

SCAG Bill Report 9/10/2025

AB 1 (Connolly, D) Residential property insurance: wildfire risk.

Status: 09/03/2025 - From special consent calendar. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law governs various types of insurance, such as property and fire insurance, and establishes the Department of Insurance, led by the Insurance Commissioner. This department is responsible for enforcing regulations, including prohibiting insurers from using rating plans that ignore specified wildfire risk mitigation measures, such as property-level building hardening. This bill mandates that by January 1, 2030, and every five years after, the Department of Insurance must assess whether to update its regulations to include more building hardening measures and community-wide wildfire mitigation programs. This process must involve consulting with certain agencies and developing a public participation process to evaluate these measures.

AB 3 (Dixon, R) Alcohol and drug treatment facilities: local regulation.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was HEALTH on 2/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing law, counties and cities must promote the development of sufficient alcoholism and drug abuse recovery facilities according to local needs. Facilities serving six or fewer people are considered residential properties under local regulations, even if occupants are unrelated. This bill proposes that certain facilities are exempt from being classified as residential. This applies if multiple single-family homes function as a collective recovery or treatment center with shared ownership, management, or resources, and are within 300 feet of each other. It also applies if a single-family home operates in connection with a commercially owned and licensed facility located anywhere in the state.

AB 6 (Ward, D) Residential developments: building standards: review.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Building Standards Law organizes the California Building Standards Commission, which operates under the Department of General Services. This commission is responsible for approving and adopting building standards and integrating them into the California Building Standards Code. The law mandates the publication of the entire code every three years and requires that these standards align with international and uniform industry codes, such as the International Residential Code. The Department of Housing and Community Development, part of the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency, must provide an annual report to the Governor and Legislature on its housing programs' operations. This bill mandates that by December 31, 2026, the department should form a working group to research and suggest amendments to state building standards for residential developments under the California Residential Code. By December 31, 2028, the department must report its findings to the Legislature as part of its annual report. If amendments are recommended, the department will develop proposed standards for adoption by the commission. The bill allows the department to extend the International Residential Code to cover residential developments of three to ten units per the California Residential Code's requirements. Additionally, the department is tasked with reviewing construction cost pressures due to building standards and reporting these findings by December 31, 2026, with subsequent reviews every three years to update standards and reduce construction costs.

AB 10 (Essayli) California Coastal Commission: consistency determinations: Vandenberg Space Force Base.

Status: 12/03/2024 - From printer. May be heard in committee January 2.

Summary: The California Coastal Act of 1976 regulates development within the coastal zone, with the California Coastal Commission overseeing its implementation and coordinating with federal policies under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972. Under existing federal law, any federal activity affecting coastal zones must align with approved state management programs. If a state agency like the California Coastal Commission objects to a federal consistency determination, specific procedures are followed. This bill nullifies the Commission's objection to Consistency Determination CD-0007-24, allowing the activities at Vandenberg Space Force Base to proceed as consistent with the California Coastal Act. This bill asserts its necessity as a special statute for the base and is designed to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 11 (Lee, D) The Social Housing Act.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was HOUSING on 6/11/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Social Housing Act seeks to establish the California Housing Authority as an independent state entity aimed at bridging the gap between housing needs and production, while also preserving affordable housing. This authority would oversee "social housing," which includes both its own properties and those owned by other entities, ensuring all housing is controlled by the Authority. Governed by an appointed and elected board, the Authority would submit annual business plans to the state and conduct regular audits. The bill emphasizes revenue neutrality, aiming to cover development and operational costs through strategies that prevent rent burdens, and prioritizes development on vacant land and near transit. Social housing will cater to a diverse range of income levels, offering two leasing models—rental and ownership. The rental model involves a one-year lease, while the ownership model offers a 99-year lease with limited equity. Eligibility for social housing involves a lottery system, with preferences for displaced individuals. The Authority will honor local preferences for project parcels if certain conditions are met. Additionally, the bill proposes a Social Housing Revolving Loan Fund providing zero-interest loans for mixed-income housing projects, and plans for future legislation to fund Authority activities through general obligation and revenue bonds.

AB 12 (Wallis, R) Low-carbon fuel standard: regulations.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the authority to monitor and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. The board is required to set rules to reduce these emissions by at least 40% below the established limit by December 31, 2030, using the most effective technology and methods available. Part of these efforts includes the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard regulations. This bill proposes to nullify certain amendments to these regulations that are set to be adopted by the board on November 8, 2024.

AB 14 (Hart, D) Coastal resources: Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law establishes the Ocean Protection Council in state government to coordinate scientific data collection and sharing related to coastal and ocean resources. It mandates the council to create and manage a voluntary sustainable seafood promotion program. This bill, contingent on funding, requires the council to advise on the Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies Program, in collaboration with coastal air districts and other stakeholders. The program aims to implement a voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping initiative along the California coast to reduce air pollution, fatal vessel strikes on whales, and harmful underwater noise. The bill allows the program's expansion to include incentives based on reduced vessel speeds, applicable only to ships of 300 gross tons or more. It mandates participating air quality districts to report on the program's implementation to the Legislature by December 31, 2029.

AB 20 (DeMaio, R) Homelessness: People First Housing Act of 2025.

Status: 05/21/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The proposed bill introduces new regulations concerning homeless encampments and modifies existing Housing First policies. Firstly, it would prohibit homeless encampments within 500 feet of designated sensitive areas, such as schools and transit stops, and bans camping in public spaces if a homeless shelter bed is available locally. Regarding Housing First, the bill proposes removing the requirement for state agencies to include

Housing First policies in their guidelines. Instead, it allows programs to evaluate applicants based on housing readiness and impose rules concerning sobriety, substance abuse, and mental health. It mandates that state program funding prioritize specific criteria, including drug testing, mandatory treatment, and work requirements. Additionally, the bill requires programs to include work opportunities and stipulates that motels with significant participation in the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids program must be city-approved to receive payments.

AB 21 (DeMaio, R) Common interest developments: association management and meeting procedures.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act regulates how associations manage and operate common interest developments. It requires associations to deliver documents according to members' preferred methods and to notify about rule changes with a 28-day notice. This bill mandates that rule change notices be sent individually and prohibits board members from discussing or deciding on business matters outside official meetings. It also outlines that meeting agendas must include instructions on obtaining agenda packets and set procedures for responding to these requests. The bill stipulates that any ongoing litigation or insurance matters must be announced in meetings, with detailed information included in minutes. Additionally, open session meetings must be recorded for members, and recordings are to be treated as official records. The minutes of meetings, unless it's an executive session, must be available to members within 30 days, and there should be no charge for electronic distribution. The bill specifies that illegal board actions should be voided, with legal actions permitted in both superior and small claims courts, awarding costs and fees to successful plaintiffs.

AB 26 (DeMaio, R) Eliminate the Politicians' Perks Act of 2025.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 12/2/2024)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Political Reform Act of 1974 created the Fair Political Practices Commission and set rules to prevent conflicts of interest among public officials. This bill intends to further ensure accountability among elected officials by proposing several measures: banning legislators from accepting gifts or trading individual stocks, imposing a lifetime ban on lobbying, removing exemptions for the Legislature from labor, workplace, and public record laws, and eliminating government pensions for local elected officials.

AB 30 (Alvarez, D) State Air Resources Board: gasoline specifications: ethanol blends.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The current law mandates the State Air Resources Board to set motor vehicle fuel standards for reducing air pollution, but prohibits them from setting fuel specifications without a review by the California Environmental Policy Council. However, this bill allows gasoline blends containing 10.5% to 15% ethanol to be sold in California as a transportation fuel under two conditions: first, the Environmental Policy Council must complete its review; second, the state board must either create a regulation for these blends or publish an online assessment showing why such a regulation cannot meet the required standards. This bill is designated to take effect immediately as an urgent measure.

AB 33 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Autonomous vehicles.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Gonzalez.

Summary: Current law allows autonomous vehicles to be tested on public roads by a licensed driver, provided certain conditions are met. Manufacturers must apply to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) before operating autonomous vehicles on public roads. Any violation of the Vehicle Code or related local ordinances is considered an infraction. This bill stipulates that autonomous vehicles cannot deliver commercial goods directly to residences or businesses without a human safety operator on any highway in California. Violating this provision would result in a \$10,000 fine for the first offense and \$25,000 for subsequent offenses. The DMV could also suspend or revoke the permits of manufacturers who repeatedly violate these rules. Moreover, the bill mandates that the DMV report to the Legislature on the performance and impact of autonomous vehicle technology concerning public safety and employment. It requires state agencies, including the Department of Transportation and the State Air Resources Board, to provide necessary information for this research. The bill prevents the DMV from issuing deployment permits for autonomous vehicle goods delivery without a human safety operator unless a new statute allows it. Additionally, the bill includes specific findings and declarations related to these provisions.

AB 34 (Patterson, R) Air pollution: regulations: consumer costs: review.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board as the agency responsible for overseeing and regulating greenhouse gas emissions in the state. The Act allows the state board to use market-based mechanisms to control these emissions. Under this authority, the California Greenhouse Gas Cap-and-Trade Program was established to reduce emissions by setting a greenhouse gas allowance budget for certain entities and enabling a trading system for compliance. The goal is to cut statewide greenhouse gas emissions to at least 40% below the state-defined limit by December 31, 2030. Additionally, the Low Carbon Fuel Standard regulations aim to lower the carbon intensity of transportation fuels in California. However, this bill would restrict the state board from adopting any new standards, regulations, or rules affecting these programs until the Legislative Analyst evaluates the consumer cost of the proposed changes and submits this analysis to the Legislature.

AB 35 (Alvarez, D) California Environmental Quality Act: clean hydrogen transportation projects.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for projects that might significantly affect the environment, or a negative declaration if no significant effect is found. For projects that could have a significant impact but can be modified to mitigate it, a mitigated negative declaration is required. This bill introduces a streamlined CEQA review process for discretionary permits related to clean hydrogen transportation projects through a specialized "clean hydrogen environmental assessment," unless the applicant requests otherwise. The lead agency must decide on issuing the permit within 270 days of the application being completed. This bill imposes new duties on lead agencies, effectively creating a local program mandated by the state. These provisions will be repealed on January 1, 2036. The bill also states that no reimbursement for local agencies is required under the act.

AB 36 (Soria, D) Housing elements: prohousing designation.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Under current law, cities and counties must adopt a general plan for land use development, which includes a housing element. The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) evaluates these housing elements for compliance. HCD is also responsible for designating jurisdictions as "prohousing" under emergency regulations, a status that it reports to the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation. Until now, these regulations were temporary, but this new bill mandates that HCD adopts permanent regulations for designating "prohousing" jurisdictions. Starting from the 7th housing element cycle, if a small rural jurisdiction requests it, HCD must consider their housing element submissions to determine eligibility for a prohousing designation, but only if they have a compliant housing element. These small rural jurisdictions are defined as cities with fewer than 25,000 residents or counties with fewer than 200,000 residents. Furthermore, the bill prevents HCD from requiring these small rural jurisdictions to renew their prohousing designation for at least four years. This bill will also incorporate specific changes to the Government Code if enacted after another related bill, SB 262.

AB 37 (Elhawary, D) Workforce development: mental health service providers: homelessness.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. & E. on 3/13/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Workforce Development Board aids the Governor in managing and improving the state's workforce investment system, ensuring it aligns with modern economic and workforce needs. It reviews policies and provides technical support to enhance workforce development. This bill proposes that the board investigate ways to increase the number of mental health service providers for homeless individuals.

AB 39 (Zbur, D) General plans: Local Electrification Planning Act.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that cities and counties develop a comprehensive general plan for physical development, including a land use element and a circulation element. This bill, the Local Electrification Planning Act, requires cities and counties with populations over 75,000 to create or integrate a plan by 2027-2030 within their general plan. This plan should include goals, policies, and measures to expand zero-emission vehicle infrastructure and prioritize investments benefiting disadvantaged communities, low-income households, and small businesses. The bill allows these areas to use existing plans if they meet the new

requirements and will effectively create a state-mandated local program. It considers these changes a statewide concern, thus applying to all cities in California. It also specifies no state reimbursement for local agencies is needed for implementing these changes.

AB 41 (Macedo, R) State Air Resources Board: regulations: impact estimates: retail gasoline prices: public disclosure.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law tasks the State Air Resources Board with preparing California's implementation plan for the Clean Air Act and mandates that their standards align with providing Californians a decent living environment. This bill mandates the board, in consultation with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, to publicly disclose estimates of how new or amended regulations might impact retail gasoline prices. This includes posting these estimates online and calculating the maximum potential cost impact on gasoline prices, assuming all costs are passed to consumers.

AB 43 (Schultz, D) Wild and scenic rivers.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The current law mandates the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to act if a federal law requires the removal of a river from the national wild and scenic rivers system that is not part of the state system. This law allows the Secretary to add such rivers to the state system until December 31, 2025, with the actions remaining valid until then. The proposed bill seeks to indefinitely extend the Secretary's authority to add rivers or segments to the state's wild and scenic rivers system beyond the current 2025 deadline, keeping these actions in effect indefinitely unless specified otherwise.

AB 44 (Schultz, D) Energy: electrical demand forecasts.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law mandates that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission conduct assessments and forecasts related to the energy industry every two years. This includes supply, production, distribution, demand, and pricing. The commission is also authorized to request demand forecasts from electrical utilities to aid in these assessments. Additionally, the law requires the adoption of an integrated energy policy report every two years. This bill proposes that by December 1, 2026, the commission, in collaboration with load-serving entities and resource aggregators, must establish and publicize methodologies for load modification protocols. These protocols would allow load-serving entities to adjust their electrical demand forecasts based on the collective operation of behind-the-meter load modifying technologies and other measures that reliably affect electrical demand.

AB 52 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Native American resources.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 4/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill would enhance the protection and management of California Native American cultural resources across multiple areas of state law. It revises existing rules to allow California Native American tribes, including nonfederally recognized tribes, to acquire and hold conservation easements under certain conditions, aligning conservation efforts with tribal interests. It updates guidelines for consulting with Native American tribes as part of city and county general planning, emphasizing the importance of tribal input by March 1, 2026, and ensuring that the guidelines are developed in consultation with tribes listed by the Native American Heritage Commission. The bill mandates direct notice to any tribe, on a designated contact list, requesting such notification about public hearings concerning land use actions by local governments. It revises the definition of "consultation" between local governments and Native American tribes to include processes that acknowledge cultural values. The bill requires consultation to cover tribal resources and cultural sites during the preparation of general plans. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the bill formalizes consultation processes for identifying and mitigating impacts on tribal cultural resources, requiring involvement of nonfederally recognized tribes and extending consultation timelines.

AB 57 (McKinnor, D) California Dream for All Program: descendants of formerly enslaved people.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 60. Noes 10.).

Summary: Current law establishes the California Housing Finance Agency, which makes loans to support various affordable housing projects. It also establishes the California Dream for All Program, offering shared appreciation loans to first-time homebuyers, supported by the California Dream for All Fund. This bill proposes that once a certification process for the descendants of American slavery is created by the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery, at least 10% of the fund's money will be allocated to certified descendants seeking loans. This bill will only go into effect if SB 518 is enacted by January 1, 2027, establishing the bureau.

<u>AB 61</u> (<u>Pacheco</u>, <u>D</u>) Electricity and natural gas: legislation imposing mandated programs and requirements: third-party review.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Public Utilities Commission holds the power to regulate public utilities, such as electrical and gas corporations. Within this commission, the Public Advocate's Office acts independently to represent the interests of utility customers. This bill mandates that the office establish a program by January 1, 2027, to analyze proposed legislation affecting electrical or gas ratepayers when requested by the Legislature. Additionally, the office must create conflict-of-interest rules to prevent anyone with a financial stake from participating in these analyses. These provisions are set to expire on January 1, 2032.

AB 62 (McKinnor, D) Civil Rights Department: racially motivated eminent domain.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 66. Noes 4.). **Summary:** The Racial Equity Commission in California, established until 2030, aims to advance racial equity through various tools and practices. This bill proposes that the Office of Legal Affairs, within the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery, be tasked with investigating claims of property taken through racially motivated eminent domain without fair compensation, defined as when property is acquired mainly due to the owner's race or ethnicity. If compensation is deemed appropriate, the office must certify restitution, either by returning property or providing equivalent compensation. Additionally, the bill allows the dispossessed owner to challenge any rejections of compensation claims by local agencies. It prioritizes claims from those holding legal title at the time of property seizure and ensures these decisions are open to judicial review. The provisions of this bill would only be applicable if a pending Senate Bill is passed to establish the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery. The Bureau is also exempted from certain restrictions on employing in-house legal counsel.

AB 66 (Tangipa, R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: egress route projects: fire safety.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 7/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for a project that may significantly affect the environment. If the project will not have such an effect, the agency must adopt a negative declaration. If the project could have a significant effect but can be revised to avoid or mitigate it, a mitigated negative declaration is required. This bill, effective until January 1, 2032, exempts emergency egress route projects by public agencies from CEQA, if the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection recommends adding a secondary route and certain conditions are met. The lead agency must hold a public meeting for comments before declaring an exemption and must file a notice of exemption with relevant offices if a project is deemed not subject to CEQA.

AB 69 (Calderon, D) FAIR Plan policy notices and renewals.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was INS. on 6/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California FAIR Plan Association is a cooperative reinsurance effort among insurers to provide essential property insurance to those who cannot secure it through conventional means. Current regulations mandate the association create initiatives to reduce the number of active FAIR Plan policies. This bill would require insurance brokers to explore whether a policy under the FAIR Plan can be switched to a voluntary market insurer before its renewal. Additionally, the bill mandates that the association annually informs policyholders about their coverage options, including when the initial policy is issued and upon each renewal.

AB 76 (Alvarez, D) Surplus land: exempt surplus land: sectional planning area.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law outlines how local agencies should dispose of surplus land, defining "surplus land" as property a local agency no longer needs, declared in a public meeting. "Exempt surplus land" refers to land governed by a specific planning document, meeting certain criteria: designated before January 1, 2019, with at least 25% of housing for lower income households, and a minimum density of 10 units per acre. The bill would amend these requirements, mandating that at least 25% of proposed units—excluding those for students, faculty, or staff—or a minimum of 500 units, whichever is greater, be allocated to lower income households. Additionally, development must maintain an average density of 10 units per acre, including housing for academic communities.

AB 80 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Carpet recycling.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989, regulated by the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, focuses on the management and recycling of solid waste, including carpets. It includes a product stewardship program for carpets, necessitating manufacturers to submit a stewardship plan. This plan must meet specified recycling rates and funding mechanisms. The department can impose penalties for non-compliance, with the bill changing these penalties to administrative ones and clarifying amounts for intentional violations. The bill stipulates a governing board for the carpet stewardship organization, requiring detailed annual reports on grants and subsidies for carpet recycling. It mandates a single Producer Responsibility Organization (PRO) for covered products, with defined responsibilities for collection and recycling, and introduces new exemptions for certain transport requirements of leftover carpet products. The bill updates requirements for governing bodies and report submission dates within these organizations, including board composition and reporting deadlines, shifting some from July 1 to September 1 each year. It also demands producers publish specific component information of carpets on their websites and details on proper carpet recycling practices. Regulations for these programs must be adopted by December 31, 2026, altering previous requirements for amendments to existing producer plans.

AB 87 (Boerner, D) Housing development: density bonuses.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Density Bonus Law mandates that cities and counties provide developers with benefits like density bonuses, concessions, and standard waivers for housing projects if developers include certain specified units and meet specific requirements. This bill clarifies that cities and counties are not obligated to approve concessions or incentives, or waive or reduce standards for transient lodging within housing developments, except under certain conditions. Additionally, it includes updates to Section 65915 of the Government Code that will only take effect if both this bill and SB 92 are passed, with this bill being passed last.

AB 93 (Papan, D) Water resources: data centers.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The existing law allows city councils and county boards to license businesses and set fees. This bill introduces a requirement for data center owners or operators to estimate their expected water use and report it to their water supplier before applying for a business license or permit, all under penalty of perjury. For license renewals, they must provide an annual water use report to the supplier. The bill expands the crime of perjury, creating a state-mandated local program. It allows the Department of Water Resources to establish water efficiency standards and categorize data centers by water consumption. This law applies to all cities, including charter cities, addressing a statewide concern. According to the California Constitution, the state must reimburse local agencies for certain state-mandated costs, but the bill specifies that no reimbursement is required.

AB 94 (Bennett, D) Recall elections: successors.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: Under existing law, if a local officer is successfully recalled via majority vote, the officer is removed, and the office remains vacant until filled according to legal procedures. A new bill proposes that the recalled officer cannot be re-appointed to fill the vacancy. Additionally, under existing law for statewide recall elections, if an officer is recalled, the candidate with the highest votes is elected to complete the term. The bill aims to clarify these procedures.

<u>AB 100</u> (<u>**Gabriel**, **D**</u>) Budget Acts of 2023 and 2024.

Status: 04/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 2, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Budget Acts of 2023 and 2024 allocated funds for the state government's operations for the fiscal years 2023–24 and 2024–25. The new bill proposes to modify these acts by adjusting and adding new appropriations. Additionally, this bill is designed to take effect immediately, categorized as a Budget Bill.

AB 101 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: 06/17/2025 - Re-referred to Com. on B. & F. R.

Summary: The bill proposes funding allocations for state government operations for the 2025-26 fiscal year. It is designed to take immediate effect as a Budget Bill. Additionally, it indicates the Legislature's intention to introduce statutory changes concerning the 2025 Budget Act.

AB 102 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: 06/27/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 5, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Budget Act of 2025 outlines funding for state government operations for the fiscal year 2025-26. The new bill proposes amendments to this act by modifying, adding, and repealing certain appropriations and making additional adjustments. It is designed to take effect immediately upon becoming law as a Budget Bill.

AB 130 (Committee on Budget) Housing.

Status: 06/30/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 22, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The text outlines various legislative updates across different domains: 1. **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and Junior Accessory Dwelling Units (JADUs)**: Current law allows local agencies to facilitate the creation of ADUs and JADUs in residential zones. This law forbids unreasonable restrictions on their construction and use but allows reasonable restrictions that do not raise costs or prohibit construction. A new bill seeks to eliminate the imposition of fees and standards on these dwelling units. 2. **Mortgage Practices**: Existing laws set conditions for mortgage sales and empower borrowers to challenge violations. A new bill classifies certain actions by mortgage servicers as unlawful, prohibits foreclosure actions until specific certifications are made, and aims to expand the criminal scope under state-mandated local programs. 3. **Common Interest Developments**: Associations must manage these developments and cannot impose penalties surpassing specified limits. A new bill mandates opportunities to correct violations before penalization, and imposes stricter procedures and timeframes for notifying members of disciplinary decisions. 4. **Seismic Retrofitting Program**: Existing laws allocate resources for retrofitting at-risk multifamily households. A new bill emphasizes prioritizing funding for affordable housing, specifically targeting lower-income communities. 5. **National Mortgage Settlement Fund**: This fund is used for mortgage and homeowner assistance. A new bill extends this funding to include legal services for preserving homeownership. 6. **Surplus Land Disposal**: Certain school district properties were exempt from conventional surplus land disposal laws. The current bill removes this exemption, requiring these disposals to follow established surplus land procedures. 7. **Affordable Housing on Faith and Higher Education Lands Act of 2023**: Existing law facilitates housing development on church and educational lands with certain criteria. The new bill modifies definitions around permissible use, parking, and building height regulations, aiming to streamline approval processes and address housing demands. These changes further emphasize the legislative focus on easing housing constraints, ensuring fair mortgage practices, and supporting community and economic development initiatives.

AB 222 (Bauer-Kahan, D) Data centers: power usage effectiveness: cost shifts.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill introduces new requirements for energy data reporting and assessment related to data centers. The bill mandates that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) create a process for data center owners to report their power usage effectiveness ratio biannually. It also requires the Energy Commission to include an analysis of electrical load trends for data centers in its 2027 energy policy report. Additionally, the bill tasks the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) with evaluating whether the costs incurred by electrical corporations due to data centers shift expenses to other customers. The PUC must complete and submit this assessment by January 1, 2027, to relevant legislative committees and make it available on its website. Furthermore, the bill aligns with constitutional requirements by providing legislative findings regarding the limitations on public access to specific governmental records.

AB 226 (Calderon, D) California FAIR Plan Association.

Status: 09/03/2025 - From special consent calendar. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California FAIR Plan Association is a joint reinsurance group involving all insurers that are licensed to offer basic property insurance, designed to provide insurance to those who cannot secure it through standard methods. Existing law requires any changes to the plan to be approved by the Insurance Commissioner. The California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank can issue bonds to fund projects. This bill permits the FAIR Plan Association, with prior approval, to request the bank to issue bonds for financing claim costs and enhancing liquidity and claims-paying capacity. The association is defined as a participating party, meaning bond financing for claims is considered a project. The bank can lend the bond proceeds to the association, which can use loan agreements or lines of credit. If repayment becomes problematic, the association must assess its members to fulfill these obligations. The bill allows securing debts with a statutory lien and mentions that if there are additional revenues, they will be funneled into the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Fund. The bill is positioned as an urgency statute, intended for immediate implementation.

AB 227 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Referred to Com. on BUDGET.

Summary: This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2025–26 fiscal year. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

AB 232 (Calderon, D) Natural disasters: catastrophe savings accounts: personal income tax.

Status: 05/23/2025 - In committee: Held under submission.

Summary: The bill proposes changes to the Personal Income Tax Law to allow taxpayers to deduct contributions to catastrophe savings accounts from their adjusted gross income for tax years from 2026 to 2031. A catastrophe savings account is defined as a regular savings or money market account intended to cover specific disaster-related expenses. The bill includes penalties for using these funds for non-qualifying expenses and allows interest earned in these accounts to be excluded from gross income until December 2030. Furthermore, the bill adheres to existing mandates for new tax expenditures, requiring clear objectives, performance indicators, and data collection. This bill would be enacted immediately upon approval as a tax levy.

AB 234 (Calderon, D) California FAIR Plan Association governing committee.

Status: 06/26/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California FAIR Plan Association is a reinsurance group formed by property insurers to provide fair access to basic property insurance for those who cannot obtain it through standard means. Current law outlines a governing committee for this association. This bill would add the Speaker of the Assembly and the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Rules as nonvoting ex officio members of this committee, allowing them to appoint designees if desired. The bill is intended to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 238 (Harabedian, D) Mortgage forbearance: state of emergency: wildfire.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: The proposed bill allows borrowers who are financially impacted by the wildfire disaster in California, as declared in January 2025, to request mortgage loan forbearance. This applies to residential properties with four or fewer units. Borrowers must affirm their financial hardship due to the fire, and extending the crime of perjury means this statement is legally binding. Mortgage servicers are required to offer an initial 90-day forbearance, extendable in 90-day blocks for up to 12 months. They cannot charge late fees or higher interest rates during this period and must report credit obligations in line with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act, specifying that accounts remain current or delinquent as appropriate. The servicers are also prohibited from initiating foreclosures during forbearance. The Department of Financial Protection and Innovation must provide relevant resources online. The bill also specifies that no state reimbursement is needed for these mandates, and it is designed to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

<u>AB 239</u> (<u>Harabedian, D</u>) State-led County of Los Angeles disaster housing task force.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.). **Summary:** This bill mandates the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to establish a disaster housing task force in Los Angeles County to coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the Office of Emergency Services (OES), and local governments for rebuilding housing after wildfires starting January 7, 2025. The task force will appoint a state disaster housing coordinator to expedite resource delivery and must report to the Legislature on rebuilding progress by April 1, 2026, and annually until the

provisions repeal on June 30, 2028. The bill emphasizes the urgency and necessity for special legislative measures for Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, making it effective immediately.

AB 241 (Tangipa, R) Wildfire and Vegetation Management Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was REV. & TAX on 2/10/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law allows taxpayers to donate amounts exceeding their tax liability to certain designated funds, including the Native California Wildlife Rehabilitation Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund. This bill proposes allowing taxpayers to also donate excess amounts to the newly created Wildfire and Vegetation Management Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund. The Franchise Tax Board would be required to update tax return forms to include this option for contributions, contingent on the removal of another voluntary designation or available space. By creating this new fund, the bill also acts as an appropriation.

AB 245 (Gipson, D) Property taxation: application of base year value: disaster relief.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: The California Constitution restricts ad valorem real property taxes to 1% of its full cash value, which is based on the 1975-76 valuation or adjusted for new construction, purchases, or ownership changes. If property is damaged by misfortune or calamity, rebuilding it to its prior state is not considered "new construction" for tax purposes. State law permits transferring the base year value to replacement properties acquired within five years after a disaster declared by the Governor. This bill extends the five-year period by three additional years for properties affected by specific 2025 fires, making it effective for the 2025–26 fiscal year onward and creating new responsibilities for local tax officials. It also requires reduced property values due to these fires be reflected as of January 1, 2025. The bill aims to serve a public purpose and will integrate additional changes if SB 663 is also enacted. While the state typically reimburses local agencies for state-mandated costs, no reimbursement will be provided for property tax revenue lost under this bill. The bill takes immediate effect as an urgency statute.

AB 246 (Bryan, D) Social Security Tenant Protection Act of 2025.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law states that a tenant can be considered unlawfully detaining a property if they remain without the landlord's permission after failing to pay rent or violating lease terms. Tenants must receive a three-day written notice to address the issue or vacate the property. Until January 1, 2030, landlords cannot terminate a residential tenancy without just cause. This bill proposes the Social Security Tenant Protection Act of 2025, which would allow tenants to use Social Security hardship as a defense in eviction cases for nonpayment of rent. "Social Security hardship" means losing income due to federal actions affecting Social Security benefits. Tenants must prove that such a hardship prevented them from paying rent. If successful, the court would stay the eviction process. The Act requires tenants to pay back rent or arrange a payment plan within 14 days after benefits resume. If they comply, the court would dismiss or alter the eviction judgment. Additionally, by January 1, 2027, the Judicial Council must update forms to apply the Act.

<u>AB 249</u> (<u>Ramos, D</u>) Housing: Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: youth-specific processes and coordinated entry systems.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that the Governor establish the California Interagency Council on Homelessness to identify resources and services to prevent and end homelessness in California. It also directs the Council, along with the Department of Housing and Community Development, to administer the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention program, which provides one-time grants to support local and regional efforts to address homelessness. For the sixth round of this program, the Department is responsible for distributing funds, with at least 10% dedicated to services for homeless youth. This bill proposes that starting in the 2026–27 fiscal year, each local continuum of care must annually certify the creation or maintenance of a youth-specific process within their coordinated entry system. This includes implementing a youth-specific assessment tool, forming a consultative body composed of youth with lived experience of homelessness, and identifying youth-specific housing options. Additionally, if a continuum of care already has a youth-specific system, they must document how their housing assessments and prioritization policies are tailored to youth needs. The bill emphasizes the importance of youth-specific programs in addressing homelessness.

AB 252 (Bains, D) Wildfire protection: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: staffing.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law charges the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection with responsibilities such as fire protection, fire prevention, pest control, and forest and range protection and enhancement. This bill mandates that the department achieves and maintains full staffing levels at all its fire stations and facilities by January 1, 2028. It also requires the department to follow a specified schedule to meet these staffing requirements and to report annually to the Legislature on its progress toward year-round staffing. Furthermore, the bill obliges the Legislature to ensure sufficient funding is appropriated in the Budget Act or another statute to support these staffing provisions.

AB 253 (Ward, D) California Residential Private Permitting Review Act: residential building permits.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Residential Private Permitting Review Act introduces changes to how residential building permit fees and processing are managed by cities and counties. It mandates that these local governments prepare and publicly post their residential building permit fee schedules online. The bill alters existing requirements by allowing applicants to hire private professionals for plan checks if the city or county exceeds a 30-day review period or fails to make compliance determinations within 30 days after deeming an application complete. Applicants must inform local authorities when they decide to use private professionals, who must then provide affidavits and reports under penalty of perjury. Local agencies have an obligation to review these reports within 10 business days. The bill also changes liability rules, requiring applicants to indemnify local agencies against damages resulting from construction based on plans checked by private professionals. Furthermore, starting April 1, 2027, cities and counties must report annually on the number of permits reviewed by private professionals and staffing levels for permit processing. The act asserts it pertains to a statewide issue, affecting all cities, including charter cities, and specifies that no state reimbursement to local agencies is necessary. The bill is declared an emergency statute, set to take immediate effect.

AB 255 (Haney, D) The Supportive-Recovery Residence Program.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.). **Summary:** The California Interagency Council on Homelessness is responsible for implementing Housing First guidelines to prevent and end homelessness, requiring state agencies that deal with homelessness to adopt these guidelines. Housing First includes harm-reduction practices for dealing with drug and alcohol use. This bill allows state programs to fund supportive-recovery residences focused on abstinence if they meet certain criteria, such as spending 90% of funds on housing-based services using harm-reduction. This bill sets requirements for applicants and mandates state monitoring of recovery residences to ensure they achieve long-term housing stability without evictions due to relapse. If tenants wish to leave or are discharged, they must remain until new harm-reduction-based housing is secured. The bill also requires supportive housing to allow medication use for health conditions and provide overdose prevention training. The Department of Housing and Community Development must adopt national standards for supportive-recovery residences and verify compliance with Housing First standards, charging a fee for compliance checks, with funds managed through a dedicated program fund.

AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca, D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act mandates that meetings of a local agency's legislative body must be open to the public, with certain exceptions, and allows teleconferencing under specified rules. Agencies using teleconferencing must follow requirements such as posting meeting agendas at all teleconference locations and ensuring these locations are accessible to the public. Current law, effective until January 1, 2026, permits alternative teleconferencing if a quorum of members is present in person at a publicly accessible location within the agency's jurisdiction. It also limits the number of remote meetings a member can attend based on the agency's meeting frequency. This bill proposes extending these alternative teleconferencing procedures and emergency remote participation rules to January 1, 2030. Existing laws require posting meeting agendas 72 hours in advance but allow exceptions for emergency participation requests if time constraints prevent agenda updates. The bill includes legislative and constitutional findings aimed at preserving public access to meetings and official writings.

AB 261 (Quirk-Silva, D) Fire safety: fire hazard severity zones: State Fire Marshal.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the State Fire Marshal to classify lands within state responsibility areas into fire hazard severity zones, assigning ratings based on the expected severity of fire hazards. This classification is regularly reviewed, revised as necessary, and can include removing or altering zone designations. The law requires similar classification for non-state responsibility areas using consistent statewide criteria. The bill prohibits the State Fire Marshal from basing these zone determinations on risk mitigation activities alone. It allows the State Fire Marshal to consult various entities between formal reviews about actions impacting fire hazards and zone designations, and to respond in writing, with these communications posted online. The bill also allows entities to submit information on wildfire safety improvements for consideration in future reviews, which will be publicly accessible online. Additionally, the bill permits the State Fire Marshal to charge a fee for consultation or information submissions to cover related costs.

AB 262 (Caloza, D) California Individual Assistance Act.

Status: 06/11/2025 - Referred to Com. on G.O.

Summary: The California Disaster Assistance Act mandates the Director of Emergency Services to provide financial support to local agencies for costs incurred during disaster response activities following a state emergency declared by the Governor. Funding for this is drawn from the Disaster Assistance Fund and the Earthquake Emergency Investigations Account. A new bill proposes the California Individual Assistance Act, which aims to establish a grant program to financially assist local agencies, community organizations, and individuals for disaster-related costs, contingent upon legislative approval. The director must prioritize those not qualifying for federal aid due to insufficient damage levels. Regulations will be implemented for program administration. The bill is set to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 265 (Caloza, D) Small Business Recovery Fund Act.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: This bill would enhance support for small businesses affected by emergencies. It mandates the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) within GO-Biz to allocate 90% of designated funds to a newly established Small Business Recovery Fund. This fund will provide competitive grants, ranging from \$2,500 to \$100,000, to small businesses impacted by state-declared emergencies, requiring businesses to match the grant amounts. Additionally, 5% of the funds will be allocated to the Small Business Technical Assistance Program for disaster-affected areas, and another 5% to the Capital Infusion Program for capital-related assistance in those areas. OSBA must report on the grant outcomes after each declared emergency. The Small Business Recovery Fund Act is set to expire on January 1, 2032.

AB 266 (Davies, R) Freeway Service Patrol Act: sponsorship agreement.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 6/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Freeway Service Patrol Act provides authorization and funding for freeway service patrols in California, formed through agreements between the Department of the California Highway Patrol (CHP), the Department of Transportation (Caltrans), and regional or local government entities. These patrols offer emergency roadside assistance on congested urban freeways. Tow trucks in this program must display a specified logo for CHP and Caltrans and optionally for regional or local entities involved. The new bill requires that, starting after January 1, 2026, whenever program guidelines are updated, these entities must consider developing or revising operational requirements for sponsorship agreements. This would allow regional or local entities to enter sponsorship deals with private companies, enabling additional revenue generation by allowing sponsors to display their names and logos on tow trucks, alongside the required logos.

AB 267 (Macedo, R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: high-speed rail: water infrastructure and wildfire prevention.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 tasks the State Air Resources Board with overseeing greenhouse gas emissions and allows for market-based compliance strategies. Revenue from these strategies is placed in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, with 25% allocated to the High-Speed Rail Authority. This bill proposes suspending this allocation for fiscal years 2026–27 and 2027–28, redirecting the funds to the

General Fund instead. The redirected funds are intended for water infrastructure and wildfire prevention, subject to legislative approval.

AB 269 (Bennett, D) Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W.,P. & W. on 2/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law mandates the state's Department of Water Resources to oversee the construction, maintenance, and safety of dams and reservoirs to protect life and property. It also establishes the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program, which provides state funding for dam safety projects at facilities operating before January 1, 2023. This is done according to certain criteria and requires legislative appropriation. This bill would expand the program to include funding for removing dam-related facilities.

AB 270 (Petrie-Norris, D) Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: autonomous firefighting pilot project.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, under a state-approved plan, to provide fire prevention tools and organize fire crews. This bill requires that the department initiate a pilot project to evaluate the use of a firefighting helicopter equipped with autonomous aerial suppression technology for operational deployment in California. It requires collaboration with and involvement of local, state, tribal, and federal fire agencies in training and familiarization activities. The department must convene with key fire professionals within 60 days after completing the pilot or by January 1, 2029, whichever is sooner, to assess its success and consider integrating the technology into wildfire mitigation efforts. Additionally, operators involved in the pilot must submit related reports to the department and Legislature, alongside any reports made to local or federal agencies. The bill also includes related legislative findings.

AB 272 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program.

Status: 09/02/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Archuleta.

Summary: Under existing law, the State Air Resources Board must create a regulation for inspecting and maintaining heavy-duty, non-gasoline vehicles that weigh over 14,000 pounds. The board is also required to publish two biennial reports online within four years after the program's complete implementation. This bill specifies that the first of these two reports must be published within four years of full implementation, but no later than December 31, 2026.

AB 273 (Sanchez, R) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: high-speed rail: infrastructure improvements.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 assigns the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions, allowing for market-based compliance mechanisms. Revenue from emissions allowances is deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. Currently, 25% of this fund is continuously allocated to the High-Speed Rail Authority. This bill proposes ending this allocation on June 30, 2026. Starting in the 2026–27 fiscal year, this 25% will instead go to the General Fund, where it will be used to increase infrastructure funding for local governments.

AB 275 (Petrie-Norris, D) Office of Emergency Services: wildfire aerial response program.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was U. & E. on 4/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act currently mandates the Office of Emergency Services to collaborate with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection on a wildfire mitigation program. This bill requires this office, again working with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to form a working group by December 31, 2026. This group will evaluate and suggest recommendations for a year-round, 24/7 aerial wildfire response program. The group is tasked with considering various elements for effective statewide aerial wildfire suppression and will recommend whether the program should be a pilot, a full-scale initiative, or deemed unfeasible. The Director of Emergency Services will appoint knowledgeable members to the group. By December 31, 2027, the group must report its findings and recommendations to the Assembly Committee on Emergency Management and the Senate Committee on Governmental Organization.

AB 282 (Pellerin, D) Discrimination: housing: source of income.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Gonzalez.

Summary: The California Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) prohibits discrimination in housing-related activities based on a person's source of income. The Civil Rights Department is responsible for enforcing these provisions. This bill clarifies that if a public agency or similar entity creates policies or preferences that favor applicants or tenants who are part of federal, state, or local housing subsidy programs, this does not count as income-based discrimination under FEHA.

AB 286 (Gallagher, R) Electricity: mandatory rate reduction.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission has the power to regulate public utilities, like electrical corporations, including setting their rates and charges. These rates must be fair and reasonable. The bill mandates that the commission create a report with strategies to decrease electricity rates by at least 30% by January 1, 2027. In preparing these recommendations, the commission must follow specific actions detailed in the bill.

AB 288 (McKinnor, D) Employment: labor organization and unfair practices.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law outlines the importance of workers' rights to freely associate, organize, and select representatives for collective bargaining without employer interference. It establishes the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) to resolve disputes and enforce these rights for certain public employees. The federal National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) governs unfair labor practices across industries affecting interstate commerce and empowers the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) for such cases. Meanwhile, the California Public Records Act makes public records accessible. This bill would expand PERB's jurisdiction, allowing workers, under specific circumstances like the NLRB ceding jurisdiction, to seek protection and enforcement of their rights. PERB would handle unfair labor practice cases as specified, order relief, and manage case prioritization based on resources. It establishes a fund for civil penalties to support PERB's administration of these provisions. The bill further outlines changes affecting the Agricultural Labor Relations Board (ALRB), granting it exclusive jurisdiction over certain labor relations, allowing it discretion in following NLRA precedents. The bill includes provisions for maintaining confidentiality and legislative findings emphasizing limiting public access to protect certain interests.

AB 289 (Haney, D) State highway work zone speed safety program.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law permits the City of Malibu to run a speed safety pilot program on the Pacific Coast Highway until January 1, 2032, using specified criteria. It mandates a 30-day public information campaign before launching, warning notices for initial violations, and guidelines for confidential data management. Similarly, this bill allows the Department of Transportation to use up to 35 speed safety systems in state highway work zones with similar requirements. It mandates consultation with state agencies for guidelines, and confidential handling of records. Violations will result in civil penalties, with procedures for notice, review, hearing, and appeal. Both programs must report on their safety and economic impacts. Revenue first covers program costs, with excess funding designated for enforcement programs. A \$25 appeal filing fee is established, and the bill stresses the need for protected access limitations. It would also integrate changes from another legislative measure, SB 720, if both are enacted.

AB 293 (Bennett, D) Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act mandates that all high- or medium-priority groundwater basins in California be managed with a sustainability plan by a groundwater sustainability agency. Local agencies can form such an agency. Board members and executives of these agencies must file statements of economic interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission. A new bill requires these agencies to publicly list their board membership on their or their local agency's website and provide a link to where these economic interest statements can be viewed online.

AB 294 (Gallagher, R) Recovery from disaster or emergency: funding priority.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services (OES), which oversees the state's emergency and disaster response. Under the direction of the Director of Emergency Services, the OES coordinates the emergency activities of all state agencies during emergencies, whether at the state or local level or during war. The proposed bill would allow the OES to give priority to funding and technical assistance for infrastructure and housing recovery in communities significantly impacted by major disasters, addressing unmet recovery needs.

AB 295 (Macedo, R) California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: water storage, water conveyance, and groundwater recharge projects: streamlined review.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for projects that might significantly impact the environment. If a project will not have such impact, the agency can issue a negative declaration; a mitigated negative declaration is issued if project revisions can mitigate potential environmental effects. Judicial review is available for decisions made under CEQA. The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021 allows the California Governor to certify certain development projects for streamlined CEQA benefits until January 1, 2032. This act, which ends in 2034, now extends to include water-related projects like water storage, conveyance, and recharge that offer public benefits and help in drought preparedness. The bill requires lead agencies to document proceedings for these projects, adding a state-mandated local program. However, it specifies no state reimbursement is required for local costs related to these requirements.

<u>AB 299</u> (<u>Gabriel, D</u>) Motels, hotels, and short-term lodging: disasters.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law defines and regulates residential tenancies and identifies individuals as "persons who hire" for such regulations. It excludes hotel or motel occupancies from these regulations if the stay is 30 days or less. The law also specifies a process called unlawful detainer action that landlords must use to evict tenants. The bill changes this by stipulating that residents in lodgings due to a disaster, which made their previous housing unlivable, will not be considered as "persons who hire" or starting a new tenancy for eviction purposes until they have lived there for 270 days. These provisions will be repealed on January 1, 2031. The bill is set to take effect immediately due to its status as an urgency statute.

AB 300 (Lackey, R) Fire hazard severity zones: State Fire Marshal.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the State Fire Marshal to designate areas in the state as moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones, and to classify lands within state responsibility areas according to their fire hazard severity. The State Fire Marshal must also regularly review these classifications in both state and non-state responsibility areas. This bill requires that the State Fire Marshal conduct these reviews at least once every five years. Additionally, the bill mandates the re-review of areas that have not been previously identified or classified, so they can be properly designated or classified if necessary.

<u>AB 301</u> (<u>Schiavo</u>, <u>D</u>) Planning and zoning: housing development projects: postentitlement phase permits: state agencies.

Status: 08/19/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law requires local agencies to provide a list of necessary information for approving or denying postentitlement phase permits and to offer examples of complete applications for at least five housing project types by January 1, 2024. Additionally, it sets deadlines for reviewing applications and outlines penalties for not adhering to these timelines. The law defines "postentitlement phase permit" as including various permits issued by local agencies. This bill mandates similar compliance from state agencies and requires them to post the information list and examples online by January 1, 2026. If a state agency misses the review deadlines, the permit is automatically approved. The bill also expands the definition of "postentitlement phase permit" to include state-issued permits and reviews essential for beginning construction on largely residential developments, barring certain exceptions. The bill is intended to take immediate effect.

AB 303 (Addis, D) Battery energy storage facilities.

Status: 04/02/2025 - In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

Summary: This proposed legislation extends current law until June 30, 2029, allowing applicants to submit certification requests for eligible energy storage facilities of 200 megawatt-hours or more to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission. The bill clarifies that this does not apply to battery energy storage systems, requiring the commission to reject pending battery-related applications. Furthermore, it prohibits development projects with such systems within 3,200 feet of sensitive receptors or on environmentally sensitive sites. This establishes a state-mandated local program by altering local agency duties. It applies statewide, even to charter cities, and includes no state reimbursement requirement based on specified reasoning. The bill is an urgency statute, set to take immediate effect.

AB 305 (Arambula, D) Energy: nuclear facilities.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/17/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law in California restricts the certification and land use of nuclear fission thermal power plants, except for certain specified facilities, unless specific technological conditions for nuclear fuel processing and waste disposal are met. This bill proposes to exempt small modular reactors from these restrictions. In addition, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) regulates electrical and gas corporations, and the state's existing policy aims for 100% of electricity retail sales and procurement for state agencies to come from renewable and zero-carbon sources by 2045. The bill also mandates that by January 1, 2028, the PUC must develop a plan to increase electricity generation from nuclear facilities while phasing out reliance on natural gas power.

<u>AB 306</u> (<u>Schultz, D</u>) Building regulations: state building standards.

Status: 06/23/2025 - From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on HOUSING.

Summary: The proposed bill introduces several changes to existing California building regulations, specifically focusing on residential units, and will be in effect from October 1, 2025, to June 1, 2031. Key aspects of this bill include: 1. **Local Authorities' Limitations**: It restricts cities and counties from altering building standards for residential units unless deemed necessary by the commission for health and safety emergencies, 2. **Commission's Role**: The California Building Standards Commission must reject any modifications to residential building standards unless they are urgent for health and safety. The commission will review changes within 45 days. 3. **Model Code Redefinition**: The bill updates the definition of "model code" to include the latest edition of the International Wildland-Urban Interface Code. 4. **Standard Adoption Pause**: It suspends the standard 18month adoption cycle for residential building standards, only allowing emergency changes deemed necessary by the commission. 5. **Permitting Consistency**: Building standards in effect during the approval of model home designs will apply to all future residential dwellings using the same design in that jurisdiction. 6. **Restrictive Standards**: Cities and counties cannot adopt stricter building standards for residential units without emergency justification. 7. **Code Publication**: Changes during non-standard adoption periods are restricted to editorial, clarity, urgent safety amendments, or administrative modifications. 8. **Statewide Concern**: The changes address statewide concerns, applying to all cities, including those with charters. 9. **No Reimbursement Requirement**: The bill specifies that there is no requirement for state reimbursement for costs incurred by local agencies. 10. **Urgency Statute**: The bill is designated as an urgency statute, meaning it will take effect immediately to address important issues.

AB 307 (Petrie-Norris, D) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: fire camera mapping system.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, known as Proposition 4, allows for \$10 billion in bonds to fund projects related to water safety, drought, wildfire resilience, and climate solutions. Approved in the November 2024 election, it allocates \$1.5 billion for wildfire prevention. Within this, \$25 million is designated for new fire detection technologies, with \$10 million specifically allocated for the ALERTCalifornia fire camera mapping system, to be handled by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

AB 311 (McKinnor, D) Dwelling units: persons at risk of homelessness.

Status: 05/07/2025 - Referred to Com. on JUD.

Summary: The prior law, effective until January 1, 2024, allowed tenants to temporarily house individuals at risk of homelessness with landlord approval, overriding lease terms. Landlords could adjust rent to compensate for this additional occupancy, and these terms had to be in writing. This bill reinstates these provisions until January 1, 2031, and expands the definition of "person at risk of homelessness" to include those displaced by disasters in areas declared under a state of emergency. The bill also allows for the temporary housing of such individuals along with their pets, with potential rent adjustments as outlined in the lease regarding pet maintenance. The bill is set to take immediate effect as an urgency statute.

AB 314 (Arambula, D) Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program: project eligibility.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Strategic Growth Council manages the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program, which aims to lower greenhouse gas emissions by funding projects that promote efficient land use, housing, transportation, and agricultural practices. Current law outlines various eligible projects, such as transit capital projects and transit-oriented developments. This bill explicitly adds certain transit projects and developments near planned high-speed rail stations to the list of those eligible for funding, provided they meet specific criteria.

AB 317 (Jackson, D) California First Time Homeowner Dream Act.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/4/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for projects that may significantly affect the environment. If a project is found not to have such impacts, the agency issues a negative declaration. A mitigated negative declaration is prepared if project changes can avoid or mitigate environmental impacts. Certain projects, such as converting hotels or hostels to supportive housing, are exempt from CEQA. This bill proposes to exempt from CEQA the construction of a single-family home meeting specific criteria, like being 1,500 square feet or less, having no more than three bedrooms, and being intended for a first-time homebuyer. The lead agency must file a notice of exemption if the project qualifies. This bill requires agencies to assess whether developers meet exemption criteria and imposes a state-mandated local program. If state costs arise from this, reimbursement procedures are in place as per statutory provisions.

<u>AB 323</u> (<u>Fong, D</u>) Strong Workforce Program: work-based learning opportunities.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: The California Community Colleges system is governed by the Board of Governors and provides public postsecondary education. The Strong Workforce Program under existing law funds career technical education through regional consortia of community college districts and local educational agencies. By June 30, 2017, the Chancellor's office was required to present policies to the board to facilitate work-based learning opportunities enhancing student employability and earning potential. A portion of the program funds must directly support community college districts, including covering fees for certifications and licenses. A new bill mandates the revision of these policies by June 30, 2026, to include paid work-based learning opportunities for students and employers, allowing districts to use allocated funds to support these paid opportunities, improving employability and job placement.

AB 325 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Cartwright Act: violations.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Attorney General leads the Department of Justice and oversees state legal matters except where specified otherwise, including consumer protection, charitable trusts, and antitrust law enforcement as established by existing law. The Cartwright Act identifies unlawful trade restraints and trusts, requiring complaints to state facts plainly. This bill allows complaints under the Cartwright Act to demonstrate plausibility of a trade restraint without excluding independent actions. It prohibits using or distributing common pricing algorithms in contracts to restrain trade. Furthermore, it makes it illegal to coerce adoption of algorithm-recommended pricing for similar products or services. Expanding activities prohibited by the Cartwright Act introduces new criminal penalties, leading to a state-mandated local program without requiring state reimbursement for local costs.

AB 328 (Chen, R) Indemnity.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 1/27/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law holds that if someone provides indemnity (protection against loss) to another person for an action that the latter is going to carry out, the indemnifier is both jointly and individually responsible for any harm caused by that action. The proposed bill aims to make a minor amendment to this provision without affecting its substance.

AB 333 (Alanis, R) Recycling: glass beverage containers: market development payments.

Status: 04/10/2025 - From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to Com. on E.S & T.M. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on NAT. RES. pursuant to Assembly Rule 96.

Summary: The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act mandates that beverage distributors pay a monthly fee for every container sold, which goes into the California Beverage Container Recycling Fund. This fund is used for various purposes, including refunding processors that collect empty containers. The act allocates \$60 million annually to support glass beverage container manufacturers using recycled glass in California. The proposed bill would expand this to include market development payments for those buying products made from recycled glass that would otherwise end up in landfills, not just new beverage containers. The bill allows for up to \$20 million annually to be spent from the fund for these payments, effectively creating a new allocation of these resources.

AB 334 (Petrie-Norris, D) Operators of toll facilities: interoperability programs: vehicle information.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Transportation, in collaboration with the Golden Gate Bridge Highway and Transportation District, to create specifications for an automatic vehicle identification system for toll facilities. Any such system installed after January 1, 1991, must comply with these standards. It allows toll operators on federal-aid highways to share specific vehicle usage data with interoperability programs, such as the license plate number and transaction details. This bill modifies these rules for toll facilities involved in interstate interoperability, allowing them to share only necessary license plate, transponder, and transaction data listed as "required" by national standards. It restricts the sale or distribution of additional data collected for interoperability purposes outside of specified terms, imposing penalties of at least \$2,500 per violation for unauthorized sharing. It also mandates the publication of national interoperability specifications by participating transportation agencies on their websites and plans to repeal these specific provisions regarding interstate interoperability.

AB 336 (Wallis, R) Criminal penalties: wildfires.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was PUB. S. on 2/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law penalizes anyone who unlawfully causes a fire by recklessly burning structures, forest land, or property. If such actions result in great bodily injury, damage to inhabited structures or property, or fire in a structure or forest land, the offense can be charged as either a felony or a misdemeanor. This bill seeks to make these violations punishable only as felonies, introducing a fine of up to \$10,000. This change would create a statemandated local program because it increases criminal penalties. Although the California Constitution mandates the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain state-imposed costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required for the costs it imposes.

AB 337 (Bennett, D) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: grant program: edible food.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/9/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 assigns the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions, using tools such as market-based compliance mechanisms. Funds collected, excluding fines and penalties, go into the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery administers a grant program, upon appropriation, to financially support projects that reduce organic waste and promote recycling, such as processing organic materials into new products or enhancing reuse opportunities. The grant program includes funding for projects that improve organic waste diversion, food waste prevention, and food recovery for human consumption. A proposed bill seeks to expand this program to specifically support edible food recovery by funding projects that build or expand facilities for this purpose. The department must also evaluate the potential increase in edible food recovery capacity when awarding such grants.

AB 338 (Solache, D) Workforce development: the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura: 2025 wildfires.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act designates the California Workforce Development Board to aid the Governor in improving California's workforce system, aligning education with current economic needs. The 2025 Budget Act allocated \$5 million to this board to support workforce development in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, specifically areas impacted by wildfires. The bill mandates that these funds be given to the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity to develop workforce strategies, such as education and stipends, for low- to moderate-income individuals who are unemployed or underemployed due to the fires. It also specifies that \$600,000 be reallocated to the Economic Development Collaborative. The bill allows for subcontracting to achieve its goals and sets standards for quality implementation. It focuses on employment in construction, firefighting, healthcare, and other essential fields. Additionally, it provides expedited licensing and certification for participants and declares itself an urgency statute, taking immediate effect due to the specific needs of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties.

AB 339 (Ortega, D) Local public employee organizations: notice requirements.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 52. Noes 12.). **Summary:** The Meyers-Milias-Brown Act governs collective bargaining for local public employees, delegating dispute resolution and enforcement to the Public Employment Relations Board. It requires public agency governing bodies to engage in good faith negotiations with employee organizations about employment conditions and provide reasonable notice for any new policies affecting employee representation. The bill mandates that public agencies provide recognized employee organizations with at least 45 days' notice before issuing requests for service proposals or renewing contracts for jobs under the employee organization's scope, unless emergency circumstances arise. The notice must include details like the contract's anticipated duration. Although the bill introduces new responsibilities for local agencies, it specifies that the state will not reimburse them for these costs, although agencies can seek other means for reimbursement.

AB 340 (Ahrens, D) Employer-employee relations: confidential communications.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing laws governing labor relations for public employees and employers, such as the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act and the Ralph C. Dills Act, prohibit employers from actions like imposing reprisals, discriminating, or interfering with employees' rights related to employee organizations. These laws also ensure that employee organizations are granted their legal rights. This bill would further restrict public employers by prohibiting them from questioning employees or their representatives about confidential communications related to organizational representation. It also prevents employers from forcing the disclosure of these communications to a third party. However, this prohibition does not apply during criminal investigations or when a public safety officer is being investigated under certain conditions.

AB 342 (Haney, D) Alcoholic beverages: hours of sale: hospitality zones.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was G.O. on 6/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill amends the Alcoholic Beverage Control Act to allow extended alcohol sales hours in designated hospitality zones. Starting June 1, 2026, on-sale licensees in designated zones can sell alcohol until 4 a.m. on Fridays, Saturdays, and certain state holidays. The bill establishes conditions for local governments to designate these zones by ordinance and submit them to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control for approval. To implement this, a supporting ordinance requires a public safety plan from local law enforcement concerning the impact on safety. Licensees in these zones can apply for an extended hours license at a fee of \$2,500, adjusted annually for inflation. This fee supports the Alcohol Beverage Control Fund and local law enforcement. Revision restrictions prevent transfer of these licenses between premises, and off-sale privileges are forbidden during extended hours. The bill mandates public notification and gives an opportunity for protests against extended hours applications. It establishes misdemeanor penalties for minors entering premises during extended hours and requires the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to adopt necessary regulatory rules. Finally, it requires impact reports from local governments and the California Highway Patrol to the Legislature, with a repeal date set for January 1, 2031.

AB 343 (Pacheco, D) California Public Records Act: elected or appointed officials.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.). **Summary:** The California Public Records Act mandates that state and local agencies make their records available for public inspection, unless specific exemptions apply. Currently, the law protects certain information about elected or appointed officials and any unauthorized disclosure of such information is a crime. The definition of "elected or appointed official" includes judges, federal judges, and judges of federally recognized Indian tribes. This bill proposes to expand this definition to also include retired judges, court commissioners, judges of the State Bar Court, federal defenders, judges of Indian tribes, and appointees serving as children's counsel in family or dependency proceedings. By doing so, the bill broadens the scope of what constitutes a crime in regard to unauthorized disclosures. It also acknowledges constitutional requirements that limit public access to certain governmental records and meetings, necessitating justifications for such restrictions. The bill asserts no state reimbursement to local agencies is necessary for the costs incurred due to its implementation.

AB 351 (McKinnor, D) Campaign contributions: agency officers.

Status: 04/30/2025 - In committee: Set, second hearing. Failed passage. Reconsideration granted.

Summary: The Political Reform Act of 1974 restricts agency officers from accepting, soliciting, or directing contributions over \$500 from any party involved in proceedings regarding licenses, permits, or entitlements, while the proceedings are ongoing and for 12 months after a final decision. This applies if the officer knows the party has a financial interest. The act also bars officers from influencing decisions if they've received contributions over \$500 from interested parties in the past 12 months. The proposed bill would raise this contribution limit from \$500 to \$1500 and mandate adjustments based on the Consumer Price Index starting January 2027 and every two years thereafter. For the bill to amend the act, it requires a two-thirds legislative vote and must align with specific procedural requirements. The bill asserts it furthers the act's original purposes.

AB 353 (Boerner, D) Communications: broadband internet service providers: affordable home internet service.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E. U., & C. on 6/18/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Digital Equity Bill of Rights ensures digital equity and broadband access for all state residents, mandating providers to offer equal access within service areas. The California Internet Consumer Protection and Net Neutrality Act of 2018 prohibits internet service providers from certain practices, like paid prioritization. This bill proposes that California internet service providers must offer affordable home internet to eligible households and promote its availability. From January 1, 2027, providers must report annually to the Department of Technology about these plans. The Public Utilities Commission will have no authority over these provisions, which will be managed by the Department of Technology. These requirements will end if a suitable federal or state broadband subsidy for low-income households is implemented.

AB 357 (Alvarez, D) Coastal resources: coastal development permit application: higher education housing project.

Status: 08/26/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Coastal Act of 1976, overseen by the California Coastal Commission, mandates that anyone planning development in the coastal zone must obtain a coastal development permit. To streamline the process, the act allows for comprehensive land use development plans instead of reviewing each project individually, especially for university projects, and sets conditions on modifications to approved plans. The commission can adopt regulations for waivers of permit requirements for minimal impact projects. This bill would make the commission defer to universities in determining parking needs for student and staff housing. It also permits the executive director to label certain plan amendments as minimal, allowing simpler approval processes. Additionally, the commission must publicly track and display submissions of public works or development plans, amendments, and notices from universities online.

AB 359 (Ramos, D) Fair Political Practices Commission.

Status: 09/02/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Political Reform Act of 1974 allows the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to take over enforcement of local campaign finance or ethics laws if agreed upon by a local government. This arrangement includes offering advice, investigating violations, and initiating civil actions. Originally, such agreements required a report to the Legislature by January 1, 2025, and were to expire on January 1, 2026, but could be specifically applied to San Bernardino County. A new bill proposes changes: it would allow the FPPC to conduct audits under these agreements, eliminate the reporting requirement to the Legislature, and remove the expiration date, making

the provisions permanent. Additionally, it would repeal the specific provisions for San Bernardino County. Any amendments to the Political Reform Act require a two-thirds legislative vote and must align with the act's purposes, which this bill asserts it does.

AB 362 (Ramos, D) Water policy: California tribal communities.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill would enhance water quality regulations in California by integrating considerations for tribal communities. It aims to protect tribal water uses by including them in the definition of "beneficial uses." Projects affecting water quality must assess their impact on tribal water uses, and the State Water Quality Control Board must report on these efforts biannually beginning in 2026. The bill mandates consulting with tribal communities in state and regional water quality policies and requires regional boards to consider tribal and environmental justice issues when setting water quality objectives. It also exempts the adoption of tribal water uses in quality plans from the California Environmental Quality Act. The bill would involve tribal communities in the California Water Quality Monitoring Council and amends the memorandum of understanding to ensure their participation. Finally, it includes legislative findings to justify limiting public access to certain governmental proceedings and documents related to these efforts.

AB 367 (Bennett, D) Water: County of Ventura: fire suppression.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 74. Noes 1.). **Summary:** Existing law regulates wells, pumping plants, and related infrastructure, and mandates the State Fire Marshal to designate areas as fire hazard severity zones. This bill, effective July 1, 2030, requires water suppliers in Ventura County's high fire hazard zones to secure backup energy sources to operate crucial fire suppression infrastructure for at least 24 hours or to arrange alternative water supplies. Water suppliers must inspect this infrastructure and energy sources annually and report any capacity reductions that could affect firefighting to the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services within three business days. If a fire renders over 10 homes uninhabitable in a service area, a report must be created by the Ventura County Fire Department with the supplier. This bill imposes new requirements on the Ventura County Fire Department, constituting a state-mandated local program. If deemed a state-mandated cost, reimbursement will follow statutory procedures.

AB 368 (Ward, D) Energy: building standards: passive house standards.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.). **Summary:** Existing law mandates that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission set regulations for energy and water conservation in building design, specifically for new residential and nonresidential buildings, to minimize inefficient energy use. The bill requires the commission to assess the cost-effectiveness of passive house energy efficiency standards across various California climate zones. This assessment will use metrics like long-term system costs and evaluate two current passive house energy models. Additionally, the bill mandates a comparison between the cost-effectiveness of passive house construction and current building techniques. The commission must submit a report with its findings and recommendations to the Legislature by July 1, 2028.

AB 370 (Carrillo, D) California Public Records Act: cyberattacks.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 34, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The California Public Records Act mandates that state and local agencies must allow public access to their records, except where specifically exempted. Current law requires agencies to determine the disclosability of records within ten days of a request and notify the requester, although this can be extended by up to 14 days under "unusual circumstances." These circumstances include situations like a state of emergency impacting the agency's ability to process requests due to staffing or facility issues. A proposed bill aims to refine this further by requiring that a state of emergency must directly affect an agency's capacity to respond to requests promptly, thereby creating more defined responsibilities for local officials and constituting a state-mandated local program. Additionally, the bill expands the definition of "unusual circumstances" to include situations where a cyberattack prevents the agency from accessing electronic records. The extension is valid only until the problem is resolved, and access is restored. The bill aligns with the California Constitution's requirements to ensure public access to governmental records and meetings. Legislative findings are included to support the need for these amendments while emphasizing no reimbursement for costs mandated by the state as prescribed in this act.

<u>AB 372</u> (<u>Bennett, D</u>) Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Allen.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of Emergency Services (OES) within the Governor's office, responsible for coordinating state emergency activities. Through the California Emergency Services Act, the OES is mandated to partner with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to create a wildfire mitigation program focusing on structure hardening, retrofitting, and fuel modification. This partnership can set financial aid limits and requirements for these activities. The proposed bill seeks to create the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program within the OES, subject to legislative funding. This program aims to provide state matching funds to urban-wildland interface communities in designated high fire hazard areas to enhance water infrastructure. It requires the OES, in collaboration with various state water and fire agencies, to develop criteria and scoring to prioritize funding distribution to rural communities based on specific criteria.

AB 376 (Tangipa, R) Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: wildfires: exclusions.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was REV. & TAX SUSPENSE FILE on 4/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law generally define "gross income" in alignment with federal income tax law, including income from all sources unless specifically excluded, with various exclusions already established. This bill would create an exclusion from gross income for specific taxpayers for amounts received for costs and losses due to wildfires, applicable to tax years starting January 1, 2023, and ending before January 1, 2028. Existing law mandates that any new tax expenditure must include goals, purposes, objectives, performance indicators, and data collection requirements. The bill provides additional required information and makes findings and declarations concerning a gift of public funds.

AB 377 (Tangipa, R) High-Speed Rail Authority: business plan: Merced to Bakersfield segment.

Status: 07/30/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 81, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The California High-Speed Rail Act establishes the High-Speed Rail Authority to develop a high-speed rail system in the state and outlines specific responsibilities and powers for the authority. The act mandates the authority to produce a business plan every two years, which must include certain specified elements, and submit it to the Legislature. Additionally, the authority must provide a biennial project update report, approved by the Secretary of Transportation, to relevant budget and policy committees. This report covers developments in intercity high-speed train services. Concerning the Merced to Bakersfield segment, the authority is required to develop schedules for delivering tasks and include updates and other relevant information in their reports and business plans. The bill further mandates the authority to present a detailed funding plan by May 1, 2026, for this segment, outlining an updated funding gap estimate and a strategy to address it.

AB 380 (González, Mark, D) Price gouging.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law makes it a misdemeanor to increase prices of certain goods or services by more than 10% after a state of emergency is proclaimed, punishable by up to one year in jail, a \$10,000 fine, or both. This applies for 30 or 180 days following the emergency declaration. The bill proposes to change this time frame to 60 days. For entities other than individuals, the fine could be up to \$25,000. The law also prohibits increasing rent by more than 10% or evicting tenants after an emergency declaration. It currently applies to housing with lease terms of one year or less. The bill expands this definition to include all rental housing, regardless of lease length, and extends these rental price and eviction restrictions to commercial properties. By broadening the definition of what is considered a crime, the bill initiates a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution typically requires the state to reimburse local agencies for certain mandated costs, but this bill specifies that reimbursement will not be required.

AB 381 (Stefani, D) State contracts: certification process: forced labor and human trafficking.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that state agency contracts for purchasing or laundering apparel, equipment, or supplies require contractors to certify that no products were made or laundered using forced labor. This legislation proposes changes for contracts made or renewed from January 1, 2026, to include compliance with human trafficking prohibitions. It broadens the definition of forced labor to include labor obtained through threats or

restraint. Contractors and subcontractors must inform employees about prohibited activities and the consequences for violations. Contracts will be denied to those failing to certify compliance, and contractors must ensure subcontractor compliance through signed certifications. The bill introduces new sanctions for violations, such as contractor removal, termination of subcontractors, and pausing payments until issues are resolved. Sanctions can be challenged before an administrative law judge who will consider good faith actions and other factors. Investigations by state agencies will focus on credible information, requiring quick reporting of violations, and allowing corrective directives. There is no requirement for state reimbursement to local entities for costs under this act.

AB 382 (Berman, D) Pedestrian safety: school zones: speed limits.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Existing law sets a default speed limit of 25 miles per hour near schools. Local authorities can already reduce this limit if justified by a survey. This bill allows local authorities to reduce the speed limit to 20 miles per hour in school zones until January 1, 2031. After this date, the bill mandates a 20 miles per hour limit in school zones when specified signs indicate "children are present" or designate specific hours. The bill necessitates updating local speed limit signs, creating a state-mandated local program. Additionally, it allows local authorities to set a 15 miles per hour speed limit in residential areas with a current 30 miles per hour limit, near school zones, or a 25 miles per hour limit when approaching a school zone within 500-1000 feet. The definition of a "school zone" is standardized as within 500 feet of school grounds. The bill also aligns the definition of a school zone with current legal speed enforcement rules. If the changes incur state-mandated costs, the state will reimburse affected local agencies and school districts as per the established procedures.

AB 388 (Rogers, D) Electricity.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Public Utilities Act gives the Public Utilities Commission authority to regulate public utilities, including setting just and reasonable rates for electrical corporations. This bill amends the definition of "electrical corporation" to exclude entities using specific solar or wind technologies to supply electricity through private lines solely to a single facility for new load or hydrogen production, and not for previous loads. It mandates private electric lines connecting such facilities to adhere to regulations and file wildfire mitigation plans in high fire threat areas. Additionally, the bill requires an evaluation by July 1, 2027, to potentially establish a tariff for large self-generation projects. This tariff would involve electrical corporations managing the cost-only purchase and resale of electricity between generation/storage facilities and these projects. Only participating customers would bear the costs, excluding nonparticipants from additional expenses. The consumed power for such projects would not contribute to procurement requirements of electrical corporations. Violating these provisions can result in criminal charges, and the bill specifies that no reimbursement for costs is required from local agencies, following statutory mandates.

AB 389 (Wallis, R) Personal Income Tax: tax credits: fire-resistant home improvements.

Status: 05/05/2025 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Held under submission.

Summary: The Personal Income Tax Law is introducing a new tax credit available from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2030. This credit allows eligible taxpayers to receive 40% back on their qualified expenses, up to \$400 annually or a cumulative \$2,000 over the five years. The bill mandates that any new tax credit must specify its goals, purposes, and objectives, along with performance indicators and data collection protocols. The bill also includes extra requirements needed for new tax expenditures. It is set to become effective immediately as a tax levy.

<u>AB 390</u> (<u>Wilson, D</u>) Vehicles: highway safety.

Status: 07/28/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 58, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The law currently mandates that drivers approaching stationary, marked Caltrans vehicles with flashing lights must proceed with caution. They must either change lanes away from the vehicle or slow down to a prudent speed. Violating this results in a fine of up to \$50. The proposed bill extends this requirement to all marked highway maintenance vehicles and stationary vehicles with flashing hazard lights or warning devices like cones and flares. By broadening the scope of this law, the bill creates a state-mandated local program. Although the California Constitution requires state reimbursement for certain state-mandated local costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required for the changes it introduces.

AB 391 (Rodriguez, Michelle, D) Mobilehome parks: notices to homeowners and residents.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Mobilehome Residency Law regulates residency terms in mobilehome parks, mandating that rental agreements include a copy of the law and a notice of rights and responsibilities for homeowners and park managers. This notice must be delivered annually to homeowners, either in person or by mail, and can be combined into a single notice before February 1 each year. The proposed bill requires notices to be delivered to both homeowners and residents and permits electronic delivery of these notices if written consent is given. Homeowners or residents can revoke electronic consent at any time without penalty. The management must inform homeowners or residents that they have agreed to electronic notices and can revoke this agreement. The bill also proposes minor updates to reflect existing laws.

AB 394 (Wilson, D) Public transportation providers.

Status: 08/29/2025 - From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (August 29). Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law defines battery as willful and unlawful force or violence on someone else. When this occurs against operators, drivers, or passengers of public transportation or motor vehicles, knowing they are performing duties, penalties can include up to a year in county jail, a \$10,000 fine, or both. If the victim is injured, penalties extend to state prison for up to three years, in addition to fines. The bill would extend the application of this crime to include employees or contractors of public transportation services, thus expanding existing crime definitions. Additionally, it clarifies that "unlawful violence" covers batteries against public transit operators and defines "employer" to incorporate joint powers authorities or public transit operators. The bill states that no state reimbursement to local agencies is required for this expansion.

AB 399 (Boerner, D) Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 58. Noes 18.). **Summary:** The California Coastal Act of 1976 requires individuals seeking to undertake any development in the coastal zone to obtain a coastal development permit from the California Coastal Commission or local government, in addition to any other necessary permits. This bill proposes that, upon appropriation, the Commission would be authorized to initiate blue carbon demonstration projects. These projects aim to demonstrate and measure carbon sequestration potential, thereby informing the state's natural land management and climate resilience strategies. The bill may also require applicants of nonresidential projects affecting coastal habitats to contribute to these blue carbon projects as a form of environmental mitigation.

<u>AB 404</u> (<u>Sanchez, R</u>) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for projects that might significantly affect the environment or issue a negative declaration if the project will not. If a project's potential impact can be mitigated, a mitigated negative declaration is required. Until January 1, 2028, prescribed fire management and related activities on federal lands are exempt from CEQA if they help reduce wildfire risks and have been reviewed following the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. When such projects are deemed exempt, the lead agency must file and post a notice of exemption. This bill seeks to make this exemption and associated requirements permanent. This extension creates a state-mandated local program, but the bill specifies that no state reimbursement for costs is necessary.

AB 406 (Schiavo, D) Employment: unlawful discrimination: victims of violence.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended.

Summary: The California Fair Employment and Housing Act establishes the Civil Rights Department to enforce anti-discrimination laws related to housing and employment. Previously, employees experiencing discrimination or retaliation for exercising certain rights could file complaints with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement until January 1, 2025. Now, this responsibility has shifted to the Civil Rights Department, which will enforce discrimination provisions related to employment without discrimination. Furthermore, employers with 25 or more employees are prohibited from discriminating against employees who are victims of specified acts of violence or whose family members are victims. Employees must provide reasonable advance notice to take time off, except when not feasible. This bill reinstates certain Labor Code provisions for actions before December 31, 2024, and

shifts the enforcement of additional provisions regarding judicial proceedings to the Civil Rights Department. The bill takes effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 413 (Fong, D) Department of Housing and Community Development: guidelines: translation.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: The Department of Housing and Community Development, part of the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency, has the power to provide bilingual staff and make its publications available in languages other than English when necessary. This helps ensure effective service to diverse groups. The department is also authorized to create and modify guidelines, such as for housing elements. The new bill mandates the department to review its guidelines to determine if they explain public rights or services. If they do, the department must translate these guidelines into non-English languages spoken by a substantial number of non-English-speaking individuals.

AB 417 (Carrillo, D) Local finance: enhanced infrastructure financing districts: community revitalization and investment authorities.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The proposed bill revises existing law concerning the establishment and management of enhanced infrastructure financing districts and community revitalization authorities. Current law allows cities and counties to create these districts to support public capital facilities and economic recovery projects, especially for small businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. The bill expands these provisions to facilitate broader community economic recovery and modifies procedural requirements for the public financing authority to amend plans and include new participating taxing entities. It also changes the timeline for adopting annual reports. For community revitalization and investment authorities, the bill adjusts the criteria for qualifying areas, reducing the requirement from 70% to 60% of the land needing specific conditions, such as lower household income and deteriorated structures. The bill reduces the number of required public hearings for adopting revitalization plans from three to two and alters notification requirements, including the provision of notices in multiple languages if necessary. It encourages maintaining an email contact list for interested parties and ensures residents and landowners are informed well in advance of meetings.

AB 418 (Wilson, D) Property taxation: tax-defaulted property.

Status: 09/02/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The existing law allows taxing agencies to sell tax-defaulted properties after five or more years. Counties, state, revenue districts, or redevelopment agencies can purchase these properties if certain conditions are met. Nonprofit organizations can also buy residential or vacant properties for low-income housing or public use, contingent on the county board of supervisors' approval. Any such sale must meet specific requirements, including necessary notifications. The proposed bill requires the county board of supervisors to hold a hearing before approving the sale of tax-defaulted property. They must conclude that the sale price is at least equal to the tax sale value or that the property's tax sale value is less than the redemption cost. A 45-day notice about the hearing must be sent to property stakeholders, detailing the property, sale price, and hearing specifics. It also stipulates that costs of the hearing be covered by the purchasing taxing agency or nonprofit. The bill allows for judicial review of the board's decision, with the possibility of a court overturning the decision if not supported by substantial evidence. Additionally, the bill establishes a state-mandated local program requiring reimbursement for costs incurred by local agencies, according to statutory reimbursement procedures.

AB 420 (Petrie-Norris, D) Public utilities: property, franchises, and permits: exemption.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The existing law allows the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to regulate public utilities and restricts these utilities from disposing of assets necessary for serving the public without PUC approval, with specific processes based on transaction value. Transactions above \$5 million require a commission order, while those at or below require an advice letter. The proposed bill would exempt transactions involving easements or changes to easements with a ratepayer impact of \$100,000 or less if the utility earns over \$500 million annually in California. Starting in 2030, these monetary thresholds would be adjusted every five years for inflation. Utilities must report these exempt transactions annually through a Tier 1 advice letter. Violating the Public Utilities Act, which includes these provisions, is a crime, and the bill also specifies that no state reimbursement to local agencies is needed under the California Constitution.

AB 421 (Solache, D) Immigration enforcement: prohibitions on access, sharing information, and law enforcement collaboration.

Status: 04/08/2025 - In committee: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary: The California Values Act restricts state law enforcement from engaging in activities related to immigration enforcement, with certain exceptions like executing judicial warrants and sharing information about serious felons with federal authorities. This bill would extend these restrictions by preventing law enforcement from sharing any information with immigration authorities if enforcement actions are within one mile of specific sensitive locations, such as childcare centers, religious sites, or hospitals. The bill could mandate additional responsibilities for local law enforcement, constituting a state-mandated local program. Under the California Constitution, the state is required to reimburse local agencies for certain state-mandated costs, and this bill outlines that such reimbursement would follow established procedures. The bill is intended to take immediate effect as an urgency statute.

AB 426 (Dixon, R) Impeding emergency response with drone.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law criminalizes the use of drones at emergency scenes if they interfere with emergency or military personnel. Local public entities or employees are not liable for damage to drones if they are hindering emergency operations. The law also holds individuals accountable for privacy invasion if they capture images or recordings by trespassing into private land or airspace unpermitted. The proposed bill would further prohibit drone operation at emergency scenes unless the operator has a specific federal waiver, and allows legal action by the Attorney General or local authorities. Successful plaintiffs could be awarded civil penalties, injunctions, or attorney's fees.

AB 431 (Wilson, D) Advanced Air Mobility Infrastructure Act.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was TRANS. on 6/11/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The State Aeronautics Act governs aviation matters and enables the Department of Transportation to create and enforce regulations for aviation management. This law also establishes the Advanced Air Mobility Zero-Emission and Electrification Aviation Advisory Panel, which evaluates the state's infrastructure feasibility for supporting a vertiport network and creates a three-year plan to advance air mobility services, ensuring equitable access. The Department must report on this by January 1, 2025. The proposed "Advanced Air Mobility Infrastructure Act" requires the Department to develop a statewide plan addressing advanced air mobility needs, including vertiports and electric aviation charging, and designate an expert in this field. It ensures it does not conflict with Federal Aviation Administration authority, state laws, or airport operations. As part of the State Aeronautics Act, violating this would be a crime and impose a state-mandated program, but no state reimbursement is required for certain costs outlined in this bill.

AB 434 (DeMaio, R) Battery energy storage facilities.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was U. & E. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing law, individuals can apply to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for certification of energy storage systems capable of storing 200 megawatt-hours or more. This certification replaces other permits needed for site and facility use from state, local, or regional agencies. However, this bill excludes battery-based energy storage facilities from this process. It prohibits any public agency from authorizing the construction of battery energy storage facilities until January 1, 2028. By that date, the State Fire Marshal is required to set guidelines and minimum standards specifically for constructing battery energy storage facilities, aiming to prevent fires and protect surrounding communities. From January 1, 2028, any new construction must comply with these guidelines or stricter standards set by local agencies. This bill mandates additional responsibilities for local agencies and establishes a state-mandated local program.

AB 436 (Ransom, D) Composting facilities: zoning.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, which aids the Governor in long-term planning, is responsible for assisting local governments in land use planning. The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 oversees waste management, aiming to reduce landfill disposal of organic waste by 75% from 2014

levels by 2025. This bill mandates that by June 1, 2027, the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, with input from the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, must develop and publish guidelines for locating composting facilities to meet these waste reduction goals. This process will involve consulting with various entities to create a technical advisory available online. Additionally, the Planning and Zoning Law requires cities and counties to include a comprehensive land use element in their general plans, outlining different land uses, including waste facilities. The bill requires that, starting January 1, 2029, whenever there's a significant update to this land use element, cities and counties must consider best practices from the technical advisory when identifying suitable locations for composting facilities. This imposes a new local program, but the bill states that no reimbursement from the state is required for carrying out these duties.

AB 439 (Rogers, D) California Coastal Act of 1976: local planning and reporting.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The California Coastal Act of 1976 mandates that individuals seeking to develop in the coastal zone acquire a coastal development permit, alongside any other necessary permits from local or state agencies. Local governments are required to create local coastal programs, and port authorities must prepare port master plans, both of which need certification by the California Coastal Commission. Under current law, minor amendments deemed de minimis by the Commission's executive director become part of certified programs 10 days after a Commission meeting, provided no significant objections arise. The new bill proposes making these amendments effective immediately after the meeting if no objections arise. It also modifies reporting requirements: the Commission staff must now prepare a report on violations every five years instead of annually, including details on public access violations, referrals to the Attorney General, unresolved violations, and summaries of significant cases. Additionally, it removes an outdated reporting requirement related to public access violations.

<u>AB 440</u> (<u>Ramos, D</u>) State bridges and overpasses: suicide prevention.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 80. Noes 0.). **Summary:** Existing law mandates the Department of Transportation to install barriers on freeway overpasses to stop objects from being dropped onto vehicles below. This bill requires the department, by July 1, 2028, to determine best practices for implementing measures aimed at preventing suicide attempts on bridges and overpasses.

AB 441 (Hadwick, R) Wildfire prevention: Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development: wildfire mitigation program.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law establishes an Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. This office is tasked with researching and advising on new technologies to better prevent and tackle wildfires in the state. The program's provisions were initially set to be repealed on January 1, 2029, but the new bill extends this date to January 1, 2031. Additionally, the Office of Emergency Services, in conjunction with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, is required by law to manage a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program. This involves the State Fire Marshal identifying cost-effective measures for fire risk reduction that are eligible for financial assistance. A joint powers authority is to establish criteria for financial aid and report to the Legislature on the program's efficacy and wildfire risk reduction. These provisions, initially set to be repealed on July 1, 2029, are now proposed to be extended to July 1, 2031.

AB 442 (Hadwick, R) Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973: working forest management plans: harvest area.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 establishes a state policy aimed at promoting responsible forest management on nonindustrial timberlands by pre-approving working forest management plans. Under current law, these plans must limit their harvest areas to a single hydrological region. This bill would remove this restriction, allowing harvest areas to extend beyond one hydrological area.

AB 443 (Bennett, D) Energy Commission: integrated energy policy report: curtailed solar and wind generation: hydrogen production.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law mandates that the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission adopt an integrated energy policy report every two years starting from November 1, 2003. This report reviews major energy trends, issues, and offers policy recommendations based on current analyses. It also assesses the reliability of energy systems and the need for additional resources, efficiency, and conservation. Additionally, from November 1, 2004, the Commission must biennially prepare an energy policy review to update the previous report or highlight new energy issues. This bill requires that the 2027 report include an assessment of using excess solar and wind energy to produce hydrogen. It defines what constitutes curtailed solar and wind generation and requires the estimate of how much hydrogen can be feasibly produced using this energy. This requirement will be repealed on January 1, 2029.

AB 444 (Wilson, D) General plan: circulation element.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/6/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that cities and counties create a general plan for land use development, including mandatory components like a circulation element. By January 1, 2028, they are required to update this circulation element according to specific criteria. This bill would not alter these core requirements but would make minor, non-essential adjustments to the existing legal text.

AB 452 (Irwin, D) Coastal recreation: designated state surfing reserves.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Coastal Act of 1976 mandates the protection of oceanfront land for recreational use unless there's already sufficient provision for public or commercial recreation in the area. The State Coastal Conservancy manages various programs to preserve the coastal regions. Surfing is recognized as California's official state sport. This bill requires the Conservancy to establish criteria and an application process by July 1, 2026, to designate certain coastal areas as state surfing reserves. Local governments can apply for this designation, and the Conservancy must approve applications if they meet established criteria. Once approved, the area is designated as a state surfing reserve, and the Conservancy is responsible for publicizing the reserve and collaborating with local governments to mark it, with the option to accept donations for these activities. The Conservancy can revoke the designation if the criteria are no longer met. Additionally, they must notify the Ocean Protection Council for consideration in the state's 30x30 conservation goal.

AB 456 (Connolly, D) Mobilehome parks: sales or transfers: prospective purchasers of mobilehomes.

Status: 07/28/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 59, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The existing Mobilehome Residency Law outlines rules for tenancies in mobilehome parks, particularly during the sale or transfer of a mobilehome. Current law allows park management to mandate repairs if certain conditions are met and requires them to provide a summary of needed repairs within 10 business days upon request. This bill extends that period to 15 days and states that management waives the right to require repairs if they do not meet this deadline. It also requires management to notify sellers and potential buyers of their application status within 15 days, automatically approving the application if they fail to do so. Additionally, the bill mandates that a homeowner must provide the Mobilehome Transfer Disclosure Statement to park management during sale or transfer. It also includes conditions for lawful occupancy, noting that a mobilehome occupant cannot be deemed unlawful if management does not timely inform them of the application decision.

AB 462 (Lowenthal, D) Land use: accessory dwelling units.

Status: 09/02/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law allows for the creation of accessory dwelling units (ADUs) in areas zoned for single-family or multifamily residential use, under certain standards. Typically, a local agency cannot issue an occupancy certificate for an ADU before doing so for the primary dwelling. However, the proposed bill changes this for areas affected by a state of emergency declared by the Governor after February 1, 2025. In these areas, an ADU can receive an occupancy certificate before the primary dwelling if the primary dwelling was damaged by the emergency, and other requirements are met, creating a state-mandated local program. Under current law, agencies must approve or deny ADU applications within 60 days or the application is considered approved. When combined with new housing applications, this decision can be delayed until the new dwelling's permit decision. The California Coastal Act requires a coastal permit for developments in coastal areas. This bill creates an exception, mandating the approval or denial of coastal permits for ADUs within 60 days, unless submitted with new housing permits, in which the delay rules apply.

AB 465 (Zbur, D) Local public employees: memoranda of understanding.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Meyers-Milias-Brown Act enables local public employees to engage in labor relations through employee organizations and obliges public agencies to negotiate in good faith with these organizations. Current law indicates that costs incurred by local agency employer representatives in fulfilling these duties are not reimbursable by the state. This bill, effective January 1, 2026, mandates that memorandums of understanding between public agencies and employee organizations include certain provisions, such as progressive discipline with due process rights when disciplining employees. Failure to include these provisions is considered bad faith in negotiations. The bill imposes state-mandated local requirements and emphasizes its applicability to both general and charter cities. While the California Constitution typically requires the state to reimburse local agencies for state-mandated costs, this bill specifies no automatic reimbursements, although local agencies can seek reimbursement through other means.

AB 467 (Fong, D) Open meetings: teleconferences: neighborhood councils.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act mandates that meetings of a legislative body of a local agency be open to the public, with specific exceptions. When conducting meetings via teleconference, it requires posting agendas at all teleconference locations, identifying each location, and ensuring they are accessible to the public. A quorum of the legislative body must participate from within their jurisdiction unless exceptions apply. Until January 1, 2026, certain neighborhood city councils can use alternate teleconferencing provisions if authorized by a city council resolution and a 2/3 majority vote. This bill proposes extending this permission until January 1, 2030, specifically for Los Angeles neighborhood councils. It includes legislative findings to demonstrate the need for this special statute and to align with constitutional requirements ensuring public access to meetings and public records.

AB 470 (McKinnor, D) Telephone corporations: carriers of last resort.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law grants the Public Utilities Commission authority over public utilities, such as telephone companies, to set reasonable rates and charges. It also required an investigation into definitions of universal service for telecommunications by 1995. Under this bill, the commission, with the Office of Emergency Services, must develop a process for telephone companies acting as carriers of last resort to be relieved of obligations in unpopulated census blocks and well-served areas. By December 15, 2026, the commission must create a map showing these well-served areas and include notice and challenge provisions in this process. Telephone corporations must meet specific requirements after their status is amended. The bill would also establish the Public Safety Agency Technology Upgrade Grant Fund for technology upgrades, funded by continuous appropriations and donations. Certain services and locations are exempt from the bill's provisions. Violations of the commission's actions related to the bill would be a crime, instituting a state-mandated local program. The bill specifies no reimbursement is necessary under this act, adhering to California's constitutional reimbursement mandates.

AB 471 (Hart, D) County air pollution control districts: Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District: board members: compensation.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 74. Noes 2.). **Summary:** The existing law allows for the establishment of county air pollution control districts, requiring their governing boards to include mayors, city council members, and county supervisors under certain conditions. A proposed bill outlines that board members are eligible for reimbursement of expenses related to board duties. Upon passing a resolution, members can receive compensation for attending board meetings or conducting district business, with specified daily and annual limits. Additionally, boards that choose to offer compensation must report specific information to legislative committees within three years. This requirement applies only to boards meeting the membership criteria. The bill also pertains to the Antelope Valley Air Quality Management District, with similar provisions, and establishes that its board members are entitled to reimbursement and compensation under the same conditions. A special statute is deemed necessary for the boards, as expressed in legislative findings.

<u>AB 472</u> (<u>Rogers, D</u>) Energy: integrated energy policy report: port infrastructure for offshore wind energy development.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to create a strategic plan for developing offshore wind energy in federal waters off California, involving coordination with various agencies. This plan was due to the Natural Resources Agency and Legislature by June 30, 2023. Additionally, the law requires the Energy Commission to plan improvements to waterfront facilities to support floating offshore wind activities, in collaboration with state and local agencies. Since November 1, 2003, the Energy Commission has been tasked with producing a biennial integrated energy policy report, which outlines major energy trends, state energy issues, policy recommendations, and forecasts on system reliability and resource needs. The bill mandates that starting with the 2027 report, and subject to funding, the Commission must include an assessment of funding needs for port infrastructure related to offshore wind energy. This assessment should identify funding opportunities from federal, state, local, and private sources that can support the development of port infrastructure for offshore wind energy.

AB 476 (González, Mark, D) Metal theft.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law regulates the trading of secondhand machinery and scrap metals, requiring junk dealers and recyclers to maintain detailed records of all transactions, including descriptions of items and seller information, for at least two years. Dealers cannot pay for nonferrous materials without obtaining ID from sellers. Violations of these recordkeeping requirements are misdemeanors. This bill mandates additional transaction details in records, such as payment amounts, transaction times, and employee names. It expands restrictions to prevent possession of items like streetlights without proper certification, and increases fines for violations up to \$5,000. The bill also raises fines to \$5,000 for dealers failing to ensure sellers have the legal right to sell materials from specified entities. The bill expands existing crime definitions, triggering a state-mandated local program, though it states no reimbursement is needed, following specific provisions.

AB 478 (Zbur, D) Accessibility to emergency information and services: evacuations: pets.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act allows political subdivisions to provide mutual aid during local emergencies according to local ordinances and plans. An emergency plan is defined as official documents detailing methods for conducting emergency operations. Counties must submit their updated emergency plans to the Office of Emergency Services, and cities or counties are required to share pet emergency preparedness information online, including evacuation plans for pets. This bill mandates that cities or counties must update their emergency plans to include pet rescue procedures during evacuations. This update needs approval from the incident commander and the emergency management authority. These procedures should outline safe timelines or conditions for pet rescues and require designated contact persons or entities to provide pet-related evacuation information. The plans and contact details must be available online. The bill prohibits the adoption, euthanization, or transfer of pets from evacuation zones for 30 days, except under specific conditions. Local animal control agencies can partner with in-state organizations for pet transfers during this period, maintaining location records for potential owner reunification. After 30 days, euthanization is not allowed if an animal rescue organization is willing to take custody of the pet.

AB 480 (Quirk-Silva, D) Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: insurance tax law: low-income housing tax credit:

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: The existing law outlines a low-income housing tax credit program in California, where the California Tax Credit Allocation Committee (CTCAC) manages how state tax credits for insurance, personal income, and corporations are allocated to qualifying low-income housing projects. These projects must also qualify for or receive federal tax credits, including those focused on farmworker housing. There is a cap on the total annual state tax credits available when a federal tax credit is involved. Currently, the law allows taxpayers to elect to sell some or all of their tax credits through their application to CTCAC. The proposed bill would modify this process, enabling taxpayers to make this election according to CTCAC's prescribed procedures.

AB 485 (Ortega, D) Labor Commissioner: unsatisfied judgments: nonpayment of wages.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, led by the Labor Commissioner under the Department of Industrial Relations, to enforce labor laws. It permits the Labor Commissioner to investigate employee complaints and take action against employers for unpaid wages. Employers with unsatisfied final judgments for unpaid wages cannot continue business in California unless they secure a bond from a surety company and file it with the Labor Commissioner. Long-term care employers with such judgments risk having their licenses denied or not renewed by the State Department of Public Health or Social Services. This bill repeals that specific provision for long-term care employers and stipulates that any state agency must deny new licenses or renewals to employers with unsatisfied judgments requiring licenses. The Labor Commissioner must inform the applicable state agency when an employer violates this rule. The bill also allows the State Public Health Officer to exempt hospitals from these requirements if non-compliance poses significant threats to public health or safety or would breach constitutional law.

AB 488 (Tangipa, R) Insurance: the California FAIR Plan Association.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was INS. on 2/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandated that within 90 days after July 23, 2021, the California FAIR Plan Association must submit a new or amended rate application for basic property insurance to the Insurance Commissioner. Additionally, it required the association to provide and publish a statewide toll-free number for information and assistance with insurance applications. This bill proposes to repeal the requirement for submitting the rate application and to remove the obligation to publish the toll-free number in all general distribution telephone directories in California.

AB 491 (Connolly, D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: climate goals: natural and working lands.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/9/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions in California. It aims to reduce statewide emissions to at least 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. The act sets a policy for achieving net zero emissions by 2045 and aims to maintain net negative emissions thereafter. The board is responsible for creating and updating a scoping plan every five years to ensure maximum feasible and cost-effective emissions reductions. It collaborates with the Natural Resources Agency and other entities to set targets for natural carbon sequestration and nature-based climate solutions for the years 2030, 2038, and 2045, integrating these targets into state policies. The bill prioritizes rapid, significant, and cost-effective methods to increase carbon stocks and reduce emissions while supporting ecosystem functions. It also updates the definition of "natural carbon sequestration."

AB 493 (<u>Harabedian</u>, D) Mortgages: hazard insurance proceeds.

Status: 08/29/2025 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 103, Statutes of 2025.

Summary: The California Residential Mortgage Lending Act regulates entities involved in creating or servicing residential mortgage loans. Violations of this act are considered crimes. The act mandates that trust accounts must be placed in non-interest-bearing accounts at certain federally insured institutions. The new bill allows for hazard insurance proceeds to be held in interest-bearing accounts, under specific conditions, in federally insured institutions. It also stipulates that financial institutions must pay at least 2% simple interest per annum on hazard insurance proceeds held in loss draft accounts awaiting property repair or rebuilding. Furthermore, these institutions cannot impose fees reducing the interest below this threshold. The bill clarifies that these provisions do not apply if regulations require the insurance proceeds to be held in non-interest-bearing accounts by non-bank financial institutions. This bill would take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

<u>AB 497</u> (<u>Wilson, D</u>) San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law allocates bond funds to the Natural Resources Agency for various purposes, including the implementation of the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. This plan specifies the necessary water quality controls and flow requirements to protect beneficial uses in the related watershed. This bill indicates the Legislature's intent to introduce future legislation concerning this water quality control plan.

AB 505 (Castillo, R) Multifamily Housing Program: Homekey: report.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 2/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law under the Multifamily Housing Program, managed by the Department of Housing and Community Development, allocates funds to support housing for individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness, particularly those affected by the COVID-19 pandemic or other communicable diseases. This allocation process is part of the Homekey program. This bill mandates the Legislative Analyst's Office to evaluate the effectiveness of Homekey in providing sustainable housing solutions for the homeless. The evaluation will include details such as the number of housing units funded, projects supported, and the efficiency of fund disbursement. A report with policy recommendations, based on this evaluation, must be submitted to the Legislature by July 1, 2027. The bill's provisions will expire on January 1, 2031.

AB 507 (Haney, D) Adaptive reuse: streamlining: incentives.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The bill introduces a streamlined process for approving adaptive reuse projects, which involve converting existing buildings into residential units. It defines adaptive reuse as a "use by right" in all zones, bypassing the need for a conditional use permit if projects meet specific criteria. These criteria include compliance with objective planning standards and preservation requirements for buildings less than 50 years old or with historic significance. The bill mandates affordable housing provisions within these projects, requiring a percentage of units to be affordable to different income groups. It restricts adaptive reuse projects in industrial zones that do not allow residential uses and states that parking is not required for projects without existing parking. The bill allows new development on undeveloped areas of adaptive reuse sites if certain conditions are met and requires compliance with labor standards. Local governments must approve or disapprove these projects based on compliance with objective standards and cannot impose additional local development standards that alter the existing building envelope. The bill also exempts such projects from impact fees not related to the change of use and allows local governments to offer investment incentives starting fiscal year 2026-27.

AB 513 (Gonzalez, Jeff, R) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: scoping plan.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 2/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 tasks the State Air Resources Board with overseeing and regulating greenhouse gas emissions. The board must create and implement rules to achieve significant and cost-effective reductions, with the goal of reducing emissions to at least 40% below specified 1990 levels by December 31, 2030. Additionally, the board is required to develop and update a scoping plan every five years to reach these reduction targets. A new amendment mandates the inclusion of greenhouse gas emissions from wildlands and forest fires in this plan.

AB 514 (Petrie-Norris, D) Water: emergency water supplies.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Urban Water Management Planning Act mandates that public and private urban water suppliers, who provide water for cities, must create and adopt an urban water management plan. This plan must include a strategy for handling water shortages. The bill would establish a state policy that encourages, but does not require, local and regional water suppliers to develop emergency water supplies. This is to support their availability during droughts or unexpected disruptions in water service or supply.

AB 518 (Ward, D) Low-impact camping areas.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The Special Occupancy Parks Act currently governs the construction, maintenance, and use of special occupancy parks, which include recreational vehicle parks and campgrounds. This bill specifies that "low-impact camping areas" are excluded from this definition if located in counties with specific ordinances for such camping. The bill outlines conditions for private property owners offering low-impact camping sites and hosting platforms, requiring these areas to comply with local waste disposal and noise regulations. Additionally, counties that permit low-impact camping must create a registry of these sites and inform the Department of Housing and Community Development of their decision. Furthermore, all eviction processes applicable to special occupancy parks would

also apply to low-impact camping areas. Low-impact camping areas are defined as private properties rented for temporary recreational stays that do not qualify as commercial lodging facilities.

AB 520 (Castillo, R) Homelessness and mental health: state funding information.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was HUM. S. on 4/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law provides funding for homelessness prevention and mental health services through state programs like Housing First and the Early Psychosis Intervention Plus Program. The State Department of Health Care Services is required to implement mental health services via contracts with counties, and the Governor must create a California Interagency Council on Homelessness to facilitate statewide coordination and develop policies to end homelessness. This includes creating a statewide data system to align homelessness data with state programs' impacts. This bill mandates the Controller to develop an online search portal by January 1, 2027, in collaboration with the department and the council. This portal will display specified information on state funding for related programs, covering current and past 10 fiscal years, including details on the receiving state programs and administering bodies. Links to the portal must be included on the websites of the Controller, department, and council, and they can request further information from state agencies for accurate reporting in the portal.

AB 523 (Irwin, D) Metropolitan water districts: proxy vote authorizations.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Metropolitan Water District Act mandates that the board of a metropolitan water district includes at least one representative from each member public agency, with the option to appoint additional representatives based on property value within district boundaries. A new bill, effective until January 1, 2030, allows a representative from an agency with only one representative to assign a proxy vote to a representative from another agency if they cannot attend a meeting. This proxy must be documented in writing and cannot authorize taking over the assignor's officer position. It is limited to use in no more than six meetings per year. Furthermore, the person holding the proxy must adhere to all act provisions and conflict of interest laws applicable to the original representative.

AB 524 (Wilson, D) Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Act.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The California Farmland Conservancy Program, part of the Department of Conservation, offers financial support for agricultural conservation and sustainable land management. This bill would establish the Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program within this department. This program, developed alongside the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force, aims to provide financial and technical support for acquiring and protecting agricultural lands. It would fund qualified entities to acquire and transfer or lease lands to eligible farmers. A Farmland Access Fund would be created in the State Treasury, with funds available upon legislative appropriation for program operations. The department may collaborate with nonprofit organizations to manage the program, which would only become active if the Legislature allocates funding for it.

AB 525 (Lackey, R) Basic Inspection of Terminals program: agricultural vehicles.

Status: 07/28/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 61, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Basic Inspection of Terminals (BIT) program requires motor carriers operating specified vehicles to register their terminals with the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV), where vehicle and driver records are available for inspection. Vehicles like motortrucks with three or more axles and a gross weight over 10,000 pounds are included under this regulation. However, agricultural vehicles are currently exempt from this requirement until January 1, 2026. The bill proposes extending this exemption until January 1, 2031. Additionally, a previous requirement for the California Highway Patrol and DMV to report on the impact of this exemption by January 1, 2022, is now considered obsolete and will be removed.

AB 526 (Papan, D) Energy: in-state geothermal energy generation.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates California to source increasing percentages of its electricity from renewable and zero-carbon resources, reaching 100% by 2045 for general sales and by 2035 for state agencies. It also requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the Energy Commission, and the State Air Resources Board to issue a progress report every four years. The bill directs the Energy Commission to develop a strategic plan for

expanding geothermal energy in California. This plan, to be completed by June 30, 2027, involves collaboration with other agencies and stakeholders. The goal is to identify suitable sites for geothermal development, establish leasing goals for 2035 and 2045, and coordinate with federal agencies on lease sales. It also requires an assessment of necessary transmission investments, treats new geothermal power as a priority for infrastructure planning, and aims to streamline the permitting process for geothermal projects. The plan will also assess geothermal rental and royalty structures to align with California's energy goals and competitiveness, while considering impacts on Native American communities and biodiversity, using data from the Geologic Energy Management Division to evaluate geothermal potential.

AB 527 (Papan, D) California Environmental Quality Act: geothermal exploratory projects: geothermal field development projects: enhanced geothermal system wells.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare an environmental impact report for projects that may significantly impact the environment. If a project will not have such effects, a negative declaration is adopted. A mitigated negative declaration is prepared if project modifications can mitigate significant effects. The Geologic Energy Management Division, within the Department of Conservation, oversees geothermal exploratory projects under CEQA, allowing delegation to counties with appropriate plans. Geothermal projects involve up to six wells for evaluating geothermal resources, which must be at least half a mile from commercial geothermal wells. This bill would expand geothermal exploratory projects to include equipment for connecting wells and reservoirs, with certain wells exempted from the half-mile restriction. By January 1, 2031, specified geothermal projects can be exempt from CEQA if they comply with conditions set by the lead agency or county. These projects require surveys, consultations with Native American tribes, and an indemnity bond. Exempt projects must include site reclamation, and notices of exemption must be posted and filed. The bill outlines a process for recording and disclosing the chemical composition of well stimulation fluids in CEQA-exempt projects. Development projects at these sites will use a pre-exploratory baseline for CEQA reviews. New regulations for enhanced geothermal systems are to be established by January 1, 2029, requiring operators to submit specific information before drilling.

AB 531 (Rogers, D) Geothermal powerplants and projects: certification and environmental review.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law grants the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) the authority to oversee the state's energy policies. It allows proposals for certain energy-related projects, including electrical generation, transmission, hydrogen production, and energy storage, to apply for certification as environmental leadership development projects by the Energy Commission until June 30, 2029. Once certified, these projects receive streamlining benefits related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) without further action needed from the applicant or the Governor, and the Commission's certification replaces other required permits or regulations. This bill would broaden the scope of facilities eligible for this certification to include geothermal powerplants and multi-plant geothermal projects on a single site. Additionally, it plans to incorporate further amendments to the Public Resources Code if another related bill, SB 254, is enacted after this bill.

AB 532 (Ransom, D) Water rate assistance program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 mandates the Department of Health and Human Services to implement the Low-Income Household Water Assistance Program, providing grants to states and Indian tribes to aid low-income households with high water-related expenses. The Department of Community Services and Development oversees this program at the state level until March 31, 2024, after which the bill would repeal its requirements. Separately, the California Safe Drinking Water Act establishes the right to safe and affordable water and tasks the State Water Resources Control Board with planning the Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program. This bill permits urban water suppliers to offer financial relief to low-income residents by reducing water bills or providing credits. It allows these suppliers to use any available funds, including voluntary contributions, to support assistance. From January 1, 2028, suppliers must include program details in their technical reports, and the state board will conduct a survey of these suppliers by July 1, 2026.

AB 534 (Schiavo, D) Transitional housing placement providers.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Community Care Facilities Act mandates the State Department of Social Services to license transitional housing placement providers for foster children aged 16 and older. Violations of this act are misdemeanors. These providers, along with Transitional Housing Program-Plus providers, which serve former foster youth over 18, generally require licensing, except in cases where Program-Plus providers are certified and have local fire clearance. The bill proposes that contracts for these housing services initially last three years, with possible renewals for two additional one-year terms, and further renewals for 10-year terms. Counties can terminate contracts or services with 90 days' notice. This creates new local responsibilities, yet the bill specifies that no state reimbursement for these costs is necessary for a particular reason.

AB 538 (Berman, D) Public works: payroll records.

Status: 08/29/2025 - From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 6. Noes 1.) (August 29). Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law mandates that the Labor Commissioner investigates violations by contractors or subcontractors related to public works projects, including adherence to prevailing wage laws. Contractors and subcontractors must maintain accurate payroll records, including personal details and wage information for each employee, and provide certified copies upon public request. Non-compliance is considered a misdemeanor. The bill requires that if an awarding body receives a records request but lacks the records, it must obtain them from the contractor and provide them to the requester. The Division of Labor Standards Enforcement can impose penalties if a contractor does not comply within 10 days. This bill might impose additional responsibilities on contractors and could expand the scope of a crime, creating a state-mandated local program. However, it specifies that no state reimbursement is needed for local agencies due to certain provisions.

AB 541 (DeMaio, R) California Public Records Act Ombudsperson.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under the California Public Records Act, state and local agencies must make their records available for public inspection unless there's a valid exemption. To enhance transparency, this bill proposes establishing the Office of the California Public Records Act Ombudsperson from now until January 1, 2029, conditional upon funding. The Governor would appoint the ombudsperson, who would review and investigate denied public records requests to ensure compliance with the Act. The ombudsperson would create a process for public requests for review and must make determinations within 30 days, potentially requiring agencies to release improperly withheld records. Additionally, the ombudsperson would protect the privacy of individuals whose information might be involved in a review. An annual report to the Legislature on review requests received is also mandated, starting by March 31, 2027.

AB 544 (Davies, R) Electric bicycles: required equipment.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 36, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The text outlines amendments to existing bicycle laws: 1. Current laws require bicycles, including electric ones, to have a red rear reflector or light visible from 500 feet during darkness. This new bill mandates electric bicycles to have these features at all times, expanding the scope of what constitutes a crime for non-compliance and creating a state-mandated local program. 2. Existing law obliges minors to use helmets that meet safety standards when riding bicycles and similar devices, with violations typically not recorded if proof of helmet use and safety course completion is provided. The new bill extends this provision to violations involving electric bicycles, requiring proof of completion of a specialized electric bicycle safety course. The Department of the California Highway Patrol is tasked with developing this course. 3. The California Constitution mandates the state cover costs incurred by local agencies due to state requirements, but this bill specifies that no reimbursement is necessary, citing a specific reason.

AB 545 (Davies, R) Vehicles: electric bicycles.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 37, Statutes of 2025

Summary: Existing law categorizes electric bicycles into three classes with different restrictions. A "class 1 electric bicycle" has a motor that assists only when pedaling and stops assistance at 20 mph. A "class 2 electric bicycle" has a motor that can propel the bike without pedaling and stops assistance at 20 mph. A "class 3 electric bicycle" includes a speedometer and a motor that assists only when pedaling, stopping assistance at 28 mph. The law prohibits selling devices that modify an electric bicycle's speed capabilities beyond these definitions. Violations are

considered infractions. The new bill extends this prohibition to selling applications that can modify speed capabilities, and such violations are also infractions. The bill states that no reimbursement is required for local agencies, as specified.

AB 546 (Caloza, D) Health care coverage: portable HEPA purifiers.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 67. Noes 0.).

Summary: The Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975 regulates health care service plans and makes violations a crime. Health insurers are regulated by the Department of Insurance, which sets coverage requirements and limits cost-sharing for health services. A new bill requires large group health care plans and insurance policies, starting January 1, 2026, to cover the cost of one portable HEPA purifier for pregnant individuals or those diagnosed with asthma or COPD. This coverage applies if they live in or are displaced from a wildfire emergency area, and the purifier is prescribed by a healthcare provider. The HEPA purifier cost cannot exceed \$500, adjusted for inflation. Violations would constitute a crime, initiating a state-mandated local program, although no reimbursement is required by the state for certain local costs. The bill is to take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 549 (Gabriel, D) Emergency services: human trafficking.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services within the Governor's office, led by a Director appointed by the Governor, to oversee emergency preparedness and response. This bill requires this office to collaborate with local entities to ensure safety and security at major events like the 2026 FIFA World Cup, Super Bowl LXI in 2027, and the 2028 Olympics and Paralympics. The office must focus on increasing safety and mitigating risks such as human trafficking. It will enter into agreements with host counties to implement these safety measures, forming a state-mandated local program. If the bill incurs costs for local governments, the state constitution mandates reimbursement through specified procedures.

AB 550 (Petrie-Norris, D) The California Endangered Species Act: take of species: renewable electrical generation facilities.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/11/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Endangered Species Act generally prohibits harming endangered or threatened species unless specified conditions are met. The Department of Fish and Wildlife can issue permits allowing certain entities to "take" these species, provided that the impact is minimized and mitigated. This bill proposes that if an "at-risk" species becomes listed as endangered, additional authorization for taking it will not be necessary if previous permits anticipated the listing and certain conditions are fulfilled. Specifically, this applies to permits for incidental harm caused by renewable energy projects. The bill allows collaborative research projects with permit holders to assess impacts, which can count towards a project's mitigation efforts. Additionally, the Department is required to report to the Legislature about species authorized for take under these conditions.

AB 553 (Caloza, D) CalFresh: food access.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 38, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), called CalFresh in California, provides nutrition assistance benefits from the federal government to eligible individuals through county distribution. Currently, the State Department of Social Services is tasked with seeking federal waivers and approvals to expand food options for CalFresh recipients, including the purchase of hot foods ready for immediate consumption. The proposed bill would mandate the department to maximize available food choices for recipients, ensuring they can access hot foods and other food options as allowed by federal law.

AB 555 (Jackson, D) Air resources: regulatory impacts: transportation fuel costs.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law gives the State Air Resources Board the power to regulate transportation fuels, aiming to reduce vehicle emissions to meet air quality standards in the state. This bill would require that the board must report quarterly to certain legislative committees, detailing how their fuel regulations affect fuel prices for California consumers.

AB 557 (McKinnor, D) California Factory-Built Housing Law.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was HOUSING on 6/11/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Factory-Built Housing Law requires factory-built housing in the state to have an approval insignia from the department, ensuring compliance with local regulations. Current law also states that local authorities cannot demand plan submissions for factory-built housing complying with these provisions. The department oversees the qualification of design approval agencies, whose approvals are equivalent to the department's own. Violations of these laws are classified as misdemeanors. This bill would make it mandatory for factory-built housing plans to be approved by unit serial number. These approved plans could be reused in future projects unless building standards change. The bill limits department and agency reviews to only unapproved sections of a plan. By doing so, it extends the scope of existing crimes, creating a state-mandated local program. However, the bill specifies that it does not require state reimbursement for these expanded responsibilities. The bill also states that these changes are of state importance and apply to all cities, including those with charters.

AB 571 (Quirk-Silva, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: Gypsum Canyon Veterans Cemetery.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for projects likely to have significant environmental effects or issue a negative declaration if no such effects are predicted. If a project could have significant effects but can be revised to mitigate them, a mitigated negative declaration is required. Certain projects, such as qualifying housing projects and some prison-related activities, are exempt from CEQA requirements. A new bill proposes exempting activities related to the Gypsum Canyon Veterans Cemetery in Orange County from CEQA, contingent on specific conditions, with this exemption expiring on January 1, 2030. The bill aims to address the unique needs of the cemetery and, as an urgency statute, would take effect immediately. It would also not require state reimbursement to local agencies for associated costs.

AB 580 (Wallis, R) Surface mining: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 requires that surface mining operations have a permit, an approved reclamation plan, and financial assurances, with some exceptions. For the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD), existing law allows the creation of a master reclamation plan that includes specific mining operations and meets individual site requirements. The State Mining and Geology Board is the lead agency for MWD's mining operations, inspecting idle sites every two years, while the MWD leads environmental reviews of the master plan. Initially set to end in 2026, new legislation extends the ability to create and approve a master reclamation plan to 2041. This extension means local governments as lead agencies will have increased responsibilities over a longer duration, prompting the bill to note the necessity of this special statute. Additionally, the bill states that no state reimbursement is required for the associated duties under the California Constitution.

AB 581 (Bennett, D) State shrub.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The existing law defines various state emblems, including the golden poppy as the State Flower, the California redwood as the State Tree, and purple needlegrass as the State Grass. This new bill proposes designating the bigberry manzanita (Arctostaphylos glauca) as the official state shrub.

AB 582 (Pacheco, D) Administrative Procedure Act.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Administrative Procedure Act outlines the procedures state agencies must follow to adopt, amend, or repeal regulations and how these actions are reviewed by the Office of Administrative Law. It also specifies the code sections that make up the Act. This bill proposes a nonsubstantive change to these provisions, meaning it would not alter the law's meaning or impact significantly.

AB 590 (Lee, D) Social Housing Bond Act of 2026.

Status: 03/03/2025 - Referred to Com. on H. & C.D.

Summary: This legislation, the Social Housing Bond Act of 2026, would enhance existing housing assistance programs by authorizing \$950 million in bonds. These funds are designated for social housing initiatives and managed under the State General Obligation Bond Law. If approved by voters, the bill will establish the California Housing Authority, overseen by the California Housing Authority Board, to ensure social housing developments meet specified objectives. This authority will be able to issue bonds and leverage other funds to develop low, very low, and extremely low-income housing. The bill also introduces the Social Housing Revolving Loan Fund, which will provide zero-interest loans for constructing housing that accommodates diverse incomes. The bond act is set to be voted on during the November 3, 2026, statewide general election and would take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

AB 591 (Caloza, D) Emergency services: mutual aid: public works.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/21/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services, managed by the Director of Emergency Services, to handle the state's emergency and disaster responses. This office also functions as the State Disaster Council under the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. The law aims to facilitate aid to areas affected by emergencies, ensuring that emergency plans approved by the Governor satisfy the mutual aid requirements, negating the need for formal written agreements between agencies. This bill proposes that the Legislature also focus on facilitating public works resources crucial for disaster response and recovery. It mandates that aid during emergencies include public works personnel, equipment, and materials. Additionally, it requires the Office of Emergency Services, with public works agencies' input, to create a Public Works Emergency Mutual Aid Plan for efficient resource mobilization in emergencies. The bill would introduce a state-mandated local program requiring reimbursement for costs incurred by local agencies, in line with procedures established by the California Constitution and statutory provisions.

AB 592 (Gabriel, D) Business: retail food.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 78. Noes 0.). **Summary:** The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, managed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, governs licensing for the sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages, and prohibits non-licensees from these activities, with certain exceptions. Due to COVID-19, temporary measures allowed for expanded license areas and to-go sales. Originally set to expire by July 2026, a new bill extends these measures until January 2029 but prohibits new authorizations after January 2027. In the realm of planning and zoning, laws permit outdoor business expansions impacting parking, initially expiring in 2026, but this bill makes these measures permanent, necessitating local jurisdictions to adjust parking requirements. The California Retail Food Code allows temporary satellite food services without added permits due to pandemic constraints; this bill removes the expiration date, making it permanent. Restaurants can operate with open setups, given they meet pest management and safety conditions, ensuring these plans are approved unless significant public health risks prevent it. Lastly, while the California Constitution mandates state reimbursement for certain local costs, this bill specifies no reimbursement is necessary for its provisions.

AB 596 (Ortega, D) Elections: ballot disclosures.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 61(a)(13) suspended. (Ayes 27. Noes 8.) Read third time and amended. Ordered to second reading. Re-referred to Com. on RLS. pursuant to Senate Rule 29.10(C). Re-referred to Com. on E. & C.A. Joint Rules 61 and 62(a) suspended. (Ayes 29. Noes 9.)

Summary: Under current law, a statewide measure's ballot label includes a short version of the measure's title and summary, along with its fiscal impact, prepared by the Attorney General and Legislative Analyst, respectively, and lists its supporters and opponents. The Secretary of State must create a website to provide comprehensive information about each state ballot measure, including the top 10 financial contributors supporting or opposing it, as compiled by the Fair Political Practices Commission. This bill requires that the three largest contributors of \$100,000 or more to committees funding the circulation of a statewide initiative or referendum be printed on the ballot, following the supporters' and opponents' names. Before this information is printed on ballots, the Secretary of State must allow public examination, and voters can request changes if necessary. Some words can be omitted from contributor names to shorten them for the ballot. The bill applies to measures for which the Attorney General provides a circulating title and summary, starting January 1, 2026. It also mandates that any increased duties for county election officials be considered a state-mandated local program, for which the state is required to reimburse costs. The reimbursement follows established statutory procedures if the Commission on State Mandates identifies state-mandated costs in the bill.

AB 605 (Muratsuchi, D) Lower Emissions Cargo Handling Equipment Pilot program.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that the State Air Resources Board allocate funds competitively for projects that achieve significant emission reductions from freight-related activities in California's trade corridors. The bill introduces the Lower Emissions Cargo Handling Equipment Pilot Program, which restricts the board from establishing regulations that prohibit the use of cargo handling equipment, purchased under the program before December 31, 2027, for its entire useful life. For equipment to participate in the pilot program, the manufacturer must certify that it meets specific emissions standards and label it accordingly. The equipment must also include a description or warranty of its useful life, with restrictions on how many years that life can be.

AB 608 (Zbur, D) Coastal resources: local coastal program: submission.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was PRINT on 2/13/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Coastal Act of 1976 created the California Coastal Commission and set rules for creating, approving, and certifying local coastal programs that manage development in the coastal zone. Existing laws offer local governments different methods for submitting these programs for approval. This bill proposes minor, nonsubstantive updates to the existing submission procedures for these local coastal programs.

AB 609 (Wicks, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: housing development projects.

Status: 05/20/2025 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency evaluates the environmental impact of projects potentially affecting the environment, requiring an environmental impact report unless it can issue a negative declaration, showing no significant effect, or a mitigated negative declaration if changes mitigate the impact. CEQA exempts certain projects, like housing developments that meet specific criteria, such as size, density, and proximity to freeways. This bill would exempt qualifying housing projects from some CEQA requirements but mandates an environmental assessment for hazardous substances. If hazards are found, further assessment and mitigation are required. The bill mandates local governments to determine project eligibility but states it does not require reimbursement to local agencies for compliance costs, as per California Constitution provisions.

AB 610 (Alvarez, D) Housing element: governmental constraints: disclosure statement.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law requires cities or counties to create a general plan for land use, which includes a housing element. The Housing Element Law sets rules for the preparation and compliance of this housing element. The Department of Housing and Community Development reviews it to ensure compliance. The housing element must analyze governmental constraints on housing for all income levels and show efforts to remove these constraints to meet regional housing needs. A new bill mandates that, starting from the 7th revision of the housing element, an additional disclosure statement must be included. This statement should identify new or amended constraints since the last housing element update. This requirement applies to all cities, including charter cities, indicating a matter of statewide concern. The bill also suggests additional changes to Section 65583 of the Government Code, conditional on related bills being enacted. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies for certain mandated costs, but this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required.

AB 612 (Rogers, D) Transportation: Highway Design Manual: emergency response times.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law gives the Department of Transportation authority over the state highway system and mandates that it update the Highway Design Manual to include the "complete streets" concept. This bill requires that by January 1, 2026, the department must update the manual to instruct local governments to consult with local fire departments during road improvements to ensure that these changes do not adversely affect emergency response times.

AB 613 (González, Mark, D) Property taxation: assessment: affordable commercial property.

Status: 05/23/2025 - In committee: Held under submission.

Summary: This bill amends existing law regarding the considerations for property valuation for tax purposes by adding specific renewable leases between a commercial community ownership entity and a nonprofit to the list of enforceable restrictions that affect land use. This extension of local tax officials' duties constitutes a statemandated local program. Furthermore, the bill requires that any new tax expenditure legislation includes specific goals, performance indicators, and data collection requirements. Although statutory provisions exist for reimbursing local agencies and school districts for state-mandated costs, this bill specifies that no funds will be appropriated to reimburse local agencies for property tax revenue losses resulting from this legislation. The bill is designed to take effect immediately as a tax levy.

AB 614 (Lee, D) Claims against public entities.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Government Claims Act currently sets rules for when claims against public entities must be filed. For claims involving death or injury to a person, personal property, or crops, the claim must be filed within six months of the incident. Other claims must be filed within one year. This bill proposes eliminating the six-month deadline for death or injury claims, requiring all claims to be presented within one year unless a different timeframe is specified by law.

AB 615 (Davies, R) Power facilities: emergency response and action plans.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 77. Noes 0.).

Summary: The proposed bill amends the requirements for filing an application with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for site certification involving electrical transmission lines or thermal power plants. Currently, the application must include detailed descriptions of transmission lines, maps, route justifications, and preliminary environmental impact assessments. The bill proposes to remove these requirements and instead mandates that applications include an emergency response and action plan, funded by the applicant, that considers potential impacts on surrounding areas during emergencies. This plan should be coordinated with local emergency and first response agencies. Additionally, the existing law permits individuals proposing energy storage systems to apply for certification with the commission in place of needing multiple permits from various agencies. The bill will require applicants of energy storage systems to also submit an emergency response plan, developed with input from local emergency management, and ensure compliance with updated NFPA 855 setback requirements for applications submitted post-January 1, 2026.

AB 616 (Caloza, D) Department of Parks and Recreation: state parks: California State Library Parks Pass Program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law classifies all state-controlled parks, campgrounds, monument sites, landmarks, and historical sites as part of the state park system, managed by the Department of Parks and Recreation. The California State Library is governed by the State Librarian, who has authority to acquire materials and equipment for library programs according to standard library practices. The 2024 Budget Act allocated funds for the California State Library Parks Pass Program. This bill proposes allowing the department to issue free vehicle day use annual passes to the California State Library for this program, contingent on legislative appropriation.

<u>AB 620</u> (<u>Jackson, D</u>) Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program: rental vehicles.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: The existing law sets up the Air Quality Improvement Program, managed by the State Air Resources Board, to fund projects that reduce air pollutants and improve air quality. Within this program, the Medium- and Heavy-Duty Zero-Emission Vehicle Fleet Purchasing Assistance Program provides financial and non-financial resources to help fleet operators transition to zero-emission vehicles. A new bill now requires the state board to consider specific factors, such as environmental and supply chain benefits, when developing regulations related to the procurement or use of zero-emission vehicles for public and private fleets.

AB 623 (Dixon, R) Fire prevention projects: California Environmental Quality Act: coastal development permits: exemptions.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill exempts certain projects from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and the California Coastal Act of 1976. Specifically, it exempts fuel modification and fuel reduction projects, which are designed to create defensible space and prevent wildfires, as well as electrical grid resilience or hardening projects, from CEQA requirements. These exemptions aim to streamline projects that maintain a 500-foot defensible space around structures and prevent the spread of wildfires. For the California Coastal Act, the bill exempts similar fuel projects from needing a coastal development permit. The bill mandates that lead agencies determine a project's eligibility for these exemptions, imposing a state-mandated local program, but it specifies that no state reimbursement is required for these costs.

AB 624 (Dixon, R) Office of Emergency Services: federal grant funding; Community Relief Act.

Status: 04/28/2025 - In committee: Set, second hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to manage disaster response and preparedness. This bill proposes that the OES be required to maximize local funding from the federal Emergency Management Performance Grant Program and share agreements with legislative committees regarding state use of federal grants, including those from the State Homeland Security Grant Program. The OES may retain up to 3% of these funds for admin purposes. Additionally, under the California Disaster Assistance Act, the Director of Emergency Services must financially support local agencies in emergencies. The bill introduces the Community Relief Act, establishing a grant program to assist local agencies, tribal governments, and others with disaster-related costs, funded by the Disaster Assistance Fund. This bill allows the director to regulate the program's administration.

AB 628 (McKinnor, D) Hiring of real property: dwellings: untenantability.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law mandates that buildings with dwelling units must have characteristics like adequate heating and hot water systems to be tenantable. This bill proposes adding the requirement of having a stove and refrigerator in good working order, capable of cooking and storing food safely, to this list. These changes will apply to leases made, amended, or extended on or after January 1, 2026. Landlords must repair or replace stoves or refrigerators that are recalled within 30 days of notice. Tenants can agree to provide their own refrigerator under certain conditions. These requirements will not apply to certain dwelling types, such as permanent supportive housing. Additionally, the bill reinforces that tenants can still repair their units or vacate if landlords do not address certain issues.

AB 632 (Hart, D) Local ordinances: administrative fines or penalties.

Status: 08/19/2025 - Read second time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law allows local agencies to impose administrative fines or penalties for ordinance violations and requires that the procedures for imposing and managing these fines be established by ordinance. This bill proposes that, under certain conditions, local agencies can file a certified copy of a final administrative order, which directs the payment of these fines, with the clerk of the superior court. The clerk must then enter judgment based on this order. Additionally, the bill permits local agencies to create a procedure to collect fines through a lien on the land where the violation occurred, provided certain criteria are met. The bill also clarifies that these new remedies or penalties are additional to any others provided by law.

AB 635 (Ahrens, D) Mobilehome Residency Law Protection Program: Attorney General.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 6/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Mobilehome Residency Law establishes regulations for tenancies in mobilehome parks, classifying management failures and rule violations as public nuisances that can be addressed through civil actions. The Attorney General can initiate such actions. The Mobilehome Residency Law Protection Program, within the Department of Housing and Community Development, enforces these regulations and mandates referrals of any suspected violations. This bill would require that the department refers up to 25 of the most serious alleged violations each fiscal year to the Attorney General, who can take further legal actions, including arbitration and pursuing judicial remedies. It also involves allocating funds from the Mobilehome Dispute Resolution Fund to the department or Attorney General as needed. Additionally, the department must include details about expenditures by the Attorney General and the number of complaints referred in its annual report to

the Governor and Legislature. Finally, the bill extends the expiration date of the Mobilehome Residency Law Protection Program from January 1, 2027, to January 1, 2030.

AB 637 (Flora, R) False or misleading commercial disaster communication.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was INS. on 4/21/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing law, insurance practices are regulated to prevent unfair competition and deceptive acts in the insurance industry. Specifically, making false or misleading statements about insurance in publications or advertisements is prohibited. Violators may face a civil penalty of up to \$5,000 or \$10,000. The bill would allow courts to increase this penalty by up to \$2,500 if the violation involves a "commercial disaster communication," defined as certain communications made after a state of emergency or catastrophic disaster is declared. This increased penalty can apply until 60 days after the emergency ends, but it cannot exceed 180 days for each specific emergency or disaster. The bill also includes related findings and declarations.

AB 638 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Stormwater: uses: irrigation.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Stormwater Resource Planning Act allows public agencies to create plans for capturing stormwater and dry weather runoff. It mandates the State Water Resources Control Board to provide guidance by July 1, 2016. This bill requires by December 1, 2026, the board should develop guidelines for using captured stormwater to irrigate urban public lands, aiming to reduce potable water use. These guidelines should cover aspects such as opportunities for stormwater use and address concerns about pathogens and suspended solids. Before finalizing the recommendations, the board must seek and review public comments.

AB 643 (Wilson, D) Climate change: short-lived climate pollutants: organic waste reduction.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law aims to reduce methane emissions by targeting a 75% reduction in landfill disposal of organic waste from 2014 levels by 2025. To meet these goals, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery, along with the State Air Resources Board, must create regulations. Local jurisdictions are allowed to include compost produced from specific operations as part of their organic waste recovery efforts. This bill would also let local jurisdictions count organic material used as an agricultural amendment toward their recovery targets, provided it is processed at an authorized facility using approved technologies and licensed as an agricultural fertilizer by the Department of Food and Agriculture.

AB 647 (González, Mark, D) Housing development approvals: residential units.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 4/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law allows proposed housing developments with up to two residential units in single-family residential zones to be approved without a detailed review if certain conditions are met. The proposal must be within urban areas or clusters. Local agencies can enforce objective zoning standards, but cannot apply standards conflicting with state law. This bill expands the process to allow developments with up to eight units to also be considered without detailed reviews if specific criteria are met—like reserving at least one unit for low-income households. Local agencies cannot block developments meeting these criteria and cannot impose restrictive zoning standards, such as setback or height limitations, that would reduce development capacity. The bill mandates that applications are processed within 60 days, approving them if not addressed within that timeframe. If an application is denied, agencies must explain why and how deficiencies can be corrected. Local agencies can only reject applications if there is a significant health or safety impact that cannot be mitigated. Ordinances implementing the bill do not require CEQA review, as they are not considered projects under CEQA. Changes apply statewide, even in charter cities, as matters of state concern. The bill specifies that local and school district reimbursements are not required under this legislation.

AB 650 (Papan, D) Planning and zoning: housing element: regional housing needs allocation.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill amends several procedures related to the Planning and Zoning Law in California, with a focus on housing elements. It mandates each county and city to adopt a comprehensive general plan for development

that includes a housing element. The law requires actions to promote fair housing and sets a timeline for developing a standardized reporting format by the Department of Housing and Community Development by December 31, 2026. For housing element revisions, the bill extends the timeline for determining housing needs from two to three years before the scheduled revision, requiring meetings with councils of governments at least 38 months in advance for future revisions. Additionally, it allows cities and counties more time to form subregional entities for allocating housing needs, extending deadlines from 28 to 34 months. The bill also alters deadlines for developing and distributing housing need methodologies and draft allocations, shifting them from two years to two and a half years before revisions. If the department finds non-compliance in draft elements, it must specify deficiencies and suggest required changes. Finally, the bill notes potential incorporations of changes from related bills and states that it creates state-mandated local programs. However, it specifies that certain costs mandated by the state do not require reimbursement under this act.

<u>AB 654</u> (<u>Caloza, D</u>) Homelessness resource telephone system.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law allows local public agencies to set up a "311" phone system for nonemergency access to public safety services or other local services. Additionally, there are various programs for homeless individuals, such as the Homeless Emergency Aid program and the Emergency Housing and Assistance Program, which provide financial support for shelters and services. Also, counties can form teams to help identify and connect homeless individuals to housing and support. This bill mandates Los Angeles County to create a dedicated telephone system for homelessness resource assistance. This system will handle calls about people experiencing or at risk of homelessness and help connect them to appropriate resources. This requirement represents a statemandated local program. If the bill leads to state-mandated costs, reimbursement procedures are outlined in the California Constitution, which will be followed if the Commission on State Mandates determines such costs are applicable. The bill emphasizes the unique necessity of this program specifically for Los Angeles County.

AB 657 (Alvarez, D) Otay Mesa East Toll Facility Act: public-private partnership agreements: toll revenues.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Re-referred to Com. on TRANS.

Summary: The Otay Mesa East Toll Facility Act allows SANDAG to execute a construction project for the State Highway Route 11 corridor, including highway improvements and international border crossing facilities operated as a toll facility. Existing law permits SANDAG to set and collect tolls and use specified delivery methods for the project, with toll revenues allocated for certain costs. This bill amends this act by expanding the definition of "project" to include facilities designed to aid movement near the Otay Mesa East Port of Entry and generate revenue. It allows public-private partnerships as a delivery method and permits tolls to be imposed on properties under the act. Additionally, toll revenues can now cover payments to private partners in these partnerships, along with making other conforming amendments.

AB 658 (Gonzalez, Jeff, R) Vehicles: registration fees.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that a registration fee be paid to the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) for each vehicle or trailer that needs to be registered, except for vehicles explicitly exempt from these fees. This bill proposes that if there is an increase in the registration fee, the DMV must complete and publish an affordability impact analysis on its website within six months of the fee increase taking effect. This analysis must include details such as the average increase in annual vehicle registration costs over the past five years and the total number of vehicles with overdue registrations.

AB 660 (Wilson, D) Planning and Zoning Law: postentitlement phase permits: Housing Accountability Act.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The bill amends existing planning and zoning laws regarding the post-entitlement phase permits for building projects, particularly focusing on the processes that local agencies must follow. It limits local agencies to conducting a maximum of two plan checks and specification reviews for a building permit application and allows agencies to deny applications not meeting standards after these reviews. Applicants can request additional reviews if needed. The bill eliminates the tolling requirement when outside reviews are necessary, instead requiring strict notification timelines for start and end of tolling periods. Appeals processes against application denials are revised, shortening decision timelines to 30 days for smaller housing projects and 45 days for larger

ones. The bill removes some existing appeal provisions, granting applicants the right to seek legal intervention if timelines are not met or appeals processes are unavailable. It also modifies the Housing Accountability Act by broadening the definition of "disapprove the housing development project" to include failures to meet new requirements. These changes make violations interconnected with post-entitlement permits a direct violation of the Act, enforcing stricter compliance on local agencies. The bill declares these adjustments as addressing statewide concerns, applicable to all cities, and specifies no state reimbursement is required for these changes.

AB 663 (McKinnor, D) Hydrofluorocarbon gases: sale and distribution prohibition: exemptions.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 78. Noes 0.). **Summary:** The existing law bans the sale, distribution, or commerce of bulk hydrofluorocarbons or blends exceeding specific global warming potential limits in the state, starting in 2025, with stricter limits set for 2030 and 2033. However, it currently allows an exemption for reclaimed hydrofluorocarbons. A new bill proposes to eliminate this exemption and introduce new exemptions for certain refrigerants. Removing the exemption for reclaimed hydrofluorocarbons would broaden the scope of a crime, as per the law, and impose a state-mandated local program. Despite the California Constitution requiring the state to reimburse local agencies for certain statemandated costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is needed. It declares the bill as an urgency statute, making it effective immediately.

AB 668 (Lowenthal, D) Alcoholic beverage control: large outdoor events: drink spiking.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Alcoholic Beverage Control Act, managed by the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, oversees the issuance, suspension, and conditions of various alcoholic beverage licenses. Violations of this act typically constitute a misdemeanor and may lead to license suspension or revocation. Until January 1, 2027, applicants for new or existing Type 48 licenses must provide drug testing devices and drink lids to customers and post relevant notices. They must also inform law enforcement or emergency services if a customer believes they have been a victim of drink spiking. This bill effective from July 1, 2026, to January 1, 2029, extends similar requirements to persons with catering authorizations or daily on-sale licenses for alcoholic beverages at large outdoor events. These individuals must follow manufacturer instructions for testing devices and will not be liable for faulty tests if instructions are followed. Violations of this bill are not considered criminal, and a first violation will result only in a departmental warning.

AB 670 (Quirk-Silva, D) Planning and zoning: housing element: converted affordable housing units.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: Current law requires cities and counties to adopt a general plan, including a housing element, and mandates that a planning agency submit an annual report by April 1 each year detailing specific housing data, such as received housing development applications and the number of units demolished and built. Starting with the report due by April 1, 2027, this bill mandates the inclusion of more detailed information about new and demolished housing units, and reports on replacement housing. For the housing element section of the report, current law permits the inclusion of data on multifamily units converted to moderate-income housing through affordability covenants. The bill extends this to allow, from the 2027 report, the inclusion of multifamily units converted to affordable housing for low to acutely low-income households, with covenants ensuring the units' affordability for at least 55 years. Additionally, the bill proposes further amendments to Section 65400 of the Government Code, contingent upon the enactment of another bill, AB 726, with this bill enacted last.

AB 672 (Caloza, D) Public employment: notifications and right of intervention.

Status: 08/25/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Durazo.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Public Employment Relations Board (PERB) to resolve disputes and enforce the duties and rights of specific public employers and employees in collective bargaining. PERB is responsible for investigating unfair practice charges. This bill mandates that a plaintiff seeking an injunction against labor actions by public employees must electronically notify PERB's general counsel if PERB is not a party to the case. Additionally, before applying to court for a temporary restraining order, the plaintiff must inform PERB's general counsel using the same electronic method when notifying the opposing party. This bill clarifies that plaintiffs cannot bypass PERB's administrative remedies required by law before seeking court intervention. PERB also has the right to intervene in related civil cases concerning labor disputes involving public employees. Additionally, the Trial Court Employment Protection and Governance Act outlines procedures for court employee matters, including labor relations. The proposed bill requires the Judicial Council to establish a panel of court of

appeal justices equipped to handle cases enjoining labor activities by trial court employees. This panel will assign a single justice to handle these matters in the superior court, following specific procedures.

AB 674 (Connolly, D) Clean Cars 4 All Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Clean Cars 4 All Program aims to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, enhance air quality, and benefit low-income residents by replacing high-pollution vehicles with cleaner options. This bill introduces changes to ensure incentives are available throughout the state, including areas not participating in the program locally, where the state board will manage incentives distribution. It emphasizes prioritizing vehicle retirement in specific areas and mandates a program guideline update by July 1, 2027. The bill also requires expanded evaluation of outreach funding, targeting communities with many older vehicles. In funding allocation, the state board must now consider additional metrics like the total value of vouchers and a specific metric for retired vehicles, removing the previous focus on eligible ZIP Code populations. Additionally, it calls for a means-based strategy to identify potential incentive recipients, providing increased incentives to those who meet specific criteria.

AB 678 (Lee, D) Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law mandates the Governor to establish an Interagency Council on Homelessness, which includes specified members, to facilitate partnerships among various government levels, nonprofits, and the private sector to devise strategies to end homelessness. The council is tasked with recommending policies and procedures to legislators and other government bodies. This bill adds that the council must work with LGBTQ+ community representatives to identify policies and best practices for inclusive and culturally competent services for LGBTQ+ individuals experiencing homelessness. It also emphasizes improving data collection on LGBTQ+ needs and experiences in state homelessness programs. The council must submit a report with these recommendations to certain legislative committees by July 1, 2027.

AB 685 (Solache, D) Los Angeles and Ventura Wildfire Small Business Recovery Act.

Status: 03/03/2025 - Referred to Com. on E.D., G., & H.I.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) within the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to support small businesses. It also sets up the California Small Business Technical Assistance Program (SB-TAP) to offer consulting and training via grants with technical assistance centers. The OSBA oversees the Capital Infusion Program (CIP) under SB-TAP. This bill introduces the Los Angeles and Ventura Wildfire Small Business Recovery Act to aid small businesses affected by the January 2025 wildfires in those counties. It allocates \$50 million from the General Fund to create the Los Angeles and Ventura Wildfire Small Business Recovery Fund, managed by OSBA, to support the CIP and SB-TAP. Additionally, it calls for a new program to assist employees of impacted businesses. GO-Biz must report to the Legislature on fund use, and the act will end on January 1, 2031. The bill is declared an urgency statute, effective immediately.

AB 687 (Patterson, R) Forestry: timber operations: maintenance of timberlands for fuels reduction.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 6/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 requires submission and approval of a timber harvesting plan by a registered professional forester before starting timber operations. Violating this act is a misdemeanor. Additionally, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report or adopt a negative declaration for projects affecting the environment. If a project can be revised to mitigate its environmental impact significantly, a mitigated negative declaration is required. This bill allows up to 35 annual projects for noncommercial wildfire fuels reduction on timberlands under 1500 acres, funded by public money, to prepare a timber harvesting plan following CEQA guidelines. This bill, which expands what constitutes a crime and thus implements a state-mandated local program, is set to expire on January 1, 2031. The California Constitution outlines a reimbursement process for costs mandated by the state, but this bill specifies that no reimbursement is needed for certain reasons.

AB 693 (Boerner, D) Broadband: state oversight.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill proposes establishing the Broadband and Digital Equity Commission, which will replace the California Broadband Council in July 2027. Members of this new commission will receive compensation and necessary expenses for their duties. A new Department of Broadband and Digital Equity will be created within the Government Operations Agency to focus on expanding broadband access in neglected areas statewide. By July 2027, this department will centralize broadband and digital equity activities and oversee establishing relevant rules and regulations. The commission will appoint the department's executive director, who is responsible for hiring necessary staff with the commission's approval. The department will manage previously existing broadband initiatives such as the California Advanced Services Fund and Broadband Loan Loss Reserve Fund. It will also maintain an interactive broadband accessibility map and the statewide open-access middle-mile network. The bill allows the department to undertake tasks requested by the commission, but the commission can seek additional resources if needed. The commission will help in policy formulation, advise the Legislature, and engage in federal rulemakings.

AB 696 (Ransom, D) Lithium-ion vehicle batteries: emergencies: advisory group.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The existing law mandates the Secretary for Environmental Protection to form a group, continuing until January 1, 2027, to advise on policies for recycling lithium-ion batteries from vehicles. This bill proposes that by December 31, 2026, the Office of the State Fire Marshal should establish a new advisory group to focus on safety and management of these batteries during emergencies. Members would be appointed from various specified sectors. This group must meet quarterly until July 1, 2028, collaborating with universities, vehicle manufacturers, and first responders. Their task is to develop standards for safely managing battery-related emergencies, concluding their work by July 1, 2028. These provisions would expire on January 1, 2029.

AB 698 (Wicks, D) Local taxation: real property transfers.

Status: 06/09/2025 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

Summary: Proposition 62, approved in 1986, prevents local governments from imposing transaction or sales taxes on real property sales unless specified otherwise. The California Constitution allows charter cities to establish ordinances regarding municipal matters, which supersede conflicting general laws. The existing Documentary Transfer Tax Act permits counties or cities to impose taxes on certain real property transfers. This bill mandates that a city's legislative body must, before adopting any such transfer tax, provide an online analysis of its effects, particularly on affordable housing production. This bill asserts that it addresses an issue of statewide concern, making it applicable to all cities, including charter cities.

AB 699 (Stefani, D) Elections: local tax measures.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Under current law, when a local measure proposes a new tax or changes an existing tax rate, the ballot must include details about the expected annual revenue, tax rate, and duration. The proposed bill changes this by allowing local governments to direct voters to the county voter information guide for these details instead. If this option is used, elections officials must provide a "measure information statement" with the sample ballot, detailing the tax purpose, applicable rates, and duration. This new requirement would create a state-mandated local program. For bond measures funded by property taxes, the law currently requires a mailed statement with tax rate estimates. The bill allows local governments to send these statements and the new measure information statements electronically, using established procedures. The California Constitution mandates state reimbursement to local agencies for state-imposed costs, and this bill includes provisions for such reimbursements if applicable.

<u>AB 709</u> (<u>Gonzalez, Jeff, R</u>) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater sustainability plans.

Status: 06/11/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act mandates that all high- or medium-priority groundwater basins must be managed through sustainability plans. Once a groundwater sustainability plan is created, it must be submitted to the Department of Water Resources for review. If multiple plans are developed for the same basin, the responsible agencies must submit all plans along with an explanation of their compliance and a coordination agreement to the department. The department then has two years to evaluate each plan. This bill clarifies that agencies are allowed to amend the coordination agreement after the department issues its assessment of the plans, without breaching submission requirements.

AB 712 (Wicks, D) Housing reform laws: enforcement actions: fines and penalties.

Status: 09/04/2025 - In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 64. Noes 2.).

Summary: The existing Planning and Zoning Law includes reforms and incentives to promote affordable housing construction, enabling courts to award legal costs to winning public entities or nonprofit housing corporations in lawsuits related to housing approvals. This bill proposes that if a housing project applicant wins a legal action to force a public agency to comply with housing reform laws, they would be entitled to reasonable attorney's fees and costs. The bill mandates fines for non-compliant local agencies, extends the statute of limitations by 60 days when the applicant signals intent to sue, and prohibits public agencies from requiring applicants to cover legal costs if sued over violation of rights related to housing reform laws. It defines housing reform laws as those that protect housing project applicants or restrict public agencies in favor of housing developments.

AB 713 (Solache, D) Public postsecondary education: student employment.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was HIGHER ED. on 3/24/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Donahoe Higher Education Act outlines the roles of California's public higher education institutions, namely the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges. The Act's stipulations apply to the University of California only if the Regents consent through a resolution. This bill intends to prevent these institutions from disqualifying students from employment due to lack of federal work authorization, except when federally mandated or when the funding source of the job requires it. Additionally, the bill mandates these institutions to interpret the federal prohibition on hiring undocumented noncitizens as non-applicable to state entities. If student employment is seen as a "benefit" under federal law, the bill allows this benefit to be granted. The institutions must implement these requirements by January 6, 2026. The provisions apply to the University of California only if the Regents agree. This bill will result in a state-mandated local program, and if there are state-imposed costs, the state is responsible for reimbursing these expenses following existing legal procedures.

AB 716 (Carrillo, D) Fire safety standards: hydrogen facilities.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of the State Fire Marshal within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to enhance fire and panic safety measures. This bill requires the State Fire Marshal appoint a hydrogen fire expert to address queries and clarify issues related to hydrogen facilities, ensuring they adhere to current fire safety standards. Additionally, the bill mandates the State Fire Marshal to offer continuous training to local fire departments and building inspectors on hydrogen safety protocols, ensuring these are understood and applied consistently throughout the state.

AB 719 (Calderon, D) County emergency plans.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT on 3/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the Office of Emergency Services, responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response. The Governor is tasked with coordinating the State Emergency Plan and guiding local political subdivisions in emergency mitigation efforts. The law defines "political subdivision" and "emergency plans" for local governments' roles in emergency services and mandates each local governing body to comply with the State Emergency Plan. The Act also requires the Office to set best practices and review procedures for county emergency plans. Under this bill, counties must review and update their emergency plans every two years, creating additional responsibilities for local officials and establishing a state-mandated local program. It eliminates a previous deadline of January 1, 2022. The California Constitution mandates reimbursement to local agencies for state-imposed costs, and the bill specifies that reimbursement will follow the existing statutory procedures if state-mandated costs are identified.

AB 721 (Soria, D) Huron Hawk Conservancy.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law allows various conservancies to acquire and manage lands in the state. This bill proposes the creation of the Huron Hawk Conservancy under the Natural Resources Agency. It aims to manage and conserve public lands within the Huron Hawk area for purposes such as recreational use, wildlife habitat

restoration, protection, and educational purposes. The conservancy would be governed by a board of directors, including members appointed by local agencies, with specific responsibilities outlined in the bill. It establishes the Huron Hawk Conservancy Fund, which will be used to finance these activities once the Legislature appropriates funds or approves a bond. The conservancy can also accept various contributions from public agencies, private entities, or individuals, which will be deposited into the fund. By assigning new responsibilities to local agencies, the bill creates a state-mandated local program. If it incurs state-mandated costs, the California Constitution requires reimbursement procedures to be followed as per existing statutory provisions.

AB 722 (Ávila Farías, D) Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill proposes the establishment of the Reentry Housing and Workforce Development Program within the Department of Housing and Community Development. By July 1, 2026, and subject to funding by the Legislature, the department must provide grants for innovative or evidence-based housing and employment solutions aimed at helping recently incarcerated individuals avoid homelessness and maintain stable housing. The initiative involves collaboration with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and local counties. Program applicants will be scored competitively based on set criteria, and recipients must use funds for long-term rental assistance, landlord incentives, and other supportive housing services. Contracts will be awarded for five years, with the possibility of renewal. Award recipients must submit annual progress reports, and an independent evaluator will assess the program's outcomes, with findings reported to specific legislative committees.

AB 726 (Ávila Farías, D) Planning and zoning: annual report: rehabilitated units.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that every county and city adopt a comprehensive long-term general plan for physical development, including a housing element. Annually, by April 1, the planning agency of each city or county must submit a report on their progress in fulfilling regional housing needs to entities like the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation and the Department of Housing and Community Development. The new bill allows local agencies to include in their annual reports the number of substantially rehabilitated deed-restricted affordable housing units that are at least 15 years old and have received at least \$60,000 per unit in funding. However, these units cannot be used to meet affordability requirements for eligibility for streamlined approvals. Additionally, the bill updates the reference to the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation and will make changes to Section 65400 of the Government Code if AB 670 is enacted last.

AB 729 (Zbur, D) Public utilities: climate credits.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E. U., & C. on 6/4/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. It allows the use of market-based compliance methods, providing greenhouse gas allowances to electrical and gas corporations. Revenues from these allowances are credited back to specific customer groups under programs known as the electric and natural gas California Climate Credit. The Public Utilities Commission oversees these credits, requiring them to be distributed to residential and small business customers at specific times of the year. This bill mandates these credits for electric customers during August and September, and for natural gas customers in February. Violations of these provisions would be criminal offenses. Although the California Constitution typically mandates state reimbursement for certain local costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required.

AB 734 (Schultz, D) Environmental protection: biological resources data: State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: powerplants: power lines: applications.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission is responsible for certifying sites for electrical transmission lines or thermal power plants, with certain exceptions. It can exempt thermal power plants under 100 megawatts and modifications not exceeding an additional 100 megawatts, provided there's no significant environmental or energy resource impact. The new bill mandates that biological resource data from applications for certification or exemptions be publicly available, unless the Department of Fish and Wildlife determines that disclosing specific location data poses a significant risk to species. In such cases, the department will assess and report the maximum data that can be safely released. This requirement extends to applications for facilities like solar or wind power plants with a capacity of 50 megawatts or more, valid until June 30, 2029.

AB 735 (Carrillo, D) Planning and zoning: logistics use developments: truck routes.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate Rule 29.3(b) suspended. (Ayes 27. Noes 8.) From committee chair, with author's amendments: Amend, and re-refer to committee. Read second time, amended, and re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary: Starting January 1, 2026, new statewide standards for warehouse design and logistics use developments will be in place, addressing building design, parking, truck loading bays, landscaping, and energy efficiency, among others. These standards apply to "21st century" and "tier 1" warehouses, which include requirements for electrical hookups for climate control at loading bays. New legislation clarifies that these standards apply to permits issued at the time and revises the definition of "logistics use" to "logistics use development," which involves the movement or storage of goods primarily by heavy-duty trucks, not predominantly for onsite retail customers. The bill mandates that cities or counties adopt ordinances by January 1, 2028, to guide truck routes avoiding residential areas, and requires regions with high warehouse concentration to update circulation elements by January 1, 2026. All logistics developments must be accessible by major roads after certain dates. The Attorney General can enforce compliance, with penalties for violations. Cities and counties must post signage for truck routes and parking, and cannot approve developments that demolish certain housing units without replacements or tenant compensation.

AB 736 (Wicks, D) The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026.

Status: 06/04/2025 - In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment.

Summary: Under existing law, various assistance programs support emergency housing, multifamily housing, farmworker housing, home ownership for very low-income and low-income households, and down payment assistance for first-time home buyers. The law also permits issuing bonds to fund these programs and related projects, like infill development and housing-related parks. The bill, the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026, seeks to authorize \$10 billion in bonds to support affordable rental and home ownership programs, such as the Multifamily Housing Program, the CalHome Program, and the Joe Serna Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program. To take effect, this bill needs to be approved by voters in the June 2, 2026, statewide primary election, and it has been declared an urgency statute to ensure immediate implementation if passed.

AB 737 (Quirk-Silva, D) Energy: building decarbonization: notice and recordation of a decarbonization charge.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Current law mandates that energy suppliers, such as electrical corporations and other entities, document a notice of decarbonization charge with local county recorders within 30 days of funding a decarbonization upgrade. Once the related charges are fully recovered, the energy supplier must also file a notice of full cost recovery and removal of the charge within the same timeframe. The bill expands the definition of "energy supplier" to include gas corporations and ensures that relevant changes are made. Violations of these procedures constitute a crime. Additionally, while the California Constitution typically mandates state reimbursement to local agencies for certain costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required for a particular reason.

AB 738 (Tangipa, R) Energy: building standards: photovoltaic requirements.

Status: 08/20/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law empowers the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to set building standards that enhance energy and water efficiency. This includes regulations for solar-ready buildings and mandatory photovoltaic systems for low-rise residential buildings constructed after January 1, 2020. The bill in question modifies these requirements for residential buildings that are being repaired, restored, or replaced due to disaster-related damage in areas under a state of emergency. Until January 1, 2028, such construction must comply only with photovoltaic requirements that were applicable when the building was initially built, rather than current standards. This exception applies under certain conditions related to the owner's income, insurance, and the specifics of the construction. The legislation mandates local agencies to verify compliance with older photovoltaic standards, thus creating a state-mandated local program. However, it specifies that no state reimbursement for these local costs is required, citing a particular reason for this decision.

AB 745 (Irwin, D) Electricity: climate credits.

Status: 08/29/2025 - From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (August 29). Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 appoints the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions, allowing the use of market-based mechanisms, including direct allocations of emission allowances to electrical corporations. The Public Utilities Commission has authority over utilities, requiring that proceeds from these allowances are credited to residential, small business, and emissions-intensive customers as the California Climate Credit. This bill mandates these credits be applied to residential electrical bills in July, August, and September, or during emergency situations, and are to be calculated based on energy consumption. Violations of the bill, which becomes part of the Public Utilities Act, would be considered criminal. While typically the state reimburses local agencies for mandated costs, this bill stipulates no reimbursement for a specified reason.

AB 750 (Quirk-Silva, D) Homeless shelters: safety regulations.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 6/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The State Housing Law mandates the Department of Housing and Community Development to set rules for ensuring safety and welfare in residential structures statewide. Local cities or counties must enforce these regulations, inspecting buildings and maintaining standards. Violations are considered misdemeanors. For homeless shelters, the law requires cities or counties to inspect annually and upon receiving complaints, and to notify shelter operators of violations. The bill specifies shelters must display occupancy rights and complaint procedures. Non-compliance can result in civil penalties and loss of state funding. Shelters failing to correct violations can lead to legal actions, with prevailing plaintiffs entitled to attorney fees. Cities and counties must report annually on shelter inspections and complaints, even if there are none. The Department has the right to enforce compliance and can withhold funding for noncompliance with reporting. State-mandated local program costs may be reimbursed unless specified otherwise.

AB 760 (Ta, R) Mobilehome parks: rental restrictions: exemptions: emergencies.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 5/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Mobilehome Residency Law regulates mobilehome parks, requiring that park management follow the same rules as residents. Currently, if a park rule forbids homeowners from renting or subleasing their mobilehomes, management is also prohibited from renting out mobilehomes they own, except for specific exceptions like housing employees or honoring agreements from before January 1, 2022. There are exceptions for mobilehomes restricted to affordable housing owned by certain nonprofits or government entities. The new bill proposes an additional exemption for parks in areas recently affected by a state of emergency due to disasters that damage or destroy housing. In such cases, these parks can rent mobilehomes directly to tenants on an emergency basis for up to 36 months after the emergency ends. This exemption lasts as long as tenants use the mobilehome as their primary residence. The bill asserts that these changes concern statewide issues, applicable to all cities, including charter cities.

AB 766 (Sharp-Collins, D) State agencies and departments: strategic plans: diversity, equity, and inclusion.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The State Government Strategic Planning and Performance and Review Act mandates that specific state agencies, departments, offices, or commissions create and report on their strategic plans to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by April 1 each year. This report must include details on what the strategic plan will entail, the process for its development and adoption, and the timeline for its completion. This bill would extend this requirement to all agencies under the Governor's authority, requiring them to also use data analysis and inclusive practices to address racial equity and disparities in their strategic planning efforts.

AB 768 (Ávila Farías, D) Mobilehome parks: rent protections: local rent control.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was JUD. on 4/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Mobilehome Residency Law governs issues related to mobilehome park tenancies, particularly for those with ownership in subdivisions, cooperatives, or resident-owned parks. It outlines residents' and homeowners' rights concerning property use. Under current law, if a mobilehome space is not a homeowner's main residence and is not rented out, it is exempt from local rent control measures. This bill changes this, applying the exemption only if the space is neither the sole nor the principal residence of the homeowner. Furthermore, the bill stipulates that rent or tenancy terms cannot be altered based solely on discovering through official records that

a mobilehome is not the main residence of the homeowner without first notifying them. It also narrows the existing exemptions to rental agreements, now only applying to mobilehomes currently up for sale.

AB 769 (Wilson, D) Regional park and open-space districts.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.).

Summary: This bill introduces several changes to existing laws regarding regional park and open-space districts. Firstly, it consolidates and changes the roles and compensation of officers appointed by the district's board. It modifies the requirements for land conveyance, increasing the lease period requiring voter consent from 25 to 50 years. Additionally, it alters the voting requirements for exchanging parkland, reducing it from unanimous board approval to a two-thirds majority. It allows the East Bay Regional Park District to accept compensation in place of land in some exchanges, with the stipulation that funds are used to buy new parkland, and raises the annual exchange limit from 40 to 80 acres for listed districts. The bill also changes procurement rules, permitting general managers in districts with populations over 200,000 to approve expenditures up to \$150,000 with board approval. Lastly, it includes legislative findings that justify specific provisions for the East Bay Regional Park District.

AB 782 (Quirk-Silva, D) Subdivisions: security.

Status: 08/20/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Subdivision Map Act gives local legislative bodies the authority to manage the design and improvement of subdivisions, requiring developers to provide security for certain agreements or acts. The Real Estate Commissioner must evaluate subdivisions and issue a public report allowing sales or leases, unless specific denial criteria are met, such as inadequate financial arrangements for improvements. A new bill proposes that when a local agency already has sufficient security for a residential development's improvements, the Real Estate Commissioner cannot demand additional security for the same improvements when issuing a public report.

AB 790 (Ávila Farías, D) Homelessness: single women with children.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.). In Assembly. Ordered to Engrossing and Enrolling.

Summary: Under existing law, starting January 1, 2024, cities, counties, and continuums of care receiving state funding for homelessness must include families, those fleeing domestic violence, and unaccompanied women in plans for homeless services. They are also required to collaborate with victim service providers to address specific needs of these groups, using unique data systems in line with federal guidelines. The Interagency Council on Homelessness must set and track goals to prevent and end homelessness for domestic violence survivors and unaccompanied women in California. A new bill extends these requirements to include women with children. It mandates that analyses and goals devised by cities, counties, and continuums be submitted to the Interagency Council on Homelessness, which must also publish them online. Since this bill adds new responsibilities, it creates a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution mandates state reimbursement for specific local costs, and if this bill is deemed to incur state-mandated costs, reimbursement will follow established statutory procedures.

AB 792 (Lee, D) Court interpreters.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 64. Noes 1.). **Summary:** The Trial Court Interpreter Employment and Labor Relations Act currently organizes trial courts into four regions, each with a committee to manage employment terms for court interpreters. The law mandates that compensation be uniform across a region, while allowing other employment terms to be regionally consistent except for health, welfare, and pension benefits, which match those of other trial court employees. Trial courts can also set additional local compensation under specific conditions. This new bill introduces the option for a recognized employee organization to request multiregional bargaining when more than one region is involved in bargaining within a calendar year, provided there is mutual consent between the organization and the regional committees.

<u>AB 794</u> (<u>Gabriel</u>, <u>D</u>) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.

Status: 06/12/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Gabriel.

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act mandates that the State Water Resources Control Board regulate drinking water for public safety. This responsibility includes enforcing federal regulations under the Safe Drinking Water Act. Existing law allows the state board to enact emergency regulations aligning with federal standards, subject to certain conditions. This bill clarifies that the board's power to adopt emergency regulations

includes implementing requirements from a federal regulation effective as of January 19, 2025, even if those federal requirements are later repealed or made less stringent. The bill also states that emergency regulations cannot implement less stringent standards than existing ones and can impose stricter monitoring demands. However, maximum contaminant levels and their compliance deadlines set by emergency regulations cannot be stricter than those set by federal standards. By December 31, 2026, the board must adopt an emergency regulation and begin establishing primary standards for perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. Additional changes to procedures for setting public health goals and standards are also included.

AB 797 (Harabedian, D) Community Stabilization Act: Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 69. Noes 5.).

Summary: The Bergeson-Peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Act establishes California's Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank), which can issue bonds and provide loans for development projects. A new bill, the Community Stabilization Act, requires the I-Bank to create a program issuing securities until January 1, 2030, to stabilize property values in disaster-affected areas. The program allows qualified investors to purchase tradable securities to fund investment entities that buy and manage residential land, later selling it at market value. Profits from these investments will be shared between investors and the I-Bank. The securities must comply with municipal bond requirements, be tradeable, and utilize funds from the federal Community Reinvestment Act. They should repay investors within seven years through events like refinancing or selling properties. The Community Stabilization Fund, continuously appropriated to the I-Bank, will manage the raised funds, focusing on Los Angeles and Ventura counties and areas affected by state-declared disasters. Qualifying investment entities must adhere to certain criteria and primarily deal with properties damaged by wildfires starting January 7, 2025. A final report on the program is due by January 1, 2034. The bill emphasizes the need for a specific statute for Los Angeles and Ventura counties and requires immediate implementation as an urgency statute.

AB 801 (Bonta, D) Financial institutions: California Community Reinvestment Act.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was B. & F. I. on 6/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes a Department of Financial Protection and Innovation, overseen by a Commissioner, responsible for managing laws related to financial institutions like banks and credit unions. Until January 1, 2030, it includes the Financial Empowerment Fund to support financial education and empowerment programs for at-risk populations in California. This bill proposes the California Community Reinvestment Act, mandating that certain financial institutions actively meet the financial service needs of their communities, particularly low- to moderate-income and minority groups. The Commissioner is tasked with evaluating these institutions' performance every three years, assigning one of five ratings that reflect their service to the community. Poor ratings could prevent an institution from receiving state funds or contracts. The Commissioner is also authorized to investigate and examine these institutions for compliance with relevant laws. The bill would create a Community Reinvestment Fund for administration purposes, and authorize penalties up to \$100,000 for institutions failing to meet their obligations. Penalty funds would be deposited into this new fund.

AB 813 (Solache, D) Mobilehome parks: termination of tenancy.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Mobilehome Residency Law sets the rules for living in mobilehome parks, allowing management to end a tenancy if a resident's behavior becomes a significant nuisance to others. The new bill expands this authority, permitting tenancy termination if a resident's conduct is a substantial annoyance not only to other residents but also to park staff, park employees, or service providers connected with the park.

AB 818 (Ávila Farías, D) Permit Streamlining Act: local emergencies.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act mandates public agencies to determine the completeness of a development project application within certain timeframes and to subsequently approve or disapprove the project within specified periods. The California Emergency Services Act allows cities and counties to declare local emergencies and grants them various powers during such times. This bill would require local governments to decide on a complete building permit application within 10 business days for specified structures used temporarily by individuals until damaged properties are repaired. This bill imposes new responsibilities on local agencies, defining it as a state-mandated local program and asserting that it addresses a statewide concern, applicable to all

cities including charter cities. Although the California Constitution mandates state reimbursement for costs enforced on local agencies, this bill specifies no reimbursement is needed for the costs it incurs.

AB 820 (Pellerin, D) Homelessness: transport.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill prohibits local government or law enforcement employees from transporting and dropping off homeless individuals within a jurisdiction without first coordinating shelter or long-term housing for them. It mandates a \$10,000 civil penalty for each violation. The bill applies statewide, including in charter cities, addressing issues beyond municipal jurisdiction.

AB 823 (Boerner, D) Solid waste: plastic microbeads: plastic glitter.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Plastic Microbeads Nuisance Prevention Law prohibits the sale or promotional offering of personal care products containing plastic microbeads used for exfoliation or cleansing in rinse-off products, like toothpaste, unless they contain less than one part per million (ppm) by weight of plastic microbeads. Violations incur a civil penalty of up to \$2500 per day, enforceable by the Attorney General and local officials. Starting January 1, 2029, the law will expand to prohibit selling or distributing personal care products with plastic glitter, non-rinse-off products, or cleaning products with one ppm or more of plastic microbeads used as abrasives. However, until January 1, 2030, existing stocks of products with plastic glitter can still be sold or distributed. The same penalties apply to these new prohibitions.

AB 825 (Petrie-Norris, D) Independent System Operator: independent regional organization.

Status: 08/29/2025 - From committee: Do pass. (Ayes 5. Noes 2.) (August 29). Read second time. Ordered to third reading. (Amended text released 9/10/2025)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Independent System Operator (ISO) as a nonprofit public benefit corporation tasked with ensuring the efficient and reliable operation of the electricity transmission grid. The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 allows the ISO to be transformed into a regional organization with legislative approval. However, this bill proposes to eliminate provisions for this transformation, allowing both the ISO and participating electrical corporations to use voluntary energy markets governed by an independent regional organization under specific conditions. Starting January 1, 2028, the ISO can implement tariff modifications for energy markets if certain criteria are met and approved by the governing board. The bill requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to confirm these requirements through a formal decision before participation. The ISO must maintain technical capability for market operations and publish annual reports, which must be presented to the Legislature. Additionally, the bill aligns with the California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program, ensuring that new energy market transitions do not alter the existing requirements for energy transactions as of December 31, 2025. The bill also deletes the provisions requiring a competitive auction by the Power Exchange.

<u>AB 830</u> (<u>Rogers, D</u>) State highways: encroachment permits: relocating or removing encroachments: public utility districts: County of Mendocino.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 79. Noes 0.).

Summary: Existing law assigns the Department of Transportation control over state highways and their related properties. It allows the department to issue permits for activities affecting highway spaces. Typically, if a county, city, public organization, or political subdivision needs to move or remove any work or facility due to highway improvements, they must do so at their own expense. However, this bill would temporarily change this rule, until January 1, 2031, specifically for a public utility district in Mendocino County with 5,000 or fewer ratepayer households. In this case, the Department of Transportation would cover the costs of relocating or removing the encroachment. The department would also be responsible for informing the utility district at each stage of any relevant project. This change is justified by a special need recognized for Mendocino County.

AB 838 (Ta, R) Taxation: renter's credit.

Status: 05/05/2025 - In committee: Set, second hearing. Held under submission.

Summary: The Personal Income Tax Law currently offers a renter's credit of \$120 for certain households or \$60 for other individuals, with income limits adjusted annually for inflation. For 2024, these limits are \$52,421 and \$104,842. This bill would expand this credit over five taxable years starting with the activation of its funding. Under

this bill, the renter's credit would increase to \$2,000 for spouses filing jointly, heads of household, and surviving spouses, and to \$1,000 for other individuals, with higher income limits of up to \$150,000 and \$75,000 respectively. If the increased credit is included in a Budget Act, these values would apply; otherwise, the original values remain. The credit amount exceeding a renter's tax liability would be refundable, subject to legislative appropriation. The Franchise Tax Board would adjust these amounts annually for inflation. The bill aims to establish specific goals, objectives, and performance indicators for this tax credit, and would come into immediate effect as a tax levy.

AB 839 (Rubio, Blanca, D) California Environmental Quality Act: expedited judicial review: sustainable aviation fuel projects.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/4/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare and certify an environmental impact report (EIR) for projects that may significantly affect the environment. If a project is not expected to have such effects, a negative declaration is issued. For projects that can mitigate potential impacts, a mitigated negative declaration is required. CEQA allows the Governor to designate certain projects as infrastructure projects, granting them expedited processes, such as concurrent documentation during environmental review and faster court resolution regarding EIR certification challenges. This bill would authorize the Governor certify up to three sustainable aviation fuel projects as infrastructure projects, granting them similar expedited benefits. This would increase the responsibilities of lead agencies related to these projects. Under the California Constitution, the state must reimburse local agencies for state-mandated costs, but this bill specifies that no reimbursement is needed for its implementation. If a project certified as an infrastructure project is not approved by January 1, 2033, its certification becomes void.

AB 841 (Patel, D) State Fire Marshal: personal protective equipment: battery fires.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: Existing law allows the State Fire Marshal to standardize fire protective equipment statewide. This bill mandates that, until January 1, 2031, the State Fire Marshal, in collaboration with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, form a working group to develop recommendations for personal protective equipment (PPE) used in lithium-ion battery fires. The group must evaluate current PPE to reduce exposure to harmful substances, assess cleaning technologies for PPE, consider whether different fires require distinct PPE types, and review decontamination practices. These recommendations must be submitted to the Legislature by September 1, 2026.

AB 846 (Connolly, D) Endangered species: incidental take: wildfire preparedness activities.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Endangered Species Act restricts the taking of endangered, threatened, or candidate species, with certain exceptions. The Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) can permit the taking of listed species through specific authorizations for defined purposes. Existing law mandates the State Fire Marshal to classify areas in California by fire hazard levels based on standardized criteria. Local agencies must then pass ordinances to designate these fire hazard zones within 120 days of receiving recommendations. This bill allows local agencies, such as cities or counties, to submit a wildfire preparedness plan to the department for land in fire hazard zones. This plan should minimize impacts on wildlife and habitat, detailing planned activities, timelines, and affected species. The department will charge these agencies a fee for reviewing the plan. Once a plan is submitted, if it contains enough information, the department has 90 days to inform the local agency if an incidental take permit is necessary or if the activities are eligible for exemptions or streamlined processes, such as those under the California Vegetation Treatment Program. The department must also provide guidance on mitigating the impact on species. By July 1, 2026, a standard form for wildfire preparedness plans will be available online, and starting January 1, 2027, the department will annually post a summary of submitted plans on its website, including specific details.

AB 851 (McKinnor, D) Real property transactions: Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura wildfires: unsolicited offers.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill outlines regulatory measures concerning real property transactions following a state of emergency declared in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties due to fires and windstorms. Two executive orders, N-7-25 and N-17-25, were issued to prohibit unsolicited offers to purchase real estate below its market value prior to the emergency in specific ZIP codes. These orders have been extended until July 1, 2025, and violating them

constitutes a misdemeanor. The bill further prohibits unsolicited offers for residential properties within the affected ZIP codes, defining such offers and requiring a compliance attestation signed by both buyer and seller, which must be recorded with the title transfer. This compliance affidavit could presume the offer was solicited by the seller. Violations could lead to civil actions and penalties, including allowing sellers to cancel purchase agreements executed in violation of the law. The bill would make infringing written offers by licensed real estate professionals a breach of licensing laws, subjecting violators to penalties. If enacted, new crimes would be created, imposing a local program requirement. These provisions will be effective 30 days after the bill's enactment and expire on January 1, 2027. The bill specifies no state reimbursement is necessary and is to be enacted as an urgency statute for the mentioned counties.

AB 852 (Wallis, R) Air pollution: oxides of nitrogen: furnaces and water heaters.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law assigns responsibility for regulating air pollution from stationary sources to local air districts and from mobile sources to the State Air Resources Board. This bill clarifies that any rules banning or limiting the sale or use of gas-fired appliances, based on nitrogen oxide emissions, would not apply if the appliance will be used exclusively with a propane conversion kit.

<u>AB 854</u> (<u>Petrie-Norris, D</u>) California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was U. & E. on 4/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for projects that might significantly affect the environment or a negative declaration if they do not. If a project's potential environmental impact can be avoided or mitigated through revisions, a mitigated negative declaration is required. This bill proposes exempting certain electrical transmission projects from CEQA requirements if they involve inspection, maintenance, or equipment changes meeting specific criteria. When a project is deemed exempt, the lead agency must file a notice of exemption with appropriate offices. This bill increases responsibilities for lead agencies, constituting a state-mandated local program, but it states that no reimbursement is needed under the California Constitution's reimbursement procedures.

AB 861 (Solache, D) Community colleges: students: public transportation: Los Angeles Community College District.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges under the Board of Governors as a public postsecondary education segment and the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority (LA Metro) to manage transportation in Los Angeles County. The bill mandates that the Los Angeles Community College District annually sign a memorandum with LA Metro to provide GoPass TAP cards to enrolled students. It also requires the creation of a student ambassador program where students assist with security, rider aid, and maintenance on LA Metro services near the campuses. An annual report on these programs must be submitted by the district to the Department of Finance and budget committees. This bill imposes new responsibilities on the community college district and LA Metro, constituting a state-mandated local program. Additionally, if state-mandated costs arise, reimbursement procedures are outlined per the California Constitution.

AB 863 (Kalra, D) Residential rental properties: language requirements.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 70. Noes 1.). **Summary:** The existing law dictates procedures for landlords to file civil actions for unlawful detainer to evict tenants. It requires that plaintiffs serve summons and complaints to defendants. The summons must include: a directive for the defendant to file a written response within 30 days, notice that default judgment will be entered if they do not respond, advice that they have the right to legal counsel, and an introductory warning in English and Spanish that they are being sued. The proposed bill mandates that by January 1, 2027, the Judicial Council develop a standard summons form specifically for unlawful detainer actions. This form must contain the required information in six languages: English, Spanish, Chinese, Tagalog, Vietnamese, and Korean. Additionally, it must be published on the Judicial Council's website.

<u>AB 864</u> (<u>Ward, D</u>) Hazardous waste: solar photovoltaic modules.

Status: 09/03/2025 - From special consent calendar. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Toxic Substances Control to create regulations for identifying and managing hazardous and universal waste, including designating end-of-life photovoltaic modules as universal waste if deemed hazardous. Current regulations describe surplus materials and exclude these from being recyclable. Federally, certain hazardous secondary materials transferred for reclamation under specific conditions are not classified as hazardous waste. This bill proposes that solar photovoltaic modules intended for recycling but not suitable for resale, reuse, or refurbishing can be classified as universal waste only until new regulations are established for better management standards. It instructs the department to develop these new standards to enhance material recovery from such modules and adopt federal regulations allowing transfer-based exclusions for these modules. Additionally, the bill categorizes modules that can be resold, reused, or refurbished as surplus material and includes necessary changes to align regulations.

AB 872 (Rubio, Blanca, D) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.S. & T.M. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Green Chemistry program requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to regulate chemicals within consumer products by prioritizing and analyzing those that could be considered harmful. This involves an alternatives analysis to develop regulatory responses, which can range from no action to banning harmful chemicals. New legislation mandates that starting January 1, 2028, products containing added PFAS cannot be sold unless a regulatory response has been issued or federal law preempts this requirement. The bill allows manufacturers to petition for product evaluation and requires DTSC to establish regulations by 2028. The department may also categorize and report on PFAS presence in products and industrial processes. Additionally, by January 1, 2029, the DTSC is tasked with adopting regulations to enforce PFAS restrictions, including banning the sale of certain products with PFAS. From July 1, 2030, it must ensure compliance with these regulations. Manufacturers need to register, pay fees, and certify compliance by mid-2029. DTSC can test products, issue violations, and impose penalties for non-compliance, as well as seek legal action against entities violating PFAS prohibitions.

AB 874 (Ávila Farías, D) Mitigation Fee Act: waiver of fees: affordable rental housing.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Mitigation Fee Act governs how local agencies impose fees on development projects. It ensures that these fees, which fund improvements serving the development or cover public improvements, adhere to specific conditions. The Act prohibits local agencies from requiring payment for public improvements related to residential developments until the final inspection or issuance of the certificate of occupancy. However, utility fees are an exception. This bill would require local agencies to waive fees for constructing public improvements for residential developments that meet certain income and affordability guidelines, as long as they have a regulatory agreement with a public entity. Fees related to school facilities and costs for code enforcement or local ordinance enforcement would not be waived under this bill.

<u>AB 880</u> (<u>Bennett, D</u>) State government grants and contracts: payment of claims and grantees' indirect costs.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. on 6/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Prompt Payment Act requires state agencies to pay grants or contracts within 45 calendar days upon receipt of an undisputed invoice, or else incur penalties. The act initially provided an exception from penalties for grants or contracts under the Medi-Cal program awarded to nonprofits for less than \$500,000. This bill intends to remove this exception and redefine "grant" to include agreements between a state agency and a nonprofit organization. The bill seeks to remove the "nonprofit service organization" term and defines "nonprofit organization" according to the IRS 501(c)(3) criteria. Additionally, the bill revises what qualifies as "reasonable cause" for disputing invoices by a state agency to discrepancies over \$250 or 5% of the invoice amount. It mandates states to reimburse grantees' indirect costs at specified rates unless prohibited by other laws and allows for the establishment of indirect cost pools. These provisions apply to state-administered grant programs, irrespective of whether the funding is sourced from state, federal, or a combination of funds.

AB 881 (Petrie-Norris, D) Public resources: transportation of carbon dioxide.

Status: 08/29/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Elder California Pipeline Safety Act of 1981 and the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 set regulations for pipeline safety and greenhouse gas emissions. The Safety Act was expanded to include carbon dioxide pipeline regulations, mandating strict standards for construction, operation, and emergency planning, with penalties for non-compliance. The Global Warming Solutions Act requires significant reductions in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) necessitates environmental reviews for projects impacting the environment. This bill updates the Elder California Pipeline Safety Act of 1981, specifically addressing carbon dioxide pipelines. It requires pipelines to meet state and federal safety standards, prohibits using previously used materials, and mandates special precautions for areas near sensitive receptors. Operators must maintain and regularly update emergency planning maps, which are reviewed by the State Fire Marshal and made public, excluding personal information. Violations could lead to pipeline shutdowns or criminal charges. The bill also outlines requirements for environmental impact reports (EIRs) for new pipelines, emphasizing transparency with local communities. The State Fire Marshal is tasked with ensuring compliance with new safety standards, alongside federal regulations. Additionally, civil penalties can now fund hazardous gas response training for firefighters.

AB 883 (Lowenthal, D) California Public Records Act: personal information of elected and appointed officials.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was JUD. on 3/24/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Public Records Act mandates that state and local agencies must allow public access to their records unless specific exemptions are applicable. The act restricts the online posting of an elected or appointed official's personal details, such as home addresses and phone numbers, without their permission. It criminalizes posting such information if intended to cause harm. This bill proposes changes, including expanding the scope of protected information to cover residential addresses, phone numbers, social security numbers, and driver's license numbers, regardless of whether the disclosure is online. It also broadens the prohibition to include selling such information and applies these rules to verify consumer requests, not just written demands. The bill extends protections to the immediate family members of officials living with them. Legislative findings are included to ensure alignment with the California Constitution's requirement for public access and privacy protections. The Constitution mandates that the state reimburse local agencies for certain state-mandated costs, and this bill addresses reimbursement procedures and conditions.

AB 888 (Calderon, D) California Safe Homes grant program.

Status: 09/03/2025 - From special consent calendar. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Department of Insurance and is led by the Insurance Commissioner, responsible for administering various grant programs. This bill proposes the creation of the California Safe Homes grant program, aimed at reducing wildfire losses. The department is instructed to prioritize specific needs when awarding these grants. Eligible applicants include individuals, cities, counties, and special districts, which must meet certain criteria. Additionally, the bill establishes the Sustainable Insurance Account within the Insurance Fund to finance this program, subject to legislative appropriation or receipt of other funds. It mandates the department to gather data on the program's performance and publish a report by January 1, 2027, and biennially thereafter, available online and submitted to the Legislature.

AB 891 (Zbur, D) Transportation: Quick-Build Pilot Program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/25/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that the Department of Transportation enhance and maintain state highways. This bill establishes a Quick-Build Pilot Program aimed at speeding up the development and implementation of low-cost improvements to the state highway system. By December 31, 2027, the department must create and publish guidelines for these quick-build improvements. Additionally, by December 31, 2028, the department is required to identify and allocate funding for at least six such improvements across the state.

AB 893 (Fong, D) Housing development projects: objective standards: campus development zone.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 62. Noes 5.).

Summary: The Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022, effective until 2033, allows developers to apply for affordable or mixed-income housing in specific zones, like those allowing office or retail use. These projects must meet certain affordability and site criteria to qualify for expedited "use by right" approvals, which include streamlined ministerial review processes. The Department of Housing and Community Development is tasked with conducting two studies on the Act's outcomes by 2027 and 2031. Recent amendments specify that

local government review should only consider construction-disturbed areas, not other contiguous areas, unless stated otherwise. Easements for public utilities or rights-of-way do not disqualify a site from streamlined review. The bill also expands review eligibility to include mixed-income developments in campus development zones, provided they meet set standards, with their outcomes to be included in the 2031 report. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), ministerial projects are exempt from full environmental review. By broadening eligibility for ministerial approval, the bill extends this CEQA exemption. It also modifies parking setback requirements, applying the 25-foot setback only to aboveground parking. Changes imposed by the bill create a state-mandated local program, but no state reimbursement is required.

AB 900 (Papan, D) Environmental protection: 30x30 goals: land conservation: stewardship.

Status: 09/04/2025 - In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 77. Noes 0.).

Summary: Governor Gavin Newsom's Executive Order No N-82-20 directs the Natural Resources Agency in California to address biodiversity and climate crises by creating the California Biodiversity Collaborative. This initiative aims to conserve 30% of California's lands and coastal waters by 2030, known as the 30x30 goal. On April 22, 2022, the agency released the "Pathways to 30x30 California" report to accelerate conservation efforts. A new bill requires the agency to develop strategies to overcome barriers and enhance stewardship of conserved lands by working with stakeholders, California Native American tribes, and state agencies. This includes preparing a section on stewardship for the 2027 annual report, with recommendations for improving support at federal, state, and local levels. The updated report will be available on the agency's website.

AB 902 (Schultz, D) Transportation projects: barriers to wildlife movement.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) must evaluate any state highway project in connectivity areas that adds lanes or could harm wildlife movement. They must consult with the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to assess wildlife connectivity barriers and determine if there is a need for improved wildlife movement. If there are barriers, the implementing agency must address them during the project. Caltrans can use compensatory mitigation credits if DFW approves. The bill requires that appropriate wildlife passage features be included in transportation projects in connectivity areas. This expansion of project scope by lead agencies constitutes a state-mandated local program. However, projects where Caltrans is the lead agency are exempt from these requirements. The bill also allows the use of compensatory mitigation credits. If state costs are incurred, the California Constitution requires reimbursement to local agencies, with procedures established for this process.

AB 906 (González, Mark, D) Planning and zoning: housing elements: affirmatively furthering fair housing.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. on 7/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates cities and counties to create a general land use plan, which includes a housing element detailing available residential development sites and their compliance with zoning and housing equality efforts. This would remove the requirement for a second analysis related to affirmatively furthering fair housing from these elements. It also revises current laws to obligate local programs to ensure site distribution that promotes fair housing, rezoning land as necessary, and includes assessments analyzing housing needs and disparities. This bill would impose additional local governmental duties, requiring public input on housing assessments and standardized reporting systems. It empowers the Department of Housing and Community Development to allow cities to identify sites for accessory dwelling units, contingent on proof of affordability, and mandates fair distribution of land suitable for housing. By April 1, 2027, an online tool will be developed to ensure cities comply with housing distribution requirements. Changes address a statewide concern and apply universally, including to charter cities, without requiring state reimbursement for implementational costs.

AB 914 (Garcia, D) Air pollution: indirect sources.

Status: 06/05/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was INACTIVE FILE on 6/2/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The text explains that the State Air Resources Board (SARB) is primarily responsible for controlling vehicular air pollution, while local air districts manage non-vehicular sources. The SARB is tasked with ensuring compliance with federal air quality standards and can adopt regulations for indirect emission sources, imposing fees to fund these initiatives. A proposed bill mandates that SARB create and enforce rules for indirect emission

sources, establish a fee schedule to cover implementation costs, and prepare annual impact reports. It also requires air districts to decide whether they or the SARB will enforce the new regulations. For toxic air contaminants, SARB must adopt rules and charge fees to regulate such emissions. Violations are considered misdemeanors, creating a state-mandated local program. Lastly, the bill specifies that no reimbursement for costs to local agencies will be provided as mandated by the California Constitution.

AB 920 (Caloza, D) Permit Streamlining Act: housing development projects: centralized application portal.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act mandates public agencies to make timely decisions on development projects. Current law requires cities or counties with internet websites to offer a tool for estimating fees for housing projects. The new bill mandates cities or counties with populations over 150,000 to provide a centralized online portal for housing project applications, enabling applicants to track their project's status. However, it does not require them to update the status of permits or inspections by other agencies. Cities and counties can delay implementing this portal until January 1, 2030, if they start the process by January 1, 2028. The bill applies to all cities, addressing statewide concerns, and specifies reasons why no state reimbursement for local agencies is required.

AB 939 (Schultz, D) The Safe, Sustainable, Traffic-Reducing Transportation Bond Act of 2026.

Status: 03/10/2025 - Referred to Com. on TRANS.

Summary: The Highway Safety, Traffic Reduction, Air Quality, and Port Security Bond Act of 2006, known as Proposition 1B, was approved in a statewide election and authorized \$19.925 billion in bonds for various transportation projects. These projects included improvements to high-priority corridors, State Route 99, trade infrastructure, port security, school bus upgrades, and state transportation improvements, among others. This bill, the Safe Sustainable Traffic-Reducing Transportation Bond Act of 2026, proposes to authorize \$20 billion in bonds, contingent on voter approval, to support similar transportation projects, including transit and rail improvements, road enhancements, zero-emission vehicle investments, and essential safety upgrades. This bond act is set to be presented to voters during the November 3, 2026, general election.

AB 945 (Fong, D) Density Bonus Law: incentives and concessions: green housing developments.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Density Bonus Law mandates that cities or counties must offer developers a density bonus and additional incentives if they build a certain percentage of affordable housing units. The number of incentives depends on the percentage of affordable units and other target populations served. The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) oversees housing programs, while the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission manages energy usage. This bill introduces mandatory additional incentives for developers who propose green housing projects. Initially, these green projects must receive three incentives, and HCD is tasked with evaluating and reporting the construction and types of green housing developments. The report will determine whether to adjust the incentives offered. Cities or counties must also report annually on green housing projects requesting incentives. The bill prohibits requiring parking in green developments and expands local administrative duties, creating a state-mandated local program. However, it specifies that no state reimbursement for local costs is required.

AB 961 (Ávila Farías, D) Hazardous materials: California Land Reuse and Revitalization Act of 2004.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Land Reuse and Revitalization Act of 2004 grants immunity from liability to certain landowners, purchasers, or property owners for pollution issues, provided specific conditions, like undertaking a site assessment and response plan, are met. The act restricts state agencies from requiring these individuals to take certain response actions, except as specified. Originally set to expire on January 1, 2027, the act has been extended to January 1, 2037. Those who obtain immunity before this new date will retain it as long as they comply with the act's requirements.

AB 986 (Muratsuchi, D) State of emergency and local emergency: landslides and climate change.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act allows the Governor or local officials to declare a state or local emergency when there is a threat to public safety and property. Under current law, there are three defined

conditions that justify such an emergency. This new bill proposes adding landslides as another condition that can qualify for declaring a state or local emergency, thus expanding the scope of situations that warrant an official emergency response.

AB 1002 (Gabriel, D) Contractors: failure to pay wages: discipline.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 73. Noes 2.).

Summary: The Contractors State License Law regulates contractors through the Contractors State License Board, with a registrar as its executive officer. Under existing law, if a contractor willfully violates the Labor Code, the registrar must start disciplinary action within 18 months. The bill allows the Attorney General to pursue civil action against contractors who fail to pay full wages, do not fulfill wage judgments, or violate wage-related court orders. It requires the Attorney General to inform the registrar before taking action, and the board can intervene in legal proceedings. The court can order the registrar to suspend, revoke, or deny a contractor's license in such cases.

AB 1007 (Rubio, Blanca, D) Land use: development project review.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act mandates that public agencies, as lead or responsible agencies, decide on development project approvals within certain time frames. The current timeframe for a responsible agency is 90 days after the lead agency approves the project or receives a complete application. The proposed bill aims to reduce this period to 45 days, with some exceptions. It declares the changes as a matter of statewide concern applicable to all cities, including charter cities. The bill increases local official duties and does not require state reimbursement to local agencies for costs, as explained in the bill.

AB 1021 (Wicks, D) Housing: local educational agencies.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 63. Noes 7.).

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that counties and cities develop comprehensive general plans, including a housing element, for local and certain external lands. Until 2036, a housing project is classified as permissible on local educational agency properties, provided it meets specified criteria, such as containing at least 10 units, with 100% availability for local educational agency employees, public employees, and the public, and that most units are reserved for lower or moderate-income households. It incorporates the Housing Accountability Act's rules, ensuring that disapproval of projects for low to moderate-income households requires written justification. The bill revises these provisions and allows eligible housing developments to qualify for a density bonus. It allows school districts to decide against forming advisory committees when managing surplus properties for employee housing. Under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), certain affordable housing projects, including those on educational agency lands, are exempt from specific environmental review requirements. The bill emphasizes its relevance to statewide concerns, mandates additional responsibilities for local planning officials, and states that no state reimbursement will be mandatory for this act due to a specified reason.

AB 1026 (Wilson, D) Public utilities: electrical corporations: energization.

Status: 09/04/2025 - In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 76. Noes 0.).

Summary: The Powering Up Californians Act mandates that by September 30, 2024, the Public Utilities Commission must set reasonable target times for connecting energy services and establish a way for customers to report delays. The commission must ensure electrical corporations meet these targets, with all reports made public. The bill requires large electrical corporations to list the information needed to approve or deny energy connection applications and provide examples of successful applications on their website. Corporations must promptly notify applicants via email when their application is approved, with responses also posted online if needed. Violating these requirements is considered a crime. Although violations could increase costs for local agencies, the bill specifies that no state reimbursement for these costs is required.

AB 1050 (Schultz, D) Unlawfully restrictive covenants: housing developments.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: Existing law states that limits on the number, size, or location of residences in recorded documents for land sales or transfers are not enforceable against affordable housing developments, provided an appropriate modification document is recorded. The property owner must submit various documents to the county recorder,

and the county counsel must confirm eligibility as an affordable housing development. These provisions must align with local plans and zoning regulations. The bill extends these provisions to housing developments within commercial property redevelopment projects that include residential uses according to state and local laws. It also applies the rules to restrictions in reciprocal easement agreements. The bill stipulates that all developments must comply with state housing laws. Additionally, the bill would create extra tasks for county officials, a local program not requiring state reimbursement, as mandated by the California Constitution for specific state-imposed costs.

AB 1059 (Garcia, D) Vehicles: Blackout License Plate Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) to run the California Legacy License Plate Program, which creates specialized plates based on historical designs. The bill mandates the DMV to establish a Blackout License Plate Program, creating plates with a black background and white lettering, provided that they receive at least 7,500 applications by January 1, 2030. Applicants must pay additional fees for issuing, renewing, retaining, or transferring these plates. Once the program achieves sufficient funds, the money can be allocated for administrative costs, with any surplus going to the California Environmental License Plate Fund for further legislative appropriation.

AB 1061 (Quirk-Silva, D) Housing developments: urban lot splits: historical resources.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 46. Noes 18.).

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law allows counties and cities to regulate land and building use through ordinances, while the Subdivision Map Act gives local agencies the power to control the design of subdivisions, including processing and approving maps. Current law mandates that local agencies approve proposed housing developments or urban lot splits ministerially if they meet certain conditions, such as not being located in historic districts or listed landmarks. The bill amends these provisions, requiring agencies to approve these developments if they are not part of specific historic sites and to potentially adopt standards that maintain the historical value of historic districts. It also stipulates that urban lot splits must not involve the demolition of specific structures. This bill imposes more responsibilities on local agencies and states that no reimbursement is required for the associated costs.

AB 1102 (Boerner, D) Sea level rise and groundwater rise: contaminated sites: report.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under current law, the Department of Toxic Substances Control oversees the management of hazardous materials and waste. The bill mandates that by January 1, 2027, this department, along with the State Water Resources Control Board, must report to the Legislature. The report should contain specific information, particularly regarding contaminated sites that are at risk due to sea level rise and groundwater rise.

AB 1106 (Rodriguez, Michelle, D) State Air Resources Board: regional air quality incident response program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law assigns the State Air Resources Board to manage vehicular air pollution, while air pollution control districts and air quality management districts handle non-vehicular pollution. The state board is tasked with identifying and monitoring air pollution sources within the state's air basins. The bill proposes expanding the state board's incident air monitoring program, contingent on legislative funding, to support regional air quality incident response centers managed by air districts. This includes establishing at least one center in the South Coast Air Quality Management District. Before setting up these centers, the state board must collaborate with relevant air districts to develop operational plans. Funding available to the state board can be used for planning, creating, equipping, and maintaining these centers. The bill would also increase responsibilities for air districts, creating a state-mandated local program that, under the California Constitution, requires state reimbursement to local agencies for certain mandated costs. If state-mandated costs are identified, reimbursement will follow statutory procedures.

AB 1110 (Ortega, D) Safety rules and regulations: notice.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 4/3/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The current law mandates that the Division of Occupational Safety and Health must create a notice for employers to display, detailing workplace safety rules and regulations. This notice already includes specific information, such as the address and phone number of the nearest division office. This bill would add to the requirement that this notice also include the email address of the nearest division office.

AB 1131 (Ta, R) General plan: annual report: congregate care for the elderly.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning law mandates that each planning agency create, and the legislative body of each county and city adopt, a comprehensive long-term general plan that includes specified elements like a housing element. This housing element must be updated according to a specific schedule. Once a general plan or part of it is adopted, the planning agency must annually report specific information by April 1 to various entities. The Department of Housing and Community Development, in collaboration with each council of governments, determines each region's current and projected housing needs. Each council of governments, or the Department for areas without such councils, must adopt a regional housing need plan that allocates housing needs to each area to meet specific objectives. The bill allows planning agencies to include in their reports the number of units approved for elder congregate care, covering up to 15% of a jurisdiction's regional housing need allocation for any income category, starting from the 7th revision of the housing element onward.

AB 1136 (Ortega, D) Employment: immigration and work authorization.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 62(a), file notice suspended.

Summary: The California Fair Employment and Housing Act prohibits employment and housing discrimination based on national origin and empowers the Civil Rights Department to investigate complaints. Additionally, labor law prevents employers from engaging in unfair immigration-related practices. Current laws already make it illegal for employers to demand extra immigration documents beyond federal requirements, reject valid documents, or take inappropriate actions regarding employee work authorizations. This bill proposes that employees be allowed up to five unpaid days off within a 12-month period for immigration-related appointments or proceedings. If an employee is terminated due to documentation issues, they should be reinstated upon providing proper documentation. If more time is needed, they should be rehired without seniority privileges in the next opening. Employers must also provide unpaid leave up to 12 months for employees detained due to immigration proceedings, reinstating them if they return with valid documentation within this period. The bill's protections apply to employers with more than 25 employees, prohibiting discrimination based on national origin or immigration status. An employee cannot be fired solely due to immigration proceedings if they are authorized to work in the U.S. It respects existing collective bargaining agreements and tasks the Labor Commissioner with enforcing it. These provisions will become inactive on July 1, 2029, and be repealed by January 1, 2030.

AB 1152 (Patterson, R) Controlled substances: human chorionic gonadotropin.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Uniform Controlled Substances Act classifies drugs into five schedules, with Schedule I substances facing the strictest regulations due to their high abuse potential and lack of accepted medical use. Substances in Schedules II through V have recognized medical uses but can still be abused. The law usually limits the prescription, distribution, possession, sale, and use of controlled substances, and breaching these laws is a crime, with some exceptions. Currently, chorionic gonadotropin (hCG) is classified as a Schedule III substance, unless it is used for veterinary purposes by licensed veterinarians. This bill would remove hCG from the Schedule III list altogether.

AB 1165 (Gipson, D) California Housing Justice Act of 2025.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. on 4/30/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law includes the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program, which provides grant funds for regional coordination and local efforts to address homelessness, overseen by the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency. The Department of Housing and Community Development within this agency manages various state housing programs. The proposed California Housing Justice Act of 2025 would create a California Housing Justice Fund dedicated to addressing homelessness and housing unaffordability. It would require the state legislature to allocate ongoing funds to this new fund, which would be used for developing and maintaining affordable housing for low-income groups. Additionally, by 2027, the department must create finance plans with local entities to tackle homelessness and housing unaffordability, along with annual

performance metrics. Local entities will have new responsibilities, constituting a state-mandated local program. Starting in 2027, the agency must annually report progress to the Legislature and update its goals online. If the bill results in state-mandated costs, there are provisions for reimbursing local agencies according to existing statutory procedures.

AB 1198 (Haney, D) Public works: prevailing wages.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/23/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that workers on public works projects must be paid no less than the general prevailing rate of per diem wages determined by the Director of Industrial Relations. The contracting body must obtain these wage rates from the director for similar work in the locality and for holiday and overtime work for each type of worker required. If the director identifies a change in the prevailing wage rate during a quarterly review, this is made available to the awarding body and is considered final. However, it does not affect contracts for which the bidding notice has already been published. Starting July 1, 2026, this bill states that if the director determines a wage change during a semiannual review, it will apply to any public works contract awarded or noticed post-July 1, 2026. Affected contractors or awarding bodies can file a petition within 20 days to challenge the rate change. The director must investigate or hold a hearing and make a final determination within 20 days of the petition. This decision becomes effective 10 days after issuance unless altered by the director later.

AB 1206 (Harabedian, D) Single-family and multifamily housing units: preapproved plans.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/25/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law requires counties and cities to develop zoning rules and implement general plans. By January 1, 2025, local agencies must create a preapproval program for accessory dwelling unit plans. This bill expands that requirement to include single-family and multifamily housing plans. Large jurisdictions must implement this by July 1, 2026, and small jurisdictions by January 1, 2028. Local agencies can charge fees for plan preapproval and must post approved plans and applicant information online. Applications must include a statement of the applicant's authority or ownership of the plan. The program excludes certain community-specific plans. Agencies must approve or deny applications within 30 days if they meet specific criteria and use currently preapproved plans. Local agencies can choose to accept additional plans at higher densities. From April 1, 2027, large jurisdictions must include the number of units approved using preapproved plans in their annual reports, with small jurisdictions following from April 1, 2029. The bill establishes a state-mandated local program and exempts certain projects from CEQA review because of the ministerial approval process it outlines. It applies statewide, addressing matters of statewide concern, and specifies that no reimbursement is needed for costs imposed by this act.

AB 1227 (Ellis, R) Wildfire safety: fuels reduction projects.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/25/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under the California Emergency Services Act, the Governor can declare a state of emergency and suspend certain laws if they interfere with addressing the emergency. On March 1, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom declared a state of emergency to expedite critical fuels reduction projects by suspending relevant statutes within the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency. Entities wanting to conduct these projects must seek approval from the relevant agency, which will list approvals online. By January 31, 2026, both agencies must report to the Legislature on the emergency's implementation. Additionally, this bill exempts critical fuels reduction projects in high fire hazard zones from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requirements until January 1, 2028. A lead agency must hold a public meeting to discuss potential environmental impacts before granting an exemption. If a project is approved and exempt from CEQA, the agency must file a notice of exemption with the appropriate offices. This exemption imposes a statemandated local program, but the bill specifies that reimbursement for certain costs is not required.

AB 1232 (Ávila Farías, D) Administrative Procedure Act: proposed regulations: cost of living impact on residents of the state.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/21/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Administrative Procedure Act governs how state agencies create, amend, or repeal regulations, including economic assessments of their impact on businesses and individuals. This bill introduces requirements

for these assessments to consider the cost of living effects on California residents. For non-major regulations, agencies must assess cost of living impacts, while major regulations must include these impacts in their standardized analyses. The bill mandates that agencies inform the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) if they need external help for analyses, with the OAL managing this process and creating a standardized cost of living methodology. Additionally, when reviewing regulations, the OAL must consider cost of living impacts and can return regulations to agencies if significant impacts are found. The bill extends the OAL's review period for major regulations from 30 to 60 days and requires explanations if regulations are disapproved due to cost of living concerns, urging the agency to find less costly alternatives.

AB 1236 (Rodriguez, Celeste, D) Insurance: Climate and Sustainability Insurance and Risk Reduction Grant Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Insurance, led by the Insurance Commissioner, to investigate and suggest risk transfer market mechanisms that encourage investment in natural infrastructure to mitigate climate change risks. This involves creating investment incentives and providing private investment mitigation strategies to reduce risks to public safety and infrastructure. The bill would establish the Climate and Sustainability Insurance and Risk Reduction Grant Program, funded by legislative appropriation, to achieve goals such as developing and testing new insurance models and reducing insurance costs. The department must report the program's outcomes to legislative insurance committees by January 1, 2029, and every three years afterwards. The provisions are set to expire on January 1, 2035.

AB 1237 (McKinnor, D) Ticket sellers: event tickets: transit tickets.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was B., P. & E.D. on 6/2/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing laws regulate ticket sellers for sporting, musical, theater, and other entertainment events. These regulations include maintaining records of ticket sales and disclosing ticket prices in advertisements when sold as part of a package. Violations of these regulations are considered a crime. This bill introduces additional requirements for ticket sellers or resellers for events at venues with capacities over 1,000 people. It mandates offering buyers the option to purchase an all-day transit ticket if available, from transit providers servicing the event venue. Additionally, the Department of Transportation must conduct a study on the effects of these provisions on transit sales and report to the Legislature by December 31, 2032. Importantly, violating the new provisions is not classified as a crime.

AB 1243 (Addis, D) Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025.

Status: 04/29/2025 - In committee: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 permits the State Air Resources Board to establish a market-based system to reduce greenhouse gas emissions until 2031. Revenue from this system goes to the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, which finances efforts to lower emissions. The California Climate Crisis Act mandates achieving net-zero emissions by 2045 and further reducing emissions afterward. This bill, the Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025, aims to financially hold fossil fuel companies accountable for their environmental impact from 1990 to 2024. The California Environmental Protection Agency will oversee this program, identifying responsible companies and calculating their share of the total climate-related damages to California, which include both past and future impacts until 2045. Companies must pay these costs, which go into the new Polluters Pay Climate Superfund. This fund supports projects mitigating climate damage in the state. The bill also outlines initial and ongoing costs for implementation, which responsible parties will help cover. It requires immediate enactment due to its urgency.

AB 1244 (Wicks, D) California Environmental Quality Act: transportation impact mitigation: Transit-Oriented Development Implementation Program.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was E.Q. on 6/11/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for any project it undertakes that could significantly affect the environment. If a project is found not to have such an effect, a negative declaration is adopted instead. A mitigated negative declaration is required if project revisions can reduce environmental impact, provided there is no substantial evidence indicating significant effects. The Transit-Oriented Development Implementation Program, overseen by the Department of

Housing and Community Development, supports higher-density development near transit stations and provides funding through loans when available. This bill would allow projects needing to mitigate transportation impacts under CEQA to do so by contributing to the Transit-Oriented Development Implementation Fund instead of implementing other mitigation measures. Contributions are based on a price per vehicle mile traveled set by the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, which is updated periodically. These funds are allocated to support developments within the same region, prioritizing certain projects, with the requirement for the estimated reduction in vehicle miles traveled to be verified. Additionally, related information must be posted online by the department.

AB 1250 (Papan, D) Transit operators: paratransit: recertification of eligibility.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: Under the Mills-Alquist-Deddeh Act, revenue from a 1/4 percent sales tax in each county is allocated to transit services. Transit operators using these funds must meet specific requirements, especially when providing dial-a-ride or paratransit services. By January 1, 2027, transit operators must establish a streamlined recertification process for individuals eligible for paratransit services due to disabilities that are not expected to improve. From June 1, 2027, this process is mandatory unless exceptions apply. The bill results in additional duties for local agencies, creating a state-mandated local program. If state-mandated costs are identified, the California Constitution requires reimbursement to the local agencies, following established procedures.

AB 1260 (Ward, D) Electricity: renewable energy subscription programs.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill revises requirements for customer renewable energy programs monitored by the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). It mandates that these programs include benefits based on specific avoided cost values. Key provisions include limiting facilities to 5 megawatts each for generation and storage, capping total program capacity at 5 gigawatts or closing subscriptions after 7 years, and requiring updates to the PUC's community renewable energy program by 2026. Community choice aggregators and electric service providers must inform the PUC of their participation decisions within 180 days of program updates and can start or end participation at any time with notice. The PUC will periodically evaluate the program's compliance and may terminate or modify it if it fails to meet standards. The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission will assess community solar and storage projects as load-modifying resources by 2026. If violated, this bill's requirements would constitute a crime under the Public Utilities Act. However, the bill specifies no state reimbursement is needed for local agencies and schools for compliance costs.

AB 1266 (Solache, D) Air districts: administrative rulemaking: standardized regulatory impact analysis.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 3/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law grants regional air pollution control and air quality management districts the authority to regulate air pollution from nonvehicular sources. It requires state agencies to conduct a standardized regulatory impact analysis when adopting, amending, or repealing major regulations. This bill mandates that specific air districts, based on population size, also perform the standardized regulatory impact analysis when making regulatory changes. The bill introduces new obligations on these regional districts, creating a state-mandated local program. Under the California Constitution, the state must reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain state-mandated costs. This bill specifies that for some mandates, no reimbursement is necessary for a specific reason, but for others, if the Commission on State Mandates finds state-mandated costs, reimbursement will follow established procedures.

<u>AB 1275</u> (<u>Elhawary, D</u>) Regional housing needs: regional transportation plan.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that counties and cities develop a comprehensive general plan for physical development, including a housing element. This element must have an inventory of land for residential development. The law requires determining current and future housing needs for each region, in consultation with councils of governments, 26 months before revising the housing element. The bill proposes extending this timeline to 3 years and 38 months for future revisions, except specified councils of governments. The bill changes how regional housing need proportions are allocated, ensuring it aligns with final regional housing need plans. It also integrates housing needs with sustainable communities strategies from regional transportation plans. Additionally, the allocation plan must be informed by sustainable communities strategies for

housing needs, with a requirement for showing this in the final plan. The bill imposes state mandates on local entities, with potential reimbursements as per state guidelines.

AB 1276 (Carrillo, D) Housing developments: ordinances, policies, and standards.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/25/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Housing Accountability Act restricts local agencies from rejecting or imposing conditions on housing projects for low to moderate-income households or emergency shelters unless they provide specific written findings based on evidence. This act allows local agencies to enforce objective development standards necessary to meet regional housing needs, except where otherwise specified. It states that a housing project is considered compliant if there is substantial evidence supporting its conformity with applicable regulations. The act mandates that a project adhere to rules in place when a preliminary application is submitted, defining these as including plans, zoning, fees, and other regulations. The bill expands this definition to include materials requirements and other public agency rules. Similarly, the Permit Streamlining Act requires timely approval or denial of development projects and the provision of detailed lists of required information for applications. If an application is deemed incomplete, agencies must specify what is needed. The bill equates compliance with substantial evidence under this act as well. It imposes additional responsibilities on local agencies and claims to address statewide issues, applying even to charter cities. It states that no financial reimbursement is needed under this bill due to a specific reason outlined in its provisions.

AB 1294 (Haney, D) Planning and zoning: housing development: standardized application form.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was L. GOV. on 6/11/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill modifies multiple aspects of housing development project applications in California. First, it mandates that an application for housing entitlements be considered complete once permit processing fees are paid and relevant requirements are met, including providing project descriptions and approvals needed. The bill mandates the Department of Housing and Community Development to create a standardized application form by July 1, 2026, which local governments must accept starting October 1, 2026. Local agencies cannot demand additional forms or impose penalties for using the standard form, though they can create their own forms compliant with the bill. Additionally, the bill allows the department to manage regulations through emergency procedures, exempting it from the usual emergency finding requirements. The term "disapprove the housing development project" is expanded to include instances where local agencies improperly declare applications incomplete. Municipal websites must also display the standardized form and any city-specific forms. The bill emphasizes that its provisions are of statewide concern and should apply uniformly to all municipalities. It poses new responsibilities on local planning officials, potentially incurring state-reimbursable costs if these duties are determined by the Commission on State Mandates to be state-mandated.

AB 1308 (Hoover, R) Residential building permits: inspections: Housing Accountability Act.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The bill amends existing housing laws in California by imposing new requirements on local building departments. It mandates that inspections for new residential constructions and additions must occur within 10 business days following notification of work completion. This is intended to streamline processes and ensure compliance with the State Housing Law and California Building Standards Code. Additionally, the bill revises the Housing Accountability Act's definition of "disapprove the housing development project" to include failure by local agencies to conduct these timely inspections, which would be considered a violation. The bill aims to enhance accountability and expedite housing project approvals for low to moderate-income households. It also states that no state reimbursement to local agencies is necessary under this act. Integration with another proposed change, SB 838, is conditional upon both bills being enacted with this bill last.

AB 1319 (Schultz, D) Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The bill proposes extending existing prohibitions on the unauthorized taking of animals to include restrictions on the import, export, transport, sale, and possession of fish, wildlife, or plants that violate any state or federal laws effective January 19, 2025. It mandates forfeiture of any seized evidence upon conviction and will be inoperative by December 31, 2031, and repealed by January 1, 2032. Additionally, the bill requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to identify when federal protections for endangered or threatened species are weakened and to publish findings that would temporarily list those species as provisional candidates for added

protection. It exempts entities with federal authorization from liability as long as they comply with federal regulations. Furthermore, no state reimbursement to local agencies is required, and it includes legislative findings to justify any limitations on public access to government meetings and records.

AB 1326 (Ahrens, D) Health masks: right to wear.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 66. Noes 3.).

Summary: Existing law includes specific situations where masks are mandated for health purposes, such as during pandemics, when dealing with wildfire smoke, and in certain workplaces like hospitals and cannabis businesses. It also involves provisions for peace officers during CPR to prevent disease spread. This bill proposes allowing individuals to wear health masks in public for personal or public health protection against communicable diseases or poor air quality. It defines what constitutes a "health mask" and a "public place." The bill ensures that this right does not alter existing security, workplace, or emergency healthcare protocols that may require mask removal, while also maintaining nondiscrimination protections related to disability or medical conditions.

AB 1353 (Haney, D) State real property: office space: consolidation.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was G.O. on 3/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law in California establishes the Department of General Services, headed by the Director of General Services, under the Government Operations Agency. This department requires state agencies to annually review their landholdings and report any excess land to the department. By January 1, 2024, the department is tasked with reporting to the Legislature a plan for converting underutilized multistory state buildings into affordable housing. This bill requires the department, starting January 1, 2027, to annually audit state office space usage to identify opportunities for consolidation of space. This consolidation effort will focus on freeing up space, which must be reserved for use by the University of California, California State University, and California Community Colleges.

AB 1359 (Ahrens, D) Planning and zoning: development conditions: housing-forward jurisdictions.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates cities and counties to create a general plan for land use, which includes a housing element. This housing element must be updated regularly, considering regional housing needs for various income levels. The Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) assesses whether the housing element complies with these laws and designates certain areas as "prohousing." Local agencies can establish accessory dwelling units through ordinances or ministerial approvals, but they cannot impose specified prohibitive standards without justification. The Density Bonus Law requires cities and counties to offer incentives to developers who build a certain percentage of units for low or very low income households. The bill proposes that jurisdictions labeled as "housing-forward," which have met their housing needs and are designated as prohousing, can impose conditions on development projects. These conditions include preventing the reduction of bicycle parking through density bonuses and imposing impact fees on certain accessory dwelling units.

<u>AB 1371</u> (Sharp-Collins, D) Occupational safety and health: employee refusal to perform hazardous tasks.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. & E. on 3/13/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 mandates that employers obey specific safety and health standards and assigns enforcement to the Division of Occupational Safety and Health. Current law prevents employers from laying off or firing workers who refuse to perform tasks that clearly violate safety standards and create hazards. This bill updates the existing provisions, allowing employees to refuse, in good faith, to perform tasks that violate safety standards or pose a reasonable risk of injury or illness, provided they have tried to notify the employer about the risk and received no reasonable response. The bill requires employers to continue paying the employee until the risk is resolved and prohibits using task refusal as a basis for disciplinary action, while ensuring retaliation protections. It also removes the inclusion of domestic workers in the definition of "employee" under these provisions.

AB 1381 (Muratsuchi, D) California School Finance Authority: Educational Workforce Housing Revolving Loan Fund.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California School Finance Authority Act forms the California School Finance Authority, which can issue revenue bonds to fund or refinance educational facility projects for various educational entities. This legislation introduces the Educational Workforce Housing Revolving Loan Fund to support local education agencies (LEAs) in predevelopment activities for educational workforce housing. Loans from this fund will have no interest and are based on LEA attendance figures. A designated statewide nonprofit will aid in developing the criteria for these loans. To qualify, LEAs must submit an application and meet certain conditions, like ensuring the fund has a positive balance. Loan repayments will be deducted from LEA apportionments by the Controller. The authority can establish necessary rules, including emergency regulations, and administrative costs to the nonprofit cannot exceed 2% of loans issued. Additionally, the Educational Workforce Housing Security Fund will back the Revolving Loan Fund against loan defaults. The authority is responsible for monitoring these funds and reporting to the Department of Finance and the Controller. This includes assessing whether transfers from the Security Fund to the Revolving Fund are needed to cover any defaults, with annual reporting on fund conditions provided to the Department of Finance and the Legislative Analyst's Office.

AB 1407 (Wallis, R) Planning and Zoning Law: housing elements: rezoning.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 3/28/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing law, cities and counties must create a general plan, including a housing element that identifies adequate housing sites, assesses housing needs, and inventories resources and constraints. If these sites are insufficient for different income levels, rezoning is required. If a local government fails to adopt a compliant housing element within 120 days of the deadline, current law mandates rezoning within one year of this deadline. This bill proposes extending that rezoning deadline to one year and six months.

AB 1421 (Wilson, D) Vehicles: Road Usage Charge Technical Advisory Committee.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 3/13/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law mandates the Chair of the California Transportation Commission to form a Road Usage Charge Technical Advisory Committee, in collaboration with the Secretary of Transportation. This committee is responsible for guiding the development and assessment of a pilot program that explores mileage-based revenue collection as a potential alternative to the gas tax system. The Transportation Agency, together with the commission, is required to implement this pilot program as outlined. These provisions are scheduled to be revoked on January 1, 2027. However, this bill proposes to extend these provisions until January 1, 2035, and includes additional findings and declarations related to the program.

AB 1445 (Haney, D) Downtown revitalization and economic recovery financing districts.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The existing law allows cities and counties to create enhanced infrastructure financing districts to support public capital and housing projects, especially for low-income individuals. Specifically, San Francisco can establish a district for converting commercial spaces to residential units, funded by tax revenues from these conversions. The district must prepare a financing plan and adhere to labor and wage standards. This proposed bill expands the ability to create such districts to all cities and counties, with requirements aligning with those of San Francisco, but introduces modifications. Notably, it proposes the first tax revenue distribution to occur post-final inspection if occupancy certificates are absent. The bill also changes labor standards compliance and removes certain financial provisions related to property tax revenue allocation.

<u>AB 1455</u> (<u>Bryan, D</u>) State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection: defensible space requirements: ember-resistant zones: emergency regulations: California Environmental Quality Act.

Status: 09/10/2025 - Set for Hearing 9/10/2025

Summary: The bill revises and strengthens defensible space requirements in very high fire hazard severity zones by mandating the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to adopt regulations ensuring a 100-foot defensible space around structures, including an ember-resistant zone within 5 feet. Local agencies can adapt these regulations to local conditions and authorize alternative practices if they offer similar protection. The bill mandates that these regulations be adopted by December 31, 2025, as directed by Governor Newsom's Executive Order No. N-18-25. If normal rulemaking delays compliance, emergency regulations may be implemented. The bill interacts with existing laws like CEQA, delineating that the adoption of these regulations does not count as a

CEQA project. It ensures compliance costs reimbursement for local agencies, and it aims to take effect immediately as an urgency statute. Additionally, it incorporates related changes if both this bill and SB 326 are enacted, and confirms emergency regulation effectiveness until further revised.

AB 1456 (Bryan, D) California Environmental Quality Act: California Vegetation Treatment Program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/18/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency either prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for projects likely to significantly impact the environment or issue a negative declaration if no impact is anticipated. For projects with potential impacts that can be mitigated, a mitigated negative declaration is required. CEQA also allows for program EIRs, which analyze broader plans or policies and necessitate further review of specific activities under that program. By January 1, 2027, this bill requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to update the California Vegetation Treatment Program's Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR). This update aims to expand treatable areas for vegetation management and acknowledge cultural burning as a covered activity. The bill also permits public agencies to collaborate with federally recognized California Native American tribes on projects within their jurisdiction under the FPEIR.

AB 1529 (Committee on Housing and Community Development) Housing omnibus.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Tenant Protection Act of 2019 requires property owners to provide just cause before terminating a tenancy, a rule extended until 2030, including specific notice requirements. This bill permits this notice within lease agreements. Another component mandates housing developers provide notifications about expiring rental restrictions or subsidy contracts to tenants and public entities, and also maintains posting requirements until expiration. The bill modifies how the opportunity to purchase an assisted housing development is communicated, refining statement requirements. Additionally, the bill mandates that notices of default or sale are mailed to specific state offices concerning properties with recorded use restrictions. Existing affordable housing laws limit rent relative to area median income; the bill changes how rent levels are set for developments with significant lower-income unit allocations, impacting local programs. For migrant farm labor centers, the Department of Housing must assess the impact of converting temporary housing to year-round use and identify available sites by 2028. Finally, the bill includes procedural elements for reimbursement of state-mandated local costs, and its enactment is contingent upon the concurrent enactment of related legislation, such as SB 522.

ABX1 1 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/03/2025 - From committee without further action.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 initially provided funding for the state government for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. An amendment to this Act proposes adjustments to the existing financial allocations. The bill specifies that it will be enacted immediately as a Budget Bill.

ABX1 2 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/03/2025 - From committee without further action.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 allocated funds for state government operations for the 2024-25 fiscal year. A new bill proposes amendments to this act, adjusting the previously decided appropriations. This bill is designated to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

ABX1 4 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 01/24/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 1, Statutes of 2025.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 allocated funds for state government operations for the 2024–25 fiscal year. This new bill proposes amendments to the act by adding more appropriations and introducing additional modifications. It also states that it will become effective immediately as a Budget Bill.

ABX1 5 (Gabriel, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Died on inactive file.

Summary: This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2024 by amending and adding appropriations and making other changes. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

ABX1 6 (Patterson, R) Forestry: timber operations: maintenance of timberlands for fuels reduction.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Died at Desk.

Summary: The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 mandates that timber operations cannot proceed without an approved timber harvesting plan by a registered professional forester. Violating the act is a misdemeanor. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires the evaluation of environmental impacts for projects, with a report or declaration necessary depending on potential effects. This bill allows noncommercial wildfire fuel reduction projects on timberland, funded partly or wholly by public money, to use a timber harvesting plan instead of complying with CEQA, treating these as timber operations. It expands the definition of crime, thus creating a state-mandated local program.

ABX1 8 (Essayli) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Died at Desk.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 provides financial resources for state operations for the 2024–25 fiscal year. An amendment to this act mandates the State Air Resources Board to appoint public fire protection agencies, or similar entities, to supervise controlled burning activities. It also allows wildland vegetation management burns to be exempt from permit requirements if they are overseen by these designated agencies. This bill is considered urgent and is intended to be implemented immediately as a budgetary measure.

ABX1 9 (Essayli) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Died at Desk.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024, which allocates funds for state government operations for the fiscal year 2024–25, is being amended. This amendment specifies that approving a large electrical corporation's plan to place distribution infrastructure underground is not considered a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). However, any environmental review required by CEQA must still happen before approving projects that would cause physical changes to the environment. The amendment is set to take immediate effect as a Budget Bill.

ABX1 13 (Gonzalez, Jeff, R) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: scoping plan.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Read first time. Died at Desk.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 tasks the State Air Resources Board with overseeing and regulating greenhouse gas emissions sources. It mandates the board to establish rules to achieve the most technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions, aiming to lower statewide emissions to at least 40% below a defined limit by December 31, 2030. The board must also develop a scoping plan for these reductions and update it at least every five years. This bill proposes that the scoping plan should now also consider greenhouse gas emissions from wildlands and forest fires.

ABX1 14 (Castillo, R) Generators: air pollution regulations: income tax credits.

Status: 02/03/2025 - Read first time. Died at Desk.

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act allows the Governor to declare a state of emergency due to various conditions like fires or floods. Existing law requires the State Air Resources Board to regulate emissions from new small off-road engines. This bill proposes to exempt the sale and purchase of portable or emergency backup generators from these regulations during a state of emergency caused by electrical service loss. Additionally, this bill introduces a tax credit under the Personal Income Tax Law, starting from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031. The credit is for purchasing backup generators, up to \$7,000, with an annual limit of \$3,500, for use in homes or businesses. The bill also mandates that new tax expenditure authorizations include specific goals, performance indicators, and data collection requirements.

ACA 4 (Jackson, D) Homelessness and affordable housing.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Coauthors revised. In committee: Hearing postponed by committee.

Summary: The California Constitution allows the state to create housing for low-income individuals with financial assistance from federal or state sources, contingent upon local voter approval. The proposed Housing Opportunities Made Equal (HOME) Act seeks to establish a fund within the state's General Fund starting in the 2027-28 fiscal year. Each year until September 30, 2036, at least 5% of the estimated General Fund revenues would be allocated to this account. The funds would be managed by the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency, which would use them for initiatives related to homelessness and affordable housing. The agency must create a 10-year strategy, with input from relevant stakeholders, detailing how to accomplish goals

like producing affordable housing and ending homelessness. Additionally, the agency is required to submit annual progress reports to the Legislature, outlining its success in achieving specific performance measures and goals, until October 1, 2036.

ACR 12 (Quirk-Silva, D) Fernando Valenzuela Day.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Ordered to special consent calendar.

Summary: This measure designates November 1, 2025, as Fernando Valenzuela Day to recognize and celebrate the positive influence of his legacy on the Latino and Hispanic community.

SB 2 (Jones, R) Low-carbon fuel standard: regulations.

Status: 03/19/2025 - March 19 set for first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 3. Noes 2.) Reconsideration granted.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 assigns the State Air Resources Board to oversee and regulate greenhouse gas emissions. The act mandates the board to create and implement rules to achieve the maximum feasible and cost-effective reduction in emissions, aiming to cut statewide emissions by at least 40% below designated limits by December 31, 2030. The board has implemented regulations under the Low-Carbon Fuel Standard to help reach this goal. However, a new bill proposes to nullify specific amendments to these regulations set for November 8, 2024, or any future specified amendments. This bill is designed as an urgency statute, meaning it would take effect immediately.

SB 5 (Cabaldon, D) Enhanced infrastructure financing districts and community revitalization and investment areas: allocation of taxes: agricultural land exclusion.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 33. Noes 6.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The Williamson Act, established by the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, allows cities and counties to enter contracts with agricultural landowners to maintain land for agriculture in exchange for reduced property taxes. Landowners can also petition to cancel these contracts to designate the land as a farmland security zone, which provides a specific tax valuation and reduced tax rate. Existing laws enable cities and counties to create enhanced infrastructure financing districts and Community Revitalization and Investment Authorities to finance public projects by allocating specific tax revenues. The proposed bill seeks to exclude taxes on lands under Williamson Act or farmland security zone contracts from being allocated to these financing districts or authorities. Additionally, it introduces changes contingent upon the enactment of another bill, SB 516, provided this bill is enacted after SB 516.

SB 9 (Arreguín, D) Accessory Dwelling Units: ordinances.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law allows for the establishment of an accessory dwelling unit (ADU) through local ordinance or by ministerial approval if no local ordinance is adopted, adhering to specific standards. Local agencies must send their ADU ordinance to the Department of Housing and Community Development within 60 days of adoption. The department can review and provide written feedback on whether the ordinance meets standards. If an ordinance is found non-compliant, the local agency has up to 30 days to respond or amend it. Failure to amend or provide a resolution explaining compliance allows the department to notify both the local agency and potentially the Attorney General of state law violations. A new bill would make an ordinance invalid if not submitted to the department within 60 days or if the local agency does not adequately respond to non-compliance findings within 30 days.

SB 16 (Blakespear, D) Ending Street Homelessness Act.

Status: 07/10/2025 - July 16 hearing postponed by committee.

Summary: Existing law requires counties and cities to create a comprehensive general plan, including a housing element that assesses housing needs and sets goals. This is regularly revised, with the Department of Housing and Community Development determining housing needs and councils allocating regional shares, including units for low-income households. This bill requires interim housing to count towards acutely low income needs until 2032, imposing additional responsibilities on local governments. The Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program provides one-time grants to tackle homelessness. A proposed bill introduces round 7 of HHAP, requiring eligible applicants to submit a "housing now action plan" and meet specific criteria. This plan is linked to additional funding opportunities and involves regional coordination to expand interim living spaces. The

bill mandates compliance with new criteria and enacts an encampment resolution ordinance for funding allocation. Under California's property tax laws, a partial welfare exemption applies to properties used for religious, hospital, scientific, or charitable purposes. A proposed bill extends this exemption to interim housing for specified entities from 2026 to 2032. While typically local agencies receive state reimbursements for lost tax revenues, this bill does not provide for such reimbursement, implying increased duties for local tax officials.

SB 18 (Rubio, D) Food Desert Elimination Grant Program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The existing law establishes the Office of Farm to Fork within the Department of Food and Agriculture, focusing on improving access to agricultural products in underserved communities and schools in California. This office works to identify and address distribution barriers affecting food access and collaborates with schools to enhance food nutrition. This bill proposes creating the Food Desert Elimination Grant Program, managed by the department, to increase healthy food availability in food deserts and areas at risk of becoming food deserts. This program would provide grants to grocery store operators in these areas. The bill also proposes the creation of the Food Desert Elimination Fund, allowing the department to collect and use non-state, federal, and private funds for the program. The department is authorized to award grants for establishing or improving grocery stores in food deserts and can implement guidelines to support these efforts. The bill's provisions depend on legislative appropriation and will expire on December 31, 2030.

SB 20 (Menjivar, D) Occupational safety: high-exposure trigger tasks on artificial stone.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 40. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Industrial Relations, under the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, to improve the welfare and working conditions of California's wage earners. This includes enforcing occupational safety and health standards, especially those covered by federal law. The Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board sets state standards, while the Division of Occupational Safety and Health enforces them. Violations can lead to criminal charges. The California Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1973 (OSHA) requires employers to follow safety standards and charges the Division with enforcement. OSHA defines "serious injury or illness" and prescribes penalties for certain violations. This bill expands the definition of "serious injury or illness" to include silicosis and silica-related lung cancer, thereby broadening the scope of OSHA-related crimes. The bill also requires specific safety measures for handling artificial stone, including prohibiting dry methods for high-exposure tasks and mandating training for employees in these environments. Enforcement involves inspections and penalties, with required training attestations starting July 1, 2026. The State Department of Public Health must report occupational silicosis cases linked to artificial stone and work with local health jurisdictions on prevention.

SB 21 (<u>Durazo, D</u>) Single-room occupancy units: demolition and replacement: housing assistance programs: eligibility for homeless individuals and families.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 40. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: This bill updates the Housing Crisis Act of 2019 and related housing laws. The Act generally prohibits cities or counties from approving housing projects that involve the demolition of protected units unless certain conditions are met. These conditions include replacing all protected units that are demolished and ensuring new projects have as many units as the highest number that existed on the site in the past five years. Additionally, these projects must include a certain percentage of affordable units for low-to-moderate income households. The new bill expands these requirements to include units for acutely low-income households and allows flexibility in single-room occupancy buildings if needed for conversion, provided the new units remain affordable rentals. It also mentions that a market study can be conducted to support unit sizes in redevelopment plans. Separately, the Department of Housing and Community Development oversees various housing programs, including the Multifamily Housing Program, which provides financial assistance for housing projects. The bill specifies criteria for determining eligibility for individuals displaced from single-room occupancy units under rehabilitation. It states that if individuals meet homelessness criteria, they cannot be required to secure housing through a referral system.

<u>SB 24</u> (<u>McNerney, D</u>) Public utilities: review of accounts: electrical and gas corporations: rates: political influence activities.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The existing law allows the Public Utilities Commission to set fair and reasonable rates for public utilities, like electrical and gas corporations. It prohibits utilities from using ratepayer money for political activities that do not benefit the ratepayers. The proposed bill would specifically ban these utilities from charging ratepayers for costs related to opposing municipal control of their services. The commission would be responsible for monitoring and investigating compliance with this prohibition. Additionally, it grants the Public Advocate's Office the same rights to access utility information as the commission. Since breaking these rules would constitute a crime under the Public Utilities Act, the bill enforces compliance and creates a state-mandated local program. The bill stipulates that no state reimbursement is required for local agencies regarding these mandates.

SB 28 (<u>Umberg, D</u>) Treatment court program standards.

Status: 07/15/2025 - July 15 hearing postponed by committee.

Summary: The Drug Court Programs Act allows counties to set up drug court programs, requiring collaboration between the county alcohol and drug program administrator and the presiding judge to create plans for juvenile offenders and parents in certain family cases. Counties opting for treatment court programs must follow state and national guidelines. By January 1, 2026, the Judicial Council must update standards to align with best practices for collaborative programs. Proposition 36, the Treatment-Mandated Felony Act, enables certain offenders to enter treatment programs instead of jail, contingent on court approval and specific criteria. The Legislature can amend this initiative with a two-thirds vote or voter approval. The new bill mandates that a drug addiction expert conducts a substance abuse and mental health evaluation for defendants, removes the requirement for the Judicial Council to revise standards, and requires that treatment programs align with existing judicial standards. This bill will take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

SB 30 (Cortese, D) Diesel-powered on-track equipment: decommissioning: resale and transfer restrictions.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The bill proposes restrictions on how public entities can handle decommissioned diesel-powered ontrack equipment used in commuter rail or rail transit systems. Specifically, it prohibits these entities from selling, donating, or transferring such equipment for continued use after decommissioning. However, there are exceptions to this rule: if the equipment meets certain federal emissions standards, emits equivalent emissions to those standards, or if the diesel engine is removed from the equipment.

SB 31 (McNerney, D) Water quality: recycled water.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The Water Recycling Law aims to enhance the use of recycled water. Currently, anyone causing an unauthorized discharge of 50,000 gallons or more of recycled water into state waters must notify the regional water board. The proposed bill redefines "recycled water" to exclude water discharged during storms from decorative bodies of water, provided recycled water was previously used for evaporation loss. The existing law bans state and local agencies from using potable water for nonpotable purposes if recycled water is available for areas like cemeteries and parks. Recycled water use is considered beneficial, with the new bill allowing incidental spray or runoff in parks to enter outdoor dining areas, as long as the water is tertiary treated and regulated. Public agencies can mandate recycled water use for residential landscaping irrigation. The bill specifies that irrigation of common areas not entering residential boundaries does not constitute a dual-plumbed system, provided the water meets quality and cost conditions. Finally, the current law permits agencies to require recycled water for toilet flushing, now expanding the definition of "structures" to include food facilities. The bill permits recycled water use in these facilities for toilet flushing or outdoor irrigation, ensuring it does not enter food processing areas.

SB 33 (Cortese, D) Homeless pupils: California Success, Opportunity, and Academic Resilience (SOAR) Guaranteed Income Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The bill proposes the establishment of the California Success Opportunity and Academic Resilience (SOAR) Guaranteed Income Program by the State Department of Social Services, provided it receives funding from the Legislature. This program aims to offer twelfth-grade homeless students a monthly income of \$1,000 for four months from May to August 2026. A fund will be created to gather and allocate moneys to counties participating in the program for distribution to eligible students. In addition, existing federal law, the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, is set up to support the education of homeless youth, requiring schools to identify

and support homeless students. Under the new bill, participating counties will have local educational liaisons ensure eligible students receive information and enrollment forms for the SOAR program. For tax purposes, income received through the SOAR program from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031, will be excluded from personal income tax calculations and will not affect eligibility for certain tax credits like the California Earned Income Tax Credit, young child tax credit, or foster youth tax credit.

SB 34 (Richardson, D) Air pollution: South Coast Air Quality Management District: mobile sources: Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles.

Status: 09/02/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill is related to air pollution control in California. The State Air Resources Board is responsible for vehicular air pollution control, while local air districts manage non-vehicular sources. Air districts can regulate emissions from indirect pollution sources. The South Coast Air Quality Management District is tasked with implementing a regional air quality plan that aligns with state and federal laws, specifically addressing indirect pollution sources. The bill requires that if new emission reduction rules affect operations at the Ports of Long Beach and Los Angeles, these ports must assess related energy demands, costs, and impacts on the environment and workforce. It mandates a process for requesting timeline extensions but prohibits capping cargo or passenger throughput. The bill expires on January 1, 2031, and imposes state-mandated local duties, necessitating specific processes for reimbursement if additional costs arise. Legislative findings emphasize the need for special provisions for the South Coast Air Quality Management District.

SB 38 (<u>Umberg, D</u>) Second Chance Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - May 23 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Second Chance Program to support individuals in the criminal justice system through mental health and substance use treatment, focusing on reducing recidivism for those convicted of less severe crimes. The Board of State and Community Corrections oversees a grant program associated with this initiative, only funding proposals that provide mental health services, substance use disorder treatments, misdemeanor diversion programs, or combinations of these services. The Second Chance Fund, a continuously appropriated fund, finances these efforts. Additionally, under the Treatment-Mandated Felony Act, individuals with multiple substance-related convictions can choose treatment instead of incarceration by pleading guilty and participating in an approved treatment program. This bill would expand the grant program to include proposals offering mental and behavioral health services and drug court or collaborative court programs, including treatment under the Treatment-Mandated Felony Act, effectively broadening the fund's purpose and making an appropriation.

SB 42 (Umberg, D) Political Reform Act of 1974: public campaign financing: California Fair Elections Act of 2026.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill amends the Political Reform Act of 1974 to allow public officers and candidates to use or accept certain public funds for campaigns, provided the funds are not designated for education, transportation, or public safety. It imposes expenditure limits and strict criteria for candidates to qualify for these public funds, prohibiting their use for legal fees, fines, or personal loan repayments. The bill allows for local laws to increase expenditure limits using specific formulas. It clarifies that the Fair Political Practices Commission is not responsible for overseeing locally established public funding systems. Additionally, the bill changes penalties for foreign contributions to state or local elections, requiring fines of at least the amount of the illegal contribution, up to three times that amount. Finally, the bill mandates that these changes be approved by voters in the November 3, 2026, statewide general election and includes further amendments contingent on another bill, AB 953.

SB 52 (Pérez, D) Housing rental terms: algorithmic devices.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law sets guidelines for renting residential units, requiring landlords to notify tenants before raising rent. The Costa-Hawkins Rental Housing Act limits local rent control, allowing property owners to set initial and subsequent rent prices for certain properties. This bill would make it illegal to sell or use a rental pricing algorithm for setting rental terms when it involves two or more people, if the algorithm uses nonpublic competitor data and is used to set rental terms in the same market. The bill authorizes the Attorney General, city attorney, or county counsel to file civil actions for violations, and allows individuals harmed by these violations to also file civil lawsuits.

SB 56 (Seyarto, R) Property taxation: disabled veterans' exemption: household income.

Status: 07/15/2025 - July 14 hearing: Placed on REV. & TAX. suspense file. Set, first hearing. Held in committee and under submission.

Summary: The California Constitution mandates that all property is taxable and assessed based on fair market value, with certain exemptions like the disabled veterans' exemption. This exemption reduces property taxes for the primary residence of qualified veterans and their families. Specifically, it exempts part of the property's value, not exceeding \$100,000 or \$150,000 if the household income is below a set threshold. This bill would exclude service-connected disability payments from the "household income" definition for this exemption until January 1, 2036. The bill also corrects a cross-reference error and includes additional requirements for new tax expenditure bills, such as goals and data collection measures. While the state usually reimburses local agencies for lost property tax revenues due to exemptions, this bill stipulates that no reimbursement will occur for revenue losses resulting from it. The bill is effective immediately as a tax levy.

SB 57 (Padilla, D) Electrical corporations: data centers: report.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has the authority to regulate public utilities, including setting fair rates for electrical corporations. This bill allows the PUC to evaluate if costs from new data center loads are unfairly shifting onto other customers. The PUC must submit this evaluation to legislative policy committees and post it online by January 1, 2027.

SB 61 (Cortese, D) Private works of improvement: retention payments.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 49, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The existing law oversees retention payments withheld in private work contracts, mandating that an owner must pay retention to a direct contractor within 45 days after the work's completion. The proposed bill seeks to cap retention payments in private contracts to a maximum of 5% of the payment. This applies at each level: owner to direct contractor, direct contractor to subcontractors, and subcontractors to lower-tier subcontractors, with some exceptions. Additionally, the bill mandates that courts award reasonable attorney's fees to the prevailing party in any legal action enforcing these provisions.

SB 63 (Wiener, D) San Francisco Bay area: local revenue measure: public transit funding.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read second time and amended. Ordered to second reading.

Summary: The bill proposes the creation of a "Public Transit Revenue Measure District" covering several counties in the San Francisco Bay area to impose a retail tax for 14 years, pending voter approval in 2026. This tax would support transit services and be governed by the existing Metropolitan Transportation Commission. Portions of the tax revenue would fund various transit agencies, including AC Transit, Caltrain, and BART. Additionally, the bill requires a financial efficiency review of certain transit operators by a third-party consultant, which would be carried out in two phases, contingent on tax approval. This review aims to ensure cost-effective operations, with an oversight committee reviewing the findings. Transit operators must comply with efficiency recommendations to receive funding. The bill modifies existing tax regulations, allowing increment adjustments specifically for San Mateo County and San Francisco. It also states that the bill's provisions are severable, meaning if one part is invalidated, others remain effective. Lastly, it outlines reimbursement procedures for local agencies if state-imposed costs are identified.

SB 65 (Wiener, D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: 01/13/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2025–26 fiscal year. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

SB 70 (Seyarto, R) Public contracts: Small Business Procurement and Contract Act.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Small Business Procurement and Contract Act allows state agencies or the California State University to award contracts for goods, services, or information technology, valued between \$5,000 and \$250,000, to certified small businesses—including microbusinesses and disabled veteran business enterprises—without following competitive bidding processes. This bill would increase the maximum value of these contracts from \$250,000 to \$350,000. Starting January 1, 2028, and every two years thereafter, the Director of General

Services must review this maximum value and may adjust it according to changes in the California Consumer Price Index.

SB 71 (Wiener, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions: transit projects.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is a law that mandates a lead agency to prepare an environmental impact report for projects that might significantly affect the environment, or issue a negative declaration if the project is not expected to have such effects. If a project can be adjusted to mitigate environmental impact, a mitigated negative declaration is required. CEQA provides exemptions for certain transportation-related projects until January 1, 2030, such as active transportation plans and specific public transit projects. A new bill intends to extend these exemptions and include additional transit-related projects until January 1, 2040, aiming to encourage improvements like zero-emission vehicles and microtransit services. Additionally, the bill mandates updating financial thresholds for exempt projects based on economic changes every two years from 2026 onward. The bill also specifies that no state reimbursement is necessary for the costs imposed on local agencies by these requirements.

SB 72 (Caballero, D) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The Department of Water Resources is mandated by existing law to regularly update "The California Water Plan" every five years. This plan guides the management and use of the state's water resources, incorporating strategies like water storage, conservation, recycling, desalination, and transfers to meet future needs. The law also mandates forming an advisory committee to support these updates. A new bill proposes revisions to this process, including expanding the advisory committee to include tribes, labor, and environmental justice groups. For the 2033 update, the bill requires setting a 2050 interim target that considers diverse water needs—including urban, agricultural, tribal, and environmental uses—while ensuring safe drinking water for everyone. The plan must analyze the costs, benefits, and impacts of recommended projects to meet these targets. Additionally, the department must report updates to the Legislature, summarizing findings and recommendations, and hold public workshops for feedback.

SB 73 (Cervantes, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.Q. on 1/29/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) or a negative declaration for projects with potential significant environmental effects. Certain projects, such as residential and mixed-use developments in transit priority areas, are exempt if they align with an existing specific plan with a certified EIR. This bill would expand exemptions to projects in areas of very low vehicle travel and mandates they follow specific planning guidelines, including development on previously used or qualified vacant sites. It also changes rules for exemptions related to agricultural employee housing, affordable housing, and infill residential projects, potentially allowing these within state conservancy boundaries and adjusting project size and location criteria. Additionally, exemptions for sustainable transit priority projects located in low vehicle travel areas are revised, requiring previous development or specific vacant site criteria. Lead agencies must file notices of exemption for qualifying projects, imposing additional local program requirements. The bill states no reimbursement is required by the state under its mandates.

<u>SB 74</u> (<u>Seyarto, R</u>) Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation: Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation in the Governor's office to assist with long-term planning and state planning. This law allows local agencies to finance infrastructure projects using various methods, such as creating enhanced infrastructure financing districts. The proposed bill introduces the Infrastructure Gap-Fund Program, requiring the office to offer grants to local agencies for infrastructure projects that encounter unforeseen costs after beginning construction. The office can fund up to 20% of these additional costs, provided the agency has covered at least 45% of the initial project cost with local tax revenue. When applying, local agencies must demonstrate difficulties in meeting timelines and budgets, and explain how

their projects align with state and local objectives. The office is tasked with developing guidelines to evaluate and fund grant applications, and these provisions will take effect on January 1, 2030.

SB 76 (Seyarto, R) Vehicles: registration fees and penalties.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The existing law mandates penalties for late vehicle registration payments, with exceptions in certain cases. The Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) can currently waive these penalties if the new owner was unaware of unpaid fees prior to purchasing the vehicle, particularly when the vehicle's license plate indicates a valid registration year. These unpaid fees are considered the seller's responsibility, and the DMV can pursue their collection through legal action if fees are waived. The proposed bill, effective January 1, 2030, would require the DMV to waive any outstanding registration fees and penalties that accrued before the vehicle's purchase when a new owner registers the vehicle. It also mandates the creation of a system to collect these fees and penalties from the previous owner, removing the DMV's ability to sue for these fees once they are waived.

SB 77 (Grove, R) State vehicle fleet: light-duty vehicles: raw materials: child labor.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that, starting from the 2024–25 fiscal year, at least 50% of light-duty vehicles purchased for the state fleet must be zero-emission, unless this cannot meet state needs. This bill adds that suppliers of these vehicles must certify that materials like aluminum, cobalt, and lithium are sourced from mining operations free of child labor. Suppliers must also report the mining locations and average wages of workers. This information, along with a list of vehicles certified as child labor-free, must be published on the department's website.

SB 78 (Seyarto, R) Department of Transportation: report: state highway system: safety enhancements.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Department of Transportation currently oversees the state highway system. This bill mandates that the department prepare a report evaluating both current and potential ways to streamline procedures for delivering safety enhancement projects on the state highway system. This report is to be submitted to the Legislature by January 1, 2027.

<u>SB 79</u> (<u>Wiener, D</u>) Housing development: transit-oriented development.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The text discusses a legislative bill related to urban planning and housing development in California. Current planning laws require cities and counties to create comprehensive plans for development, including housing needs assessments and identification of land for residential development. The bill proposes that housing projects near transit-oriented development (TOD) stops be designated as transit-oriented housing, allowed on any residential or mixed-use site if they meet specific criteria such as unit count, height, and affordability requirements. The bill aims to streamline approvals, impose penalties on local governments denying compliant projects, and enforce compliance by 2027. It allows for the creation of alternative TOD plans and mandates oversight by the Department of Housing and Community Development. The new provisions would apply statewide, affecting both local and charter cities, and impose new compliance and reporting requirements on local governments, emphasizing a commitment to housing development around transit areas for statewide benefit. The bill includes measures that would not necessitate state reimbursement for certain local governmental costs.

SB 80 (Caballero, D) Energy: Fusion Research and Development Innovation Initiative.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Joint Rule 61(a)(13) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, which oversees California's energy policies, is required by current law to assess the potential of fusion energy in the state's power supply as part of its 2027 energy policy report. The commission is also mandated to conduct technical assessments of various energy sources, including advanced nuclear concepts, fusion, and fuel cells. This bill establishes the Fusion Research and Development Innovation Initiative within the commission to speed up the development of fusion energy. This initiative aims to advance fusion science and technology, support research and technology that promote fusion energy commercialization, and try to achieve the first fusion energy pilot project in

California by the 2040s. The initiative would provide financial incentives for relevant projects, contingent on legislative funding. The bill's provisions are set to be repealed by January 1, 2028.

SB 82 (Umberg, D) Contracts: consumer goods and services: dispute resolution provisions.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: Existing law governs contracts for the sale or lease of consumer goods or services and sets restrictions, such as prohibiting clauses that prevent consumers from making statements about the seller or service provider. It also disallows clauses that limit a consumer's ability to file complaints or partake in investigations with regulatory boards overseeing service providers. This bill focuses on consumer use agreements, specifically restricting dispute resolution terms to issues directly related to the use or provision of goods, services, money, or credit specified in the agreement. It would render any waiver of these protections void and unenforceable, emphasizing consumer protection. The bill dictates that its obligations and duties are additional to existing laws and do not alter other legal rights or remedies. Definitions for relevant terms are also provided in the bill.

<u>SB 84</u> (Niello, R) Disability access: construction-related accessibility claims: notice of violation and opportunity to correct.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was JUD. on 6/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law prohibits discrimination based on personal characteristics, including disability, and imposes statutory damages for construction-related accessibility violations if they deny full access to public accommodations. It also limits a defendant's liability for damages if violations are corrected within a specified time. This bill would prevent legal proceedings for statutory damages against businesses with 50 or fewer employees if they have been served a notice detailing alleged violations and have not rectified them within 120 days. Additionally, the bill ensures defendants are not liable for statutory damages or plaintiff's costs if they correct violations within this timeframe. It also prevents plaintiffs from circumventing these rules by seeking general discrimination damages under the ADA for issues rooted in non-compliance with California's physical accessibility standards.

SB 88 (Caballero, D) Air resources: carbon emissions: biomass.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 tasks the State Air Resources Board with regulating greenhouse gas emissions and mandates a 40% reduction from 1990 levels by 2030. The law requires collaboration with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop a system for quantifying carbon emissions from fuel reduction activities using Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund guidelines. This bill mandates that, by January 1, 2028, the State Air Resources Board must publish assessments on life-cycle emissions from forest and agricultural biomass uses. By January 1, 2029, they must publish a strategy to promote carbon removal products, like biochar, from biomass resources. The Department of Forestry and Fire Protection is required to integrate biomass disposal in state-funded forest health projects. The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission must highlight the benefits of using biomass for low- and negative-carbon fuels in their reports.

(Seyarto, R) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: grants: improvements to public evacuation routes: mobile rigid water storage: electrical generators.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water Wildfire Prevention Drought Preparedness and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by voters under Proposition 4, allows the issuance of \$10 billion in bonds to fund a variety of environmental and safety projects in California. These projects target areas such as safe drinking water, drought and flood resilience, wildfire and forest management, coastal resilience, climate adaptation for farms, and clean air programs. Specifically, the act allocates \$135 million to the Office of Emergency Services for a wildfire mitigation grant program. This program will fund various initiatives like loans, direct assistance, and matching funds to prevent wildfires, enhance community resilience, and maintain wildfire risk reduction projects. Eligible projects include grants for fire prevention and evacuation infrastructure, improving firefighting resources, and enhancing community safety against wildfires. This bill proposes grants for public evacuation route improvements, and

support for firefighting through mobile water storage solutions. It also suggests collaboration with the Public Utilities Commission to fund backup electrical generators for water reservoirs, ensuring water supply resilience in high fire risk areas.

SB 92 (Blakespear, D) Housing development: density bonuses.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Density Bonus Law requires cities or counties to offer developers a density bonus and other incentives if they agree to include certain affordable housing units in their projects. The law mandates waivers or reductions in development standards under specific conditions. The bill clarifies that while offering these incentives, developers cannot increase the commercial floor area of the project beyond a certain ratio. It also specifies that the law's provisions do not obligate local authorities to apply concessions or reduce standards for transient lodging in a housing development, unless specifically required.

SB 94 (Strickland, R) Transportation funding: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Motor Vehicle Fuel Account.

Status: 04/23/2025 - April 23 set for first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 1. Noes 4.) Reconsideration granted.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 tasks the State Air Resources Board with overseeing greenhouse gas emissions and allows for market-based compliance strategies. Currently, funds from these emissions regulations go into the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, with 25% continuously allocated to the High-Speed Rail Authority. This bill would end this allocation by June 30, 2026. Instead, from the 2026-2027 fiscal year until December 31, 2030, it proposes transferring 25% of the fund to the Motor Vehicle Fuel Account. The Motor Vehicle Fuel Tax Law governs taxes on each gallon of motor vehicle fuel. Revenues from these taxes go to various accounts for transportation purposes, according to constitutional restrictions. The bill also proposes reducing the fuel tax rate from July 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031, depending on the amount received from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund, resulting in a reallocation of funds for transportation use.

SB 98 (Pérez, D) Elementary, secondary, and postsecondary education: immigration enforcement: notification.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The existing law requires school districts and county offices of education to develop comprehensive school safety plans, which include strategies for maintaining safety and compliance with related laws. This new bill mandates that these plans, until January 1, 2031, must also include procedures to notify parents, guardians, teachers, and school personnel about confirmed immigration enforcement activity at schools. For charter schools, the bill allows for the denial of petitions if their safety plans do not meet the same notification requirements. For postsecondary education, current law already urges institutions like the California State University, University of California, and California Community Colleges to implement precautionary measures when immigration enforcement is anticipated. The new bill extends this by requiring, until January 1, 2031, these institutions to notify all campus community members of any verified immigration enforcement presence. If this bill results in additional costs for local educational agencies, the state will provide reimbursement in accordance with existing procedures. The bill is designated as an urgency statute, meaning it takes effect immediately.

SB 220 (Allen, D) Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was TRANS. on 4/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law establishes the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, responsible for transportation planning and operations in Los Angeles County, governed by a 14-member board. This board includes the Mayor of Los Angeles, two public members, a city council member appointed by the mayor, four members from other county cities, the five-member board of supervisors, and a non-voting member appointed by the Governor. If the number of board supervisors increases, the authority must propose a revised board composition to the Legislature within 60 days. Starting January 1, 2029, this bill will expand the board to 18 members by including the county executive and three public members appointed by this executive. Additionally, if changes occur to the County's charter that affect the Board of Supervisors' size or eliminate the county executive, the authority must submit a revised composition plan to the Legislature within 60 days. This bill imposes new duties on Los Angeles County, creating a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution mandates state reimbursement to local agencies for certain state-imposed costs, following established procedures. If the Commission on State Mandates confirms state-mandated costs in this bill, reimbursement will be provided according to these procedures.

SB 222 (Wiener, D) Climate disasters: civil actions.

Status: 04/08/2025 - April 8 set for first hearing. Failed passage in committee. (Ayes 5. Noes 2.) Reconsideration granted.

Summary: This bill addresses the legal aftermath of climate-related damages. It allows individuals who suffer physical harm or property damage of at least \$10,000 due to climate disasters to sue responsible parties for damages, restitution, and other relief. These parties would be held jointly, severally, and strictly liable. Lawsuits must be filed within three years of discovering the harm. In terms of insurance, the bill specifies that insurers have the right of subrogation, meaning they can pursue damages from parties responsible for climate disasters. The California FAIR Plan Association must exercise this right if requested by policyholders after paying claims. Insurers are assessed based on market share if payment capacities are exhausted, with adjustments depending on whether they file or join subrogation lawsuits. Furthermore, the bill is designed to take effect immediately as an urgency statute, indicating its provisions are considered critical.

SB 223 (Alvarado-Gil, R) The Wildfire Smoke and Health Outcomes Data Act.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Wildfire Smoke and Health Outcomes Data Act mandates the State Department of Public Health, in coordination with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, to establish a statewide data platform by July 1, 2028. This platform will integrate wildfire smoke and health data from various sources to understand the health impacts of wildfire smoke on Californians. It aims to evaluate the effectiveness of investments in forest health and wildfire mitigation. The bill includes developing protocols for data sharing and quality control, promotes open-source platforms, and allows using existing data sources for implementation. It also establishes the Wildfire Smoke and Health Administration Fund, dedicated to managing and enhancing wildfire smoke and health data, with funding allocated by the Legislature. The bill does not change existing jurisdictional laws.

SB 224 (Hurtado, D) Department of Water Resources: water supply forecasting.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Water Resources to collect and analyze data for an annual forecast of the state's water supply and update "The California Water Plan" every five years. This bill requires the department to update its water supply forecasting models by January 1, 2027, to consider the impacts of climate change. It must also document its operational plans and the rationale for its procedures, including reasons for water releases from reservoirs. Additionally, the department is to publish the criteria it will use to determine the readiness of updated models for each watershed. By January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, the department must report to the Legislature on its progress with the new forecasting model and explain the rationale behind its operating procedures for the previous year. These reports must also be posted on the department's website.

SB 231 (Seyarto, R) California Environmental Quality Act: the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation: technical advisory.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency must prepare an environmental impact report for any project that might significantly affect the environment. If the project is determined not to have this impact, a negative declaration is adopted. If revisions to a project could mitigate significant effects, a mitigated negative declaration is prepared, provided no evidence suggests the project will still have significant effects after changes. The Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, an existing state planning agency, is tasked with long-range planning. This bill requires this office, by July 1, 2027, to consult with various agencies to develop a technical advisory on environmental thresholds for greenhouse gas and noise pollution, assisting local agencies. This advisory, with suggested thresholds for the entire state, will be available online, and lead agencies can choose to adopt these thresholds.

SB 232 (Seyarto, R) California Environmental Quality Act: guidelines: study.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare and certify an environmental impact report for projects potentially impacting the environment, or adopt a negative declaration if there is no significant impact. If a project could have a significant impact, but revisions mitigate this, a mitigated negative declaration is needed, provided there is no substantial evidence of a significant effect after revisions. The Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, previously known as the Office of Planning and Research, along with the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, are tasked with developing and adopting CEQA implementation guidelines. Upon deciding that an environmental impact report is necessary for a project, the lead agency must notify relevant parties immediately. This bill requires the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to study how "locked-in guidelines" affect regulatory certainty and review process efficiency under CEQA. "Locked-in guidelines" refer to the CEQA guidelines in effect when the initial notice of preparation for a project is issued, which remain applicable throughout the review process despite later changes. The office must report its findings to the Governor and Legislature by January 1, 2027, with the provisions ending on January 1, 2028.

SB 233 (Seyarto, R) Regional housing need: determination: consultation with councils of governments.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates each county and city to develop a comprehensive long-term general plan for physical development, which must include a housing element. For the 4th and later revisions of this housing element, the Department of Housing and Community Development, in consultation with councils of governments, determines the existing and projected housing needs for each region. They must meet and establish the assumptions and methods to be used in this determination at least 26 months before the housing element revision is due. This bill changes the timeline, requiring meetings and consultations at least 38 months prior to the 7th and subsequent revisions, with some exceptions. It also proposes additional amendments to Section 65584.01 of the Government Code, which will be operative if this bill and SB 486 are enacted, with this bill enacted last.

SB 234 (Niello, R) Wildfires: workgroup: toxic heavy metals.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to undertake fire prevention efforts, such as organizing fire crews and patrols. This bill proposes that, upon legislative funding, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, alongside the Office of Emergency Services and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, form a workgroup to address exposure to toxic heavy metals following wildfires, in consultation with specified entities. This workgroup is tasked with establishing best practices and recommendations to help wildfire-impacted communities, first responders, and cleanup personnel avoid heavy metal exposure, including engaging in outreach activities. The bill allows the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to collaborate with public universities, research institutions, and technical experts to aid the workgroup. Additionally, these departments must report their findings to the Legislature within three years of the workgroup's first meeting.

SB 235 (McNerney, D) Recycling: precious metals and critical minerals: report.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/7/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Protection Agency's Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery is responsible for solid waste management and recycling programs. This bill mandates the department to prepare a report by January 1, 2028, for the Legislature. This report will focus on the collection, recycling, reuse, and storage of precious metals and critical minerals within products in California. The department must involve public input and reach out to interested stakeholders in this process. Additionally, the bill allows the department to suggest ways to foster a circular economy for these materials, including best practices for product design to enhance recycling at the end of the product's life.

SB 237 (Grayson, D) Oil spill prevention: gasoline specifications: suspension: California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions: County of Kern: transportation fuels assessment: coastal resources.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 61(a)(13) suspended. (Amended text released 9/10/2025)

Summary: The Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act outlines that the administrator for oil spill response, directed by the Governor, must handle activities related to oil spill preparedness, containment, and cleanup, and work with federal coordinated responses. The Governor must establish a state oil

spill contingency plan, and the administrator must implement regulations for oil spill contingency plans and permit these plans for use by similar companies. Owners/operators of facilities potentially impacting state waters must obtain a financial responsibility certificate. This bill mandates public posting of these certificates and input solicitation for spill volume and financial responsibility standards, with revisions every 10 years. The Elder California Pipeline Safety Act regulates pipeline inspections, prohibiting the restart of pipelines inactive for five years without passing specific tests, and requires public posting of test results. The State Air Resources Board is empowered to regulate gasoline specifications; however, a new bill allows the Governor to suspend these regulations if gasoline prices surge. The State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission is required to periodically assess transportation fuel supplies and prices and explore alternative gasoline specifications to stabilize regional markets. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires environmental impact reports for state projects, but this bill would exempt certain zoning revisions in Kern County from CEQA requirements until 2036. The California Coastal Act mandates permits for coastal development and specifies oil transport methods. A bill revises the definition of "expanded oil extraction" and mandates new permits for reactivating idle facilities.

SB 238 (Smallwood-Cuevas, D) Workplace surveillance tools.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was P. & C.P. on 6/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law tasks the Department of Industrial Relations with overseeing employment and working conditions. A new bill mandates that employers must annually inform this department about all workplace surveillance tools they use. This notice must detail the personal data collected from employees and consumers, and whether there is an option to opt-out of this data collection. The department is required to publish these notices on its website within 30 days of receipt. The term "employer" in the bill includes certain public employers as well.

SB 239 (Arreguín, D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

Status: 06/05/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was INACTIVE FILE on 6/3/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act mandates that meetings of a legislative body of a local agency must generally be open to the public, allowing attendance and participation. If teleconferencing is used, certain conditions must be met, including posting agendas at all teleconference locations, identifying these locations in notices, and ensuring public accessibility. A quorum must usually participate from within the agency's jurisdiction, except in specific cases. Until January 1, 2026, neighborhood city councils are permitted to use alternative teleconferencing rules if approved by a two-thirds vote and after adopting an authorizing resolution. This bill extends similar provisions to subsidiary bodies, requiring them to post agendas at designated physical locations and to have members appear visibly on camera during online meetings. These bodies must also document remote participation in meeting minutes, and their legislative body must formally establish the subsidiary body and make specific findings prior to using teleconferencing. Subsidiary bodies must approve teleconferencing by a two-thirds vote, but those dealing with police oversight, elections, or budgets are exempt from these provisions.

SB 240 (Jones, R) San Diego Association of Governments: board of directors: County of San Diego.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 4/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The San Diego Regional Transportation Consolidation Act establishes a 21-member board to govern the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG), including two directors from the San Diego County Board of Supervisors. These directors, known as primary and secondary representatives, are chosen from districts representing incorporated and unincorporated areas. This bill would replace the secondary representative with a resident from an unincorporated area, selected and potentially recalled by local community planning groups. The bill would remove the requirement for representatives to come from specific district types and allow an alternate if the secondary is unavailable. It also includes provisions for state reimbursement if the bill imposes costs on local agencies, as determined by the Commission on State Mandates.

SB 250 (Ochoa Bogh, R) Medi-Cal: provider directory: skilled nursing facilities.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Medi-Cal program, run by the State Department of Health Care Services, provides healthcare services to low-income individuals through either fee-for-service or managed care systems and is partially

governed by federal Medicaid laws. Federal Medicaid law mandates that the state must offer an online directory of physicians and possibly other providers. The current state law ensures that Medi-Cal applicants or beneficiaries are informed about their health care options, including provider directories. An online provider directory exists, known as Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Care Options. The bill requires that this directory include skilled nursing facilities as a searchable provider type. Additionally, the department must update this directory annually to maintain accurate and accessible information.

SB 252 (Valladares, R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: undergrounding powerlines.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E.Q. on 2/14/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) obliges a lead agency to prepare an environmental impact report for projects that could significantly affect the environment. If a project is determined not to have this effect, the agency can adopt a negative declaration. For projects where revisions could mitigate environmental impact, a mitigated negative declaration is prepared. This bill proposes to exempt projects that involve undergrounding powerlines from CEQA requirements. This exemption task requires a lead agency to assess eligibility, thus creating a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution mandates reimbursements for certain state-imposed costs on local agencies. However, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is necessary for its requirements.

SB 254 (Becker, D) Energy.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 61(a)(13) suspended. (Amended text released 9/10/2025)

Summary: The existing legislation outlines the framework and responsibilities of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) and the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank), which are responsible for fostering economic growth and supporting infrastructure projects in California. Under new provisions, projects related to clean energy, funded by a previously approved bond measure, will be eligible for financial assistance from the I-Bank. This includes issuing bonds and accessing the new Accelerator Revolving Fund for transmission infrastructure. Additionally, the bill establishes a Transmission Infrastructure Accelerator within Go-Biz to develop strategies for financing and deploying transmission projects that receive financial assistance. The Energy Unit's goal will be to optimize cost savings for ratepayers and develop plans for public-private partnerships, requiring coordination with various entities. The bill further introduces a tax credit system for eligible entities engaged in qualified transmission projects, allowing them to receive credits against personal and corporate income taxes. These entities cannot earn equity returns for any project portion financed by the credit. The California Consumer Power and Conservation Financing Authority, restricted by previous laws, gains new rights to sponsor and finance transmission projects without the prior \$5 billion limit on its activities, aiming to improve energy infrastructure across the state. Lastly, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission is given extended authority to certify eligible facility construction until June 30, 2030, with updated requirements for application completeness and environmental assessment. The amendments aim to expedite the approval process for energy projects, ensuring applicants secure necessary property rights for proposed sites.

SB 256 (Pérez, D) Electricity: electrical infrastructure: wildfire mitigation.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law grants the Public Utilities Commission authority to regulate electrical corporations, while local publicly owned electric utilities are managed by their governing boards. These entities must operate their electrical systems to minimize wildfire risks and prepare annual wildfire mitigation plans. Electrical corporations submit their plans to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, while local utilities and cooperatives submit theirs to the California Wildfire Safety Advisory Board. The plans must outline preventive strategies and procedures for notifying customers affected by power outages. The bill mandates updates to wildfire mitigation plans and infrastructure management by January 1, 2027. Electrical corporations must remove permanently abandoned facilities and consider undergrounding electrical infrastructure for wildfire-impacted areas if cost-effective. Plans should include communication strategies with local governments, public safety partners, and non-account holders in households regarding deenergization events. Local publicly owned utilities and cooperatives must also consider risks in wildland-urban interfaces and describe coordination processes with local governments. Additionally, the bill requires cooperation with emergency services to improve coordination between utilities and emergency response agencies.

SB 260 (Wahab, D) Unmanned aircraft.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill modifies existing laws regarding the use of unmanned aircraft by insurers and introduces new penalties for unauthorized drone activities. It requires residential property insurers to notify policyholders at least 30 days before using drones to capture aerial images of their property, unless for claims evaluation. Insurers must provide these images if requested and give policyholders 120 days to address issues found during drone inspections before terminating contracts, with evidence of work sufficing to prevent contract termination. The bill mandates insurers destroy drone-captured data within 90 days, with some exceptions. The bill also creates new infractions for operating unmanned aircraft over critical infrastructure or specific properties without consent, including the State Capitol, unless authorized by government entities. Additionally, it stipulates that using drones over schools with intent to surveil or threaten individuals is now a misdemeanor. The penalty for operating drones over penal institutions increases from \$500 to \$1000. These changes create state-mandated local programs, but no reimbursement is required for costs incurred as a result.

SB 262 (Wahab, D) Housing element: prohousing designations: prohousing local policies.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 27. Noes 11.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that all counties and cities create a long-term general plan for development, which must include a housing element, covering both their own areas and certain lands outside their boundaries. The Department of Housing and Community Development evaluates if these housing elements comply with the law. Jurisdictions recognized as "prohousing" in compliance with regulations are given priority in state program applications. "Prohousing local policies" include incentives for housing and zoning that permits residential and mixed-use development by right. This bill would expand the definition of these policies to include measures that prevent displacement and keep people housed and provides further examples of such policies. Additionally, this bill will incorporate changes from AB 36 if both are enacted, with this bill operating last.

SB 263 (Gonzalez, D) International trade: tariffs: impact study.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) to lead economic strategy and market California for business development, private investment, and economic growth. It also requires the Transportation Agency to set up a freight advisory committee to help develop the state freight plan. This bill mandates GO-Biz, along with the Department of Finance and the Transportation Agency, to study the effects of tariff changes on California's international trade. Additionally, it requires GO-Biz to support the international trade activities of California's small businesses. The freight advisory committee will discuss the study's scope once initiated. GO-Biz must submit the completed study to the Legislature by January 1, 2029.

SB 269 (Choi, R) Personal income taxes: Fire Safe Home Tax Credits Act.

Status: 05/23/2025 - May 23 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Summary: This bill proposes new tax credits under the Personal Income Tax Law for specific home and vegetation management costs. These credits, available from January 1, 2026, to January 1, 2031, are aimed at incentivizing "home hardening" and "vegetation management" activities. The total credits cannot exceed \$50,000,000 annually. To qualify, taxpayers must reserve their credits in advance and submit necessary information. The bill also mandates that the bill must outline specific goals, performance indicators, data collection requirements, and requires the Legislative Analyst's Office to generate a report on the tax credits' impact. This bill would take effect immediately upon passing.

SB 272 (Becker, D) San Mateo County Transit District: job order contracting: pilot program.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The Local Agency Public Construction Act outlines processes for local entities to follow in acquiring services or work, with specific protocols for transit districts like the San Mateo County Transit District in construction contracts. This bill proposes a pilot program allowing this district to use job order contracting, with a \$5 million cap on total awards per contract and a \$1 million cap on individual job orders. Contracts would be limited to a 12-month term, with possible extensions. The bill details procedures for this contracting method and mandates a report on its use by January 1, 2030, to be submitted to legislative committees. The pilot program will

end on January 1, 2032. It includes special legislative findings for the necessity of this statute for the San Mateo County Transit District.

SB 273 (Grayson, D) Surplus land.

Status: 02/14/2025 - Referred to Com. on RLS.

Summary: Current law states that surplus government land should be used for affordable housing, especially near transit stations, as well as for parks, recreation, or open-space purposes. This bill proposes a nonsubstantive change to this law, meaning it would not significantly alter its meaning or application.

SB 280 (Cervantes, D) Elections.

Status: 08/21/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 97, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The proposed bill makes several changes related to the June 2, 2026, primary election and a special election on November 4, 2025. For the primary election, it mandates that forms for signature collections to waive filling fees be available from December 19, 2025, and requires the Secretary of State to publish a calendar of election dates by that time. Additionally, counties must provide voter data by certain deadlines, but if it is unfeasible to include information on congressional districts, a supplementary list will be issued instead. Candidates for Congress will be prohibited from using "incumbent" as a ballot designation if certain conditions are met, such as the approval of ACA 8 and changes in congressional district maps. The bill also calls for a special statewide election on November 4, 2025, to vote on ACA 8, overriding the usual 131-day waiting period. This special election might be consolidated with local elections and needs specific logistical measures, such as maintaining vote centers. It allocates funds from the General Fund to cover the costs for both counties and the Secretary of State and takes effect as an urgency statute. These changes are set to expire on January 1, 2027.

SB 282 (Wiener, D) Residential heat pump systems: water heaters and HVAC: installations.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill outlines new legislative requirements related to the installation and inspection of heat pump systems in California. It mandates cities and counties to offer asynchronous inspections for certain residential heat pump installations, allowing communication between inspectors and contractors remotely. If issues are found, traditional inspections requiring both parties' presence can be scheduled. The legislation also sets guidelines for issuing permits, emphasizing online, automated systems that expedite the permitting process and require checking code compliance in real time. Additionally, it limits permit fees to reasonable costs, with exceptions requiring justification. The bill supports environmental goals by prohibiting any rule that restricts replacing fuel-gasburning appliances with electric ones and nullifies agreements that limit heat pump installations. Furthermore, it requires local governments to use standardized checklist forms by 2026 and outlines the exemption criteria for smaller populations. Finally, it includes provisions for reimbursing local agencies if state-mandated costs are determined, reinforcing this as a statewide issue that affects all municipalities, including charter cities.

SB 283 (Laird, D) Energy storage systems.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The existing law permits individuals proposing energy storage facilities (storing 200 megawatt-hours or more) to apply for certification with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, which replaces the need for other permits. The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) oversees public utilities and directs major electrical corporations to propose programs for distributed energy storage, which can be approved or modified by the PUC. The bill introduces a requirement for applicants, from January 1, 2026, to certify that they have consulted with the local fire authority 30 days before applying for facility site certification. Approval will be withheld unless an inspection by the fire authority occurs after the installation, with the applicant covering inspection costs. Additionally, the bill mandates a review of regulations for energy storage locations in building standards updates post-July 2026. The bill enforces statewide compliance over municipal preferences and specifies that the state may reimburse local agencies for any imposed costs, following prescribed procedures.

SB 285 (Becker, D) Net zero greenhouse gas emissions goal: carbon dioxide removal: regulations.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 4/21/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 assigns the State Air Resources Board (CARB) the responsibility for overseeing and controlling greenhouse gas emissions in the state. The Act mandates achieving a greenhouse gas emissions limit equivalent to 1990 levels by 2020 and reducing emissions to at least 40% below 1990 levels by 2030. CARB is required to develop a scoping plan for significant and cost-effective emission reductions, updating it every five years. Under the California Climate Crisis Act, the state aims to reach net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2045, then maintain net negative emissions, reducing emissions to at least 85% below 1990 levels. The current bill allows for the use of qualified carbon dioxide removal to balance emissions, with specific requirements for this removal. Additionally, CARB must run a program focused on carbon capture and storage technologies, assessing their impact and safety. They are authorized to create protocols to support these technologies indefinitely.

SB 292 (Cervantes, D) Electricity: wildfire mitigation: deenergization events and reliability.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The existing law mandates electrical corporations, public electric utilities, and cooperatives to annually prepare wildfire mitigation plans that include protocols for disabling reclosers and deenergizing parts of the electrical system, considering public safety impacts. Electrical corporations must identify frequently deenergized circuits and plan to reduce future impacts. The bill requires these corporations to work with state and community organizations to develop plans to support people with access and functional needs during deenergization events. They must also prepare post-event reports to be filed and distributed accordingly. By January 1, 2027, the Public Utilities Commission must decide if additional information should be included in these reports and consider revising policies to enhance safety and reliability. Local publicly owned utilities must also prepare confidentiality-protected annual reliability reports detailing service interruptions. Violations of these requirements can result in criminal charges, creating a state-mandated local program. The bill includes findings related to public access rights, indicating that no reimbursement is necessary from the state under specified conditions.

SB 293 (Pérez, D) Real property tax: transfer of base year value: generational transfers: wildfire.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The California Constitution limits ad valorem property taxes to 1% of a property's assessed value, based initially on 1975-76 valuations. This value is updated upon sale, new construction, or ownership change, with annual inflation adjustments capped at 2%. Certain family property transfers, particularly between parents and children or from grandparents to grandchildren (if their parents are deceased), are excluded from being classified as sales or ownership changes. Proposition 19, effective from February 16, 2021, expanded these exclusions to family homes and farms. The bill allows related transfer filings to be considered timely if they occur within three years of assessment notice, given the property was affected by specific 2025 fires. This exception applies to claims filed before January 1, 2031, potentially increasing responsibilities for local tax officials. 2. The California Constitution mandates that all property is taxable except for specified exemptions. These include a \$7,000 homeowners' exemption and a disabled veterans' exemption of \$100,000 or \$150,000. Current laws require these exemptions to be claimed within one year of property transfer. The bill proposes that claims be timely if filed within a year of an assessment notice, under certain conditions, and applies to claims made before January 1, 2031. The bill includes a provision recognizing the necessity of special legislative measures specifically for Los Angeles County.

<u>SB 298</u> (<u>Caballero, D</u>) State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission: seaports: plan: alternative fuels.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The State Air Resources Board currently has the authority to implement regulations to meet federal air quality standards and to reduce toxic emissions from nonvehicular sources. It has already established a measure that requires oceangoing vessels near California to use low-sulfur fuels, decreasing harmful emissions such as particulate matter and nitrogen and sulfur oxides. This bill requires that by December 31, 2030, the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission must develop a plan for the alternative fuel needs of oceangoing vessels at California's public seaports. This plan, created in collaboration with several agencies, aims to help the seaports achieve emission reduction goals and must identify challenges to permitting alternative fuel facilities, as well as solutions. The Energy Commission is required to form a working group to aid in developing this plan, and the State Air Resources Board must provide relevant fuel information to assist in compliance.

SB 299 (Cabaldon, D) Local government: ordinances.

Status: 06/05/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was INACTIVE FILE on 6/5/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law dictates that a county or city cannot pass an ordinance within five days of its introduction and must do so at a regular or adjourned regular meeting, except for an urgency ordinance, which can be passed immediately. Ordinances must be read fully at their introduction or passage, and non-urgency ordinances altered after introduction must be passed at least five days after alteration. This bill proposes changes so that ordinances cannot be passed within five days of publication, instead of introduction, although urgency ordinances can still be passed immediately. Additionally, the bill removes certain procedural requirements. It also allows for a streamlined ministerial approval process for the adoption or amendment of zoning ordinances that comply with general plan amendments. This process aligns with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), permitting exemptions from extensive environmental reviews for certain housing developments by expanding the scope of projects eligible for ministerial approval.

SB 300 (Padilla, D) Conflicts of interest: nonprofit organizations: membership dues.

Status: 04/25/2025 - April 29 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary: The Political Reform Act of 1974 restricts public officials from making or influencing governmental decisions when they have a financial interest in the outcome. An official is considered to have a financial interest if a decision could materially affect a source of income of \$500 or more within the previous year. However, this bill proposes an exception to this rule. It states that officials do not have a material financial interest when decisions involve certain nonprofit organizations—such as labor, agricultural, business leagues, and chambers of commerce —that are sources of income to the official. This exception applies if the decision solely affects the membership or dues of the nonprofit organization.

SB 303 (Smallwood-Cuevas, D) Employment: bias mitigation training: unlawful discrimination.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The California Fair Employment and Housing Act currently prohibits discrimination in employment and housing based on factors like national origin. The Civil Rights Department can investigate and prosecute related complaints. A new bill proposes that if an employee acknowledges their own bias through assessment testing during bias mitigation training, and does so in good faith, it will not be considered unlawful discrimination.

SB 315 (**Grayson**, **D**) Quimby Act.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was L. GOV. on 3/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Quimby Act, part of the Subdivision Map Act, allows cities and counties to require land dedication or fees for park and recreational purposes when approving subdivision maps. The dedication or fees cannot exceed what is necessary for 3 acres of park space per 1,000 residents. Recent amendments to the act set a new limit: if the subdivision is for infill housing, the land or fee cannot exceed 25% of the subdivision's total area. Additionally, if the infill housing is located within 0.5 miles of an existing park, no land dedication or fees can be required. Furthermore, the bill mandates that fees collected under the Quimby Act comply with requirements from the Mitigation Fee Act, which includes depositing fees in a separate account and public reporting. This represents an increased responsibility for local officials, creating a state-mandated local program. This change applies to all cities, including charter cities, acknowledging a statewide concern. Finally, the bill specifies that no state reimbursement to local agencies is needed for implementing these provisions.

SB 317 (<u>Hurtado</u>, <u>D</u>) Wastewater surveillance.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The State Department of Public Health in California is responsible for various public health initiatives, including administering a dashboard for monitoring SARS-CoV-2 in wastewater. This system includes data from the Cal-SuWers network and other partners. This bill would require that the department, working with wastewater facilities and health experts, maintain this network to test for pathogens and health indicators. Participation by local health departments and facilities in the network would be voluntary. The bill allows coordination with healthcare providers and agencies for early intervention and public health planning based on this data. It also suggests that surveillance results should be shared with the public through a website for transparency. Additionally, the department could seek additional funding to support these activities.

SB 318 (Becker, D) Air pollution: stationary sources: best available control technology.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law designates the State Air Resources Board as responsible for controlling vehicular air pollution, while air pollution from non-vehicular sources is managed by air pollution control districts. Air districts can require permits to construct or operate equipment emitting air contaminants, with certain exceptions. Under the Clean Air Act, new or modified major sources must use best available control technology for emissions. This bill defines "best available control technology" for these purposes and establishes a process for evaluating permits. It requires the executive officer of the state board to review permits for Title V sources and object if they do not comply with the Clean Air Act. The bill also requires a technical feasibility analysis for certain renewal permits and allows for more stringent measures than those proposed by applicants. The bill revises the precertification program by updating criteria every eight years and expanding it to include various types of equipment and processes. It allows for temporary employee assignments to leverage expertise and invites other regulatory agencies to join the expansion of the precertification program.

SB 322 (Menjivar, D) Urban equestrian inclusion zones.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones Act allows cities and counties to create zones for urban agriculture through contracts with landowners to restrict the use of vacant lands for small-scale agriculture. However, no new or renewed contracts can be made under this law after January 1, 2029. The bill introduces the concept of "urban equestrian inclusion zones," where cities and counties can voluntarily contract with landowners to restrict land use for equestrian activities until the same deadline. Additionally, under the Housing Crisis Act of 2019, certain jurisdictions cannot reduce land use intensity in zoning designations from what was set as of January 1, 2018. The bill would classify contracts for restricting land use for equestrian activities as a form of reducing land use intensity. This change is deemed statewide in relevance, affecting all cities, including those with their own charters.

SB 326 (Becker, D) Wildfire safety: fire protection building standards: defensible space requirements: The California Wildfire Mitigation Strategic Planning Act.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: This bill introduces multiple enhancements to California's existing wildfire management framework. It mandates the Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation to develop several strategic reports, such as the Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework and Wildfire Risk Baseline and Forecast, to be updated periodically and used for evaluating and directing wildfire risk mitigation actions. These reports aim to offer detailed geospatial evaluations and establish key risk metrics to guide coordinated efforts in reducing wildfire risks across the state. The bill also accelerates the implementation of ember-resistant zones for certain existing structures in fire-prone areas, expanding the scope of what is classified as criminal non-compliance. Additionally, it revises the local assistance grant program, permitting funds to be used for wildfire prevention projects that utilize the new planning framework and align with ember-resistant zone regulations. The bill stipulates that from the 2025–26 to 2028–29 fiscal years, specific funds will be allocated to hire wildfire inspectors to ensure compliance within these zones. The State Fire Marshal is tasked with extending fire protection standards to all reconstructed buildings within wildfire perimeters after July 1, 2026.

SB 327 (McNerney, D) Fusion energy data centers.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E. U., & C. on 4/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law mandates the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to conduct technical assessments on various energy forms and related issues. This would shape federal research priorities and to stay informed about future energy options, including advanced concepts like nuclear power plants, fusion, and fuel cells. This bill would require the commission to collaborate with the United States Department of Energy to set up a fusion energy data center.

SB 328 (Grayson, D) Hazardous waste generation and handling fees: Department of Toxic Substances Control oversight responses: housing development projects.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The hazardous waste control laws mandate the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) to oversee the handling and management of hazardous waste, and any violations are considered crimes. Under existing planning and zoning laws, local agencies must adhere to specific timelines when reviewing applications for housing developments; failing to do so results in automatic disapproval and legal violations. This bill requires the DTSC to notify requestors of housing project applications about the review process within specific timelines based on project size. For projects with 25 units or fewer, the notice must be given within 60 business days, while for projects with 26 units or more, the timeline is 120 business days. These requirements will take effect on July 1, 2028. Additionally, the bill introduces fee caps for hazardous waste generators related to residential infill housing and master development projects, assuming the generator did not create the waste. Residential infill housing projects face a maximum fee of \$100,000, while master development projects are capped at \$250,000. Generators must apply and certify eligibility for these fee caps with the DTSC.

SB 330 (Padilla, D) Electrical transmission infrastructure: financing.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was U. & E. on 6/9/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under existing California law, certain environmental leadership development projects certified by the Governor can use streamlined procedures under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Individuals proposing eligible facilities, including specific electrical transmission projects, can apply for certification from the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) by June 30, 2029. Once certified, these projects can bypass additional permits from state or federal agencies as allowed. This bill would allow the Governor to initiate pilot projects to develop, finance, or operate electrical transmission infrastructure identified as necessary for clean energy goals and subject to competitive bidding. Designated agencies or organizations would manage these projects, and the Governor can set guidelines for application and certification. The bill also ties these pilot projects to the Wildfire Fund, which supports claims from wildfires. Owners of the pilot projects would be required to join the fund and could seek payments for eligible wildfire claims. The Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety would be responsible for reviewing wildfire mitigation plans and overseeing the wildfire safety performance of pilot project owners. This expansion of Wildfire Fund use implies additional appropriations to the fund.

SB 331 (Menjivar, D) Substance abuse.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was HEALTH on 6/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act allows for involuntary commitment and treatment of individuals with certain mental disorders when they are a danger to themselves or others, or are deemed "gravely disabled." This term refers to individuals unable to meet basic needs due to mental health or severe substance use disorders. This bill expands "gravely disabled" to include those with chronic alcoholism. The definition of a "mental health disorder" would also align with the current Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders. The Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act oversees services for adults with severe mental illness who are not stable in voluntary treatment and are at risk of severe decline without intervention. It allows for court-ordered CARE plans providing health services, medication, and housing. Originally, specific individuals, like family members or housemates, could initiate the CARE process, which county agencies then manage. The bill proposes including the original petitioner in notices and requires them to assist with the CARE agreements if applicable.

SB 332 (Wahab, D) Investor-Owned Utilities Accountability Act.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The bill involves several key elements concerning energy policy and utility regulation in California. It mandates the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to select a research institute to analyze the benefits and challenges of converting electrical corporations into public or nonprofit entities, with the analysis due by January 1, 2029. A preliminary report on legal issues is expected by December 31, 2026, with the finalized report shared publicly before legislative submission. The fiscal cap for this analysis is set at \$5 million. Additionally, the bill outlines the requirement for electrical and gas corporations to publicly share information on service terminations due to nonpayment starting March 2026 for corporations and March 2027 for publicly owned utilities, with annual updates. It also revises the criteria for the safety certifications of electrical corporations, requiring executive compensation structures to promote both safety and ratepayer affordability. Furthermore, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) must share nonconfidential data on service disconnections and ratepayer affordability with the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety. The bill includes provisions leading to a

state-mandated local program since it imposes new requirements on utilities, although it does not stipulate state reimbursement for these mandates.

SB 336 (Wiener, D) Real property tax: welfare exemption: moderate-income housing.

Status: 05/23/2025 - May 23 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Summary: Existing property tax law offers a "welfare exemption" for properties used for religious, hospital, scientific, or charitable purposes by certain nonprofit entities, provided they meet specific criteria. A partial welfare exemption applies to residential rental properties for lower-income households; it's calculated based on the proportion of units serving these households relative to the total units. This bill extends this partial exemption to properties serving both low- and moderate-income households, calculated similarly. Property owners would need to certify the property's use under penalty of perjury, expanding the roles of local tax officials and the legal implications of perjury, thereby creating a state-mandated local program. Though the California Constitution mandates state reimbursement for certain local costs, this bill specifies no reimbursement for certain mandates, clarifying reimbursement procedures for others. It also states that despite existing laws requiring reimbursement for lost property tax revenue due to exemptions, this bill does not require such reimbursements to local agencies. It would become effective immediately as a tax levy.

SB 338 (Becker, D) Virtual Health Hub for Rural Communities Pilot Program.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: This bill would create the Virtual Health Hub for Rural Communities Pilot Program, to be managed by the State Department of Public Health. Its goal is to improve health service access for farmworkers in rural areas by setting up virtual health hubs. Grants will be given to partnerships of community-based organizations, prioritizing those with a history of aiding underserved communities. These hubs will provide essential technology like computers, Wi-Fi, and telemedicine facilities. The program's implementation relies on the creation of a Virtual Health Hub Fund, which requires at least \$2 million, and no use of General Fund money. The department must report on the program's outcomes and submit findings to the Legislature two years after the program begins. The program will be repealed once certain conditions are met.

SB 340 (Laird, D) General plans: housing element: emergency shelter.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 40. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: Existing law mandates cities and counties to create and adopt a general plan that includes a housing element covering various types of housing. This housing element must assess housing needs and look at resources and constraints, identifying zoning areas where residential uses, including emergency shelters, are allowed without special permits. Emergency shelters must include interim interventions such as navigation centers and bridge housing. This bill expands the requirements for emergency shelters to include comprehensive onsite services aligned with certain standards, effectively increasing the service level cities and counties must provide when developing their general plans. The Department of Housing and Community Development administers the Emergency Housing and Assistance Program, which uses allocated funds to provide cost-effective and safe shelter for homeless individuals. This program also encourages homeless service funding and coordination among public institutions. Existing law currently defines an "emergency shelter" as a facility providing short-term housing with minimal services for up to six months. The bill seeks to amend this definition to include supportive services within the same occupancy limits. It also includes related changes proposed by other bills, contingent on their enactment.

SB 343 (Grayson, D) Designated subjects career technical education teaching credentials: waiver.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was ED. on 2/19/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to set standards for granting and renewing teaching credentials and permits. It defines minimum requirements for various teaching credentials, including those for multiple subject, single subject, and education specialist credentials, as well as for preliminary and clear career technical education teaching credentials. This bill would allow the Commission to waive the minimum requirements for the 3-year preliminary and 5-year clear designated subjects career technical education teaching credentials for individuals who meet specific criteria, such as holding a valid industry-recognized certification in a designated trade. Additionally, the Commission is required to develop and maintain a list of trades eligible for such waivers.

SB 345 (<u>Hurtado, D</u>) California Fire Service Training and Education Program: California Fire and Arson Training Act: fees.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The California Fire Service Training and Education Program, managed by the State Fire Marshal's office with guidance from the State Board of Fire Services, can charge fees for seminars, conferences, and specialized training. The State Fire Marshal can also set fees under the California Fire and Arson Training Act, which involves setting minimum standards and curricula for fire protection personnel and other related training. This bill proposes that the State Fire Marshal can only charge or set these fees if state funding and other sources do not cover the necessary costs for these activities.

SB 346 (Durazo, D) Local agencies: transient occupancy taxes: short-term rental facilitator.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The existing law allows local authorities to regulate short-term accommodations of less than 30 days. The proposed bill permits local agencies, such as cities or counties, to require short-term rental platforms to report specific information about each rental, including the full address with a 9-digit ZIP Code. If the address alone is insufficient, additional information can be requested. The bill allows local agencies to impose fines for non-compliance and conduct audits on these rental platforms. It mandates that rental listings include any necessary local licenses and transient occupancy tax certifications. However, it does not prevent local agencies from implementing different rules regarding short-term rentals and related taxes.

SB 348 (Hurtado, D) State Air Resources Board: Low Carbon Fuel Standard.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/19/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The bill outlines the responsibilities of the State Air Resources Board under existing laws to manage air pollution from both vehicular and non-vehicular sources. The Board is tasked with establishing necessary standards and regulations. Under the California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006, the Board is also responsible for monitoring and regulating greenhouse gas emissions, with a mandate to reduce emissions by at least 40% below a specified limit by December 31, 2030. One of the regulations adopted by the Board is the Low Carbon Fuel Standard, aiming to lower the carbon intensity of transportation fuels in California. This bill proposes that by January 31, 2026, the Board should review and adjust this standard to lessen the financial impact on drivers.

SB 350 (Durazo, D) Water Rate Assistance Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates the State Water Resources Control Board to devise a plan for funding the Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program, specifying how funds will be collected from water ratepayers. The bill would establish this program by creating the Water Rate Assistance Fund within the State Treasury. This fund would provide financial aid for water and wastewater services to low-income residential ratepayers. The bill calls for the board to manage the fund separately, consult with relevant agencies, and adopt guidelines and an annual report detailing the fund's performance. Guidelines would include eligibility requirements confirmed through self-certification under penalty of perjury. The bill also allows for legal action against violations and makes its implementation reliant on legislative appropriation. According to the California Constitution, the state must reimburse certain local costs, but this bill specifies no reimbursement is required.

SB 352 (Reyes, D) Environmental justice: Department of Justice: Bureau of Environmental Justice: community air monitoring.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. (Amended text released 9/10/2025) **Summary:** This bill proposes several amendments related to environmental oversight and monitoring in California. The Attorney General, under current provisions, is empowered to act on behalf of the state to protect natural resources. The bill aims to continue this by maintaining a Bureau of Environmental Justice within the Department of Justice. The State Air Resources Board is tasked with developing a monitoring plan for air pollutants, using advanced sensing technologies. This plan requires collaboration with air pollution control districts to identify priority locations where community air monitoring systems will be installed for at least five years, with

possible extensions. The bill mandates that the monitoring plan must be updated by July 1, 2026, and every five years thereafter, subject to available funding. Annual progress reports to the Legislature are also required, starting March 1, 2027. The officials must present progress updates to relevant legislative committees. Implementing these changes will lead to a state-mandated local program, requiring reimbursement to local agencies for certain costs, according to established statutory procedures. If the Commission on State Mandates identifies statemandated costs, reimbursement will follow statutory guidelines.

SB 358 (Becker, D) Mitigation Fee Act: mitigating vehicular traffic impacts.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 27. Noes 9.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The Mitigation Fee Act outlines requirements for local agencies when establishing or increasing fees related to development projects. For housing developments that meet specific characteristics, local agencies must set lower fees to reflect reduced automobile trip generation. This bill mandates that any local agency findings that a housing development generates more trips, even when it meets the specified characteristics, must be supported by substantial evidence. Previously, one key characteristic was providing parking spaces based on local ordinance requirements or having limited onsite spaces. This bill changes the parking requirement to a maximum of one space for units with up to two bedrooms and two spaces for larger units. It also removes the need for nearby convenience retail, replacing it with a requirement that the development is within half a mile of three specified amenities, such as a supermarket, pharmacy, or restaurant. If a development did not meet all characteristics, local agencies were permitted to charge fees proportional to the anticipated traffic impact. This bill removes that allowance, thereby creating a state-mandated local program. The bill stipulates that no state reimbursement is required, citing specific reasoning for this exemption.

SB 359 (Niello, R) Use Fuel Tax Law: Diesel Fuel Tax Law: exempt bus operation.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Use Fuel Tax Law imposes a state excise tax, generally \$0.18 per gallon, on fuel use, while providing various exemptions, including for transit authorities or cities with local transit systems. This bill would extend this exemption to counties operating local transit systems. The responsibility for tax administration was transferred from the State Board of Equalization to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration on July 1, 2017. This bill updates terminology in the Use Fuel Tax Law to reflect this change. Similarly, the Diesel Fuel Tax Law imposes taxes on diesel fuel distribution, with exemptions for certain transit operations, which the bill seeks to extend to counties operating local transit systems. The bill would become effective immediately as a tax levy, pending its operative date.

SB 360 (Rubio, D) Land conservation: California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act: County of San Bernardino.

Status: 06/05/2025 - Referred to Com. on W. P., & W.

Summary: The California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act from 1988 provided funding for conservation projects and can be amended by a two-thirds legislative vote if aligned with its original purposes. The act mandates that acquired properties must be maintained perpetually for the specified uses. San Bernardino County has some flexibility to sell or exchange properties within the Chino Agricultural Preserve under certain conservation conditions. A proposed bill would allow these lands also to be preserved for recreational and historical purposes, such as playgrounds and venues, if consistent with the act. The bill also changes how the county manages and utilizes proceeds from land transactions by removing specific procedures and expanding allowable uses of income, while ensuring revenues cannot be granted to private entities. These changes conform with the original act's amendment rules.

SB 365 (Alvarado-Gil, R) Fire insurance: reporting on cancellation and nonrenewal.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was INS. on 2/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law regulates residential property insurance and prevents insurers from canceling or refusing to renew policies for properties located in or near a fire perimeter for one year after a state of emergency is declared, if the cancellation is solely due to the property's location in a recent wildfire area. This bill mandates that the Department of Insurance must report to the Legislature by January 1, 2027, and each year after, regarding the impact of this one-year prohibition on cancellations or nonrenewals in the affected ZIP Codes.

SB 366 (Smallwood-Cuevas, D) Employment: artificial intelligence.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill mandates the Department of General Services, part of the Government Operations Agency, to collaborate with UCLA's Labor Center to study how artificial intelligence affects worker well-being, job quality, job types, different populations, and state revenues. The department is required to submit a report detailing the study's findings to the Legislature by June 1, 2027. Once the report is submitted, the provisions of this bill will be repealed.

SB 370 (Ashby, D) California Music Festival Preservation Grant Program.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law creates the Office of Small Business Advocate, part of the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz), to support small businesses. The Governor appoints the Small Business Advocate, who acts as the main representative for small businesses in California. A new bill proposes the creation of the California Music Festival Preservation Grant Program within this office. The program would provide grants to eligible independent live music event promoters to help maintain access to the arts across California. If the Legislature approves funding, the office would distribute \$20 million in grants to those who meet the eligibility requirements.

SB 371 (Cabaldon, D) Transportation network companies: insurance coverage.

Status: 09/09/2025 - From committee: That the Assembly amendments be concurred in. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) **Summary:** Existing law mandates regulation of charter-party carriers by the Public Utilities Commission, specifically including requirements for transportation network companies (TNCs) like those using apps to connect riders with drivers in personal vehicles. Currently, TNCs must maintain liability insurance, including \$1,000,000 uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage, from the time a passenger enters the vehicle until exiting. This coverage can be provided by the driver, the TNC, or both. The proposed bill would reduce the coverage amount to \$60,000 per person and \$300,000 per incident and make the TNC responsible for maintaining this coverage. It also mandates a study by the commission and the Department of Insurance to assess if the motorist coverage requirements are appropriate, with results reported by December 31, 2030. Additionally, the commission must include accident and insurance claim data in its annual report by 2026 and report on rider fare averages by 2027. The bill's implementation depends on the enactment of AB 1340 during the 2025-26 legislative session.

SB 375 (Grove, R) Wildfire prevention activities: Endangered Species Act: California Environmental Quality Act: California Coastal Act of 1973.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was N.R. & W. on 2/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under the California Endangered Species Act, the taking of endangered species is restricted, but permits can be issued by the Department of Fish and Wildlife for specified purposes. The State Fire Marshal must designate fire hazard severity zones, which local agencies must acknowledge. The bill allows local agencies to submit wildfire preparedness plans to manage these zones, ensuring minimal impact on wildlife. Plans must detail activities, timelines, and species in the area. The Department must respond within 90 days with guidance or permit needs. By July 2026, a standard plan form will be available, and from January 2027, summaries of submitted plans will be posted online. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates environmental impact reports for potentially harmful projects, unless a negative declaration is justified. The California Coastal Act requires permits for projects in coastal zones. This bill exempts fuel reduction projects in fire hazard zones from CEQA and coastal permit requirements, but local agencies must determine eligibility for these exemptions.

SB 377 (**Grayson**, **D**) Biomethane procurement targets.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was E. U., & C. on 2/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law authorizes the Public Utilities Commission to regulate public utilities, including gas corporations. It mandates the Commission, with input from the State Air Resources Board, to consider setting biomethane procurement targets for gas corporations. If targets are adopted, the law requires biomethane to be delivered to California through specific pipeline methods and meet two regulatory requirements regarding injection and environmental benefits. This bill changes these requirements, allowing biomethane delivered via a common carrier pipeline to meet just one of the specified criteria instead of both. It adds the reduction of greenhouse gas

emissions through the displacement of conventional natural gas as an acceptable environmental benefit. Existing law requires consideration of in-state biomethane production and distribution options, which include allowing cost recovery for investments in infrastructure connecting biomethane projects to the natural gas network. The bill mandates that by June 1, 2026, the Commission must allow recovery of costs for these investments.

SB 381 (Wahab, D) Residential rental properties: fees.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was JUD. on 2/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Fair Rental Act of 2025 amends existing rental property laws by introducing new restrictions on landlord fees and practices. It prohibits landlords from charging fees not specified in rental agreements, including processing fees, convenience fees, or pet ownership fees. Late fees for overdue rent cannot exceed 2% of the monthly rate and can only be charged if the rent is more than seven days late. Any unauthorized fees collected by landlords will result in liability for the cost plus 5% interest. The bill also prohibits charging fees for parking spaces and changes the rules around application screening fees. Now, the screening fee can only cover the actual out-of-pocket costs of obtaining tenant information, eliminating charges for the landlord's time. These changes aim to ensure fairer rental practices and reduce unnecessary financial burdens on tenants.

SB 409 (Archuleta, D) Public contracts: county-owned buildings.

Status: 07/14/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 52, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Local Agency Public Construction Act previously exempted counties with populations over 2,000,000 from having to contract out repair work on county-owned buildings, provided the cost was under \$50,000. The new bill amends this rule, increasing the exemption threshold to \$125,000 specifically for counties with populations over 9 million. This change is particularly relevant for Los Angeles County, and the bill includes legislative findings justifying the need for this specific statute.

SB 410 (Grayson, D) Common interest developments: association records: exterior elevated elements inspection.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act governs how common interest developments, like condominium projects, are managed. Under existing law, the board must ensure a visual inspection of exterior elevated elements, such as balconies, is conducted every nine years. This inspection must be done by a qualified inspector who writes a report with recommendations for repairs or replacements. These rules apply only to buildings with three or more multifamily units. Additionally, property owners must provide certain documents to potential buyers, and associations must provide these documents when requested by owners. Fees for these documents must be itemized separately. This bill proposes that the inspector's report should also include the total number of condominium units and certify that a statistically significant sample of elements was inspected. The inspection requirements will now also apply to buildings with three or more attached multifamily units. The bill mandates that the inspector's report be included among the documents given to prospective buyers. Moreover, these reports are to be considered association records, which must be accessible to association members for two inspection cycles, on top of existing records rules.

SB 415 (Reyes, D) Planning and zoning: logistics use developments: truck routes.

Status: 09/09/2025 - From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary: Current law, effective January 1, 2026, sets statewide standards for building and expanding warehouses used for logistics, addressing elements like design, location, and energy efficiency requirements. It defines "21st century warehouse" and "tier 1 21st century warehouse" as facilities that must comply with these standards at the time of permitting, especially concerning building and energy requirements. The bill revises the definition of "logistics use" to encompass buildings primarily used for warehousing goods moved to businesses, not predominantly for onsite retail and involving heavy-duty trucks. Local authorities must approve a truck routing plan before a certificate of occupancy is issued and must update regional traffic plans by specified deadlines to accommodate truck traffic safely. Failure to comply with these provisions could result in fines and penalties enforced by the Attorney General. Existing housing units affected by warehouse developments will require a 2-to-1 replacement if demolished, unless declared substandard. Air quality management around logistics use developments requires monitoring and reporting. Additionally, by 2027, training on enforcing commercial vehicle laws must be available to local law enforcement. The bill stipulates no reimbursement is necessary for costs imposed by the state under this act.

SB 417 (Cabaldon, D) The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026.

Status: 02/19/2025 - From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 21.

Summary: The current law includes programs that support emergency housing, multifamily housing, farmworker housing, homeownership for very low and low-income households, and down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers. It also allows for issuing bonds under the State General Obligation Bond Law, with the proceeds used to fund various housing programs, infill development, brownfield cleanup, and housing-related parks. The proposed Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026 would allow for the issuance of \$10 billion in bonds to finance affordable rental housing and homeownership programs. This includes funding for the Multifamily Housing Program, CalHome Program, and Joe Serna Jr. Farmworker Housing Grant Program. The bond act will be presented to voters during the statewide primary election on June 2, 2026, and will take immediate effect as an urgency statute if enacted.

SB 431 (Arreguín, D) Assault and battery: utility workers.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 7/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law defines assault as an unlawful attempt, with the capability, to cause violent injury to another person, while battery is defined as the willful and unlawful use of force against someone. Assault or battery against certain professionals like peace officers, firefighters, and emergency medical personnel during their duties is punishable by up to one year in county jail, a fine up to \$2,000, or both. This bill would extend these penalties to assaults or batteries against utility workers performing their duties. By expanding these definitions, the bill creates a state-mandated local program. While the California Constitution mandates state reimbursement to local agencies for certain state-mandated costs, this bill specifies that no reimbursement is required for this particular expansion.

SB 440 (Ochoa Bogh, R) Private Works Change Order Fair Payment Act.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The bill introduces a new claim resolution process for contracts related to private works of improvement, effective from January 1, 2026, until January 1, 2030. This process applies to any claims by contractors or subcontractors for issues like time extensions or relief from delay-related penalties imposed by the owner. The claims must be submitted via registered or certified mail. The bill also includes related findings and declarations.

SB 445 (Wiener, D) High-speed rail: third-party agreements, permits, and approvals: regulations.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California High-Speed Rail Act mandates the creation of a High-Speed Rail Authority to design and oversee a high-speed rail system in the state. The authority has the power to engage in contracts and agreements for relocating utilities and working with local governments or private entities. It can also establish legal procedures for relocating utilities impacted by the rail project. The authority and utility companies can agree on sharing costs and responsibilities for these relocations. The act requires the High-Speed Rail Authority to develop internal rules and regulations by July 1, 2026, to guide coordination in utility relocations and resolve related conflicts. These rules should specify when cooperative agreements with utilities and local agencies are necessary and delineate responsibilities. The authority must consult with specific organizations and conduct public hearings for this process, with implementation dependent on approval by the Inspector General's office. The Inspector General is empowered to audit and review the oversight of the rail project and must report findings annually to the Legislature and Governor. The bill also mandates identifying and addressing barriers to smooth utility relocation by December 31, 2026, and ensures these efforts do not delay the project unnecessarily.

SB 454 (McNerney, D) State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: Existing law assigns the State Water Resources Control Board the responsibility for managing programs related to drinking water, such as the California Safe Drinking Water Act. The bill, pending legislative approval, aims to establish a PFAS mitigation program, focusing on chemicals known as perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances. This bill would create the PFAS Mitigation Fund in the State Treasury, allowing funds,

once appropriated by the Legislature, to be used for mitigating PFAS contamination. The state board would be authorized to seek and manage additional funding from federal and private sources specifically for PFAS treatment. These funds can be used for grants, loans, or contracts to support water suppliers and sewer system providers in efforts like treating drinking water to comply with PFAS regulations. Eligibility for these funds would require providers to articulate how the funds will benefit their communities by enhancing safe drinking water practices. The state board would be tasked with developing guidelines for the program's implementation.

SB 455 (Blakespear, D) Electric bicycles.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The bill proposes several changes to existing vehicle laws, focusing on mopeds and electric bicycles. It revises definitions and regulations, requiring manufacturers to permanently affix a label or engraving that identifies the device as a low-power moped or electric bicycle. Starting July 1, 2026, manufacturers must also include additional identifying information on electric bicycles. The bill exempts low-power mopeds from certain vehicle classifications, affecting financial and registration obligations, while allowing local authorities to regulate them. It prohibits labeling certain high-speed or powerful vehicles as electric bicycles and mandates consumer notification if electric bicycles no longer meet legal definitions. Incidents involving electric bicycles must report specific marking information. The bill restricts unclassified two- or three-wheeled vehicles to private property or offroad use. Violations of these provisions would be criminal offenses, requiring state-mandated local programs, though the bill specifies no state reimbursement for implementation costs is necessary.

SB 457 (Becker, D) Housing element compliance: Housing Accountability Act: housing disapprovals.

Status: 05/08/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(3). (Last location was HOUSING on 2/26/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that every county and city develop a long-term general plan for physical development, including a housing element, which must adhere to specific legal requirements. This includes review and compliance checks by the Department of Housing and Community Development. According to the Housing Accountability Act, local agencies cannot reject or excessively condition housing projects for low to moderate-income households or emergency shelters unless they provide written evidence of one of six specified conditions. One condition allows disapproval of projects inconsistent with existing zoning ordinances and land use designations if the jurisdiction's housing element meets housing law standards. The definition of "deemed complete" for applications currently includes either a preliminary or complete application. This bill would redefine "deemed complete" strictly as a fully completed application, applicable to projects not approved or significantly invested in by January 1, 2026. Furthermore, for a housing element or amendment to be substantially compliant, it must be adopted by the local agency and subsequently determined by the department or a court to comply with housing law, without being overturned or contradicted by new findings or court decisions.

SB 464 (Smallwood-Cuevas, D) Employer pay data.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Civil Rights Department within the Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency to enforce civil rights laws related to housing and employment, particularly safeguarding the right to employment without discrimination. Employers with 100 or more employees must submit an annual pay data report detailing employee numbers by race, ethnicity, and sex across specific job categories, as well as pay information. A proposed bill mandates that demographic data collected for these reports be stored separately from personnel records and expands job categories from 10 to 23 starting January 1, 2027. The department can seek court orders to enforce report submissions, and the bill stipulates courts must impose civil penalties if employers fail to comply.

SB 486 (Cabaldon, D) Regional housing: public postsecondary education: changes in enrollment levels: California Environmental Quality Act.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: This bill introduces changes to regional transportation planning and housing element updates by requiring metropolitan planning organizations to consider changes in enrollment at public higher education institutions when developing sustainable community strategies. It mandates that the Department of Finance and regional councils of governments also account for university enrollment fluctuations when projecting household

and population growth. Furthermore, councils must integrate the distribution of higher education institution students and optimize transportation methods in their methodology. It modifies the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by excluding the need for a "no project" analysis in environmental impact reports prepared by universities, given certain conditions are met. The bill also highlights interactions with other legislative proposals and specifies conditions under which state-mandated costs will require reimbursement, following procedures outlined in the California Constitution.

SB 489 (Arreguín, D) Local agency formation commissions: written policies and procedures: Permit Streamlining Act: housing development projects.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000 outlines how cities and special districts are formed and reorganized, mandating that each county have a local agency formation commission. These commissions must establish written policies and procedures to promote efficient urban development and maintain an accessible online presence, including all necessary forms for applications related to organizational changes. The proposed bill emphasizes these requirements, ensuring public access to these documents via the internet. The Permit Streamlining Act mandates that public agencies create and publish a list of required information for development project applications. The new bill further requires agencies to post online this information for housing development projects, detailing application requirements and approval criteria. By enhancing the responsibilities of local agencies in documentation and application review processes, this bill creates a state-mandated local program. However, it states that no state reimbursement is necessary under this bill for delineated reasons, despite the increased duties imposed on local agencies and officials.

SB 496 (Hurtado, D) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Current law requires the State Air Resources Board to manage vehicle emissions and fuel standards to control air pollution effectively, ensuring they are feasible and cost-effective. The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 designates this board to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. Under this authority, the board implemented the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, mandating that government and high-priority fleets transition to zero-emission vehicles, with some exemptions permitted. This bill proposes the establishment of an Appeals Advisory Committee to review denied exemption requests. This committee, comprising specified government and non-government representatives, must meet monthly, with meetings recorded and accessible online. They must review appeals and provide recommendations within 60 days, which the board must consider publicly within another 60 days. Certain vehicles involved in emergency responses would be exempt from the regulations, and fleet owners will not be pressured to produce zero-emissions vehicle purchase agreements to delay transitioning mandates.

SB 507 (Limón, D) Planning and zoning: regional housing needs allocation.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: Under the Planning and Zoning Law, cities and counties must create a general plan which includes a housing element that assesses local housing needs, including a share of regional housing requirements. A council of governments or the Department of Housing and Community Development sets the final regional housing needs allocations for each locality. Local governments can review or appeal their housing needs share. The new bill allows local governments to voluntarily partner with tribes to include new tribal housing projects in their regional housing needs allocations. The bill ensures that tribes are not required to waive sovereign immunity to enter these agreements and emphasizes that tribal housing can count toward local housing goals. The bill declares its intention to address statewide concerns and applies to all cities.

SB 525 (Jones, R) California FAIR Plan: manufactured homes.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The California FAIR Plan Association is a joint reinsurance group set up by insurers in the state to help people obtain basic property insurance. This includes distributing insurance responsibilities fairly among insurers. "Basic property insurance" is already defined in existing law. This bill would expand this definition to include manufactured homes and mobile homes, offering them the same insurance terms and conditions as other residential properties through the FAIR Plan.

SB 543 (McNerney, D) Accessory dwelling units and junior accessory dwelling units.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The bill amends existing planning and zoning laws regarding accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and junior accessory dwelling units (JADUs). It revises the definition of a JADU to include no more than 500 square feet of interior livable space, aligning it with the standards for ADUs. It extends the Department of Housing and Community Development's authority to oversee and establish guidelines for JADUs, parallel to those for ADUs. Local agencies are required to submit JADU ordinances to the department for review, and noncompliance can lead to voiding the ordinance. The bill mandates that permit applications for ADUs and JADUs be processed within specified timeframes and avoid delays due to local ordinances not aligned with state guidelines. The legislation also affects fee structures, prohibiting impact fees for JADUs of 500 square feet or smaller and ADUs of 750 square feet or smaller, while ensuring fees for larger ADUs are proportional to the primary dwelling's size. The bill upholds existing square footage and setback limits for ADUs and JADUs and prohibits sprinkler requirements for JADUs if the primary residence does not require them. Additionally, the bill modifies procedures for reviewing and approving ADU and JADU applications. Finally, the bill imposes state-mandated local programs but specifies that no reimbursement is required under a particular provision.

SB 545 (Cortese, D) High-speed rail: economic opportunities.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development is responsible for leading California's economic strategy and marketing related to business development and growth. The High-Speed Rail Authority is in charge of developing a high-speed train system. This bill mandates that the Governor's Office commission a study by January 1, 2027, to explore economic opportunities along the routes of the California high-speed rail project and any connecting projects. Progress reports must be submitted to the Senate and Assembly Transportation Committees. By January 1, 2028, the study should be completed with findings and recommendations presented to relevant legislative committees. Additionally, infrastructure districts funding the high-speed rail must allocate the majority of their revenue to local infrastructure projects.

SB 574 (Umberg, D) Streamlined housing approvals.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was HOUSING on 4/2/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare an environmental impact report for projects that could significantly affect the environment or adopt a negative declaration if there is no significant effect. CEQA does not apply to ministerial projects, which do not require extensive discretion by the agency. Under existing law, developers can apply for a streamlined ministerial approval process for multifamily housing projects that meet specific planning standards. The proposed bill allows developers to apply the same streamlined process to single-family housing projects, provided each unit is 1,600 square feet or less and meets planning and design standards. This expands the exemption for ministerial projects under CEQA. The bill also increases responsibilities for local agencies, creating a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution typically requires the state to reimburse local agencies for certain state-mandated costs, but this bill specifies that no reimbursement is needed for this act.

SB 597 (Cortese, D) Labor-related liabilities: direct contractor and subcontractor.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: Existing law mandates that from January 1, 2022, direct contractors in contracts for construction or repair projects are responsible for debts owed to workers or third parties incurred by subcontractors. A direct contractor is defined as one that has a contract directly with an owner. This bill extends this provision until January 1, 2026, and then revises the requirements: from that date onward, direct contractors are liable for labor-related debts but are not liable for benefit contributions if payments are made through joint checks. The new definition of a direct contractor includes those contracting directly with owners or other entities on the owner's behalf. Additionally, the bill allows joint labor-management committees to sue for failures to meet health care expenditure requirements for certain housing developments.

SB 601 (Allen, D) Water: waste discharge.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Under current law in California, water quality is regulated by the State Water Resources Control Board and nine regional boards, following the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. The State Board can adopt water quality plans that take precedence over regional plans if conflicts arise, especially concerning federal Clean Water Act standards. The bill allows the state board to create plans for "nexus waters," defined as all non-navigable state waters, and mandates that existing water standards apply to these waters as of May 24, 2023. Regional boards set discharge requirements after hearings, considering local conditions, except for community sewer systems. The bill requires that discharge standards for nexus waters adhere to federal pollution control acts. Civil penalties for violations of waste discharge requirements are deposited into specific accounts to fund water quality projects, with adjustments to penalties starting January 1, 2026. The bill authorizes entities like the Attorney General and the state board to enforce nexus water regulations. It ensures that waste discharge to nexus waters aligns with federal standards, treating these waters as navigable for compliance purposes. Discharges must be reported, and prohibitions on unauthorized discharges are extended to nexus waters, aligning state and federal water pollution control efforts.

<u>SB 606</u> (<u>Becker, D</u>) Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: reporting requirements: functional zero unsheltered.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The existing law establishes the Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program, which provides grant funds to help jurisdictions address homelessness by improving regional coordination and local capacity. Funding is distributed across six rounds, with the first five managed by the Interagency Council on Homelessness and the sixth by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Program applicants must submit specific data for performance monitoring. The new legislation, called the Functional Zero Act, builds on this by requiring applicants, starting with the next application round or upon required updates to their regional homeless action plans, to assess and report on efforts to reduce homelessness. Each jurisdiction must evaluate what is needed to achieve "functional zero," defined as effectively solving homelessness, and "functional zero unsheltered," the availability of adequate housing for all unsheltered chronically homeless individuals based on recent counts. This includes analyzing the different types of housing units required and financial models for funding needs in key areas. Additionally, applicants must demonstrate local homeless housing incentive efforts and show inclusion of small cities in their regional plans.

SB 607 (Wiener, D) California Environmental Quality Act:Infrastructure Projects.

Status: 06/05/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(8). (Last location was INACTIVE FILE on 6/5/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a designated lead agency prepare and certify an environmental impact report for any project it proposes that could significantly affect the environment. If a project is determined not to have significant environmental effects, a negative declaration can be adopted instead. For projects that could have significant environmental impacts, mitigated negative declarations are used if revisions can reduce or avoid those impacts and there is no substantial evidence of significant effects as revised. The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 emphasizes the Delta's importance as a key natural resource, water hub, and vital estuary. This bill states that the California Legislature does not intend to revise CEQA in relation to the Delta Conveyance Project.

SB 611 (Richardson, D) Planning and zoning: community plans: review under the California Environmental Quality Act.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates each county and city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for their physical development and potentially related external lands. Legislative bodies may also require the preparation of specific plans for systematic implementation of these general plans. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates an environmental impact report for projects potentially affecting the environment, or a negative declaration if no significant impact is found. CEQA restricts project review if the project adheres to existing zoning or community plans with certified reports. Courts, upon finding non-compliance with CEQA, must issue corrective mandates, although prior law (effective until January 1, 2025) prevented courts from invalidating development project approvals based on CEQA non-compliance, provided the projects met certain standards. These prior provisions also did not exempt future projects from CEQA compliance. A new bill reenacts these provisions with changes, applying to community plan updates adopted from January 1, 2025, and relevant to projects completed by January 1, 2036. The bill stresses its statewide importance, covering all cities, including charter cities, and takes immediate effect as an urgency statute.

SB 616 (Rubio, D) Community Hardening Commission: wildfire mitigation program.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The bill addresses wildfire mitigation and insurance regulation in California. It requires the Office of Emergency Services and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to possibly revise the California wildfire mitigation program to include community hardening standards. The bill also establishes the Community Hardening Commission within the Department of Insurance, chaired by the Insurance Commissioner, to develop new wildfire mitigation standards and enhance access to fire insurance. The Commission, with advice from an advisory council, will consult various stakeholders to make recommendations and complete new standards by July 1, 2027. It will also periodically review these standards. Additionally, the Department of Insurance is tasked with developing a data-sharing platform for wildfire risk by the same deadline. The bill mandates legislative findings for limiting public access to certain information and outlines procedures for state reimbursement to local agencies for any state-mandated costs incurred.

SB 617 (Arreguín, D) California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Act.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The California Worker Adjustment and Retraining Act regulates how employers manage mass layoffs, relocations, and terminations. Generally, employers cannot proceed with these actions without giving written notice to affected employees, the Employment Development Department, and local agencies. The new bill adds that employers must now also state in the notice whether they will collaborate with the local workforce development board or another specified entity for services. Additionally, the notice must include information about the CalFresh food assistance program.

SB 634 (Pérez, D) Local government: homelessness.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The California Constitution allows counties and cities to create and enforce local laws, provided they do not conflict with state laws. Existing law outlines how these local laws are made and classifies violations as misdemeanors unless changed to infractions. This bill prohibits local governments from passing or enforcing ordinances that stop individuals or organizations from providing specified support services to homeless individuals or helping them with basic survival acts. It defines necessary terms and asserts that this issue is of statewide importance, thus it applies to all cities, including those with their own charters.

SB 658 (Pérez, D) Real property impacted by the 2025 Eaton or Palisades Fires: notification of owner's intent to sell.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill introduces new requirements for the County of Los Angeles related to real estate disclosure following a state of emergency declared on January 7, 2025, due to fires and windstorms affecting Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, including the Eaton and Palisades Fires. It mandates Los Angeles to create a process for specific governmental or nonprofit organizations to express interest in purchasing property in areas impacted by these fires. The county must keep an updated list of such organizations on its website. Property owners can use this list to notify either the county or an organization if they intend to sell relevant property. The bill's provisions will expire six years after the last emergency declaration related to the fires. Additionally, it addresses the need for a special statute for Los Angeles and outlines that, should there be any state-mandated costs, reimbursement procedures will be followed according to existing laws.

<u>SB 675</u> (<u>Padilla, D</u>) California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: streamlining.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was NAT. RES. on 6/16/2025) (May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency prepare an environmental impact report (EIR) for projects potentially affecting the environment or issue a negative declaration if no impact is expected. If a project could have environmental impacts but can be revised to mitigate them, a mitigated negative declaration is required. The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021 allows the Governor to certify projects that qualify for streamlined benefits concerning

CEQA until January 1, 2032. This bill provides additional streamlined benefits to Waterfront Environmental Leadership Development Projects (WELDPs) over 50 acres in San Diego's Central Embarcadero Planning District. These benefits require timely review and feedback by the California Coastal Commission and mandate filing necessary documents for port master plan amendments within 30 days after EIR certification. The Coastal Commission may charge fees to cover processing costs. This bill introduces new local agency responsibilities but specifies that state reimbursement is not necessary, explaining the need for a special statute for San Diego's urban waterfront.

SB 676 (Limón, D) California Environmental Quality Act: judicial streamlining: state of emergency: wildfire.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 39. Noes 0.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates that a lead agency evaluate the environmental impact of projects. If a project might significantly affect the environment, an environmental impact report must be prepared, unless it's found otherwise; in such cases, a negative declaration is adopted. A mitigated negative declaration is required if project revisions can prevent significant environmental effects and no substantial evidence contradicts this. From January 1, 2027, for projects in areas declared in a state of emergency by the Governor due to wildfire damage (post-January 1, 2023), the lead agency must prepare the project's administrative proceedings concurrently. The resolution of any challenge to environmental documentation should, if feasible, occur within 270 days of filing the certified record. Applicants must cover trial and appeal costs, with the Judicial Council developing pertinent court rules. Projects must align with zoning and land use laws. This bill imposes a local program requirement, but no state reimbursement is required under this act for a specific reason.

SB 677 (Wiener, D) Housing development: streamlined approvals.

Status: 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was HOUSING on 4/9/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill would streamline approvals for small housing developments, specifically those with two units on properties zoned for up to four units. It mandates ministerial approval, meaning less bureaucratic interference, even when restrictions from homeowners' associations exist. The bill introduces exceptions allowing demolition or alteration of housing if located in areas declared under a state of emergency or if a structure is damaged by a disaster. Key changes proposed include raising the minimum unit size to 1,750 square feet and removing the ability of local agencies to impose non-uniform standards, such as rent restrictions or specific design requirements. The bill restricts impact fees for developments under this square footage. Local agencies will have to submit related ordinances to the Department of Housing and Community Development, which will ensure compliance. For multifamily developments, the bill reduces the affordable housing requirement from 50% to 20% for streamlined approval if the region hasn't met its affordable housing goals. It also relaxes the criteria related to historic properties and damaged buildings for development approval.

SB 681 (Wahab, D) Housing.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 6/16/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The text outlines several legislative updates across various legal domains, including zoning, housing, taxation, and property management. Here is a breakdown of key points: 1. **Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)**: Local agencies can create ADUs and junior ADUs, but this bill prohibits financial fees as part of reasonable restrictions on their development. 2. **Landlord-Tenant Laws**: The bill restricts landlords from charging fees not specified in rental agreements and limits total fees to 5% of the monthly rent. Unauthorized fee charges could result in liability. 3. **Foreclosure Practices**: Mortgage servicers must certify their practices before initiating foreclosure, enhancing borrower protection. 4. **Common Interest Developments**: Updates monetary penalty limits on members and requires opportunities for members to address violations before penalties. 5. **Seismic Retrofitting**: Prioritizes funding for seismic retrofitting of low-income, multifamily housing. 6. **Surplus Land**: Revises the definition of exempt surplus land, especially concerning school districts, aligning it with general surplus property laws. 7. **Housing Planning**: Revises data requirements and revises the allocation methodology process for regional housing needs, increasing collaboration between councils and the Department of Housing. 8. **Public Hearings**: Extends indefinitely the law restricting cities/counties to no more than five hearings for housing projects. 9. **Historic Site Determination**: Extends provisions for determining historic sites for housing projects indefinitely. 10. **Housing Accountability Act**: Extends various provisions indefinitely that limit local agencies from blocking compliant housing projects. 11. **Permit Streamlining Act**: Expands the definition of development projects, extends application processing timelines indefinitely, and removes public notice requirements as preconditions for deemed approvals. 12. **Housing Crisis Act of 2019**: Extends provisions that

prevent moratoriums on housing development indefinitely. 13. **Energy Conservation Standards**: Mandates evaluation of energy efficiency measures during standard updates, with a report due by 2030. 14. **California Coastal Act**: Requires the introduction of electronic submissions and exempts specific residential projects from certain appeals. 15. **Tax Credits for Renters**: Proposes increased tax credits for qualified renters between 2026 and 2031, with refundable credits in excess of tax liability. 16. **Local Program Duties**: Indicates state mandates do not require reimbursement under specified circumstances. These amendments reflect ongoing efforts to streamline housing development processes, enhance tenant rights, support low-income housing initiatives, and modernize existing regulations.

SB 682 (Allen, D) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Joint Rule 61(a)(13) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** Existing law mandates the Department of Toxic Substances Control to adopt regulations by January 1, 2029, to enforce restrictions on perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in certain products. These regulations prohibit the sale or distribution of products with specific PFAS levels, beginning full enforcement on July 1, 2030. Manufacturers must register and pay a fee by July 1, 2029, and certify compliance with these restrictions. The department can test products, issue violation notices, and impose penalties. This bill prohibits the sale of cleaning products, dental floss, juvenile products, food packaging, and ski wax containing intentionally added PFAS, effective January 1, 2028, with exemptions for used products and federal preemptions. Some cleaning product components are exempt until 2031. From January 1, 2028, cleaning products must also comply with California's volatile organic compounds regulations without regulatory variances. From January 1, 2030, cookware with intentionally added PFAS will also be prohibited. The department is authorized to create regulations by January 1, 2029, to enforce these provisions, and manufacturers must provide a certificate of compliance upon request, but are exempt from registration fees.

SB 684 (Menjivar, D) Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025.

Status: 04/10/2025 - April 22 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 authorized the State Air Resources Board to develop a market-based system to decrease greenhouse gas emissions, with funds collected funneled into the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund for emissions reduction initiatives. The California Climate Crisis Act aims for net-zero emissions by 2045, thereafter maintaining net-negative emissions to reduce greenhouse gases by 85% from 1990 levels. The proposed Polluters Pay Climate Superfund Act of 2025 targets fossil fuel companies, making them accountable for emissions from 1990 to 2024. The California Environmental Protection Agency will identify responsible entities, assess their contribution to greenhouse gas emissions, and require them to financially cover climate damage costs. Collected funds will support climate mitigation and adaptation projects. The Act mandates a climate cost study updated every five years, and ensures the Director of Finance assesses initial implementation costs, to be feasibly distributed among responsible parties. This bill is declared urgent for immediate effect.

SB 692 (Arreguín, D) Vehicles: homelessness.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. on 7/15/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law prohibits the removal of unattended vehicles from highways by peace officers or unauthorized individuals unless specified otherwise. Vehicle removal is considered a seizure under the Fourth Amendment. Local governments can create ordinances for dealing with abandoned or inoperative vehicles on properties. These ordinances must include provisions, such as a 10-day notice before removal, unless the owners release their rights. Some vehicles, valued under \$200 and deemed public nuisances, can be removed without the 10-day notice if the property owner signs a release. The bill allows for immediate removal of vehicles that pose immediate health or safety risks and changes the requirement so the vehicle doesn't have to be declared a nuisance nor the property owner to sign a release for certain exemptions to apply.

SB 695 (Cortese, D) Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The State Transportation Infrastructure Climate Adaptation Program, managed by the Department of Transportation, focuses on adapting transportation infrastructure to climate change through various projects. The existing law mandates the department, in collaboration with the Transportation Agency and the California Transportation Commission, to identify top priority climate adaptation projects based on specified criteria that

include regional or statewide impact on mobility, economy, goods movement, and safety, and submit these for adoption. A new bill requires the department, working with the commission and agency, to create an annual prioritized list of significant projects by July 1, 2026, and every year after, to better prepare the state for extreme weather events. This list, along with an annual report, must be submitted to the Legislature starting January 1, 2027.

SB 707 (Durazo, D) Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The bill builds upon the existing Ralph M. Brown Act by introducing multiple changes to legislative body meetings of local agencies. Starting July 1, 2026, all public meetings must allow attendance via two-way telephonic or audiovisual platforms and encourage public participation, lasting until January 1, 2030. Legislative bodies must prepare policies regarding disruptions during such meetings. The bill extends indefinitely the current allowance for communications on social media outside of official meetings. It mandates oral reporting on executive compensation decisions and requires agendas to be translated into languages spoken by at least 20% of the population speaking less proficient English. Teleconferencing rules are revised to ensure accessibility and public participation, extending alternative teleconferencing authorizations to January 1, 2030. Emergency meeting protocols are standardized across all local legislative bodies, and all legislative bodies must post meeting notices online. The bill also elaborates on procedures for handling disruptions in meetings, making these processes applicable to teleconferenced meetings. Legislative findings assert the updates address matters of statewide concern, and it clarifies no state reimbursement to local agencies is required for complying with these updates.

SB 715 (Allen, D) Regional housing need: methodology: distribution.

Status: 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was H. & C.D. on 6/5/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) assesses and declares existing and future housing needs for each region. This involves councils of governments or, for areas without them, the department itself, adopting a regional housing need plan, which allocates housing needs to cities and counties. Existing laws require HCD to consult with these councils regarding the methodology for determining housing needs and include data on regional housing availability. Councils of governments or subregions must develop a methodology that aligns with specific objectives to distribute this need properly. They are also required to consider factors such as housing units lost during state emergencies when determining allocations, unless this data is unavailable. This bill changes the previous requirement that councils must consider units lost in emergencies. Instead, it demands these lost units be redistributed proportionally across regions, rather than solely replacing them within the affected jurisdictions. This bill poses additional duties on local governments, creating a state-mandated local program.

SB 733 (Wahab, D) Sexual assault forensic evidence: testing.

Status: 09/09/2025 - From committee with author's amendments. Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.

Summary: The Sexual Assault Victims' DNA Bill of Rights requires law enforcement to submit sexual assault forensic evidence to a crime lab within 20 days or have a rapid DNA analysis program, for evidence received after January 1, 2016. Currently, victims can request their collected forensic kits not be tested, which then prohibits testing. The bill allows sexual assault survivors aged 18 or older, who are undecided on reporting to law enforcement, to request that their medical evidence not be tested, either at the time of examination or afterward. Medical facilities and investigating agencies must retain the kits until the survivor requests testing. The bill also allows survivors to change their decision and request testing later. This creates new obligations for local agencies, potentially requiring state reimbursement if the bill imposes costs. The California Constitution mandates state reimbursement for such costs, with specific procedures outlined for this process.

SB 743 (Cortese, D) Education finance: Education Equalization Act: Equalization Reserve Account.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: Existing law mandates that state funding for public schools in California, including county superintendents, school districts, and charter schools, be determined through the Local Control Funding Formula (LCFF). School districts with local revenues exceeding the LCFF amount, known as "basic aid school districts," do not receive additional LCFF funds. Proposition 98, passed in 1988, set a constitutional formula for the minimum funding the state must provide to school and community college districts each year. It also created a financial

reserve, the Public School System Stabilization Account, in the General Fund. The bill proposes establishing an Equalization Reserve Account to support non-basic aid school districts—those that received LCFF funds in the past three fiscal years—by using interest earned on the account to increase per-pupil funding. When there is increased funding for education, an equal amount is transferred to this account, corresponding to the amount moved to the Stabilization Account. These changes will only take effect if a constitutional amendment, approved by voters, ensures these transfers are not included in minimum required state funding calculations and mandates allocating interest earnings to non-basic aid school districts.

SB 748 (Richardson, D) Encampment Resolution Funding program: safe parking sites: reporting.

Status: 09/08/2025 - Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Senate. In Senate. Concurrence in Assembly amendments pending.

Summary: The Encampment Resolution Funding program supports local jurisdictions in California to address homelessness by resolving issues with encampments and transitioning individuals into stable housing. Existing law allows local jurisdictions and continuums of care to apply for grants to connect people living in encampments to services and housing. As of the 2021-22 fiscal year, applicants must detail how they will use the funds to aid individuals. This bill would further require applications that include safe parking sites for vehicle dwellers to provide specific information. Grant recipients must report data to local and state systems, which the Department of Housing and Community Development currently evaluates to improve program efficacy. Starting April 2026, the Legislative Analyst's Office will take over evaluating data to find effective practices that can be used state-wide, and regular reporting to legislative committees will be required.

SB 749 (Allen, D) Mobilehome parks: closure, cessation, or change of use.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: This bill discusses modifications to laws governing mobilehome parks in California. The Mobilehome Parks Act oversees the regulation of these parks, while the Mobilehome Residency Law governs residency conditions. Changes introduced by the bill affect management actions during park closures, changes in use, or cessations. It mandates that management provide written notice to tenants and public entities at least 12 and 6 months before any changes. If a change requires no local permits, notification was not initially required, but the new bill mandates it regardless. Management must use approved forms by the Department of Housing and Community Development for these notices. The bill also allows for legal action if these processes are violated. Furthermore, the Planning and Zoning Law is revised to prevent park changes without offering purchase opportunities to resident and nonprofit organizations. Interested entities need certification from the Department of Housing and Community Development and must submit a bona fide purchase offer within 270 days of notice. The bill introduces penalties for false certification and allows affected parties to enforce provisions. Previous homeowners regain certain rights for renewed tenancy and are exempt from rent if displaced by disasters. Lastly, the bill stipulates no state reimbursement is required for local mandate costs under these changes.

SB 752 (Richardson, D) Sales and use taxes: exemptions: California Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project: transit buses.

Status: 05/23/2025 - May 23 hearing: Held in committee and under submission.

Summary: State sales and use tax laws typically tax retailers based on the gross receipts from selling tangible personal property or from its storage, use, or consumption when purchased from a retailer. There are various exemptions, including one for zero-emission technology transit buses. This exemption, applicable to specific public agencies eligible for certain incentives from the State Air Resources Board, was originally set to last until January 1, 2026. A new bill proposes extending this exemption until January 1, 2028, and would become effective immediately as a tax levy.

SB 769 (Caballero, D) The Golden State Infrastructure Corporation Act.

Status: 09/04/2025 - Ordered to inactive file on request of Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry.

Summary: This bill allows the Golden State Infrastructure Corporation Act to establish a non-profit corporation within the State Treasurer's Office. This corporation would manage and finance infrastructure projects and be governed by a board of directors and an executive director, appointed by the Treasurer. The corporation can enter financing transactions, borrow money, and issue bonds, but the state is not liable for its obligations. The corporation must report annually on its activities to government bodies. It can finance infrastructure projects for government entities or infrastructure companies if certain criteria are met. The corporation can issue revenue bonds to fund its operations and projects. The bill ensures operational policies are in place before funding projects

and exempts specific corporate and infrastructure information from public disclosure laws. Additionally, it creates a dedicated fund for the corporation's financial resources, continuously available for its operations.

SB 782 (Pérez, D) Enhanced infrastructure financing district: climate resilience districts.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: The existing law permits local legislative bodies to establish enhanced infrastructure financing districts for funding public capital facilities and specific projects by passing a resolution. This includes the ability for various entities to form climate resilience districts for funding eligible projects and related operating expenses. These districts follow guidelines similar to enhanced infrastructure financing districts, focusing on projects addressing environmental issues like sea level rise and extreme weather. A new bill proposes that cities or counties can adopt tax division resolutions for district projects without traditional infrastructure financing plans if conditions are met. This process requires public meetings and prior notification to be provided by involved entities. The resolution must detail the use of property tax revenues for district activities, and the infrastructure financing plan needs to be accessible to the public 30 days before relevant meetings. Public members on the district's governing board must reside, own property, or represent a business within the district, serving for at least four years. Revenue use is limited to repairing or replacing disaster-damaged structures, mitigating future disasters, or supporting recovery from disasters declared by the Governor. This bill, deemed as urgent, will take immediate effect upon approval.

SB 786 (Arreguín, D) Planning and zoning: general plan: judicial challenges.

Status: 09/09/2025 - Assembly amendments concurred in. (Ayes 29. Noes 10.) Ordered to engrossing and enrolling.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that each county and city adopt a comprehensive general plan, covering specific mandatory elements for their development. Charter cities usually have some exemptions, but they must still include these mandatory elements. There is a legal process for challenging the validity of these plans, which involves setting a court date within 120 days of a request. The law allows courts to grant continuances under specific conditions and, if needed, temporary relief for petitioners. This bill extends this challenge process to charter cities and specifies that courts can extend trial dates only up to 60 days. It mandates temporary relief during continuances and considers additional relief if already granted. The bill emphasizes that in cases of inconsistencies between development standards in elements within a plan, the most recently adopted element prevails. Additionally, the bill mandates that local governments conform housing elements to specific requirements within 120 days, removing the previous 60-day extension option. It requires continued court oversight to ensure compliance and may offer an extension if necessary reviews by the Department of Housing and Community Development are delayed.

SB 787 (McNerney, D) Energy: equitable clean energy supply chains and industrial policy in California.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The existing law mandates the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to produce a biennial integrated energy policy report, covering major energy trends, issues such as supply, demand, pricing, reliability, efficiency, and impacts on public health, safety, the economy, resources, and the environment. The report must also provide policy recommendations based on comprehensive analyses of current energy challenges. A new bill proposes that by March 1, 2027, the Energy Commission appoint or hire someone as the Senior Counselor on Industrial Policy and Clean Energy Development. This counselor would lead working groups on specific issues. Additionally, the bill requires several state entities to form an agreement focused on equitable clean energy supply chains and industrial policy. The Senior Counselor would oversee the execution of this agreement and produce an annual report with findings and recommendations, to be presented publicly and posted online. An Equitable Clean Energy Supply Chain and Industrial Policy Fund would also be set up for related expenses, contingent on legislative funding.

SB 809 (Durazo, D) Employees and independent contractors: construction trucking.

Status: 09/03/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.

Summary: The Dynamex Operations W v. Superior Court case established a presumption that workers providing services are employees, not independent contractors, when it comes to wage claims under Industrial Welfare Commission orders. The "ABC" test is used to decide this, involving whether the worker is free from control, performs work outside the hirer's usual business, and is part of an independently established business. The Labor Commissioner enforces these classifications, with some occupations exempted from this rule. This bill would clarify that merely owning a vehicle does not automatically categorize a person as an independent contractor. Additionally, the Motor Carrier Employer Amnesty Program offers penalty relief for misclassification of commercial

drivers, provided the employer agrees to classify drivers as employees and pay owed wages and taxes. A similar program for construction trucking is proposed, allowing contractors to avoid penalties if they reclassify workers and comply with agreements, even if workers refuse the settlement terms. Furthermore, existing law requires employers to indemnify employees for necessary expenses incurred during duties. The proposed bill specifies that vehicle owners used for work must be reimbursed for the use, upkeep, and depreciation of their vehicles. These provisions are intended to clarify existing law.

SB 815 (Allen, D) Planning and zoning: very high fire hazard areas.

Status: 05/23/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(5). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 5/12/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law mandates that cities and counties develop a comprehensive long-term general plan including elements such as housing and safety. These elements must be regularly reviewed and updated, particularly when the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan is revised. This bill requires that after January 1, 2026, the safety element must include a strategy for property protection against wildfires, which is coordinated with the Office of Planning and Research. Updates must consider new information on flood, fire hazards, and climate strategies. Cities or counties with residential areas in very high fire hazard zones must amend their land use plans whenever the housing element is revised after January 1, 2026. These amendments should align with California's Strategic Fire Plan, showing zones at risk and measures for wildfire risk reduction. The Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation is tasked with identifying best practices and publishing these by January 1, 2027, for use by cities and counties. This coordination aims to improve land use planning in fire-prone areas. The bill creates new obligations for local officials but specifies that no state reimbursement is required for these mandates, following existing procedures under the California Constitution.

SB 833 (McNerney, D) Critical infrastructure: artificial intelligence systems: human oversight.

Status: 08/28/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(11). (Last location was APPR. SUSPENSE FILE on 8/20/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act establishes the California Cybersecurity Integration Center to coordinate the state's cybersecurity efforts and information sharing. It mandates that the Technology Recovery Plan include cybersecurity strategies and incident response standards for state agencies to protect critical infrastructures. A new bill requires, by July 1, 2026, state agencies that operate critical infrastructures and use AI systems to establish human oversight to monitor and approve AI operations in real-time. The Department of Technology must develop AI safety and risk management training for oversight personnel, who are also required to perform annual assessments of AI systems and report findings to the department. This bill includes provisions to prevent the disclosure of specific information and outlines the need to protect access to public body meetings and official writings, with legislative findings supporting these measures.

SB 838 (Durazo, D) Housing Accountability Act: housing development projects.

Status: 09/05/2025 - Assembly Rule 69(b)(1) suspended. Read third time and amended. Ordered to third reading. **Summary:** The Housing Accountability Act currently restricts local agencies from disapproving or making it unfeasible for housing projects aimed at very low, low-, or moderate-income households, unless specific written findings are provided. It defines housing development projects to include mixed-use developments where at least two-thirds of the area is for residential purposes. The proposed bill revises this definition by stating that, in such mixed-use developments, no area can be used as a hotel, motel, bed and breakfast, or other transient lodging unless specified otherwise. Additionally, this bill aims to correct cross-references in the Act and includes changes to another section of the Government Code that will only take effect if both this bill and AB 1308 are passed, with this bill being enacted last.

SBX1 1 (Wiener, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/07/2025 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 3, Statutes of 2025. **Summary:** The Budget Act of 2024 established funding for state government operations for the 2024-25 fiscal year. This new bill proposes amendments to the Budget Act by altering the current funding allocations. The bill is designated to become effective immediately as a Budget Bill.

SBX1 2 (Wiener, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 02/07/2025 - Approved by the Governor. Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 4, Statutes of 2025.

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 allocated funds for state government operations for the 2024-25 fiscal year. This new bill proposes modifications to those existing financial allocations. Additionally, it states that the bill will be enacted immediately as a Budget Bill.

SBX1 3 (Wiener, D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: 01/23/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 2, Statutes of 2025

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 establishes the financial plan for state government for the 2024–25 fiscal year. This new bill proposes amending the original act by introducing additional appropriations and making various changes. It is designated as a Budget Bill, meaning it will become effective immediately upon passage.

Total Measures: 475
Total Tracking Forms: 475