coverage. [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 health plan and insurers to fairly and affirmatively offer, market, and sell all of their health benefit plans that are sold in the individual health insurance market to all individuals and dependents in each service area in which health care services are provided or arranged, and limits enrollment to specified open enrollment periods, annual enrollment periods, and special enrollment periods, as specified. Prohibits the imposition of any preexisting condition provision upon any individual. [HSC §1399.849 and INS §10965.3]

3) Requires a health plan or insurer to allow an individual to enroll in or change individual health plans, or add a dependent, during a special enrollment period, as a result of the following triggering events:
   a) The individual or the individual's dependent loses minimum essential coverage;
   b) The individual gains a dependent or becomes a dependent;
   c) The individual is mandated to be covered as a dependent pursuant to a valid state or federal court order;
   d) The individual has been released from incarceration;
   e) The individual's health coverage issuer substantially violated a material provision of the health coverage contract;
   f) The individual gains access to new health benefit plans as a result of a permanent move;
   g) The individual was receiving services from a contracting provider under another health benefit plan for a specified condition, and that provider is no longer participating in that plan;
   h) The individual demonstrates to Covered California, with respect to plans offered through Covered California, or to DMHC or CDI, with respect to plans offered outside of Covered California, that the individual did not enroll in a plan during the immediately preceding enrollment period available to the individual because the individual was misinformed that the individual was covered under minimum essential coverage;
   i) The individual is a member of the reserve forces of the United States military returning from active duty or a member of the California National Guard returning from active duty service; or,
   j) With respect to Covered California, any triggering events listed in federal regulations. [HSC §1399.849 and INS §10965.3]

4) Requires a health plan or insurer to allow an individual 60 days from the date of a triggering event identified in 3) above to apply for coverage from a plan or insurer. [HSC §1399.849 and INS §10965.3]

5) Requires coverage under a health plan or insurer to become effective for an individual that applies during a special enrollment period described in 3) above as follows:
   a) No later than the first day of the following month when an individual submits a premium payment and that payment is delivered or postmarked, whichever occurs earlier, within the first 15 days of the month; or,
   b) No later than the first day of the second month following delivery or postmark of the payment when the premium payment is neither delivered nor postmarked until after the 15th day of the month. [HSC §1399.849 and INS §10965.3]

6) Requires coverage for a pregnant individual who is eligible for and is receiving health care coverage under the Medi-Cal Program and the Medi-Cal Access Program full-scope Medi-Cal benefits for the duration of the pregnancy and for a period of one year following the last day of the individual's pregnancy. [WIC §14005.185]

This bill establishes pregnancy as a triggering event described in 3) above for purposes of enrolling or changing individual health plans during a special enrollment period.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> Pregnancy is a significant life event, and when enrollment rules delay timely access to prenatal care, the consequences can include preventable risks for both the pregnant individual and the child. This proposal focuses on closing a narrow but consequential gap in enrollment policy, informed by lessons learned and the experiences of other states that have advanced policies placing women's health and safety front and center, while remaining attentive to system stability and long-term health outcomes.

The Affordable Care Act (ACA). Signed into law in 2010, the ACA, also known as Obamacare, is a comprehensive health care reform law. According to the KFF, prior to the ACA, there were high rates of uninsured Americans due to unaffordability and exclusions based on pre-existing conditions. Some insured individuals also faced extremely high out-of-pocket costs and coverage limits. The ACA aimed to address many of these issues by implementing policies that expanded health insurance coverage across the nation. More relevant to this bill, the ACA created state-based health insurance exchanges and established "open

enrollment periods" for individuals to enroll, renew, or change their health insurance plan. California chose to operate its own exchange, now known as "Covered California." Covered California connects Californians to health and dental insurance from private plans and insurers, no matter their income or health history, and often with financial assistance such as premium tax credits or cost-sharing reductions.

Open enrollment periods. Furthermore, before the signage of the ACA, insurance companies kept costs down by sometimes denying coverage to those who were sick based on a "pre-existing condition." The ACA prohibits insurance companies from this practice, and requires health plans and insurers to deliver free preventive care for all those with coverage. To help keep the cost of health insurance down, the ACA created the open enrollment period, which is a window of time, from November 1 to January 15, when people can enroll, renew, or change their health insurance plan. If someone misses the open enrollment period, then they may not be able to enroll, renew, or change their health insurance plan until the next open enrollment period. Covered California states that if the enroll-by date did not exist, then people may not sign up for a health benefit plan until they had a pressing health issue. This would, in turn, drive up insurance prices for everyone.

Special enrollment periods. In some instances, individuals may sign up for a health plan or insurer outside of open enrollment by qualifying for a special enrollment period. Certain life events qualify an individual for a special enrollment period (this is also referred to as a "triggering event"). Some of these qualifying life events include: loss of Medi-Cal coverage, marriage, having a baby or adopting a child, gaining citizenship or lawful presence, and permanently moving to California. For most major life changes, the individual has 60 days from the date of the event to apply for coverage from a health plan. Coverage will then often begin on the first day of the following month after the individual selects a plan.

In a 2025 letter from Covered California to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) on the ACA and marketplace integrity and affordability, Covered California writes that special enrollment periods serve the critical purpose of ensuring individuals and families who experience significant life changes are not left without coverage as they find themselves in new and often difficult circumstances. Since special enrollment periods promote continuous coverage and access to services, Covered California states that their data demonstrates that these enrollments help maintain the stability and health of the marketplace. Specifically, Covered California notes that the prospective risk scores for consumers enrolling during the special enrollment

period have been consistently equal to or lower than those during the open enrollment period. CMS defines "risk scores" as a number representing the predicted cost of treating a specific patient or group of patients compared to the average patient, based on certain characteristics and health conditions.

Medi-Cal coverage. A person can apply for Medi-Cal coverage at any time, as there are no open enrollment periods or special enrollment periods. To qualify for Medi-Cal, there are different eligibility categories which may have different income eligibility limits. For example, a person can apply for full scope Medi-Cal coverage if they are an adult under age 65, parents with incomes up to 138% of the FPL ($29,864 in 2026), or children with family incomes up to 266% of the FPL ($57,563 in 2026). Medi-Cal grants presumptive eligibility to cover prenatal benefits for a pregnant person for the duration of the pregnancy and for a period of one year following the last day of the individual's pregnancy, regardless of immigration status. A related, but separate program also administered by DHCS, the Medi-Cal Access Program is for pregnant women and infants with family income up to 322% of the FPL ($69,681 in 2026).

CHBRP report. 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 SB 257 (Wahab of 2025), which contained a provision that would have established pregnancy as a triggering event for special enrollment. Key findings relevant to this bill include:

a. *Medical effectiveness.* CHBRP found some evidence that special enrollment periods increase take-up of health insurance among pregnant people, but that not enough research has been conducted to determine whether special enrollment periods improve utilization of maternity services or maternal and infant health outcomes.
b. *Utilization.* In 2026, CHBRP estimates that 5,303 people are expected to be previously uninsured pregnant people and their dependents who would gain full coverage because of the special enrollment period. CHBRP indicates total average annual cost of all health care for pregnant enrollees is $21,700, divided between insurance carriers ($16,217) and enrollee cost-sharing ($5,483). Annual average costs per dependent are $5,545 for insurance carriers and $1,875 for enrollee cost-sharing.

c. *Long-term impacts.* Over the long term, CHBRP predicts small impacts on cost savings due to better prenatal care leading to improved health outcomes for both the person who was pregnant and the child.

Other states. According to CHBRP, New York was the first state to make pregnancy a triggering event for special enrollment in 2015. Seven other states and the District of Columbia have done the same (Connecticut, New Jersey, Maryland, Maine, Rhode Island, Colorado, and Vermont) with Illinois and Virginia recently enacting legislation that took effect in 2026. A 2023 observational study published in the *JAMA Health Forum* titled, "Association of New York State's Marketplace Special Enrollment Period for Pregnancy with Prenatal Insurance Coverage," assessed the effect of New York's establishment of pregnancy as a triggering event for a special enrollment period. The authors compared the trend in insurance coverage among pregnant people in New York following the establishment of its special enrollment period to trends in 17 other states that do not have a special enrollment period for pregnancy people. In this comparison, they found that, relative to states without a special enrollment period, New York was associated with a 6.3% increase in the number of pregnant persons with coverage, and a 1.4% decrease in the number of pregnant persons without coverage. CHBRP highlights that more research needs to be conducted to determine whether special enrollment periods for pregnant people actually improve utilization of maternity services or maternal and infant health outcomes.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/2026)

United Nurses Associations of California/Union of Health Care Professionals (source)
Alliance for Children's Rights
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists - District Ix
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees
California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Federation of Teachers
California Legislative Women's Caucus
California Medical Association
California Primary Care Association Advocates
California Teachers Association
City of Glendale

County of Santa Clara
Drug Policy Alliance
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Reproductive Freedom for All California
One individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

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

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The source of this bill, the United Nurses Association of California/Union of Health Care Professionals (UNAC/UHCP), states that too often, nurses and other clinicians see patients who learn that they are pregnant but cannot obtain health coverage because pregnancy itself is not recognized as a qualifying life event under current law. As a result, individuals in the individual health insurance market may be forced to wait months for the next open enrollment period before they can obtain coverage. By that time, the most critical window for early prenatal care may have already passed. UNAC/UHCP assert that early prenatal care is one of the most effective and evidence-based ways to prevent pregnancy complications, reduce preterm birth, and improve outcomes for both mothers and infants. Inability to access timely care can lead to preventable complications that place patients at greater risk and increase overall cost burdens on the health care system. The sponsors conclude that this bill reflects the reality that pregnancy is a time-sensitive medical condition that requires immediate and continuous access to care. The Alliance for Children's Rights points to data posted by the March of Dimes demonstrating that in 2023, approximately 1 in 13 women of child-bearing age in California were uninsured, placing many at risk of entering pregnancy without adequate access to care. Pregnancy can occur outside of annual open enrollment periods, and current law does not consistently provide pregnant individuals with a pathway to enroll in or change coverage once they learn that they are pregnant. Because of this, individuals may remain uninsured or underinsured during a critical period of medical vulnerability. The Alliance for Children's Rights further states that this bill promotes earlier prenatal care, supports healthier pregnancies, and advances California's broader maternal and child health goals. The American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists District IX add that recognizing pregnancy as a triggering event for enrollment aligns health coverage policy with clinical reality. The California Teachers Association highlights that this bill promotes health equity by ensuring that low-income families and communities of color, who are both disproportionately

affected by gaps in insurance coverage, can access the care they need regardless of the time of year.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The Association of California Life & Health Insurance Companies (ACLHIC) and the California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) pose concerns on the potential ramifications of this bill on the health insurance market's stability and affordability. ACLHIC and CAHP note that special enrollment periods are currently confined to "qualifying life events," such as relocation, marriage, family expansion, or the loss of employer-sponsored coverage. They state that this bill challenges market integrity by introducing condition-based enrollment provisions, which could potentially set precedent for adding other conditions to the list of qualifying life events. Furthermore, ACLHIC and CAHP write that this bill undermines the state's objective in encouraging and incentivizing insurance purchases even in the absence of immediate medical need to ensure broad access to affordable, quality health care by potentially permitting individuals to defer purchasing insurance until its necessity becomes apparent.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 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, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, 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, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Ellis, Garcia, Hoover, Irwin, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Margarita Niemann / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:04:23

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2067
Author: Patel (D)
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 6-1, 6/3/26
AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NOES: Ochoa Bogh

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

SUBJECT: School facilities: leasing real property

SOURCE: Associated General Contractors, California Chapters
Coalition for Adequate School Housing

DIGEST: This bill (1) extends, by five years, the existing authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value solicitation process for school construction projects; (2) extends the operative date of these provisions from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Authorizes a school district governing board, notwithstanding specified competitive bidding provisions, to lease district property for a minimum of $1 per year to a person, firm, or corporation if the lease requires the lessee to construct school facilities for district use and requires title to vest in the district at the conclusion of the lease term. Requires the instrument to be awarded through a competitive solicitation process using a best value methodology.

2) Provides that the current authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value process becomes inoperative on July 1, 2027.

3) Authorizes school districts to enter into agreements under which a private entity constructs school facilities and leases the facilities back to the district, with title ultimately vesting in the district, and requires agreements entered into pursuant to specified provisions to be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder.

4) Prohibits a school district from entering into a lease-leaseback agreement unless the entity and its subcontractors agree to use a skilled and trained workforce for all apprenticeable occupations on the project.

5) Defines "best value" for purposes of lease-leaseback procurement as a competitive procurement process that evaluates proposers based on objective criteria representing the best combination of price and qualifications.

This bill:

1) Extends, by five years, the existing authorization for school districts to use the lease-leaseback project delivery method through a competitive best value solicitation process for school construction projects.

2) Extends the operative date of these provisions from July 1, 2027, to July 1, 2032.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "AB 2067 affords the continued use of an existing tool to improve transparency and bring certainty to school districts, contractors, and architects engaged in delivering school construction projects. Most importantly, this authority helps to control project costs and deliver facility projects on time, which directly benefits students and taxpayers."

Extends a project delivery method that was substantially reformed following litigation and longstanding concerns regarding transparency and competitive bidding. Lease-leaseback has long been used by school districts as an alternative project delivery method for school construction projects. Historically, however, the process generated controversy because prior law authorized districts to enter into lease-leaseback agreements "without advertising for bids," leading to concerns that some projects were effectively awarded without meaningful competition. These concerns culminated in the *Davis v. Fresno Unified School District* litigation, which challenged whether certain lease-leaseback arrangements improperly circumvented California's public contracting laws.

In response, the Legislature enacted AB 2316 (O'Donnell, Chapter 521, Statutes of 2016), which substantially revised the lease-leaseback process by eliminating the authority to proceed without competitive bidding and replacing it with a competitive best value procurement process that included additional transparency, disclosure, workforce, and subcontractor protections.

This bill does not expand the scope of lease-leaseback authority or materially alter the procurement process established in 2016. Instead, it extends the sunset date for the current competitive best value framework for an additional five years.

Reflects a legislative preference for preserving procurement flexibility while maintaining guardrails adopted in 2016. Supporters of this bill argue that lease-leaseback provides districts with additional flexibility compared to traditional design-bid-build procurement methods, including the ability to incorporate preconstruction services, utilize guaranteed maximum pricing structures, and consider qualifications and project approach in addition to cost. They further contend that continuation of the current framework is particularly important for smaller districts that may benefit from early contractor involvement and integrated project delivery approaches.

At the same time, the current statutory framework preserves significant guardrails adopted following the Fresno litigation, including competitive solicitation requirements, public disclosure requirements, skilled and trained workforce provisions, and protections for subcontractors. As a result, this bill can largely be viewed as an extension of the Legislature's existing policy balance between procurement flexibility and public accountability rather than a reopening of the broader policy debate regarding lease-leaseback authority itself.

Allowing the sunset to occur could create uncertainty regarding continued use of lease-leaseback procurement. If the competitive best value provisions sunset, the statute would revert to a prior version of the Education Code that no longer expressly references the competitive selection process established in 2016.

Supporters argue that allowing the sunset to occur could create uncertainty for districts, architects, and contractors regarding the continued viability and structure of lease-leaseback procurement. While some procurement-related protections adopted in subsequent legislation would remain in effect, the expiration of the current framework could create ambiguity regarding procedural expectations and procurement standards moving forward.

This bill continues a broader legislative trend toward authorizing alternative project delivery methods for school construction. Over the past two decades, the

Legislature has increasingly authorized alternative project delivery methods for public infrastructure projects, including lease-leaseback, design-build, progressive design-build, and construction manager/general contractor models. These approaches are generally intended to provide public entities with greater flexibility in addressing project complexity, cost control, scheduling, and risk allocation.

This bill continues that broader trend by preserving an existing alternative delivery authority rather than reverting school districts exclusively to more traditional low-bid procurement structures. However, unlike some newer alternative delivery models, lease-leaseback already represents a mature and heavily litigated procurement framework with significant existing statutory guidance and operational experience among school districts.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/4/26)

Associated General Contractors, California Chapters (co-source)
Coalition for Adequate School Housing (co-source)
Alameda County Office of Education
Blach Construction Company
California Association of School Business Officials
California School Boards Association
County School Facilities Consortium
Del Mar Union School District
Harris Construction Co., Inc.
Hemet Unified School District
Jurupa Unified School District
Los Angeles Unified School District
Manteca Unified School District
Oakland Unified School District
Poway Unified School District
San Benito High School District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 64-0, 4/9/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Bains, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Hadwick,

Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas

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

Prepared by: Ian Johnson / ED. / (916) 651-4105
6/8/26 16:04:25

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2071
Author: Hoover (R), et al.
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil instruction: digital wellness

SOURCE: End Chronic Disease
GenUp

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Department of Education (CDE) to develop a plan to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "artificial intelligence (AI)" as an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer, from the input it receives, how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments. (Education Code (EC) § 33328.5)

2) Defines media literacy as the ability to access, evaluate, analyze, and use media and information, and encompasses the foundational skills that lead to digital citizenship. (EC § 180101)

3) Requires the State Board of Education (SBE) Instructional Quality Commission (IQC) to consider including media literacy content in the mathematics, science,

and history-social science curriculum frameworks when they are next revised. (EC § 33548)

4) Requires the CDE to maintain on its website a list of resources and instructional materials on media literacy, including media literacy professional development programs for teachers. (EC § 51206.4)

5) Establishes the California Public Schools AI Working Group, and requires it to assess and release guidance on the safe use of AI in public schools. (EC § 33328.5)

This bill:

1) Requires the CDE, on or before January 1, 2028, to develop a plan to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools. Requires that the plan include all of the following:

   a) Recommendations for age-appropriate instructional resources for elementary, middle school, and high schools.

   b) Strategies for keeping curriculum current with rapidly evolving digital and AI technology.

   c) Guidance for schools with limited technology resources.

   d) Family engagement and education components

   e) Assessment methods for evaluating instruction effectiveness.

   f) Strategies for ensuring adequate support and professional development opportunities for educators regarding digital wellness topics, including collaborating with technology companies, mental health organizations, and media literacy experts, as appropriate.

2) Establishes several definitions for the purposes of this bill:

   a) "Artificial intelligence," pursuant to existing statute, means an engineered or machine-based system that varies in its level of autonomy and that can, for explicit or implicit objectives, infer, from the input it receives, how to generate outputs that can influence physical or virtual environments.

   b) "Digital wellness" means a state of well-being in which an individual uses technology in ways that support physical health, mental health, social connections, and overall quality of life, while minimizing potential harms.

c) "Media literacy" means the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act using all forms of communication, including understanding how media messages are constructed, for what purposes, and with what effects.

3) Makes a series of legislative findings and declarations related to the importance of comprehensive digital wellness education and the challenges students face due to the increasing presence of digital technology and AI in a student's daily life.

4) Establishes the Legislature's intent to ensure that pupils in elementary school, middle school, and high school can benefit from comprehensive education on digital wellness, media literacy, and the responsible use of emerging technologies, including AI.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "In today's digital landscape, you cannot consider mental health concerns without considering the impact of digital media. Digital literacy is directly contributing to our ongoing mental health crisis, and students deserve access to the tools and education needed to prepare them for safe digital citizenship. As a state, we are failing to meet students at this critical moment in their development. With the right skills, students are empowered to navigate digital spaces with confidence and discernment."

The IQC and the SBE. This bill requires the CDE to develop a plan to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools. The Legislature has vested the IQC and the SBE with the authority to develop and adopt state curriculum and instructional materials. 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.

Digital wellness-related content in the Health Framework. This bill requires the CDE to develop a plan to expand digital wellness instruction in California public schools. It further defines digital wellness as a state of well-being in which an

individual uses technology in ways that support physical health, mental health, social connections, and overall quality of life, while minimizing potential harms.

While digital wellness is not currently referenced in Education Code or elsewhere in California statute, many related concepts and skills contained within this bill's proposed definition can be found in the 2019 Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve (the Framework). Such examples include the following:

a) In the Transitional Kindergarten (TK) through 3rd grade span, teachers begin facilitating conversations on internet safety, "netiquette", and the importance of using the internet for good purposes, and how their actions online may impact others. When discussing bullying and encouraging students to promote a positive and respectful school environment, teachers explain that this also applies to internet usage and behavior online and through social media.

b) In the 4th to 6th grade span, students examine television, radio, online, social media, and billboard ads to learn about the past and present strategies and tactics advertisers use to influence people. They also build on their foundational knowledge of internet safety to better understand the dangers of cyberbullying, cyberstalking, grooming, as well as the importance of seeking the help of a trusted adult when feeling personally threatened or unsafe. Students also learn strategies to support whole family health by sharing screen-time tracking charts with their parents or creating activity plans such as walking after dinner or bicycling together to reduce screen time.

c) In the 7th to 8th grade span, students learn about responsible decision-making to balance the greater levels of independence and responsibility that they may be experiencing. This includes establishing a healthy balance between technology and social media use and peer dynamics. Students may also build on their knowledge of how media influences people by analyzing online advertisements and photos from popular teen websites to understand how such images can impact one's body image, and realistic perception of beauty.

d) In the 9th to 12th grade span, students learn about coping mechanisms for stress management from research, their peers, and their teacher and are encouraged to identify goals for handling stress in healthy ways such as meditation, mindfulness, taking a break from social media or technology, talking about your problems or worries to a trusted adult, decreasing negative self-talk, or breaking seemingly large tasks into small tasks. Students also learn more about forms of abuse that can be carried out through technology, including cyber 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.

Health education content is required for students in all grade levels; however, how the content is delivered is the decision of local educational agencies (LEAs). LEAs have the authority to determine whether to provide a standalone health education course, the length of that course, and whether it is a graduation requirement.

Existing resources for digital citizenship. Digital citizenship is the safe and responsible use of technology and online behavior modeled by students and adults. The CDE maintains an information page on digital citizenship and its nexus to mental health. As noted on its page, the CDE aims to support the efforts of adults such as educators and caregivers to model and provide safe and responsible online learning environments for students. The CDE's goal is to offer guidance by sharing and curating vetted resources for students, families, and educators to leverage in daily practices so that students feel supported, respected, and valued. These resources include:

a) Links to digital citizenship curricula and ready-made lesson plans for students in grades kindergarten through twelve;

b) A discussion of the relationship between digital citizenship and mental health;

c) Events that support digital citizenship;

d) Informational resources hosted by partner organizations; and

e) Information related to the CDE's annual Digital Citizenship Week.

Existing resources for AI and media literacy. Media literacy, as defined in this bill and existing statute, is the ability to access, analyze, evaluate, create, and act using all forms of communication, including understanding how media messages are constructed, for what purposes, and with what effects. In recent years, the Legislature has advanced several pieces of legislation to enhance media literacy instruction.

f) SB 830 (Dodd, Chapter 448, Statutes of 2018) required the CDE to create a resource page on its website with a list of resources and instructional materials on media literacy and related professional development programs for teachers. These resources are intended to ensure that young adults are prepared with media literacy skills necessary to safely, responsibly, and critically consume and use social media and other forms of media.

g) AB 873 (Berman, Chapter 815, Statutes of 2023) requires the IQC to consider incorporating the Model School Library Standards (MSLS) and media literacy content at each grade level when the English language arts/English language development (ELA/ELD) curriculum framework is next revised and media literacy content into the mathematics, science, and history-social science curriculum frameworks when those frameworks are next revised after January 1, 2024.

h) AB 2876 (Berman, Chapter 927, Statutes of 2024) requires the IQC to consider AI literacy, as defined, to be included in the mathematics, science, and history-social science curriculum frameworks and instructional materials, as specified.

i) SB 1288 (Becker, Chapter 893, Statutes of 2024) requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction (SPI) to convene the California Public Schools: AI Working Group to develop guidance and model policy for the safe, equitable, and effective use of AI in schools. The AI Work Group includes educators, students, administrators, classified staff, higher education representatives, and industry experts. Members meet publicly to develop statewide guidance and a model policy, addressing topics such as data privacy, academic integrity, professional development, equitable access, and effective classroom integration. The final guidance and model policy report is due to the Legislature on or before January 1, 2027.

Pursuant to these bills, the CDE maintains various resource pages with guidance; sample learning goals, activities, and prompts; examples of standards aligned instruction; links to free online databases and tools for student research; and contacts for organizations that offer professional development opportunities.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

End Chronic Disease (co-source)
GenUp (co-source)
Alameda County Office of Education
Association of California School Administrators
California Alliance for Media Literacy
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Catholic Conference
California Peer Watch
California State PTA
California Student Media Festival

Center for Leadership, Equity, and Research
CFT – A Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
Critical Media Project
Digital4Good
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Media Literacy Now
National AI Youth Council
National Association for Media Arts Education
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
TechNet
Youth and Media Insights Lab
Youth for Neurodiversity Inc.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, 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: Jackson, Lee, Ortega, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 15:04:23

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2075
Author: Bennett (D)
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Laird, Stern
NO VOTE RECORDED: Grove

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Forestry: safety requirements: fire equipment: internal combustion engines

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill amends the requirements regarding the availability of fire suppression tools near a person using devices which may spark a wildfire on specified lands during a time of year when burning permits are required.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Prohibits, during any time of the year when burning permits are required in a designated area, a person from using or operating motor, engine, boiler, stationary equipment, welding equipment, cutting torches, tarpots, or grinding devices from which a spark, fire, or flame may originate, which is located on or near any forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land, without doing both of the following (Public Resources Code [PRC] § 4427):

   a) First clearing away all flammable material, including snags, from the area around such operation for a distance of 10 feet.

b) Maintaining one serviceable round point shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches and one backpack pump water-type fire extinguisher fully equipped and ready for use at the immediate area during the operation.

2) Prohibits a person, except any member of an emergency crew or the driver or owner of any service vehicle owned or operated by or for, or operated under contract with, a publicly or privately owned utility, which is used in the construction, operation, removal, or repair of the property or facilities of such utility when engaged in emergency operations, from using or operating any vehicle, machine, tool or equipment powered by an internal combustion engine operated on hydrocarbon fuels, in any industrial operation located on or near any forest, brush, or grass-covered land between April 1 and December 1 of any year, or at any other time when ground litter and vegetation will sustain combustion permitting the spread of fire, without providing and maintaining, for firefighting purposes only, suitable and serviceable tools in the amounts, manner and prescribed location. (PRC § 4428)

3) Prohibits, during any time of the year when burning permits are required in an a designated area, a person, copartnership, firm, corporation or company, from using or operating in such area any steam-operated engine, machine equipment, mill or industrial plant, located on or near forest-covered land or brush-covered land, without providing one adequate force pump or water under pressure equivalent to a pump, and not less than 200 feet of hose not less than one inch in diameter for each steam-operated engine or equipment. The pump or water pressure required in this section shall be capable of applying a minimum of 40 pounds pressure at the nozzle on 200 feet of hose, such nozzle to be one-fourth inch or larger in diameter. If two steam-operated engines or steam equipment are customarily operated within 100 feet of each other, only one engine or piece of equipment need be equipped with pump and hose. (PRC §4430)

4) Prohibits, during any time of the year when burning permits are required in a designated area, a person from using or operating or causing to be operated in the area any portable saw, auger, drill, tamper, or other portable tool powered by a gasoline-fueled internal combustion engine on or near any forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land, within 25 feet of any flammable material, without providing and maintaining at the immediate locations of use or operation of the saw or tool, for firefighting purposes one serviceable round point shovel, with an overall length of not less than 46 inches, or one serviceable fire extinguisher. Requires the Director of the Department to, by administrative regulation, specify the type and size of fire extinguisher necessary to provide at least minimum assurance of controlling fire caused by

use of portable power tools under various climatic and fuel conditions. (PRC § 4431)

5) Prohibits a person from using, operating, or allowing to be used or operated, any internal combustion engine which uses hydrocarbon fuels on any forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land unless the engine is equipped with a spark arrester, in effective working order or the engine is constructed, equipped, and maintained for the prevention of fire. (PRC §4442)

6) Prohibits a person from using, operating, or causing to be operated on any forest-covered land, brush-covered land, or grass-covered land any handheld portable, multiposition, internal-combustion engine manufactured after June 30, 1978, which is operated on hydrocarbon fuels, unless it is constructed and equipped and maintained for the prevention of fire. Requires the Board, by regulation, to specify standards for construction, equipment, and maintenance of such engines for the prevention of fire and to specify a uniform method of testing to be used by engine and equipment manufacturers, governmental agencies, and equipment users. The regulations shall include specification of exhaust system standards for carbon particle retention or destruction, exposed surface temperature, gas temperature, flammable debris accumulation, durability, and serviceability. (PRC § 4443)

This bill:

1) Requires that, during any time of year when burning permits are required in the State Responsibility Area (SRA), a person using equipment that may ignite a spark, fire, or flame shall maintain:

   a) at least one backpack pump-type fire extinguisher fully equipped and ready for use and

   b) a sufficient number of serviceable round point shovels with an overall length of not less than 46 inches so that each person at the operation can be equipped to fight fire.

2) Requires that the extinguisher and the shovels must be kept within the operating area at a point accessible in the event of a fire.

3) Prohibits the required fire tools from at any time be farther from the point of operation of the powersaw or tool than 25 feet with unrestricted access for the operator.

4) Requires a person operating a motorized vehicle to work on, clear, or grade any land in or near land during any time of the year when burning permits are required in the SRA to have in or affixed to the vehicle and ready for immediate use one serviceable round point shovel with an overall length of not less than 46 inches and one filly equipped fire extinguisher.

a) Applies this requirement to any person working away from the motorized vehicle, whether or not they were a passenger of the motor vehicle.

5) Requires the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (Board) to define the term "operating area" and "point accessible in the event of a fire" for timber operations on timberland conducted by a timber operator.

6) Requires the Board to adopt those definitions as emergency regulations under the Administrative Procedures Act.

7) Requires a timber operator conducting timber operations on timberland to have these tools available before the Board finalizes emergency regulations.

8) Defines the terms "person," "timberland," "timber operations," and "timber operator."

9) Specifies that these requirements apply to partnerships, firms, associations, corporations, limited liability companies, or other legal entities.

Background

*Mountain Fire***.** In October of 2024 in Ventura County, a tractor driver was clearing dry vegetation to prepare for cattle grazing when an accidental fire caused by an engine failure erupted. The tractor driver, who was contracted by an agricultural company, immediately drove the tractor to a cleared area and called for help. The mandated fire extinguishing equipment was down a hill in the tractor driver's truck. As a result, the tractor driver could not immediately extinguish the fire. The tractor became engulfed in flame, and the blaze grew to 1.8 acres before it was extinguished by first responders.

One week later, heated tire debris at the fire site became dislodged and dispersed during very high winds, acting as the catalyst to the Mountain Fire. This fire would go on to burn nearly 20,000 acres, damage 126 structures, and destroy another 243. According to the author's office, this fire may not have occurred if the required fire extinguishing equipment was attached to the tractor or within 25 feet of the initial fire, which may have enabled the fire to be extinguished before the tractor was engulfed.

In the Ventura County District Attorney's investigation into criminal liability of the Mountain Fire, it was revealed that existing standard "ready for use" under PRC § 4427 allows too much room for judgment error, and that uncertainty existed whether the company who contracted the tractor driver could be held criminally liable for fire safety non-compliance.

Existing law is arguably vague concerning the required location of mandatory fire extinguishing equipment when individuals work open land at a time when burning permits are required. The uncertainty allows the required equipment to potentially be kept too far from worksites, thus increasing the risk of fire.

Existing law requires people using internal combustion powered equipment in fire prone areas to take safety precautions. According to the Assembly Judiciary Committee analysis, by their nature, tools powered by hydrocarbons can pose fire ignition risks. This is especially true when those tools are used in fire prone areas. Unfortunately, hydrocarbon fueled tools are especially useful for conducting activities like brush clearance, tree trimming, and other landscape management work in fire prone areas. The history of this state is replete with examples of otherwise innocent tools, including lawn mowers, chainsaws, and even vehicles, triggering wildfires. To combat this risk, existing law requires those using these gas-powered tools to carry with them fire response equipment, including hoses, shovels, axes, and saws.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Ventura County District Attorney's Office

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "With climate change increasing the frequency and intensity of wildfires, California needs clarity regarding who to hold accountable when an accidental fire breaks out during an outdoor operation. AB 2075 clarifies fire safety standards during operations on or near any forest, brush, or grass-covered land and ensures companies performing such activities clearly know what they can be held liable for in the event a fire occurs. This bill is a commonsense measure to protect workers and guarantee justice for fire victims."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, 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, Hoover, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Edith Hannigan / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
8/5/26 15:04:24

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

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE AB 2078
Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2080
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 6/10/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: Investment of funds: delegation to county treasurer

SOURCE: California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors

DIGEST: This bill allows a county board of supervisors to delegate investment authority to the county treasurer indefinitely, or until the board revokes the authority, if the county's investment policy meets specified reporting requirements.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that, except as otherwise provided, the county officers to be elected by the people are the treasurer, county clerk, auditor, sheriff, tax collector, district attorney, recorder, assessor, public administrator, and coroner.

2) Requires the county treasurer to receive and keep safely all money belonging to the county.

3) Authorizes the board of supervisors to, by ordinance, delegate to the county treasurer the authority to invest or reinvest the funds of the county and the funds of other depositors in the county treasury. The county treasurer shall thereafter assume full responsibility for those transactions until the board of supervisors either revokes its delegation of authority, by ordinance, or decides not to renew the annual delegation.

4) Specifies that with regard to county funds deposited in the county treasury, the board of supervisors is the agent of the county who serves as a fiduciary and is subject to the prudent investor standard, unless a delegation has occurred, in which case the county treasurer shall be the agent of the county with respect to these funds, serve as a fiduciary, and be subject to the prudent investor standard and the board of supervisors shall not be the agent, serve as a fiduciary, or be subject to the prudent investor standard.

5) Provides that when investing, reinvesting, purchasing, acquiring, exchanging, selling, or managing public funds, the primary objective of the county treasurer or the board of supervisors, as the case may be, shall be to safeguard the principal of the funds under the treasurer's or the board's control. The secondary objective shall be to meet the liquidity needs of the depositor. The third objective shall be to achieve a return on the funds under his or her control.

6) The board of supervisors in each county or city and county may, if the county or city and county is investing surplus funds, establish a county treasury oversight committee, as specified.

7) Provides that the authority of the legislative body to invest or to reinvest funds of a local agency, or to sell or exchange securities so purchased, may be delegated for a one-year period by the legislative body to the treasurer of the local agency, who shall thereafter assume full responsibility for those transactions until the delegation of authority is revoked or expires, and shall make a monthly report of those transactions to the legislative body. Subject to review, the legislative body may renew the delegation of authority pursuant to this section each year.

This bill allows, in addition to annually delegating investment authority to the county treasurer, a county board of supervisors to delegate investment authority to the county treasurer indefinitely, or until the board revokes the authority, if the county's investment policy requires monthly transaction reports and quarterly investment policy reports to the board.

Background

Issues regarding whether county treasurers use their delegated investment authority wisely appear from time to time. For example, on December 6, 1994, Orange County became the largest municipality in U.S. history to declare bankruptcy at the time. The county treasurer had lost $1.7 billion of taxpayers' money through investments in risky Wall Street securities. In 1994, the Orange County investment pool had about $7.6 billion in deposits from the county government and

almost 200 local public agencies (cities, school districts, and special districts). Borrowing $2 for every $1 on deposit, the County Treasurer increased the size of the investment pool to $20.6 billion. While in bankruptcy, every county program budget was cut, about 3,000 public employees were discharged, and all services were reduced. Orange County did not make its final payment on the $1 billion bond that helped it get out of bankruptcy until 2017. Following Orange County's bankruptcy filing, the Legislature enacted a number of bills to increase protections and address these problems, including SB 109 (Kopp, Chapter 749, Statutes of 1996), which required the investment delegation to be made on an annual basis.

More recently, at the end of 2024, the Orange County Board of Supervisors elected not to extend their county treasurer's investment authority due to concerns over the county's oversight regarding investment practices, which had not happened in the county since 2010. In February 2025, the board of supervisors passed an ordinance to allow the county Chief Financial Officer, who is under the county's Chief Executive Officer, to exercise investment authority, not the county treasurer, which is an independent elective office.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "As a former local elected official, I'm happy to be authoring AB 2080, which will help to ensure that investment authority delegation is not interrupted by requirements that such authority is renewed on an annual basis. By changing this practice to instead requiring a proactive revocation of delegated authority, this bill will streamline county finances without sacrificing necessary oversight and reporting mechanisms."

Not so fast. Requiring the board of supervisors to annually authorize the county treasurer to invest county funds on their behalf ensures that the treasurer's investment practices align with county policies. While AB 2080 preserves the ability of a board of supervisors to revoke a treasurer's investment authority, or to not delegate investment authority at all, it removes the annual requirement for the board to delegate the authority. This means the board of supervisors would have to proactively identify investment concerns, rather than conduct an annual review before they renew the treasurer's authority. That said, conditioning investment authority on an annual board decision does come at a cost. If the county board does not make the delegation in a timely fashion, investment decisions could be missed or delayed, putting taxpayer dollars at risk. AB 2080 preserves existing reporting requirements, which puts more pressure on the board of supervisors to actively monitor county treasurer investment decisions on an ongoing basis.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/2/26)

California Association of County Treasurers and Tax Collectors (Source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/2/26)

None received

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, 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, Lee, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Wallis, Wicks

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/3/26 17:24:32

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2086
Author: Ellis (R) and Jeff Gonzalez (R), et al.
Introduced: 2/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Caballero, Alvarado-Gil, McNerney, Padilla
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Pest control licenses: personal information: confidentiality

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits personal information from an application for a pest control license that has been submitted to the Department of Pesticide Regulation This bill protects an applicant's photograph, social security number, address, telephone number, and medical or disability information from disclosure; and also allows an applicant to list a post office box as their address for public disclosure to avoid disclosing their personal address.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the California Department of Pesticide Regulation and authorizes the director to, among other things, adopt regulations for the issuance and

renewal of licenses and certificates for pest control operations[1] (Governor's Reorganization Plan No.1, 1991).

2) Establishes the California Public Records Act and finds and declares that, while mindful of the right of individuals to privacy, access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state (Government Code Section 7920).

3) Requires, in order to protect against the risk of identity theft, an agency to redact social security numbers from a record before disclosing the record to the public (Government Code Section 7922.200).

4) Specifically exempts from disclosure under the California Public Records Act specific type of records (Government Code Section 7930.180).

5) Prohibits a person from advertising, soliciting, or operating a pest control business, unless the person has a valid pest control business license issued by the Director of the Department of Pesticide Regulation (Food and Agricultural Code Section 11701).

This bill:

1) States in order to protect the privacy of applicants, licensees, and certificate holders, personal information collected pursuant to this division shall not be considered a public record and shall not be disclosed pursuant to a request under the California Public Records Act, unless required pursuant to a court order by a court of competent jurisdiction.

2) States, for purposes of this section, "personal information" means information, other than the name and mailing address, that identifies an individual, including an individual's photograph, social security number, address, telephone number, and medical or disability information, but does not include other information related to licensing such as incidents, rules or safety violations, misconduct, commendations, and license status.

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

[1] https://clerk.assembly.ca.gov/sites/clerk.assembly.ca.gov/files/archive/Statutes/1991/91Vol4_Gov_Reorgplan1.pdf

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Agricultural Aircraft Association
California Association of Pest Control Advisers

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

"California has the most educated and credentialed agricultural workforce in the country. This has enabled California to simultaneously be leaders in environmental stewardship and agricultural production. Credentialed Professionals in agriculture deserve the same privacy protections as their licensed counterparts in other industries. Specifically, AB 2086 will ensure that the home addresses of these employees and small business owners are not made available to the public."

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: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
8/5/26 15:04:25

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2089
Author: Ward (D)
Amended: 6/16/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE REVENUE AND TAXATION COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/24/26
AYES: McNerney, Ashby, Becker, Grayson
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarado-Gil

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Property taxation: welfare exemption

SOURCE: California Council for Affordable Housing; California Housing Partnership; Enterprise Community Partners, Inc.

DIGEST: This bill makes several changes to the welfare exemption from property tax for affordable rental housing.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that all property is taxable unless explicitly exempted by the Constitution or federal law (California Constitution, Article XIII, Section One).

2) Allows the Legislature to exempt property used exclusively for charitable purposes so long as it is owned by non-profit entities organized and operated for charitable purposes, such as universities, hospitals, and libraries (California Constitution, Article XIII, Section Four).

3) Permits the welfare exemption to apply to property used for rental housing, if it meets several requirements, including that there is an enforceable and verifiable agreement with a public agency, a recorded deed restriction, or other legal document that restricts the project's usage.

4) Requires exempt units qualifying owners for the exemption to be continuously available to or occupied by lower-income households.

5) Under federal and state law, allows taxpayers who provide project capital to low-income rental housing projects to claim Low-Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTCs), which under state law taxpayers can apply against the Personal Income Tax, Corporation Tax, and Gross Premiums Tax.

6) Under federal law, states that a low-income unit can continue to be treated as a low-income unit, and therefore qualify investors to claim an LIHTC, if the occupant's income initially met the income limitation and the unit continues to be rent-restricted.

7) Under federal law, provides that if an occupant's income exceeds 140% of federal law's income limitations, then the next available unit of a comparable or smaller size must be rented to a low-income tenant; if not, the unit occupied by the household over the 140% threshold ceases to be treated as a low-income unit.

8) Under state law, provides that a unit that is eligible for and receives an LIHTC can continue to be treated as occupied by a lower income household, which can then continue to qualify the owner for the exemption (AB 1193, Gloria, Chapter 756, Statues of 2017), if:

   a) The occupants were lower-income households on the lien date in the fiscal year in which their occupancy of the unit commenced; and

   b) The unit continues to be rent restricted, notwithstanding an increase in the income of the occupants of the unit to 140% of area median income, adjusted for family size.

9) Applies the above provisions to Community Land Trusts claiming the welfare exemption (AB 1206, Bennett, Chapter 636, Statutes of 2022).

10) Sunsets the above provisions that apply to LIHTC and Community Land Trust property after the 2027-28 fiscal year.

11) Requires assessors to send an annual notice to recipients of the welfare exemption, along with a card that contains specific questions relating to the property's exempt purpose.

12) Directs property owners to file a form with the assessor when initially claiming the exemption on or before February 15 to obtain a full exemption for that year.

13) Requires property owners to annually file a claim with the assessor to receive the exemption, which must be accompanied by an affidavit stating the number of units serving low-income households, including vacant units, and a list of qualified households.

14) Applies late filing penalties, and permits the assessor to revoke the exemption, if the property owner does not submit the required claim and statement.

15) Defines a "digital signature" as an electronic identifier, created by a computer, intended by the party using it to have the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature.

16) Provides that if a public entity elects to use a digital signature, it has the same force and effect as the use of a manual signature if it meets certain conditions, including that it conforms to regulations adopted by the Secretary of State.

17) Enacts the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (UETA), which among other provisions, provides that a record or signature may not be denied legal effect or enforceability solely because it is in electronic form, a contract may not be denied legal effect or enforceability solely because an electronic record was used in its formation, and an electronic record or signature satisfies a requirement in the law that a record be in writing or a signature be affixed.

18) States that a "digital signature" is one type of "electronic signature" that a public agency may choose to accept under UETA.

19) Authorizes a taxpayer to elect to use an electronic signature in lieu of a manual, facsimile, or other signature for a State Board of Equalization (BOE) form if a county assessor has authorized that form to be submitted via the use of electronic media and certain conditions are met (AB 1879, Gipson, Chapter 217, Statutes of 2024).

20) Requires a county assessor to accept the electronic signature and provides that a compliant electronic signature has the same legal effect as the manual, facsimile, or other signature of the taxpayer.

21) Authorizes an assessor to accept the filing of all BOE forms via electronic media, not just property statements.

This bill:

1) Extends the sunset until the 2028-29 fiscal year on provisions of law that state a unit that is eligible for and receives an LIHTC can continue to be treated as occupied by a lower income household when the occupants were lower income households on the lien date in the fiscal year in which their occupancy of the unit commenced and the unit continues to be rent restricted, notwithstanding an increase in the income of the occupants of the unit to 140% of area median income, adjusted for family size.

2) Requires counties to release forms related to the annual recertification of tenant income necessary to receive the exemption by November 15 annually.

3) Holds counties harmless from liability resulting from a failure to release any form under this section if that failure is caused by a delay by BOE or other state entity in publishing relevant forms.

4) Permits assessors to accept electronic signatures for materials necessary to claim, maintain, or otherwise receive the welfare exemption.

5) Directs county boards of supervisors to adopt any resolutions necessary to implement electronic signatures on those materials in collaboration with the assessor.

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Council for Affordable Housing (Co-Source)
California Housing Partnership (Co-Source)
Enterprise Community Partners, Inc. (Co-Source)
California Apartment Association
California Housing Consortium
California State Board of Equalization
Circulate Planning & Policy
City of Sunnyvale
Eden Housing
Housing California
Housing Trust Silicon Valley
LeadingAge California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "The property tax welfare exemption improves project feasibility and sustainability for affordable housing providers, supporting long-term affordability for low-income Californians. Currently, the compressed timeline and labor-intensive signature collection process present significant barriers to annual exemption recertifications. AB 2089 facilitates a smooth and timely recertification process by authorizing the county assessor to accept electronic signatures and requiring each county to release all necessary forms by November 15th of each calendar year. Additionally, AB 2089 extends by one year the sunset date allowing a tenant's income in a LIHTC-eligible property to increase up to 140% of area median income (AMI) without being disqualified for exemption purposes."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Dixon, Gallagher, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Colin Grinnell / REV. & TAX. / (916) 651-4117
8/5/26 15:04:25

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2110
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 6/22/26 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 HOUSING COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Workforce Housing Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Act

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill creates Workforce Housing Enhanced Infrastructure Financing Districts (WHEIFDs).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Creates enhanced infrastructure financing districts (EIFDs) and allows them to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance that provide significant benefits to the district or the surrounding community with an estimated useful life of 15 years or more, including projects that enable communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change.

2) Allows, in addition to construction costs, EIFDs to finance planning and design work, displacement of affordable housing residents, defending the district against protests over their formation, and the ongoing or capitalized costs to maintain the projects the district finances.

3) Provides that an EIFD is governed by a public financing authority (PFA) with three members of each participating taxing entity's legislative body and a minimum of two public members. Member agencies can also appoint an alternate member from their legislative body. If at least three taxing entities participate in the district, upon agreement of all taxing entities participating, the district's governing board can be reduced to one member and one alternate member of each legislative body and a minimum of two public members.

4) Requires the PFA to hold public meetings and meet notice requirements to consider an EIFD's formation, as specified.

This bill:

1) Creates WHEIFDs, which have the explicit authority to finance housing developments for public safety, education, health care, or manufacturing personnel.

2) WHEIFDs must require both of the following:

    a) All residential units within the housing development are reserved for occupancy by public safety personnel, education personnel, health care personnel, or manufacturing personnel, except that members of the public may be allowed to occupy residential units, subject to applicable laws and regulations, and the residential units serve lower-income or moderate-income households.

        i. The district may retain the right to prioritize public safety personnel, education personnel, health care personnel, or manufacturing personnel over members of the public to occupy housing.

        ii. Housing developments are subject to specified fair housing laws.

    b) All units are subject to a deed restriction, which shall require that at least 70% of the units serve lower-income households and the remaining 30% shall serve moderate-income households.

3) Provides that WHEIFDs may finance single-family or multifamily housing.

4) Authorizes housing projects in a WHEIFT to be a mixed-use development, provided that at least 80% of the square footage of the project is dedicated to residential use.

5) Authorizes WHEIFDs to issue bonds, but must get 2/3 voter approval to do so.

Background

From the early 1950s until they were dissolved in 2011, California redevelopment agencies (RDAs) used property tax increment financing to pay for economic development projects in blighted areas pursuant to the provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law. Generally, property tax increment financing (TIF) involves a local government forming a TIF district to issue bonds and use the bond proceeds to pay project costs within the boundaries of a specified project area. To repay the bonds, the district captures increased property tax revenues that are generated when projects financed by the bonds increase assessed property values within the project area. To calculate the increased property tax revenues captured by the district, the amount of property tax revenues received by any local agency participating in the district is "frozen" at the amount it received from property within a project area prior to the project area's formation. In future years, as the project area's assessed valuation grows above the frozen base, the resulting additional property tax revenues—the so-called property tax "increment" revenues—flows to the TIF district instead of other local agencies. After the bonds have been fully repaid using the incremental property tax revenues, the district is dissolved, ending the diversion of tax increment revenues from participating local agencies.

TIF revenues are typically used to pay back upfront costs or debt service for bonds issued to fund improvements such as infrastructure and other public facilities that are needed to facilitate private investment. Since the dissolution of RDAs, the Legislature has created several new TIF tools to authorize local governments to raise revenues to finance local infrastructure

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "California's housing crisis has become a structural barrier that threatens the functioning of our public and private services. Essential public safety and manufacturing workers are being systematically priced out of the neighborhoods they serve. Traditional affordable housing programs often overlook these working professionals, leaving those earning between 80% and 120% of the Area Median Income with few subsidies to bridge the gap between their purchasing power and the high

cost of living. AB 2110 provides local governments with a market-flexible, non-tax-increasing tool to directly address this stability gap. By authorizing a specialized form of tax increment financing, we empower our cities and counties to invest in their own essential human infrastructure without relying on state grants or imposing new tax burdens on residents. This measure is a strategic evolution in local finance that ensures the people who make California's economy and communities possible can actually afford to live in them."

2) *Why EIFDs or WHEIFDs?* Proposition 13 (1978) capped property tax rates at 1% of assessed value (which only changes upon new construction or when ownership changes). If properties do not get reassessed, the Constitution caps growth at 2% per year. The general theory behind TIF is that a local agency creates a district because it expects significant property tax growth generated through reassessments when property changes hands or is improved. Otherwise, a TIF district only receives the increment that comes from the 2% growth, which may not be sufficient to generate enough revenue to finance significant infrastructure projects in a timely fashion. When the TIF district uses these resources to finance infrastructure projects, it can springboard additional property tax growth. In other words, the TIF district pays for itself. When RDAs existed, they had at least two important advantages over current TIF districts. First, they received increment from the school share of property tax revenue, which the state backfilled from the General Fund in many cases. Second, they received increment that would have otherwise gone to other local agencies without their approval. This generated billions of dollars in additional funds that cities and counties could only access through redevelopment. Even with these key features, research has found that RDAs generally did not generate enough growth in property values to justify the property tax revenue they received. This suggests that TIF districts, like WHEIFDs, won't effectively finance infrastructure projects without a subsidy.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 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, 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
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Chen, Garcia, Jackson, Lackey, Lee, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:26

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2118
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 6/29/26 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 LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-1, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022: use by right: objective standards

SOURCE: Student Homes Coalition

DIGEST: This bill makes minor changes to the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022 established by AB 2011 (Wicks, Chapter 647, Statutes of 2022).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

Establishes the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022 (AB 2011), which allows the development of 100% affordable and qualifying mixed-income housing development projects in commercial zones and corridors.

This bill:

Amends the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022 as follows:

1) Requires an AB 2011 development project, rather than the entire property on which the AB 2011 housing development is proposed to be located, to meet certain planning standards.

2) Provides that any objective standards imposed by a local government on an AB 2011 housing development project may not prohibit or otherwise inhibit mixed-use development, as defined, in a housing development project.

3) Makes non-substantive and technical changes.

Background

The Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022. In response to the housing affordability crisis, the Legislature passed AB 2011 (Wicks, Chapter 647, Statutes of 2022), also known as the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022. AB 2011 streamlines the approval process for certain housing developments along commercial corridors and in commercial zones, while ensuring labor standards for construction workers and facilitating the development of affordable housing units. The law allows for by-right approval of mixed-income and 100% affordable housing projects on sites currently zoned for office, retail, or parking uses, provided they meet specific affordability, labor, and environmental criteria. This means qualifying projects can bypass certain discretionary local approvals, such as conditional use permits, making it easier and faster to build housing.

Comments

Author's statement. "California continues to face a severe housing crisis with soaring home prices and rents making it increasingly difficult for residents to find affordable and safe housing. Despite ongoing efforts to develop affordable and mixed-income housing, developers still face regulatory hurdles that slow the construction of new units. Building on the pathway created by AB 2011 (2022), AB 2118 clarifies existing statute to allow for mixed-use projects and ensure both local and state permits are subject to streamlined approval. With added clarity we promote the development of new units and provide more opportunities for affordable housing. "

Authorizing residential development in commercial zones. In addition to streamlining California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) review at the project level for specific types of housing developments, the Legislature recently enacted

several bills to facilitate the production of more housing by increasing the sites available for residential development. Notably, AB 2011 (Wicks) --- the provisions of which were substantively amended by AB 2243 (Wicks) --- and the Middle Class Housing Act of 2022 (SB 6, Caballero, Chapter 659, Statutes of 2022) both made certain types of housing developments an allowable use on land zoned for commercial uses; these bills effectively rezoned eligible parcels statutorily and increased the stock of land that could be developed into housing in California. These bills obviated the need for a local government to conduct a CEQA review in order to rezone certain commercial parcels to allow housing development on these parcels.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Student Homes Coalition (source)
Abundant Housing Los Angeles
California Council for Affordable Housing
California Yimby
Circulate Planning & Policy
Circulate Planning & Policy
East Bay Yimby
Fieldstead and Company, INC.
Grow the Richmond
Housing Action Coalition
Inner City Law Center
Monterey Bay Economic Partnership
Mountain View Yimby
Napa-solano for Everyone
Northern Neighbors Sf
Peninsula for Everyone
San Diego Housing Federation
San Francisco Yimby
San Jose Yimby
San Mateo Forward
Santa Cruz Yimby
Santa Rosa Yimby
South Bay Yimby
Spur
The Two Hundred for Homeownership
Ventura County Yimby

Yes! in Redwood City
Yimby Action
Yimby Los Angeles
Yimby Monterey Peninsula
Yimby Slo

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

City of Beverly Hills

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-1, 5/27/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, 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
NOES: Boerner
NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Jackson, Lee, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 15:04:27

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2120
Author: Solache (D)
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: School district employees: merit system

SOURCE: Los Angeles Unified School District

DIGEST: This bill (1) extends until January 1, 2031, the authority for Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) to use an alternative merit hiring process for specified classified positions requiring specialized skills, (2) authorizes the district to retain certain employees hired through that process during layoffs without regard to seniority when necessary to preserve those specialized qualifications, and (3) requires LAUSD to report to the Legislature on its use of these exemptions.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires vacancies in the classified service of a merit system school district to be filled from eligible applicants within the first three ranks on the applicable eligibility list.

2) Authorizes LAUSD, until January 1, 2027, to appoint employees to specified classified positions from outside the first three ranks when specialized skills or qualifications are required for successful job performance.

3) Requires classified employee layoffs and reemployment to occur in seniority order.

This bill:

1) Extends LAUSD's authority to use its selective certification hiring process for specified classified positions from January 1, 2027, until January 1, 2031.

2) Removes the Information Technology Electronic Communications Technician classification from the list of positions eligible for selective certification.

3) Authorizes LAUSD, during a reduction in force, to retain an employee hired through the selective certification process without regard to seniority if laying off that employee would deprive the district of the specialized qualifications for which the employee was hired.

4) Requires LAUSD to submit a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2030, detailing its use of the selective certification authority, including positions filled, the specialized qualifications relied upon, certification that no candidate within the first three ranks possessed those qualifications, layoffs resulting from the exemption, employee demographic data, and other implementation information.

5) Repeals these provisions on January 1, 2031.

Background

1) *Need for the bill.* According to the author, "Without selective certification, if the first three ranks do not possess the necessary knowledge or certification, the hiring division faces significant operational risks. The division is compelled to onboard individuals who require immediate, intensive remedial training. This results in a prolonged skills and productivity gap of up to two years, increased turnover, and the additional cost of restarting the recruitment cycle should the candidate fail to achieve the necessary competencies. Selective certification allows the district to most efficiently utilize taxpayer dollars by hiring candidates who are able to effectively perform the job on day one.

"Additionally, in the event of a reduction in force, the District may be compelled to lay off a recently-hired employee who was hired specifically due to possessing a certain skill set or qualification. This bill would allow the district to skip over these employees during reductions in force, if following the typical layoff pattern would deprive the district of the special skill for which the employee was hired."

2) *This bill continues a longstanding, narrowly tailored exception to LAUSD's merit hiring process.* Since 2003, the Legislature has periodically authorized LAUSD to bypass the traditional "rule of three ranks" for a limited number of specialized classified positions where particular skills are necessary on day one, such as language proficiency or other technical qualifications. Rather than creating a new hiring framework, this bill extends an existing authority that has been repeatedly revisited and refined by the Legislature over the past two decades.

3) *The bill expands the exception beyond hiring decisions by allowing selective retention during layoffs.* Current law only provides flexibility during hiring. This bill also allows LAUSD to retain an employee hired through selective certification during a reduction in force, notwithstanding normal seniority rules, when the employee possesses specialized qualifications that the district would otherwise lose. While this may help preserve critical operational expertise, it also represents a departure from longstanding merit system protections that generally prioritize seniority during layoffs.

4) *Recent amendments strengthen legislative oversight and preserve the temporary nature of the exemption.* As introduced, the bill would have made LAUSD's selective certification authority permanent. Senate Labor, Public Employment and Retirement Committee amendments instead restored a January 1, 2031, sunset and require LAUSD to report to the Legislature before the authority expires. The report will provide information about how frequently the exemption is used, the qualifications justifying its use, whether qualified candidates existed within the top three ranks, the effect on layoffs, and demographic information. These amendments provide the Legislature with an opportunity to evaluate whether the authority is being exercised as intended before considering any future extension.

5) *The bill reflects the balance between merit system principles and operational flexibility.* California's merit system is designed to promote objective hiring

and protect against favoritism by relying on competitive examinations and seniority-based personnel decisions. At the same time, LAUSD has argued that certain highly specialized positions cannot always be filled efficiently under the traditional process and that preserving employees with unique qualifications may be necessary to maintain district operations. This bill continues this limited exception while incorporating additional transparency intended to allow future legislative review of whether the flexibility remains justified.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 08/03/26)

Los Angeles Unified School District (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 08/03/26)

None received.

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to the Los Angeles Unified School District:

"Los Angeles Unified has used Selective Certification since 2003, which allows the district to move quickly to fill certain positions that require skills that cannot be acquired on the job, such as fluency in a foreign language. Prior to the implementation of Selective Certification in 2003, the district required between one to three months to fill a vacancy. These positions are now filled in two to five weeks, greatly improving continued service for our staff and students. Additionally, Selective Certification allows the district to most efficiently utilize taxpayer dollars by hiring candidates who have the skills to effectively perform the job on day one. AB 2120 will further the impact of this policy, by allowing the district to retain employees with specialized skill sets during reductions in force."

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: Glenn Miles / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
8/5/26 15:04:28

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2121
Author: Berman (D)
Amended: 8/4/26 in Senate
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.

Senate Floor Amendments of 8/4/26 require a CCD opting to exclude expenditures from its current expense of education pursuant to the provisions of this bill to (1) first present this action at a regular public meeting of the governing board of the CCD, (2) identify the action as a distinct agenda item, and (3) provide advance notice of the item to the campus community, including faculty, consistent with the CCD's established practices for noticing governing board meetings.

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, an urgency measure:

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 CCCCO to maintain documentation and include certifications the CCCCO receives from CCDs in the annual report the CCCCO 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/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 8/5/26)

West Valley-Mission Community College District (source)
Antelope Valley Community College District
Associated Students of West Valley College
Association of California Community College Administrators
Campaign for College Opportunity
Community College League of California
EdTrust-West
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
The Institute for College Access and Success
University of California Student Association
Victor Valley Community College District
West Valley College Classified Senate

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

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
8/5/26 16:20:46

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2125
Author: Bennett (D)
Amended: 3/25/26 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

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Groundwater basin adjudication: notice

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill places new requirements on a plaintiff when filing a notice in a groundwater basin adjudication, including an attachment of any certified or registered mail delivery receipts received as of the date of the filing, as provided. Under the bill, if a return receipt is not received for a parcel of real property, the plaintiff is required to also include an affidavit of the person who posted the notice specifying the date, time, and physical location of each parcel of real property where the posting occurred, accompanied by a photograph depicting the posted notice.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) with the goal of providing for the sustainable management of groundwater basins, enhancing local management of groundwater consistent with rights to use or

store groundwater, providing local groundwater agencies with the authority and the technical and financial assistance necessary to sustainably manage groundwater, and establishing minimum standards for sustainable groundwater management. (Water (Wat.) Code §§ 10720 et seq.)

2) Authorizes the creation of local Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs) and requires GSAs to consider the interests of all beneficial uses and users of groundwater, as well as those responsible for implementing groundwater sustainability plans (GSP). (Wat. Code § 10723.2.)

3) Establishes the procedures for a court to use when adjudicating a groundwater basin. (Code of Civil (Civ.) Procedure §§ 830 et seq.)

4) Provides that in a comprehensive adjudication, the court may determine all groundwater rights of a basin, whether based on appropriation, overlying right, or other basis of right, and use of storage space in the basin. (Code Civ. Proc. § 834.)

5) Provides that a court may enter a judgment in a comprehensive groundwater adjudication if the court finds that the judgment meets all of the following criteria:
    a. it is consistent with Section 2 of Article X of the California Constitution;
    b. it is consistent with the water right priorities of all non-stipulating parties and any persons who have claims that are exempted in the basin;
    c. it treats all objecting parties and any persons who have claims that are exempted as compared to the stipulating parties; and
    d. it considers the water use of and accessibility of water for small farmers and disadvantaged communities, as provided. (Code Civ. Proc. § 850(a).)

6) Requires a court presiding over an adjudication to manage the proceedings in a manner that does not interfere with the completion and implementation of a GSP and that is consistent with sustainable groundwater management under SGMA. (Wat. Code § 10737.2.)

7) Provides a court is not to approve entry of judgment in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a GSP unless the court finds that the judgment will not substantially impair the ability of a GSA, the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), or the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to comply with SGMA and to achieve sustainable groundwater management. (Code Civ. Proc. § 850(b); Wat. Code § 10737.8)

8) Authorizes a court, if the court finds that claims of right to extract or divert only minor quantities of water (not more than five acre-feet of water per year) would not have a material effect on the groundwater rights of other parties, to do either of the following:
    a. exempt those claimants, but a person who is exempted may elect to continue as a party to the comprehensive adjudication;
    b. treat those claimants separately from other parties to the comprehensive adjudication by separately processing and entering orders with respect to those persons, in order to reduce their burden of participation and more efficiently administer the case. (Code Civ. Proc. § 833(d).)

9) Requires the plaintiff to take certain actions to serve notice regarding the comprehensive adjudication, including mailing, by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, the notice, complaint, and form answer to all holders of fee title to real property in the basin. (Code Civ. Proc. § 836(d).)

10) Requires the plaintiff, after completing the notice required in 9, to file with the court a notice of the completion of the mailing. (*Id*. at subd. (e).)

11) Provides that the court may authorize any other procedures it finds appropriate and necessary to provide notice to persons who may hold groundwater rights in the basin. (*Id*. at subd. (i).)

This bill:

1) Requires a plaintiff to include in the notice of the completion of mailing described under 10, above, to also include an affidavit of the person who mailed the mailing notice stating the date, time, and place of mailing for each parcel, and the notice must include as an attachment any certified or registered mail delivery receipts received as of the date of the filing.

2) Requires, if return receipt is not received for a parcel of real property, the mailing notice to also include an affidavit of the person who posted the notice in a conspicuous place on the real property specifying the date, time, and physical location of each parcel where the posting occurred, accompanied by a photograph depicting the posted notice.

3) Clarifies that the court may require the plaintiff to utilize restricted delivery of all mailed notices.

Comment

The adjudication of water rights in the state can be complex and involve many parties. According to the State Water Resources Control Board a "water right" is a legal entitlement authorizing water to be diverted from a specified source and put to beneficial, nonwasteful use. Water rights are property rights, but their holders do not own the water itself." [1] Existing state law recognizes three types of water rights — riparian rights, appropriative rights, and groundwater rights. With the impacts of climate change affecting the scarcity and availability of water, via droughts and other conditions, litigation around water rights will likely increase in the near future. This bill is focused on addressing concerns with the adjudication of groundwater rights and the sustainability of groundwater basins.

In 2014, the Legislature passed SGMA,[2] which put in place a statewide framework for groundwater management for the first time but specified that it did not alter surface or groundwater rights. The purpose of SGMA was to address overdraft and other adverse effects of excessive pumping of groundwater. SGMA specifically provides that its provisions do not determine or alter surface water rights or groundwater rights under common law or any provision of law that determines or grants surface water rights. (Wat. Code § 10720.5(b).) After the enactment of SGMA, the Legislature passed SB 226 (Pavley, Chapter 676, Statutes of 2015) and AB 1390 (Alejo, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2015) with the intent of streamlining the adjudication process for groundwater rights. Under SB 226, a court must adjudicate rights to groundwater in a basin that is required to have a GSP under SGMA in a manner that minimizes interference with the timely completion and implementation of a GSP, avoids redundancy and unnecessary costs in the development of technical information and a physical solution, and is consistent with the attainment of sustainable groundwater management within the timeframes established by SGMA. (Wat. Code § 10737.2.) AB 1390 authorized a GSA for the basin, a city, county, or city and county that overlies the basin, and certain persons to intervene in a groundwater adjudication. (Code Civ. Proc. § 837 & 837.5.) Last session, AB 779 (Wilson, Chapter 655, Statutes of 2023) was enacted to, among other things, to ensure that the water use of small farmers and disadvantaged communities have been considered by a court before a judgment is entered.

Under state law, every overlying property owner has a potential right in an unadjudicated groundwater basin, which makes adjudication of those rights

[1] State Wat. Resources Control Bd., *The Water Right Process* (updated Aug. 20, 2020), available a https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/board_info/water_rights_process.html.
[2] Enacted through a three-bill package AB 1739 (Dickinson, Ch. 347, Stats. 2014), SB 1168 (Pavley, Ch.346, Stats. 2014), and SB 1319 (Pavley, Ch. 348, Stats. 2014).

difficult and often a very lengthy process—sometimes taking more than a decade for water rights holders and basin managers to come to an agreement. Prior to the enactment of SGMA, adjudications were the only form of state oversight on groundwater basins. In a common law adjudication, groundwater basins are managed according to the concept of "safe yield," and overlying appropriators are limited when total basin groundwater extraction exceeds the basin's safe yield, leading to basin overdraft. The safe yield of a groundwater basin is "the maximum amount of water that could be extracted annually, year after year, without eventually depleting the underground basin. Safe yield is generally calculated as the net of inflows less subsurface and surface outflows." (*City of Santa Maria v. Adam* (2012), 211 Cal.App.4th 266, 279.) The safe yield is used by the court to decide on a physical solution for the basin.

A year after the enactment of SGMA, the Legislature enacted streamlined groundwater adjudication statutes. (Gov. Code §§ 830 et seq.; AB 1390 (Alejo, Chapter 672, Statutes of 2015.) Under these statutes, a court may enter a judgement in a comprehensive groundwater basin adjudication if the judgement is consistent with the reasonable use doctrine, is consistent with the rights of parties exempted from the adjudication, and treats all objecting and exempted parties equitably. (Code Civ. Proc. § 850(a).) Any party to the adjudication may propose a stipulated judgment to the court, and the court may adopt the stipulated judgement if the parties proposing the settlement represent 75 percent of the groundwater pumped in the basin or if 50 percent of the pumpers in the basin agree to the stipulated judgment (*Id*. at (b).) The party proposing the stipulated judgment may submit the proposed stipulated judgment to DWR for an evaluation and assessment that it satisfies the objects of SGMA for the basin, and DWR can recommend corrective actions. (Wat. Code § 10737.4.) The court may determine it is necessary to amend the judgment to adopt DWR's recommended corrective actions. (*Ibid*.). This process, however, is only triggered if a party chooses to submit the proposed settlement. Additionally, a court is not to approve entry of judgment in an adjudication action for a basin required to have a GSP unless the court finds that the judgment will not substantially impair the ability of a GSA, SWRCB, or DWR to comply with SGMA and to achieve sustainable groundwater management. (Wat. Code § 10737.8.) A court is also required to consider the water use of, and accessibility of water for, small farmers and disadvantaged communities when issuing a judgment in a comprehensive water adjudication. (Code Civ. Proc. § 850(a)(4).)

In the Las Posas Groundwater Basin adjudication, the notice method provided for in AB 1390 was used. The author argues that over 15,000 landowners were

involved and some of the return receipts were defective, which led to some farmers not receiving notice of the adjudication. However, the court in the Las Posas Groundwater Basin adjudication did not find that proper notice under existing law was not met. (*Las Posas Valley Water Rights Coalition et al v. Fox Canyon Groundwater Management Agency et al*, Case No. VENC100509700, Statement of Decision, Evid. Hearing on 4/8/2025, a. p. 18-19.) As failure to answer the notice of the adjudication is equivalent to a default judgment, the author posits that too many landowners, especially small farmers and landowners, are losing their water rights in proceedings they did not know were occurring. This bill seeks to bolster the notice requirements in order to ensure that all affected parties in a groundwater basin adjudication are able to secure their water rights.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/6/26)

Community Alliance with Family Farmers

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/6/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

> AB 2125 protects small farmers and individual water rights holders by making certain that they receive notice of an adjudication that could impact their rights. In Ventura County, the Las Posas case impacted thousands of residents – many of whom never received notification of the case. In something as fundamental as the right to water, a simple addition of providing proof to the court that the mailing had been received, and not just mailed, seems to be a minor burden on the plaintiffs. It is a question of good government: should we ensure that everyone has all the information to ensure a level playing field? I believe we should.

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, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, 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, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
7/30/26 14:49:24

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

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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2150
Author: Haney (D)
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LABOR, PUB. EMP. & RET. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Cortese, Durazo, Laird

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Employment: training requirements: opioid overdose reversals

SOURCE: American National Red Cross
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires any employer operating in this state that requires cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification training of its employees to also require those employees to take a separate online video module training on the use of naloxone, approved by the Emergency Medical Services Authority to increase the rate of opioid overdose reversals; and 2) requires the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to enforce this training requirement.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Under the California Occupational Safety and Health Act, protects workers on the job by authorizing the enforcement of effective standards in addition to requiring employers to:
   a. Furnish employment and a place of employment that is safe and healthful for its employees.
   b. Furnish and use safety devices and safeguards, and to adopt and use practices, means, methods, operations, and processes, which are reasonably

adequate to render employment and the place of employment safe and healthful.

c. Do everything reasonably necessary to protect the life, safety, and health of employees. (Labor Code §6300)

2) Establishes the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) within the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) to, among other things, propose, administer, and enforce occupational safety and health standards. (Labor Code §6300 et seq.)

3) Establishes the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, within DIR, to promote, adopt, and maintain reasonable and enforceable standards that will ensure a safe and healthful workplace for workers. (Labor Code §140-147.6)

4) Establishes within the Health and Welfare Agency the Emergency Medical Services Authority (EMSA), which is responsible for the coordination and integration of all state activities concerning emergency medical services. (Health and Safety Code §1797.100)

5) Requires Cal/OSHA, before December 1, 2027, to submit a draft rulemaking proposal to revise Sections 1512 and 3400 of Title 8 of the California Code of Regulations to require first aid materials in a workplace to include naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to reverse opioid overdose and instructions for using the opioid antagonist. (Labor Code §6723)

6) Requires Cal/OSHA, in drafting the rulemaking proposal, to consider, and provide guidance to employers on, proper storage of the opioid antagonist in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. (Labor Code §6723)

7) Requires the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to consider for adoption revised standards for the standards described in 4) above on or before December 1, 2028. (Labor Code §6723)

8) Provides that an individual who administers naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration to reverse opioid overdose in a suspected opioid overdose emergency shall not be liable for civil damages as provided in Section 1799.113 of the Health and Safety Code if the conditions in that section are met. Furthermore, provides that an individual who is licensed as part of a local emergency medical services

agency shall not be held responsible for administering nasal naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid approved antagonist to reverse opioid overdose, regardless of whether the individual was certified for that activity, unless the individual was acting as a paid first responder at the time of the action. (Labor Code §6723)

This bill:

1) Requires any employer operating in this state that requires cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) certification training of its employees to also require those employees to take an online video module training on the use of naloxone approved by the Emergency Medical Services Authority, as specified, to increase the rate of opioid overdose reversals.

2) Requires that each employer pay for the costs of the training and ensure that it is separate from the existing CPR-training curriculum.

3) Requires the Emergency Medical Services Authority to review and approve the online video module trainings to ensure that the training includes, at a minimum, all of the following:

   a. Recognition of the signs and symptoms of an opioid overdose.
   b. Appropriate response actions, including emergency procedures.
   c. Proper administration of naloxone or other opioid antagonists approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration.

4) Provides that the EMSA's role is limited to approving the training content for consistency with these minimum standards and shall not include administration, enforcement, or ongoing monitoring of employer compliance with these requirements.

5) Requires that Cal/OSHA enforce these training requirements in accordance with the division's existing authority.

6) Specifies that Cal/OSHA is not required to adopt new regulations or establish a new program to implement these provisions and that enforcement shall occur as part of the division's existing inspection and enforcement activities.

7) Provides that an employee who has completed CPR certification, first aid certification, or other training through a program that the EMSA determines

includes training meeting or exceeding the minimum standards included in this bill, shall be deemed to satisfy these requirements and the employer shall not be required to provide separate training to that employee, as specified.

8) Authorizes the EMSA to establish a process by which a training program, certifying body, or employer may seek a determination that an existing training meets or exceeds the minimum standards described in this bill and provides that nothing shall discourage or limit training that exceeds those minimum standards.

9) Specifies that the training required under these provisions is for educational and preparedness purposes only and does not create an independent duty, authorization, or expectation for any employee to administer naloxone.

10) Provides that nothing in these provisions shall be construed to expand, modify, or supersede any state or federal law, regulation, or licensing requirement governing scope of practice, medication administration, or delegation of clinical tasks, including, but not limited to, requirements applicable under Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations.

11) Provides that these provisions apply uniformly to all covered employers and that no employer classification, facility type, or program type shall be exempt from solely on the basis of existing clinical staffing levels or internal medication administration policies.

Background

Many people take prescription opioids, medications like oxycodone or fentanyl, to treat medical conditions, while others may use these opioids recreationally. Some opioid medications are especially potent which increases the likelihood of an unintentional overdose. Fentanyl, for example, is 50 to 100 times more potent than morphine.

According to Cal/OSHA's Opioid Hazard Alert, "fatalities due to unintentional overdoses have increased in the last several years; more than 100,000 people died of an overdose in the U.S. in 2022. Workplace overdoses are also on the rise. According to the US Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics, over 100 workplace deaths in California alone were due to unintentional overdose, accounting for 22% of all workplace fatalities occurring in California in 2022."[1]

[1] https://www.dir.ca.gov/dosh/dosh_publications/Opioid-hazard-alert.pdf

Opioid overdoses are especially high among industries or occupations where there are elevated rates of injuries and those with access to opioids, such as law enforcement, emergency response, and healthcare. A Centers for Disease Control and Prevention analysis of 47,810 drug overdose deaths recorded in the National Occupational Mortality Surveillance system from 2007 to 2012 showed higher mortality rates for 6 occupational groupings: construction, extraction, food preparation and serving, health care practitioners and technicians, health care support, and personal care and service.[2]

Opioid overdose medications, such as naloxone (also known as Narcan), are available to immediately reverse the effects of an overdose, but only if they are administered in time. Naloxone is not harmful if it is given to a person who is not experiencing an opioid overdose. The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) has approved two forms of naloxone: a nasal spray and an injection. The nasal spray is available over-the-counter and does not require a prescription.

AB 1976 (Haney, Chapter 689, Statutes of 2024): In an attempt to respond to the opioid crisis and abuse of fentanyl in California, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed, AB 1976 (Haney) last year requiring Cal/OSHA, on or before December 1, 2027, to submit a draft rulemaking proposal to revise existing standards on first aid materials to require all workplace first aid kits to include nasal spray naloxone hydrochloride or another approved opioid antagonist to reverse opioid overdose and include instructions for its use. This bill also required the Standards Board to consider adopting the revised standards on or before December 1, 2028.

Building on the work started by the author with AB 1976, this bill would now require any employer operating in this state that requires CPR certification training of its employees to also require those employees to take a separate online video module training on the use of naloxone to increase the rate of opioid overdose reversals.

Prior/Related Legislation

AB 1976 (Haney, Chapter 689, Statutes of 2024) discussed above.

[2] Harduar Morano L, Steege, AL, Luckhaupt, SE. Occupational patterns in unintentional and undetermined drug-involved and opioid-involved overdose deaths—United States, 2007–2012. MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep. 2018;67(33):925–930.

AB 1915 (Arambula, 2024) would have required the State Department of Public Health to develop an opioid overdose training program and program toolkit, as defined, to be made available to public high schools for public high school pupils to be trained on how to identify and respond to an opioid overdose, including by administering a federally approved opioid overdose reversal medication, as provided. The bill was held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

AB 1841 (Weber, Chapter 942, Statutes of 2024) requires that the California Community Colleges (CCCs) and the California State University (CSU) make federally approved opioid overdose reversal medication available on campuses and in affiliated housing and to train specified individuals in a position to quickly respond in emergencies.

SB 10 (Cortese, Chapter 856, Statutes of 2023) requires, among other things, a comprehensive school safety plan, and the school safety plan of a charter school, for a school serving pupils in any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, to include the development of a protocol in the event a pupil is suffering or is reasonably believed to be suffering from an opioid overdose.

SB 234 (Portantino, Chapter 596, Statutes of 2023) requires stadiums, concert venues, and amusement parks to maintain unexpired doses of an opioid antagonist on its premises and ensure that at least two employees are aware of the location and provides indemnification, as specified.

SB 472 (Hurtado, 2023) would have required each public school to maintain at least two doses of naloxone hydrochloride on its campus. The bill was held under submission in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 19 (Jim Patterson, 2023) would have required each school that has elected to make a school nurse or trained personnel available to maintain at least two doses units of naloxone hydrochloride or another opioid antagonist on its campus. The bill was held under submission in Senate Appropriations Committee.

AB 24 (Haney, 2023), among other things, would have required a bar, gas station, public library, or residential hotel that receives an opioid antagonist kit from the California Department of Public Health to place the kit in an area of the facility that is readily accessible only by employees. Additionally, the bill would have provided immunity from civil liability to a person or facility for providing, or not providing, aid with the kit. The bill would have also prohibited an employer from

requiring or prohibiting its employees to render aid with a kit. The bill was held under submission in Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 367 (Hurtado, Chapter 218, Statutes of 2022) requires the governing board of each community college district and the Trustees of the California State University, in collaboration with campus-based and community-based recovery advocacy organizations, to additionally provide, as part of established campus orientations, educational and preventive information provided by the State Department of Public Health about opioid overdose and the use and location of opioid overdose reversal medication to students at all campuses of their respective segments.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

American National Red Cross (Co-source)
California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives (Co-source)
California Behavioral Health Association
Drug Policy Alliance
Everyday Responder Project
GLIDE
Health Officers Association of California
Young People in Recovery

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to one of the sponsors, the American Red Cross and the California Association of Alcohol and Drug Program Executives:

> California continues to face a growing opioid overdose epidemic, affecting communities of all backgrounds. Many of these overdoses are happening in locations where staff are already CPR-trained and where employers must have naloxone in workplace first aid kits. At the same time, the crisis is disproportionately happening across our state's youth populations, where CPR-certified staff are present. According to the CDPH, the rate of opioid overdose deaths among youth ages 10-19 increased by 407% between 2018 and 2020. Yet, there has been little effort to respond to this alarmingly high increase in overdose cases. Additionally, the CDC has found that 63% of

opioid overdoses occur in public settings with more than 40% of these cases occurring where a bystander was nearby. To combat this crisis, providing naloxone training to public-facing staff members will save lives.

AB 2150 improves health outcomes, reduces emergency response wait times, and equips bystanders with ability to effectively assess overdose emergencies. With just a simple spray, this overdose reversal medication can restore breathing in just 2-3 minutes, enhancing overall health outcomes and ensuring Californians receive timely care when every second counts.

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: Alma Perez-Schwab / L., P.E. & R. / (916) 651-1556
8/5/26 15:04:28

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2164
Author: Bauer-Kahan (D), et al.
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-1, 6/16/26
AYES: Arreguín, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener
NOES: Seyarto

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 11-2, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NOES: Niello, Valladares

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-14, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Legally protected activities

SOURCE: Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine Access

DIGEST: This bill prohibits except when required by federal law, the Governor from recognizing any demand for extradition of any person who receives, assists, or materially supports, as specified, any legally protected health care activity, unless the executive authority of the demanding state alleges that the accused was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged crime; and to extend existing California protections to any person who has previously undertaken any act in another state to aid or encourage another in the exercise of their rights to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "legally protected health care activity" as any of the following:

    a) The exercise and enjoyment, or attempted exercise and enjoyment, by a person of rights to reproductive health care services, gender-affirming health care services, or gender-affirming mental health care services secured by the Constitution or laws of California or the provision by a health care service plan contract or a policy, or a certificate of health insurance, that provides for such services.

    b) An act or omission undertaken to aid or encourage, or attempt to aid or encourage, a person in the exercise and enjoyment or attempted exercise and enjoyment of rights to reproductive health care services, gender-affirming health care services, or gender-affirming mental health care services secured by the Constitution or laws of California.

    c) The provision of reproductive health care services, gender-affirming health care services, or gender-affirming mental health care services by a person duly licensed under the laws of California or the coverage of, and reimbursement for, those services or care by a health care service plan or a health insurer, if the service or care is lawful under the laws of California, regardless of the patient's location. (Penal [Pen.] Code, § 1549.15, subd. (b)(1)(A)-(C).)

2) Provides that "gender-affirming health care" and "gender-affirming mental health care" means medically necessary health care that respects the gender identity of the patient, as experienced and defined by the patient, and may include, but is not limited to, interventions to suppress the development of endogenous secondary sex characteristics; interventions to align the patient's appearance or physical body with the patient's gender identity; and interventions to alleviate symptoms of clinically significant distress resulting from gender dysphoria, as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders, 5th Edition. (Pen. Code, § 1549.15, subd. (a).)

3) States that "reproductive health care services" means and includes all services, care, or products of a medical, surgical, psychiatric, therapeutic, diagnostic, mental health, behavioral health, preventative, rehabilitative, supportive, consultative, referral, prescribing, or dispensing nature relating to the human

reproductive system provided in accordance with the constitution and laws of this state, whether provided in person or by means of telehealth services. Defines "reproductive health care services" to include but is not limited to, all services, care, and products relating to pregnancy, the termination of a pregnancy, assisted reproduction, or contraception. (Pen. Code, § 1549.15, subd. (c).)

4) Defines "anti-reproductive-rights crime" to mean a crime committed partly or wholly because the victim is a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant, or a crime that is partly or wholly intended to intimidate the victim, any other person or entity, or any class of persons or entities from becoming or remaining a reproductive health services client, provider, or assistant. (Pen. Code, § 13776, subd. (a).)

5) Requires the Department of Justice (DOJ) to direct local law enforcement agencies to report annually to the DOJ specified information related to anti-reproductive-rights crimes. (Pen. Code, § 13777, subd. (a)(2).)

6) Requires the DOJ to carry out certain functions relating to anti-reproductive-rights crimes in consultation with the Governor, the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), and other subject matter experts. (Pen. Code, § 13777, subd. (b).)

7) Prohibits a state or local law enforcement agency or officer from knowingly arresting or knowingly participating in the arrest of any person for performing, supporting, or aiding in the performance of an abortion in this state, or obtaining an abortion in this state, if the abortion is lawful under the laws of this state. (Pen. Code, § 13778.2, subd. (a).)

8) Prohibits a state or local public agency, or any employee thereof acting in their official capacity, from cooperating with or providing information to any individual or agency or department from another state or, to the extent permitted by federal law, to a federal law enforcement agency regarding an abortion that is lawful under the laws of this state and that is performed in this state. (Pen. Code, § 13778.2, subd. (b).)

9) Provides that a law of another state that authorizes the imposition of civil or criminal penalties related to an individual performing, supporting, or aiding in the performance of an abortion in this state, or an individual obtaining an

abortion in this state, if the abortion is lawful under the laws of this state, is against the public policy of this state. (Pen. Code, § 13778.2, subd. (c)(1).)

10) Prohibits a state court, judicial officer, or court employee or clerk, or authorized attorney from issuing a subpoena pursuant to any state law in connection with a proceeding in another state regarding an individual performing, supporting, or aiding in the performance of an abortion in this state, or an individual obtaining an abortion in this state, if the abortion is lawful under the laws of this state. (Pen. Code, § 13778.2, subd. (c)(2).)

11) Provides that the investigation of any criminal activity in this state that may involve the performance of an abortion is not prohibited, provided that information relating to any medical procedure performed on a specific individual is not shared with an agency or individual from another state for the purpose of enforcing another state's abortion law. (Pen. Code, § 13778.2, subd. (d).)

12) Provides that the state may not deny or interfere with a person's right to choose or obtain an abortion prior to viability of the fetus or when the abortion is necessary to protect the life or health of the person. (Health & Safety [Safe.] Code, § 123462, subd. (c), 123466.)

13) States that a person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime. (U.S. Constitution [Const.], Article [art.] IV, sec. 2, cl. 2.)

14) States that it is the duty of the Governor of this State to have arrested and delivered up to the executive authority of any other State any person charged in that State with treason, felony, or other crime, who has fled from justice and is found in this State. (Pen. Code, § 1548.1).

15) States that, notwithstanding specified state laws, the Governor's Office must decline any request received from the executive authority of any other state to issue a warrant for the arrest or surrender of any person charged with a criminal violation of a law of that other state where the violation alleged involves the provision, receipt, or assistance with reproductive health care services, unless required by the U.S. Constitution or the acts forming the basis of the prosecution of the crime charged would also constitute a criminal

offense under the laws of California. (Governor's Executive [Exec.] Order N-12-22 [June 27, 2022].)

This bill:

1) Prohibits, except when required by federal law, the Governor from recognizing any demand for extradition of any person who receives, assists, or materially supports, as specified, any legally protected health care activity unless the executive authority of the demanding state alleges in writing that the accused was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged crime, and that thereafter such accused fled from that state.

2) Extends existing California protections for legally protected health care activities to any person who has previously undertaken any act in another state to aid or encourage another in the exercise and enjoyment of their rights to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services. States that such protections would only apply if the act was permissible under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the person was located at the time.

3) States that legally protected health care activity includes reproductive healthcare services, as defined, and gender-affirming-healthcare services, as defined.

Background

The right to extradition is established by the U.S. Constitution which provides:

> A person charged in any state with treason, felony, or other crime, who shall flee from justice, and be found in another state, shall on demand of the executive authority of the state from which he fled, be delivered up, to be removed to the state having jurisdiction of the crime. (U.S. Const., art. IV, sec. 2, cl. 2.)

California's extradition statute provides that it is the duty of the Governor to have arrested and delivered up to the executive authority of any other state any person charged in that state with treason, felony, or other crime, who has fled from justice and is found in this State. (Pen. Code, § 1548.1).

This bill prohibits the Governor from recognizing any demand for extradition of any person who receives, assists, or materially supports, as specified, any legally

protected health care activity, unless the executive authority of the demanding state alleges in writing that the accused was physically present in the demanding state at the time of the commission of the alleged crime, and that thereafter such accused fled from that state. The Governor would still be required to recognize a demand for extradition if required by federal law.

Notably, in 2022, Governor Newsom signed an executive order requiring the Governor's Office to decline any request received from the executive authority of any other state to issue a warrant for the arrest or surrender of any person charged with a criminal violation of a law of that other state where the violation alleged involves the provision, receipt, or assistance with reproductive health care services, unless required by the U.S. Constitution or the acts forming the basis of the prosecution of the crime charged would also constitute a criminal offense under the laws of California. (Governor's Exec. Order N-12-22 (June 27, 2022).) This bill is intended to codify the 2022 executive order.

Furthermore, this bill extends existing California protections for legally protected health care activities to any person who has previously undertaken any act in another state to aid or encourage another in the exercise and enjoyment of their rights to reproductive health care services or gender-affirming health care services. Such protections would only apply if the act was permissible under the laws of the jurisdiction in which the person was located at the time. This provision is a "reciprocity statute," modelled after one recently enacted by Vermont. (Vermont Senate Bill No. 28 [2025-2026 Regular Session].) The goal of this provision is to protect people who practice legally protected health care activities in another state (such as Vermont), who then visit California, from being criminally prosecuted by another state (such as Texas) while in California.

This bill raises a number of constitutional issues. Because this bill prohibits government actors in this state from cooperating with another state for the purpose of enforcing another state's laws on what we characterize as "legally protected healthcare activity," it potentially implicates the Full Faith and Credit Clause. Generally, the laws of a state regulate conduct that occurs within that state. Additionally, this bill attempts to address situations where another state might prosecute someone for conduct that occurred in California—or in another third state. The Supreme Court has held "a state does not acquire power or supervision over the internal affairs of another State merely because the welfare and health of its own citizens may be affected when they travel to that State." (*Bigelow v. Virginia* (1975) 421 U.S. 809, 824.)

For a more detailed analysis of the relevant constitutional issues, see the Senate Judiciary Committee Analysis.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine Access (source)
American Association of University Women - California
American College of Obstetricians & Gynecologists - District IX
CA Commission on the Status of Women and Girls
California Chapter of the American College of Emergency Physicians
California Legislative LGBTQ Caucus
California Nurse Midwives Association
California Public Defenders Association
California Women's Law Center
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Health Access California
Los Angeles LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California
Reproductive Freedom for All California
Reproductive Futures
San Francisco Marin Medical Society
Western Center on Law & Poverty, INC.

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Family Council
Cause: Californians United for Sex-based Evidence in Policy and Law
Democrats for an Informed Approach to Gender

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

Planned Parenthood of California writes:

> AB 2164 strengthens California's shield laws by prohibiting future governors from honoring extradition requests for individuals who provide or assist with reproductive health care services or gender-affirming care that are protected by California's shield laws. By removing discretionary authority in these circumstances, the bill ensures that California health care providers cannot be arrested or

extradited to states seeking to criminalize care that is lawful under our state's laws.

As states across the country continue to enact laws that restrict or criminalize reproductive health care, this legislation is urgently needed. Health care providers delivering care that is permitted under California law should not have to practice under the uncertainty of shifting political winds. AB 2164 provides the clarity and certainty needed to ensure that abortion care remains safe and accessible.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

Californians United for Sex-Based Evidence in Policy and Law writes:

AB 2164 seeks to protect providers of psychologically harmful, medically unnecessary, function destroying and irreversible psychiatric and medical interventions given to minors and vulnerable adults for the sole purpose of making them believe 1) they can become the opposite sex via harm to their body, and 2) that such interventions are needed to alleviate mental health disorders. Both claims are false.

The medical and legal reckoning for irreversible interventions on gender-dysphoric or simply unhappy and confused minors has arrived. The informed consent failures that produced a generation of injured young people are currently being adjudicated. This Legislature should not, at this critical moment, extend legal cover to those who may bear direct responsibility for those injuries.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 57-14, 5/21/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, 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, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Chen, Davies, Garcia, Hoover, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 15:04:29

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2168
Author: Wicks (D)
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 8-4, 6/30/26
AYES: Cortese, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Wiener
NOES: Strickland, Dahle, Seyarto, Valladares
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-20, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Active Transportation Program: guidelines

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill directs the California Transportation Commission (CTC) to establish penalties for failure to use Active Transportation Program (ATP) funds in a timely manner, clarifies ATP eligibility criteria related to projects that provide access to transit, and expands the goals of ATP to include increasing the proportion of trips accomplished by accessing public transit.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes ATP within the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation, such as biking and walking, expresses the intent of the Legislature that the program achieves all of the following goals:

   a) Increase the proportion of trips accomplished by biking and walking.

   b) Increase safety and mobility for nonmotorized users.

c) Advance the active transportation efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals pursuant to Senate Bill 375 (Steinberg, Chapter 728, Statutes of 2008) and Senate Bill 391 (Liu, Chapter 585, Statutes of 2009).

d) Enhance public health, including reduction of childhood obesity through the use of programs including, but not limited to, projects eligible for Safe Routes to School Program funding.

e) Ensure that disadvantaged communities fully share in the benefits of the program.

f) Provide a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of active transportation users. (Streets and Highways (SHC) §2380)

2) Requires CTC to ensure that eligible projects meet one or more of the above goals and authorizes it to give increased weight to projects meeting multiple goals. (SHC §2382)

3) Requires CTC to develop ATP guidelines and project selection criteria in consultation with an ATP Workgroup; the guidelines must include topics like project eligibility, application timelines, application rating and ranking criteria, project monitoring, reporting, and transparency, and project performance measurement. (SHC §2382)

4) Requires the guidelines to ensure that no less than 25% of overall program funds benefit disadvantaged communities during each program cycle. (SHC §2382)

5) Requires CTC to include, but not be limited by, the following project types in its project eligibility guidelines:

a) Development of new bikeways and walkways, or improvements to existing bikeways and walkways, that improve mobility, access, or safety for nonmotorized users.

b) Secure bicycle parking at employment centers, park and ride lots, rail and transit stations, and ferry docks and landings.

c) Bicycle-carrying facilities on public transit, including rail and ferries.

d) Installation of traffic control devices to improve the safety of pedestrians and bicyclists.

e) Elimination of hazardous conditions on existing bikeways and walkways.

f) Maintenance of bikeways and walkways.

g) Recreational trails and trailheads, park projects that facilitate trail linkages or connectivity to nonmotorized corridors, and conversion of abandoned railroad corridors to trails.

h) Safe Routes to School projects that improve the safety of children walking and bicycling to school.

i) Safe routes to transit projects, which encourage transit by improving biking and walking routes to mass transportation facilities and school bus stops.

j) Educational programs to increase biking and walking, and other noninfrastructure investments that demonstrate effectiveness in increasing active transportation. (SHC §2382)

6) Requires CTC to include, but not be limited by, the following criteria in project selection guidelines:

a) Demonstrated needs of the applicant.

b) Potential for reducing pedestrian and bicyclist injuries and fatalities.

c) Potential for encouraging increased walking and bicycling, especially among students.

d) Potential for encouraging increased access to public transit.

e) Identification of safety hazards for pedestrians and bicyclists.

f) Identification of walking and bicycling routes to and from schools, transit facilities, stops and stations, and community centers.

g) Identification of the local public participation process that culminated in the project proposal, which may include noticed public meetings and consultation with local stakeholders.

h) Benefits to disadvantaged communities.

i) Cost-effectiveness, defined as maximizing the impact of the funds provided.

j) The adoption by a city or county applicant of a bicycle transportation plan, a pedestrian plan, a safe routes to school plan, or an overall active transportation plan.

k) Use of the California Conservation Corps or a qualified community conservation corps as construction partners.

l) Other factors, such as potential for reducing congestion, improving air quality, reducing greenhouse gas emissions, and increasing and improving connectivity and mobility of nonmotorized users.

This bill:

1) Expands the goals of ATP to include increasing the proportion of trips accomplished by accessing public transit stops, stations, and other transit facilities.

2) On or after January 1, 2028, this bill:

a) For the purposes of the development of ATP project eligibility guidelines, revises and expands the definition of "safe routes to transit," to include projects that encourage access to transit station areas, planned transit or school bus stops, transit corridors, and transit-oriented development planning areas, and projects that will expand access to transit in underserved or rural areas.

b) Adds the potential for encouraging increased access to public transit to the project selection criteria CTC must consider in the development of ATP guidelines.

c) Requires, instead of authorizes, ATP guidelines to include incentives intended to maximize the potential for attracting funds other than program

funds for eligible projects in order to scale funding for larger or network level active transportation improvements.

d) Requires ATP project selection guidelines to include a progressive range of penalties that range from a deduction of points to disqualification for an ATP applicant that failed to use previously received program funds in a timely manner. Specifies that CTC must take into consideration factors that are not under the control of an applicant and may impose no penalties or delayed penalties.

e) Specifies that ATP project selection guidelines must include a requirement that an applicant consult the executive officer of the transit agency operating in the project corridor if the project will be adjacent to an existing bus, shuttle, or paratransit route. The consultation must provide project information, expected impact on the transit route, and a statement that the applicant will continue consultation with the transit agency should the grant be awarded.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "AB 2168 makes a series of modest, commonsense improvements to ensure California's Active Transportation Program funds are spent effectively and efficiently. It modernizes the definition of safe routes to transit, shifting focus toward transit-rich corridors, infill opportunity areas, station walksheds, and underserved or rural areas — places where active transportation investments provide the deepest community benefits, giving people the option to potentially not drive at all. It adds transit access as an explicit project selection criterion, aligning with California's broader climate and housing goals. It directs the state to provide recommendations to maximize complimentary commitments of state transportation improvement program (STIP) funds to scale funding for larger or network-level active transportation improvements. And it establishes a graduated penalty structure for grantees who fail to spend funds on time, helping ensure that awarded dollars move from paper to pavement without delay."

2) *ATP Background.* The Active Transportation Program was created by SB 99 (Senate Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 359, Statutes of 2013) to encourage increased use of active modes of transportation. Administered by CTC, the goals of ATP include increasing the proportion of

trips accomplished by walking and biking, increasing the safety and mobility of non-motorized users, advancing efforts of regional agencies to achieve greenhouse gas reduction goals, enhancing public health, and providing a broad spectrum of projects to benefit many types of users including disadvantaged communities. In 2017, the Legislature passed and the Governor signed SB 1 (Beall, Chapter 5, Statutes of 2017) which directed $100 million annually from the Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Account to ATP, significantly augmenting the available funding for this popular program.

3) *ATP is highly competitive.* CTC has programmed $3.9 billion to over 1,200 ATP projects statewide over the course of seven programming cycles. However, ATP remains significantly oversubscribed as the demand for active transportation projects far outpaces the available funds. The 2025 ATP had a funding capacity of $168.7 million, one of the lowest in the history of the program, and funded nine projects in its statewide component, compared to 67 projects funded in the previous cycle. This was due to the $400 million reduction to the program in the 2024-25 State Budget. CTC received 277 applications requesting $2.5 billion for projects valued at $4.1 billion, almost 15 times greater than the 2025 Program's funding capacity.[1]

4) *Funding safe routes to transit.* AB 2168 makes numerous changes to ATP statute to promote projects with links to transit. Among these changes, this bill adds increasing access to public transit stops, stations, and other transit facilities to the overarching goals of ATP. Although transit access is not specifically listed in ATP's current overarching goals, safe routes to transit projects are currently eligible for ATP funding. These projects encourage transit by improving biking and walking routes to mass transportation facilities and school bus stops. This bill modifies the definition of safe routes to transit to include planned transit or school bus stops, transit corridors, transit-oriented development planning areas, and projects that will expand access to transit in underserved or rural areas. CTC currently considers ATP applicants' connectivity to key destinations, including connections to transit. AB 2168 clarifies this existing requirement by adding additional specificity related to transit stops, stations, and access. It is not clear to what extent the modifications will actually change which projects are eligible, and eventually selected, for ATP funding.

5) *Penalties for delayed projects.* In response to concerns that a small number of recipients of ATP funding have not used the funds in a timely manner, this bill

[1] California Transportation Commission, *2025 Annual report* ***2025 Annual Report to the California Legislature***

directs CTC to develop a progressive range of penalties to penalize recipients for these delays. The penalties would need to range from a deduction of points to disqualification for an applicant. CTC must consider factors that are not under the control of an applicant and would have the flexibility to choose not to impose penalties if appropriate.

This provision builds off CTC's current practice. The Commission currently monitors projects funded through ATP to track the progress of project delivery. CTC expects certain deadlines to be met as programmed projects are implemented. If the expected deadlines are not met and a time extension is not approved prior to the expiration of a deadline, ATP funds will lapse, and the project or project phase will be deleted from ATP. Lapsed funds are returned to ATP for use in future cycles. For example, construction contracts must be awarded within six months of an approved allocation. CTC grants extensions for a range of circumstances that could delay a project, such as wildfires.[2]

Writing in support, the California Big City Mayors Coalition states, "[t]he coalition also supports the bill's accountability provisions, which create clearer expectations and potential consequences for projects that do not use awarded funds in a timely manner. These provisions help ensure limited and competitive transportation dollars are used efficiently and that high-impact projects are delivered without unnecessary delays."

6) *Other changes to ATP.* AB 2168 makes additional, largely clarifying, changes to ATP's eligibility criteria and project selection guidelines. Among these changes, this bill seeks to reward applicants that use other sources of funding to scale funding for larger or network level active transportation improvements. Currently, CTC can (and does) incentivize applicants to maximize ATP funding by utilizing funding from other sources for the projects, too. This bill requires CTC to continue this practice. This bill also includes requirements that a project applicant consult the executive officer of the transit agency operating in the project corridor if the project will be adjacent to an existing bus, shuttle, or paratransit route.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

350 Bay Area Action
350 Sacramento

[2] **2027 Active Transportation Program Guidelines**

Activesgv
Alameda-contra Costa Transit District
Albany Strollers & Rollers
Big City Mayors
Bike Coalition San Diego County
Bike Concord
Bike East Bay
Bike LA
Bike Monterey
Bike Walk Alameda
Bike Walnut Creek
Bikewalkcv (Castro Valley)
California Bicycle Coalition
California Big City Mayors Coalition
California Teachers Association
Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice
Chico Velo
Cleanearth4kids.org
Climate Plan
Coalition for Clean Air
Ecology Action
El Cerrito Richmond Annex Walk & Roll
Inland Empire Biking Alliance
Los Angeles Critical Mass
Marin County Bicycle Coalition
Monterey-Salinas Transit
Move LA
Move Santa Barbara County
Napa County Bicycle Coalition
Nrdc
People for Bikes
Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates
San Diego 350
San Francisco Bicycle Coalition
Santa Monica Safe Streets Alliance
Santa Monica Spoke
Shasta Living Streets
Silicon Valley Bicycle Coalition
Slow Down Sacramento
Streets for All

Streets Forward
Sunnyvale Safe Streets
Transbay Coalition
Transform
Vibrant Lafayette
Walk Bike Berkeley
Zerow.org

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

County of Shasta

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Bicycle Coalition, "AB 2168 makes critical updates to ensure that ATP investments more effectively increase access to public transit, particularly in transit-rich and infill areas. By prioritizing projects that improve walking and bicycling connections to transit, this bill helps reduce greenhouse gas emissions, supports California's climate goals, and promotes healthier, more sustainable communities.

"Additionally, the bill enhances accountability by introducing clearer expectations and potential consequences for projects that do not use awarded funds in a timely manner. This ensures that limited transportation dollars are used efficiently and that high-impact projects are delivered without unnecessary delays."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to Shasta County, "The bill's requirement for the California Transportation Commission to impose a progressive range pf penalties on applicants who fail to use previously awarded ATP funds in a timely manner also presents a substantial challenge for rural jurisdictions. Delays in project delivery often arise from outside factors, including right-of-way constraints, environmental review timelines, contractor availability, and escalating construction costs. Penalizing agencies risks further disadvantaging communities already struggling wo secure competitive grants."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 58-20, 5/28/26
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, Ramos, Ransom, 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, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Isabelle LaSalle / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:30

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2181
Author: Zbur (D), et al.
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Housing development: density bonuses: rent

SOURCE: Unite Here International Union, Afl-cio
Unite Here Local 11

DIGEST: This bill prohibits land improved with an operating hotel or motel from being valued for purposes of establishing, adjusting, or resetting ground rent under an existing lease, based on residential density or density bonuses, unless those density bonuses are entitled and vested as of the valuation date, including the issuance of all required discretionary land use approvals and permits.

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 — defined as "five or more 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 households;

b) 5% of the total units of a housing development for very low-income households;

c) A senior citizen housing development or mobile home park;

d) 10% of the 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 a city or county to allow an increase in density on a sliding scale from 20% to 80%, depending on the percentage of units affordable to low- and very low-income households, over the otherwise maximum allowable residential density under the applicable zoning ordinance and land use element of the general plan. Requires the increase in density on a sliding scale for moderate-income for-sale developments from 5% to 50% over the otherwise allowable residential density.

This bill:

1) Prohibits land improved with an operating hotel or motel shall not be valued by the landowner, for purposes of establishing, adjusting, or resetting ground rent under an existing lease, based on residential density or density bonuses, unless those density increases are entitled and vested as of the valuation date, including the issuance of all required discretionary land use approvals and permits.

2) Provides that this bill shall not be construed to alter the requirements for obtaining a density bonus under DBL.

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 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

Author's statement. "California's hospitality industry is one of the state's largest employers, supporting good paying union jobs and contributing to our local communities. AB 2181 protects those jobs by addressing an unintended consequence of California's density bonus law, which was enacted to incentivize

the development of more affordable housing. Current law creates uncertainty during ground lease appraisals by allowing property owners to utilize density bonuses that hypothetically may be available to a property to inflate the land value when ground lease rents are reset. This speculation can artificially inflate land valuations, dramatically inflate ground lease payments, and threaten the economic viability of existing hotels and dependent hospitality jobs. When operating costs increase because of speculative appraisals rather than real market conditions, hospitality workers whose livelihoods depend on these businesses are harmed. AB 2181 simply clarifies that hypothetical density bonuses cannot be used to value operating hotels for ground lease resets unless those development rights have actually been approved and vested. It preserves the intent of California's density bonus law, ensures fair and predictable property valuations, and helps protect California hotels and the thousands of hospitality jobs they support."

Hotel and motel leases. Hotels and motels may be subject to ground lease arrangements with a landowner under a long-term agreement, that include options for construction or improvements to the property. According to the sponsors, ownership of the improvements reverts to the landowner at the end of the lease. Ground leases can last 50 to 99 years, with periodic rent reset adjustments, but the landowners and the hotel operators often renegotiate the terms and rents in the leases periodically (usually every five to seven years). During this time, the landowners and hotel operators may utilize appraisers to value the property, and those valuations inform the creation or increases in rents.

According to the sponsors, it unclear whether appraisers can consider the value of density bonuses and other benefits in their land valuations, even when the benefits are hypothetically available to the land owner. In other words, if the land is zoned to allow for multifamily developments and meets the threshold requirements for utilizing DBL, could the mere fact that the site is *eligible* for DBL benefits factor into a land valuation, even if the landowner has no plans to construct a housing project using DBL?

This issue arose with a hotel in Santa Monica; in that case, an appraisal accounted for potential density bonus benefits, which resulted in significantly higher lease reset rates for a hotel operator. The landowner, as part of their five-year rent reset in 2020, hired an appraiser to assess the fair market value of the land. The appraiser asserted that due to the potential for DBL to apply to the land, the fair market value of the land should be increased, which resulted in a 77% increase in the assessed rent from the prior five-year reset. The increased rental price continues to create ongoing risk to the viability of the hotel, putting 100 UNITE HERE Local 11 workers jobs at risk.

While it's not clear that this is happening elsewhere, replication of this practice could be devastating for hotel operators that are locked into long-term ground leases and put hotels at risk of shuttering.

Curb your enthusiasm. This bill takes a targeted approach to specify that in instances in which a hotel or motel operator has a ground lease with a landowner, and the landowner is not actively seeking to construct a housing project utilizing the benefits conferred by DBL, an appraisal of the land for purposes of establishing or adjusting the rent may not take into account the potential benefits of DBL. This bill allows DBL to be factored in, however, when a landowner has taken steps to develop a housing project; specifically, the landowner must have been issued the permits for the DBL project.

According to the author, this bill is intended to be a narrowly focused effort to ensure that appraisals of ground leases specifically for hotels and motels reflect realistic land values, rather than speculative potential and protect businesses with ground leases from artificially inflated lease reset values.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/15/26)

Unite Here International Union, Afl-cio (co-source)
Unite Here Local 11 (co-source)
California Federation of Labor Unions, Afl-cio

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/15/26)

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

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8/3/26 17:24:33

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2188
Author: Pellerin (D), et al.
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-1, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Regional park and open-space districts: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

SOURCE: Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District

DIGEST: This bill allows the general manager of the Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) to bind the district for the payment of equipment, supplies, materials, labor, or other value consideration for any purpose without advertising in amounts not exceeding $72,000.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows the general manager of a regional park and open space district (RPOSD), with the approval of its board, to bind the district, in accordance with board policy that has been adopted in an open meeting, and without advertising, for the payment for supplies, materials, labor, or other valuable consideration for any purpose, including new construction of a building, structure, or improvement, in amounts not exceeding $50,000. All expenditures shall be reported to the board of directors at its next regular meeting.

2) Allows a RPOSD, by action of the board in an open meeting, to increase the amount by which the general manager may bind the district above the $50,000 limit established pursuant to 1), above. Such an increase shall not exceed an

amount equal to 2%, for each fiscal year following the operative date of the last adjustment, of the amount in effect when the board's action is adopted.

3) Allows, in a RPOSD with a population of 200,000 or more, and with the approval of the board, the general manager to bind the district, in accordance with board policy that has been adopted in an open meeting, for the payment for equipment, supplies, and materials for any purpose, including new construction of a building, structure, or improvement, excluding labor and services, when the annual aggregate cost does not exceed $150,000.

4) Specifies that 2), above, applies only to the procurement of tangible equipment, supplies, and materials and shall not be interpreted to authorize the general manager to bind the district for labor or services, in an amount not exceeding $150,000, that are customarily or historically performed by district employees.

This bill:

1) Allows the general manager of Midpen, with the approval of the board, to bind the district, in accordance to board policy adopted at an open meeting, for the payment of equipment, supplies, materials, labor, or other valuable consideration for any purpose, including new construction of a building, structure, or improvement, in amounts not exceeding $72,000.

2) Requires that all expenditures must be reported to the board of directors at its next regular meeting.

3) Requires, if the board delegates authority in the manner specified in 1), above, for a contract for the construction, completion, maintenance, or repair of any building, structure, or improvement, the decision by Midpen's general manager shall be binding on the district. Nothing in this provision invalidates any existing protest and grievance procedures regarding that decision.

4) Allows Midpen, by action of the board in an open meeting, to increase the amount by which the general manager may bind the district above the $72,000 limit. The increase must not exceed an amount equal to 2% for each fiscal year following the operative date of the last adjustment.

5) Provides that if the estimate amount of a contract exceeds $50,000, the district must solicit a minimum of three informal bids that permit prices and other terms to be compared. The district must award the contract to the lowest responsible bidder or the district can reject all bids and resolicit new bids to perform the work by force account. All solicitations and results must be memorialized in writing and all awarded contracts must be included in the report to the board.

6) Sunsets on January 1, 2032.

Background

Regional park and open space districts. The Legislature first authorized the creation of regional park districts in 1933 for the purpose of acquiring improving, and maintaining parks, playgrounds, beaches, parkways, scenic drives, boulevards, and other facilities for public recreation (AB 1114, Roland). State law governs the formation, powers, and governance, of regional park and open space districts. The principal act for these districts allows them to acquire and preserve regional greenbelts of open space land, as well as protect and restore the natural environment. Regional park and open space districts can be governed by a directly-elected board, or the county supervisors, or a board appointed by the county board of supervisors.

Regional parks and open space can acquire and preserve regional open space land, protect and restore the natural environment, and provide opportunities for ecologically sensitive public enjoyment and education. To provide these services, districts can use special taxes, benefit assessments, and general obligation bonds to acquire property by purchase or eminent domain.

Some regional park and open space districts are independent special districts, meaning they are a separate autonomous form of government outside of the control of the city or county, and have their own directly-elected boards of directors with fixed terms. Other special districts are dependent special districts, meaning the relevant governing body serves as the district's board of directors, and the district acts more like a county or city department.

Contracting. Regional park and open space districts must advertise contracts for supplies, materials, labor, and construction and award them to the lowest responsible bidder. With the board of directors' approval, a district's general manager can award smaller jobs without advertising and without written contracts. The manager must report this spending at the board's next regular meeting.

When the Legislature created open space districts in 1933, the threshold for advertising bids was $500. In 2014, the Legislature approved an increase to nearly to all open space districts can spend up to $25,000 for non-construction supplies, materials, and labor, and up to $25,000 on new construction projects without going through a formal bidding process (AB 745, Levine, Chapter 42, Statutes of 2014). Then in 2015, AB 495 (Gordon, Chapter 149, Statutes of 2015) allowed East Bay Regional Park District and Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen)

to sign contracts for any purpose of up to $50,000 without bidding. In addition to requiring board approval, AB 495 also required the district's general manager to report any expenditures in this manner to the board. The Legislature subsequently increased the bid threshold to $50,000 for an additional open space district in 2016: the Sonoma County Agricultural Preservation and Open Space District. Then in 2018, the Legislature approved AB 2137 (Mayes, Chapter 278, Statutes of 2018) which allowed all regional park districts to raise their threshold to $50,000 and included automatic adjustments to reflect increases in construction costs up to 2% each fiscal year.

AB 769 (Wilson, 2025). AB 769 (Wilson, Chapter 166, Statutes of 2025) made many changes to the Regional Park and Open Space Districts act including allowing the general manager of any regional park and open space district with a population of 200,000 or more to bind the district for the payment for equipment, supplies, and materials for any purpose, including new construction of a building, structure, or improvement, when the annual aggregate cost does not exceed $150,000. This authorization required board approval and was required to be in in accordance with board policy adopted in an open meeting. AB 769 contained language specifying that its delegated authority explicitly excluded labor and services, and that the bill applied to tangible equipment, supplies, and materials. This provision applies to East Bay Regional Park District and Midpen only.

Midpen. Midpen has permanently preserved nearly 62,000 acres of mountainous, foothill, and bay land open space, creating 26 open space preserves (24 of which are open to the public). Midpen covers an area of 550 square miles and includes 17 cities, covering parts of Santa Clara County, San Mateo County, and a small portion of Santa Cruz County. In June 2014, more than 2/3 of the district's voters approved a $300 million general obligation bond measure. Proceeds from bonds, which will be sold in a series over approximately the next 20-30 years, will be used to protect natural open space lands, open preserves or areas of preserves that are currently closed, construct public access improvements such as new trails and staging areas, and restore and enhance open space land, which includes forests, streams, watersheds, and coastal ranch areas.

Comments

According to the author, "The Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Midpen) protects more than 73,000 acres of mountainous, foothill, and bayland open space across 27 preserves, featuring more than 265 miles of trails making it an integral conservation district in the bay area. Caring and protecting this beautiful region is expensive, both because of complexity of the projects and the

vastness of the area. Under current law, the General Manager is not allowed to enter into contracts valued at more than $50,000 without board approval. The requirement for board approval for these contracts that revolve around specialized professional services and maintenance of infrastructure and vegetation can often delay the projects by several weeks to over a year. AB 2188 increases the cap that the Midpen General Manager is able to enter into before needing to obtain board approval, ensuring timely completion of projects that protect, preserve, and maintain Midpen's ecosystem."

Accountability and efficiency. State law regulating local contracting attempts to balance the goals of accountability and efficiency. Accountability asks public officials to spend the public's money in full view, inviting bids and awarding contracts to the lowest possible bidder is an effective method of ensuring transparency for the expenditures of public funds. At the same time, requiring formal bidding for smaller contracts can delay projects, increase administrative costs, and divert staff resources from other work. Delegating authority to the general manager to procure lower cost goods and services without a formal bidding process allows districts to respond more quickly to operational needs and make more efficient use of public resources. While increasing the limits on the amount for which districts may contract allows for greater efficiency in local government spending, it may also result in a loss of accountability and transparency on the use of public funds.

Next in line. Last year, AB 769 increased the equipment, supplies, and materials contract bid threshold for two park and open space districts: East Bay Regional Park District and Midpen. While AB 769 established an annual aggregate threshold of $150,000, it also provided additional flexibility for the district's general manager to expediate the procurement of equipment, supplies and materials. However, the last time the general authority was increased for all parks and open space districts was in 2015, when the threshold was raised to $50,000. Although existing law authorizes the district to increase this amount by up to 2% annually, that adjustment mechanism has not kept pace with inflationary increases in costs over time. This bill adjusts the bid threshold to reflect current CPI adjustment for Midpen, not subject to the annual cap under AB 769. This bill raises the issue as to whether there are other park and open space districts facing similar comparable purchasing and procurement challenges that may benefit from similar authority.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/25/26)

Midpeninsula Regional Open Space District (Source)
California Association of Recreation & Park Districts
California Special Districts Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/25/26)

Mrosd Field Employees Association

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-1, 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, 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
NOES: DeMaio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/3/26 17:24:34

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2194
Author: Valencia (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Medi-Cal: special commissions

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill staggers the terms of members of the Orange County Health Authority's governing board and requires the board to authorize and pay for an independent external audit of its governance procedures and practice.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Medi-Cal program, administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), under which low-income individuals are eligible for medical coverage. [Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §14000, et seq.]

2) Authorizes a county board of supervisors, by ordinance, to establish a commission to negotiate an exclusive contract with the California Department

of Health Care Services (DHCS) to provide, or arrange for the provision of, health care services under the Medi-Cal program. This system of services provided by or through a county is known as a county organized health system (COHS). Requires the enabling ordinance to, among other things, specify the membership of the county commission, the qualifications for individual members, the manner of appointment, and how long they will serve. [WIC §14087.54]

3) Establishes a 10-member governing board ("the board") for the County of Orange's COHS, The Orange County Health Authority (CalOptima), nine of whom are voting members nominated by the Orange County Health Care Agency and appointed by a majority vote of the Orange County Board of Supervisors. The tenth non-voting member is the Director of the Orange County Health Care Agency. Specifies the requirements for board composition:
   a) Two members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, with one additional member of the Orange County Board of Supervisors serving as an alternate;
   b) One current or former hospital administrator;
   c) One representative of a community clinic;
   d) One member of the public, who is a legal resident of Orange County;
   e) One practicing licensed medical provider who is not an owner, officer, or member of the board of directors of a contracted independent physician's association or provider network;
   f) One current CalOptima member or a family member of a current CalOptima member;
   g) One accounting or public finance professional, or an attorney who is an active member of the State Bar; and,
   h) One practicing licensed physician who is a representative of the board of directors of a contracted independent physician's association or provider network. [WIC §14087.59]

4) Requires the Orange County Board of Supervisors to consult with stakeholders to identify qualified individuals, residing or employed in Orange County, to be considered as members of the CalOptima board. Requires the CalOptima board to generally be representative of the diverse backgrounds, interests, and demography of persons residing in the County, and to have a commitment to a health care system that seeks to deliver and improve access to high-quality care and is financially viable. [WIC §14087.59]

5) Requires CalOptima board members to serve four-year terms, except for those who are members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, who serve a one-year term. Prohibits a CalOptima board member who is a member of the Orange County Board of Supervisors from being appointed to serve a four-year term immediately following the expiration of their one-year term. Prohibits members serving four-year terms from being appointed to serve more than two consecutive terms. [WIC §14087.59]

This bill:

1) Requires the following members of the CalOptima board who serve a term beginning prior to January 1, 2027 to serve a two-year term, before serving a four-year term subject to term limits:
   a) A representative of a community clinic;
   b) A practicing licensed medical provider who is not an owner, officer, or member of the board of directors of a contracted independent physician's association or provider network; and
   c) An accounting or public finance professional or attorney.

2) Requires CalOptima board members appointed to fill the unexpired term of a vacant seat to serve an initial term that corresponds to the unexpired term of the vacant seat. Requires a vacancy in the last 90 days of a term to remain unfilled until the expiration of the term.

3) Deletes the exemption from the two consecutive term limit for CalOptima board members who are members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors, and deletes the prohibition against appointing CalOptima board members who are members of the Orange County Board of Supervisors to a four-year term within 12 months of the expiration of their one-year term.

4) Requires the CalOptima board to authorize and pay for an independent external audit of CalOptima's governance procedures and practices by an independent entity with demonstrated expertise in health care governance, board oversight, and managed care operations. Requires this entity to be announced at a CalOptima board meeting and requires that there be an opportunity for interested stakeholders to submit input to the entity to review particular actions.

5) Requires the independent external audit to evaluate, at a minimum:
   a) CalOptima's conflict-of-interest policies and procedures;

b) The roles and responsibilities of the governing body, executive leadership, and staff;
c) CalOptima's policies and practices governing contracting, procurement, and vendor selection;
d) CalOptima's policy for nominating members to the governing body;
e) CalOptima executive leadership's and staff's ability to independently conduct contracting and procurement functions consistent with the governing body's oversight role; and
f) Recommendations to strengthen governance practices, accountability, transparency, and appropriate oversight.

6) Requires the auditing entity to interview CalOptima staff and provide anonymous opportunities to share feedback.

7) Requires the audit to be completed and the audit report submitted to the Legislature and DHCS by July 1, 2027.

8) Requires the CalOptima board to review the findings and recommendations of the independent external audit and develop a corrective action plan, as appropriate, to address any identified deficiencies. Requires that the audit report and any corrective action plan be made available to the public.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> CalOptima is Orange County's county organized health system serving nearly one million residents, including low-income children, adults, seniors, and people with disabilities. Currently, all seven four-year board member terms expire at the same time, leading to sudden mass turnover and loss of institutional knowledge. This bill staggers these terms so that seats expire on a rolling basis, preserving experience and continuity through any transition. Further, this bill requires an external audit of CalOptima's policies, bylaws, and board actions to ensure they are acting in the best interests of Medi-Cal patients and are not led by a single member to benefit special interests. The recommendations that will ultimately come from the audit will only help to improve services for our families, seniors and children. Through these changes, this bill aims to ensure that every dollar CalOptima manages delivers full value for its members.

COHS. According to DHCS, a COHS is one of the five main models of Medi-Cal managed care plans. Under the COHS model, DHCS contracts with a managed care plan run by a county government entity, which is the sole Medi-Cal managed care plan operating in the county. COHS are generally exempt from many federal managed care organization requirements, including plan choice, and are exempt from state Knox-Keene Act licensure requirements. California COHS include CalOptima Health (Orange County), Health Plan of San Mateo (San Mateo County), Gold Coast Health Plan (Ventura County), CenCal Health (San Louis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties), Central California Alliance for Health (Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, and Santa Cruz Counties), and the Partnership Health Plan of California, which operates across 24 Northern California counties. To establish a COHS, a county's Board of Supervisors establishes, by ordinance, a commission to negotiate a COHS contract with DHCS. The commission serves as an independent oversight entity for the delivery of Medi-Cal managed care services in that county. COHS commissions are often comprised of representatives from county administration, health care facilities, providers, and plan members. Most COHS' governing ordinances do not explicitly require staggered terms.

CalOptima. CalOptima is the COHS offered to residents of Orange County, which was established in 1993 and has been enrolling residents since 1995. According to CalOptima, 841,313 people are enrolled as of March 31, 2026 — nearly one in three Orange County residents. CalOptima offers insurance to low-income individuals and families, seniors, and adults with disabilities through Medi-Cal, OneCare (a Medicare Advantage plan for those dually-eligible for Medicare and Medi-Cal), and the Program of All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE, a Medi-Cal/Medicare program that offers a range of health and social services that help seniors live independently), with a majority of enrollees on the Medi-Cal plan. As of April 23, 2026, CalOptima has a contracted network of 1,299 primary care providers, 8,265 specialists, 43 acute and rehabilitation hospitals, 73 community health centers, 247 long-term care facilities, and 499 pharmacies. CalOptima is also preparing to launch a plan through Covered California in January of 2027 to help maintain continuity of care for those transitioning out of Medi-Cal. CalOptima's Medi-Cal plan is accredited by the National Committee for Quality Assurance for their use of standardized data collection and measurement to understand health needs and address disparities, and the CalOptima PACE plan received a 94% satisfaction rating among enrollees in 2023—the second-highest score among all PACE programs in the state.

CalOptima's governance concerns. Controversies surrounding the governance and administration of CalOptima over the past fifteen years have resulted in the state codifying the composition and appointment structure of CalOptima's board of directors. In 2011, the Orange County Board of Supervisors amended the county ordinance governing CalOptima to extend the term of the member from the Board of Supervisors, reduce the number of consumers, and increase the number of providers on the board. The *Voice of OC* reported that within fifteen months of the reorganization, sixteen senior executives left CalOptima. In 2017, Supervisor Andrew Do sought to expand county administrators' representation on the CalOptima board by proposing the board be restructured to include all five supervisors and two county agency heads, according to reporting in the *Voice of OC*. However, the Legislature blocked the effort through SB 4 (Mendoza, Chapter 479, Statutes of 2017), which codified the board's composition as it existed in 2016. Concerns about CalOptima's governance resurfaced in 2021-2022 when local media reported that the CalOptima Chair, Supervisor Do, hired a former aide into a new high-ranking executive role, instituted large pay raises for executive staff without public discussion, and purged CalOptima's in-house legal counsel. A 2023 state audit of CalOptima found that CalOptima retained more in funds from intergovernmental transfers than other managed care plans, accumulated an excessive surplus of funds without a clear plan for spending it, and engaged in irregular hiring practices for executive positions. AB 498 (Quirk-Silva, Chapter 430, Statutes of 2022) was intended to provide key guardrails to protect against further politicization of CalOptima by making permanent the SB 4 changes and implementing conflict of interest provisions.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/2026)

Orange County Employees Association
Woundwalk.org

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/2026)

City of Santa Ana, Councilmember Jessie Lopez

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Woundwalk.org supports this version of the bill, which they say brings an additional layer of accountability and transparency to the Orange County Supervisors and the CalOptima Health Board of Directors. The Orange County Employees Association's support is for a previous version of the bill.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The City of Santa Ana's Councilmember Jessie Lopez's opposition is to a previous version of the bill.

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

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8/5/26 15:04:31

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2200
Author: Hart (D)
Amended: 4/13/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENERGY, U. & C. COMMITTEE: 17-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Allen, Ochoa Bogh, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Caballero, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grove, Hurtado, McNerney, Reyes, Richardson, Stern, Strickland, Wahab

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Controlled environment horticulture space: thermal curtains

SOURCE: Windset Farms

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Building Standards Commission (CBSC) to adopt a standard developed by the California Energy Commission (CEC) to allow certain indoor agriculture buildings and air-conditioned greenhouses to use alternative technologies instead of using double-paned glass windows.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the CEC's authority to create regulations for building efficiency standards. Existing law requires the CEC to create cost-effective regulations for lighting, insulation, climate control systems, and other building design and construction standards that increase energy and water efficiency for new residential and new nonresidential buildings. Local governments may not issue

permits for construction and installation projects that fail to comply with the CEC's certified efficiency standards. (Public Resources Code §25402)

2) Requires the CEC's building water and energy efficiency standards to be cost effective for the economic life of the building when compared to historic practice. When determining a standard's cost effectiveness, the CEC must consider the value of the water or energy saved, impact on product performance for consumers, and the life-cycle cost of the standard. Existing law also requires the CEC to consider a standard's impact on housing costs, the total statewide costs and benefits of the standard over its lifetime, the economic impact on California businesses, and alternative approaches and costs. (Public Resources Code §25402)

This bill:

1) Defines a "controlled environment horticulture space" as a building space dedicated to plant production using environmental controls, including electric lighting, irrigation, heating, cooling, or dehumidification.

2) Requires the CBSC to adopt standards developed by the CEC in the next triennial building code requirements, allowing controlled environment horticulture (CEH) spaces or conditioned greenhouses to use alternative technologies, such as thermal curtains, thermal screens, shade cloths, or equivalent technologies, in lieu of the requirements for double-paned glass windows.

3) Specifies that a CEH space that uses single-paned glass windows and either thermal curtains, thermal screens, shade cloths, or equivalent technologies shall be considered compliant under the energy code if the CEC finds that these technologies are at least as efficient as technologies used under existing regulations.

Background

CEC's Title 24 Building Energy Efficiency Standards. Existing law establishes the CEC's authority to adopt cost-effective building and appliance standards to promote the conservation of energy and water. Title 20 of the California Code of Regulations includes the CEC's appliance standards. Title 24 includes the CEC's building energy efficiency standards. While the CEC develops the building energy efficiency standards, the CBSC is responsible for adopting all building standards,

including Title 24 energy efficiency standards. Local governments are responsible for enforcing building standards through building inspections. Building energy efficiency standards are developed and adopted for a three-year period and apply at the time of construction. While some standards are mandatory, others are less proscriptive.

Bill primarily addresses energy code compliance needs for one farm but may benefit others. This bill addresses barriers that greenhouse farms may face when developing new facilities that use certain technologies that do not currently comply with existing energy code for CEH spaces. As part of the 2022 edition of the building energy efficiency standards, the CEC adopted a definition of a CEH space, which applies to agricultural productions that occur indoors, including in greenhouses. Among other requirements, the CEC's efficiency standards for CEH spaces specified that the building envelope of an air-conditioned CEH must be either 1) an opaque wall or roof or 2) a double-glazed window that uses air or gas as insulation between the panels. These existing requirements do not enable a greenhouse farm that uses other technologies, including single paned windows paired with thermal screens or more advanced temperature and environmental control systems to use these alternative technologies to meet energy code requirements.

Energy code requirements are prospective and do not apply retroactively to existing facilities; as a result, some farms that pre-date the CEC's rules for CEH spaces are already operating greenhouses that do not use double-paned windows for insulation. While the CEC's energy code requirements do not impact these existing structures, they can prevent farms that use alternative technologies as part of their operations from expanding or building new facilities that also match their existing production processes.

At least one in-state agricultural producer, Windset Farms, uses alternative insulation technologies as part of its greenhouse vegetable farming. Windset Farms is based in Santa Maria, California, and operates the largest greenhouse vegetable farm in the state. Windset Farms greenhouses currently use single-paned glass with retractable thermal curtains along with environmental control systems developed by KUBO, a Netherlands-based manufacturer of advanced technology greenhouses. Windset established much of its existing agricultural production prior to the CEC's adoption of CEH energy code requirements. However, the company in the process of expanding its greenhouses to include an additional 97 acres of greenhouse space adjacent to its existing facilities. Existing CEC standards for CEH spaces would limit Windset's ability to use its existing KUBO-designed

advanced greenhouses for its expansion. This bill would enable Windset to continue using its existing greenhouse technology as part of its expansion and would enable other farms to establish new greenhouses using similar alternative climate and insulation technologies.

Prior/Related Legislation

SB 48 (Becker, Chapter 378, Statutes of 2023) required the CEC, along with other agencies, to develop a state strategy to achieve state goals for energy and greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) from existing buildings, as specified.

SB 795 (Stern, 2023) would have required the CEC to develop and implement an electronic statewide heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) equipment sales registry and compliance tracking system. It also would have required the CEC to develop an electronic statewide compliance documentation data repository for HVAC equipment and lighting controls. The bill was held by the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 1477 (Stern, Chapter 378, Statutes of 2018) required the CEC to develop a statewide market transformation initiative to transform the state's market for low-emission space and water heating equipment for new and existing residential and nonresidential buildings and to develop an incentive program to fund near-zero emission technology for new residential and commercial buildings.

AB 3232 (Friedman, Chapter 373, Statutes of 2018) required the CEC to assess the potential for the state to achieve the goal of reducing the emissions of GHGs by the state's residential and commercial building stock by at least 40% below 1990 levels by January 1, 2030.

AB 802 (Williams, Chapter 590, Statutes of 2015), among its provisions, established the energy use "benchmarking" and disclosure program at the CEC for existing buildings.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Windset Farms (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author:

> AB 2200 will give food producers flexibility in meeting energy efficiency standards in ways that are tailored to local conditions and specific crop needs, helping keep costs down and produce more affordable. Current energy regulations require double-paned windows for new agricultural greenhouses to improve energy efficiency. Many greenhouse systems, however, rely on the temperate climate and extensive sunlight found in much of California. Single-paned windows with curtain systems provide the necessary sunlight into these greenhouses and give growers the ability to adjust to changing conditions for optimal crop growth and yield. AB 2200 helps support innovative greenhouses, bolster crop production, and keep more farms here in California by creating a narrow exemption for greenhouses that utilize single-paned windows.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 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, 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, Harabedian, Lackey, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

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8/5/26 15:04:32

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2211
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Craft distilled spirits manufacturers: licenses and fees

SOURCE: California Distillers Association

DIGEST: This bill allows a craft distiller to operate one off-site tasting room under its craft distillers license.

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) Separates the alcoholic beverage industry into three separate component parts, or tiers, of the manufacturer (including, breweries, and distilleries), wholesaler/distributor, and retailer. This is referred to as the "tied-house" law or "three-tier" system.

4) Creates the craft distillers license, which among other things, authorizes the licensee to produce up to 150,000 gallons of distilled spirits per year and sell up to 4.5 liters per day of distilled spirits directly to a consumer at the licensee's licensed premises.

5) Creates the distilled spirits manufacturer's license, which allows a licensee to manufacture, produce, package, mix, flavor, color, label, and export distilled spirits.

6) Authorizes, until January 1, 2027, a licensed craft distiller, or a qualifying out-of-state distiller to directly ship distilled spirits manufactured or produced by the licensee at its premises to a consumer only if they comply with the following requirements:

   a) The amount shipped does not exceed the equivalent of 2.25 liters and is solely for the consumer's personal use.
   b) The licensee maintains adequate records of the shipments and provides those records to the Department of ABC upon request.
   c) The licensee requires the common carrier to obtain the signature of any individual 21 years of age or older before delivering any distilled spirits shipped to an individual in this state.
   d) The container in which the distilled spirits are shipped be conspicuously labeled with the words: "CONTAINS ALCOHOL: SIGNATURE OF PERSONS AGE 21 YEARS OR OLDER REQUIRED FOR DELIVERY."

7) Authorizes a licensed winegrower or brandy manufacturer to engage in wine tasting activities at two licensed branch premises.

This bill:

1) Allows a craft distiller to sell distilled spirits to a consumer and engage in tasting activities at one licensed branch premises.

2) Authorizes a craft distiller to purchase and use common alcohol modifiers of vermouth, amaro, bitters, and liqueurs to combine with distilled spirits for consumption on its premises. A craft distiller that uses an alcohol modifier shall combine the modifier with a distilled spirit produced by the manufacturer.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "California leads the nation with nearly 200 craft distillers, employing thousands of Californians. These are family-owned small businesses that contribute to job growth in local agriculture, restaurants, and tourism. Given that distillers' face constraints in their opportunities to reach consumers outside of their facilities, they need more flexibility to meet the demand of customers. This bill offers a critical lifeline to California's craft distillers, while respecting consumer choice and appropriate oversight. This will help California craft distillers generate more revenue, create jobs and thrive as small businesses in our communities."

California's Craft Distillers. Prior to the establishment of the craft distiller license in 2015, no distilled spirits manufacturer held the privilege of selling distilled spirits directly to consumers. That year, AB 1295 (Levine, Chapter 640, Statutes of 2015) created the craft distiller license, which, among other things, authorized licensees to manufacture up to 100,000 gallons of distilled spirits annually and to sell up to 2.25 liters directly to a consumer who attended a tasting at the licensed premises. Subsequent legislation has increased the annual manufacturing cap to 150,000 gallons and the per-consumer, per-day sales limit to 4.5 liters — equivalent to approximately six standard 750-milliliter bottles.

Ten years after the creation of the craft distiller license, California leads the nation with approximately 200 licensed craft distillers. According to information provided by the author, the industry generates an estimated $26 million in sales tax and more than $8 million in excise tax annually. The sector also supports job growth across multiple industries — including agriculture, restaurants, and travel and tourism — with California craft distillers maintaining partnerships with local farmers, restaurants, and tourism operators that strengthen regional economies statewide.

Despite this success, supporters of this bill argue that craft distillers remain unable to meet growing consumer demand at their facilities due to the 4.5-liter per-person,

per-day sales cap. No comparable limit applies to manufacturers of other alcoholic beverages, such as wineries and craft breweries, nor to retailers such as grocery stores, which may sell unlimited quantities of distilled spirits. Compounding this disparity, consolidation within the distribution sector has narrowed the pathways available for craft distillers to place their products in retail outlets. The future of direct-to-consumer shipping remains uncertain as well, with current authorization set to sunset on January 1, 2027 — posing a significant threat to an important revenue stream.

AB 1246 would afford California craft distillers the same opportunities currently enjoyed by wineries and craft breweries by authorizing the operation of up to two off-site tasting rooms. Under current law, a craft distiller is only authorized to sell distilled spirits to consumers at its licensed premises. This bill changes that by prohibiting a craft distiller from selling distilled spirits to consumers and engaging in tasting activities at no more one licensed branch premises. The licensee would be required to follow any local permitting regulations.

Alcohol Duplicative Licenses. In alcohol beverage regulation, a duplicative license is an additional license issued to the same licensee that authorizes the same privileges as the original license but at a different location. The concept is straightforward: rather than applying for an entirely new, independent license, a licensee holding a primary license may obtain a duplicative license to exercise the same privileges at a second location. The duplicate is tied to and dependent on the primary license, meaning that if the primary license is suspended or revoked, the duplicate license is affected as well.

In California, several license types already have the ability to obtain duplicative licenses. Wineries, for example, can obtain two duplicate Type 02 licenses to operate off-site tasting rooms – the same model that this bill proposes to extend to craft distillers. The duplicative license allows an existing licensee to expand consumer access without navigating the full new-license application process.

It is worth noting what a duplicative license is not. It is distinct from a separate, independent licensee of the same type held by the same person at a different location, and it differs from a license transfer, or a premises-to-premises move. In the context of AB 1246, authorizing craft distillers to obtain duplicative licenses for off-site tasting rooms would bring them into parity with how wineries currently expand their direct-to-consumer footprint under California law. Of note, beer manufacturers are authorized to sell alcoholic beverages to consumers for consumption on or off the licensed premises, or provide authorized tastings to consumers, at eight branch locations.

Alcohol Modifiers. Alcohol modifiers are secondary ingredients added to the base spirits (like vodka, gin, or whiskey) to enhance flavors, balance sweetness, and add complexity. Common modifiers include vermouths (both sweet and dry), liqueurs like Cointreau, triple sec, maraschino, or Chartreuse, amari and bitters such as Campari, Aperol, or Angostura, fortified wines like sherry and port, and syrups or cordials such as orgeat or grenadine, which sit somewhere between modifier and sweetener. This bill would allow a craft distiller to use common alcohol modifiers of vermouth, amaro, bitters, and liqueurs to combine with distilled spirits for consumption on its premises.

Prior/Related Legislation

SB 917 (Laird, 2026) increases, among other things, the number of licensees allowed to conduct instructional tastings from one to three licensees at a certified farmers' market. (Pending in the Assembly Appropriations Committee)

AB 1246 (Hoover, Chapter 295, Statutes of 2025) allows, until January 1, 2027, a licensed craft distiller, or a qualifying out-of-state distiller to directly ship distilled spirits manufactured by the licensee to a consumer in California. Additionally, this bill allows California's craft distillers to increase the number of liters that can be sold at their tasting rooms from 2.25 to 4.5 liters per day per consumer. Finally, this bill authorizes a craft distiller to transport brandy to the premises of a licensed winegrower for the purpose of storing the brandy to age on the winegrower's premises.

AB 3203 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 318, Statutes of 2024) extends a current exemption that allows a licensed craft distiller to directly ship distilled spirits manufactured by the licensee to a consumer from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2025.

AB 1088 (Blanca Rubio, Chapter 829, Statutes of 2023) extended a current exemption that allows a licensed craft distiller to directly ship distilled spirits manufactured by the licensee to a consumer from January 1, 2024, to January 1, 2025.

AB 2307 (Berman, Chapter 962, Statutes of 2022) increased the number of authorized branch office locations for a licensed beer manufacturer, from six to eight. The bill provided that a beer manufacturer shall not be eligible to receive a seventh or eight duplicate license until it held a sixth duplicate license for a minimum of one year.

AB 920 (Aguiar-Curry, Chapter 729, Statutes of 2022) authorized, until January 1, 2024, a licensed craft distiller to directly ship distilled spirits manufactured and produced by the licensee at its premises to a consumer, as specified.

SB 620 (Allen, 2021) would have authorized craft distillers, who obtain a distilled spirits direct shipper permit, to sell and ship specified amounts of distilled spirits directly to a resident of California, who is 21 years of age or older, for the resident's personal use and not for resale, as specified. (Never Heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

SB 19 (Glazer, Chapter 274, Statutes of 2021) authorizes a licensed winegrower or brandy manufacturer to operate two off-site tasting rooms under its winegrower license.

SB 264 (Glazer, 2020) would have authorized a licensed winegrower or brandy manufacturer to operate two off-site tasting rooms under its winegrower license. (Held on the Assembly Appropriations Suspense File)

SB 1164 (Skinner, Chapter 695, Statutes of 2018) made various changes to the craft distiller's license, including eliminating the requirement that a person must attend a tasting before being able to purchase prepackaged containers of the licensee's spirits directly from the craft distiller and increasing the maximum amount of distilled spirits that a craft distiller is permitted to manufacture from 100,000 gallons to 150,000 gallons.

AB 1295 (Levine, Chapter 640, Statutes of 2015) created the craft distiller's license which, among other things, allows a licensee to manufacture up to 100,000 gallons of distilled spirts annually. Additionally, the licensee is authorized to sell to a consumer participating in a distilled spirits tasting, on the distiller's licensed premises, up to 2.25 liters of distilled spirits in any combination of prepackaged containers per day.

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

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 8/3/26)

California Distillers Association (Source)
Family Winemakers of California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Distillers, "AB 2211 addresses a significant limitation currently facing craft distillers, who are restricted to a single premises tied to their production facility. Many distilleries are located in industrial areas that are not conducive to public visitation, limiting their ability to connect with consumers and grow their brands. By authorizing satellite tasting rooms, this bill will expand consumer access, support small business growth, and enhance local economic development across the state."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, 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: Jackson, Lee, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
8/5/26 15:04:32

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2231
Author: Ahrens (D)
Amended: 4/22/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Environmental Quality Act: hospital projects

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill establishes expedited administrative and judicial review procedures under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for "environmental leadership hospital campus projects" in the cities of Emeryville and Santa Clara, requiring the courts to resolve lawsuits within 270 days, to the extent feasible.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes CEQA, which requires lead agencies with the principal responsibility for carrying out or approving a project to prepare a negative declaration (ND), mitigated negative declaration (MND), or environmental impact report (EIR) for the project, unless the project is exempt from CEQA. (Public Resources Code (PRC) §21000 et seq.). If a project may have a

significant effect on the environment, the lead agency must prepare a draft EIR. (CEQA Guidelines §15064(a)(1), (f)(1))

2) Authorizes judicial review of CEQA actions taken by public agencies, following the agency's decision to carry out or approve the project. Challenges alleging improper determination that a project may have a significant effect on the environment, or alleging an EIR does not comply with CEQA, must be filed in the superior court within 30 days of filing of the notice of approval. The courts are required to give CEQA actions preference over all other civil actions. Requires the court to regulate the briefing schedule so that, to the extent feasible, hearings commence within one year of the filing of the appeal. Requires the plaintiff to request a hearing within 90 days of filing the petition. Requires the court to establish a briefing schedule and a hearing date, requires briefing to be completed within 90 days of the plaintiff's request for hearing, and requires the hearing, to the extent feasible, to be held within 30 days thereafter. (PRC 21167 *et seq*).

3) Established the Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2011 (AB 900, Buchanan, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2011), which established accelerated CEQA administrative and judicial review procedures for an "environmental leadership" project. The Act was later extended and modified in 2021 to include infrastructure projects for clean energy, transportation, and water (SB 7, Atkins, Chapter 19, Statutes of 2021). (PRC §21178 et seq.)

This bill:

1) Requires the city council of the City of Emeryville or the City of Santa Clara, as the lead agency for the project in question, to certify an environmental leadership hospital campus project (as defined) for streamlining pursuant to this bill if the city council finds that numerous specified environmental, labor, and other conditions will be met, including that:

    a) The project applicant agrees to pay the costs of the trial court and the court of appeal in hearing and deciding any case subject to this bill, including payment of the costs for the appointment of a special master if deemed appropriate by the court, as specified;

    b) The project applicant agrees to pay the costs of preparing the record of proceedings for the project concurrent with review and consideration of the project, as specified;

c) The project is on an infill site, as defined;

d) The project will result in an investment of at least one billion dollars ($1,000,000,000) in California upon completion of the construction and generate at least 500 construction jobs;

e) The project creates high-wage, highly skilled jobs that pay prevailing wages and living wages, employs a skilled and trained workforce;

f) The project will not result in any net additional greenhouse gas emissions, and at least 50% of reductions shall be local;

g) The project has a community benefits agreement that may include additional mitigation measures such as being fully electric, using carbon free energy sources, providing zero-emission vehicle charging stations, or improving public transportation;

h) The project will be low vehicle miles traveled (VMT) (have a per capita VMT at least 15% lower than comparable development);

i) The project will obtain certification as Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) gold standard or better; and

j) The project applicant will complete a health impact review by the Attorney General and will comply with any resulting conditions issued by the Attorney General as if the project applicant were seeking approval of a transaction under Article 2 (commencing with Section 5914) of Chapter 9 of Part 2 of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code and Section 999.5 of Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations. The Attorney General shall review the project to determine the need for the issuance of enforceable conditions under the standards and requirements set forth in Article 2 (commencing with Section 5914) of Chapter 9 of Part 2 of Division 2 of Title 1 of the Corporations Code and Section 999.5 of Title 11 of the California Code of Regulations. The project applicant shall be responsible for the reasonable fees and costs associated with the Attorney General's health impact review and, if conditions are issued by the Attorney General, for any subsequent compliance investigations and any independent monitor appointed by the Attorney General to oversee compliance with the conditions.

2) Specifies that the project applicant must agree to meet all the mitigation requirements, and will submit an annual report on the implementation of the environmental mitigation measures required by the section to the lead agency

which will be responsible for enforcing and monitoring those mitigation measures.

3) Establishes the following definitions:

   a) "Hospital project" means a project for the construction and operation of a hospital licensed under Chapter 2 (commencing with Section 1250) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code, including both outpatient clinics and associated parking structures;

   b) "Jobs that pay prevailing wages" means that all construction workers employed in the execution of the project will receive at least the general prevailing rate of per diem wages for the type of work and geographic area, as determined by the Director of Industrial Relations. If the project is certified for an exemption, the project applicant shall include this requirement in all contracts for the performance of the work; and

   c) "Project labor agreement" has the same meaning as set forth in Section 2500 of the Public Contract Code.

Background

1) *A, B, C's of CEQA*. CEQA is an environmental planning law designed to (a) make government agencies and the public aware of the environmental impacts of a proposed project, (b) ensure the public can take part in the review process, and (c) identify and implement measures to mitigate or eliminate any negative impact the project may have on the environment.

   CEQA is enforced by civil lawsuits that can challenge any project's environmental review, and it is the only state environmental law that allows civil suits. Under CEQA, projects (unless they have a specific exemption) must undergo environmental analysis. This process starts with an initial study which determines what level of further environmental review is needed for a given project. If a project has no significant effects on the environment, or if those effects can be fully mitigated, the project can move forward with a negative declaration (ND) or mitigated negative declaration (MND). If the initial study finds the project has potential significant effects on the environment, then a full EIR is conducted. An EIR provides a thorough environmental review of a proposed project, analyzing the significant direct and indirect environmental impacts of a proposed project. The EIR also includes proposed mitigation measures for any significant effects that it identifies and considers alternatives to the proposed project.

2) *Provisions to expedite CEQA.* Under CEQA, state and local agencies must complete and adopt a ND in 180 days, and certify an EIR within a year. If there is a compelling circumstance to extend this timeline, agencies may take longer, but only if the project applicant consents. After the environmental review is completed, the case may be subject to litigation. Judicial Council asserts that it takes over six months just for a CEQA case to get a hearing, let alone reach a decision.

   To help speed CEQA cases through the court system, current law provides several measures to prioritize CEQA cases and speed up judicial review, including:

   a. The Superior Court and the Court of Appeal must give CEQA lawsuits preference over all other civil actions;

   b. If feasible, the Court of Appeal must hear a CEQA appeal within one year of filing;

   c. Discovery is generally not allowed, as CEQA cases are generally restricted to review of the record; and

   d. Counties with a population of over 200,000 must designate one or more judges to develop expertise on CEQA and hear CEQA cases.

3) *CEQA Administrative and Judicial Streamlining*. The Legislature has developed streamlining measures to speed CEQA lawsuits against specified projects through the courts. In current law, CEQA streamlining entails both judicial and administrative streamlining. Judicial streamlining requires that a CEQA lawsuit be heard in 270 days, including all appeals, as feasible. Administrative streamlining requires projects to prepare the administrative record, the comprehensive document at the heart of a CEQA case, at the same time as the environmental review documents are prepared. Preparing these documents concurrently, instead of sequentially, saves time if there is a lawsuit. These streamlining measures shorten what is potentially the lengthiest portion of the CEQA process—litigation—while retaining the full environmental review and public engagement offered under CEQA.

   In 2011, the Legislature passed the first CEQA streamlining certification program with the Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act (Leadership Act), which created CEQA streamlining for residential, retail, commercial, sports, and recreational use projects that were certified as Environmental Leadership Development Projects (ELDP) by the

Governor (AB 900, Buchanan, Chapter 354, Statutes of 2011). The ELDP program was further extended and modified in 2021 with (SB 7, Atkins, Chapter 19, Statutes of 2021) and in 2023, The Legislature expanded these same streamlining provisions for certain energy, transportation, and water infrastructure projects (SB 149, Caballero, Chapter 60, Statutes of 2023).

4) *Environmental Leadership Development Programs.* While only a small number of projects are challenged under CEQA (e.g. 1.05% of projects that went through CEQA in 2022-2023 were challenged[1]), very environmentally impactful and controversial projects are more likely to face a lawsuit. The Legislature has developed streamlining measures to speed CEQA lawsuits against specified, often large-scale and high-profile, projects through the courts.

   In current law, this CEQA streamlining entails both judicial and administrative streamlining. Judicial streamlining requires that a CEQA lawsuit be heard in 270 days, including all appeals, as feasible. Administrative streamlining requires projects to prepare the administrative record, the comprehensive document at the heart of a CEQA case, at the same time as the environmental review documents are prepared. Preparing these documents concurrently, instead of sequentially, saves time if there is a lawsuit. These streamlining measures shorten what is potentially the lengthiest portion of the CEQA process—litigation—while retaining the full environmental review and public engagement offered under CEQA.

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   In 2023, The Legislature expanded these same streamlining provisions for certain energy, transportation, and water infrastructure projects (SB 149, Caballero, Chapter 60, Statutes of 2023).

   The specific criteria that projects must meet to be eligible for CEQA streamlining varies by project and process, but all are intended to ensure that

[1] CEQA for the Future Protecting Land, People, & Climate. Smith-Heimer and Hitchcock, Dec 2025.

projects meet high environmental and labor standards. In current law, environmental criteria for streamlining includes requirements such as achieving Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification and being greenhouse gas neutral. SB 149 (Caballero, Chapter 60, Statutes of 2023) also includes a specific equity provision which requires that projects both minimize significant environmental impacts in disadvantaged communities and take mitigation measures that directly benefit the affected community. In offering CEQA streamlining for projects that meet these high standards, California has been able to promote projects that align with the State's environmental, climate, and labor goals.

5) *Hospitals facing financial constraints*. H.R. 1, the *One Big Beautiful Bill Act* (OBBBA), enacted in 2025, represents one of the largest federal reductions in healthcare spending in U.S. history, primarily through Medicaid and Affordable Care Act (ACA) reforms. Independent analyses project that the legislation will substantially increase the number of uninsured Americans, reduce federal Medicaid expenditures, and alter state financing mechanisms that hospitals rely upon. These changes are expected to have significant implications for hospital finances, service delivery, workforce stability, and access to care, particularly among safety-net and rural hospitals. According to the California Hospital Association**,** California hospitals could lose between $66 billion and $128 billion in Medicaid and Medicare revenue over the next decade as a result of the legislation and related federal funding changes.

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, "AB 2231 is a judicial streamlining bill that helps ensure critical hospital projects can move forward without unnecessary delays and costly litigation. At a time when California faces growing health care demands and uncertainty in federal funding, we cannot afford to slow the construction of essential medical facilities in Santa Clara and Emeryville, which will help expand access to emergency, inpatient, and specialty care for communities across the Bay Area."

2) *What makes an environmental leader?* This bill provides expedited judicial review for an "environmental leadership hospital campus project" (a term created in this bill) in the City of Emeryville. What makes a project an environmental leader that should receive prioritized expedited judicial review, bumping it to the front of the line of cases to be heard in the event of a lawsuit? This bill adds some environmental criteria, including that the project does not result in net additional GHG emissions, and will be relatively low-VMT. It also

offers some environmental guardrails by specifying that the project applicant will enter into a legally binding and enforceable community benefits agreement with the lead agency that may include specified measures in addition to any other mitigation measures required pursuant to CEQA. This is an important addition, since environmental projects can still have environmental impacts, and thus it is still important to provide additional tools for communities to advocate for measures to mitigate the impacts of projects on their communities, even when the projects are deemed environmental leaders. This bill also adds a process for accomplishing this goal by requiring that the applicant submit an annual report to the lead agency report on the mitigation measures they are taking to meet the eligibility criteria to be a leadership project.

3) *Expedited Judicial Review tradeoffs.* Expedited judicial review entails tradeoffs, including potentially burdening the courts and affecting access to justice for other litigants. As described above, the Legislature has continually expanded projects that qualify for expedited judicial review under CEQA. Additionally, the Legislature has begun applying expedited judicial review to other areas of the law as well. For example, SB 808 (Caballero, Chapter 527, Statutes of 2025) established an expedited writ of mandate procedure for judicial review of a local agency decision denying approval of a housing development project, as defined.[2] This Committee will be considering three CEQA expedited judicial review bills this legislative session. (*see* Pending Legislation Section.)

Under existing law, certain parties are entitled to calendar preference, including a party that is at least 70 years old and in ill health, a party in a personal injury or wrongful death matter who is under the age of 14, or a party that is unlikely to survive beyond another six months. (Code Civ. Proc. § 36). Additionally, certain actions receive calendar preference, including appeals in probate proceedings, contested election cases, and actions for libel or slander by a person who holds any elective public office or a candidate for any such office alleged to have occurred during the course of an election campaign. (Code Civ. Proc. § 44.) Additionally, existing law already provides that the superior court and appeals courts are to give CEQA lawsuits preference over all other civil actions. (Gov. Code § 21167.1(a).) These expedited CEQA judicial review bills taken as one-offs may not seem to cause a major concern for the courts and are intended to expedite beneficial development. However, when taken as a whole, these bills entail potential tradeoffs with respect to not only the sufficiency of environmental review, but increasing pressure on court dockets and access to

[2] Dept. of Finance, Delta Conveyance Project, (updated 5/14/25), available at **https://trailerbill.dof.ca.gov/public/trailerBill/pdf/1263** (as of June 24, 2025).

justice for other litigants. These concerns have only been magnified by the judicial backlog arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.[3]

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

According to the assembly appropriations committee, this bill has "Potential cost pressure (Trial Court Trust Fund, General Fund) of an unknown amount to the courts to process and hear challenges to environmental reviews for environmental leadership hospital campus projects on an expedited timeline. Expedited cases generally create costs and staffing pressures on the courts, as each review typically requires a judicial officer, research attorneys, and staff. However, under existing rules of court (that Judicial Council may amend to reference the specific projects in this bill), these reviews would be subject to a $180,000 filing fee. With this filing fee, Judicial Council does not anticipate increased costs as a result of this bill."

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/2026)

Bay Area Council
California Chamber of Commerce
Civil Justice Association of California
Contra Costa County
Sutter Health

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

Judicial Council of California

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-1, 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, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Macedo, McKinnor, 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
NOES: DeMaio

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[3] Joint Informational Hearing of Ass. and Sen. Comm. on Judiciary: *COVID and the Courts: Assessing the Impact on Access to Justice, Identifying Best Practices, and Plotting the Path Forward* (Feb. 23, 2021) Background Paper, **https://sjud.senate.ca.gov/sites/sjud.senate.ca.gov/files/background_paper_-_ajud_and_sjud_feb_23_2021_joint_informational_hearing_-_covid_and_the_courts.pdf**.

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Gallagher, Lowenthal, Muratsuchi, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Brynn Cook / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 15:04:33

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

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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 ******

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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2257
Author: Hart (D)
Amended: 5/22/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

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

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Choi, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 41-25, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Corrections: jail administrators

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a county board of supervisors (BOS) to establish the position of jail administrator, nominated by the sheriff and confirmed by the BOS, to serve a three-year term as the executive officer of the county jail, under the direction of the sheriff.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires the Legislature to provide for county powers, an elected county sheriff, an elected district attorney, an elected assessor, and an elected governing body in each county. (California (Cal.) Constitution (Const.), art. XI, § 1, subd. (b).)

2) Requires a county charter to provide for, among other things, an elected sheriff and other officers, their election or appointment, compensation, terms and

removal, the powers and duties of governing bodies and all other county officers, and for consolidation and segregation of county officers, and for the manner of filling all vacancies occurring therein. (Cal. Const., art. XI, § 4, subds. (c) & (e).)

3) Requires, notwithstanding any other law, that the office of sheriff be filled by election as provided for elective county officers, and vacancies shall be filled as provided by law for filling elective county offices, unless the county or city and county is chartered and such charter provides for election of the sheriff by vote of the electors. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 24205.)

4) Requires the BOS to supervise the official conduct of all county officers, and particularly insofar as the functions and duties of such county officers relate to the assessing, collecting, safekeeping, management, or disbursement of public funds, and shall see that they faithfully perform their duties, direct prosecutions for delinquencies, and when necessary, require them to renew their official bond, make reports and present their books and accounts for inspection, although this shall not be construed to affect the independent and constitutionally and statutorily designated investigative and prosecutorial functions of the sheriff and district attorney of a county. (Gov. Code, § 25303.)

5) Prohibits the BOS from obstructing the investigative function of the sheriff of the county. (Gov. Code, § 25303.)

6) Provides that the common jails in the several counties of this state are kept by the sheriffs of the counties in which they are respectively situated, and are used as follows: for the detention of persons committed in order to secure their attendance as witnesses in criminal cases; for the detention of persons charged with crime and committed for trial; for the confinement of persons committed for contempt, or upon civil process, or by other authority of law; for the confinement of persons sentenced to imprisonment therein upon a conviction for a crime; and for the confinement of persons pursuant to a violation of the terms and conditions of their post-release community supervision, as specified. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 4000.)

7) Establishes numerous obligations on sheriffs pertaining to county jails, including, among other things, that the sheriff receive all persons committed to jail by competent authority, and receive and keep in the county jail any prisoner committed thereto by process or order issued under the authority of the United States. (Pen. Code, §§ 4005, 4015, subd. (a).)

8) Establishes the duties and authority of the sheriff, among other things, as follows:

   a) To preserve peace, and to accomplish this object, may sponsor, supervise, or participate in any project of crime prevention, rehabilitation of persons previously convicted of crime, or the suppression of delinquency. (Gov. Code, § 26600.)
   b) To arrest and take before the nearest magistrate for examination all persons who attempt to commit or who have committed a public offense. (Gov. Code, § 26601.)
   c) To prevent and suppress any affrays, breaches of the peace, riots, and insurrections that come to their knowledge, investigate public offenses which have been committed, and execute all orders of the local health officer issued for the purpose of preventing the spread of any contagious or communicable disease. (Gov. Code, § 26602.)
   d) To command the aid of as many inhabitants of the sheriff's county as they think necessary in the execution of their duties. (Gov. Code, § 26604.)

This bill:

1) Authorizes a county BOS to establish the position of jail administrator, to be headed by an executive officer nominated by the sheriff and confirmed by the BOS, to serve a three-year term as the executive officer of the county jail, under the direction of the sheriff.

2) States that if the BOS establishes the position of jail administrator, the sheriff of the county shall nominate a candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the board within 90 days of the establishment of the position. States that the BOS shall confirm or deny the appointment of the candidate submitted by resolution within 60 days of the submission.

3) States that prior to determining whether to confirm or deny the appointment, the board must hold a public hearing on the topic of jail operations

4) This bill authorizes the BOS, when determining whether to confirm or deny the appointment, to consider any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

   a) Professional experience in corrections management.

b) Experience managing public budgets.
c) Extensive familiarity with Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations and national standards for jail accreditation.
d) Extensive familiarity with the requirements for appropriate medical and mental health care within a correctional setting.
e) Demonstrated commitment to protecting the civil and human rights of incarcerated individuals.
f) Knowledge of best practices and evidence-based approaches to rehabilitation.

5) This bill states that if the BOS denies the candidate, the sheriff shall nominate a different candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the BOS within 60 days of the denial. States that the BOS shall confirm or deny the appointment of the new candidate pursuant to the procedures described above.

6) This bill states that a jail administrator appointed pursuant to this section shall have all of the following powers and duties:

a) They shall be the executive officer of all county jails and have supervisory authority over all staff and incarcerated individuals.
b) They shall serve a term of three years.
c) If a currently serving acting jail administrator is confirmed, their time spent as acting jail administrator before being confirmed does not count towards the three-year term.
d) If they are a peace officer, they shall retain peace officer status to the extent allowable.
e) If a jail administrator is appointed pursuant to this section, the sheriff shall retain authority to supervise, direct the day-to-day operations of, evaluate, discipline, or remove the jail administrator.
f) If there is a vacancy in the jail administrator position for any reason following the establishment of the position and the board's initial decision to confirm or deny the appointment of a candidate, including, but not limited to, expiration of the term, removal of the jail administrator by the sheriff, or resignation of the jail administrator, all of the following apply:

i) The sheriff shall appoint an acting jail administrator within three days of the vacancy.
ii) The acting jail administrator shall not serve for more than 150 days.
iii) The board may authorize the acting jail administrator to serve additional 60-day terms.

iv) If an acting jail administrator's term expires and a candidate has not been confirmed, the sheriff shall appoint a different jail administrator within three days of the expiration.
v) The sheriff shall nominate a candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the board within 90 days of the vacancy.
vi) The sheriff may, but is not required to, nominate the acting jail administrator as the candidate.

7) This bill states that up to six months before a jail administrator's term expires, the sheriff may nominate and submit to the board a candidate to serve when the term expires.

Background

There has been a significant increase in in-custody county jail deaths in recent years. According to the California Department of Justice, "Since the passage of Public Safety Realignment in 2011 - which mandated that individuals sentenced for specific non-violent offenses be housed in county jails rather than state prisons - the share of deaths in custody reported from county sheriff's departments (who manage county jail systems) has grown from 17.1 percent in 2010 to 22.2 percent in 2014…." (Dept. of Justice, *Death in Custody from 2010 to 2019* (July 5, 2023) <https://openjustice.doj.ca.gov/data-stories/2019/death-custody-2010-2019 [as of June 12, 2026].)

This bill authorizes a county BOS to establish the position of jail administrator, to be headed by an executive officer nominated by the sheriff and confirmed by the BOS, to serve a three-year term as the executive officer of the county jail, under the direction of the sheriff. A jail administrator appointed pursuant to this bill will have supervisory authority over all jail staff and incarcerated individuals. If a jail administrator is appointed, the sheriff shall retain authority to supervise, direct the day-to-day operations of, evaluate, discipline, or remove the jail administrator. If the BOS establishes the position of jail administrator, the sheriff of the county must nominate a candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the board within 90 days of the establishment of the position. The BOS must confirm or deny the appointment of the candidate submitted by resolution within 60 days of the submission.

The BOS, when determining whether to confirm or deny the appointment, may consider any relevant factor, including, but not limited to, any of the following:

- Professional experience in corrections management.

- Experience managing public budgets.
- Extensive familiarity with Title 15 of the California Code of Regulations and national standards for jail accreditation.
- Extensive familiarity with the requirements for appropriate medical and mental health care within a correctional setting.
- Demonstrated commitment to protecting the civil and human rights of incarcerated individuals.
- Knowledge of best practices and evidence-based approaches to rehabilitation.

A candidate who is confirmed will serve a term of three years. If the BOS denies the candidate, the sheriff must nominate a different candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the BOS within 60 days of the denial. The BOS must confirm or deny the appointment of the new candidate pursuant to the procedures described above.

If there is a vacancy in the jail administrator position for any reason, including, but not limited to, expiration of the term, removal of the jail administrator by the sheriff, or resignation of the jail administrator, the sheriff shall appoint an acting jail administrator within three days of the vacancy. The acting jail administrator shall not serve for more than 150 days. The BOS may authorize the acting jail administrator to serve additional 60-day terms. If an acting jail administrator's term expires and a candidate has not been confirmed, the sheriff must appoint a different jail administrator within three days of the expiration. The sheriff must nominate a candidate to fill the position and submit that nomination to the board within 90 days of the vacancy. The sheriff may, but is not required to, nominate the acting jail administrator as the candidate. If an acting jail administrator is confirmed, their time spent as acting jail administrator before being confirmed does not count towards the three-year term.

Up to six months before a jail administrator's term expires, the sheriff may nominate and submit to the board a candidate to serve when the term expires.

Notably, while this bill may be intended to create additional accountability, transparency, and oversight in the management of county jails, its practical effect may be limited because the sheriff retains the authority to supervise and terminate the jail administrator. Additionally, the sheriff can appoint an acting jail administrator if the BOS fails to confirm an appointee, and there is no limit to the number of consecutive acting jail administrators. Practically speaking, therefore,

the sheriff would still retain almost complete control over the jail system under this bill.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/20/26)

805 Undocufund
Advocacy on the 101
Buen Vecino
California Coalition for Sheriff Oversight
California Public Defenders Association
Californians for Safety and Justice
Central Coast Alliance United for a Sustainable Economy
Clergy and Laity United for Economic Justice - Ventura County
Coastal Legal Center
County of San Diego Fourth District Supervisor Monica Montgomery Steppe
County of Santa Barbara
Diversity Coalition San Luis Obispo County
Freedom 4 Youth
Indivisible Santa Barbara
Indivisible Santa Maria
Kingston, Martinez, and Hogan LLP
LA Raza Community Resource Center
Law Office of Richard Wagner
Legal Services for Prisoners With Children
Mariposa Advocacy and Legal Services
Mixteco/Indigena Community Organizing Project
Nextgen California
O.L.A. Raza
Oakland Privacy
One Step a LA Vez
Prosecutors Alliance Action
San Luis Obispo Unitarian Universalist
San Quentin Skunkworks
Santa Barbara County Immigrant Legal Defense Center
Santa Paula Latino Town Hall
Smart Justice California
The Fund for Santa Barbara
Unitarian Society of Santa Barbara - Justice and Equity Team

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/20/26)

California State Sheriffs' Association
Los Angeles County Professional Peace Officers Association
Peace Officers Research Association of California

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 41-25, 5/28/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Papan, Pellerin, Ransom, Rogers, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Ward, Wicks, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Alanis, Ávila Farías, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Ramos, Michelle Rodriguez, Sanchez, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Calderon, Carrillo, Irwin, Krell, Nguyen, Pacheco, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Stefani, Wilson

Prepared by: Marshal Lawler / PUB. S. /
8/3/26 17:24:35

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

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 2263
Author: Kalra (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 TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-5, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority: employee housing: transit-oriented joint development projects

SOURCE: Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) to construct employee housing projects on their land in addition to their existing authority for transit-oriented joint development (TOD) projects.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

VTA Authority.

1) Establishes the Santa Clara VTA. Authorizes VTA to contract with any department or agency of the United States of America, with any public agency

or with any person upon terms and conditions the board finds is for the best interest of the VTA.

2) Authorizes the VTA to take by grant, purchase, devise, or lease, or condemn in proceedings under eminent domain, or otherwise acquire, and hold and enjoy, real and personal property of every kind within or without the boundaries of the VTA necessary to the full or convenient exercise of its powers. The board may lease, mortgage, sell, or otherwise dispose of any real or personal property within or without the boundaries of the VTA necessary to the full or convenient exercise of its powers.

3) Authorizes the VTA to take by gift, or take or convey by grant, purchase, devise, or lease, and hold and enjoy, real and personal property of every kind within or without the boundaries of the VTA necessary for, incidental to, or convenient for, transit-oriented joint development projects, as specified.

4) Defines a transit-oriented joint development project as a commercial, residential, or mixed-use development that is undertaken in connection with existing, planned, or proposed transit facilities and is located 1/4 mile or less from the external boundaries of that facility. States that any transit-oriented joint development project shall comply with the land use and zoning regulations of the city, county, or city and county in which the project is located.

Employee Rental Housing Act.

5) Defines "employee" as an employee of the local agency, the state or any political subdivision thereof, special district, including a school district, or any other local government entity, or an employee of a public or private utility whom the legislative body has determined performs a function essential to the public health, safety or welfare.

6) Defines "housing" as any dwelling or residential structure, including, but not limited to, single-family detached dwellings, multi-family dwellings or modular housing or mobilehomes. "Housing" also means a park or other site or facility suitable for modular housing or mobilehomes, and such park or other site or facility may include pads or other foundations, utility connections, and other appropriate on-site improvements.

7) Defines "local agency" as a city, a city and county or a county.

8) Authorizes a local agency to construct or cause to be constructed rental housing for employees and issue bonds for the purposes of constructing rental housing for employees and funding or refunding previously issued bonds.

Fair Housing laws.

9) Enacts the Unruh Civil Rights Act, which specifically outlaws discrimination in California based on sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, age, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, or sexual orientation.

10) Enacts the Fair Employment and Housing Act, which prohibits the existence of a restrictive covenant that makes housing opportunities unavailable based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, familial status, marital status, disability, national origin, source of income or ancestry.

This bill:

1) Defines "employee housing project" to mean a project that provides a preference for VTA employees and qualifies as a housing development project with five or more units for VTA employees and members of the public that is undertaken in connection with existing, planned, or proposed transit facility and is located ¼ mile or less from the external boundaries of that facility.

2) Defines “lower income households” to have the same meaning as in Section 50079.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

3) Defines “moderate-income households” to have the same meaning as “persons and families of low or moderate income” in Section 50093 of the Health and Safety Code.

4) Stipulates that an employee housing project constructed by VTA pursuant to the bill is subject to the duty of public agencies to affirmatively further fair housing, as defined.

5) Requires employee housing projects undertaken pursuant to the bill to be restricted to VTA employees, except that VTA may also allow members of the public to occupy housing created, subject to applicable laws and regulations.

6) Stipulates that VTA retains the right to prioritize VTA employees over members of the public to occupy housing.

7) Specifies that VTA may take by gift, or take or convey by grant, purchase, devise, or lease, and hold and enjoy, real and personal property of every kind within or without boundaries of the VTA necessary for incidental, or convenient for both of the following:

   a) TOD projects; and,

   b) Employee housing projects.

8) States that any TOD project or employee housing project created under this section shall comply with applicable land use and zoning regulations of the city, county, or city and county in which the project is located.

9) States that for the purposes of a TOD project or employee housing project, VTA may acquire, plan, undertake, construct, improve, develop, lease, maintain, operate, or dispose of any real or personal property.

10) Authorizes VTA to construct rental housing for VTA employees pursuant to the Employee Rental Housing Act, and shall, for that purpose, be considered a local agency. Requires if VTA constructs rental housing pursuant the bill, the employee housing units be affordable to lower income households or moderate-income households. Requires these units to be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 55 years.

11) Authorizes VTA to construct for-sale housing that promotes housing opportunities for VTA employees. Requires if VTA constructs for-sale housing pursuant to the bill, the employee housing units be affordable to lower or moderate-income households. Requires the units to be subject to a recorded affordability restriction for at least 45 years.

12) Requires VTA to ensure compliance with the recorded affordability restrictions on employee housing units, as defined.

13) Requires VTA, on or before December 31 of each year, to submit a report to the Legislature, as defined, on the use of the authority in the bill to develop employee housing. Requires the report to include, but not be limited to:

a) Development plans for any new employee housing projects, including but not limited, to the number of units, affordability level, size of units, name of the developer, and density of the project.

b) Status of pending employee housing projects, including, but not limited to, the number of units, affordability level, size of units, name of the developer and density of the project.

Comments

Author's statement. "Santa Clara County is one of the most expensive counties to live in the nation, and while it is home to our booming tech industry, working-class people who support and operate our public transportation system are faced with the high cost of living in one of the most expensive housing markets. Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) employs approximately 2,300 people who manage and operate the county's public transportation. However, the cost of housing has increased, resulting in VTA workers being priced out of the housing market and leading them to move outside of the city or county. Many VTA workers commute more than one to two hours each way in addition to their eight-hour shift, which can add up to more than 12 hours per day behind the wheel. This creates a level of risk for workers and the public. AB 2263 builds on existing statutes for cities and counties to build employee housing. This will allow workers to live in the city where they work, significantly reduce their commutes, and overall reduce driver fatigue for transit workers, which can help the overall safety of everyday drivers and pedestrians."

Allowing employee housing on more public lands. Existing law, pursuant to the Employee Rental Housing Act, authorizes cities and counties to develop employee rental housing on their land. Recent legislation, including AB 2295 (Bloom, Chapter 652, Statutes of 2022) and AB 1021 (Wicks, Chapter 503, Statutes of 2025) gave flexibility to local educational agencies (LEAs) to develop employee housing on their land, and exempted certain employee housing projects with a specified percentage of affordable housing to be exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). In order to ensure compliance with federal and state fair housing laws, these bills provide that the LEAs may first offer units to LEA employees, but must also make the units available to the members of the public.

Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority. VTA is an independent special district that provides transportation options throughout the county including to the cities of

Campbell, Cupertino, Gilroy, Los Altos, Los Altos Hills, Los Gatos, Milpitas, Monte Sereno, Morgan Hill, Mountain View, Palo Alto, San Jose, Santa Clara, Saratoga and Sunnyvale. VTA is Santa Clara County's authority for transit development and operations (light rail, bus, and paratransit), congestion management, transportation-related funding, highway design and construction, real estate and transit-oriented development, and bicycle and pedestrian planning.

In a survey and fair housing analysis conducted by VTA of their 2,200 workers, one in four commute more than one hour each way, and nearly 10% commute more than two hours each way. More than 700 employees took the survey, with over 90% of respondents expressing that they are or may be interested in a future employee housing program.

Current VTA authority to develop housing. VTA has a statutorily authorized TOD program, which has been in place for several decades. Under this authority, VTA partnered with housing developers to build projects on VTA-owned land and developed two projects in 1998 and 1999; VTA recently reactivated the program and to date, have developed 579 units, 379 of which are affordable. VTA currently has 28 sites throughout Santa Clara County that have been designated for TOD around light rail, Caltrain, and Bay Area Rapid Transit stations. The projects support a mix of income levels, and since 2016 required affordable units be included. A 2022 policy increased the affordable housing goals to a minimum of 25% at each residential project, and a portfolio-wide goal of 40%

Building off the examples in the education sector, this bill expands VTA's current TOD authority to allow VTA to acquire land for and construct rental and for-sale units of employee housing for VTA employees. This bill requires the employee housing projects to comply with all applicable land use and zoning regulations.

Additionally, this bill specifies that employee housing projects built using this authority will be restricted to VTA employees, except that VTA may allow members of the public to occupy the housing as well, subject to current laws and regulations. However, VTA retains the right to prioritize VTA employees over members of the public to occupy the housing.

Regarding rental housing, this bill requires the units to be affordable to lower or moderate-income households, as defined in housing law, and the units are required to have an affordability restriction for at least 55 years. This bill also authorizes the building of for-sale housing as well to promote housing ownership opportunities for VTA employees. Specifically, any for-sale housing units built are also required to be affordable to lower or moderate-income households for a

minimum of 45 years. Lastly, this bill requires VTA to ensure compliance with the affordability restrictions.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (source)
San Jose Silicon Valley Chamber of Commerce

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-5, 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, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, 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, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Hadwick, Lackey, Sanchez, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Ellis, Gallagher, Johnson, Lowenthal, Macedo, Patterson, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 15:04:34

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2272
Author: Caloza (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: State contracting: subcontractors: prompt payment

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) authorizes a subcontractor or supplier performing work under a state contract to request payment status information from the awarding state agency regarding invoices submitted by the prime contractor; and 2) requires a prime contractor to provide confirmation to the awarding agency, upon the agency's request, regarding payments made to subcontractors, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires, pursuant to the California Prompt Payment Act (CPPA), a state agency that acquires property or services pursuant to a contract with a business to make payment to the person or business on the date required by the contract and as specified, or be subject to a late payment.

2) Requires state agencies to encourage claimants to promptly pay their subcontractors and suppliers, especially those that are small businesses, as specified.

This bill:

1) Authorizes a subcontractor or supplier performing work under a state contract to request payment status information from the awarding state agency regarding invoices submitted by the prime contractor.

2) Requires a prime contractor to provide confirmation to the awarding agency, upon the agency's request, regarding payments made to subcontractors, as specified.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "AB 2272 strengthens California's Prompt Payment Act by improving accountability and transparency to help ensure that timely payments made by the state flow more reliably through prime contractors to the subcontractors and small businesses performing the work. When subcontractors are not paid on time, they are forced to cover payroll, materials, and operating costs out of pocket, often taking on debt or delaying growth, which can threaten their ability to stay in business and participate in future public projects. By promoting more consistent and transparent payment practices, this bill supports the stability of small businesses, protects jobs, and strengthens the overall integrity of the state's contracting system."

California's Prompt Payment Act. Under the CPPA, state agencies that acquire property or services pursuant to a contract with a business are required to make payment on the date required by the contract, or within 45 days of the state agency's receipt of an undisputed invoice. If this requirement is not met, state agencies must automatically calculate and pay appropriate late payment penalties as specified in Government Code Section 927, et seq. Late payments may occur for a variety of reasons, including administrative decisions relating to cash flow, bond sales, or delays in meeting conditions set forth in federal legislation.

Existing law specifies that state agencies pay applicable penalties, without requiring the claimant to submit an additional invoice for these amounts, whenever the state agency fails to submit a correct claim to the Controller by the required payment approval date and payment is not issued within 45 calendar days from the

state agency receipt of an undisputed invoice. Penalties paid by a state agency to a certified small business, nonprofit organization, nonprofit public benefit corporation, and a small business or nonprofit that provides services or equipment under Medi-Cal shall be calculated at a rate of 10% above the United State Prime Rate on June 30th of the prior year.

Additionally, the CPPA provides that if the Controller fails to make payment within 15 calendar days of receipt of the claim from a state agency, and payment is not issued within 45 calendar days from the state agency receipt of an undisputed invoice, the Controller shall pay applicable penalties to the claimant without requiring that the claimant submit an invoice for these amounts. If the claimant is a resource conservation district, a certified small business, a nonprofit organization, a nonprofit benefit corporation, or a small business or nonprofit organization that provides services or equipment under the Medi-Cal program, the Controller must pay a penalty at a rate of 10% above the United State Prime Rate on June 30 of the prior fiscal year, as specified.

However, existing law specifies that for the late payment penalty provisions of the PPA described above, a nonprofit organization is only eligible to receive a penalty payment if the contract or grant is an amount less than $500,000. Since 2013, DGS has overseen the CPPA to ensure that government agencies, in a timely manner, pay their contracts awarded to a certified small business or nonprofit. The CPPA indicates that nonprofits are only eligible to receive a penalty payment if the grant or contract awarded is an amount less than $500,000. Hence, the CPPA only applies to a limited set of grants, excluding numerous nonprofits that provide essential services to California communities.

Existing law requires state agencies to encourage claimants to promptly pay their subcontractors and suppliers, especially those that are small businesses. In furtherance of this state policy, state agencies are required to utilize expedited payment processes to enable faster payment by prime contractors to their subcontractors and suppliers, and to promptly respond to any subcontractor or supplier inquiry regarding the status of payments made to prime contractors.

This bill authorizes a subcontractor or supplier that is performing work under a state contract to request payment status information from the awarding state agency regarding invoices submitted by the prime contractor. Additionally, this bill requires a prime contractor to provide confirmation to the awarding agency, upon the agency's request, regarding payments made to subcontractors.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 880 (Bennett, 2025) would have revised the CPPA by requiring state agencies to reimburse a nonprofit grantee's indirect costs at specified rates and remove the $500,000 cap that previously exempted certain Medi-Cal-related payments from penalty provisions. Additionally, this bill would have narrowed the circumstances under which the state can dispute an invoice and expands the definition of "grant" to include agreements with nonprofit organizations, as specified. (Never heard in the Senate Appropriations Committee)

SB 1246 (Limón, 2024) would have deleted, for the purposes of the CPPA, the definition of the term "grant" from the CPPA and deletes the $500,000 exception in existing law and provides that only specified late payment penalties apply to a signed final agreement for a grant, as specified, or a grant by any state agency to a nonprofit organization. (Vetoed by Governor Newsom)

AB 1223 (Caballero, Chapter 585, Statutes of 2017) required, within 10 days of making a construction contract payment, a state agency that maintains an Internet Web site to post on its Internet Web site the project for which the payment was made, the name of the construction contractor or company paid, the date the payment was made, the payment application number or other identifying information, and the amount paid.

SB 293 (Padilla, Chapter 700, Statutes of 2011) established a four-year limit on retention in public works projects, with specified exceptions, and modified provisions regarding payments to subcontractors and provisions regarding subcontractor claims for nonpayment.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/2026)

CAMEO Network
Hispanas Organized for Political Equality
National Small Business Advocacy Council
Western Electrical Contractors Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: In support of the bill, CAMEO Network, writes in part, "[s]mall businesses are the backbone of California's economy, and many play a critical role as subcontractors supporting prime contractors on state-funded projects. These businesses deliver essential goods and services, drive innovation, and create jobs in communities across the state. Yet far too often, they face delayed payments that strain their cash flow, limit their ability to grow, and in some cases, threaten their very survival."

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: Brian Duke / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
8/5/26 15:04:35

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2274
Author: Bains (D)
Amended: 4/15/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Crimes: plea deals

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits, in any prosecution for human trafficking, pimping or pandering, where the victim is a minor, any plea agreement from granting immunity, leniency, anonymity, or nonprosecution to any person other than the defendant, except as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "plea bargaining" as "any bargaining, negotiation, or discussion between a criminal defendant, or their counsel, and a prosecuting attorney or judge, whereby the defendant agrees to plead guilty or nolo contendere, in exchange for any promises, commitments, concessions, assurances, or consideration by the prosecuting attorney or judge relating to any charge against the defendant or to the sentencing of the defendant." (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 1192.7, subd. (b).)

2) Provides that every plea must be made in open court, and may be oral or in writing, shall be entered upon the minutes of the court, and shall be taken

down in shorthand by the official reporter if one is present. Requires all pleas of guilty or nolo contendere to misdemeanors or felonies to be oral or in writing. (Pen. Code, § 1017.)

3) States that unless otherwise provided by law, every plea shall be entered or withdrawn by the defendant personally in open court. (Pen. Code, § 1018.)

4) Provides that on application of the defendant at any time before judgment or within six months after an order granting probation is made if entry of judgment is suspended, the court may, and in case of a defendant who appeared without counsel at the time of the plea the court shall, for a good cause shown, permit the plea of guilty to be withdrawn and a plea of not guilty substituted. (Ibid.)

5) Specifies that if the public offense charged is a felony not punishable with death, the magistrate shall immediately upon the appearance of counsel for the defendant read the complaint to the defendant and ask whether they plead guilty or not guilty to the offenses charged and to a previous conviction or convictions if charged. (Pen. Code, § 859a, subd. (a).)

6) Provides that while the charge remains pending before the magistrate and when the defendant is present, the defendant may plead guilty to the offense charged, or with the consent of the magistrate and the prosecuting attorney, plead nolo contendere to the offense charged, or to any other offense that is necessarily included in the charged offense, or to an attempt to commit the charged offense, or to any previous convictions charged. (Ibid.)

7) Provides that if the defendant subsequently files a written motion to withdraw the plea, the motion shall be heard and determined by the court before which the plea was entered. (Ibid.)

8) Provides that where the plea is accepted by the prosecuting attorney in open court and is approved by the court, the defendant, except as provided, cannot be sentenced on the plea to a punishment more severe than that specified in the plea and the court may not proceed as to the plea other than as specified in the plea. (Pen. Code, § 1192.5.)

9) Provides that if the court approves of the plea, it shall inform the defendant prior to the making of the plea that (1) its approval is not binding, (2) it may, at the time set for the hearing on the application for probation or pronouncement of judgment, withdraw its approval in the light of further consideration of the matter, and (3) in that case, the defendant shall be permitted to withdraw his or

her plea if he or she desires to do so. The court shall also cause an inquiry to be made of the defendant to satisfy itself that the plea is freely and voluntarily made, and that there is a factual basis for the plea. (Ibid.)

10) Provides that in the interest of justice, and in order to reach a just resolution during plea negotiations, the prosecutor shall consider during plea negotiations, among other factors, the specified circumstances as factors in support of a mitigated sentence. (Pen. Code, § 1016.7.)

11) Provides that a provision of a plea bargain that requires a defendant to generally waive future benefits of legislative enactments, initiatives, appellate decisions, or other changes in the law that may retroactively apply after the date of the plea is void as against public policy. (Pen. Code, § 1016.8.)

12) Provides that the prosecution shall not negotiate a plea agreement with a defendant in a career criminal prosecution, as defined, where "plea agreement" is defined as "an agreement by the defendant to plead guilty or nolo contendere in exchange for any or all of the following: a dismissal of charges, a reduction in the degree of a charge, a change of a charge to a lesser or different crime, a specific manner or extent of punishment. (Pen. Code, § 999f, subd. (c).)

13) 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).)

14) 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, punishable as specified.

15) Provides that who, knowing another person is a prostitute, lives or derives support or maintenance in whole or in part from the earnings or proceeds of the person's prostitution, or from money loaned or advanced to or charged against that person by any keeper or manager or inmate of a house or other place where prostitution is practiced or allowed, or who solicits or receives compensation for soliciting for the person, is guilty of pimping, a felony, punishable as provided. (Pen. Code, § 266h, subd. (a).)

16) Provides that any person who, knowing another person is a prostitute, lives or derives support or maintenance in whole or in part from the earnings or proceeds of the person's prostitution, or from money loaned or advanced to or charged against that person by any keeper or manager or inmate of a house or other place where prostitution is practiced or allowed, or who solicits or receives compensation for soliciting for the person, when the prostitute is a minor, is guilty of pimping a minor, a felony, punishable as provided. (Pen. Code, § 266h, subd. (b).)

17) Provides that any person who does any of the following is guilty of pandering, a felony, punishable by imprisonment in state prison:

    a) Procures another person for the purpose of prostitution.

    b) By promises, threats, violence, or by any device or scheme, causes, induces, persuades, or encourages another person to become a prostitute.

    c) Procures for another person a place as an inmate in a house of prostitution or as an inmate of any place in which prostitution is encouraged or allowed within this state.

    d) By promises, threats, violence, or by any device or scheme, causes, induces, persuades, or encourages an inmate of a house of prostitution, or any other place in which prostitution is encouraged or allowed, to remain therein as an inmate.

    e) By fraud or artifice, or by duress of person or goods, or by abuse of any position of confidence or authority, procures another person for the purpose of prostitution, or to enter any place in which prostitution is encouraged or allowed within this state, or to come into this state or leave this state for the purpose of prostitution.

    f) Receives or gives, or agrees to receive or give, any money or thing of value for procuring, or attempting to procure, another person for the purpose of prostitution, or to come into this state or leave this state for the purpose of prostitution. (Pen. Code, § 266i).

This bill:

1) Provides that in any prosecution for human trafficking, pimping or pandering in which the victim was a minor, no plea agreement, nonprosecution agreement, immunity agreement, or other disposition shall grant immunity, leniency, anonymity, or nonprosecution to any person other than the defendant unless that

person is specifically named in the written agreement and the agreement is approved by the court after a hearing in which victims are given notice and an opportunity to be heard.

Comments

Epstein Sweetheart Deal. Today, the multifarious and abhorrent crimes of Jeffrey Epstein are well documented and well known to the public, but nearly three decades ago, when the FBI first received a complaint about his possible criminal misconduct, Epstein was a successful financial consultant building relationships with some of the world's richest and most powerful individuals. Epstein's criminal enterprise started to come to light in March 2005, when the police in Palm Beach, Florida started investigating Epstein after the family of a 14-year-old girl reported that she was molested at his mansion. As more heinous crimes were exposed over the subsequent year, police in Palm Beach built a case against Epstein that resulted in his arrest in July 2006 after a grand jury indicted him on one count of soliciting prostitution. This relatively minor charge in the face of Epstein's alleged sexual misconduct infuriated local leaders, prompting a federal investigation, which resulted in the preparation of a 53-page, 60-count indictment based on evidence involving over 30 underage victims.

However, despite this overwhelming evidence of wrongdoing, federal prosecutors, led by United States Attorney for the Southern District of Florida Alex Acosta, entered into a secretive (and upon being made public, highly controversial) plea agreement with Epstein in which he would plead guilty to two state-level prostitution charges, register as a sex offender, and serve 18 months in county jail (of which he ultimately served 13 months) with nearly unrestricted daily work release. This plea deal also included a non-prosecution agreement that extended immunity from prosecution for federal crimes not only to Epstein but to four named co-conspirators and any unnamed "potential co-conspirators." This non-prosecution agreement essentially shut down an ongoing FBI probe into whether there were more victims and other perpetrators. As part of the arrangement, Acosta agreed that the deal would be sealed until after it was approved by the judge, keeping it from victims and preventing them from appearing in court to challenge it. It was this lenient agreement with federal prosecutors that allowed Epstein to quickly return to his life of luxury and resume his sinister criminal enterprises.

Plea Bargaining in California. California law defines "plea bargaining" as any bargaining, negotiation, or discussion between a criminal defendant, or their counsel, and a prosecuting attorney or judge, whereby the defendant agrees to plead guilty or nolo contendere, in exchange for any promises, commitments,

concessions, assurances, or consideration by the prosecuting attorney or judge relating to any charge against the defendant or to the sentencing of the defendant. When the parties agree on a plea deal, that plea must be made in open court and may be oral or in writing. When the plea is accepted by the prosecutor in open court and is approved by the judge, the defendant is barred from being sentenced more severely than specified in the plea and the court may not proceed on the plea other than specified therein. Moreover, when the court approves of a plea deal, the judge must inform the defendant prior to the making of the plea that its approval is not binding and may be withdrawn, in which case the defendant is entitled to withdraw from the agreement. The court is also required to ensure that the plea is voluntarily and freely made, and that there is a factual basis for the plea.

This bill includes several legislative findings and declarations, including an assertion that "California must ensure that no prosecutor can ever again offer, and no court can ever again approve, an "Epstein loophole" in cases involving the commercial sexual exploitation or sexual abuse of minors," and that while "existing California law already imposes severe penalties for these crimes […] prosecutors retain excessive discretion to down-charge, offer blanket immunity to uncharged accomplices, or agree to dispositions that result in little or no prison time." Accordingly, this bill prohibits, in prosecutions of human trafficking, pimping or pandering in which the victim was a minor, any plea agreement, non-prosecution agreement, immunity agreement, or other disposition from granting immunity, leniency, anonymity, or non-prosecution to any person other than the defendant unless that person is specifically named in the written agreement and the agreement is approved by the court after a hearing in which victims are given notice and an opportunity to be heard.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
California 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 County District Attorney's Office
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
Peace Officers Research Association of California
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

ACLU California Action
Initiate Justice

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Dixon, Elhawary, Kalra, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Alex Barnett / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 15:04:35

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

SENATE RULES COMMITTEE AB 2280
Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2280
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 4/27/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vehicle liens

SOURCE: California Association of Licensed Repossessors

DIGEST: This bill 1) specifies that a repossession agency licensed under the Collateral Recovery Act is not prohibited from filing a lien on a motor vehicle if a lien is not in place; and 2) provides that, if a lien is currently in place and the lienholder does not affirmatively waive the right to the lien in writing or does not respond to a request for waiver within 30 days of notice being mailed to the lienholder, a repossession agency may file the lien on their own behalf.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Collateral Recovery Act (Act) to provide for the regulation of repossession agencies and repossessors by the for Bureau of Security and Investigative Services (Bureau) within the Department of Consumer Affairs. (Business and Professions Code §§ 7500 et seq.)

2) Establishes procedures for filing vehicle liens, including the circumstances under which a lien may be filed, who may file a lien, what notice is required, and that a lienholder is required to apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles

(DMV) for authorization to conduct a lien sale. (Civil (Civ.) Code §§ 3067 et seq.)

3) Provides that every person has a lien dependent upon possession for the compensation to which the person is legally entitled for making repairs or performing labor upon, and furnishing supplies or materials for, and for the storage, repair, or safekeeping of, and for the rental of parking space for, any vehicle of a type subject to registration under the Vehicle Code, subject to specified limitations. (Civ. Code § 3068.)

4) Provides that every person has a lien dependent upon possession for the compensation to which the person is legally entitled for towing, storage, or labor associated with recovery or load salvage of any vehicle subject to registration that has been authorized to be removed by a public agency, a private property owner pursuant to Section 22658 of the Vehicle Code, or a lessee, operator, or registered owner of the vehicle. The lien is deemed to arise on the date of possession of the vehicle. (Civ. Code § 3068.1.)

5) Requires a lienholder to apply to the DMV for the issuance of an authorization to conduct a lien sale for any vehicle with a value determined to be over $4,000, and requires notice to be made that allows for a declaration of opposition to the sale, as provided. The application is to be executed under penalty of perjury. (Civ. Code § 3071.)

This bill:

1) Specifies that a repossession agency licensed under the Act is not prohibited from filing a lien on a motor vehicle if a lien is not in place.

2) Provides that, if a lien is currently in place and the lienholder does not affirmatively waive the right to the lien in writing or does not respond to a request for waiver within 30 days of notice being mailed to the lienholder, a repossession agency may file the lien on its own behalf.

Comments

A repossession agency contracts with a legal owner, such as a credit grantor of personal property, to locate and recover property sold under a security agreement, such as a car loan. The most common property recovered is a motor vehicle. Under existing law, a repossession agency may not release a vehicle it has repossessed unless expressly authorized to do so by the legal owner. According to the sponsor of the bill, often after determining that a repossessed vehicle is not worth sending to auction, the legal owner abandons the vehicle on the repossession agency's lot.

This leaves repossession agencies burdened with the indefinite storage of unclaimed vehicles if they cannot obtain a lien on the vehicle and sell them. This bill seeks to specify that repossession agencies are allowed to file a lien on a motor vehicle.

The Civil Code establishes a detailed process for filing liens on vehicles, including getting permission from the DMV to conduct a lien sale of the vehicle. The sponsor states that prior to 2024, repossession agencies were able to get approval from the DMV to place a lien on these abandoned vehicles and eventually sell them. However, the sponsor states that the DMV has told repossession agencies that they are not permitted to file such liens and has not explained why the policy has changed, even though the underlying vehicle lien statutes have not. This bill seeks to clarify that the repossession agency can file a lien under the Civil Code. The bill provides that if there is a lien currently in place and the lienholder does not either affirmatively waive the right to the lien in writing, or respond to a request for waiver within 30 days of notice being mailed to the lienholder, a repossession agency may file the lien on their own behalf. The bill specifies that all other provisions related to placing a lien on a motor vehicle, including getting permission from the DMV to conduct a lien sale, must still be complied with.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/6/26)

California Association of Licensed Repossessors (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/6/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

> AB 2280 is a simple clarification bill that ensures licensed repossession agencies can lien sale vehicles that are no longer wanted by the original lienholder or financial institution that requested repossession. This codifies an existing practice that had been in place for decades, until a change in DMV policy starting in 2024. Without this change, licensed repossessors are stuck with unwanted repossessed vehicles on their lots indefinitely. Through stakeholder feedback and amendments, AB 2280 strikes the necessary balance between simple clarification of law and protection of private property rights for financial intuitions and consumers.

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: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/3/26 15:20:44

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2281
Author: Berman (D)
Amended: 7/1/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-1, 6/30/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NOES: Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-9, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Office of Elections Cybersecurity

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Secretary of State (SOS) to assess whether additional state resources are needed to replace election cybersecurity resources previously provided by the federal government and permits the Office of Elections Cybersecurity (OEC) to consult with academic researchers to develop best practices for protecting against threats to election cybersecurity.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes, under the SOS, the OEC and tasks the OEC with the following:

   a) 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 the state.

   b) Monitoring and counteracting false or misleading information regarding the electoral process that is published online or on other platforms and that may

suppress voter participation or cause confusion and disruption of the orderly and secure administration of elections.

2) Requires the OEC to do all of the following:

   a) Coordinate between federal, state, and local agencies the sharing of information on threats to election cybersecurity, risk assessment, and threat mitigation in a timely manner and in a manner that protects sensitive information.

   b) In consultation with federal, state, and local agencies and private organizations, develop best practices for protecting against threats to election cybersecurity.

   c) In consultation with state and local agencies, develop and include best practices for cyber incident responses in emergency preparedness plans for elections.

   d) Identify resources, such as protective security tools, training, and other resources available to state and county election officials.

   e) Advise the SOS on issues related to election cybersecurity, and make recommendations for changes to state laws, regulations, and policies to further protect election infrastructure.

   f) Serve as a liaison between the SOS, other state agencies, federal agencies, and local election officials on election cybersecurity issues.

   g) Coordinate efforts within the SOS to protect the security of internet-connected elections-related resources, including the state's online voter registration system, the statewide voter registration database (VoteCal), the SOS' election night results website, online campaign and lobbying filing and disclosure system developed by the SOS (CalAccess), and other parts of the SOS' website.

   h) Assess the false or misleading information regarding the electoral process that is published online or other platforms, mitigate the false or misleading information, and educate voters, especially new and unregistered voters, with valid information from election officials or the SOS.

This bill:

1) Requires the SOS to assess whether additional state resources are needed to replace election cybersecurity resources previously provided by the federal government.

2) Permits the OEC to consult with academic researchers to develop best practices for protecting against threats to election cybersecurity.

3) Makes minor and technical changes.

Background

Office of Elections Cybersecurity. AB 3075 (Berman, Chapter 241, Statutes of 2018) established the OEC, known as the Election Security Program, within the 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. The OEC is also 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. The SOS also provides information on how to identify incorrect election information, information on where to find correct election information, and ways to report false or misleading information.

Additionally, the OEC works with federal, state, and local partners to share election security information and best practices. This includes the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, California Department of Technology, California Office of Emergency Services, California Highway Patrol, and county election officials. Cybersecurity trainings with federal and state partners, as well as organizing tabletop exercises and drills for county election officials, are also hosted by the OEC.

Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency. The federal Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) works with partners at every level to coordinate efforts relating to information on critical infrastructure in the United States. This includes election security and cybersecurity. In 2025, 130 CISA positions were eliminated and funding for information-sharing programs under

CISA were terminated. This led to new concerns with the agency's ability to provide information and combat domestic and foreign cyber threats.

Comments

Author's Statement. I was proud to author legislation in 2018 to create the OEC, which is tasked with coordinating efforts between federal, state, and local officials to reduce the likelihood and severity of cyber incidents that threaten the integrity of California elections. Unfortunately, the Trump Administration has cut critical funding, coordination, and support that helped states guard against threats to our election systems. Given the loss of federal election cybersecurity infrastructure, this bill would direct OEC to assess if additional state resources are needed to ensure that California officials continue to have the information and tools necessary to defend our democracy from cyber-attacks. Additionally, this bill would strengthen OEC by authorizing them to consult with academic researchers, allowing them to utilize their expertise in support of OEC's mission.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 3075 (Berman, Chapter 241, Statutes of 2018) established the OEC within the SOS' office.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-9, 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, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Dixon, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Castillo, Chen, Ellis, Flora, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria, Ta, Wallis

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/5/26 15:04:36

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2290
Author: Lackey (R)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 4/6/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Civil discovery: oral depositions: transcriptions

SOURCE: Esquire Deposition Solutions, LLC
Magna Legal Services
U.S. Legal Support, Inc.
Veritext, LLC

DIGEST: This bill permits a deposition officer to transmit a certified deposition transcript electronically to the party who noticed the deposition, provided that specified conditions are met.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Civil Discovery Act, which governs the conduct of discovery in civil cases in the state. (Code of Civil Procedure (Civ. Proc.), pt. 4, tit. 4, §§ 2016.010 et seq.)

2) Provides for the taking of testimony through an oral deposition within the state, recorded through stenographic means and, unless otherwise agreed by the parties, transcribed; the deposition must be conducted by a deposition officer, who is authorized to administer an oath. (Code Civ. Proc., pt. 4, tit. 4, ch. 9, §§ 2025.010 et seq.)

3) Requires the deposition officer, after the completion of the transcript of a deposition, to notify the deponent and all parties attending the deposition when the original transcript of the testimony is available for reading, correcting, and signing; the deponent has 30 days, unless otherwise agreed to by the parties, to make corrections to the transcript. (Code Civ. Proc., § 2025.520.)

4) Requires the deposition officer to certify on the transcript of the deposition that the deponent was duly sworn and that the transcript is a true record of the testimony given; if the transcript is prepared as a rough draft, the transcript may not be certified and may not be used, cited, or transcribed as the certified transcript of the deposition proceedings. (Code Civ. Proc., § 2025.540.)

5) Provides that the certified transcript shall not be filed with the court, and instead shall be transmitted to the attorney for the party who noticed the deposition, as follows:

   a) The deposition officer shall securely seal that transcript in an envelope or package endorsed with the title of the action and marked "Deposition of [name of deponent]".

   b) The deposition officer shall promptly transmit the certified transcript to the party who noticed the deposition.

   c) The attorney shall store the certified transcript under conditions that will protect it against loss, destruction, or tampering.

   d) The attorney shall retain custody of the certified transcript until six months after final disposition of the action, at which time the transcript may be destroyed, unless the court finds good cause to order the preservation of the transcript for a longer period. (Code Civ. Proc., § 2025.550.)

6) Provides that any part or all of a deposition taken in an action may be used against any party who was present or represented at the taking of the deposition, or who had due notice of the deposition and did not serve a valid objection, so far as admissible under the rules of evidence applied as though the deponent were then present and testifying as a witness, in accordance with the following:

   a) Any party may use a deposition for the purpose of contradicting or impeaching the testimony of the deponent as a witness, or for any purpose permitted by the Evidence Code.

   b) An adverse party may use, for any purpose, a deposition of the party to the action or a person who was, at the time of the deposition, an officer, director,

managing agent, employee, agent, or designee of a party, even if the deponent is available to testify, has testified, or will testify in the trial or hearing.

c) Any party may use for any purpose the deposition of any person or organization, including a party, if the court finds that the deponent is, through no fault of the proponent of the deposition, unavailable to testify in the action, as specified.

d) Any party may use a video recording of deposition testimony of a treating or consulting physician or of any expert witness, as specified.

e) If any party offers any part of a deposition, any other party may introduce other parts of the deposition that are relevant to the parts introduced. (Code Civ. Proc., § 2025.620.)

This bill:

1) Clarifies that, if a party retained an entity to provide deposition services in connection with a noticed deposition, the entity has the obligation to deliver an official certified transcript to the noticing party.

2) Provides that, upon request of the attorney for the party who noticed the deposition, the deposition officer or registered entity may instead transmit the certified transcript electronically to the attorneys who noticed the deposition, subject to all of the following:.

   a) The deposition officer or registered entity shall notify the other parties that the certified transcript will be transmitted electronically.

   b) The deposition officer or registered entity shall transmit the transcript to the attorneys using end-to-end encryption or an application that provides, at a minimum, encryption of the file while at rest and in transit.

   c) The electronic transcript shall be in a format that prevents the transcript or any aspect of the file from being modified and that enables the parties and the court to verify that the transcript is authentic and has not been altered after it was certified by the deposition officer.

   d) The attorney or party shall store the transcript under conditions that will protect it against loss, destruction, or tampering.

e) When presenting an electronically stored transcript to a court for any purpose, the attorney shall certify that the transcript is a true and correct copy of the transcript received electronically and stored as required by this measure.

3) Requires a court to accept a transcript transmitted, formatted, stored, and certified pursuant to 2) as an original certified transcript kept under seal.

Comments

The transcript of a deposition taken in a civil action can serve a number of purposes, including preserving testimony for trial and impeaching witnesses. Because the transcript of a deposition taken in an action can be offered as testimony for any purpose consistent with the Evidence Code, the integrity of the transcript is paramount. Current law requires the deposition officer to transmit the official certified copy of a deposition transcript to the attorney who noticed the deposition in sealed envelope; the attorney must keep the official copy in the sealed envelope until trial, at which point it is lodged with the court and can become part of the official record.

This bill permits the attorney or party who noticed a deposition, on request, to receive the official certified transcript in electronic form rather than as a tangible copy, provided that certain transmission, formatting, and storage requirements are met. This bill also requires an attorney to certify that an electronically stored transcript satisfies the requirements of this bill at every instance the attorney presents the transcript to the court. Additionally, this bill clarifies that, if a party retained an entity to provide deposition services in connection with a noticed deposition, the entity has the obligation to deliver an official certified transcript to the noticing party.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/27/26)

Esquire Deposition Solutions, LLC (co-source)
Magna Legal Services (co-source)
U.S. Legal Support, Inc. (co-source)
Veritext, LLC (co-source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/27/26)

California Court Reporters Association
Deposition Reporters of California

Kuziora Deposition Reporters
Protect Your Record Project
Three individuals

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the bill's co-sponsors:

> AB 2290 modernizes California's deposition procedures by allowing certified deposition transcripts to be securely transmitted electronically to the attorney who noticed the deposition when that attorney requests electronic delivery. Under current law, a deposition officer must seal the certified transcript in an envelope or package and transmit it to the noticing attorney by physical delivery or mail, even when the attorney prefers to receive the transcript electronically.
>
> Depositions are a critical component of the civil discovery process. During a deposition, a witness provides sworn testimony that is recorded by a deposition reporter and later transcribed into the official record. These transcripts are essential for case preparation, evaluating claims and defenses, and facilitating settlement discussions.
>
> However, the statutory requirement that transcripts be transmitted in a sealed physical package reflects procedures developed before the widespread use of secure electronic communication and cloud-based document management systems. As a result, attorneys who prefer electronic delivery must still wait for physical shipment of the transcript, creating unnecessary delays and administrative costs.
>
> AB 2290 provides a commonsense update to the Code of Civil Procedure by authorizing deposition officers to securely transmit certified transcripts electronically when requested by the noticing attorney. The bill preserves the integrity of the official record while improving efficiency in the discovery process by reducing mailing delays and allowing attorneys to review testimony more quickly.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to the Deposition Reporters of California:

> Current law requires a neutral party court reporter to print and seal the original printed transcript in an envelope. For many, many decades, this simple requirement has successfully and uncontroversially protected original deposition transcripts from being tampered with.

Presumably to respond to objections that the prior version of AB 2290 did not offer an adequate no-tampering substitute to current law, the amendments to AB 2290 require the original transcript to be "encrypted".

Encryption, however, does not prevent the electronic document, once received by someone with the key, from being purposefully or accidentally lost or altered. Encryption may only protect the transcript from being abused by someone who, without the key, intercepts it. If an encrypted electronic document is received by someone with the key, is opened, and then stored in a computer or database, the document is as vulnerable to being altered or deleted while electronically stored as if it had not been encrypted while in transit at all.

And what that means is that, unless the document itself is rendered somehow comparably tamperproof by anyone with access to the computers where the sole original is electronically stored – and no part of AB 2290 even addresses this -- it is as vulnerable either to being accidentally or purposefully tampered with or accidentally deleted as an unencrypted document.

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, 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, Patterson, 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, Flora, Gabriel, Harabedian, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/3/26 17:24:35

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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.

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[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/qspfl_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 a 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2296
Author: Papan (D)
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation

SOURCE: League of California Cities

DIGEST: This bill extends a number of timelines in the process of regional housing needs determination (RHND), regional housing needs allocation (RHNA), and housing element revision.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that each community's fair share of housing be determined through the RHND and the subsequent RHNA plan for the region. Establishes the RHND/RHNA process as follows:

   a) Department of Finance (DOF) and the department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) develop regional housing needs estimates;

   b) Councils of Government (COGs) allocate housing within each region based on these determinations, and where a COG does not exist, HCD conducts the allocations; and

c) cities and counties incorporate these allocations into their housing elements.

2) Requires HCD, in consultation with each COG, to determine the RHND for each region using population projections produced by DOF and regional population forecasts used in preparing Regional Transportation Plan (RTP) updates, in consultation with each COG.

3) Requires HCD, at least 26 months prior to the housing element adoption deadline for the region and prior to developing the existing and projected housing need for a region, to meet and consult with the COG regarding the assumptions and methodology to be used by HCD to develop the RHND. Requires the COG to provide data assumptions from their projections, as specified.

4) Requires HCD, after consultation with the COG, to make a determination of the region's existing and projected housing need based upon the assumptions and methodology determined in 3). Requires the RHND to reflect the achievement of a feasible balance between jobs and housing within the region using the regional employment projections in the applicable regional transportation plan.

5) Requires each COG or delegate subregion, at least two years before a scheduled revision of the housing element, to develop, in consultation with HCD, a proposed methodology for distributing the RHNA to cities, counties, and cities and counties within the region or subregion.

6) Requires each COG or delegate subregion, at least one and one-half years before a scheduled revision of the housing element, to distribute a draft RHNA allocation plan to each local government in the region or subregion, and HCD, based on the methodology in 5) above, and publish the draft allocation on its website.

This bill:

1) Revises the time by which two or more cities and a county, or counties, may form a subregional entity for the purpose of allocating the subregion's RHNA among its members, from 28 months prior to the scheduled housing element update to 34 months prior.

2) Revises the time by which a COG must determine the share of RHNA assigned to each delegate subregion in 2) above from 25 months prior to the scheduled revision to 31 months prior.

3) Revises the time by which each COG or delegate subregion shall develop, in consultation with the HCD, a proposed methodology for distributing the RHNA to local governments within the region or subregion, from at least two years prior to the scheduled housing element revision to at least two and one-half years prior.

4) Revises the time by which each COG and delegate subregion shall distribute a draft RHNA to each local government in the region or subregion and to HCD based on the methodology described in 4) above and to publish the draft RHNA on its website, from at least one and one-half years before the scheduled housing element revision to at least two years prior.

5) Provides that the changes made by this bill do not apply to councils of governments with a housing element revision due in 2027 or 2028.

Background

Housing elements. Every city and county in California is required to develop a general plan that outlines the community's vision of future development through a series of policy statements and goals. A community's general plan lays the foundation for all future land use decisions, as these decisions must be consistent with the plan. General plans are comprised of several elements that address various land use topics: land use, circulation (*e.g.,* traffic), housing, conservation, open-space, noise, and safety.

Each community's general plan must include a housing element, which outlines a long-term plan for meeting the community's existing and projected housing needs. The housing element demonstrates how the community plans to accommodate its "fair share" of its region's housing needs. In general, a housing element must identify and analyze existing and project housing needs, identify adequate sites with appropriate zoning to meet its share of the RHNA, and ensure that regulatory systems provide opportunities for, and do not unduly constrain, housing development.

Comments

Author's Statement. "AB 2296 will improve the housing element review process by addressing the delays and challenges local governments face in dealing with HCD. This bill makes two key improvements: first, it starts the Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) process six months earlier, giving municipalities more time to work on their housing elements and allowing them to engage with HCD sooner. Additionally, the bill will stagger housing element deadlines within

Councils of Government to ease the workload on HCD staff, freeing up their time for one-on-one, tailored feedback to municipalities. These changes will help local governments develop compliant housing elements on time, supporting the production of much-needed housing and ensuring clarity in the process"

California's Housing Future 2040. HCD recently published *California's Housing Future 2040: The Next Regional Housing Needs Allocation* pursuant to a statutory directive to develop recommendations to improve the RHNA process and methodology that promotes and streamlines housing development and substantially addresses California's housing shortage following a stakeholder engagement process. One of the recommendations HCD adopted in the report recommends moving up the RHND consultation process by one year. Specifically, HCD includes a recommendation in the report that recommends, "Moving up the date by which the RHND must be provided by one year." HCD additionally noted in its report that requiring the consultation to take place three years prior to the housing element due date will foster better alignment between the housing element cycle and RTP and Sustainable Community Strategy planning cycles.

Timelines. In addition to extending the timeframe for the formation of subregional entities, this bill extends a number of timelines in the RHND/RHNA and housing element process by six months. Specifically, this bill extends the following timelines as follows:

a) Each COG must develop its proposed RHNA methodology at least 2.5 years prior to the scheduled housing element revision, rather than two years under existing law.

b) Each COG must distribute its draft RHNA allocation plan at least two years prior to the scheduled housing element revision, rather than 1.5 years under existing law.

c) These changes do not apply for the seventh housing element cycle to COGs with a housing element revision due date during the 2027 or 2028 calendar year.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

League of California Cities (source)
Chino Hills; City of

City of Carpinteria
City of Corona
City of El Cerrito
City of Emeryville
City of Foster City
City of Goleta
City of Lafayette
City of Lakewood CA
City of Merced
City of Milpitas
City of Moorpark
City of Palm Desert
City of Rancho Cucamonga
City of Redwood City
City of Torrance
City/county Association of Governments of San Mateo County
Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers
San Diego Association of Governments
Sonoma County Mayors' and Councilmembers' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Supporters argue that AB 2296 will help local governments begin updating their housing elements six months early, so the have adequate time to collaborate with HCD and receive technical assistance as needed to ensure they adopt a certified housing element on time.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/27/26
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, Gallagher, 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: Bonta, Gabriel, Garcia, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 15:04:37

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 6146[1], 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.)

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[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 2307
Author: Sanchez (R), et al.
Amended: 4/6/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Transportation: traffic signal synchronization pilot program: Western Riverside Council of Governments

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the Western Riverside Council of Governments (WRCOG), in coordination with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), to establish and administer a traffic signal synchronization pilot program until January 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Authorizes local governments to time traffic signals to permit the movement of traffic in an orderly and safe manner at speeds slightly at variance from maximum speed limits. (Vehicle Code [VEH] § 22401)

2) Allocates $250 million in revenues from the Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006 (Proposition 1B) for the Traffic Light Synchronization Program. (Government Code [GOV] 8879.23(k))

3) Allocates $150 million of Traffic Light Synchronization Program funds to the City of Los Angeles. (GOV 8879.64)

4) Makes traffic signal synchronization projects eligible, as part of a sustainable infrastructure project, for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) moneys under certain conditions. (SHC 2581)

This bill:

1) Makes findings and declarations regarding the importance of coordinated traffic signal timing.

2) Authorizes WRCOG, in coordination with Caltrans, to establish a traffic signal synchronization pilot program in western Riverside County to evaluate a regional model for coordinating traffic signal timing between state highways and local street and road systems.

3) Requires Caltrans to participate in the pilot program and review work plans, data standards, and evaluation methodologies.

4) Authorizes WRCOG's local member agencies to conduct studies, implement coordinated signal timing plans, and deploy technology or communication upgrades necessary to implement the pilot.

5) Specifies that eligible activities under the pilot program include, but are not limited to:

   a) Traffic signal synchronization studies;

   b) Corridor-level operational analyses;

   c) Implementation of coordinated and adaptive signal timing plans;

   d) Upgrades to traffic signal hardware or software;

   e) Deployment of detection and communications infrastructure; and,

   f) Data collection and performance monitoring related to travel time reliability, congestion reduction, safety, and emissions outcomes.

6) Requires WRCOG, in coordination with Caltrans, to evaluate the effectiveness of the pilot program, including assessing impacts on congestion, travel time reliability, operational efficiency, and vehicle emissions.

7) Requires WRCOG, by January 1, 2028, to submit a report to the Legislature summarizing the pilot's outcomes and performance, identifying best practices and implementation challenges, and making recommendations regarding the applicability of the pilot program statewide.

8) Sunsets and repeals the bill's language on January 1, 2032.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "Riverside County is one of the fastest-growing regions in California, with cities like Murrieta consistently meeting their state-mandated RHNA housing targets. This growth increases the need for efficient traffic systems. Traffic signal synchronization can reduce emissions, save time, and ease congestion. AB 2307 is a commonsense solution to support the region's continued growth."

Traffic Signal Synchronization. Traffic signal synchronization (also referred to as traffic light synchronization or signal/light retiming) generally refers to an engineering practice of sequencing the timing of traffic lights via vehicle detectors along a corridor to improve traffic flow. This is in contrast to fixed-time signals which run at specified intervals, only accounting for time-of-day differences. Signal retiming at these intersections typically requires manual data collection and is generally only done every three to five years.

Synchronization, in contrast, calculates in real-time when a group of vehicles traveling at a set speed will reach each intersection. When signals are strategically timed, drivers arrive at the next light just as it turns green, allowing traffic to flow smoothly with minimal delay. Overall, studies show that signal synchronization reduces both travel delay and greenhouse gas and other emissions. Exact numbers vary widely based on the study, but generally accepted travel delay reductions are in the 15-20% range.

Unfortunately, high installation and maintenance costs of vehicle detectors have deterred the widespread use of detector-based systems. The installation costs of a detection system at a single intersection can cost several thousand dollars, including in some cases up to $50,000. Thus, a large proportion of signalized intersections in the United States do not have detection capabilities and are still controlled by fixed-time traffic signals.

Traffic Signal Synchronization in California. California law allows local authorities to employ traffic signal synchronization to permit the safe and orderly movement of traffic. Increasingly, over the past decades, many jurisdictions across

the state have taken advantage of this to engage in widespread traffic signal synchronization projects. These include most prominently Los Angeles and cities across Orange County.

In 2006, as part of Proposition 1B, the state created the Traffic Light Synchronization Program to support synchronization projects across the state. $250 million of Proposition 1B funds were set aside for the project, with $150 million of that going to the City of Los Angeles. According to the Los Angeles Department of Transportation, the city synchronized all of its more than 4,500 traffic lights by 2013, increasing travel speeds by 16% and reducing travel times by 12%. Sixty other jurisdictions also received grant funding under this program including, of relevance to this bill, the Cities of Murrieta, Corona, and Temecula.

Many of these projects have been able to synchronize lights not just in particular cities, but across regions as well, including on state highways owned by Caltrans. In many of these cases, Caltrans worked collaboratively with local jurisdictions on synchronization. For example, Caltrans has executed memoranda of understanding (MOUs) with local jurisdictions such as the Coachella Valley Association of Governments, the City of Hesperia, and the City of Riverside, itself a member of WRCOG. These MOUs generally require a local government to procure and install synchronization technology on Caltrans owned signals and authorize the local government to develop signal timing plans in coordination with Caltrans.

Traffic Signal Synchronization across WRCOG. WRCOG is comprised of 18 cities including the cities of Riverside, Corona, Moreno Valley, Lake Elsinore, Murrieta and Temecula. Due to high rates of population growth and an increase in the number of commuters both within and originating from the region, WRCOG has seen a notable increase in traffic congestion in recent years. WRCOG has identified particular corridors of concern, primarily located near the Interstate (I-15) and I-215 freeways. There are over 400 signalized intersections throughout this area, of which only roughly 130 intersections are currently synchronized.

Based on the benefits seen from previous synchronization projects in the region, including in the aforementioned City of Temecula, WRCOG would like to synchronize the rest of the signals in this region. However, of the remaining signals, roughly 80 of them are controlled by Caltrans, primarily along State Routes 74 and 79. Furthermore, 30 of these signals are directly at I-15 and I-215 interchanges, where much of the congestion originates.

According to WRCOG, they have had difficulty reaching an agreement with Caltrans to implement traffic signal synchronization across this area, particularly at

these Caltrans controlled intersection of concern. AB 2307 seeks to address this issue by requiring Caltrans to work with WRCOG on implementing traffic signal synchronization. Thus, although legislation is not technically necessary as existing law already authorizes these types of projects, AB 2307 will provide firm guidance to both WRCOG and Caltrans on how to move forward with the pilot program.

Specifically, AB 2307 permits WRCOG to implement a pilot program, with required participation from local agencies and Caltrans. WRCOG and its member agencies are also required to fully fund the program. Finally, by January 1, 2028, WRCOG is required to submit a report to the Legislature on the outcomes of the pilot. According to WRCOG, they have the required funds available and are ready to proceed with the project once Caltrans allows them access to the signals Caltrans controls.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

City of Menifee
City of Moreno Valley
City of Murrieta
City of Temecula
Southwest California Legislative Council

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Samuel Myers / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121

8/5/26 15:04:37

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2312
Author: Ávila Farías (D), et al.
Amended: 6/25/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: State property: tidelands transfer: City of Martinez: leases

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the City of Martinez (City) to lease certain city trust lands for up to 66 years, or for a longer term if authorized by the State Lands Commission (commission) if the commission finds that a longer lease is in the best interest of the state.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Establishes the commission as the steward and manager of the state's public trust lands. (Public Resources Code (PRC §6009)
2) Establishes the City as a trustee of sovereign tide and submerged lands granted by the Legislature all right, title, and interest of the state to four specified parcels of land in the Straits of Carquinez, to be held in trust for specified uses. (Chapter 815 of the Statutes of 1976, and Chapter 628 of the Statutes of 2014)
3) Authorizes the City, as trustee, to lease the trust lands for limited periods not to exceed 49 years. (Section 3, Chapter 628, Statutes of 2014).

4) Recasts the three granted lands statutes and adds a fourth parcel to the City pursuant to SB 1424 (Wolk, Chapter 628, Statutes of 2014).
5) Authorizes the commission, in recognition of deteriorated conditions at the Martinez Marina (Marina), until June 30, 2029, to relieve the trustee of its obligation to transmit gross revenues so the trustee can take action to address those conditions, including the dredging of sediment to restore adequate depth for launching, berthing, and safe navigation at the marina. (Chapter 628, Statutes of 2014 (d)(2))

This bill:

1) Authorizes the City, as trustee, to lease trust lands for a period not to exceed 66 years.
2) Authorizes the commission to approve a lease term for longer than 66 years if the commission finds that a longer lease is in the best interest of the state.
3) Changes "his or her" to "their"
4) Fixes an erroneous reference to statute.
5) Specifies that the trustee shall bear the cost of any study or analysis undertaken by the commission to review whether a longer lease term is in the best interest of the state.
    a) Specifies that the trustee may seek reimbursement from the master developer.
6) Makes findings and declarations regarding the Marina as public trust lands of the City.
7) Declares the intent of the Legislature that the parties to the agreement to revitalize the Martinez waterfront continue to work together to determine the appropriate lease term to spur the revitalization of the public trust lands.

Background

City of Martinez trusted lands. The City was initially granted certain sovereign lands in trust in 1851. The grant to the City was repealed and re-granted in 1976 and 2014. Chapter 628, Statutes of 2014 repealed the City's prior grants and provided the City with a new grant of sovereign tide and submerged lands that updated the granting statute and added an additional parcel that encompasses the Marina.

The City must use the land for purposes consistent with the Public Trust Doctrine and, beginning in 2020, in conformance with a trust lands use plan approved by the commission.

SB 1424 (Wolk, Chapter 628, Statutes of 2014), established a revenue-sharing agreement between the City and the state. This revenue sharing requires the City to transmit 20% of the annual revenue generated from its granted lands to the commission, of which 80% is deposited into the state's General Fund and 20% into the Kapiloff Land Bank. Recognizing the deteriorating conditions at the Marina, SB 1424 allowed the commission to relieve the City of its revenue-sharing obligation until June 30, 2021. This relief was intended to enable the City to address critical issues at the Marina, including dredging to restore adequate depth for vessel launching, berthing, and safe navigation.

AB 1686 (Grayson, Chapter 143, Statutes of 2023), subsequently extended the commission's authority to annually relieve the City from its revenue sharing requirement for another five years—from January 1, 2024, until June 30, 2029. This extension supports the City's efforts to restore the deteriorated Marina's condition through continued dredging and maintenance activities.

Martinez Marina. The City waterfront encompasses almost 80 acres of trust lands along the northern shoreline that are zoned for open space and recreational use. Included is the Marina, which has a range of facilities, including a harbormaster building, boat slips, a four-lane public launch ramp, a fishing pier, a guest dock, wastewater pump-out facilities, and a bait shop.

Constructed in the 1960s, the facility has far exceeded its useful life. Studies on the Marina's marine structures and sedimentation confirm that it is in extremely poor condition, highlighting the urgent need for action to preserve access and functionality. Revitalizing the waterfront and Marina has been a top community priority for decades. With aging infrastructure, deteriorating facilities, limited resources, and a marina well beyond its useful life, the City has faced growing operational and financial pressures that necessitate a broader reimagining through a private-public partnership.

In June 2024, the City's long-standing marina management partner, Almar Management, submitted a 60-day notice to terminate its contract after almost 20 years. Almar Management stated that the Marina has deteriorated beyond the point of viable maintenance or repair, making continued operation infeasible. The City continues to address only key safety issues and minimally maintains the boat, pedestrian, and vehicular access in and around the Marina, but rising costs, infrastructure challenges, and storm damage have strained the City's limited financial resources.

At the December 17, 2025 regular City Council meeting, the Martinez City Council unanimously approved an exclusive negotiating agreement (ENA) with

Tucker Sadler Architects, a private developer, to revitalize the Martinez Waterfront and Marina. The agreement sets in motion a new phase of study and collaborative planning that will evaluate the project's feasibility, refine design concepts, and lay the groundwork for decisions on the future of the Waterfront and Marina.

The project envisions new recreation amenities such as sport fields, a dog park, kite area, and public art installations, along with expanded open spaces featuring plazas, pedestrian pathways, marshland restoration, and stronger connections to downtown. Hospitality and community facilities, including hotels, restaurants, a community/event center, a new Martinez Yacht Club and Sea Scouts' facility, and an outdoor amphitheater, are also included. These project elements would complement new commercial and retail spaces and support boating, fishing, recreation, and other waterfront activities, and would be supported by upgraded infrastructure, including surface and underground parking, utilities, and lighting.

Incentivizing investment. This bill aligns the allowable lease length at the Marina with existing law, which authorizes leases up to 66 years, or unless a grant from the state provides the specific terms of the lease.

This bill authorizes the City to lease the Marina for up to 66 years, or longer with approval of the commission. This provides the city, commission, and investors with the flexibility to more deeply investigate financing options for the Marina work.

In order to provide the commission with the necessary expertise to review information submitted by the City or the developer in support of a longer lease, this bill allows the commission to contract with outside experts, and recoup the costs for that review from the City, who may then recoup costs from the developer.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/03/26)

City of Martinez
Tucker Sadler Architects

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/03/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "The Martinez Marina has far exceeded its useful life and currently faces dire and deteriorating conditions that are a drain on the city's limited budget and demand significant intervention.

Revitalizing the Waterfront and Marina has been a top City and community priority for decades, and the City has now entered into an exclusive negotiating agreement with a private developer to realize a one-in-a-lifetime opportunity to rebuild and improve the infrastructure of the Marina and create a vibrant, accessible, sustainable, and community-serving Waterfront. This project will be funded with solely private capital. Unfortunately, current law's 49-year maximum lease term with the State Lands Commission cannot support the needed private lending and investment. In lieu of seeking scarce public funding, AB 2312 simply allows for a longer lease term that will attract the required capital."

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: Edith Hannigan / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
8/5/26 15:04:38

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2322
Author: Papan (D)
Amended: 4/6/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 5-2, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Allen, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar
NOES: Valladares, Dahle

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Water discharge: commercial, industrial, or institutional sites

SOURCE: California Coastkeeper Alliance

DIGEST: This bill defines "commercial industrial, or institutional site" or "CII site" based on county tax assessor land use codes for the purposes of issuing permits for the discharge of stormwater from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) to regulate discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States (WOTUS) and to regulate quality standards for surface waters. (33 United States Code (USC) §§ 1251 et seq.)

2) Establishes, under the CWA, the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program, requiring the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) to prescribe waste discharge requirements that,

among other things, regulate the discharge of pollutants into stormwater. (33 USC § 1342)

3) Requires operators, on and after October 1, 1994, for discharges composed entirely of stormwater, to obtain an NPDES permit under the CWA only if:

   a) The discharge is from a small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4), as specified;

   b) The discharge is a stormwater discharge associated with small construction activity;

   c) The Director, or in states with approved NPDES programs, either the Director or the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Regional Administrator, determines that stormwater controls are needed for the discharge based on wasteload allocations that are part of "total maximum daily loads" (TMDLs) that address the pollutants of concern; or

   d) The Director, or in states with approved NPDES programs, either the Director or the U.S. EPA Regional Administrator, determines that the discharge, or category of discharges within a geographic area, contributes to a violation of a water quality standard or is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the U.S. (40 Code of Federal Regulations § 122.26(a)(9)(i)(D))

Existing state law:

1) Establishes the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne), which prohibits the discharge of pollutants to surface waters unless the discharger obtains a permit from the State Water Board; declares that the health, safety, and welfare of people require there to be a statewide program for water quality control and that the statewide program for water quality control can be most effectively administered regionally, within a framework of statewide coordination and policy. (Water Code (WC) §§ 13000 et seq.)

2) Establishes the State Water Board and nine Regional Water Boards to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations. (WC §§ 13100 et seq.)

3) Prohibits the discharge of waste or pollutants to surface and ground waters unless the discharger obtains a permit from the State Water Board or a Regional Water Board. (WC §§ 13260 et seq.)

This bill:

1) Defines "commercial, industrial, or institutional site" or "CII site" to mean a privately owned parcel or contiguous parcels of land that are commercial, industrial, or institutional based on the appropriate county tax assessor land use codes for the purposes of issuing permits for the discharge of stormwater from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s).

2) Further specifies that "CII site" shall mean the commercial, institutional, or industrial portion of the mixed land use parcel for parcels with mixed use commercial and residential land use codes; and shall not include residential facilities of any type, as specified.

Background

1) *The NPDES Permit Program.* As authorized by the federal CWA, the NPDES Permit Program controls water pollution by regulating point sources—or discrete conveyances such as pipes, or human-made ditches—that discharge pollutants into waters of the U.S. Examples of pollutants include, but are not limited to, rock, sand, dirt, and agricultural, industrial, and municipal waste. In California, implementation of the NPDES Permit Program has been delegated to the State Water Board and nine Regional Water Boards, which maintain regional jurisdiction within boundaries that are based on major watersheds. While the State Water Board has issued some NPDES permits, the Regional Water Boards issue the vast majority of NPDES permits in the state and ensure compliance with their permits through inspections, monitoring report reviews, and enforcement actions.

   Because of their propensity to contain and mobilize pollutants, stormwater discharges are regulated through NPDES permits. The State Water Board oversees three statewide NPDES stormwater programs: the Industrial Stormwater Program, Construction Stormwater Program, and Municipal Stormwater Program. Below is a description of each:

   - *Industrial Stormwater Program.* The Industrial General Permit (IGP) regulates industrial stormwater discharges and authorized non-stormwater

discharges from industrial facilities in California. The IGP is called a "general permit" because many industrial facilities are covered by the same permit, but comply with its requirements at their individual industrial facilities. Industrial facilities such as manufacturers, landfills, mining, steam-generating electricity, hazardous waste facilities, transportation with vehicle maintenance, larger sewage and wastewater plants, recycling facilities, and oil and gas facilities are typically required to obtain IGP coverage;

- *Construction Stormwater Program.* Certain dischargers—those with projects that disturb one or more acres of soil, or projects that disturb less than one acre, but are part of a larger common plan of development that in total disturbs one or more acres—are required to obtain coverage under the "General Permit for Discharges of Stormwater Associated with Construction Activity" (Construction General Permit). Construction activities subject to this permit include clearing, grading, and disturbances to the ground such as stockpiling or excavation. They do not include regular maintenance activities performed to restore the original line, grade, or capacity of the facility. The Construction General Permit requires the development of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) by a certified Qualified SWPPP Developer; and,

- *Municipal Stormwater Program.* The State Water Board regulates stormwater discharges from MS4s throughout California. U.S. EPA defines an MS4 as a conveyance or system of conveyances, including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, human-made channels, or storm drains. Under Phase I of the Municipal Stormwater Program, Regional Water Boards have adopted NPDES permits to regulate discharges from MS4s serving municipalities with over 100,000 people; under Phase II, the State Water Board has issued a waste discharge requirement to regulate discharges from small MS4s serving municipalities with less than 100,000 people.

2) *Residual designation authority.* The U.S. EPA and authorized states, like California, can designate other stormwater discharges to control stormwater pollutants under their "residual designation" authority. The U.S. EPA or the State and Regional Water Boards can require NPDES permits for other stormwater discharges on a *case-by-case basis* when it determines that discharges contribute to a violation of water quality standards, are a significant contributor to WOTUS, or are implicated by a TMDL.

Residual designations can also be requested by petition. There have been residual designations made by the U.S. EPA for small MS4 systems and the U.S. EPA has also received petitions for the designation of commercial, industrial, and institutional sources for stormwater permitting in U.S. EPA Regions 1, 3, and 9 (Los Angeles watersheds, as described below).

3) *Commercial, industrial, and institutional site runoff.* The impervious area associated with urban development can be a collection site for pollutants and generate greater quantities and various types of contaminants. The stormwater that washes over these impervious areas and into receiving waters could carry car emissions, litter, pesticides, industrial chemicals, and household hazardous waste. These additional pollutant loadings can result in immediate and long-term impacts on the health of the receiving water body and the organisms that inhabit it. The U.S. Geological Survey has indicated that with increased urban development, local water bodies exhibited increased concentrations of contaminants such as nitrogen, chloride, insecticides, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs).[1]

   Runoff from commercial industrial, and institutional sites can consistently contain high levels of nitrogen, phosphorus, and sediment. These can lead to major impacts including algal blooms and eutrophic conditions. Although some these sites can be covered under a local jurisdiction's MS4 permit, it is argued that the permits do not sufficiently control discharges from these sites and that direct regulation through permitting of these sites would better mitigate the impacts of the discharges.

4) *Federal action on pollution in two California watersheds.* In response to petitions (submitted to Region 9 of the U.S. EPA (Region 9) in 2015), a subsequent court case, and a 2018 District Court order, Region 9 is using its Residual Designation Authority to add requirements for certain stormwater sources that discharge into two watersheds in Los Angeles County: the Alamitos Bay/Los Cerritos Channel Watershed and the Dominguez Channel and Los Angeles/Long Beach Inner Harbor Watershed. The final designation is specifically designed to require privately-owned commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities to obtain NPDES permits for stormwater runoff. Region 9 states that both watersheds are impaired due to elevated levels of copper and zinc, and TMDLs have been established to define needed reductions of these pollutants, to restore water quality and beneficial uses of the watersheds.

[1] Masoner, J., et. al. (2019). Urban Stormwater: An Overlooked Pathway of Extensive Mixed Contaminants to Surface and Groundwaters in the United States.

According to Region 9, in a November 2024 memo explaining the Final Designation, "the record demonstrates that stormwater discharges from the [commercial, industrial, and institutional] sources…contribute to violations of water quality standards…The Final Designation will require permit coverage for discharges from approximately 600 facilities and will significantly reduce discharges of pollutants of concern, including metals." Once designated, these sites will be required to obtain coverage under an NPDES permit.

Region 9 is partnering with the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Regional Water Board), which is in the process of developing a new NPDES general permit, to provide coverage for all commercial, industrial, and institutional facilities in the two Los Angeles County watersheds designated by Region 9's action. The Los Angeles general permit defines a commercial, industrial, and institutional site as a privately owned parcel or contiguous parcels of land that are commercial, industrial or institutional based on Los Angeles County Tax Assessor land use codes 1000 through 2900, 3000 through 3920, 6000 through 6910, 7000 through 7710, and 8100 through 8400. The permit would apply to stormwater discharges and authorized non-stormwater discharges from certain unpermitted commercial, industrial, and institutional sites with five or more acres of impervious surfaces.

Describing the rationale for a new permit, the Los Angeles Regional Water Board states on its website, "Storm Water—Commercial, Industrial and Institutional (CII) Permit" (last updated January 28, 2025), "The Los Angeles Regional Water Board and U.S. EPA are considering potential regulatory requirements for stormwater runoff from certain commercial, industrial, and institutional (CII) facilities in the Dominguez Channel/Greater Los Angeles and Long Beach Harbor Watershed and the Los Cerritos Channel/Alamitos Bay Watershed to reduce pollutant levels in stormwater runoff that flows from these facilities. These waterbodies are currently polluted by numerous chemicals, including copper and zinc, which can harm aquatic life, ecosystems, and human health. Impervious surfaces such as streets, parking lots, rooftops, and sidewalks collect a variety of pollutants."

Inspired by the Los Angeles general permit, this bill would define "commercial, industrial, or institutional site" for the purposes of issuing permits for the discharge of stormwater from municipal separate sewer systems

based on tax assessor land use codes. Current law does not have a definition for "commercial, industrial, or institutional site."

Comments

1) *Purpose of Bill.* According to the author, "AB 2322 establishes a single, statewide definition of Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional (CII) sites for municipal stormwater permits using existing county land use codes. Cities and counties currently operate under stormwater permits (MS4 permits) that require them to identify and inspect businesses and ensure stormwater controls are installed when sites are built or redeveloped. However, these existing permits rely on different MS4 permittees' interpretations of what is considered a regulated facility. As a result, identical businesses can face different inspection expectations and compliance requirements depending solely on where they operate. For example, a car wash may be included in one city's program but not in a neighboring jurisdiction. AB 2322 fixes this inconsistency by providing an objective, uniform standard that can be applied consistently across California. For businesses, that means clearer rules, more predictable planning, and a fair, level playing field statewide."

2) *Codifying a definition.* This bill codifies a definition for "commercial, industrial, and institutional site" (CII site) for the purposes of issuing stormwater discharge permits and based off county tax assessor land use codes. The definition itself and its codification raises various questions about its applicability and implementation. The following sections discuss these implications:

   - *Accounting for county codes.* The aim of this legislation was to create a state-wide definition that could provide consistency on how CII sites could be identified across the state. The definition implies that any parcel of land that is commercial, industrial, or institutional would be involved. Though intended to create consistency, not all counties consistently categorize land use codes.
   - The "CII Site" definition in the LA Regional Water Board general permit for CII facilities specifies individual land use codes. While some counties have individual codes tagged with each of these categories, other individual codes captured under the LA general permit definition would not be captured by this definition. Some counties have a broad range of codes nested within each of these categories, which may or may not be fully comprehensive. Other counties may categorize land use codes under other labels that would

exclude potentially polluting sites from the definition. This calls into question how this definition would be applied to different entities within future statute or regulation, and without the associated policies, it is difficult to predict how they will apply or whether these inconsistencies will be considered.

- *Case-by-case evaluations.* As in print, the CII sites definition would encompass any and all commercial, industrial, or institutional site based on land use, whereas designations for permitting made within the existing regulatory framework have and will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the regulator and only with certain facilities. It is unclear whether this definition would strip the authorities of the State or Regional Water Boards to evaluate the necessity of a permit on a case-by-case basis if the definition gives prescriptive statutory direction.
- *The basis for land use.* Typically, the determination for the need of a stormwater permit is based on the permeability of the land surface, parcel size, and/or the extent of disturbance or nuisance. Without case-by-case considerations or designations, it is not clear how land use alone could effectively capture the entities that should be regulated for stormwater, without overextending or over regulating. Depending on how a county designates land use, the definition may be too broad if applied in a future policy context. There could also be miscellaneous categories for land use with facilities that could significantly contribute to stormwater contamination, but they would not be captured within CII.

Without the associated policy that describes how this definition would apply, it is unclear how this definition alone would serve the State or Regional Water Boards, or regulated entities. When a policy is created through future legislation and regulation that applies this definition, questions would then be raised on its implementation given how it is crafted. There are levels of uncertainty with this bill, that could certainly lead to subsequent bills to adjust the definition if potential complications were to arise in its application. Running future legislation changing the definition to fit into certain circumstances for some jurisdictions could then impact the way other jurisdictions have applied it. Pairing a definition with a framework could create more clarity and avoid potential unintended consequences.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1313 (Papan, 2025) would have required the State Water Board to establish, as provided, a statewide commercial, industrial, and institutional NPDES order to regulate stormwater and authorized non-stormwater discharges from facilities with

impervious surfaces that are significant contributors of pollutants to federally-protected surface waters. This bill did not meet the house of origin deadline and died on the inactive file.

AB 2106 (Rivas, 2022) would have required the State Water Board to establish a statewide commercial, industrial, and institutional NPDES order regulating stormwater and authorized non-stormwater discharges from facilities with impervious surfaces that are significant contributors of pollutants to federally protected surface waters. This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/2026)

California Coastkeeper Alliance (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/2026)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 53-17, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, 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, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Arambula, Bains, Calderon, Dixon, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Ta

Prepared by: Taylor McKie / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 15:04:39

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2341
Author: Fong (D), et al.
Amended: 6/23/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE EMERGENCY MGT. COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Stern, Seyarto, Allen, Blakespear, Grayson, Grove, McNerney, Pérez, Rubio

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

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

SUBJECT: Local government: emergency response services: use of languages other than English

SOURCE: California State Association of Counties

DIGEST: This bill revises existing requirements for a local agency that provides emergency response services to translate information related to an emergency into non-English languages, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires, in the event of an emergency within its jurisdiction, a local agency that provides emergency response services to provide information related to the emergency in English and in all non-English languages if the following thresholds are met:

    a) The local agency serves a population within which 5% or more of the people speak English less than "very well;" and,

b) The language other than English is spoken jointly by the 5% or more of the population that speaks English less than "very well."

2) Directs each local agency to use data from the American Community Survey (ACS), or an equally reliable source to determine which languages meet the thresholds in 1) above, by January 1, 2025.

3) Requires each local agency to reassess the data every five years to ensure that the language or languages in which the local agency provides information is consistent with the above requirements.

4) Requires a local agency providing translated information to do both of the following:

a) Ensure the quality of the information that is provided to individuals speaking English less than "very well" is as comprehensive, actionable, and timely as the information provided to English-speaking persons; and,
b) Attempt to utilize community members with the cultural competencies and language skills necessary to effectively communicate with those that speak English less than "very well" whenever feasible, as specified.

5) Requires the Office of Planning and Research to survey a sample of local agencies every three years to determine the extent to which they are complying with the above requirements and report the findings to the Legislature, commencing January 1, 2027.

6) Establishes the California Emergency Services Act (ESA), which designates the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) as the lead agency responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services for natural, technological, or man-made disasters and emergencies.

7) Establishes legislative intent that translating emergency notifications into the most commonly spoken language other than English is a critically important governmental activity.

8) Requires Cal OES to create a library of translated emergency notifications that may be used by designated alerting authorities when issuing emergency notifications and to consider the two most commonly spoken languages other than English in the state when creating the library.

9) Requires designated alerting authorities to consider using the library and other specified materials when issuing emergency notifications to the public.

10) Establishes the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act, which states legislative intent to provide for effective communication between all levels of government in California and the people of California who are precluded from utilizing public services because of language barriers.

11) Requires every state agency which serves a substantial number of non-English-speaking people and provides materials in English explaining services to also provide the same type of materials in any non-English language spoken by a substantial number of the public served by the agency.

12) Defines "a substantial number of non-English speaking people" to mean members of a group who either do not speak English or are unable to effectively communicate in English because it is not their native language, and who comprise 5% or more of the people served by the state agency or any of its local offices or facilities.

This bill:

1) Provides that a local agency shall translate information related to an emergency within its jurisdiction if 5% or more of the population within its jurisdiction speak English less than "very well."

2) Specifies that a determination of the 5% threshold in 1) above shall be based on data according to the ACS or from an equally reliable source.

3) Clarifies that a local agency must provide translated information related to the emergency in each language spoken by 5% or more of the population that speaks English less than "very well."

4) Provides that a local agency shall determine whether a language meets the criteria for translation, as specified, and deletes the existing requirement that the determination be made by January 1, 2025.

5) Clarifies that a local agency is not prohibited from adopting more expansive standards than those set forth in this bill.

6) Makes other minor technical and clarifying changes.

7) Contains an urgency clause.

Background

Threshold languages. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, roughly 44% of Californians speak a language other than English at home. Within the population in California served by Medi-Cal, the state's public health insurance program, roughly 38% speak a language other than English as their primary spoken language. The most frequently reported languages among Medi-Cal's non-English speakers are Spanish, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Mandarin, and Armenian. More than 200 languages are spoken in California.

The Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act, Chapter 1182, Statutes of 1973, is intended to eliminate language barriers that prevent non-English speakers from having equal access to public services in California. The Act directs every state and local agency that serves a "substantial number" of non-English speakers to provide translators in their languages and to also provide educational materials in those languages. This requires certain materials to be translated into any non-English language spoken by a substantial number of the public served by the agency, defined as members of a group "who either do not speak English, or who are unable to effectively communicate in English because it is not their native language, and who comprise five percent or more of the people served by the state agency or any of its local offices or facilities." The languages in which materials and information must be provided to meet the standards of the Act, or similar translation requirements, are often referred to as "threshold languages."

Translation requirements during emergencies. Among other things, the ESA requires counties to develop emergency operations plans and to update the plans to reflect the use of translators and interpreters for purposes of emergency communication. Counties must integrate cultural competency considerations into emergency planning efforts and provide a forum for engaging with culturally diverse communities. As further required by law, Cal OES has established a library of translated emergency notifications that may be used by local authorities in the event of an emergency.

Pursuant to AB 1638 (Fong, Chapter 587, Statutes of 2023), local agencies that provide emergency response services must provide information related to the emergency in English and any non-English language spoken jointly by 5% or more of the population that speaks English less than "very well." Agencies are required

to determine these threshold languages using data from the ACS conducted annually by the U.S. Census Bureau, or an equally reliable source, and to reassess the data every five years.

According to the author, current law has caused confusion among counties as it relates to which languages must be translated. They note that current law could be interpreted to require every single language included in the ACS to be translated, which would force local agencies to direct significant public resources toward translating dozens of languages during a crisis and, more importantly, could crowd out information for those needing it most.

This bill seeks to clarify that local agencies are only required to translate emergency information for a particular language if indicated by data from the ACS, or a similarly reliable source, and further describes how local agencies must calculate the languages that fall into the 5% threshold specified in current law.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/7/26)

California State Association of Counties (sponsor)
Urban Counties Caucus

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/7/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: In support of this bill, the sponsor, the California State Association of Counties, writes that, "AB 2341 would….[ensure] that emergency translations are delivered into languages spoken by at least five percent of speakers with translation needs – defined as those that speak English less than "very well." The bill provides vital clarity for public agencies and ensures the law can meet its intended purpose: to deliver rapid emergency notices in languages most commonly spoken in a city or county."

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: Cassie Royce / E.M. /
8/3/26 17:24:36

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2346
Author: Wilson (D) and Berman (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 12-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares
NO VOTE RECORDED: Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vehicles: electric bicycles and speed limits

SOURCE: California Medical Association

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires sellers and distributors of electric bicycles (e-bikes) to provide informational disclosures to consumers at or before the point of sale and imposes new equipment requirements on e-bikes, as specified; and 2) grants local authorities more flexibility to set speed limits on bike paths and trails, as specified, and sets a 10 miles per hour (mph) statewide speed limit on sidewalks.

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 Section (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 mph, and is not capable of providing assistance to reach speeds greater than 20 mph. (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) Requires class 3 e-bikes to be equipped with a speedometer. (VEH 312.5)

6) Prohibits a person from tampering with or modifying an electric bicycle as to change the speed capability of the bicycle unless the modification keeps within the existing speed allowances of an electric bicycle. (VEH 24016)

7) Prohibits a person from selling a product, device or application that can modify the speed capability of an electric bicycle such that it no longer meets the definition of an electric bicycle. (VEH 24016)

8) 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 electric bicycle and is not 16 years of age. (VEH 22651.08)

This bill:

1) Authorizes local authorities to, by ordinance, set speed limits of 15 or 20 mph on bicycle paths or bike trails and 10 mph in limited areas with high pedestrian volumes or sight distance challenges.

2) Requires local authorities that set a speed limit detailed above to place appropriate signs that indicate the limits of the restricted zone and the applicable speed limit within 400 feet of each end of the restricted zone.

3) Specifies that any speed limit on a bicycle path or multiuse trail established prior to January 1, 2027, shall remain in effect.

4) Establishes the prima facie speed limit on sidewalks at 10 mph and specifies that a violation of this provision will not result in a negligent operator point.

5) Clarifies that manufacturers and distributors of e-bikes must apply a permanent label to each e-bike specifying the classification number, top assisted speed, and motor wattage of the bicycle, in Arial font in at least 9-point type.

6) Requires sellers and distributors of e-bikes to disclose, in writing, all of the following information at or before the point of sale of each e-bike:

   a) The classification of the e-bike;

   b) The maximum speed of the e-bike;

   c) The continuous and peak wattage of the e-bike;

   d) Any age restrictions on the use of the e-bike;

   e) The helmet use requirements for an e-bike;

   f) A written description of California's e-bike laws;

   g) The website for the California Highway Patrol's (CHP) e-bike safety course; and,

   h) A recommendation that persons under 16 years of age should not ride an e-bike at a speed greater than 15 miles per hour.

7) Requires sellers and distributors of electric bicycles to provide a disclosure at or before the point of sale stating that it is against California law for a person to tamper with or modify an e-bike to achieve speeds greater than permitted and that doing so may require a M1 or M2 license, insurance, and registration with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV).

8) Specifies that a violation of the labeling and disclosure requirements is an infraction punishable by a fine up to $500 for the first conviction, $750 for second conviction in three years, and $1,000 for two or more convictions within five years.

9) Requires all class 2 e-bikes manufactured or sold on or after January 1, 2029, to be equipped with a speedometer.

10) Requires all e-bikes sold on or after January 1, 2029, to have an integrated or detachable front lamp emitting a white light that, while the bicycle is in

motion, illuminates the highway, sidewalk, or bikeway in front of the bicyclist and is visible from a distance of 300 feet in front, and from the sides, of the bicycle and a rear lamp emitting a red light that, while the bicycle is in motion, illuminates the highway, sidewalk, or bikeway behind the bicyclist and is visible from a distance of 500 feet behind, and from the sides, of the bicycle.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "As e-bikes become a bigger part of daily life in our communities, we must ensure they are used safely and responsibly. AB 2346 strikes a balanced, commonsense approach - creating clear rules, strengthening safety standards, and improving rider education to protect pedestrians, cyclists, and drivers alike."

2) *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:

    a) Class 1 e-bikes provide assistance only while being pedaled and only at speeds under 20 mph.

    b) Class 2 e-bikes provide power assistance up to 20 mph with a throttle that allows the rider to engage the motor without pedaling.

    c) Class 3 e-bikes provide pedal assistance up to 28 mph. Class 3 e-bikes may only be ridden by people who are 16 years old or older and who are wearing helmets. Class 3 e-bikes must be equipped with a speedometer.

    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.

3) *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.

4) *Growing concerns with e-bikes and other devices.* Californians have seen a surge of news headlines in recent years about the dangers of e-bikes. 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.

5) *Illegal, overpowered devices a key problem.* A fundamental challenge in evaluating and implementing e-bike policy is differentiating between legal e-bikes and illegal, overpowered devices, such as electric motorcycles. 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* in December 2025. 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." The study went on to report that many consumers unknowingly purchase illegal devices, believing them to be legal e-bikes.

   The report also found that, "[m]ost people involved in electric bicycle incidents are adults, although some local data points to particularly high rates of children in crashes. Also, the medical experts we interviewed are concerned older adults are more likely than children or younger adults to suffer serious medical consequences from crashes. In the national NEISS [National Electronic Injury Surveillance System] dataset, seniors had the highest rates of both hospitalizations and head injuries."[1] Of the nine devices MTI studied with NEISS data, patients with e-bike-related injuries had the oldest median age (34) and second lowest share of patients who were minors (20%).

6) *Speed limits on bike paths, trails, and sidewalks.* This bill authorizes local jurisdictions to establish additional speed limits on bicycle and multi-use paths.

[1] **Exploring Electric Bicycle Safety Performance Data and Policy Options for California**

A local authority that sets a new speed limit must place appropriate signs that indicate the limits of the restricted zone and the applicable speed limit within 400 feet of each end of the restricted zone. Additionally, the bill establishes a statewide speed limit of 10 mph on all sidewalks.

Writing in support, the City of Carlsbad explains, "[t]he bill's provision granting local authorities the ability to set speed limits on bicycle paths and multiuse trails is of particular importance to Carlsbad. Currently, cities lack clear statutory authority to establish enforceable speed limits on these facilities, even as electric bicycles capable of speeds well in excess of what is safe for shared environments become increasingly common… This flexibility will enable Carlsbad and other cities to tailor speed limits to the specific conditions of individual facilities — accounting for factors such as trail width, sightlines, pedestrian volume, and proximity to schools or parks — rather than relying on a one-size-fits-all approach."

Opponents, including bicycle advocates, raise concerns primarily with the 10 mph speed limit on sidewalks, questioning the practicality of a statewide speed limit. Instead, they suggest that bicyclists be required to slow when pedestrians are present on a sidewalk or yield to pedestrians on sidewalks.

7) *Disclosures provided at point of sale.* The MTI report made comprehensive recommendations for actions the state can take to improve e-bike safety, several of which are included in this bill. Among these recommendations, the researchers suggested that the state require e-bike sellers to disclose the device type they are selling and laws on how that device may be used. In accordance with this recommendation, this bill requires e-bike sellers and distributors to provide purchasers with written information at or before the point of sale. The disclosure must identify the bicycle's classification, maximum speed, continuous and peak motor wattage, applicable age restrictions, helmet requirements, a summary of California's electric bicycle laws, and the web address for CHP's e-bike safety course. The disclosure must also recommend that those under the age of 16 should not ride over 15 mph. In addition, sellers and distributors must provide a separate disclosure warning that modifying an e-bike to exceed legal speed limits is prohibited under California law and may subject the rider to licensing, registration, and insurance requirements applicable to motorized bicycles or motorcycles.

8) *Speedometers and lights required.* The MTI report recommended that the state establish standards for appropriate device characteristics for e-bikes, including, among other things, speedometers and lighting for "high-speed" e-bikes. This

bill requires class 2 e-bikes to be equipped with a speedometer. Current law already requires class 3 e-bikes to be equipped with speedometers. It is reasonable to expand this requirement to include additional classes of e-bikes. The bill additionally adds new lighting equipment requirements for all e-bikes sold or manufactured after January 1, 2027.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Medical Association (source)
AAA Northern California, Nevada & Utah
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
American College of Surgeons, Southern California Chapter
American College of Surgeons: Southern and San Diego Chapters
Association of California Cities - Orange County
Auto Club of Southern California
Brea; City of
California Academy of Preventive Medicine
California Association of Recreation & Park Districts
California Children's Hospital Assn
California Contract Cities Association
California Emergency Nurses Association
California Orthopedic Association
California Police Chiefs Association
Children's Specialty Care Coalition
Chino Hills; City of
City and County Association of Governments of San Mateo County
City of Carlsbad
City of Coronado
City of Fremont
City of Huntington Beach
City of Laguna Niguel
City of Lakewood CA
City of Norwalk
City of Pico Rivera
City of Rocklin
City of San Luis Obispo
City of San Mateo
City of Vacaville Police Department
City of Walnut Creek

Cupertino; City of
Fillmore; City of
Goleta; City of
Irvine; City of
Lafayette; City of
Lakewood; City of
Lamorinda Legislative Coalition
League of California Cities
Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers
National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners
Newport Beach; City of
Orinda; City of
San Francisco Marin Medical Society
Santa Barbara; City of
Scripps Health
South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Town of Hillsborough
Town of Truckee

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

Ecology Action
Peopleforbikes
Streets are for Everyone

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Association of Recreation and Park Districts, "As electric bicycle use has grown rapidly, so too have conflicts between higher-speed e-bikes and other trail users on facilities that were not designed for those speeds. Despite these evolving conditions, local agencies have lacked clear statutory authority to establish and enforce reasonable speed limits on bicycle paths and multiuse trails, limiting their ability to respond to local safety concerns.

"AB 2346 provides a practical, commonsense solution by expressly authorizing local agencies to establish enforceable speed limits on bicycle paths and multiuse trails. The bill also promotes responsible e-bike use through equipment standards and point-of-sale disclosures that better educate riders about the safe operation of electric bicycles. Together, these provisions provide local agencies with meaningful tools to improve public safety while preserving safe, welcoming, and accessible trail systems for the millions of Californians who use them each year."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to StreetsAreForEveryone, "Many of the concerns regarding e-bike safety are actually problems regarding e-motorcycles, or "e-motos." A study done by the Mineta Institute at San Jose State University found that, contrary to popular belief, the "e-bikes" that are involved in most collisions are actually e-motorcycles that are going over 30 mph. These are not e-bikes, as e-bikes do not reach these speeds. The language in AB 2346 does not address e-motorcycles, only e-bikes. SAFE suggests that this language be clarified to include all electric-powered 2 and 3-wheeled devices sold in CA, including those with power greater than 750W.

"Secondly, this bill would authorize local authorities to set a speed limit on a bicycle path of 15 or 20 mph or on a multiuse trail to 10, 15, or 20 mph, subject to specified signage requirements. This is confusing because a "multiuse trail" could be any kind of road without further definition. Imposing a speed limit on e-bikes specifically doesn't make sense because regular bicycles can reach these speeds as well; SAFE is concerned that a speed limit on e-bikes could result in a limit on regular bikes as well, and result in people being turned away from using bikes and e-bikes as a means of safe transportation."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 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, 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, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Mark González, Celeste Rodriguez, Schultz, Ta, Tangipa, Zbur

Prepared by: Isabelle LaSalle / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:40

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2361
Author: Pacheco (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE INSURANCE COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Padilla, Niello, Becker, Menjivar, Richardson, Rubio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Jones

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Insurance: personal vehicle sharing

SOURCE: Turo

DIGEST: This bill revises the liability of a Personal Vehicle Sharing Program (PVSP) from unlimited liability to liability for bodily injury or property damage to injured third parties resulting from personal vehicle sharing in the amounts stated in the PVSP agreement, and not less than $250,000 for bodily injury or death for one person, $500,000 for bodily injury or death for all persons, and $100,000 for property damage. Makes these provisions inapplicable if the vehicle owner acts in concert with a shared vehicle driver who fails to return the shared vehicle pursuant to the terms of the PVSP agreement.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires a PVSP to assume all liability of the owner and be considered the owner of the vehicle for all purposes.

2) Defines "personal vehicle sharing" as the use of private passenger motor vehicles by a person other than the vehicle's owner, in connection with a PVSP.

3) Defines "personal vehicle sharing program" as a legal entity qualified to do business in the state of California engaged in the business of facilitating the sharing of private passenger vehicles for noncommercial use of individuals within the state.

4) Requires a "personal vehicle sharing program" to provide insurance coverages for the vehicle and operator at a minimum of forty-five thousand dollars ($45,000) for bodily injury or death for one person, ninety thousand dollars ($90,000) for bodily injury or death for all persons, and fifteen thousand dollars ($15,000) for property damage.

5) Requires, on and after January 1, 2031, that the PVSP shall not provide liability coverage less than three times the minimum insurance requirements for private passenger vehicles.

6) Requires most drivers to purchase auto insurance with minimum limits of coverage, of $30,000 for liability resulting in bodily injury or death of one person, $60,000 for liability resulting in bodily injury or death to more than one person, and $15,000 for liability resulting from property damage.

This bill:

1) Reduces the liability of PVSPs from unlimited liability to liability for bodily injury or property damage to injured third parties resulting from personal vehicle sharing in the amounts stated in the PVSP agreement, and not less than $250,000 for bodily injury or death for one person, $500,000 for bodily injury or death for all persons, and $100,000 for property damage.

2) Renders the above provisions inapplicable if the vehicle owner acts in concert with a shared vehicle driver who fails to return the shared vehicle pursuant to the terms of the PVSP agreement.

3) Specifies that nothing in this bill's provisions limits the liability of the PVSP for its acts or omissions that result in injury to anyone due to the use or operation of a PVSP.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2743 (Pacheco, Chapter 244, Statutes of 2024). Updated the insurance coverage limits for a PVSP when the vehicle is engaged in personal vehicle sharing.

AB 1095 (Low, 2023). Would have deleted the insurance coverage requirement for a PVSP and instead required a PVSP, when a vehicle is engaged in personal vehicle sharing to provide liability insurance coverage of the same minimum coverage that applies to an owner or operator of a motor vehicle. Died in Assembly Insurance Committee.

AB 3041 (Low, 2020). Would have made changes to PVSP insurance coverage requirements. Not heard in Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee.

AB 1871 (Jones, Chapter 454, Statutes of 2010). Authorized private passenger motor vehicle owners to make their vehicle available for use by a PVSP without impacting owners' private passenger automobile insurance policy.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Turo (source)
Bright Inspect
Brightline Defense
Civil Justice Association of California
Community Members for AB 2361
Florence Firestone Merchants Association
Nissan North America
Relay Rides D.b.a. Turo
Streets Are for Everyone
Streets for All
Tint Technologies, INC.
Tunua Thrash-ntuk, Councilwoman, Eighth District, City of Long Beach
42 Turo Employees
1,132 Individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

According to Turo, sponsor of the bill:

> "Today, no other state applies uncapped vicarious liability to PVSPs. This bill maintains strong consumer protections by requiring that minimum insurance coverage always remains available – including access to additional coverage – while eliminating California's unchecked vicarious liability exposure that only applies to car-sharing platforms.
>
> Under current law, PVSPs are subject to a distinct and more expansive form of vicarious liability. Pursuant to Insurance Code Section 11580.24(d), a car-sharing platform must assume the vehicle owner's legal responsibility for any claims that arise while a car is being shared. Unlike individual vehicle owners, whose liability is capped under Vehicle Code Section 17151, a platform's liability is unlimited. As a result, a PVSP can face unlimited financial exposure even when it followed the law, acted in good faith, and had no ability to prevent an incident.
>
> The bill, as amended, is a compromise that was reached to address the opposition's concerns and does the following:
>
> First, it clarifies the types of damages that PVSP must assume on behalf of the vehicle owner. Ins 11580.24(d) is a vicarious liability statute. It does not clearly specify that the PVSP must assume only those owner liabilities that arise out of sharing the vehicle. That leaves untenable ambiguity that could result in the platform being held responsible for damages wholly unrelated to car sharing. For that reason, the bill removes the word "all" and specifies that the platform is responsible for owner liabilities for bodily injury and property damage that result from car sharing.
>
> Second, the bill limits the dollar amount that the PVSP must assume from an at-fault vehicle owner. Currently, the PVSP is required to assume all liability of the owner. E.g., existing law requires the PVSP to assume all liability for an owner's negligent entrustment. This bill would limit that vicarious liability to the amounts $250K for bodily injury or death of one person, $500K for bodily injury or death of all persons, and $100K for property damage. There is no reduction in the amount of damages that can be recovered from the at-fault party.
>
> The bill does not reduce the total recoverable damages, nor does it eliminate or reduce a PVSP's liability for its own tortious conduct, nor does it reduce the insurance requirements for PVSPs (which remain above those required of car rentals or personal vehicles). This bill ensures continued consumer protection

by requiring that minimum insurance coverage always remains available while eliminating California's unchecked vicarious liability exposure that applies only to PVSPs. We are pleased to have reached an agreement with stakeholders and appreciate the effort by many to get to this point."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-0, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Boerner, Calderon, Dixon, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Jackson, Kalra, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Schiavo, Stefani, Ward, Wicks

Prepared by: Brandon Seto / INS. / (916) 651-4110
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****** END ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2372
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Vehicles: tolls

SOURCE: California Ambulance Association

DIGEST: This bill provides that any privately owned or operated ambulances licensed by the California Highway Patrol (CHP) to operate in response to emergency calls may be exempt from paying a toll on a vehicular crossing, toll highway, or high-occupancy toll (HOT) lane.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law*:*

1) Defines "authorized emergency vehicle" to mean, among other entities:

   a) Any publicly owned and operated ambulance, lifeguard, or lifesaving equipment or any privately owned or operated ambulance licensed by the Commissioner of CHP to operate in response to emergency calls;

   b) Any publicly owned vehicle operated by any federal, state, or local agency, department, or district employing peace officers, as specified;

c) Any vehicle owned or operated by a federally recognized Indian tribe used in responding to emergency, fire, ambulance, or lifesaving calls, as specified; and,

d) Any vehicle for which an authorized emergency vehicle permit has been issued by CHP.

2) Defines "toll facility" to include a toll road, high-occupancy vehicle lane, toll bridge, or a vehicular crossing for which payment of a toll or other charge is required.

3) Defines "urgent response or call" to mean an incident or circumstance that requires an immediate response to a public safety-related incident but does not warrant the use of emergency warning lights. Stipulates that "urgent" does not include any personal use, commuting, training, or administrative uses.

4) Exempts an authorized emergency vehicle from the requirement to pay a toll or other charge on a vehicular crossing, toll highway, or HOT lane, if all of the following conditions are satisfied:

a) The authorized emergency vehicle is properly displaying an exempt California license plate, and is properly identified or marked as an authorized emergency vehicle, including, but not limited to, displaying an external surface-mounted red warning light, blue warning light, or both, and displaying public agency identification, including, but not limited to, "Fire Department," "Sheriff," "Police, or "Ambulance";

b) The vehicle is being driven while responding to or returning from an urgent or emergency call, engaged in an urgent or emergency response, or engaging in a fire station coverage assignment directly related to an emergency response; and,

c) The driver of the vehicle determines that the use of the toll facility shall likely improve the availability or response and arrival time of the authorized emergency vehicle and its delivery of essential public safety services.

5) Requires the owner or operator of a toll facility, upon the request of a public or private local emergency service provider, to enter into an agreement to establish mutually agreed upon terms for the use of a toll facility, including, but not limited to, being exempt from toll payment. An owner or operator of a toll facility may adopt a policy that meets or exceeds existing law, but if an emergency service provider or the owner or operator of a toll facility opts to

terminate an agreement, existing law would apply to the emergency service provider and the toll facility.

This bill provides that any privately owned or operated ambulances licensed by CHP to operate in response to emergency calls may be exempt from paying a toll on a vehicular crossing, toll highway, or high-occupancy toll lane.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "The use of toll roads is a crucial component of emergency response operations as it allows first responders to reach critical situations more efficiently, reducing travel time, and improving patient outcomes. While current law exempts public emergency vehicles from paying toll fees when responding to and returning from emergency calls, this exemption does not extend to private ambulance providers. As a result, private ambulance companies face significant financial burdens due to toll costs, despite performing the same life-saving services as public ambulance providers. AB 2372 will bring much-needed financial equity to an industry already facing significant economic challenges by ensuring that private ambulance providers qualify for the same toll exemptions."

2) *Emergency vehicles use of toll facilities.* The use of toll roads has become a necessity for first responders traveling to emergency situations. As a result of increased wildfires across the state, the COVID-19 pandemic, and staffing shortages, first responders of all kinds are traveling farther distances in order to respond to life threatening emergencies.

   AB 254 (Jeffries, Chapter 425, Statutes of 2009), created an exemption that allows authorized emergency vehicles to utilize all toll facilities, including HOT lanes, while responding to an incident, in order to decrease travel time. Specifically, authorized emergency vehicles are exempt from tolls on a toll road, HOT lane, toll bridge, toll highway, or vehicular crossing while traveling to an urgent or emergency call, under certain circumstances. Current law requires emergency vehicles to have an exempt California license plate, and be properly identified or marked as an emergency vehicle, including warning lights and public agency identification.

3) *How do tolls work in California?* Toll systems in California rely on a few methods for registering a person's use of a toll facility and payment of the tolls. First is via a vehicle-mounted toll tag or sticker transponder that is read by antennae and associated electronically to a person's FasTrak account. Second, license plate readers are cameras that are positioned in various entrances and/or

exits to the toll lane or bridge to record images of the license plate as a vehicle passes. Tolls are assessed electronically to a person's account or to a one-time payment transaction. Additionally, if a person has no transponder, the license plate information can be used to send a toll invoice to the registered owner of the vehicle.

4) *How do toll operators implement the emergency vehicle exemption?* Although authorized emergency vehicles are exempt from tolls in some circumstances, current law authorizes the toll operator to charge the authorized emergency vehicle public agency for any vehicles that have entered and used the toll facility. The charge can then be annulled with the written certification from a fire chief, police chief, county sheriff, head of the public agency, ambulance corporation chief executive, or designee, that the authorized emergency vehicle was responding to or returning from an emergency call, and the agency is exempt from the payment of the toll. This back and forth review can be an administrative burden for both the toll operator and the public agencies.

   Current law also allows for agencies to enter into agreements, with mutually agreed upon terms, with toll operators; however, contracts can vary across the state. For example, CHP has successfully implemented an ongoing agreement with toll agencies. Essentially, the agreement allows the public agency that owns and operates the authorized emergency vehicles to identify the eligible vehicles via license plates. The toll agencies set up a so-called "non-revenue" account with the public agency, free of charge, and register the license plates for plate readers and may issue transponders for use. This way the public agency is not issued a toll invoice for use of the facilities. The public agency can access its account at any time and update authorized vehicles. This type of agreement could be replicated by public agencies and private ambulance companies across the state.

5) *Private ambulances are not automatically exempt.* According to the California Ambulance Association, the sponsors of this bill, there are approximately 715 public and private ambulance services statewide, of which 170 are private, representing 74% of the ambulances. Additionally, California has 3,600 licensed ambulances covering 337 emergency ambulance service areas, of which more than 220 are served by private ambulance companies.

   Current law exempts authorized emergency vehicles displaying a California exempt license plate from paying any vehicular tolls when driving to and returning from an emergency call. Although private ambulance providers are not explicitly covered under this exemption, due to the fact that they do not

have an exempt license plate, there is no prohibition for toll operators to enter into an agreement with them. In fact, in his veto message of AB 697 (Fong, 2017), which would have exempted privately owned emergency ambulances from requirements to pay tolls, Governor Brown stated, "Under existing law, the exemption sought by this bill can be granted by toll facility authorities and no evidence has been presented to show why the state should now step in."

6) *AB 2372 seeks to finally settle the question*. Numerous bills have been approved by the Legislature in recent years to further clarify that private ambulance companies can enter into agreements with tolling agencies for use of the toll facility, which may include being exempt from tolls. Specifically, AB 2270 (Seyarto, Chapter 497, Statutes of 2022), required toll operators to develop and enter into agreements with authorized emergency services providers upon request of the agency to further streamline the toll exemption process. Additionally, the law stipulates the agreements must be mutually agreed upon terms.

   AB 902 (Rodriguez, Chapter 124, Statutes of 2023), built upon this process by adding "private or public" to the emergency service providers who can request the development of an agreement with toll operators. It also clarified that the agreements may include being exempted from toll payments. Again, AB 902 retained the requirements that the agreements must be mutually agreed upon terms.

   Finally, AB 1114 (Avila Farias, Chapter 87, Statutes of 2025), added "Ambulance," in addition to "Fire Department", "Sherriff" or "Police," to the authorized emergency vehicle agency identification required to be displayed to be exempt from tolls or other charges. The bill also clarified that an ambulance corporation chief executive can certify a vehicle was responding to an emergency when billed for a toll.

   However, there has not been much progress on agreements for private ambulances. According to the Transportation Corridor Agencies (TCA), which operates toll roads in Orange County, as of last year, they have only been approached by one ambulance company to pursue an agreement. Additionally, the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), who operates the 91 Express Lanes, reports that they had received one request to waive tolls and penalties for a private ambulance. That request was made through the local fire authority who contracts for services with the private ambulance company, and the authority verified that the toll violation was incurred while responding to an emergency.

Additionally, it appears that tolling authorities differ in how they interpret existing law when entering into these agreements. To try to ensure that exiting law is implemented uniformly, the California Toll Operators Committee (CTOC) developed a process for exempting private ambulances from tolls. CTOC is made up of the state's 13 toll agencies and serves as the statewide oversight and standards committee for tolling interoperability. Specifically, CTOC states that "An agreement will need to be entered into with each agency from which the ambulance company is seeking toll exemption. Some toll agencies have voluntarily agreed to waive some conditions specified in Cal. Vehicle Code."

This bill clarifies that any privately owned or operated ambulance licensed by CHP to operate for emergency calls, in addition to vehicles displaying an exempt license plate, are eligible to be exempt from paying tolls when driving to and returning from an emergency call. The bill intends to ensure that private ambulance companies can enter into agreements with tolling agencies for use of the toll facility.

CHP regulates and certifies privately owned emergency ambulance operators and their associated ambulances. As part of the certification process, the company as a whole undergoes a comprehensive review and vetting process. Once all applicable statutory, regulatory, and administrative requirements have been satisfied, CHP issues an Emergency Ambulance Operator License, certifying the entity as an authorized privately owned emergency ambulance operator. Following licensure, each vehicle intended to be deployed as an emergency ambulance must successfully complete an initial CHP inspection. Upon successful completion of the inspection, a CHP Emergency Ambulance Permit/Certificate is issued for that vehicle.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Ambulance Association (Source)
Amwest Ambulance
California Association of Highway Patrolmen
Desert Ambulance Service, INC.
Falck Usa, INC.
Lifeline Ambulance
Lifewest Ambulance
Maxcare Ambulance
Medic Ambulance

Norcal Ambulance
Royal Ambulance INC
Southern California Ambulance Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Writing in support of the bill, the Southern California Ambulance Association, states, "Toll roads are an important component of ambulance operations in Southern California, allowing providers to move patients, crews, and resources more efficiently across large and heavily traveled service areas. While current law exempts public emergency vehicles from toll fees when responding to and returning from emergency calls, current law is ambiguous as to whether that exemption extends to private ambulance providers.

"AB 2372 addresses this issue by clarifying that ambulances operated by private ambulance providers may also be exempt from paying toll fees."

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: Melissa White / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:41

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2375
Author: Blanca Rubio (D)
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Alcoholic beverage control

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises and recasts provisions in the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) Act that currently require electronic fund transfers (EFT) for retailer to wholesaler alcohol payments. This bill changes the requirement from delivery to sale, defines "initiate" and "equitable manner," and expands processor options, as specified. Additionally, this bill revises the definition of "beer" for purposes of the ABC Act to provide that beer may be produced using other grains.

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 and the collection of license fees for this purpose.

2) Defines "beer" to mean any alcoholic beverage obtained by the fermentation of any infusion or decoction of barley, malt, hops, or any other similar product, or any combination thereof in water, and includes ale, porter, brown, stout, lager beer, small beer, and strong beer, but does not include sake, known as Japanese rice wine. Beer may be produced using the following materials as adjuncts in fermentation: honey, fruit, fruit juice, fruit concentrate, herbs, spices, and other food materials. Beer aged in an empty wooden barrel previously used to contain wine or distilled spirits shall be defined exclusively as "beer" and shall not be considered a dilution or mixture of any other alcoholic beverage. (California Business and Professions Code [Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code] § 23006)

3) Requires specified licensees who sold and delivered alcoholic beverages to a retailer and did not receive payment within 42 days of the date of delivery to charge 1% of the unpaid balance on the 43rd day and an additional 1% for each subsequent 30-day period.

4) Requires a payment from a licensed retailer to a licensed wholesaler for the delivery of alcoholic beverages to be made by EFT pursuant to certain conditions, except as specified. Among other things, existing law requires the wholesaler to initiate the EFT and requires any service fees related to the EFT to be applied in an equitable manner. Existing law also provides for the selection of the third-party payment processor used to facilitate the EFT, as specified.

This bill:

1) Revises and recasts provisions in the ABC Act related requirements of payment from a licensed retailer to a licensed wholesaler for the *delivery* of alcoholic beverages, to instead apply to the *sale* of alcoholic beverages.

2) Requires specified licensees who sold and delivered alcoholic beverages to a retailer and did not receive payment to charge 1% of the unpaid balance after 30 days without payment and an additional 1% for each subsequent 30-day period. Under current law, the 1% charge begins after 42 days.

3) Defines "initiate," for specified provisions in the ABC Act related to the requirement that a wholesaler licensee initiate the EFT, to mean presenting an

invoice to the licensed retailer requiring the licensed retailer to make payment by electronic means.

4) Provides, for specified provisions in the ABC Act related to the requirement that a wholesaler licensee initiate the EFT, that that provision does not prevent a licensed retailer from authorizing the licensed wholesaler to electronically withdraw funds directly form the licensed retailer's bank account, if the authorization is voluntary and can be withdrawn by the licensed retailer through a written notice provided to the licensed wholesaler at least 72 hours before a scheduled electronic withdrawal.

5) Defines "equitable manner," for specified provisions in the ABC Act related to the requirement that any service fees related to electronic payment transactions shall be applied in an equitable manner to each subscribing licensed wholesaler and licensed retailer, to mean that the fees paid are for those services the paying party receives from the electronic payment service provider.

6) Requires the licensed wholesaler and licensed retailer to either use the third-party payment processor used by the parties on July 1, 2025, or a payment processing service offered by a financial institution that held a deposit account of the licensed retailer on that date, and, if neither apply, would require the wholesaler to select the processor.

7) Revises the definition of "beer" for purposes of the ABC Act to provide that beer may be produced using other grain and to specify that fermentation occurs in drinkable water.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "this bill makes technical and noncontroversial changes to the Act to further facilitate implementation of AB 2991 (2024), which authorized electronic payments between retailers and wholesalers for alcoholic beverage deliveries made by an EFT in accordance with various requirements. AB 2375 conforms the statute's payment provisions to implementation guidance issued by the Department of ABC and clarifies that both 'push' (payer) and 'pull' (payee) electronic payment systems comply with statutory requirements. The amendments preserve the underlying objectives of the 2024 legislation and the tied-house credit laws by ensuring prompt payment and a level playing field, without permitting any unlawful extension of credit between the parties."

Furthermore, "traditionally, beer has been brewed using barley, malt, and hops. However, over thousands of years, brewers have experimented with a variety of adjunct ingredients to create unique and innovative beer styles that reflect both seasonal influences and regional traditions. This bill aims to update the ABC Act by expanding the definition of beer to acknowledge this historical diversity while aligning with Federal regulations on beer flavoring. Additionally, it ensures that fermentation occurs in drinkable water."

AB 2991 (Valencia, Chapter 426, Statutes of 2024). In 2024, Governor Newsom signed AB 2991 (Valencia, Chapter 426, Statutes of 2024) which requires payments from retailer licensees to wholesaler licensees for alcoholic beverage deliveries to be made by an EFT in accordance with various requirements. These requirements included:

1) The wholesaler must initiate the EFT through the withdrawal of funds from the retailer's bank account. Initiating an EFT withdrawal can include, but is not limited to, simply generating an invoice requesting payment.

2) The EFT must occur by the expiration of the 30th day from the date of delivery.

3) Any costs related to the electronic payment services must be paid by the party that incurred the costs. Wholesalers cannot pay for electronic payment fees incurred by a retailer, and a retailer cannot pay for electronic payment fees incurred by a wholesaler, and service fees must be applied in an equitable manner to the licensee to match the services they receive.

The bill designated the wholesaler license with the authority to select the third-party payment processor used to facilitate the EFT transfer. Notwithstanding, a wholesaler and retailer may agree on the third-party payment processor, but if the parties are unable to agree, they must use the third-party payment processor used by the retailer as of July 1, 2025, to pay for wholesale alcohol purchase; and, if by July 1, 2025, the retailer does not use a third-party payment processor, the parties must use the third-party payment processor selected by the wholesaler.

The bill provided specified exceptions for cash, check, or money order, including, but not limited to, temporary service interruptions of third-party payment processors, accepting payment following an EFT of insufficient funds, and others.

In addition, the bill gave wholesalers the ability to accept credit card payments in lieu of an EFT, so long as the retailer bears the cost of the transaction. The bill gave wholesalers' discretion to accept credit card payment. In April 2025, the

Department of ABC issued an advisory alerting alcohol licensees of the new law and encouraged wholesalers and retailers to work together to ensure compliance with this new law.

Change Made by this Bill. Since the enactment of AB 2991 (Valencia, Chapter 426, Statutes of 2024) the Department of ABC has received numerous complaints from retailers, largely stemming from confusion over specific provisions of that bill. This bill seeks to clarify and improve several of those provisions.

First, existing law requires EFT payment from a retailer to a wholesaler upon delivery of alcoholic beverages. This bill changes the triggering event from delivery to sale. Second, current law requires licensees who sell and deliver alcoholic beverages to a retailer and do not receive payment within 42 days of delivery to charge 1% of the unpaid balance on the 43rd day, plus an additional 1% for each subsequent 30-day period. This bill reduces that initial window to 30 days, with the same 1% monthly charge thereafter. The 42-day period originated in mid-20th century banking practice, when checks could be delayed in transit and a 12-day buffer was considered necessary. That rationale no longer applies in an era of electronic payments.

Additionally, AB 2991 requires the wholesaler to "initiate" an electronic funds transfer, but the term generated significant confusion regarding its precise meaning. This bill addresses that ambiguity by defining “initiate” to mean presenting an invoice to the licensed retailer requiring the licensed retailer to make payment by electronic means. Similarly, AB 2991 requires any service fees related to electronic payments to be applied equitably to wholesalers and retailers alike. This bill defines “equitable manner” to mean that the fees paid are for those services the paying party receives from the electronic payment service provider.

Finally, this bill clarifies that the requirement for wholesalers to initiate EFTs does not preclude a retailer from voluntarily authorizing a wholesaler to withdraw funds directly from the retailer's bank account under a mutual EFT agreement, provided the retailer may revoke that authorization by written notice to the wholesaler at least 72 hours before scheduled withdrawal.

Adding Flavors to Brewing. Beer flavor enhancement encompasses a wide range of techniques beyond the naturally occurring characteristics imparted by barley, malt, hops, yeast, and other grains. Brewers may deliberately introduce ingredients such as fruits, herbs, spices, and other flavorings — either before or after the boil — to lend a beer its distinctive character. Similarly, a diverse array of fermentable

adjuncts beyond barley may be incorporated into the brewing process, as virtually any starch or sugar is capable of serving as a fermentable base.

Fermentable ingredients generally fall into two broad categories. The first encompasses sugars that are readily available for fermentation without additional processing, including refined sugars, syrups, honey, and fruits. The second comprises sugars that are bound within starches or complex carbohydrates — such as grains, roots, and vegetables — and require processing to release the simpler sugars necessary for yeast activity.

In the latter case, yeast relies on enzymatic activity to break down maltose present in the wort — the liquid extracted during mashing — into fermentable simple sugars. Fructose, though the most abundant naturally occurring fermentable sugar, sees comparatively limited use in brewing. Despite its structural similarity to glucose, its distinct molecular configuration renders it less amenable to efficient yeast fermentation.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1940 (Villapudua, Chapter 218, Statutes of 2024) allows a wholesaler or manufacturer to accept the return of a seasonal brand of beer from a retail licensee if the beer is exchanged for a quantity of beer of similar quality, if the original manufacturer has ceased doing business.

AB 2991 (Valencia, Chapter 426, Statutes of 2024) required, commencing on January 1, 2026, a payment by an alcohol retail licensee to a wholesaler licensee for the delivery of beer, wine, or distilled spirits, to be made by EFT, except as specified.

AB 205 (Daly, Chapter 60, Statutes of 2019) revised the definition of "beer" for purposes of the ABC Act to provide that beer may be produced using honey, fruit juice, fruit concentrate, herbs, spices, and other food materials, as adjuncts in fermentation.

AB 1812 (Chesbro, Chapter 96, Statutes of 2012) added clarity to the definition of “beer” in the ABC Act by making it explicit that beer aged in an empty wooden barrel previously used to contain wine or distilled spirits shall be defined exclusively as “beer” and shall not be considered a dilution or mixture of any other alcoholic beverage.

SB 39 (Padilla, Chapter 140, Statutes of 2011) prohibits the import, production, manufacture, distribution, or sale of beer to which caffeine has been directly added as a separate ingredient at retail locations within the state.

AB 346 (Beall, Chapter 624, Statutes of 2008) provides that any container of beer or alcoholic beverage, other than sake, that is approved for labeling as a malt beverage under the Federal Alcohol Administration Act, that derives 0.5% or more of its alcoholic content by volume from flavors or other ingredients containing distilled alcohol and that is sold within this state on or after July 1, 2009, shall bear a distinctive, conspicuous, and prominently displayed label, or firmly affixed sticker, as defined.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Restaurant Association
California Family Beer Distributors

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Family Beer Distributors, "AB 2375 preserves the purpose of AB 2991 and California's tied-house credit laws – prompt payment and a level playing field, with no extension of unlawful credit – while giving retailers, wholesalers, and payment processors clear and consistent rules." According to the California Restaurant Association, "AB 2375 ensures restaurants, bars, and other licensees are not subject to unexpected withdrawals – instead, this common-sense legislation ensures that all payments are not only made within a reasonable time-frame, but that proper protections remain in place so that suppliers are paid on time."

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: Felipe Lopez / G.O. / (916) 651-1530
8/5/26 15:04:42

****** 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 12031as 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2390
Author: Schiavo (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla, Pérez
NO VOTE RECORDED: Cabaldon

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Streamlined housing approvals: objective standards: review and modifications

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes technical and clarifying changes to the standards that apply to an applicant seeking a modification to a development application submitted under the streamlined ministerial approval process for developments under SB 35 (Weiner, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

Under SB 35 (Weiner, 2017) and SB 423 (Weiner, Chapter 778, Statutes 2023):

1) Allows a development proponent to submit an application for a development that is subject to a streamlined, ministerial approval process, and not subject to a conditional use permit if the infill development contains two or more residential units and satisfies specified objective planning standards.

2) Requires, among other things, for sites subject to ministerial approval to be limited to zones for residential use or residential mixed-use development, with at least two-thirds of the square footage of the development designated for residential use.

3) Specifies, if a local government determines that a development submitted pursuant to the bill's provisions is in conflict with any of the objective planning standards listed in 1) above, that it shall provide the development proponent written documentation of which standard or standards the development conflicts with, and an explanation for the reason or reasons the development conflicts with that standard or standards

4) Establishes vesting and expiration timelines for approved projects.

5) Authorizes project modification after an application is approved.

6) Provides for tolling of approval timelines when a modification request is submitted, or during the pendency of litigation.

This bill:

1) Revises tolling provisions so that approvals are extended during the pendency of litigation related to any modification request for SB 35/SB 423 projects, rather than only the first request.

2) Provides that for purposes of SB 35/SB 423 modifications, consistency is measured against objective zoning, subdivision, and design review standards, rather than "planning standards."

3) Requires a local government to evaluate modification requests, including a subsequent modification, for consistency with the objective planning standards that the local government originally used, or that were used in a previous modification, to assess consistency.

Background

SB 35 (Wiener). In 2017, SB 35 (Wiener) created a by-right approval process for infill projects with two or more residential units in localities that have failed to produce sufficient housing to meet their RHNA. To access the by-right process, the project must meet a number of requirements, including that the development includes a percentage of affordable housing units, meets specified labor standards, is not on an environmentally sensitive site, and would not result in the demolition of existing housing. Localities are allowed to provide design review, and are

allowed to apply their own objective development standards, but they must approve the development project in specified timeframes.

SB 423 (Wiener). In 2023, SB 423 (Weiner) extended the streamlining provisions created by SB 35 until January 1, 2036. SB 423 additionally expanded the scope of SB 35 streamlining provisions to the coastal zone and amended the labor standards a development project is required to comply with in order to qualify for streamlined ministerial approval.

Comments

1) *Author's statement.* "California's housing crisis requires that existing tools operate efficiently, consistently, and as intended. State law provides a streamlined approval pathway for infill housing developments, but gaps in implementation have created uncertainty and delays that undermine its effectiveness. Additionally, ambiguities in current law have led to inconsistent interpretations, prolonged timelines, and opportunities for misuse. These challenges can slow housing production and create avoidable barriers for both local governments and developers. AB 2390 provides targeted clarifications to ensure that the streamlined housing approval process is applied predictably, allowing projects that meet objective standards to move forward without unnecessary disruption. In doing so, the bill supports the timely delivery of much-needed housing while maintaining appropriate environmental and local safeguards. This measure represents a practical, good-governance approach that strengthens implementation without altering the underlying policy framework."

2) *Modifications and objective standards.* Prior to submitting an application for an SB 35/ SB 423 project, a developer must first submit a notice of intent to submit an application to the local government. As housing projects evolve, developers sometimes need to make modifications to projects. This is because residential projects by their nature are complex and, for example, can involve building out lobbies, corridors, back of house spaces, storage, parking, amenity facilities, and outdoor areas, in addition to the units themselves. Many of these cannot be determined until the completion of the design for the project for the building permit and final applications. Additionally, the time between the initial application and the first building permit can take one to two years, sometimes longer, during which time market conditions, which drive project decisions, can change.

   For example, some potential changes may include: the cost of materials which may lead to a change in construction type or architecture; building codes;

housing financing and securing of public subsidies; and the imposition of impact fees, which may impact the overall project.

This bill clarifies that local governments shall approve modification requests if the proposed modification is specifically consistent with the objective *zoning standards, subdivision standards, and design review standards,* rather than "planning standards" in effect when the original development application was submitted. This change makes the scope of review for modifications consistent with the scope of review for other aspects of SB 35/SB 423.

3) *Development timelines.* SB 35/SB 423 established timelines for the validity of approvals and includes tolling provisions. For most projects, an approval remains valid for three years, provided that specific conditions and construction related milestones are met. The approval period is extended while a modification request is under review. Additionally, the validity of the approval timeline is tolled (paused) during the pendency of litigation related to a modification request. The tolling of project approval timelines ensures that a project does not forfeit its approval. This bill additionally clarifies that litigation filed relating to a modification request shall toll the development timelines if the litigation is associated with *any* modification request, not just the first modification request.

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Abundant Housing Los Angeles
California Council for Affordable Housing
California Yimby
Circulate Planning & Policy
Fieldstead and Company, INC.
Leadingage California
San Francisco Bay Area Planning & Urban Research Association
Student Homes Coalition

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 69-0, 5/21/26

AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Berman, 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, 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: Addis, Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Boerner, Chen, Garcia, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/5/26 15:04:42

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2397
Author: Ta (R)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 9-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Local government: community facilities districts: financing

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill creates a subset of community facilities districts (CFDs) called critical housing infrastructure districts (CHIDs), and prohibits a local agency from taking specified actions with respect to a CHID.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Mello-Roos Act, which allows local agencies to establish CFDs as an alternative method of financing certain public capital facilities and services, especially in developing areas and areas undergoing rehabilitation.

2) Specifies how a local agency is allowed to create a CFD, including the formation, voter approval, authority to levy taxes, and the types of public facilities and infrastructure.

3) Allows counties, cities, special districts, and school districts to finance public works projects and a limited list of public services by levying special taxes (parcel taxes)

4) Allows a CFD to issue bonds against these special taxes to finance the public works projects. Like all special taxes, Mello-Roos Act special taxes require 2/3 -voter approval. If there are fewer than 12 registered voters, the affected landowners vote.

This bill:

1) Creates a subset of CFDs called critical housing infrastructure districts (CHIDs), and prohibits a local agency from taking any of the following actions with respect to a CHID:

   a) Abandon the proposed establishment of the district;

   b) Refuse to adopt an ordinance levying special taxes; or

   c) Refuse to adopt a resolution necessary to incur bond debt.

2) Provides that a local agency can move forward with one of these actions if it makes at least one of the following findings supported by substantial evidence that:

   a) Establishment of the CFD, levying the special taxes, or incurring bond debt would have a specific adverse impact upon the public interest;

   b) If the local agency has identified the site in its housing element as a site to accommodate low- or very low-income households, the establishment of the CFD, levying the special taxes, or incurring bond debt is not necessary to develop the site at specified densities; or

   c) Establishment of the CFD, levying the special taxes, or incurring bond debt would make units for lower- and moderate-income households unaffordable to those households.

3) Defines a CHID to mean a CFD that:

   a) Has been established solely to finance specified utility, flood, and storm protection services that serve a housing development project that includes units affordable to lower- or moderate-income households;

   b) Has had unanimous landowner approval for the CFD's establishment; and

c) Has had unanimous landowner approval for taxes the CFD would levy.

4) Provides that it does not require or prohibit the local agency from taking any other actions with respect to CHIDs.

Background

Local government finance after Proposition 13. A series of propositions have drastically cut into local revenue sources, requiring local governments to look elsewhere to fund services that the public demands. First, Proposition 13 (1978) capped property tax rates at 1% of assessed value (which only changes upon new construction or when ownership changes) and required 2/3 voter approval for special taxes; as a result local governments turned to general taxes to avoid the higher voter threshold. When Proposition 62 (1986) required majority voter approval of general taxes, local agencies imposed assessments that were more closely tied to the benefit that an individual property owner receives. Subsequently, Proposition 218 (1996) required voter approval of parcel taxes, assessments, and property-related fees.

Since they cannot impose broad-based taxes without great difficulty, cities and counties follow a simple principle: new developments should pay for the impacts they have on the community and the burden they impose on public services.

Mello-Roos Districts. The Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act allows counties, cities, special districts, and school districts to finance public works projects and a limited list of public services by levying special taxes (parcel taxes). A Mello-Roos Community Facilities District (CFD) issues bonds against these special taxes to finance the public works projects. Like all special taxes, Mello-Roos Act special taxes require 2/3 -voter approval. If there are fewer than 12 registered voters, the affected landowners vote.

The Mello-Roos Act is an important feature of the local fiscal landscape, providing local officials with a key tool for accumulating the public capital needed to pay for the public works projects that make new residential development possible. Since 1985, CFDs have issued over $18 billion in long-term bonds, mostly for capital improvements. Without access to Mello-Roos bond funding, many builders would have to pay higher development impact fees and raise housing prices. Based on nearly 30 years of experience, practitioners want the Legislature to adjust several statutory features of the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act. Local agencies can use CFDs to finance a wide range of projects, including everything from parks, schools, libraries, utility projects, stormwater projects, among others.

Mello-Roos for housing developments. CFDs have become a common tool for developers to finance the infrastructure needed to serve a new development. When a developer is the sole landowner of a project, satisfying the 2/3 vote requirement of affected landowners is an easy threshold to meet. In effect, the developer is agreeing to tax itself until it sells off individual units, and the new landowners become the taxpayers. Repaying the debt the developer incurred to build the infrastructure for the development is on top of regular property tax payments. Concerns over whether new homeowners are aware of these payments have persisted throughout the life of the Mello-Roos Act.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "The Housing Accountability Act, which is current law, lays out strict guidelines for local governments to follow when approving or denying development projects. However, some local jurisdictions are denying projects that meet the goals of the HAA on the grounds that they disapprove of the project's financing. It is not the intent of this bill to require local governments to take on bonded debt, but rather to ensure that all developers get equal treatment when constructing low and moderate-income housing, which is desperately needed."

Home rule. The initial intent of the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act was to allow local agencies to finance public works projects and a limited list of public services by levying special taxes (parcel taxes). It was always in the hands of local agencies to determine whether passing on the costs of infrastructure to current or future landowners made sense, or whether financing infrastructure costs through a parcel tax would put too much of a burden on future homeowners. AB 2397 limits the ability for a local agency to make this decision. Specifically, it limits when a local agency can deny formation of a CFD for specified infrastructure projects. Unless a local agency could make specified findings on the need to deny a CFD, AB 2397 forces local agencies to approve a tax on current and future landowners. However, without AB 2397, local agencies can use the CFD approval process to have another bite at the apple to deny a housing project. AB 2397 limits its provisions to CFDs that have been established solely to finance specified utility, flood, and storm protection services that serve a housing development project that includes units affordable to lower- or moderate-income households. That said, AB 2397 represents a rare instance in which the Legislature limits a local agency's authority to tax.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/2/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/2/26)

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: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/3/26 15:18:48

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2409
Author: Valencia (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Digital assets: meme coins

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits state and local officials from issuing a meme coin, as defined, and prohibits a digital asset service provider from listing for sale on behalf of, or for purchase by, a California resident a meme coin issued on or after January 1, 2027, if the meme coin is offered by, or in partnership with, a federal public official or state or local official.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Digital Financial Assets Law (DFAL), which governs the digital financial asset business activity of a person doing business in California or doing business with Californians. (Financial (Fin.) Code, div. 1.25, §§ 3101 et seq.)

2) Defines the following relevant terms within the DFAL:

   a) "Digital financial asset" means a digital representation of value that is used as a medium of exchange, unit of account, or store of value, and that is not legal tender, whether or not denominated in legal tender; and does not include specified rewards or affinity program transactions, digital

representations of value issued on behalf of a publisher and used solely within an online gaming platform, or a security registered, or exempt from registration, with the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. (Fin. Code, § 3102(g).)

b) "Stablecoin" means a digital financial asset that is pegged to the United States dollar or another national currency and is marketed in a manner that intends to establish a reasonable expectation or belief among the general public that the instrument will retain a nominal value that is so stable as to render the nominal value effectively fixed. (Fin. Code, § 3601.)

3) Establishes the Political Reform Act of 1974, which requires, among other things, public officials to disclose assets and income which may be materially affected by their official actions, and requires that, in appropriate circumstances, an official should be disqualified from acting in order to avoid a conflict of interest. (Government (Gov.) Code, tit. 9, §§ 81000 et seq.)

4) Requires, beginning January 1, 2027, statements of economic interest and conflict of interest codes under the Political Reform Act of 1974 to include disclosures of, and potential disqualification for conflicts of interest arising from, digital financial asset holdings. (AB 1029 (Valencia, Chapter 85, Statutes of 2025).)

This bill:

1) Makes the following findings and declarations:

a) Public officials must not use the authority entrusted to them for private financial gain.

b) When public officials issue or promote financial instruments, it undermines public confidence in government, creates opportunities for conflicts of interest and pay-to-play arrangements, and risks exploitation and corrupt foreign influence.

c) Public office is a public trust that must be exercised solely for the benefit of the people of California.

2) Defines the following terms:

a) "Digital asset" means a digital representation of value recorded on a cryptographically secured, distributed ledger, including a blockchain or similar technology, including, but not limited to, a digital financial asset, a

stablecoin, or a token, including a fungible token or nonfungible token (NFT).

b) "Digital asset exchange" means an online marketplace or platform where users can buy, sell, or swap digital assets.

c) "Digital financial asset" has the same meaning as in the DFAL.

d) "Issue" means to make available for public purchase, donation, or exchange of any value, whether promoted or not.

e) "Meme coin" means a type of digital asset inspired by internet memes, characters, current events, shared humor, celebrities, noteworthy people or events, or trends, for which the promoter seeks to attract an enthusiastic online community to purchase the meme coin and engage in its trading.

f) "NFT" means a unique digital representation of an asset, an object, the rights of the holder, or any other item, whether tangible or not, that is built on an existing blockchain.

g) "Public employee" means an employee of a state or local government entity who has decision-making authority over bids and contracts for that entity.

h) "Public officer" includes a state or local elected or appointed officer, including a Member of the Legislature, and an elected or appointed member of a governmental board, commission, committee or other body, including a governmental body that has only advisory powers.

i) "Stablecoin" has the same meaning as defined in the DFAL.

j) "Token" means a digital representation of an asset, object, rights of the holder, or any other item, whether tangible or not, that is built on an existing blockchain.

3) Prohibits a public official or employee from issuing a meme coin.

4) Prohibits a business that operates a digital asset exchange from listing a meme coin for sale on behalf of, or for purchase by, a California resident if the meme coin is offered by, or in partnership with, a federal public official or a state or local public officer.

5) Provides that 3) and 4) may be enforced through a civil action brought by the Attorney General, a district attorney, a city attorney, or county counsel for injunctive relief and disgorgement.

Comments

A meme coin is a form of digital asset, i.e., a store of value that exists only in electronic form. Meme coins are considered a form of, or adjacent to, cryptocurrencies, insofar as both meme coins and cryptocurrencies are usually denominated in currency-evoking terms (e.g., "coin") and are traded on the same exchanges. The difference between a meme coin and cryptocurrency is philosophical: the issuers and backers of major cryptocurrencies intend for their digital assets to serve as a medium of exchange to compliment, or instead of, fiat currency, whereas meme coins are upfront about having no value other than hype value. This is, admittedly, a difference of distinction rather than degree: cryptocurrencies also have nothing backing them beyond the collective impression of the coin, and as a result remain susceptible to wild fluctuations in value. The hype-based nature of meme coins, however, makes them ideal for scammers who use artificial buzz to push up a meme coin's value and sell their holdings right before the price collapses.

Just before his second inauguration, President Donald Trump, in partnership with a decentralized finance protocol in which his family has an ownership stake, issued his own meme coin. The coin initially soared in value, trading as high as $75 per coin, but the value has since tanked; the value spiked briefly when President Trump announced that he would attend a private dinner for the 220 persons with the largest shares of the coin and grant additional access to the higher owners among those 220 people. President Trump and his family make money every time his coin is traded, on top of whatever profits they have made from sales of the coin.

This bill is intended to prevent meme coins, and the conflicts of interest and appearance of corruption that follow, from eroding the public's trust in the political system. To that end, this bill prevents a state or local public official from issuing a meme coin, as defined. Additionally, this bill prevents a digital asset service provider from listing for sale on behalf of, or for purchase by, a California resident a meme coin issued on or after January 1, 2027, that is offered by, or in partnership with, a federal public official or a state or local public officer.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Common Cause

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to California Common Cause:

AB 2409 addresses a significant and emerging gap in California's ethics laws. While the Political Reform Act of 1974 (PRA) has evolved to require the disclosure of digital financial assets, existing law does not adequately address circumstances in which public officials themselves create, issue, or promote digital assets that capitalize on their public office or governmental position. As a result, California's conflict-of-interest framework has not kept pace with rapidly evolving cryptocurrency markets.

The risks posed by these arrangements extend well beyond traditional financial disclosures. Digital assets associated with public officials create opportunities for self-dealing, conflicts of interest, and undisclosed influence. Unlike many traditional financial transactions, cryptocurrency transactions frequently occur through pseudonymous digital wallets, making it difficult to determine who is purchasing, holding, or trading an official's digital asset. This creates opportunities for special interests, regulated entities, government contractors, and even foreign actors to provide financial benefits to public officials outside of traditional campaign finance and lobbying disclosure systems.

Recent events at the national level have demonstrated how digital assets can be leveraged to monetize political influence and public notoriety. These ventures often generate significant profits for insiders while exposing retail investors to substantial financial risk. When public officials engage in such activities, the public may reasonably question whether governmental decisions are being made in the public interest or influenced by the financial interests of digital asset holders.

AB 2409 appropriately addresses this concern through a clear prophylactic rule. Rather than relying solely on disclosure after the fact, the bill prohibits public officials from using their public office as the basis for personal cryptocurrency ventures. This approach is consistent with longstanding ethics principles that seek to prevent conflicts of interest before they arise rather than attempting to remedy them after public trust has been compromised.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 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, 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, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Gallagher, Celeste Rodriguez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:04:43

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2413
Author: Ransom (D)
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 71-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Large-format public advertisements: public expense

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits "large-format public advertisements" from being published or displayed at public expense.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Prohibits newsletters or other mass mailings from being sent at public expense.

2) Defines a mass mailing as over 200 substantially similar pieces of mail, excluding responses to unsolicited inquiries or letters.

3) Provides some exceptions to the prohibition on mass mailings, including legally required notices, items sent to pay or collect funds, and informational items where an elected official's name appears only in the letterhead of the mailing.

This bill:

1) Defines a "large-format public advertisement" as:

a) A billboard;

b) A wrap on a public transportation vehicle;

c) An advertisement affixed to a bus stop or other public infrastructure; or

d) Other public advertisements that are 24 inches by 36 inches or more in size and are so designated by regulation.

2) Prohibits a large-format public advertisement from being published or displayed at public expense if:

a) It includes the photograph of an elected officer affiliated with the agency that produces or purchases the advertisement; and

b) Public money paid for either the distribution or the design, production, and printing of the advertisement.

3) Defines "elected officer affiliated with the agency," for purposes of the bill, to mean an elected officer who is a member, officer, or employee of the agency or who has supervisory control over the agency or appoints one or members of the agency.

4) Deems the agency and the elected officer jointly and severally liable for a violation that occurs when a large-format public advertisement is prepared in cooperation, consultation, coordination, or concert with the elected officer.

Background

Proposition 9, which appeared on the June 1974 ballot, created the Political Reform Act (PRA) and established California's campaign finance and disclosure laws for state and local campaigns, candidates, officeholders, and ballot measures.

In 1988, Proposition 73 amended the PRA in several ways, including prohibiting the use of public money for campaign purposes. Among its provisions, Proposition 73 prohibits mass mailings by public officials. SB 45 (Mendoza, Chapter 827, Statutes of 2017) codified a Fair Political Practices Commission regulation regarding mass mailings sent at public expense, prohibiting these mass mailings from being sent within the 60 days preceding an election by or on behalf of a state or local candidate whose name will appear on the ballot.

Comments

1) *Author's Statement.* California is a leader in providing strong protection to ensure fair elections that prohibit public dollars from being used for political advertising. Unfortunately, current law does not extend these protections to situations where publicly funded billboards prominently display elected officials' images. This bill would close this gap in current law by prohibiting public funds from being used to feature elected officials' images on costly billboards. In doing so, this bill would further protect the public's trust in responsible government spending.

2) *Examples of Large-Format Public Ads.* The author cites two main examples that warrant the need for this bill. The first is the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District's billboard campaign, which included large photos of locally elected board members. Generally, the billboards are part of a public awareness and educational campaign to reach San Joaquin Valley residents, generate public interest in and support of air quality improvement projects, and effect meaningful changes in public behavior. The author argues public education campaigns are important and an appropriate use of public funds, but they become a problem when elected officials are being featured in a manner that could be seen as political advertising.

   The second example is physical and digital billboards along freeways and other major thoroughfares in Sacramento County that include a photograph of Sacramento County Sheriff Jim Cooper. Media articles state these billboards are part of a public awareness campaign to address retail theft and the Sacramento County Sheriff's Office has purchased approximately 20 billboards across the county to advertise efforts to stop theft from retail stores with many featuring the elected sheriff himself.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Fair Political Practices Commission

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

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, 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, Lee, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Carrie Cornwell / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/5/26 15:04:44

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2415
Author: Hoover (R)
Amended: 4/23/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Transit-oriented housing developments: alternative plans

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill revises SB 79 (Wiener, Chapter 512, Statutes of 2025) to add additional historic preservation protections for a jurisdiction that meets certain characteristics.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law, pursuant to SB 79 (Wiener, Chapter 512, Statutes of 2025):

Terms and Definitions

1) Establishes the following definitions:

   a) "Adjacent" means within 200 feet of any pedestrian access point to a transit oriented development (TOD) stop. A parcel that meets any of the eligibility criteria under this bill and is adjacent to a Tier 1 TOD Stop or Tier 2 TOD Stop, as defined below, shall be eligible for an adjacency intensifier to increase the height limit by an additional 20 feet, the maximum density

standard by an additional 40 dwelling units per acre, and the floor area ratio (FAR) by 1 prior to the application of density bonus law.

b) "Residential FAR" means the ratio of net habitable square footage dedicated to residential use to the area of the lot. A local government may not impose any other local development standard or combination of standards that would physically preclude the residential FAR established.

c) "Tier 1 TOD stop" means a transit-oriented development stop with an urban transit county, served by heavy rail transit or very high frequency commuter rail.

d) "Tier 2 TOD stop" excludes a Tier 1 TOD stop, and means a transit-oriented development stop with an urban transit county served by light rail transit, by high-frequency commuter rail, or by bus service, as specified. "Urban transit county" means a county with more than 15 passenger rail stations.

e) "TOD stop" means a major transit stop or a stop on a route for which a preferred alternative has been selected or which are identified in a regional transportation improvement program, served by heavy rail transit, very high frequency commuter rail, high frequency commuter rail, light rail transit, or specified bus service within an urban county. When a new transit route is planned that was not identified in the applicable regional transportation plan on or before January 1, 2026, these stops shall not be eligible as a TOD stop unless they would be eligible as Tier 1 TOD stops. If a county becomes an urban transit county subsequent to July 1, 2026, then bus service in that county shall remain ineligible for designation of a transit-oriented development stop.

f) "Urban transit county" means a county with more than 15 passenger rail stations.

SB 79 Development Standards

2) Provides that a housing development within a specified distance of a transit stop in a residential, mixed-use, or commercial zone shall be entitled to specified development standards pursuant to the table below. TOD housing development projects shall also meet the following requirements:

a) The average total area of floor space for the proposed units in the transit-oriented housing development project shall not exceed 1,750 net habitable square feet; and,

b) The housing development project shall include at least five dwelling units and meet the greater of the following:

   i. A minimum density of at least 30 dwelling units per acre; or

   ii. The minimum density required under the local zoning, if applicable.

TOD Stop Type	**Dist. from Stop (TOD Zone)**	**Development Standards for Project**
Tier 1: Major transit stop, heavy rail transit, or very high frequency commuter rail in urban transit county	¼ mile from stop	• **Max Height**: 75 ft or 95 ft if adjacent to stop • **Max Density**: 30 - 120 units per acre (u/a) plus any density bonus or 160 u/a if adjacent to stop • **FAR**: 3.5 or 4.5 if adjacent to stop • **Specified Concessions**
	¼ - ½ mile from stop in city with population at least 35,000	• **Max Height**: 65 ft • **Max Density**: 30 - 100 u/a plus any density bonus • **FAR**: 3 • **Specified Concessions**
Tier 2: Not Tier 1 major transit stops served by light rail transit, high-	¼ mile from stop	• **Max Height**: 65 ft or 85 ft if adjacent to stop • **Ma Density**: 30 - 100 u/a plus any density bonus or 140 u/a if adjacent to stop • **FAR**: 3 or 4 if adjacent to stop

frequency commuter rail, or bus rapid transit in an urban transit county	¼ - ½ mile from stop in a city with a population at least 35,000	• **Max Height**: 55 ft • **Max Density**: 30 - 80 u/a plus any density bonus • **FAR**: 2.5 • **Specified Concessions**

3) Provides that for projects with more than 10 units, the project shall comply with one of the following requirements:

   a) Any of the following:

      i. At least 7% are dedicated to extremely low-income (ELI) households.

      ii. At least 10% of the total units are dedicated to very low-income (VLI) households.

      iii. At least 13% of the total units are dedicated to low-income households.

   b) If a local inclusionary housing requirement mandates a higher percentage or deeper level of affordability, then the local inclusionary housing standard shall apply.

   c) All units dedicated to ELI, VLI, or low-income households shall have an affordable cost or rent, as defined, and ensure the continued affordability of those units for 45 years for ownership or 55 years for rental units.

4) Prohibits a transit housing development from being located on either of the following:

   a) A site containing more than two units where the development would require the demolition of housing that is subject to any form of rent or price control through a public entity's valid exercise of its police power that has been occupied by tenants within the last seven years.

   b) A site that was previously used for more than two units of housing that was demolished within seven years before the development proponent submits an application under this section any of the units were subject to any form of rent or price control.

5) Requires a TOD project to meet specified labor standards, including the provision of prevailing wages if the project is not entirely a public work, as specified, and projects over 85 feet shall employ a skilled and trained workforce, as specified.

TOD Development Ordinances

6) Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to oversee compliance with SB 79 development standards. Requires HCD to promulgate standards for how to account for capacity in a city or county's land suitable for development identified in its housing element by July 1, 2026.

7) Authorizes a local government to enact an ordinance to make its zoning consistent with the provisions of this chapter, subject to review by HCD, as specified. The adoption of the ordinance shall not be subject to the California Environmental Quality Act. Provides that the ordinance may include objective standards, conditions, and policies, applying to TOD housing developments, that are demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence to not physically preclude, alone or in concert, the applicable SB 79 development standards provided for in (2) above.

8) Provides that if a local government adopts an ordinance, it shall submit a copy to HCD within 14 days of adoption. HCD shall review and make a finding of compliance within 90 days, plus an additional 30 days if needed. If HCD does not meet that timeline, the ordinance shall be deemed compliant with SB 79 development standards. If HCD finds that the local government does not comply with SB 79 development standards, HCD shall provide the local government 60 days to respond.

9) Requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to create a map of TOD stops and zones established by SB 79.

Local TOD Alternative Plans

10) Provides that a local "TOD alternative plan," defined as an amendment to the housing element or a program to implement the housing element—such as the adoption of a specific plan, adoption of a zoning overlay, or enactment of an ordinance; that brings the local agency into compliance with this bill —may be adopted provided it incorporates all of the following:

a) The plan shall provide at least the same total zoned capacity in terms of both total units and FAR, as specified.

b) The plan shall not reduce the maximum allowed density for any individual site on which the plan allows residential use by more than 50%, except for sites meeting any of the following criteria:

i. Sites within a very high fire hazard severity zone, as determined by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or within the state responsibility area, as defined.

ii. Sites that are vulnerable to one foot of sea level rise, as specified.

iii. Sites with a historic resource designation on a local register, so long as sites excluded from the density requirements of (11)(a) do not cumulatively exceed 10% of the eligible area of any TOD zone.

iv. Sites within ½ mile of a Tier 2 TOD stop shall not have a density below 30 units per acre with an FAR of 1.0 and should be considered for attached entry-level owner-occupied housing development opportunities.

c) The plan shall not reduce the capacity in any TOD zone in total units or FAR by more than 50%.

d) The site's maximum capacity counted toward the plan shall not exceed 200% of the maximum density established by SB 79.

11) Exempts, prior to one year following the adoption of the 7th housing element, the following sites from SB 79 if the local government has adopted an SB 79 ordinance:

a) A site identified by the local government that permits density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 standards.

b) A site in a TOD zone in which 33% of the sites have already permitted density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 development standards and includes sites with densities that cumulatively allow for at least 75% of the aggregate density for the TOD zone allowed using SB 79 development standards.

c) A site within a very high fire hazard severity zone or within the state responsibility area, sites that are vulnerable to one foot sea level rise, or sites on a specified historic register.

d) Sites identified in a Local Plan.

12) Authorizes, for the seventh and subsequent revisions of the housing element, a local government to include a local TOD alternative plan, as specified, in future housing element cycles.

13) Provides that, beginning on January 1, 2027, a local agency that denies a housing development project meeting the provisions of this bill shall be presumed to be in violation of the Housing Accountability Act and are immediately liable for specified penalties, unless the local government demonstrates that it has a public health, life, or safety reason for denying the project, as specified.

14) Delays implementation of SB 79 development standards until July 1, 2026, unless a local government adopts an ordinance or local TOD alternative plan deemed compliant by HCD before July 1, 2026. Delays implementation to unincorporated areas of a county until the 7th regional housing needs allocation cycle.

This bill:

1) Allows a local government, through a transit-oriented development (TOD) local alternative plan, to reduce the site capacity in a TOD zone in total units or residential floor area by more than 50% if the following conditions are met:

a) The local jurisdiction adopting the plan is a city.

b) The city has a population of less than 150,000.

c) A majority of the TOD zone is part of a local historic district that was designated before January 1, 2000.

d) The city has more than one TOD zone.

Background

SB 79 Development Standards. Beginning July 1, 2026, SB 79 makes housing an allowable use on sites zoned residential, mixed-use, or commercial within one-half mile of an existing or currently proposed qualifying TOD stop in an "urban transit county" for jurisdictions with a population of at least 35,000 residents, and within

one-quarter mile of the qualifying TOD stop for jurisdictions with a population of less than 35,000. For unincorporated areas of a county, implementation is delayed until the 7th housing element cycle begins. SB 79 projects must include at least five units, achieve the greater of 30 dwelling units per acre (du/acre) or meet the local minimum density requirements, and maintain an average unit size not exceeding 1,750 square feet. SB 79 projects over 10 units must include specified levels of affordable housing, comply with anti-displacement provisions of the Housing Crisis Act, and comply with specified labor standards.

SB 79 limits the standards local governments can impose on SB 79 projects depending on the distance from specified transit stops and population of the jurisdiction (*see* chart under existing law #2). SB 79 projects that meet certain density thresholds are also eligible for additional concessions and incentives under density bonus law. SB 79 projects are not eligible on the following sites: (1) a site in which the development would require the demolition of more than two units that is subject to any form of rent or price control that was occupied by tenants within the last seven years; and (2) a site that was previously used for more than two units of housing that was demolished within the last seven years and those units were subject to price or rent control.

HCD's SB 79 Advisory. Due to requests from several MPOs about the need for greater clarity about the implementation of SB 79, on March 20, 2026, HCD issued an SB 79 Advisory[1]. Among other things, the advisory clarified several SB 79 definitions and specified that SB 79 applies to the following counties as of the publication of the advisory: Alameda, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and San Diego. According to the advisory, HCD will review all SB 79 Ordinances and TOD Alternative Plans and determine their compliance with state law. The advisory also provides that SB 79 development standards apply to the following types of transit:

[1] *SB 79 Advisory: Clarifications on Definitions for Metropolitan Planning Organizations*. HCD Housing Policy Development Division. March 20, 2026. Accessible here: **https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/planning-and-community/sb-79-mpo-advisory.pdf**

Heavy Rail	Light Rail	Commuter Rail
▪ Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART): All except eBART Pittsburg Center, Antioch stations ▪ Los Angeles (LA) Metro Rail: B, D Lines	▪ LA Metro Rail (A, C, E, K Lines) ▪ Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) ▪ San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Trolley ▪ San Francisco Municipal Railway (Muni) Metro and Streetcar ▪ Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Light Rail	▪ Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) ▪ Arrow ▪ BART (eBART Pittsburg Center, Antioch stations only) ▪ Caltrain ▪ Capitol Corridor ▪ Coaster ▪ Metrolink ▪ Pacific Surfliner ▪ San Joaquins (Gold Runner) ▪ Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) ▪ Sprinter

HCD's advisory notes that SB 79 contemplates application to future planned TOD stops that meet specified requirements. As such, the chart above does not reflect rail typologies for all rail services that have yet to be constructed or enter into operation.

Comments

1) *Author's statement.* "While California residents contend with a deepening housing shortage, it is the role of the legislature to increase availability and affordability. However, these ambitions cannot come at the expense of our history, culture, and community. Policies, such as those found in SB 79 of 2025, help increase housing development near public transit. Unfortunately, not all transit zones can accommodate such development without sacrificing the existing environment. This is the case for the Folsom Historic District. While many preservation efforts focus on landmark buildings or famous figures, Folsom understood the value of safeguarding an entire everyday small-town environment – the walkable grid, mixed uses, and incremental development patterns. AB 2415 helps preserve historic districts, like the one in Folsom, while still advancing the state's housing goals."

2) *State and regional guidance.* Independent of the SB 79 Advisory noted above in the Background section, HCD must issue guidance by July 1, 2026, on how SB 79 capacity is to be counted in local sites inventories for future housing element cycles. Additionally, MPOs are required to publish TOD tier maps with a rebuttable presumption of validity, however there is no requirement for MPOs to publish their maps on any statutory timeline. For the 6th housing

element cycle up to one year prior to the adoption of the 7th housing element revision, local governments may exempt additional parcels from the provisions of this bill under specified conditions via an ordinance update.

3) *Alternatives to SB 79 application.* SB 79 creates two implementation alternatives for local governments to use to comply with the provisions of the bill:

- *SB 79 ordinances.* The SB 79 development standards identified in Comment 2 do not apply to a local government that enacts a local TOD ordinance to make their zoning consistent with SB 79 development standards, provided HCD has reviewed and determined the ordinance substantially complies with the SB 79 development standards by July 1, 2026. In other words, a local TOD ordinance would replace the SB 79 development standards. Specifically, HCD must review an enacted ordinance and make a finding as to whether the ordinance is in substantial compliance with SB 79 development standards and report back to the local government within 90 days – or 120 days if HCD needs an additional 30 days to review. If HCD fails to meet these timelines, the ordinance shall be deemed compliant with SB 79. However, if the ordinance is not deemed to be compliant, the local government shall be given up to 60 days to respond.

- *Local TOD Alternative Plan (Local Plan)*. The SB 79 development standards may also be waived or altered in jurisdictions that choose to implement SB 79 differently by electing to adopt a Local Plan. A Local Plan can be adopted by ordinance, housing element adoption, housing element program implementation, a specific plan, or a zoning overlay. A Local Plan may alter the general development standards prescribed by SB 79, but must maintain at least the same net zoned capacity (measured in both units and residential floor area) as SB 79 provides, and may not reduce maximum density on any site or total capacity in any TOD zone by more than 50%, unless the sites are within a very high fire hazard severity zone, vulnerable to sea level rise, or contain a historic resource on a local register.

Local Plans can apply to any site in the jurisdiction, including those sites owned by other local agencies, and may be implemented by existing local TOD zoning ordinances, overlay zones, specific plans or zoning incentive ordinances, provided they meet the other requirements of the Local Plan. In other words, a

local government adopting a Local Plan can collaborate with other local agencies.

4) *SB 79 exemptions*. SB 79 does not apply, prior to one year following the adoption of the 7th housing element, to the following sites if the local government has adopted an SB 79 ordinance: (a) a site identified by the local government that permits density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 standards; (b) a site in a TOD zone in which 33% of the sites have already permitted density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 development standards and includes sites with densities that cumulatively allow for at least 75% of the aggregate density for the TOD zone allowed using SB 79 development standards; (c) a site within a very high fire hazard severity zone or within the state responsibility area, sites that are vulnerable to one foot sea level rise, or sites on a specified historic register; or, (d) sites identified in a Local Plan.

5) *SB 79 and Historic Resources.* As noted in Comment 3, SB 79 allows local governments to exclude sites with a historic resource designated as of January 1, 2025, on a local register if the local government has adopted an local alternative plan pursuant to SB 79 indicating the site's exclusion within one year of adopting the seventh revision of the housing element.

   This bill would allow for an exception to the provision in the local alternative plan requirements for the TOD zone to include at least 50% of the total units or residential floor area as would otherwise be allowed by SB 79 development standards. Specifically, this bill would allow for cities with fewer than 150,000 with more than one TOD zone to reduce the capacity in one of the TOD zones by less than 50% if the majority of that TOD zone is part of a local historic district designated by 2000.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/15/26)

City of Folsom
Folsom Chamber of Commerce
Folsom Historic District Association
Folsom History
Friends of Folsom Preservation
Historic Folsom Residents Association
The Heritage Preservation League of Folsom

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/25/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 76-0, 5/26/26
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, 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: Bonta, Lee, Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/3/26 17:24:37

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2418
Author: Mark González (D), et al.
Amended: 6/24/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Local building permits: nonresidential private permitting review

SOURCE: Building Owners and Managers Association of California
California Business Properties Association
Naiop California

DIGEST: This bill allows, until January 1, 2037, an applicant for a nonresidential building permit for a tenant improvement to hire a private plan checker to review their application if they experience an excessive delay in review of their permit.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Allows, under the California Constitution, cities and counties to "make and enforce within its limits, all local, police, sanitary and other ordinances and regulations not in conflict with general laws." It is from this fundamental power (commonly called the police power) that cities and counties derive their

authority to regulate behavior to preserve the health, safety, and welfare of the public.

2) Establishes the California Building Standards Code (Title 24 of the California Code of Regulations), which contains building standards and regulations as adopted by the California Building Standards Commission (BSC). These standards include, among other requirements, structural standards for building safety (the Building Code), fire safety standards (the Fire Code), energy efficiency standards (the Energy Code), and standards for green buildings (CalGreen). The BSC updates the Building Standards Code on a three-year cycle—the BSC published new standards that went into effect on January 1, 2026. Once adopted at the state level, cities and counties in California then enact an ordinance to adopt the codes. New construction and improvements to existing buildings must comply with the current building codes, and improvements to an existing building may trigger additional code upgrades for other parts of a building.

3) Requires local agencies to contract with a private entity on a temporary basis to perform the plan checking function, upon request of an applicant for a building permit, if there is an excessive delay in checking plans for a building permit for construction or a remodel or tenant improvement to non-residential buildings of up to three stories. Excessive delay means 50 days after submission of a complete application, or a total of 60 days if there was a resubmittal of the application. Local agencies that are required to contract out can charge an applicant fees in an amount necessary to defray costs directly attributable to hiring someone to perform plan checking services.

4) Allows, until January 1, 2036, an applicant for certain residential building permits of 1 to 10 units to contract with or employ a private professional provider to check plans and specifications if the county or city estimates a timeframe for this plan-checking function that exceeds 30 days, or does not complete this plan-checking function within 30 days.

5) Requires the building department of every city or county to conduct an inspection of permitted work within 10 business days of receiving notice of the completion of permitted work authorized by a building permit issued for certain housing projects of 1 to 10 units.

This bill:

1) Requires, until January 1, 2037, upon receipt of a completed application for a non-residential building permit for a tenant improvement in a Group B

Occupancy, as defined, a local agency to complete plan checking services within 30 business days of a request of the applicant or employ a private professional to perform plan checking services, as follows:

a) If the estimated timeframe exceeds an excessive delay of 30 business days, or if the building department doesn't complete the plan check within 30 business days, the local agency must, upon request of the applicant, contract with or employ a private entity on a temporary basis to perform the services.

b) If a local agency makes a determination that there is no entity available or qualified to perform the plan check, the applicant may contract with or employ at their own expense a private professional provider to check the plans and specifications to comply with the building code or local ordinances implementing them. The private professional provider must be chosen from a list of qualified private professional providers that a local agency may choose to establish. If no list exists, then the applicant may choose their own.

c) An applicant who retains a private professional provider shall notify the city or county of the applicant's intent to retain a private professional provider no later than five business days after receiving the estimated timeframe indicating an excessive delay or the excessive delay occurs.

d) If a private professional provider performs the plan-checking function, they must prepare an affidavit, under penalty of perjury, that says that they performed the plan check and if the plans comply with the applicable standards.

e) The private professional provider must be a licensed engineer or architect and cannot have a financial interest in the permit or the plans and specifications.

f) The applicant must then submit to the building department a report of the plan-checking function that includes:

    i) The affidavit;

    ii) Necessary requirements for the plans and specifications to comply with the applicable standards; and

    iii) Additional information required by the building department.

g) Within 10 business days of receiving the report, the building department must consider the report and either issue the permit or notify the applicant that the plans do not comply with the applicable laws and identify needed changes. In the case the plans don't comply, the applicant can either resubmit corrected plans to the building department or hire a private provider to check the corrected plans.

2) Requires the applicant to protect the local agency from liability as specified from any damage or injury arising from construction in accordance with the plans checked by a private professional provider.

3) Allows a city or county to adopt requirements that do either of the following, provided that the requirements do not prohibit or effectively prohibit the use of a private professional provider:

   a) Limit the size of an eligible nonresidential building to no less than 10,000 square feet; or

   b) Specify the eligible types of businesses or occupancy.

4) Provides that the bill does not authorize the displacement of public employees. The use of a private professional provider must be strictly temporary in nature and must not exceed the time required to complete the review of the tenant improvement application.

5) Prohibits a local agency from reducing, eliminating, or failing to fill budgeted civil service positions within the building department as a result of the use of private professional providers.

6) Requires the building department of a city or county that prescribes fees for checking nonresidential building permits to post a schedule of fees on its website, and requires a city or county to conduct an inspection of permitted work for a nonresidential building of specified occupancy groups within 10 business days of receiving a notice of the completion for work authorized by a nonresidential building permit.

7) Defines its terms and contains findings and declarations to support its purposes.

Background

Administrative permit approvals. A builder may need a range of administrative permits from the local agency in order to actually complete the work to construct or modify a building. These permits can include building permits and other

permits for: demolition; grading; excavation; electrical, plumbing, or mechanical work; encroachment in the public right-of-way; roofing; water and sewer connections or septic systems; fire sprinklers; and home occupations.

City and county building departments enforce the provisions of State Housing Law, the California Building Standards Code, and local zoning codes that specify the allowable forms and uses of buildings within a city or county's jurisdiction. Within building departments, the positions responsible for evaluating building permits for compliance include building officials, inspectors, plan checkers, and civil engineers. State law also allows local agencies to hire private entities on a temporary basis to perform plan checking services. Some agencies contract out a portion of their workload during especially busy times, or certain portions of the building permit review process, such as reviewing compliance with energy efficiency requirements. Other local agencies contract out nearly all plan checking functions to a private firm.

Non-residential uses. The California Building Standards Code classifies buildings into numerous types of occupancies based on life safety and structural safety risks in order to determine the standards that apply to a building type. There are 14 different categories of occupancies, and subcategories within those. For example, Group B occupancies are buildings used for office, professional, or service-type transactions, while Group H occupancies are buildings used for high-hazard uses that involve the manufacturing, processing, generation of storage of materials that constitute a physical or health hazard. Group H occupancies are classified into one of five subcategories, such as H-1 occupancies for buildings containing materials that pose a risk of detonation. Other common non-residential occupancy types include Group A (buildings where people congregate for various purposes), Group F (factories), Group M (retail sales facilities), and Group S (storage facilities). Occupancy classification can be based in part on the number of occupants a space may hold: spaces able to accommodate 50 or more occupants are categorized as higher risk and must meet higher life safety standards.

Tenant improvements. While specific definitions vary across local governments, tenant improvements generally include commercial additions, or remodels of the interior of an existing building or structure. This can range from minor changes to interiors to complete changes in use from one type of business to another. Tenant improvements generally require building permits and often other health and safety reviews to ensure that the spaces that the public occupies are safe. Tenant improvements can revitalize commercial areas by allowing new businesses in, help existing local businesses stabilize and grow their physical footprint, or modernizing to make spaces more attractive.

Commercial business property owners report that plan reviews for tenant improvements can take months, and new construction plan reviews may take up to a year and a half. For example, data provided by the California Business Properties Association shows that some members see significant variation in permit approval times for tenant improvements, ranging from as long as six months to as short as within the same day. Other industry sources note that there are a variety of factors that influence permitting timelines, including:

- The jurisdiction that the project is permitted in, with larger jurisdictions with a higher volume of projects leading to backlogs;
- Project type and complexity, with simple tenant improvements proceeding faster than large, new construction projects with a variety of planned uses;
- Completeness and accuracy of plans submitted to the local agency; and
- Whether the project requires approvals from various local departments and whether those reviews are concurrent or sequential.

Some industry data also notes that average inspection lead times vary between two days to two weeks, depending on the jurisdiction. Groups representing commercial property owners want the Legislature to require cities and counties to accelerate permitting of tenant improvements in non-residential properties.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "It is essential that we reduce cost burdens on our small, local businesses, especially at a time when costs continue to rise for consumers and businesses alike. AB 2418 aims to mimic existing streamlined housing permitting processes and cut through red tape by establishing common-sense deadlines for plan checks and inspections. Small businesses, especially in historic, ethnic enclaves, in my district like Chinatown, Koreatown, Historic Filipinotown, Boyle Heights, and Pico-Union are his hardest by delays to improve or set up their businesses the most and by making the permitting process more efficient and cheaper, they will be able to stay open and thrive."

2) *Help me help you*. Cities and counties compete to attract land uses that generate local revenues and shun land uses that need expensive public services. This "fiscalization of land use" has been documented since at least the mid-1980s. As a result, cities and counties may deprioritize approval of housing and favor commercial or industrial development that generates sales or property taxes

along with employment opportunities for the community. This bill proposes to accelerate non-residential construction by allowing property owners to hire their own private plan checkers if the local agency doesn't move quickly enough. This approach implies that local governments let commercial or industrial building permits languish. However, it is unclear whether local governments willfully delay action on commercial or industrial permits, given their fiscal incentives. Instead, local building departments are often underfunded and short-staffed. An alternative approach to assist local agencies in expediting permitting for tenant improvements would be to enhance local government revenues to ensure that they can retain enough competent staff.

3) *Too soon?* Cities and counties have only been required to allow applicants to hire private plan checkers under AB 253 (Ward, Chapter 487, Statutes of 2025) since October 10, 2025. This bill applies fundamentally similar requirements and procedures to tenant improvements for a wide variety of businesses after just over six months. Without a longer track record of the plan checking procedures under AB 253, the Legislature may not have sufficient information to evaluate whether the program is working and what pitfalls may emerge. Is this bill premature?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Building Owners and Managers Association of California (co-source)
California Business Properties Association (co-source)
NAIOP California (co-source)
American Council of Engineering Companies
Associated General Contractors, California Chapters
Boma Greater Los Angeles
Building Owners and Managers of Greater Los Angeles
Calasian Chamber of Commerce
California Apartment Association
California Building Industry Association
California Business Roundtable
California Downtown Association
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
California Manufacturers & Technology Association
California Restaurant Association
California Retailers Association
California Self Storage Association

Capitol Business Alliance
Central City Association of Los Angeles
Inland Empire Economic Partnership
Institute of Real Estate Management of CA
Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles County Business Federation
Naiop Socal
National Federation of Independent Business
Orange County Business Council
San Deigo Regional Chamber of Commerce
Southern California Leadership Council
Southwest California Legislative Council
Supply Chain Federation
The Greater Coachella Valley Chamber of Commerce
Tri County Chamber Alliance
United Chamber Advocacy Network

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

California Building Officials

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: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:45

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2425
Author: Chen (R)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE BANKING & F.I. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Grayson, Niello, Cervantes, Hurtado, Reyes, Richardson, Strickland

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Department of Financial Protection and Innovation: budget reports

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation to report annually to the Legislature information related to revenues and expenses associated with specified licensing and registration programs administered by the department.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Requires the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) to report annually to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee, and the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee the projected and actual revenues and expenditures, including months in reserve for the immediately preceding fiscal year for specified subprograms administered by DFPI. (Budget Act of 2025, SB 101, Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025)

2) Requires DFPI to provide written updates to the Joint Legislative Budget Committee, the Senate Banking and Financial Institutions Committee, and the

Assembly Banking and Finance Committee, no later than six months after the effective date of any fee or assessment adjustment, as specified, for the purpose of informing legislative oversight of fund stability and assist in evaluating the need for budgetary or statutory adjustments. (Budget Act of 2025, SB 101, Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025)

3) Requires DFPI to issue and collect assessments and charges on a pro rata basis to recover the actual costs of administering licensing law, to the extent authorized by any existing licensing law. (Budget Act of 2025, SB 101, Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025)

This bill:

1) Codifies the requirement described in 1) of the Existing Law section, with minor technical changes.

2) Requires DFPI to report nonexam revenues in subcategories containing totals for annual assessment revenue, application and licensing fees, renewal fees, fingerprinting fees, penalties and settlement revenue, income from the Surplus Money Investment Fund, investigation fees, delinquent fees, and cost recovery.

3) Requires DFPI to report, for each specified licensing law that authorizes the collection of assessments on a pro rata basis, the method of determining those assessments.

Background

DFPI is the state financial services regulator, and the department conducts most of its activities through licensing or registration laws that are tailored to specified categories of financial services. These laws establish requirements that a person engaged in a specified activity must be licensed or registered with the department before engaging in such activity, establish the minimum requirements and procedures for obtaining a license, and regulate conduct related to the activity, such as mandatory, permissible, and prohibited behaviors, when providing the specified financial product or service. Except for institutions or activities that are regulated solely by the federal government, DFPI oversees a broad portfolio of financial service providers, including the following categories that are covered by this bill: broker-dealers and investment advisors, franchise investments, mortgage bankers, finance lenders and brokers, Property Assessed Clean Energy program administrators, escrow agents, deferred deposit transaction providers (aka payday lenders), state banks, money transmitters, debt collectors, digital financial asset

service providers, and registered covered persons who provide consumer financial products or services.

Licensing or registration programs administered by DFPI are intended to be fiscally self-sustaining; that is, the licensees or registrants bear the costs of the regulatory program with no additional support needed from the general fund. By 2024, and possibly earlier, the commissioner of DFPI recognized that several programs were structurally deficient: revenues were consistently insufficient to cover costs. In 2024, DFPI contracted with an independent accounting firm to conduct a fiscal and cost study of its programs. The resulting report identified structural deficits across most of the program analyzed.[1] A subsequent report by the Legislative Analyst's Office, which relied in part on the report from the independent accounting firm, identified cost and revenue factors that caused the deficits, including an increase in annual salary adjustments, startup costs for new programs enacted by the Legislature and Governor, static fee levels due to statutory limits that had not been amended in decades, and the loss of three large banks due to mergers or failure.[2]

As part of the 2025-26 budget, the Legislature and Governor enacted a budget trailer bill that increased the fees charged by several of the DFPI programs facing fiscal stress. As part of the Budget Act of 2025, control language was enacted that requires DFPI to report annually to the Legislature specified information related to the fiscal health of certain programs and, to extent permissible by law, to charge pro rata assessments to licensees or registrants to ensure that annual program expenses are fully recovered.

This bill seeks to codify in statute the reporting requirements included in the Budget Act of 2025. Additionally, the bill requires more granular reporting of program revenues. Different from the Budget Act of 2025, this bill requires DFPI to report the method of determining the assessments and charges related to any pro rata apportionment of cost recoveries.

Comments

Purpose. According to the author:

> AB 2425 increases transparency by requiring the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) to publish data on its revenues and expenditures, while also clarifying the methodology used to determine certain assessments and charges. This bill brings greater transparency to the

[1] **https://dfpi.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/Fiscal-and-CAP-Analysis-Report.pdf**
[2] **https://lao.ca.gov/Publications/Report/5025**

DFPI by ensuring that licensees can clearly understand how funds are allocated, and how fees are justified.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 77-0, 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, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, 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, Ortega, Celeste Rodriguez

Prepared by: Michael Burdick / B. & F.I. /
8/5/26 15:04:45

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2429
Author: Blanca Rubio (D)
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/15/26
AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Childcare: mental health consultation services

SOURCE: Kidango

DIGEST: This bill (1) revises reimbursement requirements for early childhood mental health consultation services by requiring consultants to use an early care and education classroom observation tool at least once per year in each classroom, rather than twice per year; (2) makes optional the requirement to administer at least one Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) screening.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Law:

1) Establishes the Early Education Act to provide an inclusive and cost-effective preschool program that provides high quality learning experiences, coordinated services, and referrals for families to access health and social-emotional support services through full- and part-day programs. (Education Code [EDC] §8200 et seq.)

2) Defines “early childhood mental health consultation service” as a service benefitting a child who is served in a California State Preschool Program (State Preschool). (EDC §8243)

3) 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 [WIC] §10207 et seq.)

4) Defines “early childhood mental health consultation service” as a service benefitting an infant or toddler who is 0 to 36 months of age, inclusive, and is served in a General Child Care and Development program, or a child who is 0 to 5 years of age, inclusive, and is served in a Family Child Care Home Education Network setting funded by a General Child Care and Development Program. (WIC §10281)

5) Provides that early childhood mental health consultation service includes, but is not limited to, all of the following:

   a) Support for providers, parents, legal guardians, and caregivers to create proactive trauma-informed, inclusive environments and to respond effectively to all children.

   b) Assistance through individual site consultations, provision of resources, formulation of training plans, referrals, and other methods that address the unique needs of programs and providers.

   c) Aid to providers, parents, legal guardians, and caregivers, and encouragement and facilitation of collaboration and communication, as specified.

   d) The development of strategies for addressing prevalent child mental health concerns, as specified.

   e) Support with the pursuit and documentation of reasonable steps to maintain a child’s safe participation in the program if a child exhibits persistent and serious behaviors.

   f) Face-to-face interactions or video-based platforms and other modes of communication, as specified.

g) Group or individual consultations. (EDC §8243; WIC §10281)

6) Provides that the cost to an agency of providing an early childhood mental health consultation service shall be reimbursable if all of the following apply:

   a) The early childhood mental health consultation service is provided on a schedule of sufficient and consistent frequency, continuously throughout the program year, as specified.

   b) The early childhood mental health consultation service is provided by a licensed or credentialed professional, as specified; a license-eligible professional who is supervised by a fully licensed or credentialed professional, as specified; a person holding a master's degree in a field related to mental health or human services, as specified.

      i. Allows a fully licensed or credentialed professional to be an employee of a contracting agency or engaged as an external contractor, as specified.

      ii. Requires any person providing mental health consultation services to have a successful criminal background check.

   c) The early childhood mental health consultation service uses a relationship-based model emphasizing strengthening relationships among early childhood education providers, parents, children, and representatives of community systems and resources, and integrates reflective practice into the onsite consultation model. Requires the model to include, but not be limited to, all of the following:

      i. At least twice per program year, conducting early care and education setting-based mental health assessments, such as the "Climate of Health Interactions for Learning & Development".

      ii. Recordkeeping that adequately documents all consultation activities.

      iii. With consent from parents or legal guardians, at least one screening of each enrolled child for ACEs and screening for buffering factors, including, but not limited to, resilience.

   d) Within the first 30 days upon hire or start of a consultation service, requires a provider agency to ensure that a consultant is trained in professional ethics and statutory, regulatory, and decisional laws, as specified; child abuse and neglect mandated reporting laws; best practices and foundations of early

childhood mental health consultation; and all relevant laws and regulations regarding state and federal child care programs.

e) Requires consultants and supervisors to participate in continuing professional development and education for at least 18 hours per program year. (EDC §8243; WIC §10281)

7) Requires the California Department of Education and CDSS, in consultation, to issue guidance through management bulletins, all-county letters, or similar instructions until regulations are adopted. (EDC §8243; WIC §10281)

This bill:

1) Strikes the requirement for an early childhood mental health consultation service model include the conducting of an early care and education setting-based mental health assessment at least twice per program year.

2) Requires an early childhood mental health consultation service model to incorporate an early care and education classroom observation tool.

   a) Specifies the observation tool must include measures on the classroom environment, social-emotional learning climate, and teacher and child interactions to guide the specific activities and support the consultant shall provide.

   b) Provides that selecting a classroom observation tool, choosing an observer, and the timing and cadence of observations may be planned with the classroom team.

   c) Requires the classroom observation tool to be administered at least once per school year in each classroom receiving early childhood mental health consultation service.

   d) Authorizes classroom assessment tools required by the California Department of Education or CDSS to be used to fulfill this requirement.

3) Changes the requirement to conduct at least one screening of each enrolled child for ACEs to be optional.

Background

Purpose of the Bill. According to the author, "AB 2429 modernizes California's Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation (ECMHC) model by updating program requirements to allow more flexible, relationship-based consultation that

better supports children's social-emotional development. While ECMHC is a proven strategy for helping early educators address behavioral challenges and reduce suspensions and expulsions in early learning settings, feedback from providers and consultants indicates that some existing requirements create unnecessary administrative burdens that limit flexibility and discourage participation.

"AB 2429 streamlines how ECMHC is implemented in California State Preschool Programs, General Child Care programs, and Family Child Care Home Education Networks by removing requirements that do not directly support consultation services. Specifically, the bill eliminates the requirement to administer the ACEs Screener for every child in a classroom receiving consultation services and instead makes it optional and reduces required classroom observations from twice per year to once per year in consultation with the classroom team.

"These updates will allow consultants and educators to focus on building relationships and developing consultation plans tailored to the needs of each classroom. As a former classroom teacher, I know how important it is to provide educators with the tools and support they need to create positive learning environments where every child can thrive. AB 2429 ensures that more children, families, and educators across California can benefit from this proven model."

Subsidized Child Care. 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. The state's largest subsidized child care programs are General Child Care, Alternative Payment Programs, CalWORKs Child Care, and the California State Preschool Program (State Preschool). This bill applies to General Child Care and State Preschool.

General Child Care provides care through contracted child care centers and Family Child Care Home Education Networks. Families are income eligible for General Child Care if their household income is below 85% of the State Median Income, depending on family size. In 2025–26, a family of four is income eligible if their annual family income is at or below $108,237.

State Preschool provides care for three- and four-year-olds at local educational agencies and some community-based centers. Current law additionally allows State Preschool programs to serve two-year-olds through June 30, 2027. Families are eligible for the California State Preschool Program if their income based on family size falls below 100% of the State Median Income. In 2025–26, a family of four is

income eligible if their annual family income is at or below $127,338. State Preschool programs are under the purview of the Senate Education Committee.

Early Childhood Mental Health Consultation. Early childhood mental health consultation is an evidence-informed service model that promotes social-emotional development to effectively address challenging behaviors in young children and reduce the need for preschool expulsions. These services are a multilevel intervention in which mental health professionals work alongside child care and preschool providers who care for children from birth to age six to, "promote healthy social-wellness and provide support to the families and child care providers of the child." This support may include developing strategies for classroom management, providing referrals, and cultivating a deeper understanding of the factors that shape young children's social-emotional development.

According to Georgetown University's Center for Child and Human Development, the outcomes of the early childhood mental health consultation services include reduced rates of suspensions and expulsions, reduced challenging behaviors, improved parent-child relationships, fewer missed days of work for parents, and an improved classroom climate. Early childhood mental health consultation is being implemented in a range of settings, including child care and preschool, home visiting, primary care, and child welfare in states, localities, and Tribal communities across the country.

This bill revises the reimbursement requirements for early childhood mental health consultation services to require the use of an early care and education classroom observation tool at least once per school or program year, rather than requiring early care and education mental health assessments to be conducted twice per program year. According to the bill sponsor, frequent observations are not always conducive to building a positive relationship between the early childhood mental health consultant and child care teacher, as they may contribute to teachers feeling judged or over-observed.

Adverse Childhood Experiences Screenings. Adverse Childhood Experiences, or ACEs, are potentially traumatic events that occur in childhood. Some examples include experiencing violence, abuse, or neglect; witnessing violence in the home or community; having a family member attempt or die by suicide; growing up in a household with substance use problems or mental health problems; instability due to parental separation or a household member being in jail or prison; not having enough food to eat; experiencing homelessness; or unstable housing. ACEs are linked to chronic health problems, mental illness, and substance use problems in

adulthood. ACEs can also negatively impact education, job opportunities, and earning potential.

An ACEs screening evaluates children and adults for trauma that occurred during the first 18 years of life. Children ages 0 through 11 are assessed using the Pediatric ACEs and Related Life-events Screener child tool, which is completed by a parent or caregiver. As of January 2020, the Department of Health Care Services reimburses Medi-Cal providers on a per-screening basis for children and adults with Medi-Cal coverage. Pursuant to SB 428 (Hurtado, Chapter 641, Statutes of 2021), commercial health plans and health insurers that provide coverage for pediatric services and preventative care are also required to include coverage for ACEs screenings.

This bill makes the ACEs screening optional rather than required for reimbursement for early childhood mental health consultation services. According to this bill's sponsor, conducting the ACEs screener requires a significant amount of parent interview time and poses the potential for parent discomfort, as the screener covers sensitive information that parents may not feel comfortable disclosing. Additionally, the screener is frequently conducted at well-child visits with pediatricians.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2806 (Blanca Rubio, Chapter 915, Statutes of 2022) revised and recast provisions related to expulsion and suspension of a child from the State Preschool program and broadens the provisions to include General Child Care and Development programs and Family Child Care Home Education Network programs.

SB 428 (Hurtado, Chapter 641, Statutes of 2021) required a health plan contract and health insurance policy issued, amended, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022, that provides coverage for pediatric services and preventative care to include coverage ACEs screenings.

AB 74 (Ting, Chapter 23, Statutes of 2019) appropriated Proposition 56 funding for ACEs screenings in Medi-Cal.

AB 752 (Rubio, Chapter 708, Statutes of 2017) prohibited a State Preschool program contracting agency from expelling or un-enrolling a child due to behavior unless certain steps are taken, as specified.

Comments

Since 2015, child care and preschool programs nationwide have implemented policies to reduce and eliminate preschool expulsion due to substantial evidence that these practices lead to lifelong negative consequences for children—particularly for Black/African American children. This bill seeks to lower barriers to entry to encourage more child care and preschool programs to offer early childhood mental health consultation services in their classrooms. By reducing assessment requirements, this bill seeks to allow early childhood mental health consultants to use their time visiting classrooms however they see fit to support teachers and children. According to the bill sponsor, the changes proposed in this bill reflect feedback from early childhood mental health consultants and early childhood teachers.

[Note: See the Senate Education Committee analysis for additional background on this bill.]

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Kidango (Sponsor)
Child Care Alliance of Los Angeles
Clovis Unified Preschool
Early Edge California
First 5 Association of California
Fresno County Office of Education
Lindsay Unified School District Preschool/TK Program
Options for Learning
Silicon Valley Community Foundation
The Children's Partnership
YMCA of San Diego County

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Diana Dominguez / HUMAN S. / (916) 651-1524
8/5/26 15:04:46

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2433
Author: Alvarez (D), et al.
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Housing development: density bonus

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various changes to density bonus law (DBL).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires cities and counties to grant a density bonus when an applicant for a housing development — defined as "five or more 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 households;

   b) 5% of the total units of a housing development for very low-income households;

c) A senior citizen housing development or mobile home park;

d) 10% of the 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 a city or county to allow an increase in density on a sliding scale from 20% to 80%, depending on the percentage of units affordable to low- and very low-income households, over the otherwise maximum allowable residential density under the applicable zoning ordinance and land use element of the general plan. Requires the increase in density, on a sliding scale, for moderate-income for-sale developments from 5% to 50% over the otherwise allowable residential density.

3) Requires a local government to grant an additional density bonus on top of the bonus in 2) if the applicant agrees to include additional rental or for-sale units affordable to very low-income households or moderate-income households.

4) Provides that, upon the developer's request, the local government may not require parking standards greater than the parking ratios specified in DBL.

5) Requires applicants to receive concessions and incentives depending on the percentage of affordable housing included in the proposed development. "Concessions and incentives" means the following:

a) A reduction in site development standards, or a modification of zoning code requirements, or architectural design requirements, that exceed the minimum building standards, including, but not limited to, a reduction in setback and square footage requirements and in the ratio of vehicular parking spaces that would otherwise be required, resulting in identifiable and actual cost reductions, to provide for affordable housing costs, as specified;

b) Approval of mixed-use zoning in conjunction with the housing project if commercial, office, industrial, or other land uses will reduce the cost of the housing development and if the commercial, office, industrial, or other land

uses are compatible with the housing project and the existing or planned development in the area where the proposed housing project will be located; and,

c) Other regulatory incentives or concessions proposed by the developer or the city, county, or city and county that result in identifiable and actual cost reductions to provide for affordable housing costs, as specified.

6) Provides that the granting of a density bonus, incentive, or concession shall not be interpreted in and of itself, to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, or other discretionary approval.

7) Establishes procedures for calculating the maximum allowable residential density, or base density, of the project, for which the bonus is to be calculated based on.

8) Provides that, in no case, may a local government apply any development standard that will have the effect of physically precluding the construction of a development at the densities or with the concessions or incentives permitted by DBL.

9) Provides that, without limiting any other statutory or categorical exemption, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) does not apply to any aspect of a housing development project, as defined, including any permits, approvals, or public improvements required for the housing development project, if the housing development project meets all of the specified conditions.

This bill:

1) Requires a city or county to comply with DBL if the jurisdiction determines an applicant meets at least one of the affordability criteria that would make a housing development project (project) eligible for a density bonus under DBL as opposed to requiring compliance if the applicant *seeks* a density bonus.

2) Requires a local government, after it is required to notify an applicant for a density bonus whether their application is deemed complete, to provide the applicant with a determination as to whether the project is eligible for a density bonus.

3) Grants two additional concessions and incentives to projects that include for-sale units.

4) Prohibits the granting of a waiver or reduction of development standards, concession, or incentives to be discretionary actions, or from requiring a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, study, or other discretionary approval or environmental review for purposes of CEQA.

5) Prohibits the granting of a density bonus to be discretionary or to require environmental review for purposes of CEQA, in addition to existing prohibitions to require a general plan amendment, local coastal plan amendment, zoning change, or other discretionary approval.

6) Provides that if an applicant elects to use the maximum floor area ratio (FAR) of the site for residential use for purposes of calculating the maximum allowable gross residential density, "density bonus" also means an increase in the FAR.

7) Permits the density bonus, incentives or concessions, and waivers or reductions of development standards, to be on sites that are the subject of the same housing development. The density bonus shall be permitted anywhere in the geographic are of the same housing development, including areas outside of the areas where the units for the lower-income households are located.

8) Makes other technical and conforming changes.

Background

According to an April 2026 report by Circulate Planning & Policy, a San Diego-based transportation and land-use policy nonprofit, density bonus law is one of California's most successful housing streamlining laws in recent years.[1] Circulate Planning & Policy's report notes:

"Since the adoption of Assembly Bill 2345, [Density] Bonus Law has become the most widely used streamlining law tracked by the California Department of Housing and Community Development. It was not understood at the time of its adoption to be a transformative law. Nevertheless, after its adoption [Density] Bonus Law has been used to approve:

- More than 140,000 homes overall;
- More than 69,000 deed-restricted affordable homes;

[1] Circulate Planning & Policy, "Win-Win Bonus: How California's Bonus Law quietly transformed housing approvals

- In 2024, 47 percent of all homes approved in multifamily projects;
- In 2024, 78 percent of all homes in 100 percent affordable projects; and
- In 2024, ten times more homes than every other tracked streamlining law."

The report notes that in 2024, 30% of multifamily homes approved by cities and counties were eligible for density bonus law but did not use it. The report identifies several recommendations for legislation to further enhance density bonus law, including, among others, that:

- Projects that are eligible for density bonus law should automatically be granted the law's benefits, rather than requiring an opt in;
- The law should more concretely apply to the California Coastal Commission, which regulates development in the Coastal Zone; and
- The law should be renamed to reduce the emphasis on "density."

The author wants to further boost utilization of density bonus law.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "Over the past five years, Bonus Law has entitled more than 140,000 homes across the state, making it the most utilized and successful housing streamlining program in California law according to an April 2026 report by Circulate Planning & Policy. In 2024, nearly half of new California townhouses or apartments were in projects that relied on the density bonus. AB 2433, the Affordable Homeownership Bonus Law, builds on that success by making homeownership more attainable for the people who make our communities work. Specifically, the bill modernizes incentives for builders who commit to affordable housing that's for-sale, holds cities accountable to clear timelines, and removes unnecessary barriers that have slowed or blocked good projects for years. When a homebuilder is willing to do the right thing and build homes working families can afford, state law should not stand in the way. The bill re-affirms existing environmental safeguards that the Legislature adopted in AB 130 (2025) and does not interfere with the Coastal Act. Please join me in making the California dream a reality for more working families. Support the Affordable Homeownership Bonus Law."

Uncle. Legislators have amended density bonus law 23 times in the past decade and authored scores more bills on local land use planning and permitting during that time. Each change requires cities and counties statewide to review and modify

their procedures to ensure they are compliant with the law, directing their efforts away from acting on housing project applications. AB 2433 layers on significant new changes to the procedures for density bonus law that will require local governments to modify procedures for reviewing any development applications. AB 2433 requires this change to increase uptake of density bonus law by developers. But by requiring permitting staff to adjust to new procedures, AB 2433 may, at least in the short term, slow down permitting of density bonus projects. Furthermore, it is unclear whether the application process is a significant obstacle to the use of density bonus law. For example, Circulate San Diego's report states, "It is notable that there is a declining share of eligible projects that are forgoing the benefits available to them under [Density] Bonus Law. This may indicate that the use of the program is growing not just because of changes to policy, but from growing familiarity with how it can be used. More homebuilders are choosing to use the policy, just as more jurisdictions may be understanding and accepting their obligations under it." Accordingly, the share of projects using density bonus law may continue to increase absent this measure. AB 2433's changes, while well intended, may impose costs or other friction in the development process that works counter to the bill's goals.

Other duties as assigned. Density bonus law currently requires a developer to apply for the density bonus and request waivers, concessions, and incentives. AB 2433 flips this requirement to require the city or county, upon receipt of an application that meets the requirements of density bonus law, to tell the developer the density bonus they are eligible for. AB 2433 puts local planning officials in the position of telling developers the extent to which they may undermine the standards adopted by their city council or board of supervisors. Is this an appropriate role for local government employees?

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Abundant Housing Los Angeles
Bay Area Council
Cal Chamber
California Building Industry Association (CBIA)
California Hispanic Chambers of Commerce
California Yimby
Circulate Planning & Policy
Coalition for Responsible Transportation Priorities
Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC)

Fieldstead and Company, INC.
Greenbelt Alliance
Habitat for Humanity California
Housing Action Coalition
Inner City Law Center
Leadingage California
New California Coalition
Prosperity Action
San Diego Housing Commission
San Diego Regional Chamber of Commerce
Sierra Business Council
Spur
Student Homes Coalition
The Two Hundred for Homeownership

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

California Cities for Local Control
City of Belmont
City of Beverly Hills
City of Carlsbad
City of Milpitas
Families and Homes San Jose
League of California Cities
Marin County Council of Mayors and Councilmembers
Mission Street Neighbors
Neighbors for a Better San Diego
Save Lafayette
Town of Truckee

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 67-0, 5/27/26
AYES: Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patterson, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Boerner, Connolly, Irwin, Muratsuchi, Ortega, Patel, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers, Tangipa

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/5/26 15:04:47

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2437
Author: Chen (R)
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Impounded vehicles

SOURCE: California Association of Licensed Repossessors

DIGEST: This bill requires an impound agency to accept a debit card as a form of payment and prohibits them from requiring the presentation of any documents other than those listed in statute to release a vehicle.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes that a peace officer may seize a vehicle when they determine that:

   a) The driver is driving without a license, on a suspended or revoked license, or driving without an Ignition Interlock Device (IID), when such a device is required (Vehicle Code Sectoin (VEH) 14602.6);

   b) The driver attempts to flee from a peace officer, engages in reckless driving, as defined, or participates in an exhibition of speed (VEH 14602.7);

   c) The driver is under the influence of alcohol (VEH 14602.8);

d) The vehicle is operating as an unlicensed vehicle for hire (VEH 21100.4);

e) The vehicle is illegally parked or abandoned, as defined (VEH 22651);

f) The vehicle is illegally parked or abandoned on private property (VEH 22658);

g) The vehicle is used during the commission of illegal dumping or prostitution, as defined (VEH 22659.5); or,

h) The vehicle is being used as part of a nonexempt unlicensed operation to repossess collateral. (VEH 23118)

2) Requires, depending on the reason for which the vehicle was impounded, the legal owner or legal owner's agent to provide the following documents to an impound agency to retrieve the vehicle: (VEH 14602.6, 14602.7, 14602.7, 21100.4, 22658, 22269.5, 23118)

a) The assignment or repossession order;

b) A government issued photo identification card;

c) A release from the responsible government agency, if required;

d) If the person is acting as an agent of the legal owner, a copy of the repossession agency license, or demonstrated proof that they are exempt for licensure; and,

e) One of the following:

i) A certificate of repossession for the vehicle,

ii) A security agreement for the vehicle, or,

iii) A paper or electronic title for the vehicle.

3) Requires an impounding agency to accept a valid credit card or cash as a form of payment. (VEH 14602.6, 14602.7, 14602.7, 21100.4, 22651.1, 22658, 22269.5, 23118)

This bill:

1) Prohibits an impounding agency from requiring any documents other than those already laid out in statute before releasing a vehicle, when the vehicle is seized under the authorities specified above.

2) Requires an impounding agency to accept a debit card as a valid form of payment.

3) Makes conforming changes to the code.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill.* According to the author, "Currently, consumers and repossessors face delays in retrieving impounded vehicles due to administrative burdens and inconsistent release procedures in code. AB 2437 seeks to lift those burdens and prevent delays by ensuring that debit cards can be utilized when retrieving a impounded vehicle from the tow yard, that only the documentation required by statute is needed for a repossessor to retrieve a vehicle from a tow yard, and streamlining vehicle codes to utilize one, consistent, release procedure that requires expired registration be current before a consumer can retrieve their vehicle from a repossession agency."

2) *Vehicle seizure and impoundment.* California law outlines various situations in which a peace officer may seize a private vehicle. Many of these situations are related to parking violations, abandoned vehicles, or vehicles that are not safe to operate on the street. Other situations pertain to a driver committing a crime directly, such as driving under the influence of alcohol, or driving without a license, or when the vehicle is being used in the commission of a crime, such as prostitution or illegal dumping. Finally, the legal owner of a vehicle, such as a bank or vehicle dealership, may repossess a vehicle when the driver has defaulted on the terms of their lease or financing agreement.

   Regardless of the reason a vehicle was seized, it is typically brought to an impound agency. These are private companies that generally partner with law enforcement to retrieve and store seized vehicles. Under California law, these agencies are required to abide by certain rules and regulations regarding their duty to notify vehicle owners of impoundments, and when they must return vehicles to their legal owners. In all instances impound agencies are generally required to obtain proof that the owner has paid off any fines or fees. Furthermore, impound agencies are authorized to charge additional fees to reimburse their costs associated with the vehicle tow, storage, and other

expenses.

The law also provides certain requirements for cases where the individual retrieving the vehicle is not the regular operator, but the vehicle's legal owner. Most often this occurs when the vehicle is being leased or financed and is legally owned by a bank or dealership. In these situations, the individual must present an assignment or repossession order for the vehicle; a government issued photo ID; a release from the responsible government agency, if required; and either a certification of repossession, a security agreement, or vehicle title. In some cases, legal owners such as banks will hire licensed repossessors to retrieve the vehicles. These are private, third-party companies that contract with banks and other entities to retrieve collateral. In the case of retrieving an impounded vehicle, a licensed repossessor must also present a copy of their repossession agency license, or proof that they are exempt for licensure.

3) *Difficulties retrieving vehicles.* Both private individuals and licensed repossessors have reported difficulties in retrieving vehicles they are entitled to from impound agencies. On the individual side, this most often takes the form of impound agencies not accepting particular forms of payment. For instance, while current law requires an impound agency to accept cash or credit cards as valid forms of payment, it does not require them to accept debit cards. However, the use of debit cards is incredibly widespread, with one report finding that 85% of Americans have at least one debit card. Thus, an impound agency that does not accept debit cards may defacto make an individual unable to pay, denying them access to their vehicle and causing them to rack up additional fees.

   On the licensed repossessor side, some repossessors have reported instances of impound agencies requiring additional documents beyond those laid out in state law in order to release a vehicle. Such documents can include a copy of the original lease or financing contract, a hold harmless agreement, or certain Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) forms. According to the repossessors, this delays their ability to collect vehicles and racks up additional fees for the legal owners.

   This bill seeks to address these problems by requiring impound agencies to accept debit cards as a valid form of payment, and by preventing impound agencies from requiring any additional documentation other than that listed in statute before releasing a vehicle. Writing as a sponsor of the bill, the California Association of Licensed Repossessors states, "AB 2437 would clarify that debit cards must also be accepted. The bill would also ensure that no paperwork

outside of the required documents be necessary for retrieving a vehicle from impound. This will ensure consumers can save money when their vehicle is repossessed from a tow yard while the reposessor searches for additional paperwork that is not required in statute."

4) *Previous attempts at similar policy.* AB 2656 (Chen, 2018) was substantially similar to this bill in that it required an impounding agency to accept a debit card for a large variety of tows and if the debit card machine was not working would have required the storage facility to call its merchant processing center to process the transaction. Furthermore, AB 2656 expanded the situations in which licensed repossessors could retrieve vehicles from impound agencies. The bill was vetoed by Governor Brown on the basis that this expansion of licensed repossessors' abilities to retrieve vehicles was unnecessary. This bill does not contain this provision.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Licensed Repossessors (Source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Samuel Myers / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:48

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2448
Author: Berman (D) and Bauer-Kahan (D), et al.
Introduced: 2/20/26
Vote: 21

SENATE PRIV., DIGITAL TECH. & CONS. PROT. COMMITTEE: 7-1, 6/8/26
AYES: Cabaldon, Gonzalez, McNerney, Padilla, Reyes, Umberg, Wiener
NOES: Jones
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ochoa Bogh

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 8-1, 7/1/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Smallwood-Cuevas
NOES: Grove
NO VOTE RECORDED: Valladares, Rubio

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-16, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Medical information: confidentiality

SOURCE: Attorney General Rob Bonta
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California

DIGEST: This bill clarifies that a business that electronically stores or maintains medical information of sensitive services shall enable the capabilities, policies, and procedures they are required to develop under existing law.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Reproductive Privacy Act, which prohibits the state from denying or interfering with a woman's right to choose or obtain an abortion prior to viability of the fetus, or when the abortion is necessary to protect the life or health of the woman. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code § 123460, *et seq*.)

2) Establishes the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (CMIA) to protect an individual's medical information from unauthorized disclosure by providers of health care. Provides an individual right of action for a patient whose information was disclosed in violation of CMIA's provisions. (Civil (Civ.) Code § 56 *et seq*.)

3) Defines "medical information," for the purposes of the CMIA, as any individually identifiable information, in electronic or physical form, that is in possession of or derived from a provider of health care, health care service plan, pharmaceutical company, or contractor regarding a patient's medical history, mental health application information, reproductive or sexual health application information, mental or physical condition, or treatment. Specifies that "individually identifiable" information means medical information that includes any element of personal identifying information sufficient to allow the individual to be identified. (Civ. Code § 56.05.)

4) Defines "sensitive services" to mean all health care services related to mental health, behavioral health, sexual and reproductive health, sexually transmitted infections, substance use disorder, gender affirming care, and intimate partner violence. (Civ. Code § 56.05.)

5) Requires a business that electronically stores or maintains medical information on the provision of sensitive services, including, but not limited to, on an electronic health record system or electronic medical record system, on behalf of a provider of health care, health care service plan, pharmaceutical company, contractor, or employer, to develop capabilities, policies, and procedures, July 1, 2024, to enable all of the following:

    a) Limit user access privileges to information systems that contain medical information related to gender affirming care, abortion and abortion-related services, and contraception only to those persons who are authorized to access specified medical information.
    b) Prevent the disclosure, access, transfer, transmission, or processing of medical information related to gender affirming care, abortion and abortion-related services, and contraception to people and entities outside of this state.
    c) Segregate medical information related to gender affirming care, abortion and abortion-related services, and contraception from the rest of the patient's record.
    d) Provide the ability to automatically disable access to segregated medical information related to gender affirming care, abortion and abortion-related

services, and contraception by individuals and entities in another state. (Civ. Code § 56.101.)

6) Prohibits providers of health care, health care service plans, or contractors from disclosing medical information regarding a patient of the provider of health care or an enrollee or subscriber without first obtaining authorization, except as provided. Specifies that a provider of health care, health care service plan, or a contractor must disclose medical information if the disclosure is compelled by:

   a) A court order.
   b) A board, commission, or administrative agency for purposes of adjudication.
   c) A party to a proceeding before a court or administrative agency pursuant to a subpoena, subpoena duces tecum, notice to appear, or any provision authorizing discovery in a proceeding before a court or administrative agency.
   d) A board, commission, or administrative agency pursuant to an investigative subpoena.
   e) An arbitrator or arbitration panel, when arbitration is lawfully requested by either party.
   f) A search warrant lawfully issued to a governmental law enforcement agency.
   g) A patient or patient's representative.
   h) A medical examiner, forensic pathologist, or coroner when requested in the course of an investigation, as specified.
   i) When otherwise specifically required by law. (Civ. Code § 56.10.)

7) Requires the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS), on or before July 1, 2022, to establish the California Health and Human Services Data Exchange Framework (DxF) that is to include a single data-sharing agreement and common set of policies and procedures that will leverage and advance national standards for information exchange and data content, and that will govern and require health information exchange (HIE) among health care entities and government agencies in California. (Health & Saf. Code § 130290.)

8) Requires, by July 1, 2026, the following entities to execute the data-sharing agreement:

   a) A medical foundation exempt from licensure.
   b) Emergency medical services. (Health & Saf. Code § 130290.)

9) Requires, commencing July 1, 2026, compliance with DxF to be required as a condition of continuing, amending, or entering into a new or existing contract for the coverage of or provision of health care services with the Department of Health Care Services, the Public Employees' Retirement System, and the California Health Benefit Exchange. Exempts the exchange of health information related to abortion, abortion-related services, gender-affirming care, immigration or citizenship status, or place of birth from DxF requirements. (Health & Saf. Code § 130290.)

This bill clarifies that a business that electronically stores or maintains medical information on the provision of sensitive services, including, but not limited to, on an electronic health record system or electronic medical record system, on behalf of a provider of health care, health care service plan, pharmaceutical company, contractor, or employer, was required to enable its developed capabilities, policies, and procedures to safeguard patient information of sensitive services.

Background

Following the *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization* decision, California enacted several laws to strengthen, protect, and affirm reproductive rights. One of these was AB 352 (Bauer-Kahan, Chapter 255, Statutes of 2023), which sought to prevent information on abortion care, gender affirming care, and other sensitive services in health information exchanges (HIEs) from being sent without a patient's permission. The bill required businesses involved in the electronic storage of medical information of sensitive services to develop capabilities, policies, and procedures by July 1, 2024, to achieve this objective. This included the capability of segregating information of sensitive services from the rest of a patient's record. However, AB 352's language leaves some ambiguity about whether these businesses were required to actually enable these capabilities, policies, and procedures by the July 1, 2024, deadline. This is particularly important in the context of the continued attacks on reproductive rights and recent updates to California's Data Exchange Framework (DxF), which requires secure, real-time data exchange across various healthcare entities.

This bill eliminates this ambiguity. It clarifies that businesses were supposed to enable the capabilities, policies, and procedures required by AB 352. This bill is co-sponsored by Attorney General Rob Bonta and Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California. It enjoys support from various groups such as the California Women's Law Center, SEIU California, and the Electronic Frontier Foundation. No timely opposition has been received. For a more thorough analysis, please see

the Senate Privacy, Digital Technologies, and Consumer Protection Committee analysis of the bill.

Comment

According to the author, "No patient should ever worry that their medical records will be used to criminalize or punish them – or their provider – for health care that is lawful in California. This is why the Legislature passed, and the Governor signed AB 352 requiring businesses that electronically store or maintain medical information to enable technological capabilities to protect the privacy and security of medical records related to abortion, contraception, and gender affirming care. In the three years since AB 352's enactment, attacks on reproductive and gender affirming care have only intensified. As a result, it is critical that medical providers have access to technology to protect sensitive medical information. To date, businesses are at different points in the process of enabling the technology necessary for providers to comply with existing law. AB 2448 reinforces state law to fully protect the privacy and security of patients' sensitive medical records

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

Senate Rule 28.8

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Attorney General Rob Bonta (Source)
Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California (Source)
Abortion Coalition for Telemedicine Access
Access Reproductive Health
ACLU California Action
American Academy of Pediatrics, California
American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists – District IX
California Academy of Family Physicians
California Women's Law Center
Electronic Frontier Foundation
Equality California
Essential Access Health
Lieutenant Governor Eleni Kounalakis
Los Angeles County
National Center for Youth Law
Reproductive Freedom for All California
SEIU California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

1 Individual

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Planned Parenthood Affiliates of California write as co-sponsors of the bill, "For Planned Parenthood health centers in California, confidentiality is at the core of being a trusted health care provider, especially given that Planned Parenthood health centers are collectively one of the largest providers of sexual and reproductive health care in the state. PPAC believes that patients should be able to access reproductive and gender affirming care services safely, comfortably, and without fear of their private information being disclosed and used to harm them. However, without technological capabilities that are responsive to the needs of providers and the patients they serve, providers cannot fully protect the privacy and security of their patients' sensitive medical information. If an individual is uncertain about whether their medical information will be shared, they may feel forced to choose between accessing needed medical care and their privacy and safety.

AB 2448 reinforces existing state law to protect sensitive medical records by clarifying that AB 352 required businesses that electronically store medical information related to sensitive services must both develop *and enable* the technology needed to protect the privacy and security of sensitive medical records."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 55-16, 5/11/26
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, 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: Castillo, Chen, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Davies, Hoover, Lowenthal, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Benjamin Diaz / P., D.T., & C.P. / (916) 651-1548
8/5/26 15:04:48

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

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(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2453
Author: Michelle Rodriguez (D) and Davies (R), et al.
Amended: 5/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles

SOURCE: City of Carlsbad

DIGEST: This bill authorizes a first responder to operate an off-highway motor vehicle (OHV) on a highway under certain conditions, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines an "off-highway motor vehicle" to be:

   a) A motorcycle, snowmobile, sand/dune buggy, all-terrain vehicle, jeep, "recreational" OHV, off-highway electric motorcycle;

   b) Any vehicle that is operated off-highway; and,

c) An OHV operated by a non-resident of the state.

2) Defines highway as "a way or place of whatever nature, publicly maintained and open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel. Highway includes street."

3) Defines, in part, a peace officer to be a sheriff, undersheriff, or deputy sheriff of a county, a chief of police of a city or chief, director, or chief executive officer of a consolidated municipal public safety agency that performs police functions, a police officer, employed in that capacity and appointed by the chief of police or chief, director, or chief executive of a public safety agency, of a city, a chief of police, or police officer of a district.

4) Defines a first responder to mean an employee of the state or a local public agency who provides emergency response services, including a peace officer, a firefighter, a paramedic, an emergency medical technician or a public safety dispatcher or public safety telecommunicator.

5) Authorizes a peace officer to operate an OHV on highway only during an emergency response situation.

6) Establishes OHV rules and regulations of the "off-road" including those governing registration, license, speed, safety, age, unauthorized access, reckless driving, compliance with, for example, signage, environmental protection, and anti-littering requirements (*e.g.*, Vehicle Code §§38280-38321). Any operator of an OHV must be able to reach and operate all controls necessary to safely operate the OHV.

This bill:

1) Authorizes a first responder to operate an OHV on highway in an emergency response situation.

2) Authorizes a peace officer and first responder to operate an OHV on a highway while performing official duties if an OHV is only operated or driven on highway for up to five miles for purposes of accessing an off-highway operational area or location of patrol.

3) Requires a local authority to adopt a policy or plan, subject to public review, for the use of OHVs for the abovementioned purposes and include the following elements:

   a) A description of the activities or locations for which the local authority seeks to authorize operation of OHVs and the approximate timeframe or duration of the authorization.

   b) A description of any training, certification, or safety equipment that will be required by the local authority to ensure the safety of the public, including drivers and passengers.

4) Expressly authorizes a local authority to regulate the operation of an OHV by peace officers and first responders while performing official duties subject to the requirements above.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "California's first responders and peace officers are frequently required to operate l off-highway vehicles (OHVs) in emergency, rescue, and public safety situations where regular vehicles cannot go. However, getting these OHVs to the locations where they are needed is often difficult because existing passenger-safety requirements may be infeasible in these contexts, and current operational restrictions prohibit OHVs from traveling any distance on surface streets or thoroughfares, thereby limiting response effectiveness and efficiency. Current law was designed for recreational use and does not account for the urgent, unpredictable conditions under which these professionals must act to protect life and property. This bill provides a narrow and practical exemption to ensure that first responders and peace officers can perform their duties effectively without being constrained by provisions that were not intended for first responder operations or urgent situations. By clarifying that these requirements do not apply in the course of official duties, the bill promotes public safety while recognizing the unique demands placed on those who respond in critical situations."

What is an OHV? OHVs are vehicles designed to be operated off-highway and can generally be categorized into three groups: all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), recreational off-road vehicles (ROVs), or utility terrain vehicles (UTVs). ATVs have three or more tires, a straddle seat for the operator, and handlebars for steering control. ROVs and UTVs have four or more tires, non-straddle or "side-by-side" seating,

and automotive-type controls for steering, throttle, and braking (i.e., a steering wheel and pedals). UTVs are generally equipped with larger cargo beds and can be retrofitted for law enforcement purposes by installing emergency lighting, sirens, logos, communications devices, and cab enclosures.

While OHVs are not required to be registered with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in the same fashion as standard on-road vehicles, OHVs are required to be registered with DMV and display a DMV-issued ID plate or sticker when operating on public land with registration renewal every two years.

Law enforcement and OHVs. Over the past several decades, law enforcement entities have increasingly utilized OHVs for their day-to-day operations. Manufacturers of OHVs advertise these specialized vehicles can be utilized for supporting patrols of communities, facilities, and land (i.e. parking enforcement, park or beach patrol) or providing safety and security during large events (i.e. special events, parades, marathons, and festivals). Generally, law enforcement or first responders have also used OHVs for search and rescue, remote patrols (i.e. trails), and medical or emergency incident response. While current law allows for peace officers to operate an OHV on a highway during an emergency situation, the provisions specified in this bill expand the scope of OHV usage to all first responders (as defined by state law) and would allow OHV usage on a highway for both emergency purposes and non-emergency purposes, for up to five miles, to reach an off-highway recreational area or a location of patrol.

Supporters of this measure include a number of municipalities which assert the provisions specified in this bill will enhance local entities' ability to protect public safety without imposing any new costs or regulatory burdens on local government.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

City of Carlsbad (source)
City of Ontario
Orange County Fire Authority
San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:04:49

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2460
Author: Celeste Rodriguez (D)
Amended: 4/6/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 5-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Pérez, Cabaldon, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ochoa Bogh, Choi

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-9, 5/27/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Pupil health: mental health: model referral protocols

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the California Department of Education (CDE), on or before July 1, 2027, to update existing model referral protocols for addressing pupil behavioral health concerns to include guidance on providing equity-centered mental health supports in case of a local emergency related to immigration enforcement activities or deportations of pupils or their family members; and 2) requires the governing board or body of a local educational agency (LEA), on or before July 1, 2028, to update its policy based on the CDE's updated model referral protocols or develop a local equivalent in consultation with local school and community stakeholders, and behavioral health professionals.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires the CDE, by June 1, 2025, to develop model referral protocols for addressing student mental health concerns, in consultation with specified agencies and stakeholders, and authorizes these protocols to be used on a voluntary basis by schools. (Education Code (EC) § 49428.1)

2) Requires the governing boards or bodies of LEAs, by January 31, 2026, to adopt at a regularly scheduled meeting, a policy on referral protocols for addressing student behavioral health concerns of students in grades 7 to 12. (EC § 49428.2)

3) Requires the CDE, by January 1, 2023, to recommend best practices and identify evidence-based and evidence-informed training programs for schools to address youth behavioral health, including staff and student training, contingent upon an appropriation for this purpose. (EC § 49428.15)

4) Requires LEAs to certify to the CDE by July 1, 2029, that 100% of certificated employees and 40% of classified employees who have direct contact with students in grades 7 to 12 have received youth behavioral health training at least once, as specified. (EC § 49428.2)

5) Requires LEAs by November 1, 2024 to coordinate agreements between school districts and charter schools within a county in order to develop a system through which qualified mental health professionals and other key school personnel employed by individual school districts and charter schools throughout the county could be rapidly deployed on a short- or long-term basis to an area of the county that has experienced a natural disaster or other traumatic event, in order to provide support to pupils and staff. (EC § 49429.5)

6) Requires LEAs to provide information to parents and guardians regarding their children's right to a free public education, regardless of immigration status or religious beliefs. (EC § 234.7)

7) Requires LEAs to educate pupils about the negative impact of bullying other pupils based on their actual or perceived immigration status or their religious beliefs and customs. (EC § 234.7)

8) Requires the Attorney General (AG), in consultation with stakeholders, to publish model policies limiting assistance with immigration enforcement at public schools to the fullest extent possible, consistent with federal and state law, by April 1, 2018. (EC § 234.7)

9) Requires the superintendent of a school district or county office of education (COE) and the principal of a charter school to report to the respective governing board or body of the LEA any requests for information or access to a schoolsite by a law enforcement official for the purpose of enforcing the immigration laws in a manner that ensures the confidentiality and privacy of any potentially identifying information. (EC § 234.7)

This bill:

1) Requires the CDE, in consultation with appropriate stakeholders, to update the existing model referral protocols for addressing pupil behavioral health concerns to include guidance on providing equity-centered mental health supports in case of a local emergency related to immigration enforcement activities or deportations of pupils or their family members.

2) Requires the CDE to post the above model referral protocols on its internet website on or before July 1, 2027.

3) Requires the governing board or body of an LEA, on or before July 1, 2028, to adopt at a regularly scheduled public meeting, an update to the policy on referral protocols for addressing behavioral health concerns, as specified, to include guidance on providing equity-centered mental health supports in case of a local emergency related to immigration enforcement activities or deportations of pupils or their family members.

4) Requires the adopted policy to be based on the updated model referral protocols developed by the CDE and developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders and school-linked behavioral health professionals. Requires the policy to, at a minimum, address procedures related to referrals to behavioral health professionals and support services.

5) Provides that policies adopted before January 1, 2027, may be considered to meet the requirements of this bill if they fulfill the requirements outlined above.

6) Makes a series of findings and declarations about the fear of deportation and its effect on pupil mental health.

7) Expresses the intent of the Legislature to ensure that schools are better prepared to respond when pupils are affected by trauma, fear, and instability by requiring the update of the model referral protocols to include guidance for pupils impacted by immigration enforcement that strengthens early identification, culturally responsive and multilingual support, family and community partnerships, and continuity of care.

Comments

1) *Need for the bill*. According to the author, "Students cannot succeed in school when fear and trauma keep them from the classroom. In many immigrant communities, aggressive immigration enforcement has created deep anxiety for children who fear family separation, parental detention, or sudden disruption at

home. That fear does not stay outside the school gates — it affects attendance, concentration, emotional well-being, and a student's ability to learn.

"AB 2460 recognizes that schools need a clearer mental health framework to respond when students are experiencing this kind of community-wide trauma. California's children deserve learning environments that are prepared to support them with stability, compassion, and continuity during times of crisis."

2) *Impacts of increasing immigration enforcement on student mental health.* According to a 2025 survey of 1,036 adults in immigrant families conducted by the Urban Institute, over 1 in 7 adults in immigrant families with children reported their children experienced increased emotional distress because of immigration-related worries. Fifteen percent of adults in immigrant families with children reported that their children experienced increased stress, anxiety, or sadness because of worries about immigration status in the previous year. Such effects were higher for those in mixed-status families (27%) but were also felt in families with all citizens (8%) and a mix of green card holders and citizens (15%).

   A 2025 article in Psychiatric News, a publication of the American Psychiatric Association, examined the mental health consequences of contemporary U.S. immigration enforcement on immigrant children and families, drawing from clinical vignettes, epidemiological data, and community-based research (Fortuna et al., 2025). The article highlights the following:

   - Forced family separations, particularly those resulting from immigration enforcement (e.g., detention, deportation), introduce acute psychological risks. A national study of 547 U.S.-born adolescents ages 11 to 16 found that having a detained or deported family member was associated with elevated risk for suicidal ideation, externalizing behaviors, and alcohol use (Roche et al., 2020).

   - In young children, abrupt caregiver loss has been linked to sleep and appetite disturbances, emotional dysregulation, and developmental regression (MacLean et al., 2019).

   - Forcible separation from a caregiver is recognized as an adverse childhood experience (ACE) that contributes to toxic stress, ambiguous loss, and long-term risk for psychiatric disorders (Roberts et al., 2014; Lu et al., 2020).

   - Even the threat of separation can generate profound emotional harm. Children in mixed-status families often live with chronic anticipatory

anxiety that a loved one could be detained or deported. These fears have been shown to lead to school absenteeism, academic disengagement, and heightened emotional distress (Ramos-Sánchez & Llamas, 2024).

3) *Students' right to public education.* As noted in the AG's December 2025 updated guidance on promoting safe and secure learning environments, the U.S. Constitution provides all students with the right to receive an education without discrimination based on immigration status. In *Plyler v. Doe*, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that undocumented immigrants are guaranteed due process and equal protection rights under the U.S. Constitution, and that children cannot be denied equal access to a public education because of their immigration status. Therefore, schools must provide free public education to all students, regardless of their immigration status and regardless of the citizenship status of the students' parents or guardians.

   Similarly, California law affirms the equal educational rights of immigrant students. Under the California Constitution, all students and staff, regardless of immigration status, have the inalienable right to attend campuses that are safe, secure, and peaceful. State statute further prohibits discrimination based on a student's immigration status.

4) *Model referral protocols for addressing pupil behavioral health concerns.* The Model Referral Protocols for Addressing Pupil Behavioral Health Concerns ("the Protocols") are designed by the CDE, in consultation with the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), members of the Student Mental Health Policy Workgroup, and pupil behavioral health stakeholders to assist schools in creating or refining timely referral systems that support students' behavioral health needs. The Protocols provide guidance for identifying, referring, and supporting students experiencing behavioral health challenges.

   The Protocols promote best practices to enhance collaboration between schools, families, and external service providers. They are grounded in multi-tiered systems of support, trauma-informed care, and culturally responsive approaches. The goal is to establish consistent, effective, and accessible referral systems that contribute to positive outcomes for all students.

   The Protocols are structured around five key components:

   a) Needs Assessment: Understand behavioral health trends, gaps, and available supports.

   b) Building Capacity: Strengthen internal and community-based systems.

c) Planning: Develop coordinated strategies based on assessed needs.

d) Implementation: Execute referral protocols through a collaborative model.

e) Evaluation: Assess system impact and make continuous improvements.

Existing law requires the governing board or body of an LEA to adopt a policy on referral protocols for addressing pupil behavioral health concerns in grades 7 to 12 by January 31, 2026. These policies must be developed in consultation with school and community stakeholders and school-linked behavioral health professionals, and be based on the CDE's model referral protocol.

The adopted policies must also specifically address the needs of high-risk groups, including but not limited to the following:

a) Pupils bereaved by death or loss of a close family member or friend.

b) Pupils for whom there is concern due to behavioral health disorders, including common psychiatric conditions and substance use disorders such as opioid and alcohol abuse.

c) Pupils with disabilities, mental illness, or substance use disorders.

d) Pupils experiencing homelessness or placed in out-of-home settings, such as foster care.

e) Lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, or questioning pupils.

This bill requires the CDE to update its model referral protocols to include guidance on providing equity-centered mental health supports in case of a local emergency related to immigration enforcement activities or deportations of pupils or their family members, on or before July 1, 2027. It further requires the governing board or body of an LEA to update their policies on behavioral health referral protocols to include corresponding guidance, on or before July 1, 2028, and specifies that if an LEA has already adopted a policy that already addresses the specified supports, then that policy may be deemed sufficient to fulfill this new requirement.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Association of California School Administrators
California Association of Student Councils

California Behavioral Health Planning Council
California Catholic Conference
California Community Foundation
Central American Resource Center of California
CleanEarth4Kids.org
EdTrust-West
Fresno Unified School District
La Cooperativa Campesina de California
Los Amigos de la Comunidad
National Association of Social Workers- California
Para Los Ninos
Santa Clara County Office of Education

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 65-9, 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, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, 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, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Ellis, Flora, Hadwick, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa
NO VOTE RECORDED: Chen, Dixon, Gallagher, Lackey, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Therresa Austin / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 15:12:45

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2467
Author: Committee on Education
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE MILITARY & VETERANS COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/22/26
AYES: Archuleta, McNerney, Menjivar, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: Grove

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Teacher credentialing: professional preparation: pupil enrollment: military dependents

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill, an urgency measure, (1) expands the addresses that a parent on active military duty may use for purposes of establishing residency for their child to attend a school district, and (2) requires a teacher candidate that does not hold a valid permit or credential issued by the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) to have obtained a certificate of clearance before beginning student teaching, clinic practice, or participation in a field experience program.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "children of military families" as a school-aged child or children, enrolled in kindergarten through 12th grade, in the household of an active duty member. This is the same definition used in current law for purposes of

the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children (Compact). (Education Code (EC) § 49701)

2) States that a pupil complies with the residency requirements for school attendance in a school district, if the pupil is a pupil whose parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation within the state while on active military duty pursuant to an official military order. Requires that a parent provide proof of residence in the school district within ten days after the published arrival date provided on official documentation, and authorizes parents to use any of the following addresses as proof of residence:

    a) A temporary on-base billeting facility.

    b) A purchased or leased home or apartment.

    c) Federal government or public-private venture off-base military housing. (EC § 48204.3)

3) Ratifies the Compact, which has the purpose of removing barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families due to frequent moves and deployment of their parents and which includes, among other provisions:

    a) Requires a receiving state to make reasonable accommodations and modifications to address the needs of incoming students with disabilities, subject to an existing Section 504 or Title II Plan, to provide the student with equal access to education, and states that this does not preclude the school in the receiving state from performing subsequent evaluations to ensure appropriate placement of the student.

    b) Requires, in the event that official education records cannot be released to the parents for the purpose of transfer, the custodian of the records in the sending state to prepare and furnish to the parent a complete set of unofficial educational records containing uniform information as determined by the Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children to the extent feasible. Requires, upon receipt of the unofficial education records by a school in the receiving state, that the school enroll and appropriately place the student based on the information provided in the unofficial records, pending validation by

the official records, as quickly as possible. (EC § 49700, 49700.5, and 49701)

4) Prohibits a school district of residence from prohibiting the transfer of a student who is a child of an active duty military parent to a school district of proposed enrollment if the school district of proposed enrollment approves the application for transfer. (EC § 46600)

5) Requires, notwithstanding any other law, a local educational agency (LEA) to accept full or partial credit for full or partial coursework satisfactorily completed by a pupil who is a child of a military family while attending another public school. (EC § 51225.2)

6) Prohibits an LEA from requiring a pupil who is a child of a military family from being required to retake a course if the student has satisfactorily completed the entire course in another school. (EC § 51225.2)

7) Requires an LEA serving a pupil who is a child of a military family to allow the pupil to remain in their school of origin, regardless of any change of residence of the military family during that school year for the duration of the pupil's status as a child of a military family, and requires for a pupil who is a child of a military family to matriculate with their peers in accordance with the established feeder patterns of school districts. (EC § 48204.6)

8) Requires a candidate for a credential—before admission to any professional preparation program approved by the CTC, or participation in a field experience program as specified—to obtain a certificate of clearance from the CTC to be issued when the CTC has verified the candidate's personal identification and health status. Requires the fee for the certificate of clearance to not exceed half of the regular fee for a credential and for the fee for the certificate of clearance be deducted from the fee for the initial credential applied for by the certificate holder. (EC § 44320)

This bill, an urgency measure:

1) Expands the addresses that a parent on active military duty may use for purposes of establishing residency for their child to attend a school district, and clarifies the types of documentation to be used to provide proof of residence.

2) Requires a candidate—before admission to any professional preparation program approved by the CTC for a multiple subject credential, single subject credential, PK-3 early childhood education specialist instruction credential, or education specialist credential—to provide verification to the professional preparation program that the candidate either a) holds a valid permit or credential previously issued by the CTC or b) has applied for a certificate of clearance from the CTC that would be issued when the CTC has verified the candidate's personal identification and health status.

3) Requires a candidate that does not hold a valid permit or credential previously issued by the CTC to have obtained a certificate of clearance, before beginning student teaching, clinic practice, or participation in a field experience program as specified.

4) Requires a professional preparation program approved by the CTC to issue specified credentials to submit, and annually update, candidate profile information to the CTC for each enrolled credential candidate within 30 days of the candidate beginning the program and to indicate to the CTC a candidate's program completion within 30 days of the candidate completing all credential requirements.

5) Requires that the specified candidate profile information include, but not be limited to, the candidate's credential program, type of credential being sought, and preparation pathway, including residency, student teaching, internship, or other preparation pathway, as determined by the CTC.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "AB 2467 is a committee bill to address minor and technical issues within the Education Code. The current language relates to two key issues. Firstly, the bill addresses challenges in enrolling children of military families in school, strengthening local implementation of Advance Enrollment by making technical changes to existing law, and removing barriers and clarifying requirements for school districts. It reinforces California's commitment to being a welcoming state for military families and ensures a stable educational environment for their children. Secondly, the bill ensures that candidates seeking a teaching credential obtain a valid background check upon their entry into the program and that the CTC has current information on all candidates seeking a teaching credential to better inform decisions on addressing teacher pipeline issues."

Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The state ratified the Compact in 2009, and the purpose of this Compact is to remove barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families because of frequent moves and deployment of their parents. This includes facilitating the timely enrollment of children of military families and ensuring they are not placed at a disadvantage due to difficulty in the transfer of education records from the previous school districts or due to variations in entrance and age requirements. All 50 states and the District of Columbia participate in the Compact that provides a uniform policy platform for resolving the challenges experienced by military children, according to the U.S. Department of War.

AB 343 (Saldana, Chapter 237, Statutes of 2009) ratified the Compact for the state and required the California Department of Education (CDE) to submit a report that examined the operation of the Compact in the state. According to CDE, "The report finds that California's membership in the Compact has substantially aided both school districts and military families by alleviating many of the educational difficulties military children encounter in their frequent moves from a school in one state to a school in another state. [However,] the report also finds discrepancies in implementation of the Compact from school district to school district. The report suggests that California undertake a more comprehensive effort to ensure that school district personnel and military families are maximally familiar with the provisions of the Compact so that Compact provisions are applied consistently. This would provide a more positive educational experience to children of military families when they transition between different schools."

"Advance Enrollment" for military families. SB 1455 (Block, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2016) enacted an "Advance Enrollment" law in 2016, which allows military families to enroll their children as pupils for a school district prior to entering the state, so long as the parent on active military duty is transferred or pending transfer to a military installation. This bill builds upon this provision by expanding the addresses that a parent may use to provide proof of residence in the school district and by clarifying the documentation that may be used by parents to provide proof of residence.

According to the Defense Manpower Data Center, which serves under the Office of the Secretary of Defense, there are nearly 164,000 active duty military personnel assigned for duty in California as of March 2026, which is the most in the country, and as of August 2024, there were 53,607 military-connected students of active duty parents in California. These students are affiliated with 30 different military

installations throughout the state, with the largest concentration in San Diego County.

Recent investments in teacher preparation. Recent budget acts have provided one-time funding to address teacher staffing shortages by removing barriers to teaching for qualified teacher candidates and ensuring that current teachers receive the training they need to succeed. Specifically, the 2025 Budget Act provided $300 million in one-time funding to establish the Student Teacher Stipend Program, which will provide $10,000 grants to teacher candidates completing the required student teaching hours beginning in the 2026-27 school year, and available through the 2028-29 school year.

Certificate of clearance and the California Statewide Educator Identifier (SEID). A certificate of clearance is a document issued by CTC to an individual who has completed the CTC's fingerprint character and identification process, whose moral and professional fitness has been shown to meet the standards as established by law. A certificate of clearance is not the same as a clear teaching or services credential, and it does not authorize the holder to provide any instruction or services in schools. Its sole purpose is to provide verification that the holder has completed a professional fitness review.

Generally, fingerprint clearance through the California Department of Justice and the Federal Bureau of Investigation is required from every applicant prior to the CTC's issuance of any credential, permit, certificate, or waiver. This bill requires teacher candidates to either have a valid permit or credential issued by the CTC or to obtain a certificate of clearance from the CTC before beginning student teaching, clinic practice, or participation in a field experience program.

Candidates who receive a certificate of clearance are issued a SEID by the CTC. The SEID is a unique statewide identification number to be used by education agencies when reporting to CDE, and it is a 10-digit, randomly generated, non-personally identifiable number.

According to CTC, there are multiple benefits from requiring teacher candidates who don't have a valid permit or credential to obtain a certificate of clearance before beginning student teaching, clinic practice, or participation in a field experience program, including:

a) Given recent budget investments for student teacher stipends, requiring candidates to be issued a SEID will help with tracking and evaluating the

impact of investments in teacher preparation to help better inform policy decisions. Starting July 1, 2026, CTC will be able to award stipends through the Student Teacher Stipend Program.

b) Requiring candidates to be issued a SEID will help ensure that a candidate receives a student teacher stipend. Unless a student has a SEID, CTC is currently unable to know what program a candidate is enrolled in and if they are receiving a student teacher stipend, and CTC views this change as critical for the implementation of the student teacher stipend program.

c) A candidate obtaining a certificate of clearance must undergo a fingerprint clearance. To the extent that the process reveals something in a candidate's background that could preclude them from teaching, this provides a layer of security for students, and it also lets the candidate know that there may potentially be additional steps for that candidate before moving forward as a teacher.

Urgency measure. The author indicates that an urgency measure is necessary (a) for military families who are being impacted by current laws on establishing residency for their child to attend a school district and (b) for CTC to track teacher candidates from their earliest entry into the field to inform the implementation of the student teacher stipends investment and to better inform policy decisions relating to the teacher pipeline.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1412 (Jeff Gonzalez, Chapter 453, Statutes of 2025) makes changes to requirements pertaining to enrollment, records transfer, and comparable services for military-connected students with disabilities.

AB 121 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 8, Statutes of 2025) establishes the Student Teacher Stipend Program under the administration of the commission to support prospective educators.

AB 2949 (Gloria, Chapter 327, Statutes of 2018) requires that a pupil who is a child of a military family to continue attending his or her school of origin and to ensure that the pupil who is a child of a military family matriculate with his or her peers in accordance with the established feeder patterns of school districts.

AB 365 (Muratsuchi, Chapter 739, Statutes of 2017) extends to students from military families certain rights regarding exemptions from local graduation requirements and acceptance of partial credit, which are currently afforded to other groups of highly mobile students.

SB 455 (Newman, Chapter 239, Statutes of 2017) modifies residency requirements for school attendance for active-duty military families by deeming that a student meets residency requirements for school attendance in a school district if the student's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation that is within the state, instead of within the boundaries of the receiving school district.

AB 1455 (Block, Chapter 312, Statutes of 2016) provides that a student meets residency requirements for school attendance if the student's parent is transferred or is pending transfer to a military installation that is within the boundaries of the school district. This bill was known as providing "advance enrollment", which allowed military families to enroll their children as pupils for a school district prior to entering the state.

AB 343 (Saldana, Chapter 237, Statutes of 2009) ratified the Compact, which has the purpose of removing barriers to educational success imposed on children of military families due to frequent moves and deployment of their parents.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

American Legion-Department of California
AMVETS-Department of California
California Commission on Teacher Credentialing
California State Commanders Veterans Council
California State PTA
Military Officers Association of America-California Council of Chapters
Military Services in California
Office of the Assistant Secretary of War
San Bernardino County District Advocates for Better Schools
Vietnam Veterans of America-California State Council

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Michelle Nguyen / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 15:12:45

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

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THIRD READING

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. /
7/2/26 11:44:03

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

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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 SWEO [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 SWEO 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 ******

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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2484
Author: Alvarez (D), et al.
Amended: 5/18/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 4-0, 6/16/26
AYES: Wiener, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg
NO VOTE RECORDED: 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: 46-21, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: San Diego Metropolitan Transit System: transactions and use tax: voter initiatives

SOURCE: San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

DIGEST: This bill permits the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (SD MTS) to adopt a retail transaction and use tax (TUT) ordinance 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 provided by the Legislature. 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) Establishes the SD MTS and authorizes it to maintain and operate public transit systems and related transportation facilities and services as it deems necessary.

7) Permits the SD MTS board to adopt a TUT ordinance applicable to the entirety of, or a portion of, the jurisdiction of SD MTS. The TUT ordinance takes effect at the close of the polls on the day of the election at which the ordinance is adopted by the voters.

8) Requires San Diego County to conduct an election called by the SD MTS board and provides that such an election shall be called and conducted in the same manner as existing law provides for the conduct of elections by a county.

9) 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) Permits a TUT authorized under existing law in SD MTS to be imposed by an initiative.

2) Provides a TUT imposed in SD MTS must not be considered for purposes of an existing law that limits the combined rate of all TUT taxes imposed in a county to 2%.

3) Contains various findings and declarations about SD MTS, its services and operations, and the need and demand for public transit in San Diego County.

4) Makes technical and conforming changes.

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.

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System. SD MTS was created by the Legislature in 1975 pursuant to SB 101 (Mills, Chapter 294, Statutes of 1975) for the purposes of planning and implementing transit services in portions of San Diego County. The agency is also responsible for allocating certain transit funds within its area of jurisdiction.

SD MTS' board currently consists of 15 appointed members. This includes the following:

- Four by the City of San Diego
- Two by the City of Chula Vista

- One by each of the cities of Coronado, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, and Santee

- One by the San Diego County Board of Supervisors.

According to their website, SD MTS currently serves approximately 3 million people with light rail, bus, and freight services. According to MTS, it generates 80 million annual passenger trips or 250,000 trips each weekday using a fleet with more than 160 trolley cars and 750 buses.

Comments

Author's Statement. "In Assembly District 80 and across San Diego County, the services provided by SD MTS are not optional, they are essential. In Fiscal Year 2025, SD MTS averaged more than 250,000 weekday trips, with nearly 78% of riders relying on transit as their primary means of getting around. These are working families, students, and seniors who depend on transit every single day. We are also seeing a significant rise in youth ridership, which has increased by 71% between 2022 and 2025, demonstrating that younger generations are choosing public transit and reinforcing the need to invest in a system that meets their future. If we do not address our public transit infrastructure's growing budget deficit, we risk severely limiting access to jobs, education, and essential services for the very communities that rely on it most."

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.

Effective Date. Under existing law for SD MTS, if a TUT is approved by voters, the ordinance takes effect at the close of the polls (8 p.m.) on Election Day. While not directly changed by this bill, the author should consider whether the effective date and time should be changed to when the election results are certified instead of when the polls close on Election Day. Elections results are not typically known on the night of the election and may take additional time before knowing if a measure is truly adopted by voters.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACA 22 (Wicks, Resolution Chapter 132, Statutes of 2026) if approved by voters, prohibits local governments, or their voters via the initiative power, from imposing special taxes unless and until the tax receives 2/3 voter approval. The measure is known as Proposition 43 at the November 3, 2026, statewide general election.

AB 1919 (Pellerin) of 2026 permits the Santa Cruz Metropolitan Transit District to impose special taxes by an initiative.

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 830 (Arreguín), Chapter 101, Statutes of 2026, prescribed additional administrative parameters for an election for an initiative in the Public Transit Revenue Measure District.

SB 904 (Dodd, Chapter 866, Statutes of 2024) specified that special taxes may be imposed through the initiative process in the Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit District, among other provisions.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (source)
Council President Joe Lacava, District 1, City of San Diego

Council President Pro Tem Kent Lee, District 6, City of San Diego
Councilmember Stephen Whitburn, District 3, City of San Diego
Councilmember Raul A. Campillo, District 7, City of San Diego
Councilmember Vivian Moreno, District 8, City of San Diego
Councilmember Sean Elo-Rivera, District 9, City of San Diego
Amalgamated Transit Union
Circulate Planning and Policy
City of Chula Vista
City of La Mesa
City of National City
Environmental Health Coalition
International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 465
Logan Heights Community Development Corporation
Mid-City CAN
Mundo Gardens
North County Transit – San Diego Railroad
RideSD
Streets Are for Everyone

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Realtors
California Taxpayers Association
Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: In a letter supporting this bill, the City of Chula Vista stated, in part, the following:

> [This bill] appropriately recognizes that local funding is essential to sustaining and improving transit service. Without additional resources, [SD MTS] will be forced to consider service reductions at a time when transit demand is rebounding and when San Diego is leading the state in housing production per capita. Robust transit service is necessary to support transit-oriented development and support continued housing growth.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: In a coalition letter opposing this bill, the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, California Taxpayers Association, and the California Association of Realtors, stated, in part, the following:

> [This bill] would make it easier to enact a transactions and use tax in the [SD MTS] (from two-thirds to a bare majority), in an area that already has a very

high tax burden. This tax is among the most regressive forms of taxation and has an especially heavy impact on low-income Californians because it increases the cost of necessities. As inflation, tariffs, shipping costs, and other factors drive up the prices of goods, the sales tax burden grows in tandem, further straining household budgets and exacerbating economic inequality.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-21, 5/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bennett, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: Alanis, Castillo, Chen, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Lackey, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Ta, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Boerner, Lee, Muratsuchi, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Soria, Valencia

Prepared by: Scott Matsumoto / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/5/26 15:12:46

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2499
Author: Gipson (D)
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 10-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Smallwood-Cuevas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Rubio

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-13, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health care coverage: claims payments

SOURCE: Providence St. Joseph Health

DIGEST: This bill requires a health plan or insurer to accept, and confirm, electronic medical records and supporting documentation necessary to process a claim through a standard electronic submission method, and prohibits a plan or insurer from denying, pending, or delaying a claim solely because the plan's or insurer's systems are unable to accept documentation that otherwise meets state requirements, unless state or federal standards are adopted.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 and the California Department of Insurance to regulate health and other insurers under the Insurance Code. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1340, et seq., and Insurance Code (INS) §106, et seq.]

2) Establishes requirements and timelines for plans and insurers to reimburse a completed claim from health care providers [HSC §1371 and INS §10123.13]

3) Establishes the California Health and Human Services Data Exchange Framework (data exchange framework) that includes a single data sharing agreement and common set of policies and procedures to leverage national standards for information exchange and data content and govern and require the exchange of health information among health care entities and government agencies in California. [HSC §130290, et. seq]

4) Requires, by January 31, 2024, health care organizations such as hospitals, physician organizations, and skilled nursing organizations to exchange health information or provide access to health information to and from other required health care organizations in real time as specified by the Department of Health Care Access and Information pursuant to the data exchange framework data sharing agreement for treatment, payment, or health care operations with some exceptions for health care organizations, such as specified clinics, required to exchange or provide access to health information by July 1, 2026. [HSC §130290]

This bill:

1) Requires, commencing May 26, 2028, a health plan or insurer to accept electronic medical records and supporting documentation necessary to process a claim through a standard electronic submission method.

2) Requires a health plan or insurer to confirm receipt electronically and prohibits a plan/insurer from denying, pending, or delaying a claim solely because the plan/insurer's systems are unable to accept documentation that otherwise meets stated requirements.

3) Indicates that this bill does not prohibit a plan/insurer from denying, pending, or delaying a claim to the extent authorized under law, and the prohibition does not apply during a period in which a plan's or insurer's ability to accept electronic medical records and supporting documentation is impacted outside of the plan's or insurer's control, as specified.

4) Requires if a state or federal standard is adopted that is specific to file size, number or other capacity requirements for claims related supporting documentation submission, that standard to apply.

5) Defines "electronic submission" as submission through an electronic portal designated by the plan or an electronic submission in accordance with the data exchange framework and applicable federal interoperability rules.

Comments

According to the author:

> Healthcare providers and health insurers spend countless hours and billions of dollars on claims processing. Many healthcare providers are still required to manually fax or mail patient health documents to health insurers due to system file size limitations. This administrative burden causes delays in patient care, increases the chance of inadvertently exposing protected health information (PHI), and draws healthcare resources away from direct patient care. This bill addresses that by modernizing how health insurers process claims in California. Right now, many health plans rely on outdated systems that make it hard for providers to submit the necessary information for care reimbursement. As a result, claims sit in limbo, offices spend extra time tracking down payments, and in some cases, patients get caught in the middle and their data is at risk. By modernizing the claims process, this bill would reduce patient confusion, cut down on delays that can slow down care, and protect PHI by moving away from paper-based and manual processes that create unnecessary risk. When claims move through the system smoothly, providers can focus on care, patients get clearer answers, and California's healthcare system becomes more efficient, ensuring valuable healthcare resources are dedicated to directing patient care.

Background

21st Century Cures Act and federal rules. This federal law, specifically, Title IV promotes the adoption and use of electronic health record technology. Final rules seek to improve interoperability by requiring certified health information technology products to adopt new and updated vocabulary and content standards, including common clinical data composed of standardized data elements and improving health information systems to transmit, receive, and use standardized clinical documents. Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Interoperability and Patient Access regulations for public programs as contained in United States Department of Health and Human Services final rule. The CMS final rule requires entities to share adjudicated claims, encounter information, and clinical data contained in the United States Core Data for Interoperability.

Standards for Health Care Claims Attachments. A March 2026 CMS Fact Sheet on the Final Rule related to Administrative Simplification describes the first-ever Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act- adopted standards for health care claims attachments, enabling the secure electronic exchange of health care claims-related supporting clinical documentation such as medical records, x-rays

and imaging, clinical notes, telemedicine visit documentation and laboratory results. The rule also establishes requirements for electronic signatures to ensure health care claims attachment transactions are secure, authenticated, and compliant with federal standards. According to the fact sheet, eliminating manual processes such as faxing and mailing, are projected to save the health care industry roughly $781 million annually; reduce administrative burden; accelerate claims processing, ensure secure, authenticated electronic exchanges, and streamline workflows for both providers and payers. Compliance deadlines for these standards are set for 24 months from the effective date of the final rule, which was May 26, 2026.

Data exchange framework. California's data exchange framework requires acute and psychiatric hospitals, physician organizations and medical groups, skilled nursing facilities, health plans, clinical labs, and other health and social service organizations who voluntarily choose to participate, (participants/signatories) to sign the data exchange agreement and exchange health and human services information in real time starting on January 31, 2024. The data exchange framework is not a centralized data repository; instead, it is when participants agree to follow rules of the road for securely and appropriately exchanging health and social services information to best serve patients and join a shared commitment to providing safe, effective, whole-person care across California. The law requires required signatories to the data sharing agreement, which includes health insurers and health plans, to exchange health information or provide access to health information to and from every other required signatory.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Providence St. Joseph Health (source)
Adventist Health
Alliance of Catholic Health Care, Inc.
Association of Dental Support Organizations
California Medical Association
California Orthopedic Association
California Podiatric Medical Association
Camino Health Center
Harbor Community Health Centers
Healdsburg Hospital Community Board
Humboldt County Community Ministry Board
Loma Linda University Adventist Health Sciences Center

Orange County Business Council
Petaluma Valley Hospital Community Board
Providence Little Company of Mary Foundation Board
Providence Mission Hospital Community Ministry Board
Providence Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Foundation Board
Providence St. Mary Medical Center Community Ministry Board
Queen of the Valley Medical Center Community Board
Santa Rosa Memorial Hospital Community Board
St. Jude Medical Center Board of Trustees
Saint Joseph Hospital Community Ministry Board
Valley Industry and Commerce Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

Providence St. Joseph Health, this bill's sponsor, writes this bill offers a narrow and practical solution by requiring plans and insurers to accept electronic medical records and supporting documentation necessary to process a claim through standard electronic submission methods, while preserving existing coverage rules, patient privacy, medical necessity standards, claims adjudication standards, and the ability of a plan or insurer to request information necessary to determine payer liability. This bill modernizes the method by which providers may submit records and documentation that plans insurers already request. The sponsors indicate that publicly available payer guidance illustrates that large payers have varying size limits per transaction, attachment limits, and rejection codes when attachments exceed certain limits. The sponsors indicate that a 100 MB cap is modest relative to ordinary business and consumer file-transfer tools which allow file uploads ranging from 1GB to several terabytes depending upon the platform. Adventist Health writes hospitals and care teams are often required to manually fax thousands of pages of medical records to payers due to restrictive file size limits or a lack of viable electronic submission systems, which divert clinical staff from patients. Additionally, Adventist Health indicates delays caused by lost, incomplete, or misfiled faxed documents can slow claims processing and reimbursement, creating administrative burdens that ultimately affect patients. By enabling fast, reliable electronic submissions, this bill will help ensure that claims are processed more efficiently. Transitioning away from fax-based systems

enhances patient privacy protections by reducing the risk of misdirected faxes and unintended disclosures of sensitive health information.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION:

The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) and the Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies (ACLHIC) indicate it is unclear what specific problem this bill is attempting to solve as health plans already widely accept electronic claim submissions and have invested heavily in interoperable systems, provider portals, and clearinghouse infrastructure. CAHP and ACLHIC believe the vast majority of claims are submitted and adjudicated electronically today without issue. CAHP and ACLHIC feel this bill is one sided and should require providers to submit claims and/or prior authorization requests electronically using plan-designated portals or existing interoperability standards. They are very concerned that this bill would prohibit them from denying, pending, or delaying claims when system limitations prevent the receipt of necessary documentation. CAHP and ACLHIC feel this creates risk of improper payments.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-13, 5/28/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Connolly, Davies, 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, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Valencia, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Macedo, Patterson, Sanchez, Tangipa, Wallis
NO VOTE RECORDED: Castillo, Chen, Elhawary, Flora, Lackey, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Ta

Prepared by: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:12:47

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2502
Author: Pellerin (D), et al.
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Pérez, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Vehicles: driving under the influence: driving automation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill specifies, for purposes of the crimes of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, DUI, DUI causing bodily injury to another, and "wet reckless," "drive" includes the volitional movement of a vehicle with driver support features engaged that require a person to supervise the vehicle in order to steer, brake, or accelerate, as needed to maintain safety.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "driver" for purposes of the Vehicle Code to mean a person who drives or is in actual physical control of a vehicle. (Veh. Code, § 305.)

2) Defines "vehicle" for purposes of the Vehicle Code to mean a device by which any person or property may be propelled, moved, or drawn upon a highway, excepting a device moved exclusively by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks. (Veh. Code, § 670.)

3) Defines "motor vehicle" to mean a vehicle that is self-propelled. (Veh. Code, § 415.)

4) Defines "autonomous vehicle" to mean any vehicle equipped with autonomous technology that has been integrated into that vehicle that meets the definition of Level 3, Level 4, or Level 5 of the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) International's "Taxonomy and Definitions for Terms Related to Driving Automation Systems for On-Road Motor Vehicles, standard J3016 (APR2021), as may be revised. (Veh. Code, § 38750, subd. (a)(2)(A).)

5) Defines an "operator" of an autonomous vehicle to mean the person who is seated in the driver's seat, or, if there is no person in the driver's seat, causes the autonomous technology to engage. (Veh. Code, § 38750, subd. (a)(4).)

6) Makes it unlawful for any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, or who has 0.08 percent or more, by weight, of alcohol (BAC) in their blood, "to drive a vehicle" (hereafter DUI). (Veh. Code, § 23152 subds. (a), (b) (f), & (g).)

7) Makes it unlawful for any person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or the combined influence of the two, or who has a BAC of .08 or more, "to drive a vehicle," and concurrently do any act forbidden by law or neglect any duty imposed by law in driving the vehicle, which proximately causes bodily injury to any person other than the driver (hereafter DUI causing bodily injury). (Veh. Code, § 23153 subds. (a), (b), (f), & (g).)

8) Defines gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated to mean the unlawful killing of a human being without malice aforethought, "in the driving of a vehicle" where the driving was in violation of specified DUI laws, and the killing was either the proximate result of an unlawful act, not amounting to a felony, and with gross negligence, or the proximate result of a lawful act that might produce death, in an unlawful manner, and with gross negligence, and makes this crime a felony punishable by imprisonment in state prison for four, six, or 10 years. (Penal (Pen.) Code, § 191.5, subds. (a) & (c)(1).)

9) Defines intoxicated vehicular manslaughter without gross negligence to mean the unlawful killing of a human being without malice aforethought, "in the driving of a vehicle" where the driving was in violation of specified DUI laws,

and the killing was either the proximate result of an unlawful act, not amounting to a felony, but without gross negligence, or the proximate result of a lawful act that might produce death, in an unlawful manner, but without gross negligence, punishable by up to one year in county jail or by imprisonment for 16 months, or two or four years. (Pen. Code, § 191.5, subds. (b) & (c)(2).)

10) Provides that a person who "drives a vehicle" upon a highway in willful or wanton disregard for the safety of persons or property is guilty of reckless driving, and punishable by five to 90 days in county jail and a fine of $145 to $1,000, or by both that fine and imprisonment. (Veh. Code, § 23103, subds. (a) & (c).)

11) Provides that if the prosecution agrees to a plea of guilty or nolo contendere to a charge of reckless driving, in satisfaction of, or as a substitute for, an original DUI charge, the prosecution shall state for the record a factual basis for the satisfaction or substitution, including whether or not there had been consumption of an alcoholic beverage or ingestion or administration of a drug, or both, by the defendant in connection with the offense. (Veh. Code, § 23103.5, subd. (a).)

This bill:

1) Specifies, for purposes of the crimes of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, DUI, DUI causing bodily injury to another, and "wet reckless," "drive" includes the volitional movement of a vehicle with driver support features engaged that require a person to supervise the vehicle in order to steer, brake, or accelerate, as needed to maintain safety.

2) Provides that the above provision includes driver support features that require constant supervision and those that require a person to take direct control of the vehicle upon the request of the driver support feature.

Background

DUI offenses. Existing law makes it unlawful for a person who is under the influence of any alcoholic beverage or drug, or under the combined influence of any alcoholic beverage and drug, or who has 0.08 percent or more, by weight, of alcohol (BAC) in their blood, to drive a vehicle (known as DUI with no injury). (Veh. Code, § 23152, subds. (a), (b) (f), & (g).) It is also unlawful to drive

impaired while concurrently doing an act forbidden by law or neglecting a duty imposed by law, which proximately causes bodily injury to another (known as DUI causing bodily injury). (Veh. Code, § 23153, subds. (a), (f), & (g).)

The punishment for a DUI or DUI causing bodily injury generally depends on the defendant's number of separate prior convictions within 10 years of the current offense. Convictions that are considered "priors" are convictions for DUI with no injury, DUI causing bodily injury, and "wet reckless." (Veh. Code, §§ 23550, 23152, 23153, 23103.5.) A wet reckless occurs when the prosecution agrees to allow the defendant plead guilty to a charge of reckless driving under Vehicle Code section 23103, in satisfaction of, or as a substitute for, an original DUI charge, as specified. (Veh. Code, § 23103.5.)

Vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated is the unlawful killing of a human being without malice aforethought, in the driving of a vehicle, where the driving was in violation of one of several specified DUI laws, and the killing was either the proximate result of the commission of an unlawful act, not amounting to a felony, but without gross negligence, or the proximate result of the commission of a lawful act that might produce death, in an unlawful manner, but without gross negligence. (Pen. Code, § 191.5, subd. (b).) Vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated is a wobbler, and it is punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for not more than one year or by imprisonment in a county jail as a realigned felony for 16 months, two years, or four years. (Pen. Code, § 191.5, subd. (c)(2).)

Gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated is the unlawful killing of a human being without malice aforethought, in the driving of a vehicle, where the driving was in violation of Section 23140, 23152, or 23153 of the Vehicle Code (i.e., person under 21 with a BAC between .05-.07, DUI with no injury, or DUI with bodily injury) and the killing was either the proximate result of the commission of an unlawful act, not amounting to a felony, and with gross negligence, or the proximate result of the commission of a lawful act that might produce death, in an unlawful manner, and with gross negligence. (Pen. Code, § 191.5, subd. (a).) Gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated is a felony punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for 4, 6, or 10 years. (Pen. Code, § 191.5, subd. (c)(1).) However, if the person has one or more specified prior convictions (i.e., a prior conviction for gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, gross vehicular manslaughter, or DUI), the punishment is imprisonment in the state prison for a term of 15 years to life.

Definition of driving. Most of the guidance on what constitutes driving, for purposes of when a person is driving a vehicle in violation of specified impaired driving laws, comes from case law. Driving a vehicle requires "evidence of volitional movement of a vehicle." (*Mercer v. Department of Motor Vehicles* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 753, 763.) As stated by the California Criminal Jury Instructions, "a person drives a vehicle when he or she intentionally causes it to move by exercising actual physical control over it." (2 CALCRIM 2241 (2026).) "The person must cause the vehicle to move, but the movement may be slight." (*Ibid*.) The term "drive" is distinct from a person who "operates" or "is in actual physical control of" a vehicle. (*Mercer*, *supra*, 53 Cal.3d at pp. 763-764.) Driving may be established through circumstantial evidence of the movement of a vehicle. (*Id*. at p. 770.) For example, one court found that there was sufficient evidence of driving when a vehicle was parked with the engine running on the freeway more than a mile from the on-ramp, and the defendant was sitting in the driver's seat and was the sole occupant of the vehicle. (*People v. Wilson* (1985) 176 Cal.App.3d Supp. 1, 9); 2 CALCRIM 2241 (2026).) A front passenger may be found to "drive" for purposes of a DUI prosecution if, while impaired, they grab the steering wheel, causing the car to move. (*In re F.H.* (2011) 192 Cal.App.4th 1465, 1472.) A vehicle may be driven even if the engine is not in use. (*In re Queen T.* (1993) 14 Cal.App.4th 1143, 1145; *People v. Hernandez* (1990) 219 Cal.App.3d 1177, 1184.)

As applied to autonomous vehicles, a person operating a vehicle with certain autonomous functions, who sits in the driver's seat, and willfully steers or accelerates, or undertakes any other intentional action to move the vehicle, will likely be considered to be driving that vehicle for purposes of California's impaired driving laws. However, evidence of volitional movement of a vehicle may be very difficult to establish if a person is riding in the backseat of a fully autonomous vehicle and the person never interacts with a steering wheel, gas, or brakes, or any other control that moves the vehicle.

This bill specifies, for purposes of the crimes of gross vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, vehicular manslaughter while intoxicated, DUI, DUI causing bodily injury to another, and "wet reckless," "drive" includes the volitional movement of a vehicle with driver support features engaged that require a person to supervise the vehicle in order to steer, brake, or accelerate, as needed to maintain safety. Driver support features include those that require constant supervision and those that require a person to take direct control of the vehicle upon the request of the driver support feature.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office
SAFE California Roads Coalition
Streets are for Everyone
Streets for All

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

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: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
8/5/26 15:12:47

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

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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 WGBT "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 WGBT 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.

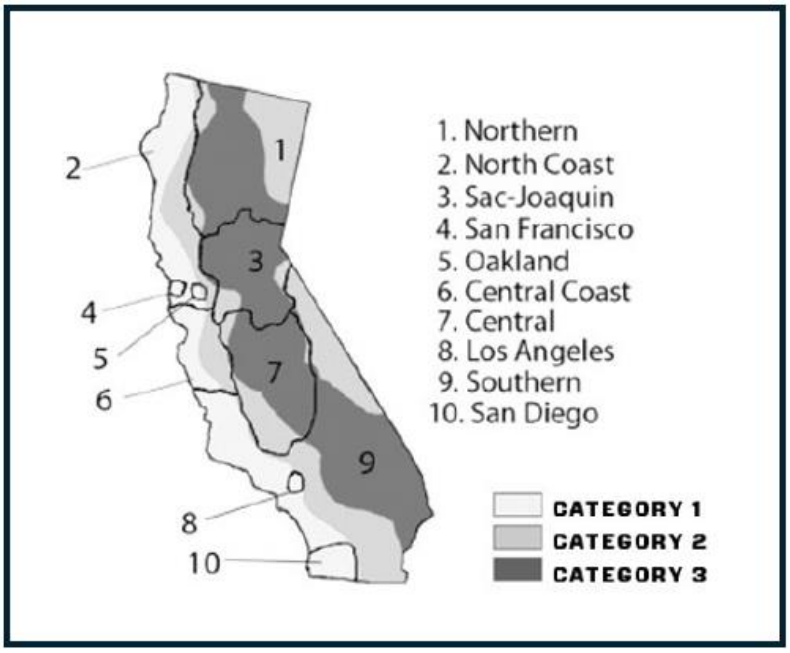
The Nicholas Institute for Energy, Environment, and Sustainability at Duke University provides the following example of how WBGT readings can vary depending on multiple environmental inputs. In this example, higher humidity and slower wind leads to a higher WBGT reading despite a lower temperature:

	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 WGBT 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 WGBT 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 WGBT 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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2512
Author: Valencia (D), et al.
Amended: 3/19/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Surplus Land Act: exemption: Angel Stadium

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires materials related to an exemption from the Surplus Land Act (SLA) for Angels Stadium to refer to the Anaheim Angels.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes procedures for the disposal of publicly-owned land that is surplus to the needs of local agencies, under the SLA.

2) Requires local officials that want to dispose of public property to declare that the land is no longer needed for the agency's use in a public meeting and declare the land either "surplus land" or "exempt surplus land."

3) Provides that "agency's use" includes land that is being used, or is planned to be used pursuant to a written plan adopted by the local agency or will be disposed of to support agency work or operations, and excludes land for agency's use from the SLA.

4) Requires local agencies to follow the procedures laid out in the SLA before surplus land can be sold, including:

a) Send a written notice of availability to various public agencies and nonprofit groups, referred to as "housing sponsors," notifying them that land is available for specified purposes.

b) Negotiate in good faith for 90 days with housing sponsors that respond.

5) Allows the local agency to dispose of the property on the private market if agreement is not reached with a housing sponsor.

6) Requires that, if a property sold as surplus is not sold to a housing sponsor, but housing is developed on it later, 15% of the units must be sold or rented at an affordable cost to lower income households.

7) Requires local agencies to notify the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) prior to agreeing to terms for the disposition of surplus land.

8) Imposes penalties of 30% of the disposition value of the land for a first violation and 50% of the disposition value for any subsequent violation for selling land in violation of the SLA.

9) Designates certain types of land as "exempt surplus land" and provides that the entirety of the SLA does not apply to exempt surplus land.

This bill:

1) Requires that if an exemption to the SLA is granted to the City of Anaheim for the disposition of surplus land involving the sale or lease of Angel Stadium to the Angels, then any materials, including, but not limited to, a lease, deed of sale, and promotional or marketing materials, must refer to that team as the Anaheim Angels.

2) Provides that it is the intent of the Legislature that those requirements do not apply if the City is able to come to an agreement with the Angels about their affiliation.

Background

Surplus Land Act. Public agencies are major landlords in some communities, owning significant pieces of real estate. When properties become surplus to an agency's needs, public officials want to sell the land to recoup their investments. The SLA spells out the steps local agencies must follow when they want to dispose of land. It requires local governments to give a "first right of refusal" to other

governments and nonprofit housing developers, and to negotiate in good faith with them to try to come to agreement. This means that local agencies must open their properties up to affordable housing developers first, even if they have a different purpose in mind for the property.

Before local officials can dispose of property, they must declare that the land is no longer needed for the agency's use in a public meeting and declare the land either "surplus land" or "exempt surplus land." Land that is being used for an agency's use is not subject to the SLA. "Agency's use" includes land that is being used, or is planned to be used pursuant to a written plan adopted by the local agency or will be disposed of to support agency work or operations.

The SLA designates a lengthy list of types of land that are "exempt surplus land," such as land that is being transferred to another public entity or an Indian Tribe, or land that is subject to a valid legal restriction that prohibits residential uses on the property. Statute provides that the entirety of the SLA does not apply to disposals of exempt surplus land. All other surplus land must follow the procedures laid out in the SLA before a local agency can sell it.

Angel Stadium. The City of Anaheim owns Angel Stadium, a Major League Baseball (MLB) stadium that is the home stadium of the MLB team the Los Angeles Angels. Anaheim leases the stadium and the land around it to the team's ownership. The Angels ownership has leased the stadium since 1996 under an agreement that requires Angels ownership to maintain the stadium at its own expense subject to certain conditions. However, both the city and Angels ownership annually contribute to a capital reserve fund based on a formula, which Angels ownership may use for improvements. Under certain conditions, the lease also requires Angels ownership to provide Anaheim with a share of the revenue from ticket sales for baseball games, parking, and other events using specified formulas. The lease agreement ends on December 31, 2032, but contains an option for Angels ownership to extend it by up to six more years.

In September 2020, Anaheim approved the sale of Angel Stadium and 150 acres of surrounding land to Angels ownership. At the time, the sale was criticized because the initial offering price for the land was $320 million, which was below the value of $500 million identified in a city-commissioned appraisal of the site, and which was further lowered to the price of $150 million in exchange for the funding of 466 affordable housing units and a seven-acre park on the property. In December 2021, HCD notified the City of Anaheim that the sale violated the SLA, and on April 25, 2022, the City and the Attorney General agreed to a settlement that required the City to pay $123 million for the development of affordable housing on

the site, which includes a $96 million fine equivalent to 30 percent of the $320 million final sales price of the land. Anaheim denied wrongdoing. However, in May 2022, allegations of corruption associated with the deal surfaced.

Specifically, reports became public that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) was investigating the mayor of the City of Anaheim and alleged that he "shared privileged and confidential information with the Angels during stadium sale negotiations, actively concealed same from a grand jury inquiry, and expects to receive campaign contributions as a result." The mayor subsequently resigned, and on May 24, 2022, the city council voided the deal. Because the transaction did not occur, the settlement agreement between the Attorney General and the City is no longer operative.

In 2023, SB 34 (Umberg, Chapter 772, Statutes of 2023) and SB 229 (Umberg, Chapter 774, Statutes of 2023) responded to the "almost disposition" of the Angels Stadium. SB 34 prohibited the County of Orange or any city within the County of Orange from disposing of surplus land if the local agency had received a notice of violation from HCD. SB 34 also prohibited the disposition of surplus land from being completed until HCD determines that the proposed disposition complies with the SLA. SB 229 required a local agency to hold an open and public meeting if it has been notified by HCD that the local agency's planned disposal of surplus land is in violation of the SLA.

The author wants to ensure that Angel Stadium is known for its connection to the City of Anaheim.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the bill*. According to the author, "The City of Anaheim has been home to this franchise for nearly 60 years. Yet the team's name does not reflect that history or our community. The Home Run for Anaheim Act will restore the name of the Angels Major League Baseball team to Anaheim Angels if the City of Anaheim is granted an exemption to the surplus land act. Restoring the team's name will present new marketing opportunities for the City and will recognize the residents who grew up attending Angels' games."

2) *Sure, but will it work*? Numerous exemptions to the SLA exist for certain uses of local agency properties, but they are typically reserved for circumstances where local governments are transferring properties to affordable housing developers or other governmental entities, or are subject to strict restrictions on the property's use. This bill provides that if one of these exemptions, or potential future exemptions, apply to the sale or lease of Angel Stadium to the

Angels, then the materials must call them the Anaheim Angels. This bill does not enact an exemption, and it is unclear whether any existing exemptions would apply. Furthermore, the Legislature may be reluctant to grant any future exemptions for Angel Stadium, given the significant concerns that arose around the prior disposition. As such, this bill may have limited effect.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/27/26)

Orange County Employees Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/27/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 72-0, 5/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Calderon, Chen, Dixon, Lee, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Wicks

Prepared by: Anton Favorini-Csorba / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
8/3/26 17:24:38

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2529
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 4/9/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-4, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Civil claims: public entities and employees: declaration

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires that a claim against a public entity or public employee must include a declaration that, upon information and belief, the contents of the claim are true and correct.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Governs, under the Government Claims Act, the tort liability and immunity of, and claims and actions against, public entities, officers, and employees. (Government (Gov.) Code §§ 815 et seq.)

2) Prohibits an aggrieved person from filing a civil lawsuit against a public entity for damages unless the person satisfies the claim presentation requirements. Some types of claims against public entities are not subject to the claim presentation requirements. (Gov. Code § 945.4.)

3) Provides that a claim relating to a cause of action for death or for injury to person or to personal property or growing crops shall be presented as provided

in Government Code sections 915 et seq., not later than six months after the accrual of the cause of action. (Gov. Code § 911.2.)

4) Requires that a claim against a public entity or public employee be signed by the claimant or by some person on the claimant's behalf and include specified information. (Gov. Code § 910, § 910.2.)

This bill requires a claim against a public entity or public employee to include a declaration that, upon information and belief, the contents of the claim are true and correct.

Comments

According to the author:

> AB 2529 strengthens the Government Claims Act process and protects taxpayer dollars from frivolous claims by requiring all employment claims against a public entity to include a declaration that the contents of the claim are true and correct. Coming from a background in local government, I believe that this additional layer of protection is incredibly important in ensuring that all legitimate claims can move forward while those that lack merit are filtered out under this declaration.

The Government Claims Act gives public entities the opportunity to address claims for civil damages before the claimant files a civil lawsuit. The Act specifies information that the claimant must present to the public entity. The claim against a public entity must be signed by the claimant or by some person on the claimant's behalf and include specified information. The public entity then has 45 days to decide whether to grant or deny the claim, unless the claimant and public entity both agree to extend the decision timeframe. The claimant is permitted to file a lawsuit in civil court after they receive the public entity decision. If claim presentation requirements are not met, the claimant's law-suit can be dismissed. This bill requires the claim against the public entity to include a declaration that, upon information and belief, the contents of the claim are true and correct.

The author and supporters believe that the updated declaration will lead to less litigation and less costly litigation.

The California Contract Cities Association writes the following in support:

> Under existing law, claims filed against a public entity or its employees must be signed by the claimant. AB 2529 would add a new layer of

accountability to this process by requiring that claimants sign a formal declaration affirming that the

information contained in their claim is true and correct to the best of their knowledge. This added safeguard will discourage the presentation of frivolous or otherwise bad-faith claims, and ultimately help to reduce cities' litigation costs. As written, AB 2529 is a commonsense measure that will improve claim screening, protect limited local resources, and strengthen cities' legal position.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Contract Cities Association
City of Beverly Hills
City of Carson
City of Cerritos
City of Glendora
City of Hesperia
City of Hidden Hills
City of Ojai
City of Palmdale
City of Pico Rivera
City of Port Hueneme
City of Rancho Palos Verdes
City of Rosemead
City of Tulare
County of Riverside Board of Supervisors
Public Risk Innovation, Solutions, and Management

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO
California Conference of Amalgamated Transit Union
California Conference of Machinists
Teamsters California

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-4, 5/28/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Berman, Bonta, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff

Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas

NOES: Boerner, Lee, Ortega, Ward

NO VOTE RECORDED: Addis, Bennett, Bryan, Caloza, Elhawary, Fong, Harabedian, Jackson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Patel, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Solache

Prepared by: Margie Estrada / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:12:48

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2536
Author: Blanca Rubio (D)
Amended: 3/27/26 in Assembly
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Horse racing: satellite wagering facilities: authorizations

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various minor revisions to existing Horse Racing Law governing the authorization of satellite wagering facilities in the state, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Prohibits, pursuant to the Horse Racing Law, a satellite wagering facility, except a facility that is located at a track where live racing is conducted, from being located within 20 miles of any existing satellite wagering facility or of any track where a racing association conducts a live racing meeting, except, in the northern zone, the racing association or existing satellite wagering facility is authorized to waive this prohibition and consent to locating the new satellite wagering facility within 20 miles of the facility of the track.

2) Requires, before a satellite wagering facility may be licensed for the 1997 and subsequent calendar years, the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to conduct a one-year test at the proposed site in order to determine the impact of the proposed facility on total state parimutuel revenues and on attendance and wagering at existing racetracks and fair satellite wagering facilities in the Counties of Alameda, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and Solano.

3) Authorizes fairs to contract for the operation and management of a satellite wagering facility with an individual racing association or a partnership, joint venture, or other affiliation of two or more racing associations or fairs that are licensed to conduct thoroughbred meetings or simulcast wagering within the northern zone.

This bill:

1) Expands the above-mentioned 20-mile exemption to include the entire state.

2) Deletes the requirement that the CDFA conduct a one-year test as described above.

3) Expands the above-mentioned authorization for fairs to contract for thoroughbred meetings or simulcast wagering within the state, as specified.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "this bill is intended to provide technical and clarifying changes to the Horse Racing Law following the cessation of live horse racing in Northern California in December 2024. This update is necessary because current authorizations for satellite wagering and related distributions are tied to geographic racing zones (Northern, Central, and Southern). The bill would extend an existing satellite wagering authorization, contingent upon consent from entities involved in statewide live racing operations. It would not expand current law; rather, it ensures that an existing authorization remains available should the industry choose to utilize it."

Horse Racing in California. The horse racing industry in California is grappling with a multifaceted crisis that threatens its long-term viability. Over the past three to four decades, California's horse racing industry has seen a significant decline in attendance, purses, and betting handle—a trend that mirrors shifts in consumer habits and growing competition from alternative forms of entertainment and

gambling. In its heyday, iconic tracks like Santa Anita, Del Mar, and Hollywood Park attracted tens of thousands of spectators on race days, creating a vibrant atmosphere that drove robust on-track wagering. As simulcasting emerged in the 1980s and online betting platforms took off in the early 2000s, fans increasingly chose to place their bets from home or at local simulcast facilities rather than visiting the tracks, causing live attendance to plummet.

In 2023, it was announced that the Golden Gate Fields racing track on the eastern shore of the San Francisco Bay would be closing permanently at the end of their 2024 meet. In early 2025, the California Authority of Racing Fairs (CARF) announced that it would abandon plans to organize horse racing in Northern California throughout several county fairs. At the time of last summer's racing meet, there were roughly 900 horses stalled in Pleasanton at the Alameda County fairgrounds, however with the closure of Golden Gate Fields and increasing financial distress, there were somewhere between 450 and 500 at the time of CARF's announcement.

The Alameda County Fair Board voted in January of this year to shut down their racing operations, citing an outdated water drainage system and an inability to sustain so many horses. Again, the larger issue continues to be the increasing unprofitability of the industry. According to a recent article by *NBC Bay Area News* titled "Race horses forced out of Alameda County Fairgrounds leaving owners, trainers scrambling," Alameda County Fairgrounds CEO Jerome Hoban said, "[i]t's no secret that horse racing has been economically moving in the wrong direction for a long time," and that "[t]he Alameda County Fair has lost over $2 million in just the fall race meet." This effectively ended the long-standing northern zone regional circuit.

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 California Horse Racing Board (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.

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.

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 1294 (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 the purposes of wagering. (Pending on the Assembly Inactive File)

AB 2792 (Committee on Governmental Organization, 2026) 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 the purposes of wagering. (Pending on the Seante Floor)

SB 844 (S. Rubio, 2025) increases the current cap on the importation of out-of-state thoroughbred races by a thoroughbred association or fair, on days when live thoroughbred or fair racing is being conducted in the state from 75 to 80 races-per-day. (Never Heard in the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)

AB 1526 (Committee on Governmental Organization, 2025) makes various technical and non-substantive changes to provisions of the Horse Racing Law, as specified. (Pending on the Senate Floor)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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
8/5/26 15:12:48

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2538
Author: Macedo (R), et al.
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Medi-Cal: hospice providers: forms

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill codifies current Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) requirements for hospice providers to notify DHCS when a Medi-Cal fee-for-service recipient elects hospice services prior to seeking reimbursement for services.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), and under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. Establishes a schedule of benefits under the Medi-Cal program, which includes hospice benefits in accordance with Medicare requirements, subject to utilization controls. [Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) §14000, et seq. and §14132]

2) Authorizes DHCS to take a variety of anti-fraud measures, including limiting codes for which any provider may bill if DHCS determines excessive services

or billings or abuse has occurred; suspend payment to providers for all services upon receipt of a credible fraud allegation; automatically suspend or refuse to enroll providers who have been revoked or suspended from a federal, California or another state's licensing, certification, or approval authority or convicted of any fraud or abuse in any government program; issue Medi-Cal cards to Medi-Cal fraud investigators for purposes of investigating Medi-Cal fraud; seek confirmation from Medi-Cal recipients that covered services were actually received; and, adopt, repeal, or amend additional measures to prevent or curtail fraud and abuse via emergency regulations or guidance in specified cases. [WIC §14044, §14107.11, §14043.6, §14043.36, §14026.5, §14107.13, and §14043.75]

3) Establishes the Hospice Licensure Act of 1990 (Act) which provides the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) with the authority to license and regulate hospice agencies. [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1745, et seq.]

4) Defines "hospice" as a specialized form of interdisciplinary health care that is designed to provide palliative care, alleviate the physical, emotional, social, and spiritual discomforts of an individual who is experiencing the last phases of life due to the existence of a terminal disease, and provide supportive care to the primary caregiver and the family of the hospice patient, and that meets specified criteria. [HSC §1746]

5) Imposes a moratorium on new hospice licensure until January 1, 2027, or one year after the date emergency regulations are adopted, as specified. [HSC §1751.70, et seq.]

This bill:

1) Requires DHCS to develop an online-only form for hospice providers to use to notify DHCS when a Medi-Cal fee-for-service member elects to receive hospice services. Authorizes DHCS to designate the existing Medi-Cal Hospice Program Attestation Form, its successor, or a different form, as this form.

2) Requires a hospice provider to submit the online form within five calendar days after the Medi-Cal fee-for-service member's election to receive hospice services, in conjunction with counseling the Medi-Cal member, obtaining informed consent, and completing and obtaining a signature on the Medi-Cal Hospice Program Election Notice Form (DHCS 8052) or its successor.

3) Requires the provider to maintain the election notice form in the Medi-Cal member's medical records and make the election notice form available to DHCS upon request or in the event of a state or federal audit.

4) Requires submission of the online form for reimbursement eligibility, but specifies that the submission itself does not guarantee that reimbursement.

5) Requires a reimbursement claim by a hospice provider to be processed only after DHCS validates the information and applies relevant hospice billing codes.

6) Specifies that this bill applies only to the Medi-Cal fee-for-service delivery system. Clarifies that in the case of Medi-Cal managed care, a hospice provider must instead follow its assigned Medi-Cal managed care plan's submission requirements, including, but not limited to, the submission of a Medi-Cal hospice program election notice as set forth in All Plan Letter 25-008 or its successor.

7) Specifies that this bill does not limit DHCS's authority to implement any additional fraud-prevention measures as authorized or required by state or federal law

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> This bill helps protect some of the most vulnerable Medi-Cal patients by making sure hospices are actually providing the services they are claiming. Most people have never had to choose hospice before; they do not know what questions to ask, what warning signs to look for, or who to trust. That is why state oversight matters, and right now the system is broken. This bill codifies a commonsense accountability measure already being used by DHCS and helps ensure the hospice benefit is used appropriately and transparently.

Background on hospice. At the center of hospice care is the belief that individuals have the right to die pain-free and with dignity, and that families will receive necessary support. Hospice care is available to patients who no longer wish treatment directed at curing their disease. Patients are usually referred to hospice by their personal physician, although they can be referred by their families or even by themselves. Initially, a physician certifies that the patient has a life expectancy of six months or less if the disease follows its normal course. Hospice usually

begins within 48 hours after a referral, but can begin sooner based on the circumstances. A hospice nurse evaluates what the person and family needs and develops a plan of care. The plan addresses the entire family's needs: medical; emotional; psychological; spiritual; and, support services. The nurse then coordinates the care with a physician and the full team of health professionals.

State Audit. California State Auditor Report 2021-123 on California Hospice Licensure and Oversight was published on March 29, 2022, and found multiple indicators of fraud and abuse, in particular in Los Angeles County: a rapid increase in the number of hospice agencies with no clear correlation to increased need; excessive geographic clustering of hospices with sometimes dozens of separately licensed agencies located in the same building; unusually long durations of hospice services provided to individual patients; abnormally high rates of still-living patients discharged from hospice care; and, hospice agencies using possibly stolen identities of medical personnel. The state audit found that the state agencies responsible for overseeing hospice care in California have failed to take adequate measures to prevent such fraudulent billing of Medicare or Medi-Cal or to protect patients from unqualified and unscrupulous providers. The report focused primarily on CDPH's weak licensing and investigative procedures, but also pointed to the need for coordination with DHCS, as the provider of Medi-Cal hospice services with its own investigative authority, and the Department of Justice (DOJ).

Recent state actions. Prior to the release of the report, the Legislature passed SB 664 (Allen, Chapter 494, Statutes of 2021) to instill a moratorium on new hospice licenses. AB 2673 (Irwin, Chapter 797, Statutes of 2022) extended the moratorium, added a new moratorium on license transfers (which remains in place), and required CDPH to conduct surveys of accredited hospices and adopt emergency regulations, along with other oversight requirements. According to the Governor's office, the state has revoked the licenses of more than 280 hospices over the past two years and is evaluating an additional 300 hospices. The state has also created a multi-agency Hospice Fraud Task Force coordinated by CDPH, that also includes DHCS, the California Health and Human Services Agency, and the DOJ. In April 2026 the Attorney General and DHCS announced charges filed against 21 suspects and the arrest of five people in a hospice fraud scheme that defrauded California of $267 million. Finally, CDPH just released proposed emergency regulations that would establish a comprehensive licensing framework for hospice agencies on June 1, 2026.

Trump administration focus on fraud in Medicaid. The Trump Administration has begun intensely focusing on fraud in the Medicaid program. On January 27, 2026,

the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) Director Mehmet Oz posted a video on social media highlighting hospice fraud in Los Angeles. However, in a January 27, 2026 letter from CMS to Governor Newsom, CMS identified 14 services as "high-risk" services that were the focus of fraud investigations in Minnesota and questioned what activities California has undertaken related to these services. Hospice services were not mentioned in this letter. Nonetheless, in DHCS' response to this letter, it highlighted its efforts to combat fraud, waste, and abuse. DHCS stated that the largest number of credible allegations of fraud that it has investigated involve hospice providers, with allegations including billing for services not rendered, medically unnecessary services, and upcoding. In the past two years, DHCS's fraud unit had 48 hospice-related credible fraud referrals involving 189 subjects.

The President also formed a fraud task force via executive order on March 16, 2026, chaired by the Vice President, to look at fraud across the federal government. Most recently, on May 13, 2026, CMS announced a six-month moratorium on new Medicare enrollment for hospices; and in the press release, pointed to heightened oversight of newly enrolled Medicare hospice providers in states with elevated fraud risk, including California. CMS also stated that it was conducting nationwide hospice site visits, proposing new regulations involving a new public hospice scoring system, and suspending payments to hundreds of hospice providers in Los Angeles.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

The California Baptist Capitol Ministry

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The California Baptist Capitol Ministry, representing 11 California Baptist Churches, writes in support stating that this bill is a commitment to caring for the most vulnerable among us. They state that the bible requires extending proper care and accountability for those in their final days.

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: Jen Flory / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:12:49

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2542
Author: Patterson (R)
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: 74-0, 4/23/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Human remains: disposition

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill prohibits the right to control the disposition of the remains of a deceased person, when the deceased person did not specifically provide for the right of control in advance, from passing to a person in the statutory order of precedence when the funeral director or cemetery authority knows either (1) that the person was subject to a restraining order for domestic violence against the decedent, or (2) specified legal documentation establishes that granting the right of control to that person would have been contrary to the decedent's best interests.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that, when a decedent, prior to death, directed, in writing, for the disposition of their remains, the location and conditions of interment, and/or for the arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided, those instructions must be followed to the extent the decedent provided for the cost of the directed disposition. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code, §§ 7011 & 7100.1.)

2) Provides that, when a decedent did not provide for the disposition of their remains, the right to control the disposition of the remains, the location and

conditions of interment, and for the arrangements for funeral goods and services to be provided (collectively, the "right of control") devolves upon the following persons in the order listed:

a) An agent under a power of attorney for health care who has the right and duty of disposition under the Probate Code, as specified.

b) The decedent's competent surviving spouse.

c) The decedent's competent surviving adult child; if there is more than one surviving competent adult child, then to a majority of the competent adult children, as specified.

d) The decedent's surviving parent or parents; if one surviving competent parent is absent, the remaining competent parent shall be vested with the rights if, after reasonable efforts to locate the absent parent, they have been unable to do so.

e) The decedent's surviving competent adult sibling or, if there is more than one surviving competent adult sibling, to the majority of the competent adult siblings, as specified.

f) The surviving competent adult persons respectively in the next degrees of kinship or, if there is more than one such competent adult person at the same degree of kinship, to a majority of those persons, as specified.

g) A conservator of the person appointed pursuant to the Probate Code, when the decedent has sufficient assets.

h) A conservator of the estate appointed pursuant to the Probate Code, when the decedent has sufficient assets.

i) The public administrator, when the decedent has sufficient assets. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7100(a).)

3) Provides that, if a person to whom the right of control has vested pursuant to 2) has been charged with first- or second-degree murder of voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death and those charges are known to the funeral director or cemetery authority, the right of control is relinquished and passed on to the next of kin in the order established in 2).

a) If the charges against the person are dropped, or if the person is acquitted of the charges, the right of control is returned to that person.

b) For purposes of the right to control, a person who has been charged with first- or second-degree murder or voluntary manslaughter in connection with the decedent's death, when the funeral director or cemetery authority knows about the charges, shall be treated as if they did not exist, unless and until the charges are dropped or the person is acquitted. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7100(b).)

4) Provides that the funeral director or cemetery authority has absolute authority to control the disposition of the remains and to recover usual and customary charges for the disposition when (1) no person in 2) is known or can be found after a reasonable inquiry, and (2) the public administrator fails to assume responsibility for disposition of the remains within seven days after receiving written notice of the facts. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7100(c).)

5) Provides that a funeral director or cemetery authority shall not be liable to any person or persons for carrying out the instructions of the decedent or the person entitled to control the disposition. (Health & Saf. Code, § 7100(f).)

This bill:

1) Establishes Marissa's Law.

2) Provides that, if the funeral director or cemetery authority knows that either of the following conditions are met with respect to the person with the statutory right to control the disposition of remains, the right of control is relinquished and passed onto the next of kin in the statutory order:

   a) The person with right of control was subject to a restraining order for domestic violence against the deceased at the time of the decedent's death.

   b) Either of the following evidences that vesting the right to control that the person with right of control would have been contrary to the decedent's best wishes:

      i. A court order, court finding, or other court documentation.

      ii. A will, agreement, or other legally determinative document.

3) Provides funeral director or cemetery authority shall not:

   a) Be held criminally or civilly liable for a determination made pursuant to 2).

   b) Be subject to disciplinary action for a determination made pursuant to 2).

4) Makes nonsubstantive technical and conforming changes.

Comments

If a person did not specify their wishes for the disposition of their remains after their death, the person who assumes the right to control the disposition of remains is determined by statute. The relevant statute sets forth the order of precedence in which the right to control the decedent's remains is granted, beginning with the decedent's power of attorney, then their surviving spouse, if any, and then down through a specified list of family members. Current law provides that, if the person who would otherwise be granted the right of disposition has been charged with, or convicted of, the murder or manslaughter of the decedent, they are skipped over and the right goes to the next person in the order of precedence.

This bill adds additional circumstances in which the right of control over the disposition of a decedent's remains must be revoked from the person who would otherwise take statutory precedence. Under this bill, a person loses their right of control when the funeral director or cemetery authority knows either: (1) that the person with right of control was subject to a restraining order for domestic violence against the deceased at the time of the decedent's death; or (2) that evidence indicates that vesting the right of control in that person would have been contrary to the decedent's best interests. Evidence satisfies (2) if it is in the form of a court order, court finding, or other court documentation, or a will, agreement, or other legally determinative document. The bill provides that a funeral director or cemetery authority cannot be civilly or criminally liable, or suffer disciplinary action, as a result of a determination under this bill.

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

The Senate Appropriations Committee passed this bill pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Baptist Capitol Ministry
California District Attorneys Association
California Funeral Directors' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the California Funeral Directors' Association:

> Current law grants control of a deceased person's remains to that person's health care power of attorney, then moves to next of kin if an agent has not been appointed. Our Association sponsored the legislation that put in place "a line of consanguinity that determines who is in control of the remains." A person's right of control could be revoked if they are charged with certain crimes in connection to the decedent's death.
>
> AB 2542 rectifies this issue by granting a funeral director or cemetery authority the power to release a deceased person's remains to the next qualified person when they know that the person with the right of control was subject to a restraining order for domestic violence against the deceased or qualified documents show that giving that person control would have been contrary to the decedent's best interests.
>
> With this added responsibility, the bill offers the funeral industry critical protections by shielding funeral directors and cemetery authorities from civil or criminal liability, and from license discipline, for any determination they make under these provisions. This allows funeral directors to make the right choices without the fear of repercussions.

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: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:12:50

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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)

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[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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2562
Author: Dixon (R)
Amended: 3/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Alcohol or other drug recovery and treatment programs and facilities: suicide prevention

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires state-certified programs and state-licensed alcohol and other drug recovery and treatment facilities to have suicide prevention plans.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Grants sole authority in the state to the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to certify alcohol or other drug (AOD) programs and to license adult residential AOD recovery or treatment facilities (RTFs). [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §11832 and §11834.01]

2) Requires DHCS to conduct onsite program compliance visits for AOD programs and RTFs at least once during the certification or licensure period. Permits DHCS to conduct announced or unannounced site visits to review for compliance. [HSC §11832.12 and §11834.01]

3) Requires an AOD program to adopt policies and procedures, kept in an operation manual, that address and include, at a minimum, all of the following:
   a) Admission and discharge;
   b) Client rights;
   c) Services;
   d) Medications; and,
   e) Staff and client code of conduct. [HSC §11832.8.]

4) Enumerates requirements for an RTF, such as the types of nonmedical services each is authorized to provide; prohibitions on reasons for denying an individual admission to the RTF; a plan for when an RTF resident relapses; and, maintaining unexpired doses of naloxone hydrochloride, or any other opioid antagonist that is approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration for treatment of an opioid overdose. [HSC §11834.26]

This bill:

1) Requires an AOD program to include in its operation manual and RTFs to develop a suicide prevention plan.

2) Grants DHCS the authority to implement the suicide plan requirement for RTFs by bulletin, or all-county or all-provider letter, after stakeholder input, until regulations are promulgated. Requires DHCS to promulgate regulations no later than January 1, 2031.

Background

According to the author of this bill:

> Patients or clients in substance use disorder treatment settings can often suffer from suicidal ideation. Like addiction, suicide is unbiased and can impact anyone. From a study done by the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, "Individuals diagnosed with substance use disorders (SUDs) are at increased risk of suicidal ideation. Up to 40% of those seeking SUD treatment have a suicide attempt history. Importantly, a previous attempt is a key predictor of future suicide." Currently, in the California Code of Regulations under Title 9 "Rehabilitative and Developmental Services," two of the four departments already require suicide prevention plans. However, the Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs currently has no requirement for such health facilities to have a suicide policy in place. This gap is an

oversight in alignment across departments in the importance of holistic care for individuals in rehabilitative and developmental services. By requiring licensed treatment facilities and certified programs to have a suicide prevention plan in place, we are improving and prioritizing patient safety and ultimately, their success. This bill would add a new level of care in the promotion of emotional, mental and physical health for individuals in treatment settings.

RTFs and AOD programs. RTFs licensed by DHCS, based on what is commonly referred to as the "social model," provide recovery, treatment, or detoxification services. (The Department of Public Health licenses medical model RTFs, known as chemical dependency recovery hospitals.) The services provided by social model RTFs include group and individual counseling, educational sessions, and alcoholism or drug abuse recovery and treatment planning. Social model RTFs are allowed to provide clients first aid and emergency care, and since the passage of AB 848 (Mark Stone, Chapter 744, Statutes of 2015), RTFs can apply to DHCS for an additional license to provide incidental medical services by a licensed physician or other health care practitioner. SB 823 (Hill, Chapter 781, Statutes of 2018) requires DHCS to adopt American Society of Addiction Medicine treatment criteria as the minimum standard of care for licensed RTFs. DHCS is also responsible for certification of a business entity with a physical location in the state that provides one or more of the following services to clients: treatment, recovery, detoxification services, or medications for addiction treatment. DHCS also provides program certification for facilities that are licensed by the Department of Social Services that serve adolescents. As part of their licensing and certification functions, DHCS conducts reviews of RTFs and AOD programs every two years, or as necessary; checks for compliance with statute, regulations, and certification standards to ensure the health and safety of clients; investigates all complaints; and, has the authority to suspend or revoke a license or certification for a violation of statutes, regulations, and certification standards. DHCS states that they have the sole authority to conduct site visits to their RTFs and AOD programs.

SUD and suicide. According to the Kaiser Family Foundation, from 2014 to 2024, over half a million lives nationally (516,790) were lost to suicide, with 2022 marking the highest annual total on record. Since then, overall suicides have declined somewhat but trends diverged by method: firearm suicides continued to rise, reaching a new high in 2024. As a result, firearms accounted for 57% of all suicides in 2024, up from 50% in 2014, while suicides by other methods fell. Some of the shift may also reflect undercounting, if some suicides are recorded as unintentional drug overdose deaths. These shifts may have implications for prevention strategies including the capacity and design

of crisis and treatment systems. In July 2022, the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline launched nationwide, replacing the prior 10-digit number with an easier to remember, three-digit option that connects people in distress to counselors at 200+ local crisis call centers and, when needed, other crisis services. Since launch through October 2025, 988 has received more than 19 million calls, texts, or chats nationally, alongside improved answer rates and shorter wait times. However, access to mental health and SUD treatment gaps persist. In 2025, the Trump Administration discontinued the LGBTQI+ 988 call line and advanced an array of federal policy actions that could limit access to care including projected coverage loss in Medicaid and the Marketplace.

A UCLA Center for Health Policy Research brief from June 2026, "Adolescents' Substance Use, Psychological Distress, and Suicidal Thoughts and Attempts," notes that youth substance use remains common in the U.S., and many adolescents experience mental health challenges—such as anxiety, depression, and trauma—before or after trying drugs or alcohol. Early, frequent, or heavy substance use can harm brain development and worsen mental health issues, including depression, anxiety, and mood instability. Adolescents with both SUD and mental health issues are at a much higher risk for suicide. Mental health conditions are strong predictors of suicidal behavior, and substance use increases this risk by reducing inhibition and judgment, and worsening depression and anxiety. Together, these factors make suicide attempts more likely and more dangerous. The brief further notes that adolescents who currently use substances are nearly twice as likely to have had serious psychological distress in the past year as adolescents who do not currently use substances (46% and 27%, respectively), and 1.5 times as likely to have had moderate psychological distress in the past year as adolescents who do not currently use substances (21% and 13%, respectively). More than a quarter (26%) of adolescents have tried at least one substance, with alcohol (21%) being the most common, followed by marijuana/THC (11%), e-cigarettes (11%), and cigarettes (5%). Among all adolescents, 9% currently use one or more substances, most often marijuana/THC (6%), alcohol (binge drinking) (4%), or e-cigarettes (3%). Among adolescents who currently use substances, 44% reported using multiple substances. Overall, 10% of adolescents had seriously thought about or attempted suicide in the past year. Adolescents who had ever used substances (marijuana, alcohol, e-cigarettes, or cigarettes) were more than three times as likely to report suicidal thoughts and attempts as those who had never used substances (20% and 6%, respectively). Adolescents who currently use substances were nearly four times as likely to have seriously thought about or attempted suicide in the past year (28%) as those who do not use substances (8%).

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/2026)

City of Newport Beach
County Behavioral Health Directors Association
County of Orange
One individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/2026)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Orange County (OC) states it supports measures that bring more accountability to licensed RTFs in order to balance the need of those who seek recovery with the residents of the communities where these facilities are or may be located. This bill aims to protect vulnerable populations and aligns with existing practices, as many treatment providers already address suicide risk when clinically appropriate. The bill would formalize and standardize these practices across providers, which will help ensure consistency and provide clearer guidance for staff. OC further argues that establishing a required suicide prevention plan may also build on existing approaches used in treatment settings, similar to relapse prevention and other risk mitigation strategies.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 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, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Jackson, Lee, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Rogers

Prepared by: Reyes Diaz / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:12:51

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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
7/1/26 16:55:18

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

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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

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[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
Techtonic 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:

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[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."

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2568
Author: Johnson (R)
Amended: 4/27/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 6-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ashby

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/11/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Water district directors: compensation

SOURCE: West Valley Water District

DIGEST: Authorizes, until January 1, 2032, certain water districts to compensate board members for up to 15 days a month.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Specifies that, notwithstanding any other provision of law, the governing board of any water district may, by ordinance, provide compensation to members of the governing board, unless any compensation is prohibited by its principal act, in an amount not to exceed $100 per day for each day's attendance at meetings of the board, or for each day's service rendered as a member of the board by request of the board, and may, by ordinance, increase the compensation received by members of the governing board above the amount of $100 per day, as specified

2) Provides that the determination of whether a director's activities on any specific day are compensable shall be made pursuant to existing law

3) Specifies that in any ordinance adopted to increase the amount of compensation which may be received by members of the governing board of a water district

above the amount of $100 per day, the increase may not exceed an amount equal to 5%, for each calendar year following the operative date of the last adjustment, of the compensation which is received when the ordinance is adopted. No ordinance adopted pursuant to this chapter shall authorize compensation for more than a total of 10 days in any calendar month

4) Provides that any water district described in 5), below, is authorized to adopt ordinances pursuant to this chapter. No ordinance shall be adopted except following a public hearing. Notice of the hearing shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation, as specified

5) Defines for the purposes of 1) through 4), above, "water district" to mean any district or other political subdivision, other than a city or county, a primary function of which is the irrigation, reclamation, or drainage of land or the diversion, storage, management, or distribution of water primarily for domestic, municipal, agricultural, industrial, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, flood control, or power production purposes. "Water districts" include, but are not limited to, irrigation districts, county water districts, California water districts, water storage districts, reclamation districts, county waterworks districts, drainage districts, water replenishment districts, levee districts, municipal water districts, water conservation districts, community services districts, water management districts, flood control districts, flood control and floodwater conservation districts, flood control and water conservation districts, water management agencies, water agencies, and specified public utility districts

This bill:

1) Authorizes specified water districts that have at least 90,000 residents within their jurisdiction to allow for board members to be compensated for up to a total of 15 days in any calendar month.

2) Provides that, if a water district compensates its members for more than 10 days in a calendar month, the members of the governing board of the water district shall annually adopt a written policy describing, based on a finding supported by substantial evidence, why providing compensation for more than 10 days per calendar month is necessary for the effective operation of the water district.

3) Specifies that the above provisions shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2032, and as of that date are repealed.

Background

Board member meetings. A local agency may compensate members of its legislative body for attending specified events (AB 1234, Salinas, Chapter 700, Statutes of 2005):

a) A meeting of the legislative body;

b) A meeting of an advisory body;

c) A conference or educational activity that complies with the Brown Act, including ethics training; and

d) Other events, but only if the governing body has adopted a written policy specifying those other occasions.

Districts that are allowed to provide compensation are usually limited to doing so for a maximum number of meetings per calendar month. Most special districts that perform some type of water service, whether it be flood control, drinking water, or irrigation, can compensate their board members up to $100 per day for a maximum of 10 days per calendar month. In addition, many, but not all, districts may also increase the daily rate for attending meetings by five percent per year by annually adopting an ordinance that provides for such an increase.

Many special districts can also reimburse the members of their legislative bodies for their actual and necessary expenses to attend meetings. Local officials must fill out expense reports and provide receipts to receive reimbursement. At their next regular meeting after the meeting for which reimbursement was provided, officials must also give brief reports about the meetings they attended at the agency's expense.

In 2018, the Legislature allowed one water district, Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD), to compensate its board members up to 15 days per month until December 31, 2023 (AB 1889, Caballero, Chapter 251, Statutes of 2018). The Legislature later repealed the sunset date in 2023 to allow SCVWD to indefinitely compensate its members 15 meeting days a month (AB 939, Pellerin, Chapter 170, Statutes of 2023).

West Valley Water District. The West Valley Water District (WVWD) serves residents primarily in San Bernardino County with a small service area extending into Riverside County. First formed as the West San Bernardino County Water District in 1952, the district now operates five treatment plants, 360 miles of pipeline, 25 reservoirs, 17 wells, and serves roughly 20,000 service connections, providing drinking water to 100,000 residents. WVWD’s five-member board of directors governs the district, with voters electing directors to four-year terms.

WVWD's board approved a policy that allows for a variety of meetings, events, and conferences to be eligible for compensation. This includes regular board meetings, conferences, community meetings, and any other activity the board preapproves. Currently, WVWD board of directors receive compensation for up to 10 days per month like other water districts. Although state law sets the base stipend at $100 per meeting, the WVWD board has frequently exercised its ability to increase that rate by 5% annually, putting the current stipend amount at $227 per meeting, for a total of $27,240 per year.

Comments

According to the author, "AB 2568 updates the outdated statutory cap on water board member compensation to reflect the complex regulatory and operational realities modern water districts face. By providing permissive authority to increase the monthly meeting cap from 10 to 15 days, this bill ensures directors are fairly compensated for the actual time required for essential governance and regional coordination."

Raise your glass. Local agencies compensate their board members for the time and expenses associated with serving on behalf of the district. This compensation generally takes the form of a per-meeting payment, up to a maximum number of meetings per year. Limiting the number of meetings for which a public agency can compensate its members with taxpayer funds builds in a safeguard by ensuring that board members don't claim more compensation than they need to perform their duties. AB 2568 relaxes this limitation by increasing the number of meetings for which board members may be compensated, potentially eroding the public's trust in the motivations of their elected officials. By expanding the number of days board members get compensated, it may create an incentive for board members to schedule meetings across different days in order to increase their compensation, regardless of whether those meetings are necessary. Although board compensation is intended to support effective governance and facilitate participation in district oversight, questions from the public may arise as to whether the proposed increased in compensated days is necessary to achieve those objectives.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/18/26)

West Valley Water District (Source)
Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
California Special Districts Association

Desert Water Agency
Water Replenishment District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/18/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 5/11/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Dixon, Elhawary, Ellis, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, DeMaio, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Solache, Soria

Prepared by: Itzel Vargas / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
6/19/26 14:57:59

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2576
Author: Harabedian (D), et al.
Amended: 6/15/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Ochoa Bogh, Padilla

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Transit-oriented development: exclusions: historic sites

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill expands the historic sites exclusion in SB 79 (Wiener, Chapter 512, Statutes 2025), prior to one year following the adoption of the seventh housing element, to include contributing sites within a historic district and parcels individually listed as a historical resource in the State Historic Resources Inventory designated before January 1, 2025.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

Terms and Definitions

1) Establishes the following definitions pursuant to SB 79 (Wiener, Chapter 512, Statutes of 2025):

   a) "Adjacent" means within 200 feet of any pedestrian access point to a transit oriented development (TOD) stop. A parcel that meets any of the eligibility

criteria under this bill and is adjacent to a Tier 1 TOD Stop or Tier 2 TOD Stop, as defined below, shall be eligible for an adjacency intensifier to increase the height limit by an additional 20 feet, the maximum density standard by an additional 40 dwelling units per acre, and the floor area ratio (FAR) by 1 prior to the application of density bonus law.

b) "Residential FAR" means the ratio of net habitable square footage dedicated to residential use to the area of the lot. A local government may not impose any other local development standard or combination of standards that would physically preclude the residential FAR established.

c) "Tier 1 TOD stop" means a transit-oriented development stop with an urban transit county, served by heavy rail transit or very high frequency commuter rail.

d) "Tier 2 TOD stop" excludes a Tier 1 TOD stop, and means a transit-oriented development stop with an urban transit county served by light rail transit, by high-frequency commuter rail, or by bus service, as specified. "Urban transit county" means a county with more than 15 passenger rail stations.

e) "TOD stop" means a major transit stop or a stop on a route for which a preferred alternative has been selected or which are identified in a regional transportation improvement program, served by heavy rail transit, very high frequency commuter rail, high frequency commuter rail, light rail transit, or specified bus service within an urban county. When a new transit route is planned that was not identified in the applicable regional transportation plan on or before January 1, 2026, these stops shall not be eligible as a TOD stop unless they would be eligible as Tier 1 TOD stops. If a county becomes an urban transit county subsequent to July 1, 2026, then bus service in that county shall remain ineligible for designation of a transit-oriented development stop.

f) "Urban transit county" means a county with more than 15 passenger rail stations.

SB 79 Development Standards.

2) Provides that a housing development within a specified distance of a transit stop in a residential, mixed-use, or commercial zone shall be entitled to specified development standards pursuant to the table below. TOD housing development projects shall also meet the following requirements:

a) The average total area of floor space for the proposed units in the transit-oriented housing development project shall not exceed 1,750 net habitable square feet, and

b) The housing development project shall include at least five dwelling units and meet the greater of the following:

   i) A minimum density of at least 30 dwelling units per acre; or

   ii) The minimum density required under the local zoning, if applicable.

TOD Stop Type	Dist. from Stop (TOD Zone)	Development Standards for Project
Tier 1: Major transit stop, heavy rail transit, or very high frequency commuter rail in urban transit county	¼ mile from stop	• **Max Height**: 75 ft or 95 ft if adjacent to stop • **Max Density**: 30 - 120 units per acre (u/a) plus any density bonus or 160 u/a if adjacent to stop • **FAR**: 3.5 or 4.5 if adjacent to stop • **Specified Concessions**
	¼ - ½ mile from stop in city with population at least 35,000	• **Max Height**: 65 ft • **Max Density**: 30 - 100 u/a plus any density bonus • **FAR**: 3 • **Specified Concessions**
Tier 2: Not Tier 1 major transit stops served by light rail transit, high-frequency commuter rail, or bus rapid transit in an urban transit county	¼ mile from stop	• **Max Height**: 65 ft or 85 ft if adjacent to stop • **Ma Density**: 30 - 100 u/a plus any density bonus or 140 u/a if adjacent to stop • **FAR**: 3 or 4 if adjacent to stop
	¼ - ½ mile from stop in a city with a population at least 35,000	• **Max Height**: 55 ft • **Max Density**: 30 - 80 u/a plus any density bonus • **FAR**: 2.5 • **Specified Concessions**

3) Provides that for projects with more than 10 units, the project shall comply with one of the following requirements:

   a) Any of the following:

      i) At least 7% are dedicated to extremely low-income (ELI) households.

      ii) At least 10% of the total units are dedicated to very low-income (VLI) households.

      iii) At least 13% of the total units are dedicated to low-income households.

   b) If a local inclusionary housing requirement mandates a higher percentage or deeper level of affordability, then the local inclusionary housing standard shall apply.

   c) All units dedicated to ELI, VLI, or low-income households shall have an affordable cost or rent, as defined, and ensure the continued affordability of those units for 45 years for ownership or 55 years for rental units.

4) Prohibits a transit housing development from being located on either of the following:

   a) A site containing more than two units where the development would require the demolition of housing that is subject to any form of rent or price control through a public entity's valid exercise of its police power that has been occupied by tenants within the last seven years.

   b) A site that was previously used for more than two units of housing that was demolished within seven years before the development proponent submits an application under this section any of the units were subject to any form of rent or price control.

5) Requires a TOD project to meet specified labor standards, including the provision of prevailing wages if the project is not entirely a public work, as specified, and projects over 85 feet shall employ a skilled and trained workforce, as specified.

TOD Development Ordinances.

6) Requires the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to oversee compliance with SB 79 development standards. Requires HCD to

promulgate standards for how to account for capacity in a city or county's land suitable for development identified in its housing element by July 1, 2026.

7) Authorizes a local government to enact an ordinance to make its zoning consistent with the provisions of this chapter, subject to review by HCD, as specified. The adoption of the ordinance shall not be subject to the California Environmental Quality Act. Provides that the ordinance may include objective standards, conditions, and policies, applying to TOD housing developments, that are demonstrated by a preponderance of the evidence to not physically preclude, alone or in concert, the applicable SB 79 development standards provided for in (2) above.

8) Provides that if a local government adopts an ordinance, it shall submit a copy to HCD within 14 days of adoption. HCD shall review and make a finding of compliance within 90 days, plus an additional 30 days if needed. If HCD does not meet that timeline, the ordinance shall be deemed compliant with SB 79 development standards. If HCD finds that the local government does not comply with SB 79 development standards, HCD shall provide the local government 60 days to respond.

9) Requires Metropolitan Planning Organizations (MPOs) to create a map of TOD stops and zones established by SB 79.

Local TOD Alternative Plans.

10) Provides that a local "TOD alternative plan," defined as an amendment to the housing element or a program to implement the housing element—such as the adoption of a specific plan, adoption of a zoning overlay, or enactment of an ordinance; that brings the local agency into compliance with this bill —may be adopted provided it incorporates all of the following:

    a) The plan shall provide at least the same total zoned capacity in terms of both total units and FAR, as specified.

    b) The plan shall not reduce the maximum allowed density for any individual site on which the plan allows residential use by more than 50%, except for sites meeting any of the following criteria:

        i) Sites within a very high fire hazard severity zone, as determined by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, or within the state responsibility area, as defined.

ii) Sites that are vulnerable to one foot of sea level rise, as specified.

iii) Sites with a historic resource designation on a local register, so long as sites excluded from the density requirements of (11)(a) do not cumulatively exceed 10% of the eligible area of any TOD zone.

iv) Sites within ½ mile of a Tier 2 TOD stop shall not have a density below 30 units per acre with an FAR of 1.0 and should be considered for attached entry-level owner-occupied housing development opportunities.

c) The plan shall not reduce the capacity in any TOD zone in total units or FAR by more than 50%.

d) The site's maximum capacity counted toward the plan shall not exceed 200% of the maximum density established by SB 79.

11) Exempts, prior to one year following the adoption of the 7th housing element, the following sites from SB 79 if the local government has adopted an SB 79 ordinance:

a) A site identified by the local government that permits density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 standards.

b) A site in a TOD zone in which 33% of the sites have already permitted density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 development standards and includes sites with densities that cumulatively allow for at least 75% of the aggregate density for the TOD zone allowed using SB 79 development standards.

c) A site within a very high fire hazard severity zone or within the state responsibility area, sites that are vulnerable to one foot sea level rise, or sites on a specified historic register.

d) Sites identified in a Local Plan.

12) Authorizes, for the seventh and subsequent revisions of the housing element, a local government to include a local TOD alternative plan, as specified, in future housing element cycles.

13) Provides that, beginning on January 1, 2027, a local agency that denies a housing development project meeting the provisions of this bill shall be

presumed to be in violation of the Housing Accountability Act and are immediately liable for specified penalties, unless the local government demonstrates that it has a public health, life, or safety reason for denying the project, as specified.

14) Delays implementation of SB 79 development standards until July 1, 2026, unless a local government adopts an ordinance or local TOD alternative plan deemed complaint by HCD before July 1, 2026. Delays implementation to unincorporated areas of a county until the 7th regional housing needs allocation cycle.

This bill:

1) Expands the historic sites exclusion in SB 79 (Wiener) to include any of the following designated before January 1, 2025:
   a) Sites with a historic resource located on a local register.
   b) A contributing site within a historic district included int eh State Historic Resources Inventory, as specified.
   c) A parcel individually listed as a historical resource included in the State Historic Resources Inventory, as specified.

Background

SB 79 Development Standards. Beginning July 1, 2026, SB 79 makes housing an allowable use on sites zoned residential, mixed-use, or commercial within one-half mile of an existing or currently proposed qualifying TOD stop in an "urban transit county" for jurisdictions with a population of at least 35,000 residents, and within one-quarter mile of the qualifying TOD stop for jurisdictions with a population of less than 35,000. For unincorporated areas of a county, implementation is delayed until the 7th housing element cycle begins. SB 79 projects must include at least five units, achieve the greater of 30 dwelling units per acre (du/acre) or meet the local minimum density requirements, and maintain an average unit size not exceeding 1,750 square feet. SB 79 projects over 10 units must include specified levels of affordable housing, comply with anti-displacement provisions of the Housing Crisis Act, and comply with specified labor standards.

SB 79 limits the standards local governments can impose on SB 79 projects depending on the distance from specified transit stops and population of the jurisdiction (*see* chart under existing law #2). SB 79 projects that meet certain density thresholds are also eligible for additional concessions and incentives under density bonus law. SB 79 projects are not eligible on the following sites: (1) a site in which the development would require the demolition of more than two units that is subject to any form of rent or price control that was occupied by tenants within the last seven years, and (2) a site that was previously used for more than two units of housing that was demolished within the last seven years and those units were subject to price or rent control.

HCD's SB 79 Advisory. Due to requests from several MPOs about the need for greater clarity about the implementation of SB 79, on March 20, 2026, HCD issued an SB 79 Advisory.[1] Among other things, the advisory clarified several SB 79 definitions and specified that SB 79 applies to the following counties as of the publication of the advisory: Alameda, Los Angeles, Sacramento, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, and San Diego. According to the advisory, HCD will review all SB 79 Ordinances and TOD Alternative Plans and determine their compliance with state law. The advisory also provides that SB 79 development standards apply to the following types of transit:

Heavy Rail	Light Rail	Commuter Rail
▪ Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART): All except eBART Pittsburg Center, Antioch stations ▪ Los Angeles (LA) Metro Rail: B, D Lines	▪ LA Metro Rail (A, C, E, K Lines) ▪ Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) ▪ San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Trolley ▪ San Francisco Municipal Railway (Muni) Metro and Streetcar ▪ Santa Clara Valley Transportation Authority (VTA) Light Rail	▪ Altamont Corridor Express (ACE) ▪ Arrow ▪ BART (eBART Pittsburg Center, Antioch stations only) ▪ Caltrain ▪ Capitol Corridor ▪ Coaster ▪ Metrolink ▪ Pacific Surfliner ▪ San Joaquins (Gold Runner) ▪ Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit (SMART) ▪ Sprinter

[1] *SB 79 Advisory: Clarifications on Definitions for Metropolitan Planning Organizations*. HCD Housing Policy Development Division. March 20, 2026. Accessible here: https://www.hcd.ca.gov/sites/default/files/docs/planning-and-community/sb-79-mpo-advisory.pdf

HCD's advisory notes that SB 79 contemplates application to future planned TOD stops that meet specified requirements. As such, the chart above does not reflect rail typologies for all rail services that have yet to be constructed or enter into operation.

Comments

State and regional guidance. Independent of the SB 79 Advisory noted above in the Background section, HCD must issue guidance by July 1, 2026, on how SB 79 capacity is to be counted in local sites inventories for future housing element cycles. Additionally, MPOs are required to publish TOD tier maps with a rebuttable presumption of validity, however there is no requirement for MPOs to publish their maps on any statutory timeline. For the 6th housing element cycle, up to one year prior to the adoption of the 7th housing element revision, local governments may exempt additional parcels from the provisions of this bill under specified conditions via an ordinance update.

Alternatives to SB 79 application. SB 79 creates two implementation alternatives for local governments to use to comply with the provisions of the bill:

a) *SB 79 ordinances.* The SB 79 development standards identified in Comment 2 do not apply to a local government that enacts a local TOD ordinance to make their zoning consistent with SB 79 development standards, provided HCD has reviewed and determined the ordinance substantially complies with the SB 79 development standards by July 1, 2026. In other words, a local TOD ordinance would replace the SB 79 development standards. Specifically, HCD must review an enacted ordinance and make a finding as to whether the ordinance is in substantial compliance with SB 79 development standards and report back to the local government within 90 days – or 120 days if HCD needs an additional 30 days to review. If HCD fails to meet these timelines, the ordinance shall be deemed compliant with SB 79. However, if the ordinance is deemed not to be compliant, the local government shall be given up to 60 days to respond.

b) *Local TOD Alternative Plan (Local Plan)*. The SB 79 development standards may also be waived or altered in jurisdictions that choose to implement SB 79 differently by electing to adopt a Local Plan. A Local Plan can be adopted by ordinance, housing element adoption, housing element program implementation, a specific plan, or a zoning overlay. A Local Plan may alter the general development standards prescribed by SB 79, but must maintain at least the same net zoned capacity (measured in both units and residential floor

area) as SB 79 provides, and may not reduce maximum density on any site or total capacity in any TOD zone by more than 50%, unless the sites are within a very high fire hazard severity zone, vulnerable to sea level rise, or contain a historic resource on a local register.

Local Plans can apply to any site in the jurisdiction, including those sites owned by other local agencies, and may be implemented by existing local TOD zoning ordinances, overlay zones, specific plans or zoning incentive ordinances, provided they meet the other requirements of the Local Plan. In other words, a local government adopting a Local Plan can collaborate with other local agencies.

SB 79 exemptions. SB 79 does not apply, prior to one year following the adoption of the 7th housing element, to the following sites if the local government has adopted an SB 79 ordinance: (a) a site identified by the local government that permits density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 standards; (b) a site in a TOD zone in which 33% of the sites have already permitted density and FAR at no less than 50% of the SB 79 development standards and includes sites with densities that cumulatively allow for at least 75% of the aggregate density for the TOD zone allowed using SB 79 development standards; (c) a site within a very high fire hazard severity zone or within the state responsibility area, sites that are vulnerable to one foot sea level rise, or sites on a specified historic register; or (d) sites identified in a Local Plan.

SB 79 and Historic Resources. As noted in Comment 3, SB 79 allows local governments to exclude sites with a historic resource designated as of January 1, 2025, on a local register if the local government has adopted a local alternative plan pursuant to SB 79 indicating the site's exclusion within one year of adopting the seventh revision of the housing element.

This bill would exempt SB 79 development standards from applying to a site, prior to one year following the adoption of the seventh housing element, any of the following apply, prior to January 1, 2025: the site is designated with a historic resource listed on a local register; a contributing site within a historic district is included in the State Historic Resources Inventory; or the parcel is individually listed as a historical resource in the State Historic Resources Inventory, as specified.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/15/26)

California Preservation Foundation
City of Pasadena
City of San Mateo

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/15/26)

Abundant Housing LA
Bay Area Council
California Yimby
Greenbelt Alliance
Inner City Law Center
Spur
Streets for All

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "Assembly Bill 2576 makes targeted, practical improvements to SB 79 to ensure that California can advance transit-oriented housing while protecting the historic places and communities that define our cities and neighborhoods. As SB 79 is implemented, it is important that historic districts and resources listed at the local, state, and national levels are clearly recognized and fully protected. This clean-up legislation preserves the intent of expanding housing near transit while promoting thoughtful implementation that respects community history, reduces unintended consequences, and supports equitable outcomes statewide."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The SB 79 sponsors are opposed to the bill because of the "substantial amendments taken on May 28, 2026, that reneged on the terms of our neutrality."

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-0, 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, 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, Garcia

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/3/26 17:24:38

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

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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2577
Author: Connolly (D)
Amended: 6/8/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

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 ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986: settlements: attorney's fees

SOURCE: Attorney General, Rob Bonta

DIGEST: This bill requires a court to find that a private party settlement under Proposition 65 is in the public interest and provides a public benefit before approving the settlement. The bill also requires the court to find that the award of attorney's fees is appropriate under California law, in addition to the existing requirement that the fees are reasonable.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

1) Prohibits a person in the course of doing business from knowingly discharging or releasing a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity into water or onto or into land where such chemical passes or probably

will pass into any source of drinking water, except as specified. (Health & Safety (Saf.) Code § 25249.5.[1])

2) Prohibits a person from knowingly and intentionally, in the course of doing business, exposing any individual to a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual. (§ 25249.6.)

3) Provides that any person who violates the provisions of 1) or 2), above, is liable for a civil penalty not to exceed $2,500 per day for each violation in addition to any other penalty established by law. The civil penalty may be assessed and recovered in a civil action brought in any court of competent jurisdiction. (§ 25249.7(b)(1).)

4) Authorizes the Attorney General (AG), a district attorney, a city attorney of a city having a population in excess of 750,000, or, with the consent of the district attorney, a city prosecutor in a city or city and county having a full-time city prosecutor, or a private individual representing the public interest to bring an action to seek civil penalties. (§ 25249.7(c).)

5) Authorizes a private individual to bring a private action so long as neither the AG, a district attorney, a city attorney, nor a prosecutor has commenced and is diligently prosecuting an action against the violation. (§ 25249.7(d).)

6) Requires a private individual bringing an action in the public interest pursuant to 6) to notify the AG that the action has been filed. (§ 25249.7(e)(2).)

7) Requires that in assessing the amount of a civil penalty under 3), the court is to consider all of the following:

   a) The nature and extent of the violation;

   b) The number of, and severity of, the violations;

   c) The economic effect of the penalty on the violator;

   d) Whether the violator took good faith measures to comply with the law at the time the measures were taken;

[1] All further references are to the Health and Safety Code unless specified otherwise.

e) The willfulness of the violator's misconduct;

f) The deterrent effect that the imposition of the penalty would have on both the violator and the regulated community as a whole; and

g) Any other factor that justice may require. (§ 25249.7(b)(2).)

8) Requires the plaintiff, if there is a settlement of an action brought by a person in the public interest under 5), to submit the settlement, other than a voluntary dismissal in which no consideration is received from the defendant, to the court for approval upon noticed motion, and the court may approve the settlement only if the court makes all of the following findings:

a) the warning that is required by the settlement complies with Proposition 65;

b) the award of attorney's fees is reasonable under California law; and

c) the penalties reflect the criteria enumerated in 7). (§ 25249.7(f)(4).)

9) Authorizes, pursuant to the California Constitution, that the Legislature may amend or repeal an initiative statute by another statute that becomes effective only when approved by the electors, unless the initiative statute permits amendment or repeal without their approval. (Cal. Const., art. II, Sec. 10.) Proposition 65 from the November 4, 1986, general election provides that it may be amended by statute to further its purposes if passed in each house by a two-thirds vote.

This bill:

1) Requires the court, in addition to the findings under 8), above, to find that the settlement is in the public interest and provides a public benefit.

a) A settlement is presumed to be in the public interest and provide a public benefit if it does either of the following:

i) reduces the exposure to the listed chemical from the level that existed before the settlement; or

ii) provide the warning required pursuant to Section 25249.6, if that warning was not provided previously.

1) Requires the court, in addition to finding that the award of attorney's fee is reasonable under 8), above, to find that the award is appropriate under California law.

2) Provides that if a settlement is submitted to the court and the AG objects to the award of attorney's fees but the court has found all other findings have been met, the court is to approve the settlement except for the award of attorney's fees.

   a) The court is to set a schedule by which the plaintiff may submit additional briefing and evidence supporting the proposed fee award and the defendant, the AG, or both, may file responses or objections to the plaintiff's submission.

   b) After review of the submissions, the court may order an award of attorney's fees which shall not under any circumstances exceed the award of attorney's fees that was set forth in the settlement.

Comments

Proposition 65, a state initiative measure, was approved on November 4, 1986, and became effective on January 1, 1987. It added the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986 ("the Act"), Health and Safety Code Section 25249.5 et seq., to state law. The Act places two main requirements on businesses. The first is a prohibition on knowingly discharging or releasing a chemical known to the state to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity (hereinafter "chemical") into water or onto land where the chemical has a certain likelihood of passing into a source of drinking water. The second is the more well-known warning requirement. It prohibits any person, in the course of doing business, to knowingly and intentionally expose any individual to a chemical without first giving clear and reasonable warning to such individual. Both have exemptions enumerated in the Act and neither applies to persons employing fewer than 10 employees in the person's business or to most governmental entities. The Act is administered by the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA).

The Act provides a cause of action to enforce its provisions and to seek certain specified remedies, including injunctive relief and civil penalties. The AG, a district attorney, a city attorney of a city having a population in excess of 750,000, or, with the consent of the district attorney, a city prosecutor in a city or city and

county having a full-time city prosecutor, can bring an action against a person who has violated or threatens to violate the Act. In addition, a person can also bring an action in the public interest pursuant to the Act if the AG or a local prosecutor has not already commenced and is diligently litigating claims based on the alleged violation.

Under existing law, the AG reviews all settlements in private party actions under the Act to ensure they meet the statutory criteria for judicial approval and can file objections to a settlement when it believes the criteria has not been met. The criteria is that: (1) the warning that is required by the settlement complies with Proposition 65; (2) the award of attorney's fees is reasonable under California law; and (3) the penalties are reasonable under the statutory criteria.

The AG points to two issues this bill is trying to address. First, under existing law if the AG objects to an unreasonable attorney's fee award under a settlement and the objection is approved by the court, the settlement cannot be approved during the time the parties renegotiate the fee award. Delay of the implementation of the settlement leads to continued harms to the public health and environment. This bill would allow the settlement to be approved separate of the attorney's fees if there is an objection to the fee award and would require a hearing on the fee award to be conducted separately from the rest of the settlement.

The AG also points to several settlements in which it intervened due to the settlements inadequately providing proper warning to consumers or leading to a decrease of exposure to the offending chemical. In *Blue Water Cosaint, LLC v. Bumble Bee Foods, LLC* (2024, San Diego County Superior Court No. 24CU003388C), the AG argues the settlement actually allowed exposure to the chemical to significantly increase without requiring a warning to be provided to consumers. This bill addresses this issue by requiring the court to find that a settlement is in the public interest and provides a public benefit. Under the bill, a settlement is presumed to be in the public interest and provide a public benefit if it either: (1) reduces the exposure to the listed chemical from the level that existed before the settlement; or (2) requires the Proposition 65 warning be made to consumers, if that warning was not provided previously.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Rob Bonta, Attorney General (source)

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: The author writes:

AB 2577 strengthens judicial oversight and restores accountability to Proposition 65 enforcement by ensuring settlements deliver meaningful public health benefits. This bill gives courts flexibility in awarding attorneys' fees and ensures manufacturers provide clear warning labels. I am proud to author AB 2577, which promotes public trust in Proposition 65 and ensures better protections for our safety and public health.

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

[…] Voters approved Proposition 65, the Safe Drinking Water and Toxic Enforcement Act of 1986, to allow Californians to make informed decisions about their exposure to toxic chemicals. It has been effective in encouraging companies to reduce toxins in their products and businesses. Proposition 65 requires businesses to provide warnings to Californians about significant exposures to chemicals that can cause cancer, reproductive harm, or both. Proposition 65 enforcement has led to product reformulations that have significantly reduced exposures to lead and other toxic chemicals in foods, beverages, infant formula, children's bounce houses, ceramic tableware, children's jewelry, artificial turf, vitamin supplements, and other products.

Proposition 65 can be enforced by the Attorney General, district attorneys, and some city attorneys, as well as private enforcers bringing actions in the public interest. Private enforcers that filed actions in court are required to submit their settlements to the court for judicial approval, and courts are required to make specified findings in order to approve a settlement. Unfortunately, the court's options are limited to either approving or rejecting the settlement as a whole, which sends parties back into costly and time-consuming further negotiations or litigation. AB 2577 would amend the required statutory findings for court approval of private party settlements to give courts more oversight and flexibility.

The Attorney General is proud to sponsor AB 2577 to empower courts with stronger judicial oversight over private Proposition 65 settlements in order to promote public trust in Proposition 65 and protect the environment and public health.

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: Amanda Mattson / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:12:51

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2594
Author: Lowenthal (D)
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

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

SUBJECT: Voluntary employees' beneficiary association pilot program

SOURCE: America's Physician Groups
California Schools VEBA

DIGEST: This bill extends three years (to December 31, 2030) an authorization of a southern California pilot program that allows health care providers to undertake risk-bearing arrangements with a voluntary employees' beneficiary association.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act (Knox-Keene Act). [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1340, et seq.]

2) Permits the DMHC director to exempt from the Knox-Keene Act any class of persons or plan contracts if they find the action to be in the public interest and not detrimental to the protection of subscribers, enrollees, or persons regulated under the Knox-Keene Act, and that the regulation of the persons or plan contracts is not essential to the purposes of the Knox-Keene Act. [HSC §1343]

3) Makes it unlawful for any person to engage as a health plan in California or receive advance or periodic consideration in connection with a plan from or on behalf of persons in California unless such person has first secured from the director a license as plan or is exempted, as specified. Establishes requirements for licensure. [HSC §1349 and §1351]

4) Exempts, from the Knox-Keene Act, a health plan, including a self-insured reimbursement plan that pays for or reimburses any part of the cost of health care services, operated by any city, county, city and county, public entity, political subdivision, or public joint labor management trust that satisfies specified criteria including that providers are reimbursed solely on a fee-for-service basis, so that providers are not at risk in contracting arrangements. [HSC §1349.2]

5) Requires every contract between a health plan and a risk-bearing organization (RBO) to include specified provisions related to the RBO's administrative and financial capacity including reporting requirements, auditing, and corrective actions. [HSC §1375.4]

6) Authorizes, until January 1, 2030, the DMHC director to authorize one pilot program in southern California whereby approved providers may undertake risk-bearing arrangements with a voluntary employees' beneficiary association (VEBA) with enrollment of greater than 100,000 lives if specified criteria are met, including, in part:

    a) The VEBA has entered into a contract with one or more health care providers under which each provider agrees to accept risk-based or global risk payment from the VEBA or trust fund;
    b) Each risk-bearing provider is registered pursuant to existing law and applicable DMHC regulations, if the provider accepts professional capitation and is delegated the responsibility for processing and payment of claims;
    c) Each global risk-bearing provider holds, or will obtain in conjunction with the pilot program application, a limited or restricted license;
    d) Each risk-bearing provider continues to comply with applicable financial solvency standards and audit requirements, including financial reporting on a quarterly basis, during the pilot;
    e) The VEBA is responsible for providing basic health care services, prescription drug benefits, continuity of care, network adequacy and timely access to care, as well as other requirements;

   f) The VEBA submits an application for DMHC for the pilot program, including the contract of each health care provider that has entered into a contract under the pilot; and,
   g) The VEBA and each participating health care provider agree to collect and report to DMHC, in each year of the pilot, in a manner and frequency determined by DMHC, information regarding the comparative cost savings when compared to fee-for-service payment, performance measurements for clinical patient outcomes, and enrollee satisfaction. Authorizes DMHC to require additional information. [HSC §1343.3]

7) Requires the participating VEBA to appoint an ombudsperson, and if an enrollee is not satisfied with a result refer the enrollee to the DMHC grievance and appeal process, which is binding on the VEBA. [HSC §1343.3]

8) Requires the global and risk-bearing providers participating in the pilot to be approved by DMHC. Requires DMHC to retain the right to disapprove any pilot program at any time, as specified. [HSC §1343.3]

9) Requires DMHC, after the termination of the pilot program and before January 1, 2029, to submit a report to the Legislature regarding the costs and clinical patient outcomes of the pilot programs compared to fee-for-service payment models, including data on enrollee satisfaction, consumer and provider grievances, appeals, and independent medical reviews. [HSC §1343.3]

This bill:

1) Extends the pilot date from December 31, 2027, to December 31, 2030.

2) Replaces the final DMHC report with an interim report on costs and clinical outcomes through December 31, 2027, that includes policy recommendations regarding the future authority to continue the pilot, and maintains the report deadline date of January 1, 2029.

3) Authorizes DMHC to terminate the pilot for any reasons consistent with the Knox-Keene Act, including, but not limited to, failure to demonstrate to DMHC's satisfaction adequate enrollee protection and compliance with all criteria and requirements of the pilot. Requires DMHC to terminate the pilot prior to the end date based on any significant negative findings in any report, including if DMHC identifies any serious deficiencies that could cause enrollee harm.

4) Sunsets the authority for the pilot on January 1, 2031.

Comments

According to the author:

> Health care costs keep going up, and for many California families who get their coverage through their employer, that means higher premiums and fewer options. This bill extends a pilot program that tests an alternative way to pay doctors and health care providers, one that rewards better health outcomes instead of simply paying for every test and procedure. Early results show this approach is working, and thousands of Californians are already benefiting from it. This bill makes sure the program can keep running through 2030 so we can fully measure what's working and use that information to improve health care for everyone. We owe it to California families to follow through on solutions that are making a difference.

Background

VEBAs. DMHC describes VEBA as a tax-advantaged vehicle for funding certain employee benefits, including health care coverage. Employees can participate in the VEBA based on their common employment-related bond, such as a common employer, coverage under one or more collective bargaining agreements, or membership in a labor union. A VEBA may be, but is not always, associated with an employee welfare benefit plan under the federal Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). California Schools VEBA (CalVEBA), as described on their website, is a joint labor-management trust established by the San Diego County Office of Education, employee associations, and district management that innovates health care purchasing, manages rising costs, and improves care access for members and their families. Their website says it is the fourth largest health care purchaser in California and provides benefits for nearly 160,000 members and partners with more than 70 public sector employers. As a government plan, CalVEBA is not subject to ERISA.

Existing AB 1124 pilot. AB 1124 (Maienschein, Chapter 266, Statutes of 2020) created the pilot authority that is proposed to be extended again under this bill. The pilot authorized by AB 1124 allows a provider to accept risk or global risk payments from a specified health care purchaser that is not a licensed health plan. Initially, there were two authorized pilots to allow entities that are exempt from the Knox-Keene Act because they reimburse providers on a fee-for-service basis, to pay providers on a capitated basis. Health plans are regulated by DMHC and must comply with the Knox-Keene Act, which includes requirements to ensure delegated contractors (including risk-bearing providers who are registered as Risk Bearing Organizations [RBOs]) also follow Knox-Keene Act requirements for

timely payments and consumer protections. RBOs are not regulated by DMHC but are monitored for financial solvency based on their role in accepting global risk from health plans. DMHC indicates that on December 10, 2021, Cal-VEBA in San Diego (a cosponsor of this bill) was authorized to participate in the AB 1124 pilot program effective January 1, 2022, subject to two conditions: a) submission of executed provider contracts to demonstrate compliance with the requirements that risk-bearing providers have met specified requirements; and, b) collecting and reporting of information required in the law. According to DMHC, executed contracts were submitted on April 1, 2022. In August 2022, Cal-VEBA informed the DMHC of its plan to "go-live" January 1, 2024. AB 2063 (Maienschein, Chapter 818, Statutes of 2024) extended the pilot sunset date to January 1, 2030 and the report deadline from before January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2029. There are approximately 5,500 members in the pilot. CalVEBA indicates that they are the state's first direct contracting pilot program, which they call VEBA Direct. VEBA Direct is a self-funded program based on direct contracts between CalVEBA and members of America's Physician Groups (APG), including Sharp Rees-Stealy, Sharp Community Medical Group, Rady Children's Hospital, and UC San Diego Health. CalVEBA says 23 school districts are currently participating. CalVEBA is acting as a health plan but is not subject to the same requirements as health plans licensed by DMHC. The pilot allows CalVEBA to contract with RBOs as would a health plan.

Initial data from CalVEBA. According to CalVEBA, so far some clinical quality metrics are higher under the pilot in comparison to the 2024 PPO statewide average for example, colorectal screening 62.2% vs. 48.3%, and 60.3% for the 2024 HMO statewide average. For cervical cancer screening the 2024 pilot results were 86.2% compared to 67.1% (statewide PPO average) and 76.2% (statewide HMO average). There have been 204 provider dispute resolutions (described as standard provider payment and claims-related disputes, resolved in accordance with regulatory timelines), 111 first level appeals (mostly administrative) with over half resolved in the member's favor following review of additional information, and seven second level appeals to VEBA Ombudsperson of which six where overturned in the member's favor and one initially denied and subsequently approved through DMHC's Independent Medical Review. CalVEBA indicates appeals reflect isolated administrative issues (billing, authorization, and network alignment) and not systemic access concerns.

RBOs. An RBO is a physician-owned provider group that, in its contracts with health plans, pays claims and assumes financial risk for the cost of all health care services (inpatient and outpatient) for each enrolled person by accepting a fixed monthly payment (also referred to as "capitation"). RBOs are responsible for the

processing and payment of claims made by providers for services rendered by those providers on behalf of health plans when those services are covered under the capitation or fixed periodic payment made by the plan to the RBO. RBOs are subject to financial solvency requirements and regular financial reporting but are not licensed by DMHC. RBOs are not subject to many requirements of the Knox-Keene Act, including network adequacy or mandated benefits, except to the extent they are delegated those requirements by a health plan that is subject to those requirements. As part of DMHC's financial oversight responsibilities, DMHC actively monitors RBOs to make sure they can meet their financial obligations to consumers and purchasers. According to DMHC's latest Annual Report, at the end of 2024 there were 206 registered RBOs. DMHC conducted 25 claims and provider dispute examinations of RBOs. As a result of the examinations, 19 RBOs were required to file corrective action plans to address claims processing deficiencies. Collectively, the RBOs remediated claims in the amount of $1,406,955, including additional payments, interest and penalties.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 2063 (Maienschein, Chapter 818, Statutes of 2024) extends the sunset for one southern California pilot program authorized by DMHC to operate from December 31, 2025 to December 31, 2027, and deletes authority for a second pilot. AB 2063 extends the deadline for DMHC to report the pilot program findings to the Legislature from January 1, 2027 to January 1, 2029, and sunsets the pilot authority on January 1, 2030.

AB 1124 (Maienschein, Chapter 266, Statutes of 2020) authorizes two pilot programs that allow health care providers to undertake risk-bearing arrangements with a VEBA with enrollment of greater than 100,000 lives, or a trust fund that is a welfare plan and a multiemployer plan with enrollment greater than 25,000 lives.

AB 1249 Maienschein of 2019 would have allowed DMHC to authorize similar pilots as authorized under AB 1124. *AB 1249 was vetoed by Governor Newsom, who stated:*

This bill would authorize a pilot program that would exempt risk-bearing provider groups taking on global risk from full licensure under the Knox-Keene Act. This proposed pilot project would undermine the fundamental purpose of the Knox-Keene Act by permitting such entities to operate in the State without providing the strong consumer protections guaranteed under the Act.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

America's Physician Groups (co-source)
California Schools VEBA (co-source)
California Federation of Labor Unions
California School Employees Association
California Teachers Association
Sharp Community Medical Group
Sharp Rees-Stealy Medical Group

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

America's Physician Groups (APG), a cosponsor, writes in the first year the pilot generated more than $2.2 million in savings for reinvestment into member benefits, while reducing premiums and overall health care expenditures compared to fee-for-service models. APG indicates these results are measured against VEBA's prior PPO self-funded fee-for-service coverage plan. APG says the pilot enabled VEBA to offer a health maintenance organization (HMO) coverage plan at 40% lower premiums, 30% lower healthcare costs, and a reduction in out-of-pocket maximums from $5,000 to $1,500. APG indicates a key reason for extending the pilot is to ensure policymakers receive a complete and accurate evaluation of its performance. According to CalVEBA, prior to the enactment of this pilot, self-funded employers interested in direct contracting had limited options beyond traditional models that incentivize higher utilization and contribute to increased overall health care spending without improvements in patient outcomes, and to date, the pilot has shown positive outcomes and promising financial stability, achieving $3.8 million in better-than-expected performance.

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: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:12:52

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 Deigo 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.

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[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 ******

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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2596
Author: Gipson (D), et al.
Amended: 6/18/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
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: Mobilehome parks: federally approved housing programs: compliance with state and local laws

SOURCE: California Association of Code Enforcement Officers
Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League

DIGEST: This bill requires a mobilehome park operator or owner, if they fail to comply with federal law or other federal regulations imposed in connection with a federally approved housing program, to ensure ongoing compliance with applicable state laws, including, but not limited to, the Mobilehome Residency Law, the Unruh Civil Rights Act, and local ordinances.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law establishes the Fair Housing Act to prohibit discriminatory practices in housing-related transactions on the basis of specified protected characteristics, including familial status, except for housing for older persons, as defined. (42 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 3601 et seq.)

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) Requires mobile home park management, when the management proposes an amendment to the park's rules and regulations, to meet and consult with the homeowners in the park, their representatives, or both, after written notice has been given to all the homeowners in the park at least 10 days before the meeting, except as specified. (Civ. Code § 798.25(a).)

3) Authorizes mobile home park management, following the meet and consult process in 2) above, to implement the noticed amendment without the homeowner's consent upon written notice of not less than six months, with exceptions related to recreational facilities and changes to the MRL, as specified. (Civ. Code § 798.25(b).)

4) Authorizes park management to require a prospective purchaser to comply with any rule or regulation limiting residency based on age requirements for housing for older persons, provided that the rule or regulation complies with the federal Fair Housing Act and implementing regulations. (Civ. Code § 798.76.)

5) Establishes the Unruh Civil Rights Act, to provide that all persons in the state are free and equal and are entitled to full and equal accommodations, advantages, facilities, privileges, or services in all business establishments of every kind. Prohibits arbitrary discrimination by such establishments on the basis of sex, race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sexual orientation, citizenship, primary language, or immigration status. (Civ. Code §§ 51 et seq.)

6) Prohibits a business establishment from discriminating in the sale or rental of housing based upon age, with exceptions for accommodations designed to meet the physical and social needs of senior citizens, as specified. (Civ. Code § 51.2 (a).)

7) Requires covenants, conditions, and restrictions and other documents regarding housing to set forth any limitations on occupancy, residency, or use on the basis of age, and requires that any such limitation not be more exclusive than to require one person in residence in each dwelling are required to be a senior citizen, and permits other residents within the unit to be required to be a qualified permanent resident, permitted health care resident, or other person, as specified. (Civ. Code § 51.3.)

This bill:

1) Specifies that, in the event that a mobilehome park operator, owner, or management fails to, or elects not to, comply with federal law or other federal requirements imposed in connection with a federally approved housing program, including the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995, the mobilehome park operator or owner must ensure ongoing compliance with the Mobilehome Residency Law, the Unruh Civil Rights Act's provisions related to senior housing, and applicable state and local laws and ordinances, including those regulating or requiring operation as a senior mobilehome park or defining a mobilehome park or senior mobilehome park, as specified.

2) Specifies that, in the event that a mobilehome park operator, owner, or management fails or elects not to conduct the age verification requirement under the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995, a local agency may conduct the age verification by any means authorized by law, and shall have the right to access and inspect records of the mobilehome park operator, owner, and management to conduct verification.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/23/26)

California Association of Code Enforcement Officers (co-source)
Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League, Inc. (co-source)
California Senior Legislature
City of Cotati
City of Petaluma
City of San Marcos
City of Thousand Oaks
Wine Country Young Democrats

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/23/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT:

In support, the California Association of Code Enforcement Officers states:

> Across California, cities and counties have adopted zoning protections and rent stabilization measures to preserve certain mobilehome parks as

affordable housing for seniors. These policies are critical for older Californians living on fixed incomes and have long been upheld and enforced through established local compliance mechanisms.

However, recent business practices by certain mobilehome park operators have exposed a loophole in the interaction between federal age-verification requirements under the Housing for Older Persons Act (HOPA) and California's senior-housing zoning protections. Some park operators now argue that, if they fail to meet federal age-verification requirements, they are no longer bound by state and local senior-only zoning requirements. This interpretation turns housing policy on its head – effectively allowing noncompliance with one legal obligation to excuse compliance with another.

While most operators comply in good faith, at least one large operator managing nearly 100 properties in California has attempted to use this technical defense to strip senior designation from parks. Their financial incentive is clear: converting senior parks to all-age occupancy allows for significantly higher rents, often at the expense of long-term senior residents living on fixed incomes. For many seniors, displacement from a mobilehome park is not merely disruptive – it can mean homelessness. Residents often own their own homes but cannot afford relocation costs or market-rate housing alternatives. […]

AB 2596 provides the clear statutory direction necessary to ensure California's senior housing protections function as intended.

In support, the Golden State Manufactured-home Owners League states:

AB 2596 clarifies that mobilehome park owners cannot use their failure to comply with any federal-approved housing program requirements, including the Housing for Older Persons Act of 1995 (HOPA) – a federal law that amends the Fair Housing Act to allow 55+ communities - to then ignore or exempt themselves from state and local laws passed in California.

By explicitly stating that park owners must comply with the Mobilehome Residency Law (MRL), the Unruh Civil Rights Act, and other applicable state laws and local ordinances, AB 2596 ensures mobilehome residents are protected.

This is not a new right, but a reaffirmation of our existing rights, and a necessary clarification to prevent any misinterpretation or misapplication of law or circumstance where park owners, who participate in federally-approved housing programs, can pick and choose when California laws apply to them.

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
7/30/26 14:49:27

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2601
Author: Lee (D)
Amended: 4/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE HOUSING COMMITTEE: 8-1, 6/24/26
AYES: Arreguín, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Padilla
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Ochoa Bogh

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 5-1, 7/1/26
AYES: Durazo, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird
NOES: Seyarto
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-14, 5/4/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Planning and zoning: housing development: streamlined approval and subdivisions

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes several changes to the permitting and subdivision processes for small-scale housing developments.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law, pursuant to SB 9 (Atkins, Chapter162, Statutes of 2021*)*:

1) Requires a city or county to ministerially approve either or both of the following, as specified:

   a) A housing development of no more than two units (duplex) in a single-family zone; or,

b) The subdivision of a parcel zoned for residential use, into two approximately equal parcels (urban-lot split), as specified.

2) Authorizes a city or county to impose objective zoning, subdivision, and design review standards that do not conflict with state standards, as specified.

Existing law, pursuant to the Starter Home Revitalization Act (SHRA):

3) Requires a local government to ministerially approve, without discretionary review or a hearing, a parcel map or a tentative and final map for a housing development project that meets, among others, the following requirements:

   a) The proposed subdivision will result in 10 or fewer parcels and the housing development project on the lot proposed to be subdivided will contain 10 or fewer units.
   b) The proposed development is located on a lot that meets all of the following sets of requirements:

      i) The lot is zoned for multifamily residential development or the lot is vacant, as defined, and zoned for single-family residential development.
      ii) The lot is no larger than five acres and substantially surrounded by qualified urban uses, as defined.

   c) The parcels created will be no smaller than the following unless the local government allows a smaller minimum parcel size:
      i) 600 square feet for parcels created by subdividing multifamily parcels.
      ii) 1,200 feet for parcels created by subdividing vacant single-family parcels.
   d) The housing units on the lot proposed to be subdivided are one of the following:

      i) Constructed on fee simple ownership lots.
      ii) Part of a common interest development.
      iii) Part of a housing cooperative, as specified.
      iv) Owned by a community land trust.

   e) The average total area of floorspace of the proposed units does not exceed 1,750 net habitable square feet.

4) Requires a local agency to ministerially consider an application for a project that meets the specified requirements of the Starter Home Revitalization Act.

Existing law, pursuant to the Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act:

5) Establishes rules and regulations governing the operation of Common Interest Developments (CIDs) and the respective rights and duties of a homeowners association (HOA) and its members. Requires the governing documents of a CID, and any amendments to the governing documents, to be adopted through HOA elections in accordance with specified procedures.

This bill:

1) Establishes concurrent processing of ministerial housing development applications and the appliable subdivision map applications for housing developments proposed under SB 9 (Atkins), as well housing developments proposed under the Starter Home Revitalization Act (SHRA).

   a) Allows, notwithstanding 2), a local agency to condition its issuance of building permits, grading permits, or certificates of occupancy for a proposed housing development upon the applicant first obtaining approval and recording a subdivision map for the lot split.

   b) Allows a local agency to deem a building permit or other postentitlement permit for a housing development project incomplete and require revisions in response to any comments from the local agency or other reviewing agencies regarding the subdivision map's compliance with applicable state or local development and building standards.

2) Authorizes the primary dwellings associated with an SB 9 lot split to be developed or converted as condominiums, including allowing condominium conversion of an existing unit, pursuant to applicable state and local condominium law, including the Davis-Stirling Act.

3) Defines "parcel map" for the purposes of SB 9 (Atkins) to mean a parcel map prepared in accordance with the Subdivision Map Act (SMA) and may include a condominium plan if proposed by the subdivider and ultimately approved in accordance with the Davis-Sterling Act, as specified. If the urban lot split includes an existing residential unit at the time of subdivision approval, the subdivider shall complete a condominium conversion consistent with existing state and local law to convey the unit separately.

Background

SB 9 (Atkins, 2021). In 2021, the Governor signed SB 9 (Atkins, Chapter 162, Statutes of 2021), which allowed up to four homes on lots where currently only

one exists. It did so by allowing existing single-family homes to be converted into duplexes; it also allowed single-family parcels to be subdivided into two lots, while allowing up to two units to be constructed on each newly formed lot. According to the Terner Center, that bill had the potential to allow for the development of nearly 6 million new housing units.

The Terner Center evaluated the use of SB 9 through the end of 2022 (one year from its enacted date of January 1, 2022). Researchers collected data from 13 jurisdictions and found that SB 9 activity was relatively limited. For example, Los Angeles had the most activity, with 211 applications for new units under SB 9 in 2022. The state's other large cities all reported few applications for lot splits or new units. For example, the City of San Diego reported receiving just seven applications for new SB 9 units in 2022[1].

Despite these initial reports, it is too early to draw any conclusions about SB 9's overall impact, as homeowners and local governments are still learning about the provisions in the bill. Similarly, it took a several years for accessory dwelling unit application and construction to increase after reforms took effect on January 1, 2017.

Ministerial subdivisions for smaller projects. In 2023, the Governor signed SB 684 (Caballero, Chapter 783, Statutes of 2023), which established the SHRA and streamlined small lot subdivisions to help promote their development. The statutory provisions created by that bill require local governments to ministerially approve a parcel map or tentative and final map with 10 or fewer units on sites zoned multifamily that are no larger than five acres and substantially surrounded by qualified urban uses. Projects must meet minimum density requirements and comply with existing setback and height requirements. Units can be no greater than 1,750 net habitable square feet. The project must also comply with any local inclusionary requirements. If the project receives a tentative or parcel map pursuant to this bill, the local agency must issue the building permit based on the approved map under specified circumstances. Two years ago, SB 1123 (Caballero, Chapter 294, Statutes of 2024) revised the statute to expand its scope, most notably extending the streamlining provisions to vacant lots zoned for single-family developments that meet specified conditions.

[1]Muhammad Alameldin and David Garcia, "State Law, Local Interpretation: How Cities Are Implementing Senate Bill 9," *Terner Center for Housing Innovation*, June 8, 2022, accessed April 9, 2025, **https://ternercenter.berkeley.edu/research-and-policy/state-law-local-interpretation-senate-bill-9/**.

Comments

1) *Author's Statement.* "This bill proposes to allow developments to be eligible for concurrent review of parcel map splits associated with specified development types, including ADU, condos, and SB 9 splits. By allowing concurrent review of different aspects of a single project, the development may be able to be approved faster, without imposing new deadlines on approving agencies, and provide greater certainty for project financing."

2) *SB 9.* Under SB 9, the total number of units that can be built on a formerly single-family zoned lot is capped at four. Under existing law, accessory dwelling units (ADUs) may be built in combination with SB 9 so long as the total number of units on a lot does not exceed four. Property owners may use both SB 9 and ADUs to achieve the maximum allowed density in a configuration that best suits their site and circumstances, for example, two primary units under SB 9 and one ADU per unit. Furthermore, SB 9 explicitly prohibits the owner of the parcel being subdivided from also subdividing the adjacent parcels under SB 9 in order to limit its applicability to a two-lot, four-unit cap.

   This bill requires local agencies to allow concurrent processing of applications for urban lot splits and associated SB 9 duplexes. While this bill allows these approvals to proceed in parallel, it preserves existing sequencing requirements by authorizing local agencies to condition the issuance of building permits, grading permits, or certificates of occupancy on the prior approval and recordation of the parcel map for the urban lot split. This bill also makes targeted changes to facilitate the delivery and sale of small-scale ownership housing. It authorizes the primary dwellings associated with an SB 9 urban lot split to be developed or converted as condominiums, including allowing the conversion of existing units, subject to applicable state and local condominium laws.

3) *SB 684/ SB 1123.* SB 684/1123 established a streamlined, ministerial pathway for small-scale housing development on subdivided lots. Specifically, these laws require local agencies to ministerially approve qualifying subdivisions of up to 10 parcels and associated housing development projects of up to 10 units on lots zoned for multifamily or on lots that are vacant and zoned for single-family residential developments. SB 684/1123 projects are required to meet specified objective standards related to site eligibility, density, affordability (if it is located on a site identified for lower-income housing in the most recent housing element), and environmental constraints. The statutes limit local

discretion to objective zoning, subdivision, and design standards, prohibit standards that would physically preclude development at required densities, and impose firm timelines for approval. Together, these provisions are intended to facilitate "missing middle" housing by enabling smaller, by-right projects in urbanized areas.

This bill requires local agencies to allow concurrent processing of subdivision maps and ministerial housing development and building permit applications for projects authorized under SB 684/1123. While this bill allows these approvals to proceed in parallel, it preserves existing sequencing requirements by authorizing local agencies to condition the issuance of building permits, grading permits, or certificates of occupancy on the prior approval and recordation of the applicable parcel map or final map.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/16/2026)

Abundant Housing Los Angeles
Bay Area Council
California Yimby
Circulate Planning & Policy
Southern California Obtainable Housing
Sv@home Action Fund

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/16/2026)

None received.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 46-14, 5/4/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Berman, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Carrillo, Connolly, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patterson, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schultz, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NOES: Boerner, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Gallagher, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Ramos, Sanchez, Tangipa, Valencia

NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Caloza, Castillo, Chen, Ellis, Gipson, Hoover, Irwin, Johnson, Lackey, Patel, Petrie-Norris, Ransom, Schiavo, Sharp-Collins, Ta, Wallis, Zbur

Prepared by: Hank Brady / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
8/3/26 17:24:39

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2613
Author: Sharp-Collins (D), et al.
Amended: 6/29/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE HEALTH COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Weber Pierson, Valladares, Caballero, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grove, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 74-0, 5/21/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Health care service plans: provider contract termination: notice

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires a health plan in a contract renewal dispute with a provider group or hospital to notify affected enrollees by text or email, if the enrollee has opted into electronic delivery and has included the necessary contact information, in addition to existing requirements to provide a notice by U.S. mail, 60 days before the termination date; and 2) requires, if the contract dispute is resolved, the affected enrollees to be notified by text or email and U.S. mail within 60 days of reaching agreement that the enrollee has an option to return to their provider, or the plan will reassign the enrollee to another provider.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the Department of Managed Health Care (DMHC) to regulate health plans under the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 (Knox-Keene Act). [Health and Safety Code (HSC) §1340, et seq.]

2) Requires a health plan, at least 75 days before the termination date of its contract with a provider group or a hospital, to submit an enrollee block transfer filing to DMHC that includes the written notice the plan proposes to send to affected enrollees. Prohibits the plan from sending this notice to enrollees until DMHC has reviewed and approved its content. Requires, if DMHC does not respond within seven days of the date of its receipt of the filing, the notice to be deemed approved. Authorizes, if an individual provider terminates the provider's contract or employment with a provider group that contracts with a health plan, the plan to require that the provider group to send the notice. [HSC §1373.65]

3) Requires a health plan, at least 60 days before the termination date of a contract between a health plan and a provider group or a hospital, to send a written block transfer notice by U.S. mail to enrollees who are assigned to the terminated provider group or hospital. [HSC §1373.65]

4) Requires a health plan that is unable to comply with the 60 days prior to termination timeframe because of exigent circumstances to apply to DMHC for a waiver. Makes the plan excused from complying with this requirement only if its waiver application is granted or DMHC does not respond within seven days of the date of its receipt of the waiver application. Requires the plan, if the terminated provider is a hospital and the plan assigns enrollees to a provider group with exclusive admitting privileges to the hospital, to send the written notice to each enrollee who is a member of the provider group and who resides within a 15-mile radius of the terminated hospital. Requires the plan, if it operates as a preferred provider organization or assigns members to a provider group with admitting privileges to hospitals in the same geographic area as the terminated hospital, the plan to send the written notice to all enrollees who reside within a 15-mile radius of the terminated hospital. [HSC §1373.65]

5) Requires a health plan, if after sending the notice required in 2) above it reaches an agreement with a terminated provider to renew or enter into a new contract or does not terminate the contract, to offer each enrollee the option to return to that provider, and if the enrollee does not exercise this option, requires the plan to reassign the enrollee to another provider. [HSC §1373.65]

6) Requires a health plan and a provider to include in all written, printed, or electronic communications sent to an enrollee concerning a contract termination or block transfer, the following statement in not less than 8-point type: "If you have been receiving care from a health care provider, you may have a right to keep your provider for a designated time period. Please contact your health

plan's customer service department, and if you have further questions, you are encouraged to contact DMHC, which protects consumers, by telephone at its toll-free number, 1-888-466-2219, or at a TDD number for the hearing and speech impaired at 1-877-688-9891, or online at www.dmhc.ca.gov." [HSC §1373.65]

This bill:

1) Requires the health plan, in addition to sending a written notice by U.S. mail regarding the termination of a contract, to send the written notice to the enrollee electronically at least 60 days before the termination date of the contract via either of the following methods if the enrollee has opted into electronic delivery as their communication preference and has included the contact information described below:
   a) Text message to the preferred or last known cell phone number of the enrollee; or,
   b) Email to the preferred or last known email address of the enrollee.

2) Requires when a plan offers affected enrollees the option to return to their provider, if the plan and provider reach an agreement, enter into a new contract, or do not terminate the existing contract, to notify the enrollees in accordance with the following:
   a) Within 60 days of reaching the agreement requires the plan to send written notice by U.S. mail to affected enrollees, and to send written notice to the enrollee electronically within 60 days of reaching the agreement via either of the following methods if the enrollee has opted into electronic delivery as their communication preference and has included the contact information described below:
      i) Text message to the preferred or last known cell phone number of the enrollee; or,
      ii) Email to the preferred or last known email address of the enrollee.

Comments

According to the author:

> Across California, patients are increasingly caught in the middle of disputes and network changes driven by large health systems and insurance companies. When contracts break down or networks shift, patients are often reassigned to new providers with little notice. At the same time, our notification laws remain stuck in the past. Health plans continue to rely on

paper mail as the primary method of communication, even as most Californians live and communicate in a digital world. These notices are often delayed, inaccessible, or never received, leaving patients unaware of major changes until they are denied care or faced with unexpected costs. This bill modernizes notification requirements by allowing health plans to communicate through timely electronic methods, so patients receive critical information without delay.

Background

Block Transfer requirements. Before the termination date of its contract with a provider group or a general acute care hospital, health plans must submit an enrollee Block Transfer Filing to DMHC. DMHC reviews these filings to ensure compliance with applicable statutory (Knox-Keene Act) and regulatory (California Code of Regulations title 28) requirements. DMHC's review ensures (1) that the network remains adequate without the terminating provider group or hospital; and, (2) that the impacted enrollees are timely notified of the termination and informed of their rights. If DMHC approves a Block Transfer Filing, the health plan may inform its enrollees of the termination and redirect the enrollees to the alternate providers. During the block transfer filing review, DMHC also requests confirmation that health plans have reached a continuity of care agreement with terminating hospitals and provider groups which specifies reimbursement rates for the completion of covered services.

Continuity of care. Existing law allows an enrollee to request continuity of care when a doctor, medical group or hospital is no longer contracting with a health plan. The provider must agree to keep the enrollee as a patient and agree to the health plan reimbursement. Enrollees with certain conditions can obtain continuity of care if the provider agrees. For example, acute conditions, serious chronic conditions, pregnancy, terminal illness, children under three, or an already scheduled surgery or procedure would qualify. Continuity of care may last as long as the condition exists or may be limited after a course of treatment is completed and the patient can be transitioned to a provider in the plan's network. Enrollee transfer notices must include a website link to the plan's continuity of care policies also called completion of covered services or care, which are reviewed by DMHC. In addition, the health plans' enrollee transfer notices must include details related to the conditions eligible for completion of care, how to request completion of care, and a statement providing information on how enrollees can contact the DMHC's Help Center for assistance.

Notice to request completion of covered services must also be provided to enrollees in every health plan disclosure form and in any evidence of coverage documents. A health plan must also provide this notice to its providers, to its enrollees upon request, along with a specified termination of coverage notice. If enrollees are hospitalized through the emergency room, there are post-stabilization procedures that health plans must follow to authorize continued care at the hospital or to arrange for transfer to an authorized hospital. These procedures would be effective whether the hospital is contracted, non-contracted, or recently terminated.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Health Access California

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: Health Access California writes, "When contracts break down between health systems and insurance companies, patients are left in the middle. While existing law requires health plans to cover the completion of services by a terminated provider, it is only if requested by the enrollee and if the provider and plan agree on terms and reimbursement. As such, this continued care is often challenging to access. Health plans continue to rely on paper mail as the primary method of communication, even while many Californians rely on digital options including email. For low-income patients who may move often, people with mobility issues or others with limited access to mail for differing reasons, this bill will improve their access to crucial updates from the plans and improve their access to essential care."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: *Oppose unless amended.* The California Association of Health Plans (CAHP) and the Association of California Life and Health Insurance Companies (ACLHIC) request an amendment to allow health plans the option of offering their enrollees an electronic delivery notification in lieu of U.S. mail, rather than both. CAHP and ACLHIC believe this bill could delay necessary reassignments because they could occur after the enrollee decides whether they would like to return to their previous provider, so they request reverting the bill back to existing law.

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: Teri Boughton / HEALTH / (916) 651-4111
8/5/26 15:12:53

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2636
Author: Pacheco (D)
Amended: 3/16/26 in Assembly
Vote: 21

SENATE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/9/26
AYES: Arreguín, Seyarto, Caballero, Cortese, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Pérez

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-0, 5/7/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Juveniles

SOURCE: California Police Chiefs Association
Chief Probation Officers' of California

DIGEST: This bill requires the court to consider, for purposes of determining suitability of a minor for deferred entry of judgement (DEJ), whether the minor is charged with carrying a loaded firearm in public.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides, generally, that a minor who is between 12 years of age and 17 years of age, inclusive, when the minor violates any law defining a crime, is subject to the jurisdiction of the juvenile court and to adjudication as a ward. (Welfare (Welf.) & Institutions (Inst.) Code, § 602, subd. (a).)

2) Requires, whenever a case is before the juvenile court for a determination of whether a minor may be adjudicated as a ward because of the commission of a felony offense, the minor to be considered for DEJ if all of the following circumstances apply:

a) The minor has not previously been declared to be a ward of the court for the commission of a felony offense;
b) The offense charged is not a Section 707(b) offense;
c) The minor has not previously been committed to the custody of the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR), Division of Juvenile Facilities;
d) The minor's record does not indicate that probation has ever been revoked without being completed;
e) The minor is at least 14 years of age at the time of the hearing;
f) The minor is eligible for probation; and,
g) The offense charged is not rape, sodomy, oral copulation, or an act of sexual penetration when the victim was prevented from resisting due to being rendered unconscious by any intoxicating, anesthetizing, or controlled substance, or when the victim was at the time incapable, because of mental disorder or developmental or physical disability, of giving consent, and that was known or reasonably should have been known to the minor at the time of the offense. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (a).)

3) Requires the prosecuting attorney to review their file to determine whether the minor is eligible for DEJ based on the factors listed above, and if so determined, requires the prosecuting attorney to file a declaration with the court or state for the record the grounds upon which the determination is based. Requires this information to be available to the minor and their attorney. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).)

4) Authorizes the court, upon a finding that the minor is also suitable for DEJ and would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts, to grant DEJ. Requires the court to make these findings on the record where DEJ is granted. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).)

5) Provides that a person is guilty of carrying a loaded firearm when the person carries a loaded firearm on the person or in a vehicle while in any public place or on any public street in an incorporated city, city and county, or in any public place or on any public street in a prohibited area of an unincorporated area of a county or city and county. (Pen. Code, § 25850, subd. (a).)

6) Provides that carrying a loaded firearm in public is punishable as follows:

a) Where the person previously has been convicted of any felony, or of any specified firearm-related offenses, as a felony.

b) Where the firearm is stolen and the person knew or had reasonable cause to believe that it was stolen, as a felony.
c) Where the person is an active participant in a criminal street gang, as a felony.
d) Where the person is not in lawful possession of the firearm, or is within a class of persons prohibited from possessing or acquiring a firearm, as a felony.
e) Where the person has been convicted of a crime against a person or property, or of a narcotics or dangerous drug violation, as an alternate felony-misdemeanor (hereinafter "wobbler").
f) Where the person is not listed with the Department of Justice (DOJ) as the recorded owner of the handgun, as a wobbler.
g) In all others cases, as a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail not to exceed one year, by a fine not to exceed one $1,000, or by both. (Pen. Code, § 25850, subd. (c).)

This bill requires the court to consider, for purposes of determining suitability of a minor for DEJ, whether the minor is charged with carrying a loaded firearm in public.

Background

DEJ is a post-adjudication, pre-disposition diversion program. Under existing law, certain juvenile offenders are eligible for DEJ. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790.) For DEJ, a minor must admit each allegation in the petition, and the judgment is deferred while the minor is placed on probation for one to three years. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 791.) While on probation, certain terms and conditions related to the minor's treatment and rehabilitation are imposed. Upon the successful completion of the terms of probation, the charge or charges against the minor are dismissed, the arrest upon which the judgment was deferred is deemed never to have occurred, and any records in the possession of the juvenile court are required to be sealed, except as specified. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 793, subd. (c).) If it appears to the prosecuting attorney, the court, or the probation department that the minor is not performing satisfactorily in the assigned program or is not complying with the terms of the probation, or that the minor is not benefiting from education, treatment, or rehabilitation, the deferred entry of judgment is lifted and the court will schedule a dispositional hearing. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 793, subd. (a).)

In order to be eligible for DEJ, a minor must meet the following requirements: (1) the minor has not previously been declared to be a ward of the court for the

commission of a felony offense; (2) the offense charged is not a serious or violent felony listed in Welfare and Institutions Code section 707 (b); (3) the minor has not previously been committed to the custody of the Division of Juvenile Justice; (4) the minor's record does not indicate that probation has ever been revoked without being completed; (5) the minor is at least 14 years of age at the time of the hearing; (6) the minor is eligible for probation under Penal Code section 1203.06; and (7) the offense charged is not one of several specified sex offenses. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (a).) The prosecuting attorney is required to make a determination regarding a minor's eligibility for DEJ, and if the minor is eligible, the prosecuting attorney must notify the court, the minor, and the minor's attorney. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b).) The juvenile court must then decide if the minor is suitable for DEJ. A minor is suitable for DEJ if the judge finds that the minor would benefit from court-ordered education, rehabilitation, and treatment efforts. (*Ibid*).

Under existing law, a person who personally used a firearm during the commission or attempted commission of specified offenses is ineligible for DEJ. (Welf. & Inst. Code, § 790, subd. (b); Pen. Code, § 1203.06.) This bill requires the court to consider whether the offense charged is an offense of carrying a loaded firearm in public in making its DEJ suitability determination. Existing law does not enumerate specific factors for the court to consider in its suitability determination. It appears the court has broad discretion to grant when the court makes a finding that the minor would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts. It is unclear whether this new consideration is to be made in conjunction with the court's determination that the minor would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation efforts, or if it is to be considered separately and how the court is to weigh that fact in its determination.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/9/26)

California Police Chiefs Association (co-source)
Chief Probation Officers' of California (co-source)
Arcadia Police Officers' Association
Brea Police Association
Burbank Police Officers' Association
California Association of School Police Chiefs
California Coalition of School Safety Professionals
California Narcotic Officers' Association
California Police Chiefs Association

California Reserve Peace Officers Association
Claremont Police Officers Association
Corona Police Officers Association
Culver City Police Officers' Association
Fullerton Police Officers' Association
Los Angeles School Police Management Association
Los Angeles School Police Officers Association
Murrieta Police Officers' Association
Newport Beach Police Association
Palos Verdes Police Officers Association
Placer County Deputy Sheriffs' Association
Pomona Police Officers' Association
Riverside Police Officers Association
Riverside Sheriffs' Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/9/26)

ACLU California Action
California Attorneys for Criminal Justice
California Public Defenders Association
Center on Juvenile and Criminal Justice
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Justice2Jobs Coalition
La Defensa
Los Angeles County Public Defender's Union, Local 148
San Francisco Public Defender

ARGUMENT IN SUPPORT: According to the Chief Probation Officers of California, one of the bill's co-sponsors:

> In California, under Welfare & Institutions Code 790, Deferred Entry of Judgment (DEJ) for juveniles is a path for first-time, nonviolent felonies where the minor admits guilt, completes programming, and has their charged dismissed and their case sealed if successfully completed, thereby enabling the youth to avoid a formal conviction. While DEJ plays a role within the continuum of juvenile justice responses, it is not structured or designed to address more serious offenses. As DEJ is intended for first time nonviolent offenses, there are current offenses excluded from eligibility in recognition of the seriousness of the offense and the types of interventions that are necessary, including existing firearms offenses.

With an uptick in serious and violent juvenile crime, and impacts in communities from juvenile gun offenses, it is imperative to address these types of crimes through structured rehabilitative programming and accountability to address and mitigate future risk of adult re-offense. In 2016, 1 in 10 juvenile arrests were for a violent felony. In 2024, 1 in 5 arrests were for a violent felony. Additionally, in regards to recent juvenile violent felony data from 2021 to 2024 (the period following the closure of DJJ), violent felony arrests went up 69.28%.

Despite existing law already prohibiting minors from possessing firearms and making it a wobbler, current DEJ eligibility does not expressly exclude possession of a loaded firearm, thereby allowing this offense to be eligible for a program designed for low-level first-time offenses. Carrying a loaded firearm carries great consequence to the community and it is imperative that more structured court interventions are utilized in these cases to address the rehabilitation and safety needs of youth committing these offenses.

This bill represents a balanced and necessary change to ensure that courts are giving consideration to this specific offense of carrying a loaded firearm when looking at the appropriate disposition for these cases. It prioritizes public safety while preserving rehabilitative opportunities for youth through more structured juvenile court interventions. This change ensures that California's response to
juvenile firearm possession is aligned with best practices in youth risk management and other efforts to reduce juvenile and community gun violence.

ARGUMENT IN OPPOSITION: La Defense writes:

Juvenile DEJ offers an opportunity for youth to have their case dismissed and records sealed upon successful completion of treatment and supervision in a community setting. Eligible youth must admit all allegations charged and waive the right to a speedy jurisdictional hearing. If a youth subsequently commits a felony offense or two or more misdemeanors, the deferred judgment will be imposed. Under existing law, a juvenile court may consider whether a youth charged with a first-time, non-violent offense would benefit from education, treatment, and rehabilitation when determining whether to grant DEJ. AB 2636 impedes this process, requiring the court to consider whether the offense charged includes possession of a

loaded firearm, making it less likely that youth charged with a first offense will be able to benefit from these programs.

While reducing gun possession among youth should be a priority, this bill increases punishment for youth without improving public safety. Despite an uptick in gun sales during the pandemic, the share of U.S. youth who carry guns has decreased. At the same time, responses to youth charged with weapon possession have grown increasingly punitive over the last decade, with juvenile courts increasingly less likely to provide diversion and more likely to choose detention, especially for youth of color. Rather than keeping us safer, removing opportunities for education, treatment, and rehabilitation is likely to worsen gun violence and other crime. Reducing gun possession among youth requires comprehensive initiatives involving community partners, not punitive responses that make the problem worse.

Targeted diversion is a proven solution, especially for youth charged with a first offense. It is well-established that longer periods of confinement produce higher rates of recidivism for youth. Recently, the Office of Youth and Community Restoration recognized that community-based alternatives to incarceration reduce further system involvement, decrease life disruption, and promote positive health and social outcomes. Moreover, diversion is especially effective for youth with little prior involvement in the justice system. Given the developmental status of minors, programs that help improve critical thinking and judgement skills have been shown to substantially lower violence among at-risk youth. Further, programming designed specifically for youth facing gun possession charges is highly effective in preventing recidivism.

AB 2636 will reduce opportunities for youth charged with a first-time, non-violent offense to participate in these programs and receive the services they need, increasing the number of youth incarcerated at juvenile detention facilities and driving up costs without providing a benefit to public safety. This is especially troublesome when the state's own agency responsible for guiding the transition away from youth incarceration has recognized the extensive benefits of diversion, education, treatment, and rehabilitation for youth offenders.

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 59-0, 5/7/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Calderon, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly,

Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Ellis, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Zbur, Rivas

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

Prepared by: Stephanie Jordan / PUB. S. /
6/10/26 17:00:44

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

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2644
Author: Blanca Rubio (D)
Introduced: 2/20/26
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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Gambling Control Act

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the Governor to notify the Legislature of the removal of any member of the California Gambling Control Commission (Commission).

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides, under the Gambling Control Act (Act), for the licensure and regulation of various legalized gambling activities and establishment 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 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) Requires the Governor to notify the Legislature of the removal of a member of the Commission.

2) Makes other technical, nonsubstantive changes.

Background

Author Statement. According to the author's office, "the bill aims to ensure the prompt enforcement of gambling laws by addressing vacancies and enabling the Commission to operate efficiently. When seats are unfilled, even a single absence or recusal can hinder decision-making, leaving the industry without effective oversight and causing delays. The bill seeks to strengthen enforcement, improve dispute resolution, and expedite licensing."

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 simply requires the Governor to notify the Legislature of the removal of a member of the Commission.

Prior/Related Legislation

SB 1235 (Senate Committee on Governmental Organization, 2026) requires the Governor to notify the Senate and Assembly Committees on Governmental Organization of the removal of a member of the Commission. (Pending on the Assembly Floor)

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 2793 (Assembly Committee on Governmental Organization, 2026) modifies existing law to require that one member of the Commission, among other criteria, to be an attorney with regulatory or gaming law experience. (Pending on the Senate Floor)

SB 864 (Padilla, 2025) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet website 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)

SB 899 (Senate Committee on Governmental Organization, 2022) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Held on the Assembly Floor Inactive File)

SB 302 (Senate Committee on Governmental Organization, 2021) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Gutted and Amended to an Unrelated Issue)

SB 869 (Senate Committee on Governmental Organization, 2020) would have required the Commission to post a public record of every vote on its Internet Web site no later than two business days after the meeting at which the vote was taken. (Gutted and Amended to an Unrelated Issue)

SB 286 (Senate Committee on Governmental Organization, 2019) 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)

AB 1827 (Assembly Committee on Governmental Organization, 2019) would have required the Commission to post a public record of each of its votes on its Internet Web site. (Died in the Senate Inactive File)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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
8/5/26 15:12:53

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

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2674
Author: Schiavo (D)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 6-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar
NO VOTE RECORDED: Allen

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-3, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: State Air Resources Board: internet website: methane emissions data

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill requires the California Air Resources Board (CARB) to post on its internet website temperature and monitoring data received by the state board regarding methane emissions from landfills.

ANALYSIS: Existing law:

1) Gives local and regional authorities the primary responsibility for controlling stationary source air pollution and establishes 35 air pollution control districts in the state (Health & Safety Code (HSC) §40000 et seq.).

2) Establishes requirements for handling and disposing of solid waste, as well as the permitting and operation of solid waste facilities (Public Resources Code (PRC) §43000 et seq.).

3) Requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle) to adopt certification requirements for local enforcement agencies (LEAs) that

cover the permitting, inspection, and enforcement of regulations at solid waste facilities, as well as inspection and enforcement of litter, odor, and nuisance regulations (PRC §43200).

4) Requires, under Section 60.36f of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations, municipal solid waste (MSW) landfills to install gas collection and control systems to comply with various federal regulations on landfill emissions.

5) Establishes in regulation through the landfill methane rule, requirements for landfill operators to report data on temperature, gas composition, and other data necessary to determine the presence and severity of a subsurface elevated temperature event at a landfill.

This bill requires CARB to post on its internet website temperature and monitoring data from landfills regarding methane emissions.

Background

1) Monitoring landfills. Municipal Solid Waste landfill monitoring requirements are set by federal regulations established by the U.S. EPA, and the frequency of the monitoring depends largely on what is being monitored. Generally speaking, the following requirements apply to most large-scale landfills that are actively accepting waste:

Monthly Monitoring

a) Wellheads at landfills using gas collection and control systems (GCCS) must conduct monthly monitoring of items such as temperature, oxygen, nitrogen, methane and pressure levels.

b) Landfill covers are inspected monthly to identify and repair issues such as exposed waste, leachate breakouts, and erosion gullies.

Quarterly Monitoring

a) Surface emissions monitoring (SEM) is done quarterly to ensure methane emissions are kept below a certain level and to assess how effectively the GCCS is working.

b) Components containing landfill gas under pressure must be monitored for leaks.

c) Groundwater elevations are typically measured to determine groundwater gradient and direction.

d) Chemical analysis of groundwater samples may also be required, especially if certain constituents are detected at elevated levels.

Weekly Monitoring

a) The overall integrity of a landfill site, including the cover material, drainage structures, potential erosion areas, and leachate piping and storage facilities, is often inspected weekly.

Pursuant to Federal Law in 40 CFR 60.34(f), landfill operators are required to operate gas collection systems for each area, cell, or group of cells. Landfill gas wellheads must generally maintain temperatures below 131°F. Operators may request a waiver to operate at higher temperatures if they can demonstrate that the elevated temperature will not result in fire initiation or significantly impair anaerobic decomposition by killing methanogenic organisms. Such waivers require U.S. EPA approval.

Landfill design and operational practices influence subsurface fire risk, severity, and duration. The U.S. EPA provides general guidance correlating internal landfill temperatures with operational status:

A. 90–131°F: Normal operating range
B. 131–145°F: Potential presence of exothermic chemical reactions
C. Above 145°F: Inhibition of methane generation
D. Above 165°F: Cessation of biological activity; elevated fire risk

While temperature is an important characteristic indicating the presence of a landfill fire, temperature alone is not a definitive indicator of an active or imminent subsurface fire. Additional diagnostic parameters include the carbon dioxide-to-methane ratio, hydrogen concentration, rate of landfill settlement, and excess leachate generation.

2) *Regulation of landfill emissions*. CARB implemented the landfill methane rule (LMR) to monitor and reduce methane emissions from landfills in 2010. LMR requires owners and operators of certain landfills to install and operate gas collection and control systems, monitor surface methane concentration and other performance parameters, repair emission exceedances and other performance issues, source test, keep records of these actions and data, and

report certain information to CARB or the air districts. LMR allows air districts to voluntarily enter into memoranda of understanding with CARB to implement and enforce the regulation and to assess fees to cover costs. Currently, 22 of the 35 local air districts are implementing and enforcing LMR.

In addition to CARB, federal, State, and local agencies all play a role in regulating landfills including but not limited to:

a) Local air districts in California play a lead role in regulating stationary sources of air pollution, including issuing permits for landfill GCCS. Local air districts regulate enclosed flares and other landfill gas combustion devices used to destroy methane and co-pollutants, and respond to nuisance and odor complaints

b) CalRecycle regulates solid waste handling, processing, and disposal activities to protect public health and safety and the environment by supporting solid waste local enforcement agencies.

c) The State Water Resources Control Board and their nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (collectively, the Water Boards) regulate discharges to land that could impact surface water and groundwater quality, including regulatory and permitting requirements for landfills.

d) The Department of Toxic Substances Control regulates facilities for disposal of hazardous waste.

e) U.S. EPA regulates emissions of volatile organic compounds from landfills through requirements similar to those in the LMR.

Comments

Purpose of Bill. According to the author, "The Chiquita Canyon Landfill has been releasing toxic gas into communities within Assembly District 40 for over four years. While landfill operators already collect temperature and monitoring data under the Landfill Methane Regulation, that information is not consistently and readily available to the public. Communities living near landfills deserve access to timely information about conditions that may impact their health, safety, and quality of life.

"AB 2674 strengthens transparency and public accountability by requiring the California Air Resources Board to publicly post landfill temperature and

monitoring data it receives from landfill operators. By providing communities, local governments, and regulators with accessible information, this measure will build public trust, support early awareness of potential landfill issues, and help ensure California's landfill methane reduction efforts protect both the environment and the people who live and work nearby."

Breaking down the data. Current law requires landfill operators to collect and report temperature, methane, and other monitoring data to regulatory agencies, but much of this information is not readily accessible to the public. As a result, communities living and working near landfills may have limited visibility into landfill conditions, elevated temperature events, or potential risks to public health and the environment until problems arise. AB 2674 would require CARB to publicly post landfill temperature and monitoring data it receives from landfill operators.

The purpose of providing this information seems to be to add transparency to the public on elevated temperature events at landfills (landfill fires). However, determining what elevated temperatures, gas composition, depth and area of elevated temperature etc. pose a risk to nearby communities is not a simple task.

As the bill moves through the legislative process, the author may wish to identify what specific information is needed to inform the public on the potential impacts associated with the data that CARB will display. In addition, the author may wish to task CARB not only with presenting the data, but with creating a dashboard interpreting the data into risk for nearby residents.

As the bill moves through the process, the author may also wish to clarify the language to specify that CARB will post temperature, gas composition, and other data from landfills pursuant to the LMR.

AB 28, LMR, and 2647. AB 2674 builds off the recent work in the LMR, which was updated in November of 2025 to specifically include landfill monitoring for elevated temperature events and developed thresholds of a suite of landfill characteristics, including temperature and gas composition, that signal an elevated temperature event. This bill also dovetails with the provisions in AB 28 (Schiavo), which establishes stronger reporting, corrective action, and mitigation measures from landfill operators in the event of a subsurface elevated temperature event (i.e. an underground landfill fire), and which specifically requires community notification and engagement in the case of a landfill fire.

As AB 2674 continues through the legislative process, the author may wish to consider how this reporting data will be additive to the monitoring and reporting requirements in the updated LMR and the public engagement required in AB 28.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 28 (Schiavo, 2026) establishes a protocol for CalRecycle to require a corrective action plan in the event of a subsurface elevated temperature event at a landfill. The bill also authorizes the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to establish a multiagency coordination group (MCG) to investigate and provide recommendations for addressing a landfill's subsurface elevated temperature event, and specifies that CalRecycle may impose a penalty of up to $100,000 per day to landfill operators that do not follow the requirements of the corrective action plan or recommendations of the MCG, among other provisions. Pending hearing in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California League of United Latin American Citizens (ca Lulac)
California Retired Teachers Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 62-3, 5/26/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lee, Lowenthal, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Pellerin, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio, Dixon, Macedo
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alanis, Castillo, Ellis, Flora, Gallagher, Gipson, Hadwick, Hoover, Johnson, Lackey, Muratsuchi, Patterson, Petrie-Norris, Celeste Rodriguez, Tangipa

Prepared by: Brynn Cook / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108

8/5/26 15:12:54

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

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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2685
Author: Committee on Agriculture
Amended: 6/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Food and agriculture: omnibus bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill 1) requires the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to make public the report on the marketing of processing strawberries on the Department's internet website, rather than file the report with the Legislature; 2) authorizes the California Walnut Commission to recommend to the secretary the adoption of walnut quality standards and product labeling requirements and allows the secretary, at the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date of adoption, to implement these quality standards and product labeling requirements recommended by the commission, in accordance with the California Marketing Act of 1937, unless otherwise provided; 3) authorizes the commission to engage in any activity related to walnuts that is authorized pursuant to the California Marketing Act of 1937 and requires the commission, if it engages in such an activity, to act in accordance with the procedures specified in that act, unless otherwise provided; 4) prohibits the commission from engaging in such an activity until the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date on which the commission publicly announces its intent to engage in the activity; and 5) requires the commission to serve as the advisory body to the secretary on these matters.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Requires CDFA, on or before the last day of each year in which a marketing order exclusively affecting processing strawberries is in effect, to prepare and file with the Legislature a written report of the operations of this chapter and shall make recommendations regarding its various provisions. Each report and recommendation shall be based on determinations made by the secretary as a result of the annual review specified in Section 63125. (Food and Agricultural Code section 63126).

2) Establishes the California Walnut Commission for the promotion of the sale of walnuts by brand and generic advertising and other promotional means and educate and instruct the wholesale and retail trade in domestic and foreign markets with respect to proper methods of handling *walnuts* (Food and Agricultural Code Section 77001).

3) Establishes the California Marketing Act of 1937 which governs the marketing of commodities in California (Food and Agricultural Code Section 58601).

This bill:

1) Requires the Secretary of CDFA to make the report to the Legislature on the marketing of processing strawberries publicly available on CDFAs website rather than file the report with the Legislature.

2) Authorizes the Walnut Commission to recommend to the Secretary the adoption of walnut quality standards and product labeling requirements.

   a) Requires the standards and product labeling requirements be in accordance with the procedures specified in the California Marketing Act of 1937.

3) Prohibits the Secretary from implementing any adopted quality standards or labeling requirements until the beginning of the marketing season next succeeding the date of adoption.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "This bill will help streamline the annual strawberry report, make the report available to a wider range of constituents."

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
8/5/26 15:12:54

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2689
Author: Ávila Farías (D), et al.
Amended: 6/22/26 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: 11-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Weber Pierson, Wiener
NO VOTE RECORDED: Allen, Wahab

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-1, 5/28/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Low-income housing tax credits: lease nonrenewal: good cause

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill provides for the Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC) program, for any low income building that is subject to an enforceable regulatory agreement with a government entity, good cause for a nonrenewal of a lease includes when both a household's income exceeds 140% of the area median income (AMI) for at least two years and the 30% of the households monthly income fair market rent, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Authorizers, under the tax on the gross premiums of insurers, the personal income tax (PIT) Law, and the corporate tax (CT) Law, a state LIHTC that is calculated in partial conformity with the federal LIHTC and may only be claimed over a period of four years.

2) Allocates $70 million on an ongoing basis to the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) for the purposes of administering the LIHTC and adjusts this amount for inflation beginning in the 2002 calendar year, plus any unused amounts for the preceding calendar year and any amount returned in the calendar year.

3) Provides that an owner of a property financed using LIHTCs shall continue to be treated as occupied by a lower income household for purposes of the property tax welfare exemption if the occupants qualified as lower income (80% or less of AMI) when they first occupied the unit even if their income increases to 140% of AMI, adjusted for family size. However, the unit shall cease to be treated as a lower income unit if the income of the occupants of the unit increases above 140% of AMI, adjusted for family size.

This bill:

1) Provides for the LIHTC program, for any low income building that is subject to an enforceable regulatory agreement with a government entity, good cause for a nonrenewal of a lease includes when both a household's income exceeds 140% of AMI for at least two years and the 30% of the households monthly income exceeds the fair market rent for the county or the for the ZIP code, in which the unit is located.

2) Requires a property owner to provide specified notice to a tenant whose income exceeds 140% of AMI.

2) Requires a property owner to provide 90 days' notice prior to the expiration of the lease term if the basis for non-renewal of a lease is that a household's income has exceeded 140% of the AMI for two consecutive years and 30% of the household's monthly income exceeds the fair market rent for the county or the for the ZIP code, in which the unit is located.

Background

LIHTC. State and federal law allow a LIHTC to qualified taxpayers for incurring certain costs related to the construction, rehabilitation, or acquisition of low-income rental housing. In practice, low-income rental housing developers design projects and apply to the CTCAC for credits. If the CTCAC authorizes credits, the CTCAC enters a regulatory agreement with the housing developer that stipulates

income and rent restrictions. The CTCAC then reserves the credit amount for that application. Subsequently, the developer forms a partnership with investors that exchange equity financing for the credits, and the investors may then claim the credit over the authorized period. Rather than expecting the investment in a LIHTC project to produce income, investors rely on the credit to realize a return in the form of reducing their tax liabilities. The equity raised from this exchange lowers the financing costs for developers such that they can feasibly charge lower rents, thereby potentially expanding the supply of affordable rental housing.

There are two types of the LIHTC, the 9% credit and the 4% credit, which are awarded to projects that are non-federally subsidized or federally subsidized, respectively. The 9% credit is subject to a federally prescribed annual ceiling based on the population of a state; whereas, the 4% credit must have 50% of the project financed by federally tax-exempt bonds.

Comments

Author's statement. "Millions of Californians struggle to find and afford housing. However, the demand far outweighs the supply. Waitlists for public housing or federal housing voucher units can be extensive, with families often waiting months and even years before there is an open unit. Furthermore, current law does not provide a transition for tenants in deed-restricted units who begin to earn significantly more in annual income. AB 2689 would establish good cause for nonrenewal in households at 100% affordable housing sites for those tenants whose income exceeds 140% of the area median income (AMI) for at least 2 consecutive years. Tenants whose income grows to 140% of AMI would only have their leases not renewed if they could afford fair market rent, while paying 30% toward their rent. This in return would allow 100% affordable housing managers to transition higher income tenants out of units intended for the low-income families. This bill does not require affordable housing managers to transition over-income tenants – it only provides dignified metrics should they choose to do so. AB 2689 is about providing a fair, dignified process for affordable housing managers to transition units from over-income tenants to families who desperately need them."

Property Tax Welfare Exemption. Article XIII, Section 4(b) of the California Constitution authorizes the Legislature to exempt property used exclusively for religious, hospital, or charitable purposes, as specified, from taxation. Stemming from this authority, the Legislature implemented this "welfare exemption." To exempt certain activities from property taxes, AB 2144 (Filante, Chapter 1469, Statutes of 1989) added low-income housing developments operated by non-profit

organizations to this exemption because property tax funds "could better be used in furtherance of the goals of providing low-income housing." Generally, to qualify for the welfare exemption, the law requires that the rental housing be financed with specified tax-exempt bonds, government loans, or grants, or that the property's owner receives LIHTC. The welfare exemption extends to "units serving lower income households." To qualify, the State Board of Equalization has noted that a unit must be occupied by a lower income household (with a maximum income of 80% AMI).

In 2017, AB 1193 (Gloria, Chapter 756, Statutes of 2017) provided that, in cases where a property owner is eligible for the LIHTC, a unit shall continue to be treated as occupied by a lower income household if the occupants was lower income on the lien date in the fiscal year in which occupancy began and the unit continues to be rent restricted, notwithstanding an increase in the income of the occupants to 140% of AMI. However, under AB 1193, if the occupants' income increases over this threshold, the unit ceases to be treated as a lower income unit. This law was designed to provide income flexibility roughly in line with federal law governing the LIHTC.

Income Qualifying. The average income of a LIHTC project is 60% of AMI. To qualify for a LIHTC unit, tenants must income-qualify when first renting the unit. There are no federal tax laws limiting how much a tenant's income can increase once they are in a LIHTC unit. In addition, a developer can receive the property tax welfare exemption on any units where the tenant's income when first occupying the unit was 80% of AMI or less. State law allows a property owner to continue to receive the welfare exemption until the tenant's income reaches 140% of AMI. Once a tenant's income exceeds 140% of AMI, a property owner can no longer receive the property tax welfare exemption. There are no financial penalties in federal tax law governing LIHTC if a tenant's income exceeds 140% of AMI.

In a LIHTC project where there is a mix of lower income units and market rate units, federal law dictates the "The Available Unit Rule" (Rule). Under the Rule, a property owner is required to maintain the level of affordability agreed to receive the LIHTC. If development is required to have 20% of the unit's deed restricted to lower income units and a tenant in a deed-restricted units income exceeds 140% of AMI, the property owner must move that person to a market rate unit when one is available and replace the lower income unit with an income qualified tenant. In developments that are 100% affordable, developers cannot move tenants because all of the units are deed restricted to lower-income and a property owner cannot raise the rent if the tenant's income exceeds 140% of AMI because the unit is deed restricted to lower income. As a result, the property owner loses the property tax

welfare exemption on that unit. Forfeiting this subsidy can compromise the nonprofit's ability to support the operation on the development because the rents remain below market rent.

This bill gives a developer the option not to renew a tenant's lease if, for two years, their income exceeds 140% of AMI and they can rent a unit in the county or ZIP code in which they live and only pay 30% of their income toward rent. Housing costs are considered affordable if an individual pays 30% of their income toward the cost of housing. This policy would give property owners the option to fill a deed restricted lower income unit with an income qualified tenant, only if an existing tenant's income has grown to above moderate income and renting a unit in the private market allows them to continue to keep their housing costs at an affordable level. The intent of this bill is to ensure that scarce, state-subsidized units are made available to tenants who are lower-income, while ensuring that tenants whose incomes grow to more than triple the income required to initially qualify for a lower income unit are not displaced in high-cost markets. Tenants whose income grows to 140% of AMI would only have their leases not renewed if they could afford fair market rent, while paying 30% toward their rent. This ensures that tenants' housing costs remain affordable. Owners would notify tenants when their income reaches 140% of AMI so they can begin preparing for a market rate rental, including saving up for a security deposit and any other moving expenses.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/15/26)

California Housing Partnership

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/15/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-1, 5/28/26
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, Fong, Gabriel, Gallagher, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz,

Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Rivas
NOES: Lee
NO VOTE RECORDED: Arambula, Bonta, Bryan, Flora, Mark González, Ortega, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Stefani, Zbur

Prepared by: Alison Hughes / HOUSING / (916) 651-4124
7/30/26 14:49:28

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

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 retails 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2728
Author: Soria (D)
Amended: 6/11/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Durazo, Choi, Arreguín, Ashby, Cervantes, Laird, Seyarto

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

Prior Assembly votes not relevant.

SUBJECT: Groundwater: de minimis extractors: fees: exemption

SOURCE: County of Monterey

DIGEST: This bill allows a local government, including a groundwater sustainability agency, that imposes a fee, levy, charge, or exaction for groundwater monitoring or management to exempt de minimis extractors.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law grants local agencies the authority to impose various fees, charges, and taxes to pay for public services.

This bill:

1) Allows a local government, including a groundwater sustainability agency, that imposes a fee, levy, charge, or exaction for groundwater monitoring or management to exempt de minimis extractors from paying that fee, levy, charge, or exaction, if the local government makes both the following findings:

   a) The groundwater monitoring or management activities the fee funds directly benefits parties other than de minimis extractors; and

b) Any benefits de minimis extractors receive from the groundwater monitoring or management are incidental to the parties paying the fee, levy, charge, or exaction.

2) Declares that these provisions are declaratory of existing law and do not limit the ability of a local government to establish other constitutionally-permissible exemptions.

3) Makes conforming changes to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) to ensure that local governments have the authority to exempt de minimis extractors.

Background

Local taxes, fees, and charges. Prior to 1978, local agencies could enact taxes by ordinance. Proposition 13 (1978) amended the Constitution to require a 2/3 vote of the electorate to enact a local special tax. Proposition 62 (1986) prohibited local agencies from imposing general taxes without majority approval of local voters, and clarified the 2/3 vote necessary to impose special taxes. Proposition 218 (1996) extended those vote thresholds to charter cities and required local agencies' to obtain voter approval to levy new assessments, fees, and taxes, which was subsequently limited by Proposition 26 (2010). Local agencies impose taxes, fees, and charges to finance a variety of public services. For example, state law requires local agencies to provide solid waste handling services, or contract with another local agency or solid waste enterprise. If the local agency provides the service, they charge customers directly. Most jurisdictions in the state operate with some form of "franchise," or contract, that limits solid waste hauling within the jurisdiction to one or more specified companies. Under these agreements, the local agency charges the franchisee for the benefit of operating within the public right-of-way. The franchisee then charges customers for providing waste hauling services. Many local agencies include the costs to cover the wear and tear on the roads from the heavy waste hauling trucks in their fees. A typical car weighs roughly 4,400 pounds, while a loaded garbage truck can weigh as much as 60,000 pounds.

Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. In response to a multi-year drought, the Legislature enacted the SGMA in 2014. Composed of three bills—AB 1739 (Dickinson, Chapter 347, Statutes of 2014), SB 1168 (Pavley, Chapter 346, Statutes of 2014) and SB 1319 (Pavley, Chapter 348, Statutes of 2014)—SGMA comprehensively reformed California's groundwater laws. Among other provisions, the Act directs the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to categorize the state's groundwater basins into high, medium, low, and very low

priorities, based on factors such as the population overlying the basin, number of wells in the basin, and overlying irrigated acreage. DWR must also identify basins subject to critical overdraft—where more water is consistently being removed than replaced.

Under SGMA, a groundwater sustainability agency (GSA) must manage basins designated as high or medium priority. That agency must develop a groundwater sustainability plan to ensure that by 2040, the basin is in a sustainable condition—there can be no "undesirable results" (such as land sinking) from use of the basin. If a basin does not have a GSA or the agency fails to adopt or implement a plan, the State Water Resources Control Board may designate the basin as "probationary" and can develop its own plan to achieve sustainability for the basin. SGMA allows a groundwater sustainability agency to impose fees, including permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction, to fund the costs of a groundwater sustainability program. SGMA prohibits a groundwater sustainability agency from imposing a fee on de minimis extractors unless the agency has regulated the de minimis extractors. De minimis extractors are people who extract, for domestic purposes, two acre-feet or less of water per year.

Comments

Purpose of the bill. According to the author, "In 2014, the California legislature enacted the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) for the purpose of achieving and maintaining sustainability in the State's groundwater basins. SGMA implementation throughout much of the State is governed by Groundwater Sustainability Agencies (GSAs), working in close coordination with other GSAs, local governments, and the public, to develop and execute Groundwater Sustainability Plans that include several elements necessary to sustainably manage groundwater basins including groundwater monitoring. To fund this monitoring, some local governments have established regulatory fees under Proposition 26. However, this has created situations where de minimis extractors, those extracting small amounts of groundwater for domestic use, bear a disproportionately large amount of monitoring fees. AB 2728 resolves this disparity by allowing local governments to exempt de minimis extractors."

Between a rock and a hard place. SGMA allows a groundwater sustainability agency to impose fees, including permit fees and fees on groundwater extraction, but prohibits a groundwater sustainability agency from imposing a fee on de minimis extractors unless the agency has regulated de minimis extractors. Agencies like Monterey County have not regulated de minimis extractors because their impact on groundwater supplies is by definition minimal, so SGMA does not

allow agencies to charge de minimis extractors for the groundwater monitoring program. However, Proposition 26 requires all fees and charges that are not taxes, including those regulating groundwater, to allocate costs to a payor in a "fair or reasonable relationship to the payor's burdens on, or benefits received from, the governmental activity." Arguably if a local agency exempts de minimis extractors from paying groundwater monitoring fees so that it complies with SGMA, then it could be charging other extractors more than the burden they place on groundwater extraction. In other words, complying with SGMA could violate Proposition 26, but complying with Proposition 26 could violate SGMA. To avoid this stalemate, AB 2728 allows a local agency to exempt de minimis extractors from groundwater monitoring charges if the agency makes findings demonstrating that the ancillary benefits for de minimis extractors are incidental to the parties paying the fee.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 7/2/26)

County of Monterey (source)
California State Association of Counties (CSAC)
Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC)
Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency
One individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 7/2/26)

None received

Prepared by: Jonathan Peterson / L. GOV. / (916) 651-4119
7/30/26 14:49:29

****** 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 Unites 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 to relate 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 to relate 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 possible[1]. 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 study[3] 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

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[2] https://ccwip.berkeley.edu/childwelfare/reports/PITOMP/MTSG/omp/ab636/l

[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 ******

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2766
Author: Ahrens (D), et al.
Amended: 5/28/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/10/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Menjivar, Reyes

SENATE HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Becker, Ochoa Bogh, Laird, Pérez, Weber Pierson

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Public postsecondary education: student housing: foster youth and homeless youth

SOURCE: John Burton Advocates for Youth
Student Homes Coalition
uAspire
UC Student Association

DIGEST: This bill requires, instead of requests, housing priority at a California Community College (CCC) be granted to foster and homeless youth, and requires a CCC, California State University (CSU), and request the University of California (UC) to waive or defer housing costs for foster and homeless youth until they have received their financial aid disbursement. It further expands priority registration for enrollment to foster youth to include those enrolled in the NextUp program at a CCC.

ANALYSIS:

Existing Federal law defines "homeless children and youth" as children and youth who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, including those who

are sharing the housing of others due to loss of housing, economic hardship, or a similar reason; staying in motels, trailer parks, or camp grounds due to the lack of an adequate alternative; staying in shelters or transitional housing; or sleeping in cars, parks, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or similar settings. (42 United States Code § 11434a(2))

Existing State law:

1) Establishes the CSU, under the administration of the Trustees of the CSU, the UC, under the administration of the Regents of the UC, the CCC, under the administration of the Board of Governors of the CCC, and independent institutions of higher education, as defined, as four segments of postsecondary education in the State. (Education Code (EC) § 66010.4 et seq.)

2) Establishes priority enrollment for foster youth and homeless youth at CSU, CCC, and UC campuses, currently limited to youth younger than 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year. (EC § 66025.9)

3) Requests CCC campuses to give priority housing to foster and homeless youth and provide year-round housing at no extra cost during breaks. (EC § 76010)

4) Requires CSU campuses to give priority housing to foster and homeless youth. (EC § 90001.5)

5) Requires UC campuses to give priority housing to foster and homeless youth, subject to the UC Regents issuing a resolution of approval. (EC § 92660)

6) Establishes the NextUp program for foster youth services in CCCs. (EC § 79220 et seq.)

ANALYSIS

This bill:

1) Expands the definition of current and former foster youth to include CCC students who are enrolled in the NextUp program at a CCC for purposes of determining and granting priority registration for enrollment.

2) Requires each CCC campus that maintains student housing facilities to do all of the following:

a) Grant priority for housing to current and former homeless youth and current and former foster youth.

b) Open for occupation during school breaks, or on a year round basis grant first priority to current and former homeless youth and current and former foster youth at no extra cost.

c) Include in its student housing application, questions to identify students who may be eligible for priority housing, as prescribed.

d) Defer or waive, notwithstanding any other law, the collection of any housing-related costs required for initial occupancy for an eligible student until the student receives their financial aid disbursement for the applicable academic term.

e) Require as a condition of eligibility for the deferral or waiver that the student submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) or the California DREAM Act application, as applicable, for the academic term in which the housing is sought.

f) Not deny housing placement, cancel a housing assignment, or condition access to student housing on the prepayment of housing-related costs by an eligible student before the student receives their financial aid disbursement for the applicable term.

g) Post on its website information describing priority housing benefits and the eligibility criteria for those benefits.

3) Requires, *in addition to granting priority and access during breaks, as provided in current law*, each CSU and UC campus that maintains student housing facilities to do all of the following:

a) Include in its student housing application, questions designed to identify students who may be eligible for priority housing, as prescribed.

b) Defer or waive, notwithstanding any other law, the collection of any housing-related costs required for initial occupancy for an eligible student until the student receives their financial aid disbursement for the applicable academic term.

c) Require as a condition of eligibility for the deferral or waiver that the student submit a FAFSA or the California DREAM Act application, as applicable, for the academic term in which the housing is sought.

d) Not deny housing placement, cancel a housing assignment, or condition access to student housing on the prepayment of housing-related costs by an eligible student before the student receives their financial aid disbursement for the applicable term.

e) Post on its website information describing priority housing benefits and the eligibility criteria for those benefits.

4) Authorizes each CCC, CSU, and UC campus that maintains student housing facilities to require payment of the deferred housing-related costs if an eligible student does not receive a financial aid disbursement for the applicable academic term after submitting a FAFSA or California Dream Act application provided that all of the following has occurred:

   a) The campus has provided a written notice informing the student that they did not receive a financial aid disbursement for the applicable academic term.

   b) The student is afforded a reasonable period of time, which is not less than 30 days from the date of the notice to submit payment.

   c) The campus has not assessed late fees, penalties, or interest charges before expiration of the reasonable period of time provided.

5) States that the provisions governing deferral or waiver of housing related costs at CCC, CSU and UC campuses do not waive a student's ultimate responsibility for payment of housing-related costs not waived nor does it require a campus to forgive those costs.

6) Defines terms for purposes including, "Housing related costs" to mean costs including, but are not limited to, housing application fees, housing deposits, security deposits, administrative fees, or other charges required as a condition of securing or maintaining student housing.

Comments

Need for the bill. According to the author, "AB 2766 removes key structural barriers that prevent vulnerable students from enrolling, persisting, and completing their postsecondary education. As someone who has experience with homelessness and the foster care system, I understand how difficult it can be to complete college without stable, secure housing. I also understand the transformative power of a college degree, and the vast potential for expanded opportunity it can create. This bill takes several simple yet impactful steps to promote academic success for former and current foster youth and students experiencing homelessness, providing crucial support to vulnerable individuals and promoting upward mobility."

NextUp. A student is eligible to be served by the NextUp program if the student is a current or former foster youth who was in care on or after the student's 13th birthday, is enrolled in at least nine units, and is not older than 25 years of age at the beginning of the academic term in which the student participates in NextUp. Students enrolled in fewer than nine units may be accepted if enrollment is part of an education plan designed to move the student toward subsequent enrollment in at least nine units.

The NextUp program provides traditional student support services such as orientation, in addition to outreach and recruitment, consultation and eligibility verification, consultation and referrals for students deemed ineligible, service coordination, counseling, book and supply grants, tutoring, independent living and financial literacy skills support, frequent in-person contact, career guidance, transfer counseling, child care and transportation assistance, and referrals to health services, mental health services, housing assistance, and other related services.

Age requirements for priority enrollment. Priority enrollment decisions are made at the campus level at each segment. The process allows specific students access to classes ahead of the general student population. For example, continuing students are generally allowed to enroll in courses before new students enroll. As such, students who have priority registration status have an advantage over other students. Under current law, students who were in foster care on or after their 13th birthday and who are no older than 25 years of age at the commencement of the academic year are eligible for priority enrollment at CSU, CCCs, and UC. This bill expands eligibility for priority enrollment at CCCs by including students who are enrolled in the NextUP program. Effectively extending eligibility to older students who entered the NextUp program at age 25.

New priority housing requirement for CCCs. According to the Chancellor's 2024 student housing report, 6% of students receiving housing assistance are current or former foster youth and about nine percent are homeless. About 16 CCCs or parent colleges currently provide campus-owned, campus-operated, or campus-affiliated student housing. More than 80% of CCCs that currently offer housing also have students on waiting lists. This bill requires CCCs that maintain student housing facilities to grant priority housing to homeless and foster youth. Current law already requires CSU and requests UC to do the same at their respective institutions.

Expands housing support for homeless and foster youth. This bill attempts to ease access to campus housing for foster and homeless youth by requiring CCCs, CSUs, and requesting UC to identify potentially eligible foster and homeless youth through the housing application process, defer or waive housing related costs, and maintain publicly available information regarding priority housing eligibility and benefits. The deferral or waiver of housing related costs is effective until the students receive their financial aid disbursement. Students are required to submit a FAFSA or CA Dream Act application as a condition for qualifying for fee deferral or waiver. Institutions are permitted to collect payment if the student does not receive a financial aid disbursement under certain circumstances.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

John Burton Advocates for Youth (co-source)
Student Homes Coalition (co-source)
uAspire (co-source)
University of California Student Association (co-source)
California State Treasurer
Alliance for a Better Community
Alliance for Children's Rights
Allies for Every Child
Asian Americans Advancing Justice Southern California
Aspiranet
Cal State Student Association
California Alliance of Caregivers
California Alliance of Child and Family Services
California Community Colleges Chancellor's Office
California Court Appointed Special Advocate Association
California Teachers Association

Central American Resource Center of California
CFT – a Union of Educators & Classified Professionals, AFT, AFL-CIO
Children Now
Children Youth & Family Collaborative
Children's Law Center of California
College for All Coalition
Consejo de Federaciones Mexicanas
County of Santa Clara
Davis College Democrats
Educating Students Together
Everychild Foundation
Faculty Association of California Community Colleges
Future Leaders of America
InnerCity Struggle
Journey House
Kid City Hope Place
Latino and Latina Roundtable of the San Gabriel and Pomona Valley
Los Angeles Unified School District
Los Angeles Urban Foundation
Office of the Riverside County Superintendent of Schools
Ohlone College NextUp
Orange County United Way
Pasadena City College Next Up
Public Advocates
Public Counsel
Puente Learning Center
Sacramento County Office of Education
San Bernardino Valley College Guardian Scholars
Santa Clara County Office of Education
Santa Cruz County Office of Education
SchoolHouse Connection
Southern California College Attainment Network
Stepping Forward LA
Student Homes At SJSU
Student Homes At UCLA
Student Homes At UCSB
Student Homes At UCSD
Student Senate for California Community Colleges
The Institute for College Access & Success
UCLA CalKIDS Institute

Unite-LA
University Housing Rights Organization at UC Berkeley
University of California
University of California Student Association
Young Invincibles
YouthBridge Housing
Two individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Olgalilia Ramirez / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 15:12:55

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2772
Author: Committee on Business and Professions
Amended: 6/30/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 9-2, 6/29/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg
NOES: Niello, Strickland

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Interior designers

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill extends the sunset date of the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC or Council) to January 1, 2031, and makes statutory improvements and policy reforms in response to issues raised during the Council's sunset review oversight.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes CCIDC, a nonprofit organization that consists of CIDs whose governing board includes representatives of the public. (Business and Professions Code (BPC) § 5800(b))

2) Defines the practice of a Certified Interior Designer (CID) as the preparation and submission of nonstructural or nonseismic plans to local building departments that are of sufficient complexity so as to require the skills of a licensed contractor to implement them, and the programming, planning,

designing, and documenting of the construction and installation of nonstructural or nonseismic elements, finishes and furnishings within the interior spaces of a building. (BPC § 5800(a))

3) Provides that the CID title act shall be subject to review by the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027, and as of that date is repealed. (BPC § 5810)

4) Provides that a CID may voluntarily obtain a stamp from CCIDC that includes a unique number and bears the name of that CID and identifies the individual as either a CID or a CID with commercial designation. (BPC § 5801)

5) Subjects the procedure for the issuance of a stamp by CCIDC, including the examinations recognized and required by CCIDC, to occupational analyses and examination validation. (BPC § 5801.1)

6) Requires all drawings, specifications, or documents prepared for submission to any government regulatory agency by any CID or under their supervision to be affixed by a stamp and signed by that CID. (BPC § 5802)

7) Makes it an unfair business practice for any CID or any other person to represent to the public that the person is "state certified" to practice interior design, or to use any other words or symbols that represent to the public that the person is so certified. (BPC § 5804)

8) Provides that nothing in the CID title act precludes CIDs or any other person from submitting interior design plans for commercial or residential buildings to local building officials, except as provided. (BPC § 5805)

9) Requires meetings of CCIDC to comply with the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act and authorizes CCIDC to take reasonable actions to carry out its responsibilities and duties; to adopt bylaws, rules, and procedures necessary to effectuate the purposes of the CID title act; and to establish application fees, renewal fees, and other fees related to the regulatory costs of providing services and carrying out CCIDC's responsibilities and duties. (BPC § 5811)

10) Authorizes CCIDC to issue a certification to any applicant who provides evidence that they meet all of the requirements and complies with the bylaws, rules, and procedures established by CCIDC and authorizes CCIDC to issue a commercial designation to a CID or qualified applicant who, in addition to the requirements for a CID, passes additional interior design courses and examinations, as determined to be required by CCIDC. (BPC § 5811.1)

11) Makes it an unfair business practice for any person to represent or hold themselves out as, or to use the title "Certified Interior Designer" or any other term, such as "licensed," "registered," or "CID," that implies or suggests that the person is certified as an interior designer when they do not hold a valid certification from CCIDC. (BPC § 5812)

12) Defines "design professional" as a person licensed as an architect pursuant to Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 5500) of Division 3 of the BPC, licensed as a landscape architect pursuant to Chapter 3.5 (commencing with Section 5615) of Division 3 of the BPC, registered as a professional engineer pursuant to Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 6700) of Division 3 of the BPC, or licensed as a land surveyor pursuant to Chapter 15 (commencing with Section 8700) of Division 3 of the BPC. (Civil Code (CIV) § 8014)

13) Establishes the California Public Records Act (CPRA) to define the public's right to access public records in the custody of state agencies, unless exempt from disclosure by law. (Government Code (GC) § 7920.000, *et seq.*)

14) Establishes salaries for cabinet-level officials of state government. (GC) § 11550)

This bill sets CCIDC's next sunset date to January 1, 2031, and makes various statutory improvements to the chapter regulating interior designers resulting from the sunset review process.

Background

Oversight Hearings and Sunset Review of Licensing Boards and Programs. In March 2026, the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee and the Assembly Committee on Business and Professions (Committees) began their comprehensive sunset review oversight of ten regulatory entities, including CCIDC. The Committees conducted three oversight hearings. This bill and the accompanying sunset bills are intended to implement legislative changes as recommended by staff of the Committees, and which are reflected in the Background Papers prepared by Committee staff for each agency and program reviewed this year.

Background on CCIDC. The Council was first established in 1992. Unlike the majority of programs responsible for overseeing professions and vocations in California, CCIDC is not a state agency and does not function as part of the state's government. Instead, CCIDC is incorporated as a private nonprofit public benefit corporation with 501(c)(3) tax exempt status. Certification offered by CCIDC is

voluntary, though statute allows only certified individuals to use the term "certified interior designer" or similar language that implies CCIDC certification.

As of December 2025, there are 1,722 certified interior designers (CIDs) in California. CCIDC is authorized to issue a commercial designation to CIDs who have passed additional interior design courses and examinations.

CCIDC has the authority to grant or deny applications for certification and to discipline certificate holders by denying, suspending, or imposing probationary conditions on certificates. CCIDC may also require a CID to complete remedial coursework in ethics and business practices as a condition of reinstatement or resolution of a disciplinary action. Through these responsibilities, CCIDC helps ensure that CIDs meet professional competency standards designed to protect California consumers. CCIDC does not approve or oversee educational institutions offering programs in interior design.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

California Building Officials
California Council for Interior Design Certification
California Legislative Coalition for Interior Designers
Multiple Individuals

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

International Interior Design Association – Southern California Chapter

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: California Building Officials write in support, "Local Building Officials and the California Council for Interior Design Certification (CCIDC) share a common mission of protecting the health, safety, and welfare of the public. California's Certified Interior Designer program establishes meaningful standards for education, examination, and experience that support competent professional practice and promote public confidence. AB 2772 strengthens that successful program by enhancing accountability, reinforcing CCIDC's public protection mission, and extending California's Certified Interior Designer program through 2031. These improvements support continued collaboration among design professionals, building officials, and public agencies in protecting California consumers."

The California Council for Interior Design Certification writes in support, "AB 2772 is the product of the Legislature's sunset review process and reflects a

thoughtful, balanced approach to strengthening California's long-standing interior design certification program. The bill not only extends the operation of the program through January 1, 2031, but also enhances public protection, strengthens accountability, and modernizes key provisions of California's Title Act for Certified Interior Designers (CIDs)."

The California Legislative Coalition for Interior Designers writes, "CLCID believes that CCIDC is a model consumer protection body. It is laser-focused on its mission, innovates to resolve issues, and operates in a highly efficient manner. CLCID believes that CCIDC has a strong history of maintaining its consumer-centric commitment, while also exercising skilled stewardship over its resources and programs. We are confident that CICDC has earned a four-year extension."

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: The International Interior Design Association – Southern California Chapter writes, "After multiple sunset reviews and years of recommendations, CCIDC continues to demonstrate the same structural and operational deficiencies. Continuing to extend the organization without meaningful reform does not serve consumers, design professionals, or the Legislature. For these reasons, IIDA Southern California respectfully recommends that the Legislature allow CCIDC to sunset and evaluate more appropriate approaches to professional regulation and public protection."

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: Yeaphana La Marr / B., P. & E.D. /
8/5/26 15:12:56

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2776
Author: Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
Amended: 7/2/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Blakespear, Valladares, Allen, Dahle, Gonzalez, Hurtado, Menjivar

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Hazardous materials

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes various technical changes to the unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory programs that are overseen by the Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) and adds reporting authorizations for the Board of Environmental Safety (BES).

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes the 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 its life cycle. (42 United States Code (USC) §§ 6901 et seq.)

2) Enacts the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA) of 1986, which was created to help communities plan for chemical emergencies. EPCRA requires industry to report on the storage, use, and releases of hazardous substances to federal, state, and local governments; and requires state and local governments, and Indian tribes to use this information

to prepare their community for potential risks. (42 United States Code (USC) §§ 11001 et seq.)

3) Establishes standards and requirements for generators of hazardous waste and lists conditions for permit exemptions. (40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) §§ 262 et seq.)

Existing state law:

1) Creates the Hazardous Waste Control Law (HWCL), which authorizes the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to regulate the management of hazardous wastes in California. (Health and Safety Code (HSC) §§ 25100 et seq.)

2) Defines "Certified Unified Program Agency" or "CUPA" as the agency certified by the Secretary of the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) to implement the unified program within a jurisdiction. (HSC § 25404(a)(1)(A))

3) Defines "Unified Program Agency" or "UPA" as the CUPA to implement or enforce a particular Unified Program element. UPAs have the responsibility and authority to implement and enforce the unified program requirements and implementing regulations. (HSC § 25404(a)(1)(C))

4) Requires the Secretary of CalEPA to adopt implementing regulations and implement a unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory program, known as the Unified Program. (HSC § 25404(b))

5) Defines "treatment" to mean any method, technique, or process that is designed to change the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of any hazardous waste or any material contained therein, or that removes or reduces its harmful properties or characteristics and provides specified activities that treatment does not include. (HSC § 25135.5(a))

6) Defines "aboveground storage tank" as a tank or container that has a capacity to store 55 gallons or more of petroleum that is substantially above the surface of the ground; and provides that "aboveground storage tank" does not include a specified list of things including oil filled electrical equipment or a tank in an underground area that has capacity to store less than 55 gallons of petroleum, has secondary containment, and is inspected monthly. (HSC § 25270.2 (a)(4), (a)(8))

7) Specifies various requirements for the owner/operator of an aboveground petroleum storage tank facility. (HSC § 25270.4.5 (b)(1); HSC § 25270.6 (a)(1).

8) Requires a permit holder of an underground storage tank (UST) to, within 60 days of receiving a compliance report or special inspection report, file with the CUPA a plan to implement all recommendations contained in the compliance report or demonstrate to the satisfaction of the CUPA why the recommendations should not be implemented. (HSC § 25288(d))

9) Requires vacuum, pressure, or hydrostatic (VPH) monitoring for USTs for all product piping, including aboveground piping. (HSC § 25290.1(e))

10) Requires businesses to establish and implement a business plan for emergency response to a release or threatened release of a hazardous material, as described, if the business meets specified conditions, including handling specified hazardous materials at defined quantities, including gases.

11) Establishes the BES within DTSC with five voting members that represent the general public interest and act to protect public health and reduce risks of toxic exposure with a particular focus on disproportionately burdened and vulnerable communities. (HSC § 25125)

This bill:

1) Removes the exclusion for biohazardous waste, that meets specified conditions, from the requirements of the HWCL.

2) Precludes a small quantity generator from the requirements of a storage facility if the generator complies the requirements of 22 California Code of Regulation (CCR) § 66262.16.

3) Exempts the "compaction of hazardous waste" from the definition of "treatment", including nonliquid waste materials and provides that the compaction of hazardous waste applies to the compaction of nonliquid waste materials, as specified, if all of the following conditions apply:

    a) The waste is not a liquid, as specified, or a solid that meets the ignitability characteristics, as defined, or the reactivity characteristic, as defined;

    b) The compaction does not alter the physical, chemical, or biological character or composition of the waste, other than the reduction in volume of the waste, increase in density, or changes in shape or form; and

c) The compaction does not result in the production of fugitive dust, fire, or explosion.

4) Amends the exclusions to "aboveground storage tank", oil-filled electrical equipment to specify a single piece of equipment; and a tank in an underground area that has the capacity to store less than 55 gallons of petroleum to specify that the secondary containment includes contents of the tank, associated piping, and ancillary equipment, until cleanup occurs and that such equipment are inspected monthly.

5) Requires a permitholder of an underground tank system to return to compliance within 30 days, instead of 60 days, after receiving a compliance or special inspection report, as described, except if the local agency approves a plan to return to compliance in excess of 30 days and the local agency receives the plan within 30 days of the permitholder receiving the compliance or special inspection report.

6) Clarifies that VPH monitoring of a UST only applies to UST components beneath the surface of the ground.

7) Clarifies that businesses that handle specified gases in a quantity of less than 1,000 cubic feet are precluded from establishing and implementing a business plan for emergency response to a release or threatened release of a hazardous material, as described.

8) Requires an owner or operator of a tank facility to immediately notify the Office of Emergency Services and the CUPA, as specified, of the occurrence of a discharge of any petroleum into or upon any waters of the state.

9) Requires the BES to annually prepare, post on its internet website, and transmit to the Secretary of the CalEPA an annual review of DTSC's performance and authorizes, to the extent feasible using existing resources, the review to include any of the following:
   a) A review of DTSC's performance as measured by the performance metrics, as specified;

   b) Recommendations regarding the analysis of the fee structure that supports the activities of DTSC;

   c) Legislative, regulatory, and budgetary changes that BES has identified as necessary to improve the performance of any of the department's programs; and

d) Findings from the subcommittees of the BES and the ombudsperson of the BES that the chairperson deems significant.

10) Prohibits specified components of the review from resulting in an increase in facility and generator fees.

11) Makes non-substantive, clarifying, and technical amendments.

Background

1) *Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs).* CUPAs are local agencies certified by the Secretary of CalEPA to implement and enforce six "unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management" regulatory programs (Unified Program). Currently, there are 81 CUPAs in California tasked with implementation and enforcement of the following:
   a) Hazardous Materials Release Response Plans and Inventories (Business Plans);
   b) California Accidental Release Prevention Program (CalARP);
   c) Underground Storage Tank Program (USTP);
   d) Aboveground Petroleum Storage Act (APSA);
   e) Hazardous Waste Generator and Onsite Hazardous Waste Treatment Programs; and,
   f) California Uniform Fire Code: Hazardous Material Management Plans and Hazardous Material Inventory Statements.

2) *Underground Storage Tank Program (UST Program).* The statewide UST Program works to protect public health and safety and the environment from releases of petroleum and other hazardous substances from USTs. A UST is defined by law (HSC § 25299.32) as "any one or combination of tanks, including pipes connected thereto, that is used for the storage of hazardous substances and is substantially or totally beneath the surface of the ground." CUPAs enforce UST regulations within their jurisdiction.

3) *Hazardous Waste Generator and Onsite Hazardous Waste Treatment Programs.* State and federal law and regulation require businesses to manage their hazardous waste from the point of generation until proper disposal or recycling. This includes labeling and storage requirements and ensuring it is properly transported to a facility authorized to receive hazardous waste.

Additionally, there are requirements for entities that treat their hazardous waste on-site. CUPAs enforce hazardous waste generator requirements as well as onsite hazardous waste treatment requirements within their jurisdiction.

4) *Aboveground Petroleum Storage Tank Act (APSA).* APSA regulates tank facilities that are subject to federal regulation or tank facilities with an aggregate storage capacity of 1,320 gallons or more of petroleum in aboveground storage containers or tanks with a shell capacity equal to or greater than 55 gallons. APSA also regulates tank facilities with less than 1,320 gallons of petroleum if they have one or more stationary tanks in an underground area (TIUGA). CUPAs enforce APSA within their jurisdiction.

5) *The Board of Environmental Safety (BES).* BES was established by SB 158 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 73, Statutes of 2021) as part of the reform for the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). BES is a five-member board that advances key governance and fiscal measures to improve transparency, accountability, and fiscal stability of DTSC. Members of BES represent the general public interest, protect public health, and reduce risks of toxic exposure with a particular focus on disproportionately burdened and vulnerable communities. SB 158 gave BES various mandates, including setting generator and permitted facility fees, hearing and deciding permit appeals, reviewing the priorities of the director of DTSC, and conducting an analysis on the fee structure that supports the activities of DTSC. BES is required to submit an annual review of DTSC's performance to the Secretary of CalEPA.

Comments

Purpose of Bill. According to the author, "CUPAs meet routinely to discuss implementation of the six statewide programs they oversee and occasionally discover inconsistencies in interpretation of the law. In order to maintain a unified program, the CUPAs bring any potential inconsistencies to state regulators (CalEPA, the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board)) and to the regulated community. AB 2776 reflects suggestions brought forward from the discussions with the CUPAs, state regulators, and the regulated community"

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 1459 (ESTM Committee, Chapter 89, Statutes of 2025) made various technical changes to the six unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory programs that are overseen by the CUPAs.

AB 1716 (ESTM Committee, Chapter 207, Statutes of 2023) made various technical changes to the six unified hazardous waste and hazardous materials management regulatory programs that are overseen by the CUPAs.

AB 2059 (Carrillo, Chapter 278, Statutes of 2022) required specified suppliers of hazardous materials to maintain, for at least one year, records of sales and provisions of hazardous materials of specified quantities to a business in the state and provide such records to a CUPA within five days of a request. Narrows the definition of retail establishment for purposes of hazardous material reporting and limits current exemptions of consumer products as specified from inclusion in a business plan for emergency response to a release or threatened release.

AB 1429 (Chen, Chapter 66, Statutes of 2019) authorized a business that handles hazardous materials to submit their Business Plan to the California Environmental Reporting System once every three years, instead of annually, if that business is not required to submit Tier II chemical inventory information under the federal EPCRA of 1986.

AB 1500 (Carrillo, 2019) would have authorized a CUPA or a local health officer to temporarily suspend a facility permit, including the shutdown of a facility, if conditions at the facility pose an imminent or substantial endangerment to public health and safety. Would have clarified the authority of a CUPA, subject to its jurisdiction, to fine or penalize a facility that is operating without a permit.

AB 1689 (ESTM Committee, Chapter 159, Statutes of 2017) added combustible metals and metal alloys to the list of materials a business must include in its hazardous materials business plan.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

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: Taylor McKie / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 15:12:57

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2777
Author: Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
Amended: 3/26/26 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: 75-1, 5/26/26 - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund program: loans: outdoor eating areas: water reuse

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to assess a fee instead of interest for financial assistance services when administering loans under the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF); and makes a technical change to recently enacted legislation dealing with recycled water.

ANALYSIS:

Existing federal law:

1) Establishes the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) to regulate discharges of pollutants into the waters of the United States and to regulate quality standards for surface waters. (33 United States Code (U.S.C.) §§ 1251 et seq.)

Existing state law:

2) Declares the intent of the Legislature, that because the federal CWA provides for establishment of a perpetual water pollution control revolving loan fund,

which will be partially capitalized by federal contributions, it is in the interest of people of the state, in order to ensure full participation by the state under the federal CWA, to enact laws to authorize the state to establish and implement a state/federal water pollution control revolving fund in accordance with federal provisions, requirements, and limitations. (Water Code (WC) § 13475)

3) Creates the Clean Water State Revolving Fund in the State Treasury and designates the State Water Board as the state agency responsible for administering the CWSRF. (WC § 13477)

4) Establishes requirements for what funds could be deposited into the CWSRF and authorizes the State Water Board to assess an annual charge for financial assistance services rendered not to exceed 1% of the financial assistance balance. (WC § 13477.5)

5) Establishes criteria for the uses of monies in the CWSRF including that the loans are made at or below market interest rates. (WC § 13480)

6) Requires the State Water Board to establish uniform statewide recycling criteria for each varying type of use of recycled water where the use involves the protection of public health. (WC § 13521)

7) Prohibits a person or public agency, including a state agency, city, county, city and county, district, or any other political subdivision of the state, from using potable water for nonpotable uses, including cemeteries, golf courses, parks, highway landscaped areas, and industrial and irrigation uses if suitable recycled water is available. (WC § 13551)

8) Defines “incidental runoff” as unintended amounts (volume) of runoff, such as unintended, minimal overspray from sprinklers that escapes the area of intended use. Water leaving an intended use area is not considered incidental if it is part of the facility or system design, if it is due to excessive application, if it is due to intentional overflow or application, or if it is due to negligence. (23 California Code of Regulations (CCR) § 995)

This bill:

1) Authorizes the State Water Board to assess fees for financial assistance services with regard to the financial assistance as permitted by federal law.

2) Removes the requirement that the financial assistance service rate assessed by the State Water Board remains unchanged for the duration of financial

assistance and the prohibition to increase the financial assistance repayment amount.

3) Removes the requirement that the State Water Board sets the total revenue collected through annual charges for financial assistance at an amount that is as equally as practicable to the revenue level set in the annual Budget Act.

4) Removes the requirement that the State Water Board conform the financial assistance service rate with the revenue level set in the annual Budget Act.

5) Requires loans from the fund to be made at below market interest rates.

6) Removes the rate limit, as described, and rate conditions, as specified, on the combined interest and loan service rate.

7) Removes the method at which the combined interest and loan service rate is computed, as specified.

8) Makes findings and declarations as it pertains to funding for recycled water, wastewater, and water quality infrastructure.

9) Precludes incidental amounts of spray or mist from being permitted to enter outdoor eating areas of parks and open spaces when irrigated with recycled water, as specified.

10) Defines "incidental runoff" to mean unintended amounts (volume) of runoff, such as unintended, minimal overspray from sprinklers that escapes the area of intended use. Further specifies that water leaving an intended use area is not considered incidental if it is part of the facility or system design, due to excessive application, due to intentional overflow or application, or due to negligence.

Background

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF). The federal CWA established the CWSRF program to finance the protection and improvement of water quality. Many of the projects funded by the CWSRF program address wastewater discharge violations or enforcement orders issued by the Regional Water Quality Control Boards. California's CWSRF program operates pursuant to an operating agreement between the State Water Board and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 9. The CWSRF functions as an environmental infrastructure bank capitalized by federal and state funds – providing a sustainable source of funds for water quality protection and improvement.

The capital and its earnings of the CWSRF are used to provide financial assistance to a wide variety of water quality projects. States can target specific water quality problems, offer a variety of financing options, and customize terms to meet their water quality needs. Financing options include loans, refinancing debt, purchasing, or guaranteeing local debt, and purchasing bond insurance. Interest rates must be below the market rate. The repayment period is generally the lesser of 30 years or the expected useful life of the financed asset. Since 2009, federal CWSRF appropriations and California law have also authorized grants, negative interest rates, and principal forgiveness on a limited basis.

California's CWSRF has grown since financing its first project in 1989 and has executed more than $14.7 billion in financial assistance agreements with over 500 unique recipients. The program has funded a broad range of projects. The CWSRF can finance publicly owned treatment facilities, nonpoint source projects, and estuary projects. The most common types of application received are for wastewater treatment plants and sewer systems. Funding recipients are government entities, tribes, or non-profit organizations responsible for these projects. The interest rate is half of the most recent General Obligation Bond rate. The most common construction financing term is 30 years. The CWSRF has significant financial assets and is capable of financing projects from less than $1 million to more than $100 million.

When the CWSRF loans out funds, the recipient pays back both principal and interest. Currently the principal is deposited in the CWSRF and a portion of the interest is also deposited in the CWSRF.

This bill replaces the interest that is attached to a loan from the CWSRF, with a fee (also known as a fee in lieu of interest). The fee will be set at an amount no greater than what the interest would have been. However, this change will provide the State Water Board with flexibility in administering the CWSRF and the possibility that more funds could be deposited in the CWSRF than allowed under current law.

Implementing legislation on recycled water. SB 31 (McNerney, Chapter 736, Statutes of 2025) clarified that the use of recycled water is authorized in various applications and under specified circumstances. SB 31 provided that water discharged from a decorative body of water during a storm event is not an unauthorized discharge if recycled water was used to restore levels due to evaporation. Additionally, the bill authorized incidental amounts of spray, mist or runoff to enter outdoor eating areas of parks and open spaces when irrigated with

disinfected tertiary treated recycled water that complies with existing regulations governing the use of recycled water. However, during implementation of SB 31, questions have arisen regarding the definition of incidental runoff.

In order to assist with the implementation of SB 31, this bill defines "incidental runoff" as unintended amounts (volume) of runoff, such as unintended, minimal overspray from sprinklers that escapes the area of intended use. Water leaving an intended use area is not considered incidental if it is part of the facility or system design, if it is due to excessive application, if it is due to intentional overflow or application, or if it is due to negligence. This definition currently exists in state regulations (23 CCR § 995).

Comments

Purpose of Bill. According to the author, "This bill is designed to make technical, yet substantive changes to water quality law. Specifically, this bill will provide the State Water Board flexibility when administering the CWSRF at no additional cost to water agencies, with the goal of stabilizing and potentially increasing the resources available within the CWSRF. Additionally, AB 2777 makes a technical clarification to recently enacted legislation dealing with water recycling."

Related/Prior Legislation

SB 31 (McNerney, Chapter 736, Statutes of 2025) clarified that the use of recycled water is authorized in various applications and under specified circumstances.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
California Association of Sanitation Agencies
California Municipal Utilities Association
Cdp Rural Caucus
Central Contra Costa Sanitary District
City of Roseville
Clean Water Socal
Dublin San Ramon Services District
Eastern Municipal Water District
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Inland Empire Utilities Agency

Irvine Ranch Water District
Las Virgenes Municipal Water District
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts
Orange County Sanitation District
Rancho Water
Sacramento Area Sewer District
Water Replenishment District
Water Replenishment District of Southern California
Watereuse California
West Basin Municipal Water District
Western Municipal Water District

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 75-1, 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, 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, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NOES: DeMaio
NO VOTE RECORDED: Muratsuchi, Celeste Rodriguez, Sanchez, Ta

Prepared by: Taylor McKie / E.Q. / (916) 651-4108
8/5/26 15:12:57

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

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CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2778
Author: Committee on Agriculture
Amended: 6/22/26 in Senate
Vote: 27

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

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Food and agriculture

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill (1) extends the licensing and inspection programs under the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act, including the annual licenses renewal fees for custom livestock slaughterhouses and meat processing establishments indefinitely; (2) expands the scope of the Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant Program, which is administered by the Office of Farm to Fork (OFTF) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA); finally, (3) extends the California Seed Law (CSL) subvention program until July 1, 2032.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act and establishes an application fee of $100.00 for renewal of a license for a livestock meat inspector or a processing inspector.

2) Establishes within the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act the application fee for a meat processing establishment or a new, previously

unlicensed custom livestock slaughterhouse is $500.00 for a license for one year for each establishment the applicant desires to operate (Food and Agricultural Code Section 19010).

3) Establishes within the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act the application fee for a custom livestock slaughterhouse is:

   a) $500.00 if the plant slaughtered 1,000 or fewer head of livestock during the preceding October through September time period.

   b) $750 if the plant slaughtered between 1,000 and 5,000 head of livestock during the preceding October through September time period.

   c) $1,200.00 if the plant slaughtered over 5,000 head of livestock during the preceding October through September time period.

   d) States the annual renewal fee for a meat reprocessing establishment is $500.00.

   e) States if the applicant for renewal have not paid the renewal fee by the expiration date of the license shall be assessed a penalty of 10% of the unpaid balance. Failure to pay the renewal fee plus the penalty within 90 days of expiration shall cause a revocation of a license.

   f) The application fee shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027 unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2027, deletes or extends that date *(Food and Agricultural Code Section 18981).*

4) Establishes within the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act the application fee for a new, previously unlicensed poultry plant is $500.00 for a license for one year for each poultry plant the applicant desires to operate (Food and Agricultural Code Section 24744).

5) States an application for renewal of a license for a poultry plant is:

   a) $500.00 if the plant slaughtered 10,000 or fewer poultry during the preceding October through September time period.

   b) $750.00 if the plant slaughtered between 10,000 and 100,000 poultry during the preceding October through September time period.

   c) $1,200.00 if the plant slaughtered over 100,000 poultry during the preceding October through September time period.

d) The application fee shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2027 unless a later enacted statute, that is enacted before January 1, 2027, deletes or extends that date (Food and Agricultural Code Section 18981).

6) Establishes the California Seed Law (CSL) which regulates agricultural or vegetable seed, as specified, within the state, as well as the investigation and prosecution, as specified. *(Food and Agricultural Code Sections 52281 – 52289).*

   a) Provides that the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), county agricultural commissioners (CAC), and their qualified representatives enforce CSL.

   b) Establishes a CSL subvention program under which requires CDFA to annually apportion $120,000, in aggregate, among counties that choose to participate in the subvention program as specified. FAC 52323-4)

   c) Makes the CSL subvention program inoperative on July 1, 2027, and all provisions relating to the CSL subvention program are repealed on January 1, 2028. (Food and Agricultural Code Section 52325).

7) Establishes the Nutrition Incentive Matching Grant Program (NIMG Program) within the Office of Farm to Fork at CDFA for the purpose of encouraging the purchase and consumption of California Fresh Fruits, nuts, and vegetables by nutrition benefit clients, as defined (Food and Agricultural Code Section 49012).

8) Creates the NIMG Account in the CDFA Fund to collect matching funds received from a specified federal grant program, if available, and funds from other public and private sources. (Food and Agricultural Code Section 49012).

9) Requires the NIMG program to provide grants upon the deposit of sufficient funds, including from a successful application for federal grant funding, if available, into the account. It also provides for the administration of the program and requires, subject to specified federal regulations, CDFA to award funds in the NIMG account to qualified entities, as defined, for consumer incentive programs, among other things. (Food and Agricultural Code Section 49012).

This bill:

1) Removes the sunset date of January 1, 2027 for the licensing fee and inspectors' fee and meat processing establishment and poultry processing

establishment provisions under the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act.

2) Extends the sunset on the CSL subvention program from July 1, 2027 to July 1, 2032, and repeals the statutory provisions related to the program on January 1, 2036.

3) Specifies that a certified mobile farmers' market, as defined, is a qualified entity eligible to be awarded moneys through the NIMG Program.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Agricultural Institute of Marin
Alchemist CDC
California Alliance of Farmers' Markets
California Food and Farming Network
Coastside Farmers' Markets
Ecology Center
Everyone's Harvest
Food Access LA
Foodwise
Fresh Approach
Heart of the City Farmers' Market
Laytonville Certified Farmers' Market
Nextgen California
North Coast Growers Association
Office of Kat Taylor
Roots of Change
Santa Cruz Community Farmers' Market
Ukiah Certified Farmers' Market
Urban Village Farmers' Market Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author: "Each year, various private and public groups discover minor problems with state statutes affecting agriculture and policies under the jurisdiction of the California Department of Agriculture. These minor problems do not warrant separate and costly bills.

According to the Legislative Analyst, the cost of producing a bill in 2001-02 was $17,890.

Legislators respond by combining several of these minor topics into an annual "omnibus bill." In 2022, for example, the Assembly Committee on Agriculture (Ag Com) omnibus bill was AB 1959 (Ag Com) which contained noncontroversial statutory changes to three areas of local government law, avoiding approximately $35,780 in legislative 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: Reichel Everhart / AGRI. / (916) 651-1508
8/5/26 15:12:58

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

THIRD READING

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 Code of Federal Regulations (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
7/2/26 11:57:08

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

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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 statues, 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 judgement 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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2783
Author: Committee on Judiciary , et al.
Amended: 6/3/26 in Senate
Vote: 27 - Urgency

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 BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 11-0, 6/29/26
AYES: Wahab, Choi, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Niello, Smallwood-Cuevas, Strickland, Umberg

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

SUBJECT: Court reporting

SOURCE: California Court Reporters Association

DIGEST: This bill permits an applicant to satisfy the diction/transcription component of their examination for certification as a shorthand reporter by the Court Reporters Board of California (CRB) through completion of a certification administered by the National Court Reporter Association, and extends the termination and sunset dates for the ongoing remote reporting pilot projects in specified superior courts, on an urgency basis.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides that an official court reporter or official court reporter pro tempore[1] of the superior court shall take down in shorthand all testimony, objections made,

[1] Going forward, this analysis uses "official court reporter" to include "official court reporter pro tempore."

rulings of the court, exceptions taken, arraignments, pleas, sentences, arguments of the attorneys to the jury, and statements and remarks made and oral instructions given by the judge or other judicial officer, in the following cases:

a) In a civil case, on the order of the court or at the request of a party.

b) In a felony case, on the order of the court or at the request of the prosecution, the defendant, or the attorney for the defendant.

c) In a misdemeanor or infraction case, on the order of the court. (Code of Civil Procedure (Code Civ. Proc.), § 269(a).)

2) Requires the court to provide an official court reporter in felony, dependency, and juvenile justice proceedings. (Penal (Pen.) Code, §§ 190.9, 869; Welfare & Institutions (Welf. & Inst.) Code, §§ 347, 677.)

3) Provides that no person shall be appointed to the position of official court reporter of any court unless the person has first obtained a license to practice as a certified shorthand reporter from the CRB. (Government (Gov.) Code, § 69942.)

4) Establishes the requirements for obtaining a certified shorthand reporter license from the CRB, including passing an examination that consists of three divisible parts testing for English, professional practice, and dictation/transcription (machine/skill). (Gov. Code, §§ 8020, 8020.5.)

5) Provides that the dictation/transcription (machine/skill) portion of the examination under 4) may be satisfied by the successful completion of the Certified Verbatim Reporter or Certified Verbatim Reporter-Stenotype certification administered through the National Verbatim Reporters Association. (Gov. Code, § 8020.5(g).)

6) Provides that, in a limited civil, misdemeanor, or infraction case, if an official court reporter is unavailable to report an action or proceeding in a court, the court may order the action or proceeding to be electronically recorded for purposes of creating the verbatim record, provided that the court has the approved equipment for doing so. (Gov. Code, § 69957(a).)

7) Defines "remote court reporting" as the use of a stenographic reporter who is not present in the courtroom to produce a verbatim record of court proceedings that are transmitted by audiovisual means to the reporter. (Gov. Code, § 69959(b).)

8) Provides that remote court reporting shall not be used by the courts to make the record of any court proceedings, and courts shall not expand any funds to purchase equipment or software to facilitate the use of remote court reporting. (Gov. Code, § 69959(a).)

9) Permits, notwithstanding 8), the Superior Courts for the Counties of Alameda, Contra Costa, Los Angeles, Mendocino, Monterey, Orange, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Joaquin, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Tulare, and Ventura to conduct pilot projects, beginning July 1, 2025, to study the potential use of remote court reporting to make the verbatim record of certain court proceedings, subject to specified labor and technology conditions. (Gov. Code, § 69959.5(b).)

10) Requires each participating superior court to submit data and information to the Judicial Council on the results of a pilot project conducted under 9), including feedback from specified persons who participated, and requires the Judicial Council to compile the results and prepare a report for the Legislature within six months of the completion of the pilot project. (Gov. Code, § 69959.5(b), (c).)

11) Requires all pilot projects conducted pursuant to 9) to terminate no later than July 1, 2026, or earlier if a participating superior court determines that the use of remote court reporting is prejudicing the rights of litigants or the interests of justice; and repeals the pilot project's authorizing statute as of June 1, 2027. (Gov. Code, § 69959.5(c).)

This bill:

1) Provides that an applicant for a certified shorthand court reporter license may satisfy the dictation/transcription (machine/skill) portion of their examination requirement through successful completion of the Registered Professional Reporter certification administered through the National Court Reporters Association.

2) Modifies the reporting requirements for courts participating in the pilot project as follows:

   a) Specifies that the Los Angeles, Mendocino, San Bernardino, San Mateo, and Tulare Superior Courts must submit data and information to the Judicial Council on the results of their pilot projects.

   b) Eliminates categories of persons whose feedback must be included in each court's report.

c) Requires the Judicial Council's report to the Legislature to be submitted no later than January 1, 2027.

3) Extends the termination date for a superior court's authorized remote reporting pilot project to July 1, 2028.

4) Extends the sunset date on the remote reporting pilot project statute to January 1, 2029.

5) Includes an urgency clause.

6) Makes nonsubstantive and technical conforming changes.

Comments

Generally speaking, only a certified shorthand court reporter may take down the verbatim record of a court proceeding for the creation of the official transcript. A court reporter may be certified to take down the proceedings through typographic or shorthand means or through voicewriting. Current law mostly requires the official court reporter to be present in the courtroom while taking down the record of the proceedings; however, in 2024, the Legislature enacted AB 3013 (Maienschein, Chapter 250, Statutes of 2024), which authorized superior courts in 13 counties to implement pilot projects to test remote court reporting, as defined. To date, five superior courts have implemented pilot projects under AB 3013, and information received by Committee staff indicates that experiences with remote reporting are generally positive.

This bill extends the duration of the pilot projects authorized by AB 3013 from July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2028, and extends the sunset date on AB 3013 to January 1, 2029. This bill also modifies AB 3013's reporting requirements to, among other things, require the Judicial Council to present its report on the pilot projects to the Legislature by January 1, 2027. This bill also extends reciprocity to a certification administered by the National Court Reporter Association for purposes of the court reporter examination; this issue will be considered by the Senate Business, Professions and Economic Development Committee. This bill contains an urgency clause because the AB 3013 pilot authorization is set to expire in July of this year.

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

The Senate Appropriations Committee passed this bill pursuant to Senate Rule 28.8.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Court Reporters Association (source)
Judicial Council of California
Los Angeles County Court Reporters Association
SEIU California
Superior Court of Los Angeles County
One individual

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

Emerald Deposition Reporters
Kuziora Deposition Reporters
Protect Your Record Project
17 individuals

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the Superior Court of Los Angeles County:

> The Superior Court of Los Angeles County launched its Remote Official Court Reporter Pilot on July 1, 2025, in select Probate, Family Law, and Juvenile Dependency courtrooms. The program enables official court reporters to work remotely from designated courthouse offices across the county. Participating courtrooms are equipped with livestream audio and video technology, allowing participants to see and hear one another through LACourtConnect, the Court's free remote proceedings platform.
>
> Currently, up to ten percent of the Court's official reporters, or about twenty reporters, provide remote coverage in equipped courtrooms. Remote reporting capabilities are now in place in fifty-two courtrooms across the county. From July 1, 2025, through March 31, 2026, reporters covered 40,107 proceedings remotely, demonstrating strong demand and reliable performance. Reporters and judicial officers receive structured training supported by videos, guides, and checklists, and SEIU representatives have participated in training and feedback to ensure labor considerations are incorporated.
>
> In conjunction with the Court's ongoing efforts to hire additional official court reporters, the pilot program has expanded court reporter coverage in family law and probate courtrooms. Early results indicate that remote reporting increases coverage, maintains accuracy, and supports timely access to justice, particularly in high-volume calendars, where coverage gaps can significantly impact litigants.

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: According to Protect Your Record Project:

Our concern with this bill applies to the section to allow the Registered Professional Reporter (RPR) exam to be used in place of taking the current California Certified Shorthand Reporter (CSR) exam. The ultimate outcome of this bill will take remote work away from California constituents and increase work for out-of-state workers who have not qualified through the CSR exam. Reciprocity with the RPR will not help with coverage of in-person court reporting assignments in California. Almost all RPR certificate holders who want reciprocity will be domiciled outside of California

As of this letter, the National Court Reporters Association states they have 4,776 Registered Professional Reporters (RPRs). The potential impact to California Certified Shorthand Reporters being displaced would be significant. This would displace the remote work of your constituents and move the work out of state to court reporters who have not passed our California standards.

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: Allison Whitt Meredith / JUD. / (916) 651-4113
8/5/26 15:12:59

****** 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; Buisness & 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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2786
Author: Committee on Elections
Introduced: 3/12/26
Vote: 21

SENATE ELECTIONS & C.A. COMMITTEE: 5-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Wiener, Choi, Allen, Cervantes, Umberg

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Elections

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill expands the coordination between a lead county and other counties for the deadlines for specified ballot measure materials and makes technical changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Defines "general election" as the following:
   a) The election held throughout the state on the first Tuesday after the first Monday of November in each even-numbered year.
   b) Any statewide election held on a *regular election date*, as specified.
2) Requires an election to be held on the next *regular election date*, not less than 113 nor more than 150 days after the date the board of supervisors calls and gives notice of the election.
3) Specifies various *established election dates.*

4) Requires all arguments and rebuttals related to a ballot measure in a district or school district that encompasses more than one county to be submitted to a lead county. The lead county, which is the county with the most voters within district bounds or whose superintendent of schools covers the district, must work with the other counties within the district boundaries to establish filing deadlines for the submissions.

5) Requires the Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments and the Chairperson of the Assembly Standing Committee on Elections and Redistricting to meet with the Secretary of State (SOS) and assist the SOS to the extent that the participation is not incompatible with their positions as Members of the Legislature.

This bill:

1) Requires a lead county for multi-county ballot measures to coordinate with other counties to establish deadlines for the submission of the measure text, impartial analysis, and accompanying forms.

2) Requires a lead county to provide all ballot measure materials to the other counites within 24 hours of receipt.

3) Updates obsolete references from a *regular election date to an established election date.*

4) Removes a reference to the "Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments and the Chairperson of the Assembly Standing Committee on Elections and Redistricting" and replaces it with "chairpersons of the elections committees of the Assembly and Senate."

Comments

1) *Author's Statement.* This is one of the Assembly Elections Committee's annual omnibus bills, containing various minor and technical changes. This bill includes changes requested by the California Association of Clerks and Election Officials and recommendations by committee staff.

2) *Lead counties.* AB 773 (Pellerin, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2023) established a lead county for multi-county ballot measures. It was to help streamline the filing process for ballot measures and ensure consistent filing deadlines. AB 773 requires all arguments and rebuttals related to a ballot measure in a district or school district that encompasses more than one county to be submitted to a

lead county. The lead county must work with the other counties within the district to establish filing deadlines for the submissions.

This bill expands the requirement for a lead county to coordinate with other counties to establish deadlines for the submission of the measure text, impartial analysis, and accompanying forms. The lead county has to provide all ballot measure materials to the other counties within 24 hours of receipt. According to county election officials, this proposal will ensure all counties receive ballot measure documents in time to meet necessary printing deadlines and will safeguard that voters within the district receive the same materials.

3) *Obsolete references.* SB 1200 (Committee on Elections and Reapportionment, Chapter 1143, Statutes of 1996) made various technical changes to the Elections Code, one of which changing the phrase "regular election dates" to "established election dates."

   This bill updates the Elections Code and Health Safety Code by removing the obsolete references and changing it to "established election dates."

4) *Non-existent committee.* The Assembly Committee on Elections, prior to the 2021-2022 legislative session, was named the Assembly Committee on Elections and Redistricting.

   This bill removes references to the names of the Assembly and Senate election committees and replaces them with general terms. The change will avoid future issues with the law becoming outdated if the committee's change their name.

Related/Prior Legislation

AB 773 (Pellerin, Chapter 664, Statutes of 2023) established a lead county for multi-county ballot measures to help streamline the filing process for ballot measures and ensure consistent filing deadlines.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Clerks and Election Officials

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Rida Shaikh / E. & C.A. / (916) 651-4106
8/5/26 15:12:59

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2787
Author: Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife
Amended: 7/6/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE NATURAL RES. & WATER COMMITTEE: 7-0, 7/1/26
AYES: Becker, Seyarto, Allen, Cabaldon, Grove, Laird, Stern

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 66-0, 5/7/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Water, parks, and wildlife: omnibus bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill clarifies requirements for the California Department of Water Resources to review and re-prioritize groundwater basins when their boundaries change and provides for reciprocity for recreational boaters on the two lakes that cross the California-Nevada border for certain state requirements for invasive mussel infestation prevention.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee set by the Division of Boating and Waterways in the Department of Parks and Recreation.

   a) Provides that the fee shall be deposited into the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund and shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for administration of the fee and for implementation of invasive mussel infestation prevention plans.

   b) Limits the fee to not more than $10 in even-numbered years and not more than $20 in odd-numbered years before 2026.

c) Limits the fee to between $15 and $21 in even-numbered years and between $30 and $42 in odd-numbered years beginning in 2026, with adjustments for inflation in odd-numbered years.

d) Requires the California Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to issue an invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker upon payment of the fee.

e) Provides that failure to pay the fee shall not prohibit DMV from issuing registration of a vessel.

f) Provides that a vessel operator may be issued a citation for operating a recreational vessel in nonmarine waters without a valid state-issued invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker. (Harbors and Navigation Code §§675–676)

2) Requires that, in addition to the fee for the original registration or registration renewal of a vessel, DMV shall collect from resident and nonresident vessel owners an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee.

a) Requires DMV to issue an invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker upon payment of the fee.

b) Provides that failure to pay the fee shall not prohibit DMV from issuing registration of a vessel.

c) Provides that a vessel operator may be issued a citation for operating a recreational vessel in nonmarine waters without a valid state-issued invasive mussel infestation prevention sticker. (Vehicle Code §§9853, 9860)

3) Requires the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) to conduct an investigation of the state's groundwater basins and to identify the groundwater basins on the basis of geological and hydrological conditions and consideration of political boundary lines whenever practical.

a) Authorizes DWR to revise the boundaries of groundwater basins based on its own investigations or information provided by others; and

b) Requires DWR to report its findings to the Governor and the Legislature in years ending in five. (Water Code §12924)

2) Requires DWR to prioritize groundwater basins and subbasins according to specified criteria. (Water Code §10933)

3) Requires DWR to categorize each groundwater basin as high, medium, low, or very low priority and requires that any time DWR updates groundwater basin boundaries, DWR shall reassess the prioritization. (Water Code §10722.4)

This bill:

1) Requires DWR every time it updates Bulletin 118 boundaries to reassess the prioritization of groundwater basins for which changes to the boundaries have been made. Requires DWR to review and determine whether a reprioritization of groundwater basins where changes to the boundaries have been made on or by January 31, 2035 and not less than every 10 years thereafter.

2) Prohibits citing a person who operates a vessel on the waters of Lake Tahoe or Topaz Lake who has not paid an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee to California if the vessel is registered in Nevada and Nevada has a program in effect for the management of aquatic invasive species, as provided.

3) Deletes obsolete invasive mussel infestation prevention fee language. Makes minor and conforming changes.

4) Declares that a special statute is necessary due to the interstate location of Lake Tahoe and Topaz Lake, as specified.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

Tahoe Regional Planning Agency

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ARGUMENTS IN SUPPORT: According to the author, "AB 2787 is the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee's omnibus bill, which makes a number of helpful statutory updates. […] Additionally, AB 2787 simplifies the rules for recreation on our interstate lakes by extending reciprocity to Nevada invasive species stickers on Lake Tahoe and Topaz Lake, as Nevada has done for Californians."

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: Katharine Moore / N.R. & W. / (916) 651-4116
8/5/26 15:13:00

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: AB 2788
Author: Committee on Transportation
Amended: 6/17/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Gonzalez, Grayson, Menjivar, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares, Wiener

SENATE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE: 13-0, 6/30/26
AYES: Umberg, Niello, Allen, Ashby, Caballero, Durazo, Laird, Reyes, Stern, Valladares, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

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

SUBJECT: Transportation: omnibus bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill makes technical, non-substantial changes to sections of law relating to transportation.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the local alternative transportation improvement program (LATIP) to resolve local transportation problems along State Route (SR) 238 in the City of Haward and Alameda County. (Government Code (GOV) §14528.5)

2) States that every vessel, owner, operator, or demise or bareboat charterer hiring a pilot with a state license for the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun shall either defend, indemnify, and hold harmless pilots or alternatively, notify pilots of an intent to pay for trip insurance, as defined. (Harbors and Navigation Code (HNC) §1198(c))

3) States that notwithstanding any provision of the California Public Records Act, or any other law, photographic, video, and administrative records made by a system shall be confidential. Data about the number of violations issued is not considered an administrative record required to be disclosed. (Vehicle Code (VEH) §21455.9(g)(4)(A))

4) States that within 30 days after personal delivery or mailing of the final decision of an initial review of a notice of an automated traffic enforcement violation, a contestant may seek review of the violation by filing an appeal to the small claims division of the superior court or the traffic division of the superior court, where the case shall be heard. (VEH §21455.9(k)(1))

This bill:

1) Authorizes the Alameda County Transportation Commission to file amendments to LATIP, so long as:

   a) The proposed amendment is approved by the city council of each city located in the County of Alameda;

   b) The proposed amendment describes the reason to remove or reprioritize a project; and,

   c) Any proposed project to be added is included in the applicable regional transportation plan.

2) Clarifies that the Bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun includes the Ports of Sacramento and Stockton, and that insurance provisions apply to any portion of a vessel transit that occurs within the waters of the Ports of Sacramento and Stockton.

3) Specifies that data about the number of automated traffic enforcement violations issued is not an administrative record prohibited from disclosure and is subject to disclosure.

4) Deletes reference to the small claims or traffic divisions of the superior court and specifies that a person contesting an automated traffic enforcement violation may file an appeal with the superior court.

5) Clarifies that an appeal of an automated traffic enforcement violation may be performed by a commissioner or other subordinate judicial officer at the direction of the presiding judge of the court.

6) Clarifies that motor carriers, drivers, vehicles, and shippers who comply with the regulations in Part 107 and Parts 171 to 180, inclusive, of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations for the transportation of hazardous materials by highway, must comply with those regulations as they now exist or are hereafter amended.

7) States that the regulations in Part 107 and Parts 171 to 180, inclusive, of Title 49 of the Code of Federal Regulations applies to motor carriers, drivers, vehicles, and shippers regardless of whether they are subject to the federal regulations, unless they are specifically exempted under specified regulations.

Comments

1) *Purpose of this bill.* AB 2788 is the transportation policy omnibus bill, authored by the Assembly Transportation Committee. This bill makes numerous technical, non-substantial changes to existing law.

2) *Alameda County Local Alternative Transportation Improvement Program.* Beginning in the 1970s, the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) purchased large amounts of property in southern Alameda County to construct the SR 238 bypass and improvements to SR 84 between SR 238 and Interstate 880 but never built the facilities. In response, the local counties and cities were permitted to develop a local transportation planning agency to develop an LATIP that addressed transportation problems and opportunities in the area to be served by the unbuilt facilities. The LATIP was later adopted by the California Transportation Commission (CTC), and previous legislation provided for the use of revenues from the sale of excess property on the proposed routing of State Highway 238 to fund the program.

   As adopted, LATIP lists projects in priority order. However, over time some of the projects listed are not moving forward due to changes in local priorities, but CTC is not able to fund projects further down the list until the higher priority projects are completed. Furthermore, existing law states that CTC "shall not approve any local alternative transportation improvement program submitted after July 1, 2010". Thus, some LATIP projects in the region are not able to advance because they cannot be moved up the priority list. AB 2788 would address this issue by allowing the local governments and CTC to amend the existing plan.

3) *Sacramento and Stockton bar pilots.* California state law provides mission-critical indemnity protection for maritime pilots licensed by the State to pilot ships on the bays of San Francisco, San Pablo, and Suisun, and the tributaries

thereto. These bays tributary waters form the "pilotage grounds" that are under the jurisdiction of the Board of Pilot Commissioners (BOPC).

However, both the Port of Stockton and the Port of Sacramento are granted their own "exclusive" jurisdiction over pilots and pilotage within the port district. Historically both ports have granted commissions to certain pilots already licensed by BOPC to pilot ships transiting the waters of the respective ports. However, the provisions of Division 8 of the Harbors and Navigation Code (HNC) establishing those port districts, and the accompanying grants of authority do not (or until recently have not) included any specific provision for indemnification of such pilots.

It has long been assumed by stakeholders, including the individual pilots commissioned by the ports, the San Francisco Bar Pilots Association, the operators of the ports, and the Pacific Merchant Shipping Association, that HNC 1198 applied within the waters of those ports, "exclusive jurisdiction" over pilots and pilotage granted to the ports notwithstanding. AB 2788 would affirm the intent of HNC 1198 and clarify the application of the indemnity provision therein to cover the entirety of vessel transits up the rivers, into and within the waters of the ports of Stockton and Sacramento.

4) *Automated enforcement violations and appeals.* SB 720 (Ashby, Chapter 782, Statutes of 2025) authorizes a city, county or a city and county to establish an automated traffic enforcement system program to detect a violation of a traffic control signal, if the system meets specified requirements. Additionally, the bill provides for the issuance of a notice of violation, an initial review, an administrative hearing, and an appeals process, as specified, for a violation under the program.

SB 720 was modeled after AB 645 (Friedman, Chapter 808, Statutes of 2023), a bill that authorized specified cities to establish a Speed Safety System Pilot Program, utilizing automated enforcement for speeding violations. AB 645 clearly states, "Notwithstanding any provision of the California Public Records Act, or any other law, photographic or administrative records made by a system shall be confidential. Public agencies shall use and allow access to these records only for the purposes authorized by this article or to assess the impacts of the system. Data about the number of violations issued and the speeds at which they were issued is not considered an administrative record required not to be disclosed by this section."

In drafting SB 720, there was an error in mirroring this language. AB 2788

ensures that the automated enforcement programs SB 720 authorized keep individual violation information confidential while maintaining the ability to report on the number of violations recorded.

AB 2788 additionally makes clarifying changes around the court appeals process outlined in SB 720. SB 720 refers to filing an appeal to specific divisions within the superior court. AB 2788 instead allows for an appeal to be filed with the superior court, which would provide the court with flexibility to properly assign the appeal. The current process also states that "the appeal under this section is a subordinate judicial duty". This bill makes the use of the subordinate judicial officer permissive, rather than required, to allow judges to also hear these cases where the court deems it necessary based on availability. AB 2788 further mirrors this change in language in other code sections with similar language.

5) *Transportation of hazardous materials.* Motor carriers transporting hazardous materials are compelled by federal law to comply with the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR) adopted by the Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration (PHMSA). The California Highway Patrol is responsible for promoting the safe operation of regulated vehicles through reasonable regulations. With respect to transporting hazardous materials, this is accomplished by incorporating the federal HMR by refence in Title 13, California Code of Regulations (CCR).

   However, the Administrative Procedure Act requires any incorporation of federal regulations to be done by year of publication. As a result, Title 13 of the CCR regarding HMR is outdated annually when the publication date of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) is updated. During the time period where the federal HMR and California hazardous materials regulations are inconsistent, carriers are allowed to comply with current federal HMR pursuant to Title 13, CCR, Section 1160.2. This leads to inconsistencies between state and federal regulations and confusion between carriers and those attempting to enforce the federal HMR. Additionally, this places California-based carriers transporting into other states at a disadvantage because complying with California law is not acceptable when transporting out of state where the most current federal HMR will be enforced.

   AB 2788 addresses this issue by clarifying that the federal regulations apply to all vehicles in the state, not otherwise exempt, and that the federal regulations apply as they exist now or are amended in the future.

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

According to the Senate Appropriations Committee:

- CTC indicates that its costs to facilitate amendments to Alameda County Transportation Commission's LATIP would be minor and absorbable. (State Highway Account, Public Transportation Account)

- The remaining provisions are not likely to result in state costs that cannot be absorbed.

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

Alameda County Transportation Commission
Pacific Merchant Shipping Association

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

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: Samuel Myers / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 16:20:45

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

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 ******

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2794
Author: Committee on Higher Education
Introduced: 3/18/26
Vote: 21

SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/24/26
AYES: Pérez, Ochoa Bogh, Cabaldon, Choi, Cortese, Gonzalez, Reyes

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

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

SUBJECT: Postsecondary education: nonresident tuition: exemption: federal GI Bill

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill adds the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserve program to the list of federal education benefits that qualifies for exemption from paying nonresident tuition and specifies that this program and other federal programs as specified, as they read on January 5, 2026, are also authorized for this exemption. This is the annual higher education omnibus bill.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Establishes the University of California (UC) as a public trust to be administered by the Regents of the UC; and grants the Regents full powers of organization and government, subject only to such legislative control as may be necessary to insure security of its funds, compliance with the terms of its endowments, 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) Establishes the Donahoe Higher Education Act, setting forth the mission of the UC, California State University (CSU), and California Community Colleges (CCC). (Education Code (EC) § 66010, et seq.)

3) Confers upon the CSU Trustees the powers, duties, and functions with respect to the management, administration, and control of the CSU system and provides that the Trustees are responsible for the rule of government of their appointees and employees. (EC §§ 66606 and 89500, 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)

5) Establishes, effective for academic terms beginning on or after August 1, 2021, a student enrolled at a campus of the CCC or the CSU who meets all of the following requirements shall be exempt from paying nonresident tuition or any other fee that is exclusively applicable to nonresident students:

   a) The student resides in California.

   b) The student meets the definition of "covered individual," as specified.

   c) The student is eligible for education benefits under the federal Montgomery GI Bill–Active Duty program, as specified, the Veterans Readiness and Employment program, as specified, the Post-9/11 GI Bill program, as specified, or the Survivors' and Dependents' Educational Assistance program, as specified, as each read on January 5, 2022. (EC § 68075.7)

This bill adds the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve program to the list of federal education benefits that qualifies for exemption from paying nonresident tuition, and specifies that this program and other federal programs, as specified, as they read on January 5, 2026, are also authorized for this exemption.

Comments

1) *Need for the bill.* This bill is the annual higher education omnibus clean-up bill and proposes technical, non-controversial amendments to existing law. By tradition, if any affected agency, stakeholder group, the Department of

Finance, or any of the four legislative caucuses objects to a provision in the bill or one that is being considered, that particular provision cannot be included.

2) *Rationale for inclusion in the omnibus bill.* Federal law, the Montgomery GI Bill Selected Reserves Tuition Fairness Act 2025, requires that states exempt students using this benefit from paying out-of-state tuition. This requirement goes into effect for terms beginning on or after August 1, 2026, and requires adding the Montgomery GI Bill–Selected Reserve program to the list of benefits that provide the Non-Resident Tuition Fee Waiver in California. To maintain compliance with federal law, this bill adds the Montgomery GI Bill-Selected Reserve program to the list of benefits that qualify a student for California's nonresident tuition exemption.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Faculty Association of California Community Colleges

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

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: Olgalilia Ramirez / ED. / (916) 651-4105
8/5/26 15:13:01

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

CONSENT

Bill No: AB 2795
Author: Committee on Banking and Finance
Amended: 6/9/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE BANKING & F.I. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/17/26
AYES: Grayson, Niello, Cervantes, Hurtado, Reyes, Richardson, Strickland

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 68-0, 5/21/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Financial regulation

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This bill provides various technical and clarifying changes related to the Franchise Investment Law, notice requirements under licensing or registration laws administered by the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation, and instruments eligible for investment by the State Treasurer, among other technical and clarifying changes.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law:

1) Provides the Franchise Investment Law (FIL) that generally requires franchisors to register with the commissioner of the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI) before offering and selling franchises in this state. (Division 5 of Title 4 of the Corporations Code, commencing with Section 31000 et seq.)

2) Pursuant to the FIL, prohibits a person from effecting or attempting to effect a sale of a franchise in this state, unless that person satisfies a specified condition, with one being that the person is identified in Item 2 of a franchise disclosure document, as specified. (Corporations Code Section 31210)

3) Requires licensees or registrants across multiple programs administered by DFPI to submit applications and other licensing forms through the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System. (See, e.g., Financial Code Sections 2039, 28111, 90009, 100006.3)

4) Requires a licensee subject to DFPI's jurisdiction to maintain an electronic service address designated for receiving communications and documents sent by the department, as specified. (Financial Code Section 331.5)

5) Authorizes DFPI, upon notice by mail, to levy various assessments related to the recovery of costs generated by programs administered by the department, including programs that cover broker-dealers; money transmitters; check sellers, bill payers, and proraters; savings associations; escrow agents; industrial loan companies; deferred deposit transaction providers; residential mortgage lenders, servicers, and mortgage loan originators; and administration of the Local Agency Deposit Security Program.

6) Authorizes the creation of a nonprofit corporation called the State Assistance Fund for Enterprise, Business and Industrial Development Corporation for the general purpose of enhancing access to financial assistance for small businesses. (Division 15.5 of the Financial Code, commencing with Section 32000)

7) Provides categories of securities eligible for the investment of surplus moneys by the State Treasurer. For certain securities, restricts such investments to securities of specified ratings. (Government Code Section 16430)

This bill:

1) Makes technical and clarifying changes to the provision regulating the groups of persons who may effect or attempt to effect a sale of a franchise.

2) Provides that DFPI shall require the use of the Nationwide Multistate Licensing System and Registry forms and instructions whenever a statute or regulation requires licensure or registration through that system.

3) Requires registrants overseen by DFPI to maintain an electronic service address.

4) Authorizes DFPI to fulfill any notice requirement under any law or regulation related to the levy of a fee or assessment against any licensee or registrant by sending the notice to an electronic service address or by sending such notice

through NMLS for persons licensed or registered through that system. Removes requirements in various statutes that such notices be provided by mail.

5) Repeals the division in the Financial Code that authorizes the creation of the State Assistance Fund for Enterprise, Business and Industrial Development Corporation.

6) Clarifies that specified categories of municipal bonds and corporate bonds that are eligible securities for the investment of surplus funds must have a rating of "A" or its equivalent, or better, by a nationally recognized statistical rating organization.

7) Clarifies the rating requirement for commercial paper that are eligible securities for the investment of surplus funds to include only commercial paper with the highest ranking or the highest letter and number rating and extends the maximum maturity of commercial paper from 270 days to 397 days. Deletes the authority of the Pooled Money Investment Board to request that an issuer of commercial paper post collateral of at least 10% more than the amount of the state's investment in the issuer's commercial paper.

Comments

Purpose. This bill is a code clean-up bill authored by the Assembly Banking and Finance Committee. The bill contains corrections in code sections affecting the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation, the State Treasurer's Office, and obsolete portions of the Financial Code.

Background. This bill proposes a variety of technical and clarifying changes that are intended to be noncontroversial. All but one category of proposed changes affect laws administered by the Department of Financial Protection and Innovation (DFPI), with the one outlier being a provision of law that governs the types of securities in which the State Treasurer can invest surplus funds of the state.

Franchises. This bill clarifies the intended scope of a recently enacted law regulating franchise brokers. In 2024 SB 919 (Umberg, Chapter 518, Statutes of 2024) enacted protections for franchisors and franchisees who use third-party franchise brokers when entering into franchise agreements. The law requires franchise brokers to register with DFPI and to provide specified disclosures to prospective franchisees. This bill clarifies that a franchise broker must be registered before effecting or attempting to affect a sale of a franchise, without regard to exemptions that may apply to the franchisor or the underlying franchise sale.

The only opposition to this bill is from California Association of Realtors (CAR) which argues that their members should not be required to register for franchise brokering activities – a requirement to which all other categories of persons would be subject under this bill. CAR claims that its members are already subject to oversight by the Department of Real Estate (DRE), but this argument does not apply to the franchise broker activities that existing law seeks to regulate. If, for example, a licensed lender subject to DFPI oversight engages in franchise brokering activities, that lender would still need to register as a franchise broker because franchise brokering is not covered by the lender's lending license. The same truth applies to licensed activities covered by DRE. The requirement to register as a franchise broker is not duplicative as the law seeks to regulate different activities, and franchise brokering is not an activity overseen by DRE.

Nationwide Multistate Licensing System (NMLS) and "by mail" notices. This bill proposes efficiencies related to communications between DFPI and its licensees. NMLS serves as a repository of information used by many licensees within the oversight of DFPI for the submittal and review of applications, application renewal, background checks, education, and testing. Existing law poses two barriers to DFPI using NMLS for efficient ways to administer licensing laws. First, a variety of licensing and registration laws require DFPI to send specified notices "by mail" and does not clarify that electronic forms of communication, like email or messaging through NMLS, are compliant with this requirement. Secondly, existing law requires that DFPI update regulations each time a new NMLS form is adopted as part of a licensing program. This bill removes those barriers by (1) removing "by mail" across a variety of statutes related to notifications and requiring that each licensee or registrant provide an electronic service address and (2) proposing a plenary directive that DFPI shall require the use of NMLS forms and instructions whenever a statute requires licensure or registration through NMLS.

SAFE-BIDCO. This bill removes a division of law from the Financial Code that authorizes the creation of the State Assistance Fund for Enterprise, Business and Industrial Development Corporation, known as SAFE-BIDCO. SAFE-BIDCO was established as a nonprofit lender to aid small businesses, funded by an appropriation and loan from the state in 1981. After spending more than it earned for a decade, the company fell into a weak financial position and failed to convince the Legislature to appropriate additional funding. The predecessor agency to the DFPI, the Department of Business Oversight, seized SAFE-BIDCO in 2017 after it became insolvent. There is no apparent reason to maintain statutory authority for the creation of this entity, and this bill proposes to delete such provisions from the code.

Securities eligible for investment by the State Treasurer. Existing law specifies categories of securities that are eligible for investment by the State Treasurer, using surplus funds owned by the State that are not yet required to be available to pay for authorized expenditures. The list of eligible securities contains relatively low-risk investments, reflecting the general policy of prudent management of public funds that prioritizes safety and liquidity over yield (i.e., expected rate of return). This bill clarifies certain areas of ambiguity related to bond ratings thresholds and modernizes provisions related to commercial paper that is eligible for investment.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

International Franchise Association
State Treasurer Fiona Ma

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

California Association of Realtors

ARGUMENTS IN OPPOSITION: California Association of Realtors writes in opposition:

> Current law expressly authorizes licensed real estate brokers and salespersons to affect or attempt to affect the sale of a franchise. However, as drafted, subdivision (b) of proposed Section 31210 would require any person acting as a franchise broker to register under the bill's new registration requirements, notwithstanding the existing exemption for DRE licensees. As a result, licensed real estate professionals who are already subject to comprehensive education, licensure, supervision, and enforcement by the Department of Real Estate would be required to obtain an additional registration to perform activities they are already authorized to conduct under existing law.
>
> DRE licensees are already subject to extensive oversight under the Real Estate Law, including licensing standards, disciplinary authority, and continuing education requirements. Requiring these licensees to obtain a separate franchise broker registration would create redundant regulation without a corresponding public benefit.

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: Michael Burdick / B. & F.I. / 916-651-4102
8/5/26 15:13:02

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-1520 Fax: (916) 327-4478

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 61
Author: Stefani (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/1/25
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Filicide Awareness Week

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims April 9, 2025, to April 15, 2025, inclusive, as Filicide Awareness Week.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) The month of April has been recognized as National Child Abuse Prevention Month since 1983.

2) Too many children are often targets of neglect and mental, physical, and sexual abuse that occur mainly within their household and, tragically, sometimes lead to filicide.

3) There are approximately 500 filicide cases in the United States every year that are made all too easy by limitless access to guns.

4) On average, one child per week is murdered by a parent or stepparent during divorce, separation, visitation, or custody negotiations.

5) Family law attorneys have the power to contribute their efforts to protect minor children during these proceedings.

This resolution proclaims the week of April 9, 2025, to April 15, 2025, inclusive, to be Filicide Awareness Week, supports the efforts of Pierce's Pledge, and encourages all family law attorneys to take Pierce's Pledge in an effort to keep all children safe.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 4/30/25)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 4/30/25)

None received

Prepared by: Sofia Pachon-Mendez / SFA / (916) 651-1520
4/30/25 16:48:22

****** 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 125
Author: Alanis (R)
Introduced: 1/20/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/25/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Chiari Malformation Awareness Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution declares September 2026 as Chiari Malformation Awareness Month.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Chiari malformation is a congenital malformation in which the bottom of the brain, known as the cerebellum, is crowded in the skull cavity and forces the lower tips of the cerebellar hemispheres, or tonsils, into the hole in the bottom of the skull, or foramen magnum.

2) Symptoms usually appear during adolescence or early adulthood and can include severe head and neck pain, vertigo, muscle weakness, balance problems, blurred or double vision, difficulty swallowing, and sleep apnea. Individuals who have Chiari malformation may often have related conditions, such as hydrocephalus, spina bifida, syringomyelia, tethered spinal cord syndrome, and spinal curvature.

3) The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke within the National Institutes of Health is conducting research to find alternative surgical options and to identify the cause of Chiari malformations to create improved treatment and prevention plans.

This resolution declares September 2026 as Chiari Malformation Awareness Month.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 81 2025 (Niello, Resolution Chapter 136, Statutes of 2025)

SCR 158 (Niello, Resolution Chapter 163, Statute of 2024)

SCR 56 (Niello, Resolution Chapter 6, Statutes of 2024)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 6/25/26
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, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Papan, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Ramos, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Flora, Johnson, Muratsuchi, Quirk-Silva, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:26

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

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 162
Author: Hadwick (R), et al.
Amended: 6/4/26 in Senate
Vote: 21

SENATE TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE: 10-0, 6/23/26
AYES: Cortese, Strickland, Archuleta, Arreguín, Blakespear, Dahle, Grayson, Richardson, Seyarto, Valladares
NO VOTE RECORDED: Gonzalez, Menjivar, Wiener

SENATE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE: Senate Rule 28.8

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 4/23/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Congressman Doug LaMalfa Memorial Highway

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates a specified portion of State Route (SR) 99 in Butte County, as the Congressman Doug LaMalfa Memorial Highway, as specified.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law assigns the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) the responsibility of operating and maintaining state highways, including the installation and maintenance of highway signs.

Committee Policy:

The Transportation Committee has adopted a policy regarding the naming of state highways or structures. Under the policy, the committee will consider only those resolutions that meet all of the following criteria:

1) The person being honored must be deceased or a former elected public official who has been out of office for at least 25 years.

2) The person must have provided extraordinary public service or some exemplary contribution to the public good and have a connection to the community where the highway is located.

3) The naming must be done without cost to the state. Costs for signs and plaques must be paid by local or private sources.

4) The author or co-author of the resolution must represent the district in which the facility is located, and the resolution must identify the specific highway segment or structure being named.

5) The segment of highway being named must not exceed five miles in length.

6) The proposed designation must reflect a community consensus and be without local opposition.

7) The proposed designation may not supersede an existing designation unless the sponsor can document that a good faith effort has uncovered no opposition to rescinding the prior designation.

This resolution:

1) Provides background on the life of Doug LaMalfa, as specified.

2) Designates a portion of highway on SR 99 in Butte County, from Cottonwood Creek BB12-020 at postmile 15.374 to Dry Creek 12 123 at postmile 20.598, as the "Congressman Doug LaMalfa Memorial Highway."

3) Requests Caltrans to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations.

Comments

1) *Purpose of the resolution*. According to the author, "Congressman Doug LaMalfa was a great man, who loved his state and always sought to represent his district with the utmost dedication. He was a strong voice for northern

California, and always took the time to listen to his constituents. He was known for his solid principles, leading with kindness, gentleness, and humility. Congressman LaMalfa is loved and missed by many, and I am proud to acknowledge his life of service with this resolution."

2) *Background.* Born on July 2, 1960, Congressman LaMalfa grew up in Oroville, California, graduating high school in the area and receiving his bachelor's degree from Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Elected to the California State Assembly in 2002, Congressman LaMalfa also served in the California State Senate before being elected to the United State House of Representatives in 2012. A fourth-generation rice farmer, Congressman LaMalfa left behind his wife, four children, and one grandchild.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/3/26)

Shasta Regional Transportation Agency

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/3/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 73-0, 4/23/26
AYES: Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bains, 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, Bauer-Kahan, Hadwick, Celeste Rodriguez, Sharp-Collins, Soria, Wicks

Prepared by: Manny Leon / TRANS. / (916) 651-4121
8/5/26 15:13:03

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

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 165
Author: Kalra (D)
Introduced: 3/25/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: The 2026 International Day of Yoga

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recognizes June 21, 2026, as the 2026 International Day of Yoga in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) California is home to many yoga teachers, students, studios, and classes that have collectively contributed to the significant growth of yoga throughout the United States. Yoga has become one of the fastest growing wellness practices in the past decade, with approximately 36,000,000 Americans estimated to practice yoga regularly, and one in three Americans have at least tried yoga once.

2) Yoga brings strength, stability, and unity within the body, mind, and emotions. Recent studies suggest that yoga-based interventions can be an effective treatment for various health conditions and mental health disorders and can complement traditional medical interventions and therapy. Regular yoga practitioners report benefits such as reduction in stress, positive increase in temperament, being physically stronger, and reduced inflammation, pain, and stiffness.

3) This year marks the 12th International Day of Yoga and people worldwide use this celebratory day to raise awareness of the history, benefits, and teachings of yoga.

This resolution recognizes June 21, 2026, as the 2026 International Day of Yoga in California.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 6/23/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 63-0, 6/18/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Bryan, Calderon, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Chen, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Elhawary, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ransom, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Sanchez, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Stefani, Ta, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Alvarez, Bains, Dixon, Ellis, Flora, Haney, Johnson, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Papan, Patel, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Soria, Tangipa, Wicks

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
6/24/26 14:17:30

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 173
Author: Carrillo (D), et al.
Introduced: 4/8/26
Vote: 21

SENATE BUS., PROF. & ECON. DEV. COMMITTEE: 7-0, 6/8/26
AYES: Wahab, Archuleta, Arreguín, Caballero, Grayson, Menjivar, Smallwood-Cuevas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Choi, Niello, Strickland, Umberg

SUBJECT: Sister state: State of Jalisco

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution recommits to formalizing the sister state relationship between the State of Jalisco in Mexico and the State of California.

ANALYSIS:

Existing law establishes, via Senate Concurrent Resolution 82 (Heuso, Resolution Chapter 70, Statutes of 2014) a sister state relationship with the State of Jalisco in Mexico and California, acknowledging the economic opportunities in high technology manufacturing, agriculture, tourism, amongst other important industries.

This resolution:

1) Recognizes the mutually beneficial educational, economic and culture exchanges between the State of Jalisco and State of California.

2) Continues the long-standing cross-national collaboration and goodwill between California and Jalisco in addressing immigration policies while maintaining liberties and due process for all residents in California granted by the state Constitution regardless of immigration status.

3) Promotes mutual respect for the residents of the bordering states.

Background

This resolution recommits to formalizing the sister-state relationship between California and Jalisco by embracing the shared investments in high technology manufacturing, agriculture ties, and cultural traditions and tourism. Recognized as "Mexico's Silicon Valley", Guadalajara, located in the State of Jalisco, is the largest technology center in Mexico, known as a major Latin and North American hub, and is a main producer of software, electronics and digital products. This burgeoning electronics market aligns with California's technology sector promoting job creation and sustainable innovation in both regions. The cultural traditions and heritage that originated in Jalisco have permeated California in displays of mariachi music, charreadas (Mexican rodeos), the Mexican Hat Dance, and the wide brimmed sombrero. The culinary exports from Jalisco to California include a variety of tequilas grown from the indigenous agave plant found in Mexico and a plethora of native dishes, including the meat stew dish of birria.

The historical Unites 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 ******

Office of Senate Floor Analyses
(916) 651-4171

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 207
Author: Kalra (D) and Patel (D)
Introduced: 5/18/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: California Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates the month of October 2026 as California Hindu American Awareness and Appreciation Month. The measure would also recognize and acknowledge the significant contributions made by Californians of Hindu heritage to the state and seek to increase awareness and understanding of the Hindu American community, and would condemn all hate crimes and bias incidents against Hindu Americans, Hindu temples and centers, and places of significance to the Hindu American community.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) California and the nation have been influenced by the extraordinary cultural, ethnic, linguistic, and religious diversity of its residents.

2) The year 2026 marks the 133rd anniversary of when Hinduism was officially introduced to the United States by Swami Vivekananda in 1893 at the World's Parliament of Religions in the City of Chicago, and the 126th anniversary of when he founded the Vedanta Society in the City of San Francisco, California, in 1900.

3) Despite their positive contributions to California and this nation, Hindu Americans face stereotypes and misconceptions about their heritage and have been the targets of bullying, discrimination, hate speech, and bias-motivated crimes.

4) According to the California vs Hate program within the Civil Rights Department, 23 percent of all religiously motivated hate incidents in the state reported to the hotline were directed at Hindus.

This resolution recognizes and acknowledges the significant contributions made by Californians of Hindu heritage to our state, and by adoption of this resolution, seeks to increase awareness and understanding of the Hindu American community.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 216 (Kalra, Chapter 182, Statutes of 2024)
ACR 91 (Kalra, Chapter 144, Statutes of 2023)
ACR 209 (Kalra, 2022); Died in Senate Rules Committee.
ACR 103 (Kalra, Chapter 8, Statutes of 2022)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bryan, Calderon, Chen, Elhawary, Ellis, Papan, Ransom, Sanchez

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:27

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

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(916) 651-4171

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 212
Author: Macedo (R), et al.
Introduced: 5/26/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: Dairy Month

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims the month of June to be Dairy Month in California.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) June is National Dairy Month. California, the nation's largest farming state, producing more than 400 agricultural commodities, is also the top dairy producing state in the nation, with dairy being California's top agricultural commodity

2) California produces and processes about 18% of all United States farm milk into a variety of products that both stay local and are shipped out of the state and nation, including butter, milk powders, cheese, ice cream, and whey and milk protein products.

3) Ninety-nine percent of California dairy farms are family owned, and dairy farming and processing in California collectively represented 151,859 jobs in 2024

4) California's dairy industry generates $69.1 billion annually in dairy-related economic activity, including $23.2 billion in direct economic activity.

5) California dairy farms continue to shrink their environmental footprint by producing more milk with fewer cows, and milk production efficiencies continue to be gained in many ways, including improved animal nutrition, selective breeding, and enhanced animal care and comfort.

This resolution proclaims the month of June to be Dairy Month in California, recognizing California as the number one dairy state.

Related/Prior Legislation

SCR 78 (Niello, Resolution Chapter 139, Statutes of 2023)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:28

****** 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 216
Author: Mark González (D), Lackey (R), Schultz (D) and Wicks (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/3/26
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. 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.

2) DM culture is rooted in the core values of Peace, Love, Unity, and Respect, commonly abbreviated as "PLUR"; Peace represents the elimination of conflict and the embrace of harmony. Love is shared through acts of kindness and goodwill. Unity invites all people into the community regardless of background, identity, or differences. Respect is shown through empathy, acceptance, and treating others as one wishes to be treated.

3) 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. 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 declares the month of June 2026 as Electronic Dance Music Month.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 92 (Mark González, Resolution Chapter 144, Statutes of 2025)

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:28

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

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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 ******

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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 ******

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THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 225
Author: Blanca Rubio (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/15/26
Vote: 21

SUBJECT: 9/11 Remembrance Flag

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution encourages the chief administrator of each public building or facility owned by the state, a county, or a municipality to display the 9/11 Remembrance Flag on September 11 of each year and to prescribe procedures necessary for its display. The measure would declare that any public official or chief administrator of a public building or facility may accept a donation of one or more 9/11 Remembrance Flags for the purpose of display at a public building or facility owned by the state, a county, or a municipality.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1. September 11, 2001, will forever be one of the darkest days in the history of the United States.

2. Nearly 100,000,000 Americans, including approximately 10,000,000 Californians, have been born since September 11, 2001, or were too young to remember the events that occurred on that day.

3. The 9/11 Remembrance Flag was designed by a Virginian on September 20, 2001, to foster the establishment of a national symbol of remembrance that honors and remembers the victims, heroic first responders, and all who were affected by the events of September 11, 2001.

4. The symbols of 9/11 serve as a meaningful educational tool and a unifying emblem of patriotism and remembrance.

5. The 9/11 Remembrance Flag is a symbol of our state's concern and commitment to remembering all of the lives lost as a result of the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

This resolution encourages the chief administrator of each public building or facility owned by the state, a county, or a municipality to display the 9/11 Remembrance Flag on September 11 of each year and to prescribe procedures necessary for its display.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

Prepared by: Destiny Bustos / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:29

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 226
Author: Wilson (D), et al.
Introduced: 6/16/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Black Girl Joy Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution designates August 10, 2026, and August 10 of each subsequent year thereafter, as Black Girl Joy Day and encourages all Californians to join in celebrating Black Girl Joy Day.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Black girls in California, from a young age, make significant contributions to the social, cultural, economic, and political landscape of the state, often overcoming substantial systemic barriers and navigating challenging youth experiences to achieve excellence and drive positive change.

2) The Youth Risk Behavior Survey conducted by the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention highlights that Black girls in California experience higher levels of psychological stress and lower levels of access to mental health resources, necessitating a day to focus on their mental health, well-being, and joy.

3) Black Girl Joy Day seeks to uplift and celebrate the unique experiences and contributions of Black girls in California, fostering an environment where their voices are heard, their talents are recognized, and their achievements are celebrated.

4) Celebrating Black Girl Joy Day on August 10 will provide a platform for community organizations, schools, and individuals to engage in activities and

programs that promote the well-being, empowerment, and joy of Black girls across the state.

This resolution encourages all Californians to join in celebrating Black Girl Joy Day by participating in events and activities that highlight the achievements, talents, and potential of Black girls, fostering a supportive and inclusive community for all.

Related/Prior Legislation

ACR 226 (Wilson, 2024) – Held in the Senate.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/5/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bryan, Calderon, Chen, Elhawary, Ellis, Papan, Ransom, Sanchez

Prepared by: Hunter Flynn / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:30

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

THIRD READING

Bill No: ACR 227
Author: Sharp-Collins (D)
Introduced: 6/17/26
Vote: 21

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26 (Consent) - See last page for vote

SUBJECT: Black Women's Equal Pay Day

SOURCE: Author

DIGEST: This resolution proclaims July 21, 2026, as Black Women's Equal Pay Day in recognition of the need to eliminate the gender gap in earnings by African American women and to promote policies to ensure equal pay for all.

ANALYSIS: This resolution makes the following legislative findings:

1) Equal Pay Day on April 2 marks the time when women, on average, catch up to the wages paid to men from the previous year; however, women of color suffer the greatest consequences from pay discrimination. Black Women's Equal Pay Day on July 21 symbolizes the time in 2026 when the wages paid to African American women catch up to the wages paid to men in 2025.

2) African American women earn about 61 cents on the dollar; therefore, they must work eight additional months to catch up with the amount that men made the previous year. The wage gap significantly impacts poverty among African American women and families. More than 80% of Black mothers are breadwinners for their families, and nearly one-third of those families live below the poverty level.

3) As evidenced by the work of the California Commission on the Status of Women and Girls, equitable pay policies can be implemented simply and without undue costs or hardship in both the public and private sectors. Fair pay strengthens the financial security of individuals and families, enhances the economy, and reduces the need for the public safety net.

This resolution proclaims July 21, 2026, as Black Women's Equal Pay Day in recognition of the need to eliminate the gender gap in earnings by African American women and to promote policies to ensure equal pay for all.

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

SUPPORT: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

OPPOSITION: (Verified 8/4/26)

None received

ASSEMBLY FLOOR: 70-0, 7/2/26
AYES: Addis, Aguiar-Curry, Ahrens, Alanis, Alvarez, Arambula, Ávila Farías, Bauer-Kahan, Bennett, Berman, Boerner, Bonta, Caloza, Carrillo, Castillo, Connolly, Davies, DeMaio, Dixon, Flora, Fong, Gabriel, Garcia, Gipson, Jeff Gonzalez, Mark González, Hadwick, Haney, Harabedian, Hart, Hoover, Irwin, Jackson, Johnson, Kalra, Krell, Lackey, Lee, Lowenthal, Macedo, McKinnor, Muratsuchi, Nguyen, Ortega, Pacheco, Patel, Patterson, Pellerin, Petrie-Norris, Quirk-Silva, Ramos, Celeste Rodriguez, Michelle Rodriguez, Rogers, Blanca Rubio, Schiavo, Schultz, Sharp-Collins, Solache, Soria, Stefani, Ta, Tangipa, Valencia, Wallis, Ward, Wicks, Wilson, Zbur, Rivas
NO VOTE RECORDED: Bains, Bryan, Calderon, Chen, Elhawary, Ellis, Papan, Ransom, Sanchez

Prepared by: Aizenia Randhawa / SFA / (916) 651-4171
8/5/26 15:18:31

****** 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

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[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

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[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.

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[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:

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[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 used 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 ******