

ZONE 7 BOARD OF DIRECTORS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, August 14, 2025
TIME: 4:00 pm
LOCATION: Conference Room 150
Zone 7 Administration Building
100 North Canyons Parkway, Livermore

Director Brown
Director Gambs
Director Green

AGENDA

1. Call Meeting to Order
2. Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda
3. SB 707 (Durazo) – Open Meetings: Meeting and Teleconference Requirements
4. Legislative Update – Consultant/Staff
5. Legislative Framework and Platform – Review of Progress
6. Adjournment

DATE: August 14, 2025**TO:** Legislative Committee**FROM:** Carol Mahoney, Government Relations Manager**SUBJECT:** SB 707 (Durazo) – Open Meetings: Meeting and Teleconference Requirements**SUMMARY:**

Zone 7 staff, with the support of Agency consultants, monitors legislation that is being considered in Sacramento, as well as other political activities of interest. In the 2025 legislative session, Senate Bill 707 (SB 707) from Senator Durazo proposes potential changes to the Ralph M. Brown Act, which was enacted to promote transparency and accountability in local government by requiring open meetings and public participation. The review of this bill supports initiatives in the Strategic Plan under Goal G – Stakeholder Engagement.

The 1953 Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) has specific requirements for public agencies where meetings of their governing bodies are open to the public, meet certain criteria for agendas, and include public comment periods. Over the years as new technologies become available and the needs of the public change, specific modifications are proposed by the legislature. Included in this bill, among other proposed changes, is a provision whereby “all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as defined, and that the eligible legislative body take specified actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings.”

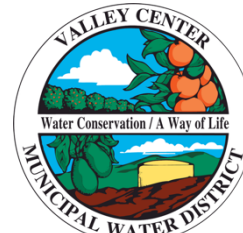
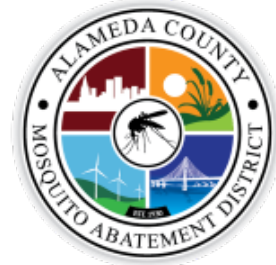
The bill has received opposition requesting amendments from various organizations including Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), and California Special Districts Association (CSDA). CSDA’s coalition continues to work with the author to find acceptable amendments. Many of the earlier requested amendments have been incorporated into the bill; however, some concerns remain. CSDA’s coalition raised concerns over specific provisions that could cause confusion over how the Brown Act would be implemented under the bill’s requirements. For example, provisions in the bill that require providing meeting materials in alternative languages could be difficult to determine for special districts given the nature of their boundaries. Special districts, like Zone 7, frequently cross city and county boundaries that are normally used for demographic information. The bill would require meeting materials to be translated into “languages spoken jointly by 20% or more of the population in the city or county in which the eligible legislative body is located.” This will be more difficult to ascertain in areas that cross multiple cities/counties.

Ambiguity in the bill’s implementation has raised concerns that, as written, the bill could lead to future litigation. Lastly, the provisions regarding subsidiary and multijurisdictional bodies

(committees and JPA boards, for example) are also unclear with respect to implementation of the teleconferencing rules. More information on the bill is attached including CSDA's coalition letter and a copy of the latest bill language.

ATTACHMENTS:

- CSDA Coalition letter
- SB 707 Bill Text





July 11, 2025

The Honorable Juan Carrillo
Chair, Assembly Local Government Committee
1020 N Street, Room 157
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Senate Bill 707 (Durazo) – Oppose unless Amended [As Amended July 8, 2025]
Hearing Date: July 16, 2025 – Assembly Local Government Committee

Dear Assembly Member Carrillo:

The undersigned organizations write to regretfully inform you of our opposition to Senate Bill 707 (Durazo) unless it is amended to address our concerns. Our organizations respect and share the goals of the author, and we hold a deep and dedicated commitment to the successful implementation of the Brown Act for the benefit of the communities we are entrusted to serve. Many of us are proud leaders, supporters, and participants in the foremost trainings, certifications, and other demonstrations of accountability and good governance, such as the Special District Leadership Foundation and its District of Distinction, Transparency Certificate of Excellence, and more.

Stakeholders, including those representing the undersigned organizations, previously worked with the author's office related to a prior version of this bill to negotiate language that was mutually agreeable and allowed stakeholders to remain neutral on this proposal to overhaul the Ralph M. Brown Act (the Brown Act). While we appreciated the opportunity to work collaboratively to refine the proposed legislation, recent amendments have significantly recast SB 707 into a measure that is no longer practicable and one that special districts and others cannot reasonably comply with.

The July 8 amendments make a number of refinements that we appreciate. However, given the current form of SB 707 and the particular nature of its impact on local agencies including special districts, we are left with no choice but to oppose this measure for the reasons explained in this letter.

In short, the most problematic provisions in SB 707 include the following:

- **Eligible Legislative Bodies.** The "eligible legislative bodies" provisions were clearly drafted throughout the measure without special districts in mind and are unworkable in application to

special districts. This dramatic expansion of the measure occurred after many in our coalition had reached a neutral position on the legislation; this recent amendment could potentially apply its provisions to hundreds of additional agencies and create confusion for hundreds more. Unfortunately, because official population data does not exist for special districts, nobody will confidently know exactly which agencies or how many are included. Where will this data come from? Who will referee its application? This will lead to public confusion, consternation, uncertainty, and liability.

- **Unnecessary Inefficiency and Micromanagement of Local Service Specialists.** Mandated inefficiency arising from repeated public comment when legislative bodies have already discussed an agenda item. Prescriptive design requirements for the websites of local agencies and their legislative bodies, as well as expanded physical agenda posting requirements are among numerous extremely specific minutia mandated upon the boards and staff of local agencies to the point that the measure appears to write into state law that an agency must literally print out copies of the full Act and hand them to its board members.
- **Costly Litigation.** Exposure of legislative bodies to additional litigation risk arising from, among other things, required references to specific statutory provisions relied upon for remote participation in the minutes of public meetings and significantly extending the timeframe for individuals to sue alleging noncompliance with the Brown Act. This legal liability is exacerbated by the multitude of new Brown Act requirements in the bill, some vague and some hyper-specific, which create new grounds for suing public agencies. Such lawsuits could be frivolous or malicious, stemming from bad-actors intent on disrupting, delaying, or blocking important infrastructure projects, housing developments, or other policymaking critical to our communities.

This inventory is a non-exhaustive listing; issues with SB 707 are more comprehensively detailed below.

SB 707 IMPOSES NEW, COSTLY MANDATES UNIQUE ONLY TO LOCAL AGENCIES

Of particular concern within SB 707 are the provisions related to “eligible legislative bodies.” As it relates to special districts, “eligible legislative body” is defined to include the board of directors of a special district “whose boundaries include a population of 200,000 or more and that has an internet website.”

Previously, “eligible legislative body” did not include special districts, and included only cities and counties based on their populations. Special districts are uniquely disadvantaged in this regard as compared to cities and counties given that special districts do not have access to U.S. census data detailing population size within their jurisdictional boundaries; while the California Special Districts Association and its national affiliates are pursuing legislation at the federal level to rectify this disparity, those efforts have not yet resulted in access to this data.

Furthermore, attempting to use population figures as a threshold for inclusion in the definition of “eligible legislative bodies” raises additional policy concerns. For example, a resource conservation district serving the entire population of a county of more than 200,000 people may fund its entire operation on grants, with zero permanent funding for ever-expanding administrative tasks. Some resource conservation districts and other special districts are volunteer-ran or employ as few as one full-time staff member. Most countywide special districts, from an administrative resources perspective, are in no way comparable to a city or county government serving 30,000 people let alone one even a fraction of that size.

Taking into consideration the issues referenced above, we request that SB 707 return to its original application and special districts be removed from the definition of “eligible legislative body.” Individual stakeholders had moved to a “neutral” position on that version with other amendments that were accepted in the first house. Without this change, special districts encounter not only the issues raised above, but issues posed by the related provisions found within SB 707, in large part because the underlying language within SB 707 was clearly written without special districts in mind.

Two-Way Telephone or Audiovisual Platform

The bill requires that, regardless of the technical ability or the available resources of the specified legislative bodies, all public meetings of the described legislative bodies include an opportunity for

members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, except in the event that telephonic or internet service is not available at the meeting location. If an eligible legislative body elects to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body would be required to publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate any automatic captioning function during the meeting if an automatic captioning function is included with the two-way audiovisual platform.

All public meetings would be required to provide the public with an opportunity to comment on an agenda item via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform, and would be required to ensure the opportunity for the members of the public participating via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform to comment on agenda items with the same time allotment as a person attending a meeting in person. Eligible legislative bodies would be required to reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language or wish to receive interpretation provided by another member of the public, so long as the interpretation is not disrupting to the meeting. The eligible legislative body is required to publicize instructions on how to request assistance.

These provisions that mandate the usage by a legislative body of a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform to conduct all public meetings stand in contrast to the requirements placed on state agencies and strike a prominent contrast to the approach to public meetings adopted by the State Legislature, which recently abandoned all such systems and transitioned back to requiring in-person attendance to provide public comment. Understandably, the State Legislature made the transition away from the moderated telephone line service employed during the coronavirus pandemic when safe in-person attendance became possible due to the logistical challenges involved in running such a system and the extremely lengthy hearings that resulted. Special districts are not immune to the very same challenges that led the State Legislature to abandon its system, and so we reiterate our request that special districts be removed from the definition of “eligible legislative bodies,” thereby relieving them of these onerous requirements.

Duplication of Existing Translation Requirements

SB 707 requires that the agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body be translated into all “applicable languages,” and each translation shall be posted consistent with general agenda posting requirements. “Applicable languages” is defined in SB 707 to mean languages spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the population in the city or county in which the eligible legislative body is located that speaks English less than “very well” and jointly speaks a language other than English according to data from the most recent American Community Survey. Each translation must include instructions in the applicable language describing how to join the meeting by the telephonic or internet-based service option, including any requirements for registration for public comment.

These translation provisions duplicate existing translation requirements as implemented by the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act. Under the Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act, every local public agency serving a substantial number of non-English-speaking people must employ a sufficient number of qualified bilingual persons in public contact positions or as interpreters to assist those in such positions to ensure provision of information and services in the language of the non-English-speaking population. Appropriately, it appears possible that a local agency could seek and receive reimbursement from the Commission on State Mandates as a result of any added costs placed on local agencies in order to facilitate the translation of information; local agencies would therefore have a means to pursue cost recovery under a framework thoughtfully designed by the Legislature and California voters. Given this, we request that the translation requirements in SB 707 be removed.

Agenda Posting

Under SB 707, an eligible legislative body would be required to make available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public in reasonable proximity to the physical location in which the agenda and translations are generally posted, and the body must allow members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda in that location.

The strict requirements of the applicable Brown Act provisions related to agenda posting and established case law related to the availability of agenda documents for public inspection mean that local agencies

must carefully design and designate a location for the posting of those documents. A site must be chosen that remains within the continuous control of the local agency while also being available to the public essentially 24 hours a day, seven days a week. These characteristics present challenges for any agency that would have to post additional agenda documents beyond what is already required, as any particularly expansive or lengthy agenda written in English may already occupy most if not all of the physical space available for posting. In the event that even a few local agencies use the same community space to post their agendas (e.g., a bulletin board within a local U.S. post office) the translation requirements posed by SB 707 would prove especially challenging.

Beyond the practical challenges, this new statutory provision could facilitate a bad-actor in posting intentionally inaccurate and misleading agendas with the goal to manipulate populations that do not read English well. For example, it is foreseeable that someone opposed to a local action related to the environment, or development, or taxation, or any number of controversial policies could post an agenda alongside the local agency's official agenda in a manner that appears to be an official translation, yet that deceptively re-casts and re-words the agenda items with the express intent to deceive.

For these reasons, we request that the requirement to make available a physical location for members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda be removed from the bill.

Website Requirements

SB 707 would require eligible legislative bodies to have in place a system for electronically facilitating requests for meeting agendas and materials through email or through an integrated agenda management platform. Information about how to make a request using this system must be made accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body. Eligible legislative bodies would be required to create and maintain an accessible internet web page dedicated to public meetings that includes, or provides a link to, all of the following information: a) a general explanation of the public meeting process **for the city council or a county board of supervisors**; b) an explanation of the procedures for a member of the public to provide in-person or remote oral public comment during a public meeting or to submit written public comment; c) a calendar of all public meeting dates with calendar listings that include the date, time, and location of each public meeting; and d) the meeting agenda. The eligible legislative body must include a link to the dedicated web page on the home page of the eligible legislative body's internet website. The dedicated web page must be translated into "applicable languages," and each translation must be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body. Additionally, eligible legislative bodies would be required to make reasonable efforts to provide public meeting information to groups that do not traditionally participate in public meetings.

These requirements do not take into consideration the expertise and experience of legislative bodies in designing their websites and distributing meeting information. For example, water agencies endeavor to make payment of outstanding water bills straightforward and easy to understand; customer experience is an important part of a website's user interface for this purpose. Electronic mailing lists currently maintained by legislative bodies enable the rapid dissemination of information related to upcoming public meetings. Legislative bodies are already under various website posting requirements that clutter their webpages, and SB 707 threatens to overwhelm agencies with several added web links and several added webpages. We would request that all these added posting and outreach requirements be removed from the bill. Additionally, the requirement that the eligible legislative body of a special district include or link to "a general explanation of the public meeting process for the city council or a county board of supervisors" seems wholly out of place; we believe that this represents a drafting error that resulted from embedding special districts into a framework designed with cities and counties in mind, which speaks to how unsuitable it is to include special districts in these provisions.

Meeting Time Management

SB 707 removes a provision from the Brown Act that states that agendas need not provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, composed exclusively of members of the legislative body, at a public meeting wherein all

interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item, unless the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the legislative body. SB 707 adds a requirement that every notice for a special meeting must provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item.

Existing law applicable to state agencies expressly provides that a state agency is not required to permit repeated public comment for items already considered by a committee composed exclusively of members of the state body at a public meeting where interested members of the public were afforded the opportunity to address the committee on the item, before or during the committee's consideration of the item, unless the item has been substantially changed since the committee heard the item, as determined by the state body. This fact serves as another striking contrast between the treatment of the state versus the treatment of the legislative bodies of local public agencies under their respective applicable open meeting laws.

The Brown Act is designed to promote open and public meetings, which inherently can have the effect of lengthening the public deliberation process. However, the more the State pushes down requirements that remove the flexibility of local leaders to effectively and efficiently manage the public's meetings in a timely manner, the longer and more burdensome these affairs become to the point where average citizens become less and less engaged or interested in ever sitting through a meeting and participating in their government.

To re-establish parity between the state and legislative bodies of local agencies, and to afford local leaders the flexibility to manage meetings in the manner in which best meets the needs and time-constraints for the people they serve, we request that SB 707 be amended to reinstate the language described above.

SB 707 IMPOSES MANDATES WITH UNCERTAIN IMPACTS TO TRANSPARENCY

Amendments made in Section 3 of the bill would require a local agency to provide a copy of the Brown Act to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency. Unfortunately, the mere provisioning of a copy of the Brown Act to individuals serving on a legislative body does nothing in and of itself to foster compliance with the Act's provisions; the requirement to provide a copy of the Act merely increases records retention requirements and increases district exposure to liability for violations of the Act, while ignoring the proactive measures taken by local agencies to provide individuals serving on a legislative body with Brown Act compliance training. As a result, we request that the changes made by SB 707 in Section 3 be reversed entirely.

SB 707 UNDULY INCREASES AGENCY EXPOSURE TO LITIGATION

A new provision in Section 8 of the bill would require that the minutes of a meeting held by a legislative body identify "the specific provision of law that [a] member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing." This directive not only lacks specificity – as it is unclear whether this would be satisfied by citing a specific code section, subdivision, subparagraph, or similar – but also creates yet more grounds for a legislative body to be subject to litigation while at the same time arriving alongside sweeping revisions of large portions of the Brown Act.

Also in Section 8 of the bill is a new requirement for local agencies to identify and make available to their legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings. It is our understanding that a failure to provide this list would constitute grounds for the initiation of proceedings described in California Government Code section 54960.

SB 707 extends the time a petitioner has to invalidate an action taken by a legislative body in violation of the Brown Act, from nine months to 12 months after the alleged violation.

Given that these provisions elevate agency exposure to litigation, we request that they be struck from SB 707 or substantially revised such that agencies are provided with the necessary clarity and insulation from litigation commenced in connection with these requirements.

Special districts, along with other types of local agencies, are committed to transparency and conducting the people's business in an open and public manner. Unfortunately, the changes made to the Brown Act by SB 707 serve to create myriad costly and unavoidable problems and expose these entities to substantially more litigation risk at a time when they can least afford it. For these reasons, we must regretfully oppose Senate Bill 707 (Durazo) unless it is amended to address our concerns. If you have any questions about our letter or our position, please do not hesitate to contact Marcus Detwiler (CSDA) at marcusd@csda.net to connect with any of the organizations listed on this letter.

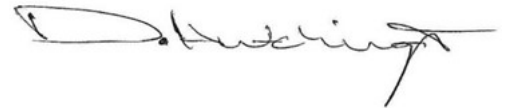
Sincerely,



Marcus Detwiler
Legislative Representative
California Special Districts Association



Sarah Bridge
VP, Advocacy & Strategy
Association of California Healthcare
Districts



Dane Hutchings
Legislative Representative
California Association of Recreation &
Park Districts



Fredrico Barajas
Executive Director
San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority



Julee Malinowski-Ball
Legislative Advocate
California Fire Chiefs Association



Julee Malinowski-Ball
Legislative Advocate
Fire Districts Association of California



Cindi Summers
Board President
Public Cemetery Alliance



Nancy Wahl-Scheurich
Executive Director
California Association of Resource
Conservation Districts



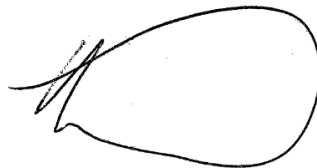
Carol Griesse
Executive Director
California Association of Public Cemetery
Districts



Ryan Clausnitzer
General Manager
Alameda County Mosquito Abatement
District



Dan Denham
General Manager
San Diego County Water Authority



Tim Deutsch, CSDM
General Manager
Orange County Cemetery District



Lora Young MPA, CSDM
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Orange County Mosquito and Vector
Control District



Andrea Abergel
Director of Water
California Municipal Utilities Association



Gary Arant
General Manager
Valley Center Municipal Water District



Brett Hodgkiss
General Manager
Vista Irrigation District



Jose Martinez
General Manager
Otay Water District



James Gumpel, P.E.
General Manager
Vallecitos Water District



Robert Hernandez
General Manager
Hesperia Recreation & Park District



Brian Olney
General Manager
Helix Water District



Clint Baze
General Manager
Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District



Amber Rossow
Policy Advocate
Association of California Water Agencies

CC: The Honorable María Elena Durazo
Members, Assembly Local Government Committee
Angela Mapp, Chief Consultant, Assembly Local Government Committee
Jonathan Peterson, Principal Consultant, Senate Local Government Committee
Tobias Wolken, Consultant, Assembly Republican Caucus
Brady Borcharding, Deputy Legislative Secretary, Office of Governor Newsom


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SB-707 Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements. (2025-2026)

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AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 17, 2025

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JULY 08, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE MAY 29, 2025

AMENDED IN SENATE APRIL 07, 2025

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE— 2025–2026 REGULAR SESSION

SENATE BILL

NO. 707
Introduced by Senator Durazo
(Principal coauthor: Senator Arreguín)
(~~Coauthor:~~ (Coauthors: Assembly Member Members Arambula and Fong)
February 21, 2025

An act to amend Sections 54952.7, 54953, 54953.5, 54953.7, 54954.2, 54954.3, 54956, 54956.5, 54957.6, 54957.9, 54957.95, and 54960.2 of, to amend and repeal Section 54952.2 of, to add Sections 54953.8, 54953.8.1, 54953.8.2, and 54957.96 to, and to add and repeal Sections 54953.4, 54953.8.3, 54953.8.4, 54953.8.5, 54953.8.6, and 54953.8.7 of, the Government Code, relating to local government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 707, as amended, Durazo. Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

(1) Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate.

This bill would, until January 1, 2030, require an eligible legislative body, as defined, to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that, except as specified, all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as defined, and that the eligible legislative body take specified actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified.

(2) Existing law prohibits a majority of the members of a legislative body, outside a meeting authorized by the act, from using a series of communications of any kind to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Existing law defines "meetings" for these purposes to mean any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, as specified, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Until January 1, 2026, existing law excepts from the prohibition a member engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting with any other person using an internet-based social media platform for specified purposes, provided, among other things, that a majority of the members do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

This bill would make the above-described exception related to communications on an internet-based social media platform applicable indefinitely.

(3) Existing law requires a legislative body, prior to taking final action, to orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on specified forms of compensation for a local agency executive, as defined, during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken.

This bill would also require the legislative body to make that oral report, as provided above, prior to taking final action on those specified forms of compensation for a department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.

(4) Existing law requires a legislative body of a local agency or its designee, at least 72 hours before a regular meeting, to post an agenda that meets specified requirements, including that the agenda contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, as specified.

This bill would require the agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body, as defined, to be translated into all applicable languages. The bill would define "applicable languages" to mean languages spoken jointly by 20% or more of the population in the city or county in which the eligible legislative body is located that, among other things, speaks English less than "very well," as specified, and except as provided.

Existing law requires every agenda for regular meetings to provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest of the public, as specified. Existing law specifies that the agenda is not required to provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body on any item that has already been considered by a committee, as specified.

This bill would remove the provision related to an item that has already been considered by a committee.

(5) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to require a copy of the act to be given to each member of the legislative body and specified persons elected to serve as a member of the legislative body, and authorizes an elected legislative body member to require a copy to be given to each member of each legislative body all or a majority of whose members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would instead require a local agency to provide a copy of the act to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

Existing law authorizes legislative bodies of local agencies to impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in the act, and authorizes an elected legislative body of a local agency to also impose those requirements on those appointed legislative bodies of the local agency of which all or a majority of the members are appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body.

This bill would remove the above-described requirement that members of an appointed legislative body of a local agency must be appointed by or under the authority of the elected legislative body of a local agency in order for the elected legislative body to impose the above-described requirements on the appointed legislative body.

(6) Existing law authorizes a district attorney or any interested person to file an action to determine the applicability of the act to past actions of the legislative body pursuant to specified provisions relating to violations of the act if specified conditions are met, including that the district attorney or interested person first submits a cease and desist letter to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body being accused of the violation, as specified, within 9 months of the alleged violation.

This bill would instead require that a cease and desist letter described above be submitted within 12 months of the alleged violation.

(7) Existing law provides any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency with the right to record the proceedings with an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera, as specified.

This bill would remove the reference to an audio or visual recorder or a still or motion picture camera for purposes of recording the proceedings, as described above.

(8) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified general requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified.

Existing law authorizes members who are outside the jurisdiction of a health authority, as defined, that conducts a teleconferencing meeting to, notwithstanding the above-described general teleconference provisions, count towards the establishment of a quorum when participating in the teleconference if, among other things, at least 50% of the number of members that would establish a quorum are present within the boundaries of the territory over which the authority exercises jurisdiction.

Existing law authorizes, in certain circumstances, the legislative body of a local agency to use specified alternative teleconferencing which include provisions related to, among others, notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment and identifying and including an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option. Those circumstances in which the legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions include specified circumstances relating to a state of emergency, as defined, and, until January 1, 2026, subject to specified limitations, a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause, defined to include, among other things, a need related to a physical or mental disability, or emergency circumstances, as those terms are defined, if certain quorum and disclosure requirements are met.

Existing law also authorizes certain eligible legislative bodies, including neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations to, until January 1, 2026, use alternate teleconferencing if, among other requirements, the city council or board of trustees, as applicable, has adopted an authorizing resolution and $\frac{2}{3}$ of the neighborhood city council or specified student organization, as applicable, votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified.

This bill would revise and recast the above-specified teleconferencing and alternative teleconferencing provisions to uniformly apply certain noticing, disclosure, accessibility, and public commenting provisions. The bill would require a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions to comply with, in addition to any other applicable requirements under the act, specified requirements, including that the legislative body provides at least either 2-way audiovisual platform or 2-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting as a means by which the public may, among other things, remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and that a member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing are listed in the minutes of the meeting. The bill would require the local agency to identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

The bill would require a legislative body to allow a member with a disability, as defined, that precludes a member's in-person attendance at meetings of the body, as specified, to participate in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation, as defined, except as specified. The bill would apply certain provisions relative to, among other things, quorum establishment to that circumstance.

The bill would instead authorize a health authority, as defined, to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in a state of emergency, as defined. The bill would also include a local emergency, as defined, as a circumstance in which a legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable in cases of a member's need to participate remotely due to just cause or emergency circumstances, as defined, to remove the provision applicable to emergency circumstances, to revise related definitions, including broadening the definition of just cause to include a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person, and to require the minutes for a meeting to identify the specific provision of law that each member relied upon to participate remotely, as specified. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provision until January 1, 2030.

The bill would revise and recast the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations. In regards to the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to student body associations and student-run community college organizations, the bill would exempt the California Online Community College from specified requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations under the authorization, and remove the ability for a person with a disability that requires certain accommodations to count towards the in-person quorum requirement. The bill would specify that the California community college student body associations and student-run community college organizations described above are those in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system, and would extend the authorization to the Student Senate for California Community Colleges. The bill would extend the authorization to use the alternative teleconferencing provisions applicable to neighborhood councils and student body associations and student-run community college organizations until January 1, 2030.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize a specified subsidiary body of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the subsidiary body designates at least one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body where members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting, as specified.

The bill would, until January 1, 2030, also authorize specified multijurisdictional bodies of local agencies to conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to the above-described alternative teleconferencing provisions, provided that it complies with the requirements for alternative teleconferencing described above and additional requirements, including that the eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing at a regular meeting in open session.

Existing law defines "teleconference" for purposes of the authorization for a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing to mean a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

This bill would specify that "teleconference" does not include the attendance of one or more members of a legislative body in a meeting of the body solely by watching or listening via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(9) Existing law authorizes a special meeting to be called any time by, among other persons, the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, by delivering specified written notices and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one. Existing law requires specified legislative bodies to comply with the internet website posting requirement.

The bill would remove the requirement that only specified legislative bodies comply with the internet website posting requirement, thereby imposing that requirement on all legislative bodies.

(10) Existing law authorizes a legislative body of a local agency to hold an emergency meeting without complying with specified notice and posting requirements in the case of specified emergency circumstances, as specified, and imposes various requirements under these provisions applicable to either legislative bodies generally or legislative bodies which are a school board.

This bill would remove the school board distinction from the above-described provisions, thereby imposing the same requirements to hold an emergency meeting on all legislative bodies of local agencies.

By imposing additional duties on legislative bodies of local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

(11) Existing law authorizes, in addition to other related specified authorizations, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for

disrupting the meeting. Existing law defines "disrupting" for these purposes to mean engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified.

This bill would specify that a meeting for purposes of that provision includes any teleconferenced meeting. The bill would specify that the existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by individuals or groups of persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, as specified, applies to members of the public participating in a meeting via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as those terms are defined.

(12) The bill would make other updates to references in the act.

(13) Existing constitutional provisions require that a statute that limits the right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies be adopted with findings demonstrating the interest protected by the limitation and the need for protecting that interest.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(14) The California Constitution requires local agencies, for the purpose of ensuring public access to the meetings of public bodies and the writings of public officials and agencies, to comply with a statutory enactment that amends or enacts laws relating to public records or open meetings and contains findings demonstrating that the enactment furthers the constitutional requirements relating to this purpose.

This bill would make legislative findings to that effect.

(15) The bill would include findings that changes proposed by this bill address a matter of statewide concern rather than a municipal affair and, therefore, apply to all cities, including charter cities.

(16) The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority Appropriation: no Fiscal Committee: yes Local Program: yes

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 1 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is amended to read:

54952.2. (a) As used in this chapter, "meeting" means any congregation of a majority of the members of a legislative body at the same time and location, including teleconference location as permitted by Section 54953, to hear, discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(b) (1) A majority of the members of a legislative body shall not, outside a meeting authorized by this chapter, use a series of communications of any kind, directly or through intermediaries, to discuss, deliberate, or take action on any item of business that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body.

(2) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing an employee or official of a local agency, from engaging in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this chapter with members of a legislative body in order to answer questions or provide information regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency, if that person does not communicate to members of the legislative body the comments or position of any other member or members of the legislative body.

(3) (A) Paragraph (1) shall not be construed as preventing a member of the legislative body from engaging in separate conversations or communications on an internet-based social media platform to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body provided that a majority of the members of the legislative body do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. A member of the legislative body shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter

that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.

(B) For purposes of this paragraph, all of the following definitions shall apply:

(i) "Discuss among themselves" means communications made, posted, or shared on an internet-based social media platform between members of a legislative body, including comments or use of digital icons that express reactions to communications made by other members of the legislative body.

(ii) "Internet-based social media platform" means an online service that is open and accessible to the public.

(iii) "Open and accessible to the public" means that members of the general public have the ability to access and participate, free of charge, in the social media platform without the approval by the social media platform or a person or entity other than the social media platform, including any forum and chatroom, and cannot be blocked from doing so, except when the internet-based social media platform determines that an individual violated its protocols or rules.

(c) Nothing in this section shall impose the requirements of this chapter upon any of the following:

(1) Individual contacts or conversations between a member of a legislative body and any other person that do not violate subdivision (b).

(2) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a conference or similar gathering open to the public that involves a discussion of issues of general interest to the public or to public agencies of the type represented by the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specified nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the local agency. Nothing in this paragraph is intended to allow members of the public free admission to a conference or similar gathering at which the organizers have required other participants or registrants to pay fees or charges as a condition of attendance.

(3) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and publicized meeting organized to address a topic of local community concern by a person or organization other than the local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled program, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(4) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of another body of the local agency, or at an open and noticed meeting of a legislative body of another local agency, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves, other than as part of the scheduled meeting, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(5) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at a purely social or ceremonial occasion, provided that a majority of the members do not discuss among themselves business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body of the local agency.

(6) The attendance of a majority of the members of a legislative body at an open and noticed meeting of a standing committee of that body, provided that the members of the legislative body who are not members of the standing committee attend only as observers.

SEC. 2. Section 54952.2 of the Government Code, as added by Section 2 of Chapter 89 of the Statutes of 2020, is repealed.

SEC. 3. Section 54952.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54952.7. A local agency shall provide a copy of this chapter to any person elected or appointed to serve as a member of a legislative body of the local agency.

SEC. 4. Section 54953 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 2 of Chapter 534 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

54953. (a) All meetings of the legislative body of a local agency shall be open and public, and all persons shall be permitted to attend any meeting of the legislative body of a local agency, except as otherwise provided in this

chapter.

(b) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, the legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing for the benefit of the public and the legislative body of a local agency in connection with any meeting or proceeding authorized by law. The teleconferenced meeting or proceeding shall comply with all otherwise applicable requirements of this chapter and all otherwise applicable provisions of law relating to a specific type of meeting or proceeding.

(2) Teleconferencing, as authorized by this section, may be used for all purposes in connection with any meeting within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, the legislative body of a local agency shall comply with all of the following:

(A) All votes taken during a teleconferenced meeting shall be by rollcall.

(B) The teleconferenced meetings shall be conducted in a manner that protects the statutory and constitutional rights of the parties or the public appearing before the legislative body of a local agency.

(C) The legislative body shall give notice of the meeting and post agendas as otherwise required by this chapter.

(D) The legislative body shall allow members of the public to access the meeting and the agenda shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the legislative body directly pursuant to Section 54954.3.

(3) If the legislative body of a local agency elects to use teleconferencing, it shall post agendas at all teleconference locations. Each teleconference location shall be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and each teleconference location shall be accessible to the public. During the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as *expressly* provided in ~~subdivision (c), Section 54953.8, and Section 54953.8.1.~~ *this chapter.*

(4) The teleconferencing requirements of this subdivision shall not apply to remote participation described in subdivision (c).

(c) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, a legislative body shall allow a member of the body with a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, that precludes the member's in-person attendance at meetings of the body and that is not otherwise reasonably accommodated pursuant to the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12101 et seq.), to participate in any meeting of the legislative body by remote participation, unless the legislative body can demonstrate that allowing the remote participation would impose an undue hardship.

(2) A member of a legislative body participating in a meeting by remote participation pursuant to this subdivision shall do both of the following:

(A) The member shall participate through both audio and visual ~~technology.~~ *technology, except that any member with a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, that precludes the member from being physically capable of appearing on camera may participate only through audio technology.*

(B) The member shall disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any of those individuals.

~~(3) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a member of a legislative body participating in a meeting by remote participation pursuant to this subdivision may count towards the establishment of a quorum pursuant to any requirement under this act that a quorum of the legislative body participate from any physical location, including those requirements described in Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, inclusive.~~

(3) Remote participation under this subdivision shall be treated as in-person attendance at the physical meeting location for all purposes, including any requirement that a quorum of the legislative body participate from any particular location. The provisions of subdivision (b) and Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, inclusive, shall not apply to remote participation under this subdivision.

(d) (1) No legislative body shall take action by secret ballot, whether preliminary or final.

(2) The legislative body of a local agency shall publicly report any action taken and the vote or abstention on that action of each member present for the action.

(3) (A) Prior to taking final action, the legislative body shall orally report a summary of a recommendation for a final action on the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of either of the following during the open meeting in which the final action is to be taken:

(i) A local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1.

(ii) A department head or other similar administrative officer of the local agency.

(B) This paragraph shall not affect the public's right under the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1) to inspect or copy records created or received in the process of developing the recommendation.

(e) For purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) (A) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(B) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), "teleconference" does not include ~~the attendance of~~ one or more members ~~of a legislative body in a meeting of the body solely by~~ watching or listening *to a meeting* via webcasting or any other similar electronic medium that does not permit members to interactively speak, discuss, or deliberate on matters.

(2) "Remote participation" means participation in a meeting by teleconference at a location other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting.

SEC. 5. Section 54953.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.4. (a) (1) In addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, a meeting held by a eligible legislative body pursuant to this chapter shall comply with both of the following requirements:

(A) (i) (I) All open and public meetings shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, except if adequate telephonic or internet service is not operational at the meeting location. If adequate telephonic or internet service is operational at the meeting location during only a portion of the meeting, the legislative body shall include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform during that portion of the meeting.

(II) Subclause (I) does not apply to a meeting that is held to do any of the following:

(ia) Attend a judicial or administrative proceeding to which the local agency is a party.

(ib) Inspect real or personal property provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the real or personal property.

(ic) Meet with elected or appointed officials of the United States or the State of California, solely to discuss a legislative or regulatory issue affecting the local agency and over which the federal or state officials have jurisdiction.

(id) Meet in or nearby a facility owned by the agency, provided that the topic of the meeting is limited to items directly related to the facility.

(ie) Meet in an emergency situation pursuant to Section 54956.5.

(ii) If an eligible legislative body elects to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body shall publicly post and provide a call-in option, and activate any automatic captioning function during the meeting if an automatic captioning function is included with the two-way audiovisual platform. If an eligible legislative body does not elect to provide a two-way audiovisual platform, the eligible legislative body provide a two-way telephonic service for the public to participate in the meeting, pursuant to subclause (I).

(B) (i) All open and public meetings for which attendance via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform is provided in accordance with paragraph (1) shall provide the public with an opportunity to provide public comment in accordance with Section 54954.3 via the two-way telephonic or

two-way audiovisual platform, and ensure the opportunity for the members of the public participating via a two-way telephonic or two-way audiovisual platform to provide public comment with the same time allotment as a person attending a meeting in person.

(2) (A) An eligible legislative body shall reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting into any language or wish to receive interpretation provided by another member of the public, so long as the interpretation is not disrupting to the meeting, as defined in Section 54957.95. The eligible legislative body shall publicize instructions on how to request assistance under this subdivision. Assistance may include any of the following, as determined by the eligible legislative body:

(i) Arranging space for one or more interpreters at the meeting location.

(ii) Allowing extra time during the meeting for interpretation to occur.

(iii) Ensuring participants may utilize *their personal* equipment or *reasonably access* facilities for participants to access commercially available interpretation services.

(B) This section does not require an eligible legislative body to provide interpretation of any public meeting, however, an eligible legislative body may elect to provide interpretation of any public meeting.

(C) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision. An action shall not be commenced or maintained against the eligible legislative body arising from the content or accuracy of any interpretation facilitated, assisted with, or provided under this subdivision.

(3) An eligible legislative body shall take the following actions to encourage residents, including those in underrepresented communities and non-English-speaking communities, to participate in public meetings:

(A) Have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents pursuant to Section 54954.1 through email or through an integrated agenda management platform. Information about how to make a request using this system shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(B) (i) Create and maintain an accessible internet webpage dedicated to public meetings that includes, or provides a link to, all of the following information:

(I) A general explanation of the public meeting process for the ~~city council or a county board of supervisors~~ *eligible legislative body*.

(II) An explanation of the procedures for a member of the public to provide in-person or remote oral public comment during a public meeting or to submit written public comment.

(III) A calendar of all public meeting dates with calendar listings that include the date, time, and location of each public meeting.

(IV) The agenda posted online pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) of Section 54954.2.

(ii) The eligible legislative body shall include a link to the webpage required by subparagraph (A) on the home page of the eligible legislative body's internet website.

(C) (i) Make reasonable efforts, as determined by the legislative body, to invite groups that do not traditionally participate in public meetings to attend those meetings, which may include, but are not limited to, all the following:

(I) Media organizations that provide news coverage in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including media organizations that serve non-English-speaking communities.

(II) Good government, civil rights, civic engagement, neighborhood, and community group organizations, or similar organizations that are active in the jurisdiction of the eligible legislative body, including organizations active in non-English-speaking communities.

(ii) Legislative bodies shall have broad discretion in the choice of reasonable efforts they make under this subparagraph. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body arising from failing to provide public meeting information to any specific group pursuant to this section.

(b) (1) (A) The agenda for each meeting of an eligible legislative body shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be posted in accordance with Section 54954.2. Each translation shall include instructions in the applicable language describing how to join the meeting by the telephonic or internet-based service option, including any requirements for registration for public comment.

(B) The accessible internet webpage provided under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) shall be translated into all applicable languages, and each translation shall be accessible through a prominent direct link posted on the primary internet website home page of the eligible legislative body.

(2) A translation made using a digital translation service shall satisfy the requirements of paragraph (1).

(3) The eligible legislative body shall make available a physical location that is freely accessible to the public in reasonable proximity to the physical location in which the agenda and translations are posted as described in paragraph (1), and shall allow members of the public to post additional translations of the agenda in that location.

(4) The eligible legislative body is not responsible for the content or accuracy of any translation provided pursuant to this section. No action shall be commenced or maintained against an eligible legislative body ~~specifically from the content or accuracy~~ arising from the content, accuracy, posting, or removal of any translation provided ~~under~~ by the eligible legislative body or posted by any person pursuant to this section.

(5) For the purposes of this section, the agenda does not include the entire agenda packet.

(c) For purposes of this section, all of the following definitions apply:

(1) (A) "Applicable languages" means languages spoken jointly by 20 percent or more of the population in the city or county in which the eligible legislative body is located that speaks English less than "very well" and jointly speaks a language other than English according to data from the most recent American Community Survey.

(B) If more than three languages meet the criteria set forth in subparagraph (A), "applicable languages" shall mean the three languages described in subparagraph (A) that are spoken by the largest percentage of the population.

(C) An eligible legislative body may elect to determine the applicable languages based upon a source other than the most recent American Community Survey if it makes a finding, based upon substantial evidence, that the other source provides equally or more reliable data for the territory over which the eligible legislative body exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "Eligible legislative body" includes all of the following:

(A) A city council of a city with a population of 30,000 or more.

(B) A county board of supervisors of a county, or city and county, with a population of 30,000 or more.

(C) A city council of a city located in a county with a population of 600,000 or more.

(D) The board of directors of a special district whose boundaries include a population of 200,000 or more and that has an internet website.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(d) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 6. Section 54953.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54953.5. (a) Any person attending an open and public meeting of a legislative body of a local agency shall have the right to record the proceedings in the absence of a reasonable finding by the legislative body of the local agency that the recording cannot continue without noise, illumination, or obstruction of view that constitutes, or would constitute, a persistent disruption of the proceedings.

(b) Any recording of an open and public meeting made for whatever purpose by or at the direction of the local agency shall be subject to inspection pursuant to the California Public Records Act (Division 10 (commencing with Section 7920.000) of Title 1), but, notwithstanding Section 34090, may be erased or destroyed 30 days after the recording. Any inspection of an audio or video recording shall be provided without charge on equipment made available by the local agency.

SEC. 7. Section 54953.7 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54953.7. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, legislative bodies of local agencies may impose requirements upon themselves which allow greater access to their meetings than prescribed by the minimal standards set forth in this chapter. In addition thereto, an elected legislative body of a local agency may impose those requirements on appointed legislative bodies of the local agency.

SEC. 8. Section 54953.8 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8. (a) The legislative body of a local agency may use teleconferencing as authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54953 without complying with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953 in any of the circumstances described in Sections 54953.8.1 to 54953.8.7, inclusive.

(b) A legislative body that holds a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section shall, in addition to any other applicable requirements of this chapter, comply with all of the following:

(1) The legislative body shall provide at least one of the following as a means by which the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the legislative body:

(A) A two-way audiovisual platform.

(B) A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.

(2) In each instance in which notice of the time of the teleconference meeting held pursuant to this section is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the means by which members of the public may access the meeting and offer public comment. The agenda shall identify and include an opportunity for all persons to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.

(3) In the event of a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting to members of the public using the call-in option or internet-based service option, or in the event of a disruption within the local agency's control that prevents members of the public from offering public comments using the call-in option or internet-based service option, the legislative body shall take no further action on items appearing on the meeting agenda until public access to the meeting via the call-in option or internet-based service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.

(4) The legislative body shall not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must provide an opportunity for the public to address the legislative body and offer comment in real time.

(5) Notwithstanding Section 54953.3, an individual desiring to provide public comment through the use of an internet website, or other online platform, not under the control of the local legislative body, that requires registration to log in to a teleconference may be required to register as required by the third-party internet website or online platform to participate.

(6) (A) A legislative body that provides a timed public comment period for each agenda item shall not close the public comment period for the agenda item, or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), to provide public comment until that timed public comment period has elapsed.

(B) A legislative body that does not provide a timed public comment period, but takes public comment separately on each agenda item, shall allow a reasonable amount of time per agenda item to allow public members the opportunity to provide public comment, including time for members of the public to register pursuant to paragraph (5), or otherwise be recognized for the purpose of providing public comment.

(C) A legislative body that provides a timed general public comment period that does not correspond to a specific agenda item shall not close the public comment period or the opportunity to register, pursuant to paragraph (5), until the timed general public comment period has elapsed.

(7) Any member of the legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section and the specific provision of law that the member relied upon to permit their participation by teleconferencing shall be listed in the minutes of the meeting.

(8) The legislative body shall have and implement a procedure for receiving and swiftly resolving requests for reasonable accommodation for individuals with disabilities, consistent with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and resolving any doubt in favor of accessibility. In each instance in which notice of the time of the meeting is otherwise given or the agenda for the meeting is otherwise posted, the legislative body shall also give notice of the procedure for receiving and resolving requests for accommodation.

(9) The legislative body shall conduct meetings subject to this chapter consistent with applicable civil rights and nondiscrimination laws.

(c) A local agency shall identify and make available to legislative bodies a list of one or more meeting locations that may be available for use by the legislative bodies to conduct their meetings.

(d) (1) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional teleconference locations.

(2) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a legislative body from providing the public with additional physical locations in which the public may observe and address the legislative body by electronic means.

(e) A member of a legislative body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location pursuant to this section shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with those individuals.

(f) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Remote location" means a location from which a member of a legislative body participates in a meeting pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b), other than any physical meeting location designated in the notice of the meeting. Remote locations need not be accessible to the public.

(2) "Teleconference" means a meeting of a legislative body, the members of which are in different locations, connected by electronic means, through either audio or video, or both.

(3) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(4) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

(5) "Webcasting" means a streaming video broadcast online or on television, using streaming media technology to distribute a single content source to many simultaneous listeners and viewers.

SEC. 9. Section 54953.8.1 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.1. (a) A health authority may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section.

(b) Nothing in this section or Section 54953.8 shall be construed as discouraging health authority members from regularly meeting at a common physical site within the jurisdiction of the authority or from using teleconference locations within or near the jurisdiction of the authority.

(c) For purposes of this section, a health authority means any entity created pursuant to Sections 14018.7, 14087.31, 14087.35, 14087.36, 14087.38, and 14087.9605 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, any joint powers authority created pursuant to Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 for the purpose of contracting pursuant to Section 14087.3 of the Welfare and Institutions Code, and any advisory committee to a county-sponsored health plan licensed pursuant to Chapter 2.2 (commencing with Section 1340) of Division 2 of the Health and Safety Code if the advisory committee has 12 or more members.

SEC. 10. Section 54953.8.2 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.2. (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 during a proclaimed state of emergency or local emergency, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and the teleconferencing is used in either of the following circumstances:

(1) For the purpose of determining, by majority vote, whether as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(2) After a determination described in paragraph (1) is made that, as a result of the emergency, meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.

(b) If the state of emergency or local emergency remains active, in order to continue to teleconference pursuant to this section, the legislative body shall, no later than 45 days after teleconferencing for the first time pursuant to this section, and every 45 days thereafter, make the following findings by majority vote:

(1) The legislative body has reconsidered the circumstances of the state of emergency or local emergency.

(2) The state of emergency or local emergency continues to directly impact the ability of the members to meet safely in person.

(c) This section shall not be construed to require the legislative body to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.

(d) Notwithstanding paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.8, a legislative body conducting a teleconference meeting pursuant to this section may elect to use a two-way telephonic service without a live webcasting of the meeting.

(e) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Local emergency" means a condition of extreme peril to persons or property proclaimed by the governing body of the local agency affected, in accordance with Section 8630 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2), as defined in Section 8680.9, or a local health emergency declared pursuant to Section 101080 of the Health and Safety Code. Local emergency, as used in this section, refers only to local emergencies in the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(2) "State of emergency" means state of emergency proclaimed pursuant to Section 8625 of the California Emergency Services Act (Chapter 7 (commencing with Section 8550) of Division 1 of Title 2).

SEC. 11. Section 54953.8.3 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.3. (a) A legislative body of a local agency may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8 if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda, which location shall be open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, provided that the legislative body complies with the requirements of Section 54953.8 and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) A member of the legislative body notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting.

(2) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(3) (A) The provisions of this subdivision shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for just cause for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(i) Two meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less.

(ii) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(iii) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(B) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) The minutes for the meeting shall identify the specific provision in subdivision (c) that each member relied upon to participate remotely. This subdivision shall not be construed to require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information that is otherwise exempt under existing law, including, but not limited to, the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 56) of Part 2.6 of Division 1 of the Civil Code).

(c) For purposes of this section, "just cause" means any of the following:

(1) Childcare or caregiving need of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. "Child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms do in Section 12945.2.

(2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.

(3) A need related to a physical or mental condition that is not subject to subdivision (c) of Section 54953.

(4) Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

(5) An immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner of the member that requires the member to participate remotely.

(6) A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

(d) This section shall not be construed to limit the ability of a legislative body to use alternative teleconferencing provisions.

(e) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 12. Section 54953.8.4 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.4. (a) An eligible neighborhood council may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following have occurred:

(1) (A) The city council for a city described in paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible neighborhood councils to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the city council adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible neighborhood council may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible neighborhood council votes to do so. The eligible neighborhood council shall notify the city council if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible neighborhood council described in subparagraph (B), the city council may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible neighborhood council from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(2) After completing the requirements of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), an eligible neighborhood council that holds a meeting pursuant to this subdivision shall do all of the following:

(A) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate from locations within the boundaries of the city in which the eligible neighborhood council is established.

(B) At least once per year, at least a quorum of the members of the eligible neighborhood council shall participate in person from a singular physical location that is open to the public and within the boundaries of the eligible neighborhood council.

(3) If the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the city council member that represents the area that includes the eligible neighborhood council, the eligible neighborhood council shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the city council member who represents the area where the eligible neighborhood council is located, unless the eligible neighborhood council identifies an alternative location.

(4) If the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible neighborhood council shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(2) "Eligible neighborhood council" means a neighborhood council that is an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to this chapter.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 13. Section 54953.8.5 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.5. (a) An eligible community college student organization may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) An eligible community college student organization may only use teleconferencing as described in Section 54953.8 after all the following have occurred:

(A) The board of trustees for a community college district considers whether to adopt a resolution to authorize eligible community college student organizations to use teleconferencing as described in this section at an open and regular meeting.

(B) If the board of trustees for a community college district adopts a resolution described in subparagraph (A), an eligible community college student organization may elect to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section if a majority of the eligible community college student organization votes to do so. The eligible community college student organization shall notify the board of trustees if it elects to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section and its justification for doing so.

(C) Upon receiving notification from an eligible community college student organization as described in subparagraph (B), the board of trustees may adopt a resolution to prohibit the eligible community college student organization from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section.

(D) (i) Except as specified in clause (ii), at least a quorum of the members of the eligible community college student organization shall participate from a singular physical location that is accessible to the public and is within the community college district in which the eligible community college student organization is established.

(ii) The requirements described in clause (i) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(iii) Notwithstanding the requirements of clause (i), a person may count toward the establishment of a quorum pursuant to clause (i) regardless of whether the person is participating at the in-person location of the meeting or remotely if the person meets any of the following criteria:

(I) The person is under 18 years of age.

(II) The person is incarcerated.

(III) The person is unable to disclose the location that they are participating from because of either of the following circumstances:

(ia) The person has been issued a protective court order, including, but not limited to, a domestic violence restraining order.

(ib) The person is participating in a program that has to remain confidential, including, but not limited to, an independent living program.

(IV) The person provides childcare or caregiving to a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely. For purposes of this subclause, "child," "parent," "grandparent," "grandchild," and "sibling" have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 12945.2.

(2) An eligible community college student organization that holds a meeting by teleconference as described in Section 54953.8 shall do the following, as applicable:

(A) (i) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is during regular business hours of the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, the eligible community college student organization shall provide a publicly accessible physical location from which the public may attend or comment, which shall be the offices of the board of trustees of the community college district, unless the eligible community college student organization identifies an alternative location.

(ii) Except as specified in subparagraph (B), if the meeting is outside regular business hours, the eligible community college student organization shall make reasonable efforts to accommodate any member of the public that requests an accommodation to participate in the meeting. For the purposes of this subparagraph, "accommodation" means providing a publicly accessible physical location for the member of the public to participate from, providing access to technology necessary to participate in the meeting, or identifying locations or resources available that could provide the member of the public with an opportunity to participate in the meeting.

(B) The requirements described in subparagraph (A) shall not apply to the California Online Community College.

(b) For purposes of this section, "eligible community college student organization" means a student body association organized pursuant to Section 76060 of the Education Code, or any other student-run community college organization that is required to comply with the meeting requirements of this chapter, that is in any community college recognized within the California Community Colleges system and includes the Student Senate for California Community Colleges.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 14. Section 54953.8.6 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.6. (a) An eligible subsidiary body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible subsidiary body shall designate at least one physical meeting location within the boundaries of the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body where members of the public may physically attend, observe, hear, and participate in the meeting. At least one staff member of the eligible subsidiary body or the legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body shall be present at each physical meeting location during the meeting. The eligible subsidiary body shall post the agenda at each physical meeting location, but need not post the agenda at a remote location.

(2) (A) A member of the eligible subsidiary body shall visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, except if the member has a disability, as defined in Section 12102 of Title 42 of the United States Code, that precludes the member from being physically capable of appearing on camera.

(B) The visual appearance of a member of the eligible subsidiary body on camera may cease only when the appearance would be technologically impracticable, including, but not limited to, when the member experiences a lack of reliable broadband or internet connectivity that would be remedied by joining without video, or when the visual display of meeting materials, information, or speakers on the internet or other online platform requires the visual appearance of a member of a subsidiary body on camera to cease.

(C) If a member of the eligible subsidiary body does not appear on camera due to challenges with internet connectivity, the member shall announce the reason for their nonappearance when they turn off their camera.

(3) An elected official serving as a member of an eligible subsidiary body in their official capacity shall not participate in a meeting of the eligible subsidiary body by teleconferencing pursuant to this section unless the use of teleconferencing complies with the requirements of paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 54953.

(4) (A) In order to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section, the legislative body that established the eligible subsidiary body by charter, ordinance, resolution, or other formal action shall make the following findings by majority vote before the eligible subsidiary body uses teleconferencing pursuant to this section for the first time, and every 12 months thereafter:

(i) The legislative body has considered the circumstances of the eligible subsidiary body.

(ii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would enhance public access to meetings of the eligible subsidiary body.

(iii) Teleconference meetings of the eligible subsidiary body would promote the attraction, retention, and diversity of eligible subsidiary body members.

(B) (i) An eligible subsidiary body ~~that proposes~~ *authorized* to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section ~~and makes the findings described in subparagraph (A) shall submit an annual report, including its recommendations, if any; may request to present any recommendations it develops~~ to the legislative body that created it, ~~no later than 12 months after the legislative body makes the findings: it.~~

(ii) ~~The~~ *Upon receiving a request described in clause (i), the* legislative body *that created the subsidiary body* shall hold a discussion ~~regarding each annual report submitted by a subsidiary body pursuant to clause (i)~~ at a regular meeting held within 60 days after the legislative body receives the ~~report; request,~~ or if the legislative body does not have another regular meeting scheduled within 60 days after the legislative body receives the ~~report; request,~~ at the next regular meeting after the ~~report request~~ is received.

(iii) The discussion ~~regarding each annual report~~ required by clause (ii) shall not be placed on a consent calendar, but may be combined with the legislative body's subsequent consideration of the findings described in subparagraph (A) for the following 12 months.

(iv) The legislative body shall not take any action on any recommendations included in the report of a subsidiary body until the next regular meeting of the legislative body following the discussion described in clause (ii).

(C) After the legislative body makes the findings described in subparagraph (A), the eligible subsidiary body shall approve the use of teleconferencing by majority vote before using teleconference pursuant to this section.

(D) The legislative body that created the eligible subsidiary body may elect to prohibit the eligible subsidiary body from using teleconferencing pursuant to this section at any time.

(b) For purposes of this section, "eligible subsidiary body" means a legislative body that meets all of the following:

(1) Is described in subdivision (b) of Section 54952.

(2) Serves exclusively in an advisory capacity.

(3) Is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements, grants, or allocations of funds.

(4) Does not have primary subject matter jurisdiction, as defined by the charter, an ordinance, a resolution, or any formal action of the legislative body that created the subsidiary body, that focuses on elections, budgets, police oversight, or removing from, or restricting access to, materials available in public libraries.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 15. Section 54953.8.7 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54953.8.7. (a) An eligible multijurisdictional body may conduct a teleconference meeting pursuant to Section 54953.8, provided that it complies with the requirements of that section and all of the following additional requirements:

(1) The eligible multijurisdictional body has adopted a resolution that authorizes the eligible multijurisdictional body to use teleconferencing pursuant to this section at a regular meeting in open session.

(2) At least a quorum of the members of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from one or more physical locations that are open to the public and within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction.

(3) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who receives compensation for their service on the eligible multijurisdictional body shall participate from a physical location that is open to the public. For

purposes of this paragraph, "compensation" does not include reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses.

(4) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body may participate from a remote location provided that:

(A) The eligible multijurisdictional body identifies each member of the eligible multijurisdictional body who plans to participate remotely in the agenda.

(B) The member shall participate through both audio and visual technology.

(5) A member of the eligible multijurisdictional body shall not participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to this section, unless the location from which the member participates is more than 20 miles each way from any physical location of the meeting described in paragraph (2).

(6) The provisions of this section shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for more than the following number of meetings, as applicable:

(A) Five meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets twice per month.

(B) Seven meetings per year, if the legislative body regularly meets three or more times per month.

(C) For the purpose of counting meetings attended by teleconference under this paragraph, a "meeting" shall be defined as any number of meetings of the legislative body of a local agency that begin on the same calendar day.

(b) For the purposes of this section, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Eligible multijurisdictional body" means a multijurisdictional board, commission, or advisory body of a multijurisdictional, cross-county agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed, and the board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to this chapter.

(2) "Multijurisdictional" means either of the following:

(A) A legislative body that includes representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, or special district.

(B) A legislative body of a joint powers entity formed pursuant to an agreement entered into in accordance with Article 1 (commencing with Section 6500) of Chapter 5 of Division 7 of Title 1.

(c) This section shall remain in effect only until January 1, 2030, and as of that date is repealed.

SEC. 16. Section 54954.2 of the Government Code, as amended by Section 92 of Chapter 131 of the Statutes of 2023, is amended to read:

54954.2. (a) (1) At least 72 hours before a regular meeting, the legislative body of the local agency, or its designee, shall post an agenda that meets all of the following requirements:

(A) The agenda shall contain a brief general description of each item of business to be transacted or discussed at the meeting, including items to be discussed in closed session. A brief general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words.

(B) The agenda shall specify the time and location of the regular meeting and shall be posted in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public and on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one.

(C) (i) If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof.

(ii) The agenda shall include information regarding how, to whom, and when a request for disability-related modification or accommodation, including auxiliary aids or services, may be made by a person with a disability who requires a modification or accommodation in order to participate in the public meeting.

(2) For a meeting occurring on and after January 1, 2019, of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet

website, the following provisions shall apply:

(A) An online posting of an agenda shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that is accessible through a prominent, direct link to the current agenda. The direct link to the agenda shall not be in a contextual menu; however, a link in addition to the direct link to the agenda may be accessible through a contextual menu.

(B) An online posting of an agenda, including, but not limited to, an agenda posted in an integrated agenda management platform, shall be posted in an open format that meets all of the following requirements:

(i) Retrievable, downloadable, indexable, and electronically searchable by commonly used internet search applications.

(ii) Platform independent and machine readable.

(iii) Available to the public free of charge and without any restriction that would impede the reuse or redistribution of the agenda.

(C) A legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state that has an internet website and an integrated agenda management platform shall not be required to comply with subparagraph (A) if all of the following are met:

(i) A direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall be posted on the primary internet website home page of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state. The direct link to the integrated agenda management platform shall not be in a contextual menu. When a person clicks on the direct link to the integrated agenda management platform, the direct link shall take the person directly to an internet website with the agendas of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(ii) The integrated agenda management platform may contain the prior agendas of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state for all meetings occurring on or after January 1, 2019.

(iii) The current agenda of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state shall be the first agenda available at the top of the integrated agenda management platform.

(iv) All agendas posted in the integrated agenda management platform shall comply with the requirements in clauses (i), (ii), and (iii) of subparagraph (B).

(D) The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to a political subdivision of a local agency that was established by the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state.

(E) For purposes of this paragraph, both of the following definitions apply:

(1) "Integrated agenda management platform" means an internet website of a city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state dedicated to providing the entirety of the agenda information for the legislative body of the city, county, city and county, special district, school district, or political subdivision established by the state to the public.

(2) "Legislative body" means a legislative body that meets the definition of subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(3) No action or discussion shall be undertaken on any item not appearing on the posted agenda, except that members of a legislative body or its staff may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their public testimony rights under Section 54954.3. In addition, on their own initiative or in response to questions posed by the public, a member of a legislative body or its staff may ask a question for clarification, make a brief announcement, or make a brief report on their own activities. Furthermore, a member of a legislative body, or the body itself, subject to rules or procedures of the legislative body, may provide a reference to staff or other resources for factual information, request staff to report back to the body at a subsequent meeting concerning any matter, or take action to direct staff to place a matter of business on a future agenda.

(b) Notwithstanding subdivision (a), the legislative body may take action on items of business not appearing on the posted agenda under any of the conditions stated below. Prior to discussing any item pursuant to this subdivision, the legislative body shall publicly identify the item.

(1) Upon a determination by a majority vote of the legislative body that an emergency situation exists, as defined in Section 54956.5.

(2) Upon a determination by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present at the meeting, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, a unanimous vote of those members present, that there is a need to take immediate action and that the need for action came to the attention of the local agency subsequent to the agenda being posted as specified in subdivision (a).

(3) The item was posted pursuant to subdivision (a) for a prior meeting of the legislative body occurring not more than five calendar days prior to the date action is taken on the item, and at the prior meeting the item was continued to the meeting at which action is being taken.

(c) This section is necessary to implement and reasonably within the scope of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.

(d) For purposes of subdivision (a), the requirement that the agenda be posted on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has one, shall only apply to a legislative body that meets either of the following standards:

(1) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

(2) A legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (b) of Section 54952, if the members of the legislative body are compensated for their appearance, and if one or more of the members of the legislative body are also members of a legislative body as that term is defined by subdivision (a) of Section 54952.

SEC. 17. Section 54954.3 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54954.3. (a) (1) Every agenda for regular meetings shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body on any item of interest to the public, before or during the legislative body's consideration of the item, that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that no action shall be taken on any item not appearing on the agenda unless the action is otherwise authorized by subdivision (b) of Section 54954.2.

(2) Every notice for a special meeting shall provide an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body concerning any item that has been described in the notice for the meeting before or during consideration of that item.

(b) (1) The legislative body of a local agency may adopt reasonable regulations to ensure that the intent of subdivision (a) is carried out, including, but not limited to, regulations limiting the total amount of time allocated for public testimony on particular issues and for each individual speaker.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), when the legislative body of a local agency limits time for public comment, the legislative body of a local agency shall provide at least twice the allotted time to a member of the public who utilizes a translator to ensure that non-English speakers receive the same opportunity to directly address the legislative body of a local agency.

(3) Paragraph (2) shall not apply if the legislative body of a local agency utilizes simultaneous translation equipment in a manner that allows the legislative body of a local agency to hear the translated public testimony simultaneously.

(c) The legislative body of a local agency shall not prohibit public criticism of the policies, procedures, programs, or services of the agency, or of the acts or omissions of the legislative body. Nothing in this subdivision shall confer any privilege or protection for expression beyond that otherwise provided by law.

SEC. 18. Section 54956 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54956. (a) (1) A special meeting may be called at any time by the presiding officer of the legislative body of a local agency, or by a majority of the members of the legislative body, by delivering written notice to each member of the legislative body and to each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station requesting notice in writing and posting a notice on the local agency's internet website, if the local agency has

one. The notice shall be delivered personally or by any other means and shall be received at least 24 hours before the time of the meeting as specified in the notice. The call and notice shall specify the time and place of the special meeting and the business to be transacted or discussed. No other business shall be considered at these meetings by the legislative body. The written notice may be dispensed with as to any member who at or prior to the time the meeting convenes files with the clerk or secretary of the legislative body a written waiver of notice. The waiver may be given by telephone or electronic mail. The written notice may also be dispensed with as to any member who is actually present at the meeting at the time it convenes.

(2) The call and notice shall be posted at least 24 hours prior to the special meeting in a location that is freely accessible to members of the public.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, a legislative body shall not call a special meeting regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits, of the legislative body or of a local agency executive, as defined in subdivision (d) of Section 3511.1. However, this subdivision does not apply to a local agency calling a special meeting to discuss the local agency's budget.

SEC. 19. Section 54956.5 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54956.5. (a) For purposes of this section, "emergency situation" means both of the following:

(1) An emergency, which shall be defined as a work stoppage, crippling activity, or other activity that severely impairs public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(2) A dire emergency, which shall be defined as a crippling disaster, mass destruction, terrorist act, or threatened terrorist activity that poses peril so immediate and significant that requiring a legislative body to provide one-hour notice before holding an emergency meeting under this section may endanger the public health, safety, or both, as determined by a majority of the members of the legislative body.

(b) (1) Subject to paragraph (2), in the case of an emergency situation involving matters upon which prompt action is necessary due to the disruption or threatened disruption of public facilities, a legislative body may hold an emergency meeting without complying with either the 24-hour notice requirement or the 24-hour posting requirement of Section 54956 or both of the notice and posting requirements.

(2) Each local newspaper of general circulation and radio or television station that has requested notice of special meetings pursuant to Section 54956 shall be notified by the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, one hour prior to the emergency meeting, or, in the case of a dire emergency, at or near the time that the presiding officer or designee notifies the members of the legislative body of the emergency meeting.

(A) Except as provided in subparagraph (B), the notice required by this paragraph shall be given by telephone and all telephone numbers provided in the most recent request of a newspaper or station for notification of special meetings shall be exhausted. In the event that telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(B) For an emergency meeting held pursuant to this section, the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee thereof, may send the notifications required by this paragraph by email instead of by telephone, as provided in subparagraph (A), to all local newspapers of general circulation, and radio or television stations, that have requested those notifications by email, and all email addresses provided by representatives of those newspapers or stations shall be exhausted. In the event that internet services and telephone services are not functioning, the notice requirements of this paragraph shall be deemed waived, and the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, shall notify those newspapers, radio stations, or television stations of the fact of the holding of the emergency meeting, the purpose of the meeting, and any action taken at the meeting as soon after the meeting as possible.

(c) During a meeting held pursuant to this section, the legislative body may meet in closed session pursuant to Section 54957 if agreed to by a two-thirds vote of the members of the legislative body present, or, if less than two-thirds of the members are present, by a unanimous vote of the members present.

(d) All special meeting requirements, as prescribed in Section 54956 shall be applicable to a meeting called pursuant to this section, with the exception of the 24-hour notice requirement.

(e) The minutes of a meeting called pursuant to this section, a list of persons who the presiding officer of the legislative body, or designee of the legislative body, notified or attempted to notify, a copy of the rollcall vote, and any actions taken at the meeting shall be posted for a minimum of 10 days in a public place as soon after the meeting as possible.

SEC. 20. Section 54957.6 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.6. (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a legislative body of a local agency may hold closed sessions with the local agency's designated representatives regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits of its represented and unrepresented employees, and, for represented employees, any other matter within the statutorily provided scope of representation, subject to all of the following conditions:

(1) Prior to the closed session, the legislative body of the local agency shall hold an open and public session in which it identifies its designated representatives.

(2) The closed session shall be for the purpose of reviewing its position and instructing the local agency's designated representatives.

(3) The closed session may take place prior to and during consultations and discussions with representatives of employee organizations and unrepresented employees.

(4) Any closed session with the local agency's designated representative regarding the salaries, salary schedules, or compensation paid in the form of fringe benefits may include discussion of an agency's available funds and funding priorities, but only insofar as these discussions relate to providing instructions to the local agency's designated representative.

(5) The closed session shall not include final action on the proposed compensation of one or more unrepresented employees.

(6) For the purposes enumerated in this section, a legislative body of a local agency may also meet with a state conciliator who has intervened in the proceedings.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term "employee" shall include an officer or an independent contractor who functions as an officer or an employee, but shall not include any elected official, member of a legislative body, or other independent contractors.

SEC. 21. Section 54957.9 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.9. In the event that any meeting is willfully interrupted by a group or groups of persons so as to render the orderly conduct of the meeting unfeasible and order cannot be restored by the removal of individuals who are willfully interrupting the meeting, the members of the legislative body conducting the meeting may order the meeting room cleared and continue in session. Only matters appearing on the agenda may be considered in such a session. Representatives of the press or other news media, except those participating in the disturbance, shall be allowed to attend any session held pursuant to this section. Nothing in this section shall prohibit the legislative body from establishing a procedure for readmitting an individual or individuals not responsible for willfully disturbing the orderly conduct of the meeting.

SEC. 22. Section 54957.95 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54957.95. (a) (1) In addition to authority exercised pursuant to Sections 54954.3 and 54957.9, the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting or their designee may remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting, including any teleconferenced meeting.

(2) Prior to removing an individual, the presiding member or their designee shall warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting and that their failure to cease their behavior may result in their removal. The presiding member or their designee may then remove the individual if they do not promptly cease their disruptive behavior. This paragraph does not apply to any behavior described in subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b).

(b) As used in this section:

(1) "Disrupting" means engaging in behavior during a meeting of a legislative body that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting and includes, but is not limited to,

one of the following:

(A) A failure to comply with reasonable and lawful regulations adopted by a legislative body pursuant to Section 54954.3 or any other law.

(B) Engaging in behavior that constitutes use of force or a true threat of force.

(2) "True threat of force" means a threat that has sufficient indicia of intent and seriousness, that a reasonable observer would perceive it to be an actual threat to use force by the person making the threat.

SEC. 23. Section 54957.96 is added to the Government Code, to read:

54957.96. (a) The existing authority of a legislative body or its presiding officer to remove or limit participation by individuals or groups of persons who engage in behavior that actually disrupts, disturbs, impedes, or renders infeasible the orderly conduct of the meeting, including existing limitations upon that authority, shall apply to members of the public participating in a meeting via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform.

(b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Two-way audiovisual platform" means an online platform that provides participants with the ability to participate in a meeting via both an interactive video conference and a two-way telephonic service.

(2) "Two-way telephonic service" means a telephone service that does not require internet access and allows participants to dial a telephone number to listen and verbally participate.

SEC. 24. Section 54960.2 of the Government Code is amended to read:

54960.2. (a) The district attorney or any interested person may file an action to determine the applicability of this chapter to past actions of the legislative body pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 only if all of the following conditions are met:

(1) The district attorney or interested person alleging a violation of this chapter first submits a cease and desist letter by postal mail or facsimile transmission to the clerk or secretary of the legislative body being accused of the violation, as designated in the statement pertaining to that public agency on file pursuant to Section 53051, or if the agency does not have a statement on file designating a clerk or a secretary, to the chief executive officer of that agency, clearly describing the past action of the legislative body and nature of the alleged violation.

(2) The cease and desist letter required under paragraph (1) is submitted to the legislative body within 12 months of the alleged violation.

(3) The time during which the legislative body may respond to the cease and desist letter pursuant to subdivision (b) has expired and the legislative body has not provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c).

(4) Within 60 days of receipt of the legislative body's response to the cease and desist letter, other than an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c), or within 60 days of the expiration of the time during which the legislative body may respond to the cease and desist letter pursuant to subdivision (b), whichever is earlier, the party submitting the cease and desist letter shall commence the action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 or thereafter be barred from commencing the action.

(b) The legislative body may respond to a cease and desist letter submitted pursuant to subdivision (a) within 30 days of receiving the letter. This subdivision shall not be construed to prevent the legislative body from providing an unconditional commitment pursuant to subdivision (c) at any time after the 30-day period has expired, except that in that event the court shall award court costs and reasonable attorney's fees to the plaintiff in an action brought pursuant to this section, in accordance with Section 54960.5.

(c) (1) If the legislative body elects to respond to the cease and desist letter with an unconditional commitment to cease, desist from, and not repeat the past action that is alleged to violate this chapter, that response shall be in substantially the following form:

To _____:

The [name of legislative body] has received your cease and desist letter dated [date] alleging that the following described past action of the legislative body violates the Ralph M. Brown Act:

[Describe alleged past action, as set forth in the cease and desist letter submitted pursuant to subdivision (a)]

In order to avoid unnecessary litigation and without admitting any violation of the Ralph M. Brown Act, the [name of legislative body] hereby unconditionally commits that it will cease, desist from, and not repeat the challenged past action as described above.

The [name of legislative body] may rescind this commitment only by a majority vote of its membership taken in open session at a regular meeting and noticed on its posted agenda as "Rescission of Brown Act Commitment." You will be provided with written notice, sent by any means or media you provide in response to this message, to whatever address or addresses you specify, of any intention to consider rescinding this commitment at least 30 days before any such regular meeting. In the event that this commitment is rescinded, you will have the right to commence legal action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960 of the Government Code. That notice will be delivered to you by the same means as this commitment, or may be mailed to an address that you have designated in writing.

Very truly yours,

[Chairperson or acting chairperson of the legislative body]

(2) An unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision shall be approved by the legislative body in open session at a regular or special meeting as a separate item of business, and not on its consent agenda.

(3) An action shall not be commenced to determine the applicability of this chapter to any past action of the legislative body for which the legislative body has provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision. During any action seeking a judicial determination regarding the applicability of this chapter to any past action of the legislative body pursuant to subdivision (a), if the court determines that the legislative body has provided an unconditional commitment pursuant to this subdivision, the action shall be dismissed with prejudice. Nothing in this subdivision shall be construed to modify or limit the existing ability of the district attorney or any interested person to commence an action to determine the applicability of this chapter to ongoing actions or threatened future actions of the legislative body.

(4) Except as provided in subdivision (d), the fact that a legislative body provides an unconditional commitment shall not be construed or admissible as evidence of a violation of this chapter.

(d) If the legislative body provides an unconditional commitment as set forth in subdivision (c), the legislative body shall not thereafter take or engage in the challenged action described in the cease and desist letter, except as provided in subdivision (e). Violation of this subdivision shall constitute an independent violation of this chapter, without regard to whether the challenged action would otherwise violate this chapter. An action alleging past violation or threatened future violation of this subdivision may be brought pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960, without regard to the procedural requirements of this section.

(e) The legislative body may resolve to rescind an unconditional commitment made pursuant to subdivision (c) by a majority vote of its membership taken in open session at a regular meeting as a separate item of business not on its consent agenda, and noticed on its posted agenda as "Rescission of Brown Act Commitment," provided that not less than 30 days prior to such regular meeting, the legislative body provides written notice of its intent to consider the rescission to each person to whom the unconditional commitment was made, and to the district attorney. Upon rescission, the district attorney or any interested person may commence an action pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960. An action under this subdivision may be brought pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 54960, without regard to the procedural requirements of this section.

SEC. 25. The Legislature finds and declares that Section 4 of this act, which amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 22 of this act,

which amends Section 54957.95 of, and Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, the Government Code, impose a limitation on the public's right of access to the meetings of public bodies or the writings of public officials and agencies within the meaning of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution. Pursuant to that constitutional provision, the Legislature makes the following findings to demonstrate the interest protected by this limitation and the need for protecting that interest:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

SEC. 26. The Legislature finds and declares that Sections 1 and 2 of this act, which amend and repeal Section 54952.2, respectively, of, Section 3 of this act, which amends Section 54952.7 of, Section 4 of this act, which amends Section 54953 of, Section 5 of this act, which adds Section 54953.4 to, Section 6 of this act, which amends Section 54953.5 of, Section 7 of this act, which amends Section 54953.7 of, Sections 8 to 15, inclusive, of this act, which add Sections 54953.8 to 54953.8.7, respectively, to, Section 16 of this act, which amends Section 54954.2 of, Section 17 of this act, which amends Section 54954.3 of, Section 18 of this act, which amends Section 54956 of, Section 19 of this act, which amends Section 54956.5 of, Section 20 of this act, which amends Section 54957.6 of, Section 21 of this act, which amends Section 54957.9 of, Section 22 of this act, which amends Section 54957.95 of, Section 23 of this act, which adds Section 54957.96 to, and Section 24 of this act, which amends Section 54960.2 of, the Government Code, further, within the meaning of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the purposes of that constitutional section as it relates to the right of public access to the meetings of local public bodies or the writings of local public officials and local agencies. Pursuant to paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution, the Legislature makes the following findings:

(a) This act is necessary to provide opportunities for public participation in meetings of specified public agencies and to promote the recruitment and retention of members of those agencies.

(b) This act is necessary to ensure minimum standards for public participation and notice requirements allowing for greater public participation in meetings.

(c) This act is necessary to modernize the Ralph M. Brown Act to reflect recent technological changes that can promote greater public access to local officials.

(d) The exclusively virtual nature of the California Online Community College presents unique barriers to the requirements for an in-person quorum, a physical location for public participation, and certain accommodations. Participating students of the online community college come from all across the state and necessitating travel for these requirements would pose a significant and exclusionary barrier.

SEC. 27. The Legislature finds and declares that adequate public access to meetings is a matter of statewide concern and is not a municipal affair as that term is used in Section 5 of Article XI of the California Constitution. Therefore, this bill would apply to all cities, including charter cities.

SEC. 28. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district under this act would result from a legislative mandate that is within the scope of paragraph (7) of subdivision (b) of Section 3 of Article I of the California Constitution.



100 North Canyons Parkway
Livermore, CA 94551
(925) 454-5000

DATE: August 14, 2025
TO: Legislative Committee
FROM: Carol Mahoney, Government Relations Manager
SUBJECT: Legislative Update

SUMMARY:

Zone 7 staff, with the support of Agency consultants, monitors legislation that is being considered in Sacramento, as well as other political and regulatory activities of interest. This effort supports initiatives in the Strategic Plan under Goal G – Stakeholder Engagement, more specifically Initiative #20 - Pursuing opportunities for interagency cooperation.

California's Assembly, Senate, and Committees are nearing the end of the first year of the two-year legislative cycle. A key milestone date, the last day for policy committees to take action on bills, was July 18, 2025. Bills may still be heard in fiscal committees and the deadline for reporting any actions to the respective legislative Floor is August 29, 2025. The end of session is September 12, 2025. The legislature remains in recess until August 18, 2025.

The attached Legislative Summary provides an overview of key legislation being evaluated in this session as of the beginning of the summer recess, July 18, 2025. Note that, due to limitations of the tracking software, Zone 7's official position may be listed under the "notes" category if the specific position is not available in the software. The table below details legislative activities for which Zone 7 has taken action.

Position	Bill	Zone 7 Action	Bill Status
Support	Specific elements of budget bills – Delta Conveyance Project/HRL	Direct engagement	On-going
*Not Favor	AB 942 – Electricity: climate credits	Coalition letter	Sen Appropriations
Support	SB 72 – The California Water Plan: long-term water supply targets	Coalition letter	Asm Appropriations Suspense File (7/16/25)
Support	SB 454 – State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program	Zone 7 letter	Asm Appropriations Suspense File (7/2/25)
^Support	H.R.1267 - Water Systems PFAS Liability Protection Act	Zone 7 letter	House Water Resources and Environment
^Favor	H.R.1871 – federal mirroring of state tax relief on water conservation rebates	Coalition letter	House Ways and Means

* Recommend move to neutral to align with coalition

^ Federal fiscal year ends September 30, 2025. Any action likely to be taken in September.

ATTACHMENT: Legislative Summary

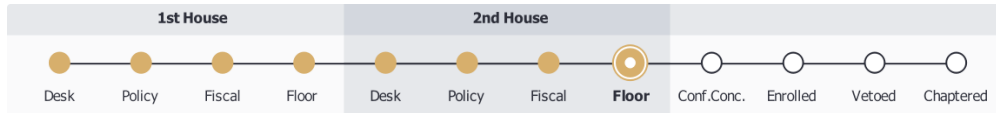
Zone 7 - Bill Tracker / Status Report
Monday, July 28, 2025

Sorted by: Measure
Monday, 07/28/2025

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

Current Text: 12/02/2024 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Status: 07/08/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.



Location: 07/08/2025 - Senate THIRD READING

Summary: Current law requires the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to take specified actions relating to the addition of rivers or segments of rivers to the state's wild and scenic rivers system if, among other things, the federal government enacts a statute that, upon enactment, would require the removal or delisting of any river or segment of a river in the state that was included in the national wild and scenic rivers system and not in the state wild and scenic rivers system. Current law authorizes, only until December 31, 2025, the secretary to take action under these provisions to add a river or segment of a river to the state wild and scenic rivers system. Current law requires those actions to remain in effect until December 31, 2025, except as otherwise provided. This bill would indefinitely extend the date by which the secretary is authorized to take the specified actions relating to the addition of rivers or segments of rivers to the state's wild and scenic rivers system, as described above. (Based on 12/02/2024 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

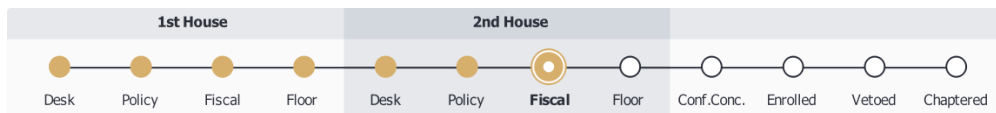
Monitor

AB 59 **(Aguiar-Curry, D) Reclamation District No. 108: hydroelectric power.**

Current Text: 06/23/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 06/23/2025

Status: 07/08/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 16. Noes 0.) (July 7). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/07/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Current law authorizes the formation of reclamation districts by owners of swamp and overflowed lands, salt-marsh, or tidelands, or other lands subject to flood or overflow, and by owners of land already reclaimed, or in progress of reclamation, and not included in a reclamation district. Existing law authorizes Reclamation District No. 1004, in conjunction with the County of Colusa, to construct, maintain, and operate a plant, transmission lines, and other necessary or appropriate facilities for the generation of hydroelectric power, as prescribed. Current law requires proceeds from the sale of electricity to be used to retire any time warrants issued for construction of the facilities and otherwise for the powers and purposes for which the district was formed. Current law authorizes Reclamation District No. 108 to exercise this hydroelectric power authority until January 1, 2026. This bill would authorize Reclamation District No. 108 to continue to exercise the above-described hydroelectric power authority after January 1, 2026. The bill would require Reclamation District No. 108 to submit a report to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Local Government on or before January 1, 2031, and between January 1, 2035, and January 1, 2036, containing certain information, including, among other things, whether the district has obtained permission from the Colusa Local Agency Formation Commission to enact its hydroelectric authority. (Based on 06/23/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

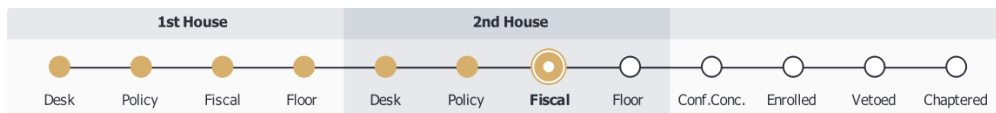
Monitor

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

Current Text: 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/17/2025

Status: 07/17/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Would require a person who owns or operates a data center, prior to applying to a city or a county for an initial business license, equivalent instrument, or permit, to provide its water supplier, under penalty of perjury, an estimate of the expected water use. When applying to a city or county for an initial business license, the bill would require a person who owns or operates a data center to self-certify, under penalty of perjury, on the application that the person has provided its water supplier an estimate of the expected water use. When applying to a city or county for a renewal of a business license, equivalent instrument, or permit, the bill would require a person who owns or operates a data center to self-certify, under penalty of perjury, on the application, that they have provided the data center's water supplier with a report of the annual water use. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Beginning one year after the Department of Water Resources develops any efficiency guidelines or best management practices relevant to the data centers, the bill would require that a person who owns or operates a data center, as a condition for obtaining or renewing a business license, self-certify that the data center will meet guidelines and best practices to maximize the efficient use of natural resources. The bill would define terms for purposes of these provisions. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

Position: Watch

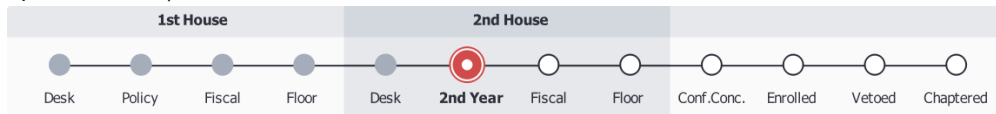
AB 259

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

Current Text: 04/21/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/21/2025

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)



Location: 07/17/2025 - Senate 2 YEAR

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Current law requires a member to satisfy specified requirements to participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including that specified circumstances apply. Current law establishes limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including prohibiting such participation for more than 2 meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. This bill would extend the alternative teleconferencing procedures until January 1, 2030. (Based on 04/21/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

CSDA = Sponsor

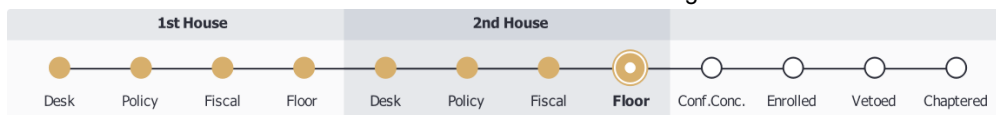
AB 263

(Rogers, D) Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds.

Current Text: 06/11/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 06/11/2025

Status: 06/24/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to third reading.



Location: 06/24/2025 - Senate THIRD READING

Summary: Current law provides that an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board following a Governor's proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions, for which the board makes specified findings, may remain in effect for up to one year, as provided, and may be renewed if the board determines that specified conditions relating to precipitation are still in effect. This bill would provide that specified emergency regulations adopted by the board for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds shall remain in effect until January 1, 2031, or until permanent rules establishing and implementing long-term instream flow requirements are adopted for those watersheds, whichever occurs first. (Based on 06/11/2025 text)

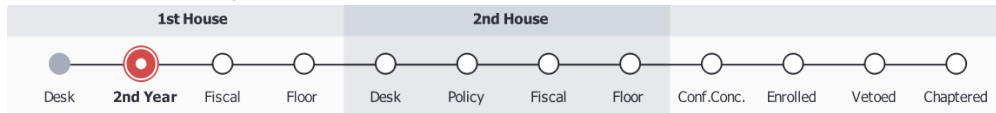
Position: Watch

AB 269

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

Current Text: 01/17/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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)



Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law provides for the regulation and supervision of dams and reservoirs by the state, and requires the Department of Water Resources, under the police power of the state, to supervise the construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, maintenance, operation, and removal of dams and reservoirs for the protection of life and property, as prescribed. Current law requires the department to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, develop and administer the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program to provide state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities that were in service prior to January 1, 2023, subject to prescribed criteria. This bill would include the removal of project facilities as additional projects eligible to receive funding under the program. (Based on 01/17/2025 text)

Position: ~~Watch~~

Notes:-

~~Monitor~~

~~ACWA = Opposed~~

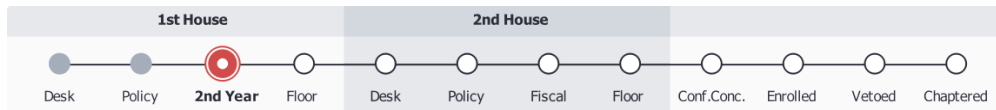
AB 274

(Ransom, D) Abandoned and derelict vessels: inventory.

Current Text: 03/26/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2025

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)



Location: 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law establishes within the Natural Resources Agency, the State Lands Commission consisting of the Controller, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Director of Finance. Current law vests in the commission with exclusive jurisdiction over all ungranted tidelands and submerged lands owned by the state, and of the beds of navigable rivers, streams, lakes, bays, estuaries, inlets, and straits, including tidelands and submerged lands. Current law authorizes the commission to take immediate action to remove from areas under its jurisdiction a vessel that is left unattended and is moored, docked, beached, or made fast to land in a position as to obstruct the normal movement of traffic or in a condition as to create a hazard to navigation, other vessels using a waterway, or the property of another. Current law requires the commission, by July 1, 2019, and in consultation with other relevant state and local agencies directly involved in the removal of abandoned vessels, to develop a plan for the removal of abandoned commercial vessels. This bill would require the commission, on or before January 1, 2027, to create an inventory of all abandoned and derelict commercial and recreational vessels on or in waters within the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, including commercially navigable waters, as specified. (Based on 03/26/2025 text)

Position: Monitor

Notes:

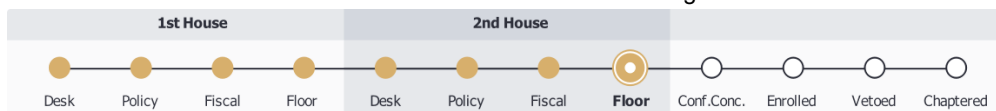
AWC have a support and amend position

AB 293

(Bennett, D) Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

Current Text: 01/22/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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



Location: 06/11/2025 - Senate THIRD READING

Summary: Current law requires a groundwater sustainability plan to be developed and implemented for each medium- or high-priority basin by a groundwater sustainability agency. Current law authorizes any local agency or combination of local agencies overlying a groundwater basin to decide to become a groundwater sustainability agency for that basin, as provided. Current law requires members of the board of directors and the executive, as defined, of a groundwater sustainability agency to file statements of economic interests with the Fair Political Practices Commission using the commission's online system for filing statements of economic interests. This bill would require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish the membership of its board of directors on its internet website, or on the local agency's

internet website, as provided. The bill would also require each groundwater sustainability agency to publish a link on its internet website or its local agency's internet website to the location on the Fair Political Practices Commission's internet website where the statements of economic interests, filed by the members of the board and executives of the agency, can be viewed. (Based on 01/22/2025 text)

Position: Watch

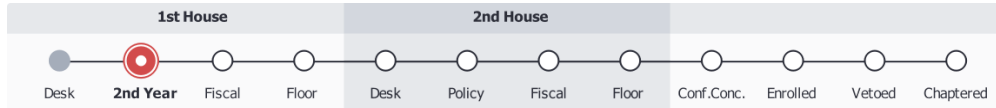
Notes:

ACWA = Not Favor. Share the goal of transparency, but existing law already requires filing and disclosure of forms on the Secretary of State's website. Onerous requirement that does not apply to any other group of water related organizations.

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

Current Text: 01/23/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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)



Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: The Jobs and Economic Improvement Through Environmental Leadership Act of 2021 authorizes the Governor, until January 1, 2032, to certify environmental leadership development projects that meet specified requirements for certain streamlining benefits related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The act, among other things, requires a lead agency to prepare the record of proceedings for an environmental leadership development project, as provided, and to provide a specified notice within 10 days of the Governor certifying the project. The act is repealed by its own term on January 1, 2034. This bill would extend the application of the act to water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects that provide public benefits and drought preparedness. Because a lead agency would be required to prepare the record of proceedings for water storage projects, water conveyance projects, and groundwater recharge projects pursuant to the act, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 01/23/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:-

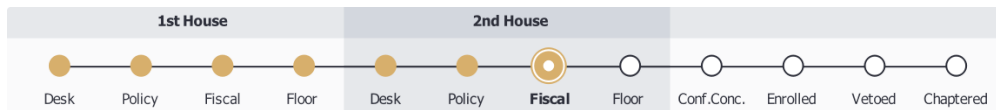
SWC are supporting

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

Current Text: 07/15/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/15/2025

Status: 07/15/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/09/2025 - Senate Appropriations

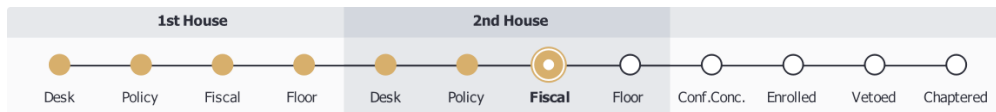
Summary: The Meyers-Milias-Brown Act contains various provisions that govern collective bargaining of local represented employees and delegates jurisdiction to the Public Employment Relations Board to resolve disputes and enforce the statutory duties and rights of local public agency employers and employees. Current law requires the governing body of a public agency to meet and confer in good faith regarding wages, hours, and other terms and conditions of employment with representatives of recognized employee organizations. Current law requires the governing body of a public agency, and boards and commissions designated by law or by the governing body, to give reasonable written notice, except in cases of emergency, as specified, to each recognized employee organization affected of any ordinance, rule, resolution, or regulation directly relating to matters within the scope of representation proposed to be adopted by the governing body or the designated boards and commissions. This bill would require the governing body of a public agency, and boards and commissions designated by law or by the governing body of a public agency, to give the recognized employee organization no less than 60 days' written notice before issuing a request for proposals, request for quotes, or renewing or extending an existing contract to perform services that are within the scope of work of the job classifications represented by the recognized employee organization, subject to certain exceptions. The bill would require the notice to include specified information, including the anticipated duration of the contract. The bill would also require the public agency, if an emergency or other exigent circumstance prevents the public agency from providing the written notice described above, to provide as much advance notice as is practicable under the circumstances. (Based on 07/15/2025 text)

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

Current Text: 03/05/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/05/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 10. Noes 2.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Current law that governs the labor relations of public employees and employers, including, among others, the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act, the Ralph C. Dills Act, provisions relating to public schools, and provisions relating to higher education, prohibits employers from taking certain actions relating to employee organization, including imposing or threatening to impose reprisals on employees, discriminating or threatening to discriminate against employees, or otherwise interfering with, restraining, or coercing employees because of their exercise of their guaranteed rights. Those provisions of current law further prohibit denying to employee organizations the rights guaranteed to them by current law. This bill would prohibit a public employer from questioning a public employee, a representative of a recognized employee organization, or an exclusive representative regarding communications made in confidence between an employee and an employee representative in connection with representation relating to any matter within the scope of the recognized employee organization's representation. (Based on 03/05/2025 text)

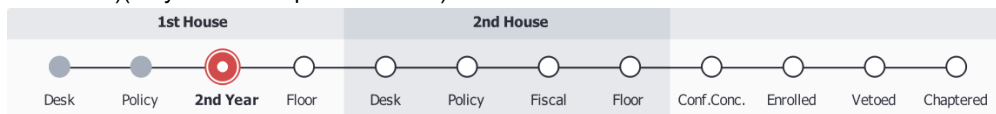
AB 362

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

Current Text: 04/21/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/21/2025

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)



Location: 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act establishes a statewide program for the control of the quality of all the waters in the state and makes certain legislative findings and declarations. Current law defines the term "beneficial uses" for the purposes of water quality as certain waters of the state that may be protected against quality degradation, to include, among others, domestic, municipal, agricultural, and industrial supplies. This bill would add findings and declarations related to California tribal communities, as defined, and the importance of protecting tribal water use. The bill would add tribal water uses as waters of the state that may be protected against quality degradation for purposes of the defined term "beneficial uses." (Based on 04/21/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:-

ACWA = Oppose Unless Amended

SWG = Oppose Unless Amended

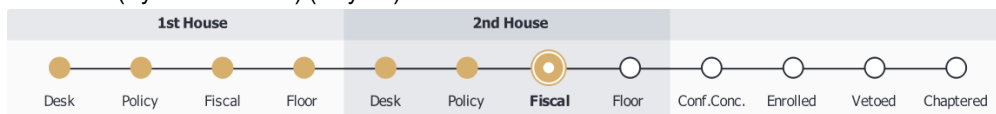
AB 372

(Bennett, D) Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

Current Text: 04/21/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/21/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 16). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Current law establishes, within the office of the Governor, the Office of Emergency Services (OES), under the direction of the Director of Emergency Services. Current law charges the OES with coordinating various emergency activities within the state. The California Emergency Services Act, contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature, requires the OES to enter into a joint powers agreement pursuant to the Joint Exercise of Powers Act with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program relating to structure hardening and retrofitting and prescribed fuel modification activities. Current law authorizes the joint powers authority to establish financial assistance limits and matching funding or other recipient contribution requirements for the program, as provided. This bill, contingent on funding being appropriated pursuant to a specified bond act, would establish the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program within the OES for the distribution of state matching funds to urban wildland interface communities, as defined, in designated high fire hazard severity zones or

very high fire hazard severity zones to improve water system infrastructure, as prescribed. The bill would require the OES to work in coordination with the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and other state entities as the OES determines to be appropriate, to achieve the purposes of the program. (Based on 04/21/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

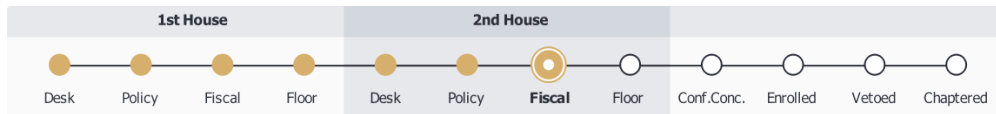
Monitor

AB 428 (**Rubio, Blanca, D**) **Joint powers agreements: water corporations.**

Current Text: 03/28/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/28/2025

Status: 07/08/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 16. Noes 0.) (July 7). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/07/2025 - Senate Appropriations

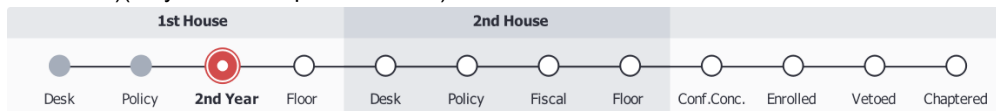
Summary: The Joint Exercise of Powers Act authorizes 2 or more public agencies, if authorized by their governing bodies, by agreement to jointly exercise any power common to the contracting parties. Current law authorizes 2 or more local public entities, or a mutual water company, as defined, and a public agency, to provide insurance, as specified, by a joint powers agreement. Current law authorizes a mutual water company and a public agency to enter into a joint powers agreement for the purposes of risk pooling, as specified. This bill would authorize a water corporation, as defined, a mutual water company, and one or more public agencies to provide insurance, as specified, by a joint powers agreement. The bill would also authorize a water corporation, a mutual water company, and one or more public agencies to enter into a joint powers agreement for the purposes of risk pooling, as specified. The bill would prohibit the Public Utilities Commission from allowing a water corporation to join a joint powers agency for insurance coverage if there are no greater benefits to the customers of the water corporation than are provided by the water corporation's current insurance policy. (Based on 03/28/2025 text)

AB 430 (**Alanis, R**) **State Water Resources Control Board: emergency regulations.**

Current Text: 05/01/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 05/01/2025

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)



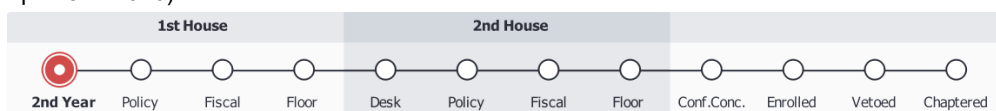
Location: 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law provides that an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board following a Governor's proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions, for which the board makes specified findings, may remain in effect for up to one year, as provided, and may be renewed if the board determines that specified conditions relating to precipitation are still in effect. This bill would require the board, within 180 days following a finding by the board that a nonfee emergency regulation is no longer necessary, as provided, to conduct a comprehensive economic study assessing the impacts of the regulation, as specified. (Based on 05/01/2025 text)

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

Current Text: 02/10/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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)



Location: 05/08/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law makes available to the Natural Resources Agency bond funds for, among other things, implementing an updated State Water Resources Control Board's San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Water Quality Control Plan (Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan), which establishes water quality control measures and flow requirements needed to provide reasonable protection of beneficial uses in the watershed. This bill

would state the intent of the Legislature to enact future legislation relating to the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan. (Based on 02/10/2025 text)

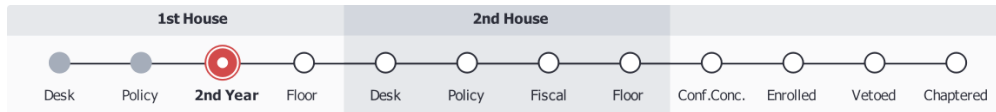
Position: Watch

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

Current Text: 05/01/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 05/01/2025

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)



Location: 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Would declare that it is the established policy of the state to encourage, but not mandate, the development of emergency water supplies by both local and regional water suppliers, as defined, and to support their use during times of drought or unplanned service or supply disruption, as provided. (Based on 05/01/2025 text)

Position: Support

Notes:

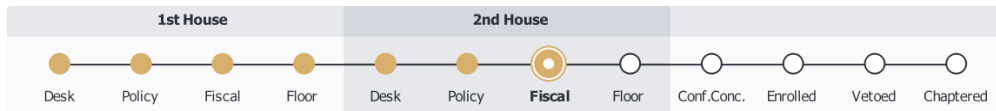
Per Framework, Zone 7's position is "favor"

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

Current Text: 07/03/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/03/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 16). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: The Stormwater Resource Planning Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board, by July 1, 2016, to establish guidance for purposes of the act. This bill would require the board, by December 1, 2026, to develop recommendations for stormwater capture and use for the irrigation of urban public lands, as defined. The bill would require the recommendations to address, but not be limited to, opportunities for the use of captured stormwater for irrigation to offset the use of potable water, as specified, and recommendations for, among other things, pathogens and pathogen indicators and total suspended solids. Prior to approving the recommendations, the bill would require the board to solicit and receive written public comment on proposed recommendations. (Based on 07/03/2025 text)

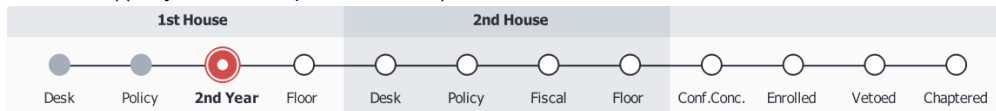
Position: Watch

AB 717 (Aguiar-Curry, D) Water rights: appropriation: small restoration use.

Current Text: 03/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

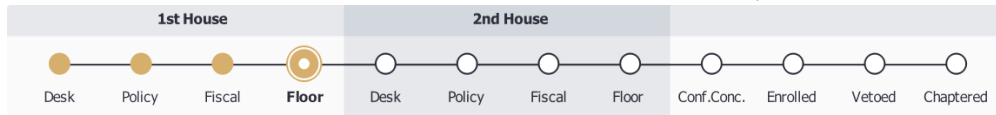
Last Amended: 03/10/2025

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)



Location: 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: The Water Rights Permitting Reform Act of 1988 authorizes any person to obtain a right to appropriate water for a small domestic, small irrigation, or livestock stockpond use, as defined, upon registering the use with the State Water Resources Control Board, as prescribed, payment of a registration fee, and application of the water to reasonable and beneficial use with due diligence. Current law requires a person, in registering their water use to the board, to set forth a certification that the registrant has contacted the Department of Fish and Wildlife and to include a copy of any conditions required by the department. This bill would authorize any person to also obtain a right to appropriate water for a small restoration use, as defined. The bill would also authorize a person to apply for a restoration management permit from the Department of Fish and Wildlife, as provided, and if the permit is issued, the person would be required to include a copy of any conditions required by the restoration management permit with the required certification. (Based on 03/10/2025 text)

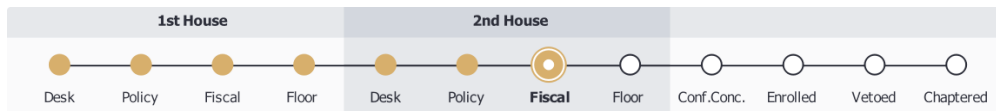
Position: Watch**AB 794** **(Gabriel, D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.****Current Text:** 04/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 04/10/2025**Status:** 06/12/2025 - Ordered to inactive file at the request of Assembly Member Gabriel.**Location:** 06/12/2025 - Assembly INACTIVE FILE

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act (state act) requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer provisions relating to the regulation of drinking water to protect public health. The state board's duties include, but are not limited to, enforcing the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (federal act) and adopting and enforcing regulations. Current law authorizes the state board to adopt as an emergency regulation, a regulation that is not more stringent than, and is not materially different in substance and effect than, the requirements of a regulation promulgated under the federal act, with a specified exception. This bill would provide that the authority of the state board to adopt an emergency regulation pursuant to these provisions includes the authority to adopt requirements of a specified federal regulation that was in effect on January 19, 2025, regardless of whether the requirements were repealed or amended to be less stringent. The bill would prohibit an emergency regulation adopted pursuant to these provisions from implementing less stringent drinking water standards, as provided, and would authorize the regulation to include monitoring requirements that are more stringent than the requirements of the federal regulation. The bill would prohibit maximum contaminant levels and compliance dates for maximum contaminant levels adopted as part of an emergency regulation from being more stringent than the maximum contaminant levels and compliance dates of a regulation promulgated pursuant to the federal act. (Based on 04/10/2025 text)

Position: Monitor +**Notes:**

CMUA = Opposed

ACWA Task Force = Oppose Unless Amended

AB 942 **(Calderon, D) Electricity: climate credits.****Current Text:** 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 07/17/2025**Status:** 07/17/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 07/15/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Current law vests the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) with regulatory authority over public utilities, including electrical corporations. Current law requires the PUC to continue a program of assistance to low-income electric and gas customers with annual household incomes that are no greater than 200% of the federal poverty guidelines, as specified, which is referred to as the California Alternate Rates for Energy (CARE) program. Current law also requires the PUC to continue a program of assistance to residential customers of the state's 3 largest electrical corporations consisting of households of 3 or more persons with total household annual gross income levels between 200% and 250% of the federal poverty guideline level, which is referred to as the Family Electric Rate Assistance (FERA) program. Current law, except as provided, requires revenues received by an electrical corporation as a result of the direct allocation of greenhouse gas allowances to be credited directly to residential, small business, and emissions-intensive trade-exposed retail customers of the electrical corporation, commonly known as the California Climate Credit. This bill would exclude residential customers from receiving the California Climate Credit if they are not enrolled in the CARE or FERA program and their total electricity bills for the previous year were less than \$300. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

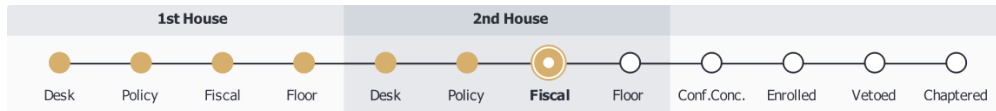
Position: Oppose**Notes:**

Coalition letter -

Official position = not favor

AB 1096 **(Connolly, D) Water: schoolsites: lead testing.****Current Text:** 07/09/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 07/09/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 8. Noes 0.) (July 16). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

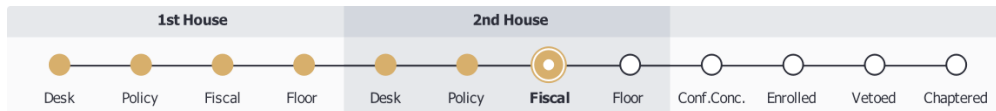
Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer provisions relating to the regulation of drinking water to protect public health. Current federal regulations require community water systems to contact all schools and childcare facilities, as defined, to provide information about the health risks from lead in drinking water and of eligibility to be sampled for lead by the water system. Current federal regulations require a community water system to report to the state annually on the notification of eligibility and sampling for lead, and information regarding the number and names of schools and childcare facilities served by the water system, those sampled in the previous year, the facilities that declined sampling, facilities that did not respond to outreach attempts for sampling, and information pertaining to those outreach attempts for sampling. This bill would require a community water system, when making outreach attempts to elementary schools and childcare facilities for the purposes of offering lead sampling in drinking water, to compile specified information and to provide elementary schools and childcare facilities that decline lead testing with an opportunity to provide information about their reasons for declining by allowing them to select from a list that includes specified options, unless the school or childcare facility is exempted from lead testing by federal waiver, as provided. The bill would authorize the state board to add additional reasons for declining lead testing to that list. The bill would require a community water system to submit all of the above-described information that it compiles or that is provided to it to the state board, as provided. The bill would require the state board, on or before June 30, 2028, to make all of that information publicly available in a searchable format on its internet website, as specified. (Based on 07/09/2025 text)

AB 1146 (Papan, D) Water infrastructure: dams and reservoirs: water release: false pretenses.

Current Text: 06/23/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 06/23/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 12. Noes 1.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

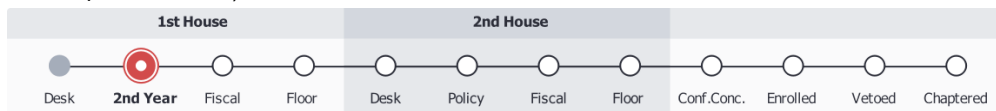
Summary: Would prohibit the release of stored water from a reservoir owned and operated by the United States in this state if the release is done under false pretenses, which the bill would define to mean a release of water from a reservoir owned and operated by the United States in a manner that is knowingly, designedly, and intentionally under any false or fraudulent representation as to the purpose and intended use of the water. The bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board or the Attorney General, as provided, to bring an action for injunctive relief for a violation of the above-described prohibition. By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. (Based on 06/23/2025 text)

Position: Watch

AB 1203 (Ahrens, D) Water conservation: water wise designation.

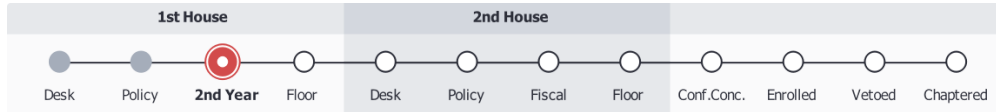
Current Text: 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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



Location: 05/01/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

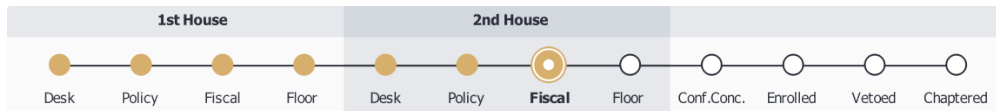
Summary: Current law requires the State Water Resources Control Board, in coordination with the Department of Water Resources, to adopt long-term standards for the efficient use of water and performance measures for commercial, industrial, and institutional water use (CII water use), among other water uses, before June 30, 2022. Current law requires the department, in coordination with the board, to conduct necessary studies and investigations and make recommendations, no later than October 1, 2021, for purposes of those standards and performance measures for CII water use. This bill would require the department and the Office of Community Partnerships and Strategic Communications to include, within the Save Our Water Campaign, a statewide "water wise" designation to be awarded to businesses in the CII sector that meet or exceed the recommendations for CII water use best management practices pursuant to those performance measures. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: Watch**AB 1232 (Ávila Fariás, D) Administrative Procedure Act: proposed regulations: cost of living impact on residents of the state.****Current Text:** 03/28/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 03/28/2025**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)**Location:** 05/23/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: The Administrative Procedure Act governs the procedure for the adoption, amendment, or repeal of regulations by state agencies and for the review of those regulatory actions by the Office of Administrative Law. The act requires a state agency proposing to adopt, amend, or repeal any administrative regulation to assess the potential for adverse economic impact on California business enterprises and individuals and requires the state agency to adhere to specified requirements in making that assessment. This bill would include among those requirements for assessing the potential for adverse economic impact the consideration of the proposal's cost of living impacts on residents of the state, as defined. (Based on 03/28/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

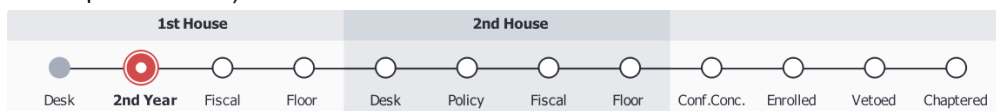
SWC = watch

AB 1319 (Schultz, D) Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.**Current Text:** 07/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 07/10/2025**Status:** 07/10/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 07/08/2025 - Senate Appropriations

Summary: Would make it unlawful for a person in California to transport, sell, offer for sale, possess with the intent to sell, receive, acquire, or purchase any fish, wildlife, or plant that was taken, possessed, transported, or sold in violation of any statute of the United States with regard to national or international trade of fish, wildlife, or plants in effect on January 19, 2025. The bill would make these provisions inoperative on December 31, 2031, and would repeal them on January 1, 2032. (Based on 07/10/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

SWC = watch

AB 1367 (Gallagher, R) The California Water Plan: water storage.**Current Text:** 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Status:** 05/01/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(2). (Last location was W.,P. & W. on 3/13/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)**Location:** 05/01/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

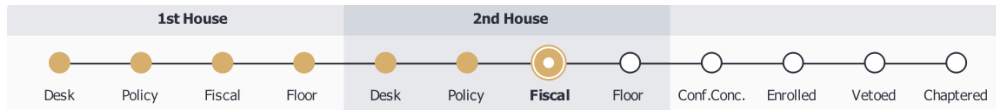
Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the California Water Plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state. This bill would require the department to amend The California Water Plan to state that water storage is the preferred method to be used by the state to meet increased water demands by urban, agricultural, and environmental interests. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Position: Watch**AB 1373 (Soria, D) Water quality: state certification.**

Current Text: 05/23/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 05/23/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To Consent Calendar. (Ayes 8. Noes 0.) (July 16). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Senate Appropriations

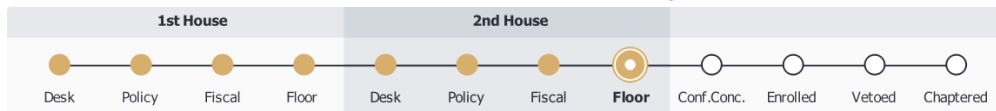
Summary: The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to certify or provide a statement to a federal agency, as required pursuant to federal law, that there is reasonable assurance that an activity of any person subject to the jurisdiction of the state board will not reduce water quality below applicable standards. The federal act provides that if a state fails or refuses to act on a request for this certification within a reasonable period of time, which shall not exceed one year after receipt of the request, then the state certification requirements are waived with respect to the federal application. This bill would require the state board, if requested by the applicant within 14 days of an initial draft certification being issued, to hold a public hearing at least 21 days before taking action on an application for certification for a license to operate a hydroelectric facility. The bill would, if a public hearing is requested on the draft certification, prohibit the authority to issue a certification for a license to operate a hydroelectric facility from being delegated. The bill would authorize the state board to include in its fee schedule for hydroelectric facility applicants an amount up to the reasonable costs incurred by the state board in implementing these provisions. (Based on 05/23/2025 text)

Position: Watch

ACR 32 **(Carrillo, D) March4Water Month.**

Current Text: 02/13/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Status: 04/02/2025 - From committee: Ordered to third reading.



Location: 04/02/2025 - Senate THIRD READING

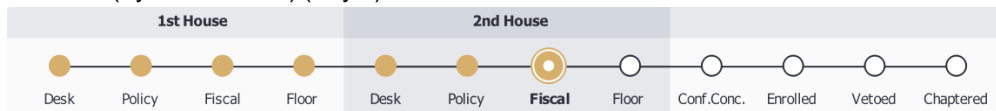
Summary: Would declare the month of March to be March4Water Month in California and would encourage all Californians to participate in activities and programs during March4Water Month to promote awareness, education, and actions that prioritize water as a vital resource for the state's future. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

SB 31 **(McNerney, D) Water quality: recycled water.**

Current Text: 06/09/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 06/09/2025

Status: 07/02/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To consent calendar. (Ayes 7. Noes 0.) (July 1). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/01/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: The Water Recycling Law generally provides for the use of recycled water. Current law requires any person who, without regard to intent or negligence, causes or permits an unauthorized discharge of 50,000 gallons or more of recycled water in or on any waters of the state to immediately notify the appropriate regional water board. This bill would, for the purposes of the above provision, redefine "recycled water" and provide that water discharged from a decorative body of water during storm events is not to be considered an unauthorized discharge if recycled water was used to restore levels due to evaporation. (Based on 06/09/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

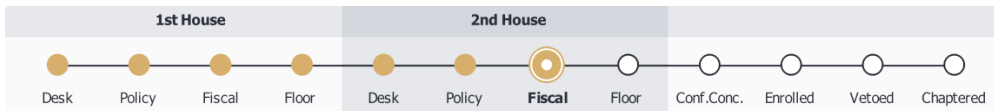
Monitor

SB 72 **(Caballero, D) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.**

Current Text: 04/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/10/2025

Status: 07/16/2025 - July 16 set for first hearing. Placed on suspense file.



Location: 07/16/2025 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as "The California Water Plan." Current law requires the department to include a discussion of various strategies in the plan update, including, but not limited to, strategies relating to the development of new water storage facilities, water conservation, water recycling, desalination, conjunctive use, and water transfers, that may be pursued in order to meet the future needs of the state. Current law requires the department to establish an advisory committee to assist the department in updating the plan. This bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the department to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include, among others, tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, as part of the 2033 update to the plan, to update the interim planning target for 2050, as provided. The bill would require the target to consider the identified and future water needs for all beneficial uses, including, but not limited to, urban uses, agricultural uses, tribal uses, and the environment, and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, among other things. The bill would require the plan to include specified components, including a discussion of the estimated costs, benefits, and impacts of any project type or action that is recommended by the department within the plan that could help achieve the water supply targets. (Based on 04/10/2025 text)

Position: Support

Notes:

ACWA = Support and Amend

CMUA/CSAC = Sponsor

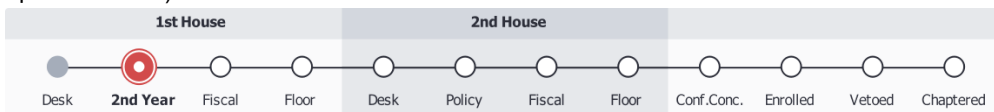
SWC = Support

SB 73

(Cervantes, D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemptions.

Current Text: 01/15/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

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)



Location: 05/01/2025 - Senate 2 YEAR

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report (EIR) on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. CEQA exempts from its requirements certain residential, employment center, and mixed-use development projects meeting specified criteria, including that the project is located in a transit priority area and that the project is undertaken and is consistent with a specific plan for which an environmental impact report has been certified. This bill would additionally exempt those projects located in a very low vehicle travel area, as defined. The bill would require that the project is undertaken and is consistent with either a specific plan prepared pursuant to specific provisions of law or a community plan, as defined, for which an EIR has been certified within the preceding 15 years in order to be exempt. (Based on 01/15/2025 text)

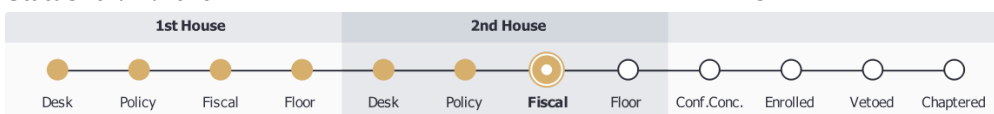
SB 224

(Hurtado, D) Department of Water Resources: water supply forecasting.

Current Text: 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/17/2025

Status: 07/17/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/15/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to gather and correlate information and data pertinent to an annual forecast of seasonal water crop. Current law also requires the department to update every 5 years the plan for the orderly and coordinated control, protection, conservation, development, and use of the water resources of the state, which is known as "The California Water Plan." This bill would require the department, on or before January

1, 2027, to update its water supply forecasting models and procedures to address the effects of climate change and implement a formal policy and procedures for documenting the department's operational plans and the department's rationale for its operating procedures, including the department's rationale for water releases from reservoirs. The bill would also require the department to establish, and publish on the department's internet website, the specific criteria that it will employ to determine when its updated water supply forecasting model has demonstrated sufficient predictive capability to be ready for use in each of the watersheds. The bill would require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report on its progress toward implementing the new forecasting model and to post the report on the department's internet website. The bill would also require the department, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to prepare and submit to the Legislature a report that explains the rationale for the department's operating procedures specific to the previous water year. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

Position: Watch

Notes:

SWC = watch

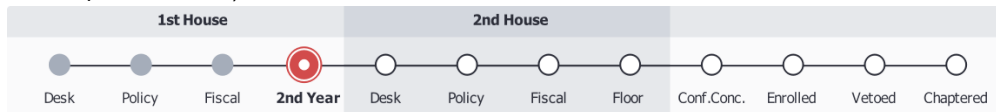
SB 239

(Arreguin, D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

Current Text: 04/07/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/07/2025

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)



Location: 06/05/2025 - Senate 2 YEAR

Summary: The Ralph M. Brown Act requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Current law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Current law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at each physical meeting location designated by the subsidiary body, as specified. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, as specified. (Based on 04/07/2025 text)

Position: Watch

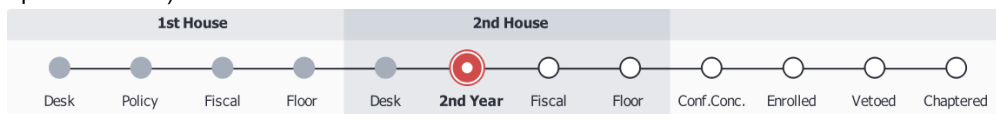
SB 330

(Padilla, D) Electrical transmission infrastructure: financing.

Current Text: 06/30/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 06/30/2025

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)



Location: 07/17/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

Summary: Current law makes an environmental leadership development project, as defined, that meets specified requirements and is certified by the Governor eligible for streamlined procedures under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Current law authorizes persons proposing eligible facilities, including certain electrical transmission lines and electrical transmission projects, to file applications, on or before June 30, 2029, with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission) to certify sites and related facilities as environmental leadership development projects, as specified. Current law makes a site and related facility certified by the Energy Commission as an environmental leadership development project subject to streamlined procedures under CEQA with no further action by the applicant or the Governor. Under current law, the Energy Commission's certification of sites and related facilities is in lieu of any permit, certificate, or similar document required by any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, for the use of the sites and related facilities,

and supersedes any applicable statute, ordinance, or regulation of any state, local, or regional agency, or federal agency to the extent permitted by federal law, except as specified. This bill would authorize the Governor to establish one or more pilot projects to develop, finance, or operate electrical transmission infrastructure that meets specified criteria, including, among other things, that the transmission infrastructure is identified by the Independent System Operator in its transmission planning process as a project subject to competitive bidding and necessary to support clean energy generation to meet the state's clean energy goals. The bill would require the Governor to designate existing state agencies, local public agencies, tribal organizations, or joint powers authorities to implement the pilot projects. (Based on 06/30/2025 text)

Position: Monitor

Notes:

SWC = Support

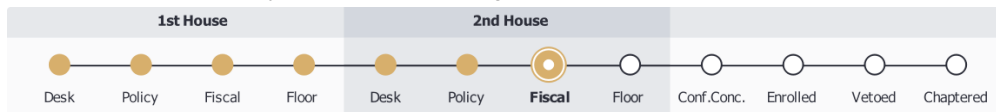
SB 454

(McNerney, D) State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.

Current Text: 05/23/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 05/23/2025

Status: 07/02/2025 - July 2 set for first hearing. Placed on suspense file.



Location: 07/02/2025 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Existing law designates the State Water Resources Control Board as the agency responsible for administering specific programs related to drinking water, including, among others, the California Safe Drinking Water Act and the Emerging Contaminants for Small or Disadvantaged Communities Funding Program. This bill, which would become operative upon an appropriation by the Legislature, would enact a PFAS mitigation program. As part of that program, the bill would create the PFAS Mitigation Fund in the State Treasury and would authorize certain moneys in the fund to be expended by the state board, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for specified purposes. The bill would authorize the state board to seek out and deposit nonstate, federal, and private funds, require those funds to be deposited into the PFAS Mitigation Fund, and continuously appropriate the nonstate, federal, and private funds in the fund to the state board for specified purposes. The bill would authorize the state board to establish accounts within the PFAS Mitigation Fund. The bill would authorize the state board to expend moneys from the fund in the form of a grant, loan, or contract, or to provide assistance services to water suppliers and sewer system providers, as those terms are defined, for multiple purposes, including, among other things, to cover or reduce the costs for water suppliers associated with treating drinking water to meet the applicable state and federal maximum perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) contaminant levels. The bill would require a water supplier or sewer system provider to include a clear and definite purpose for how the funds will be used to provide public benefits to their community related to safe drinking water, recycled water, or treated wastewater in order to be eligible to receive funds. The bill would require the state board to adopt guidelines to implement these provisions, as provided. (Based on 05/23/2025 text)

Position: Support

Notes:

CMUA = Favor

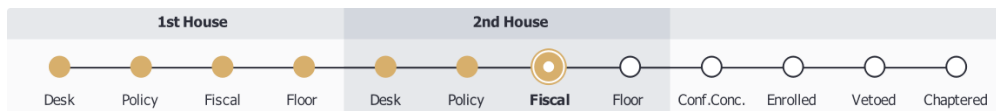
SB 470

(Laird, D) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

Current Text: 04/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 04/10/2025

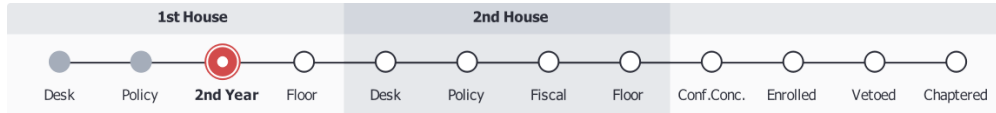
Status: 07/10/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 17. Noes 5.) (July 9). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/09/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Existing law, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a state body be open and public and all persons be permitted to attend any meeting of a state body. The act authorizes meetings through teleconference subject to specified requirements, including, among others, that the state body post agendas at all teleconference locations, that each teleconference location be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that the agenda provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the state body directly at each teleconference location, and that at least one member of the state body be physically present at the location specified in the notice of the meeting. This bill would instead repeal these provisions on January 1, 2030. (Based on 04/10/2025 text)

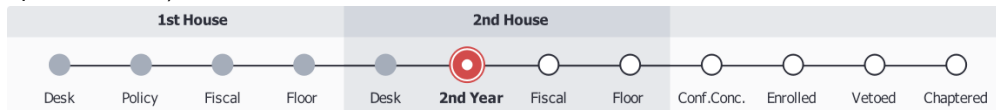
Position: Watch

SB 496 (Hurtado, D) Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: appeals advisory committee: exemptions.**Current Text:** 04/07/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 04/07/2025**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)**Location:** 05/23/2025 - Senate 2 YEAR

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 establishes the State Air Resources Board as the state agency responsible for monitoring and regulating sources emitting greenhouse gases and requires the state board to adopt rules and regulations to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions from those sources. Pursuant to its authority, the state board has adopted the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation, which imposes various requirements for transitioning local, state, and federal government fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, other high-priority fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and drayage trucks to zero-emission vehicles. The Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation authorizes entities subject to the regulation to apply for exemptions from its requirements under certain circumstances. This bill would require the state board to establish the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation Appeals Advisory Committee by an unspecified date for purposes of reviewing appeals of denied requests for exemptions from the requirements of the Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation. The bill would require the committee to include representatives of specified governmental and nongovernmental entities. The bill would require the committee to meet monthly and would require recordings of its meetings to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. The bill would require the committee to consider, and make a recommendation on, an appeal of an exemption request denial no later than 60 days after the appeal is made. The bill would require specified information relating to the committee's consideration of an appeal to be made publicly available on the state board's internet website. (Based on 04/07/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

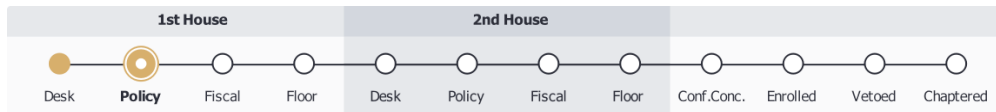
The bill is sponsored by CSAC, CSDA, and Cal Cities.

SB 540 (Becker, D) Independent System Operator: independent regional organization: California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program.**Current Text:** 05/29/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 05/29/2025**Status:** 07/17/2025 - Failed Deadline pursuant to Rule 61(a)(10). (Last location was U. & E. on 7/10/2025)(May be acted upon Jan 2026)**Location:** 07/17/2025 - Assembly 2 YEAR

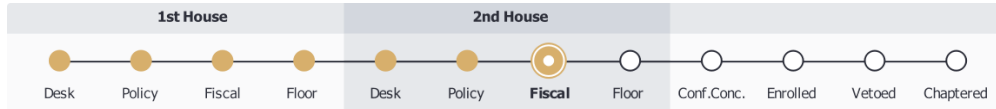
Summary: Current law provides for the establishment of an Independent System Operator (ISO) as a nonprofit public benefit corporation and requires the ISO to ensure efficient use and reliable operation of the electrical transmission grid consistent with achieving planning and operating reserve criteria no less stringent than those established by the Western Electricity Coordinating Council and the North American Electric Reliability Council. The Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015 provides for the transformation of the ISO into a regional organization, with the approval of the Legislature, pursuant to a specified process. That process provides that modifications to the ISO's governance structure, through changes to its bylaws or other corporate governance documents, will not become effective until the ISO, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC), the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission (Energy Commission), the State Air Resources Board (state board), the Governor, and the Legislature take specified actions on or before January 1, 2019. This bill would delete the above-described provisions providing for the transformation of the ISO into a regional organization. The bill would authorize the ISO and the electrical corporations that are participating transmission owners whose transmission systems are operated by the ISO to use voluntary energy markets governed by an independent regional organization, only if specified requirements are satisfied. The bill would authorize the ISO, on or after January 1, 2028, to implement tariff modifications accepted by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to operate the energy markets whose rules are governed by an independent regional organization if the governing board of the ISO adopts a resolution, as specified, finding that each of the specified requirements have been, or will be, adopted by the independent regional organization. (Based on 05/29/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

SWC = watch

SB 557 (**Hurtado, D**) Sustainable groundwater management: basin boundaries.**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Status:** 03/05/2025 - Referred to Com. on RLS.**Location:** 02/20/2025 - Senate Rules

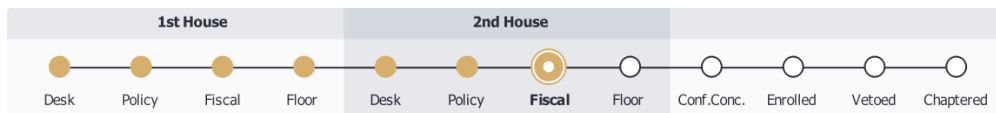
Summary: Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans, except as specified. The act requires the boundaries of a basin to be those identified in a specified report of the department, unless other basin boundaries are established, as prescribed. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change in the provision relating to basin boundaries. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: Watch**SB 599** (**Caballero, D**) Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools.**Current Text:** 04/24/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 04/24/2025**Status:** 07/16/2025 - July 16 set for first hearing. Placed on suspense file.**Location:** 07/16/2025 - Assembly APPR. SUSPENSE FILE

Summary: Current law establishes the Atmospheric Rivers Research and Forecast Improvement Program: Enabling Climate Adaptation Through Forecast-Informed Reservoir Operations and Hazard Resiliency (AR/FIRO) Program in the Department of Water Resources. Current law requires the department to operate reservoirs in a manner that improves flood protection, and to reoperate flood control and water storage facilities to capture water generated by atmospheric rivers. This bill would, for novel forecasting methods researched, developed, and implemented by the department, require the department to include the use of experimental tools that produce seasonal and subseasonal atmospheric river forecasts, as defined. (Based on 04/24/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

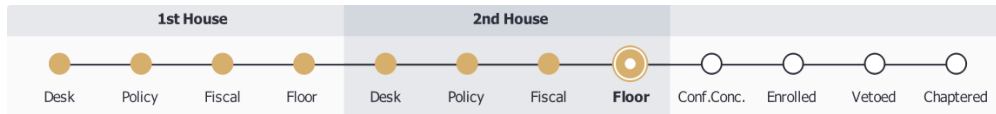
SWC = watch

SB 601 (**Allen, D**) Water: waste discharge.**Current Text:** 07/10/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 07/10/2025**Status:** 07/16/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 5. Noes 2.) (July 15). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 07/16/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

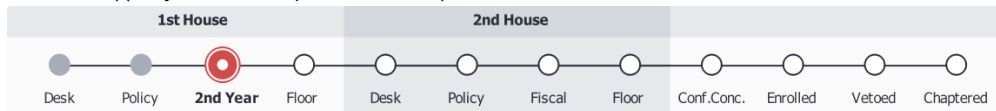
Summary: The State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards regulate water quality and prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (act) and the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program. Under the act, the State Water Resources Control Board is authorized to adopt water quality control plans for waters for which quality standards are required by the federal Clean Water Act, as specified, and that in the event of a conflict, those plans supersede regional water quality control plans for the same waters. This bill would authorize the state board to adopt water quality control plans for nexus waters, which the bill would define as all waters of the state that are not also navigable, except as specified. The bill would require any water quality standard that was submitted to, and approved by, or is awaiting approval by, the United States Environmental Protection Agency or the state board that applied to nexus waters as of May 24, 2023, to remain in effect, as provided. (Based on 07/10/2025 text)

Position: Watch**Notes:**

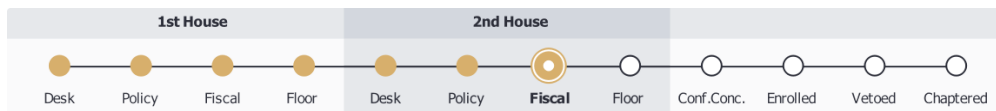
CMUA = Opposed

SB 650 (Cabaldon, D) The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.**Current Text:** 04/09/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 04/09/2025**Status:** 07/17/2025 - Read second time. Ordered to consent calendar.**Location:** 07/16/2025 - Assembly CONSENT CALENDAR

Summary: The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 provides that it is the intent of the Legislature to provide for the sustainable management of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta ecosystem, to provide for a more reliable water supply for the state, to protect and enhance the quality of water supply from the Delta, as defined, and to establish a governance structure that will direct efforts across state agencies to develop a legally enforceable Delta Plan. This bill would make the provisions of the Delta Plan severable. (Based on 04/09/2025 text)

Position: Watch**SB 654 (Stern, D) California Environmental Protection Agency: contract: registry: greenhouse gas emissions that result from the water-energy nexus.****Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**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)**Location:** 05/23/2025 - Senate 2 YEAR

Summary: The California Environmental Protection Agency is required to oversee the development of a registry for greenhouse gas emissions that result from the water-energy nexus using the best available data. Current law provides that participation in the registry is voluntary and open to any entity conducting business in the state. Existing law authorizes the agency to enter into a contract with a qualified nonprofit organization to do specified things, including to recruit broad participation in the registry from all economic sectors and regions of the state. Current law limits the term of the term of the contract to 3 years, except as provided. This bill would instead require the agency to oversee the administration of the above-described registry and would authorize the agency to enter into a new contract, limited to a term of 3 years and with a total budget of \$2,000,000, to do specified things, including to recruit broad participation in the registry from all economic sectors and regions of the state to meet the different needs of water users throughout the state by various means, as provided. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

Position: Watch**SB 682 (Allen, D) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.****Current Text:** 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Last Amended:** 07/17/2025**Status:** 07/17/2025 - Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.**Location:** 07/16/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: (1)Existing law requires the Department of Toxic Substances Control, on or before January 1, 2029, to adopt regulations to enforce specified covered perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) restrictions, which include prohibitions on the distribution, sale, or offering for sale of certain products that contain specified levels of PFAS. Existing law requires the department, on and after July 1, 2030, to enforce and ensure compliance with those provisions and regulations, as provided. Existing law requires manufacturers of these products, on or before July 1, 2029, to register with the department, to pay a registration fee to the department, and to provide a statement of compliance certifying compliance with the applicable prohibitions on the use of PFAS to the department, as specified. Existing law authorizes the department to test products and to rely on third-party testing to determine compliance with prohibitions on the use of PFAS, as specified. Existing law requires the department to issue a notice of violation for a product in violation of the prohibitions on the use of PFAS, as provided. Existing law authorizes the department to assess an administrative penalty for a violation of these prohibitions and authorizes the department to seek an injunction to restrain a person or entity from violating these prohibitions, as specified. This bill would, on and after January 1, 2028, prohibit a person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale a cleaning product, dental floss, juvenile product, food packaging, or ski wax, as provided, that

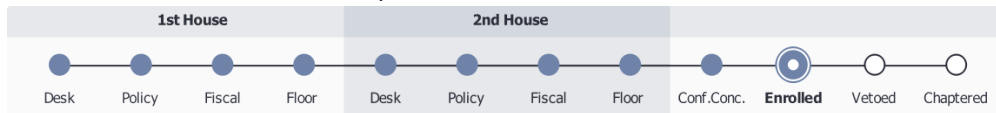
contains intentionally added PFAS, as defined, except for previously used products and as otherwise preempted by federal law. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2030, prohibit a person from distributing, selling, or offering for sale cookware that contains intentionally added PFAS, except for previously used products and as otherwise preempted by federal law. The bill would authorize the department, on or before January 1, 2029, to adopt regulations to carry out these provisions. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

Position: Watch

SB 693 (**Cortese, D**) **Employees: meal periods.**

Current Text: 07/25/2025 - Enrollment [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Status: 07/25/2025 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 11 a.m.



Location: 07/25/2025 - Senate ENROLLED

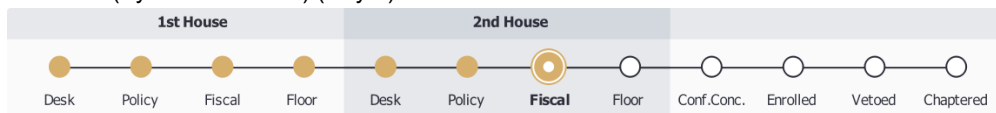
Summary: Current law generally prohibits an employer from employing an employee for a work period of more than 5 hours per day without providing the employee with a meal period of not less than 30 minutes. Current law creates exceptions from this prohibition for employees in specified occupations, including employees of an electrical corporation, a gas corporation, or a local publicly owned electric utility covered by a valid collective bargaining agreement meeting certain conditions. Current law charges the Labor Commissioner with enforcement of these provisions. This bill would also create an exception from the above-described prohibition for employees of a water corporation, as defined. (Based on 07/18/2025 text)

SB 695 (**Cortese, D**) **Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance.**

Current Text: 03/26/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 03/26/2025

Status: 07/08/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. with recommendation: To consent calendar. (Ayes 16. Noes 0.) (July 7). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/07/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Current law establishes the State Transportation Infrastructure Climate Adaptation Program, administered by the Department of Transportation, for purposes of planning, developing, and implementing projects adapting state transportation infrastructure to climate change. Current law requires the department, in consultation with, among others, the Transportation Agency and the California Transportation Commission, to develop a program of its top priority climate adaptation projects and to submit projects in this program to the commission for adoption. Current law requires the department, in developing the program of projects, to consider specified criteria, including, but not limited to, the benefits of the project to preserving or enhancing regional or statewide mobility, economy, goods movement, and safety, and other benefits associated with protecting the asset. This bill would require the department, in consultation with the commission and the agency, and on or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, to create a prioritized list of projects of statewide and regional significance, as defined, to better prepare the state for extreme weather-related events, with priority based on specified criteria. (Based on 03/26/2025 text)

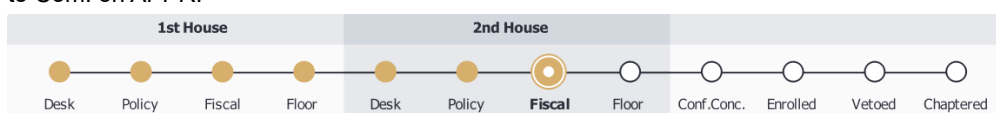
Position: Watch

SB 697 (**Laird, D**) **Determination of water rights: stream system.**

Current Text: 07/03/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/03/2025

Status: 07/09/2025 - From committee: Do pass and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 11. Noes 0.) (July 8). Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/08/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

Summary: Current law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to hold proceedings to determine all rights to water of a stream system whether based upon appropriation, riparian right, or other basis of right. Current law provides various requirements for the board when determining adjudication of water rights, including, among other things, performing a detailed field investigation of a stream system, as defined, issuing an order of determination,

providing notice and a hearing process, and filing a final order. This bill would revise the above-described provisions regarding the board's statutory adjudication of water rights during an investigation of a stream system to, among other things, require representatives of the board to investigate in detail the use of water with the authority, but no requirement, to conduct a field investigation, authorize the board, if the board determines that the information provided by the person, as specified, is inadequate, to issue information orders that require claimants to submit reports of water use from the stream system through a form provided by the board, and require claimants to respond to that order within 75 days of the date of issuance by the board. (Based on 07/03/2025 text)

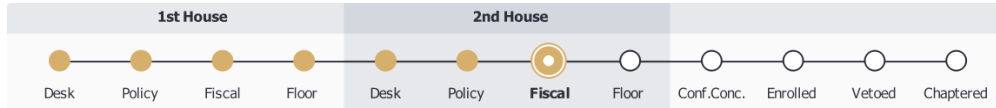
Position: Watch

SB 707 **(Durazo, D) Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.**

Current Text: 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/17/2025

Status: 07/17/2025 - Assembly Rule 63 suspended. From committee: Do pass as amended and re-refer to Com. on APPR. (Ayes 6. Noes 2.) (July 16). Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on APPR.



Location: 07/17/2025 - Assembly Appropriations

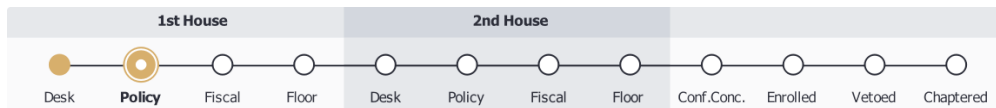
Summary: (1)Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. This bill would, until January 1, 2030, require an eligible legislative body, as defined, to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that, except as specified, all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform, as defined, and that the eligible legislative body take specified actions to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

Position: Watch

SB 742 **(Pérez, D) Water systems and water districts.**

Current Text: 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Status: 03/12/2025 - Referred to Com. on RLS.



Location: 02/21/2025 - Senate Rules

Summary: The California Water District Law provides for the establishment of water districts, and grants a district the power to acquire, plan, construct, maintain, improve, operate, and keep in repair the necessary works for the production, storage, transmission, and distribution of water for irrigation, domestic, industrial, and municipal purposes. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation related to the regulation of water systems and water districts. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

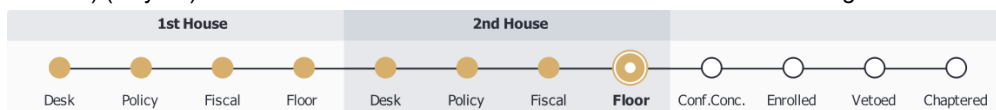
Position: Watch

SB 838 **(Durazo, D) Housing Accountability Act: housing development projects.**

Current Text: 07/17/2025 - Amended [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Last Amended: 07/17/2025

Status: 07/17/2025 - CORRECTED: Assembly Rule 63 suspended. From committee: Do pass as amended. (Ayes 9. Noes 1.) (July 16). Read second time and amended. Ordered to second reading.



Location: 07/17/2025 - Assembly SECOND READING

Summary: Existing law, the Housing Accountability Act, among other things, prohibits a local agency from disapproving, or conditioning approval in a manner that renders infeasible, a housing development project for very low, low-, or moderate-income households unless the local agency makes written findings as to one of certain sets of conditions, as specified. Existing law defines, for its purposes, a housing development project as a use consisting of, among other things, mixed-use developments consisting of residential and nonresidential uses meeting one of several conditions, including that at least 2/3 of the new or converted square footage is designated for residential use. This bill would revise the definition of "housing development project" to, in the case of mixed-use developments with at least 2/3 of the new or

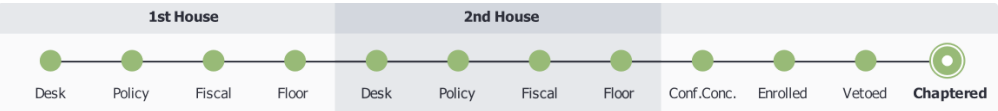
converted square footage designated for residential use, require that no portion of the project be designated for use as a hotel, motel, bed and breakfast inn, or other transient lodging, except as specified. (Based on 07/17/2025 text)

Position: Watch

SCR 3 (Laird, D) Safe Drinking Water Act: 50th anniversary.

Current Text: 07/03/2025 - Chaptered [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

Status: 07/03/2025 - Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 111, Statutes of 2025



Location: 07/03/2025 - Senate CHAPTERED

Summary: Would commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act. (Based on 07/03/2025 text)

Total Measures: 52
Total Tracking Forms: 52

DATE: August 14, 2025

TO: Legislative Committee

FROM: Carol Mahoney, Government Relations Manager

SUBJECT: Legislative Framework and Platform – Review of Progress

SUMMARY:

The 2025 Legislative Framework and Platform was created to help guide Zone 7 staff and Agency consultants in monitoring legislation and other political activities for potential positions and actions. This effort supports initiatives in the Strategic Plan under Goal G – Stakeholder Engagement, more specifically Initiative #20 - Pursuing opportunities for interagency cooperation.

The purpose of this review is to examine if the elements included in the Framework and Platform adequately address key topics of policy interest. Staff will prepare any modifications for consideration by the committee and the board prior to the 2026 legislative session.

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Discuss and provide direction.

ATTACHMENT:

2025 Legislative Framework and Platform

ZONE 7 WATER AGENCY

Legislative Framework and Platform

January 2025



Water Quality

Water Supply
and Treatment



Stormwater Runoff

Flood
Protection



Water Storage

Groundwater
Management

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ZONE 7
ALAMEDA COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION NO. 25-06

INTRODUCED BY DIRECTOR NARUM
SECONDED BY DIRECTOR BENSON

Adopt Revised Legislative Framework and New Platform

WHEREAS, the Board created a Legislative Committee to review and recommend positions on key legislative actions; and

WHEREAS, the adoption of a legislative framework supports Strategic Plan, Goal G – Stakeholder Engagement, and Goal H - Fiscal Responsibility; and

WHEREAS, to provide a roadmap in supporting the goals of the Strategic Plan and to guide the Board, Legislative Committee, and staff on matters pertaining to Agency interests with respect to federal, state, and local government legislative actions, the Legislative Framework was first adopted in December 2021 and revised in March 2023; and

WHEREAS, a Legislative Platform has been developed as a companion document to the Legislative Framework to concisely describe under what circumstances positions may be considered by the Agency related to Goals identified in the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Legislative Committee plans to review the Legislative Framework and Platform annually, with updates as needed.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Zone 7 Board of Directors of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District does hereby adopt the attached Legislative Framework and Platform.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: DIRECTORS BENSON, BROWN, FIGUERS, GAMBS, GREEN, NARUM, PALMER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

I certify that the foregoing is a correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of Zone 7 of the Alameda County Flood Control and Water Conservation District on January 15, 2025.

Dennis H. Gambs

By: _____
President, Board of Directors

PURPOSE AND GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The purpose of the Legislative Framework (Framework) is to provide the Board, Legislative Committee (Committee), staff, and the public with an understanding of what actions may be taken by Zone 7 Water Agency (Agency) to address legislative concerns. Additionally, this Framework explains the process for engagement and contains guiding principles, goals, focus areas, strategies for engagement, position definitions, and the Legislative Platform – which will be reviewed and updated annually to reflect changing conditions and needs.

The guiding principles for legislative engagement by the Agency, its staff and Board are representative of adopted policies/plans, and frames the legislative interests with respect to the Agency's mission, vision, and values. In addition to these, the other primary guiding document for evaluating legislation is the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan, which was updated and approved by the Board on November 20, 2024. Legislative action may also be considered for topics that were not known at the time of adoption provided they fall within the broader goals. Staff routinely review and comment on regulatory matters separately.

GOALS

Advocate

the Agency's legislative interests at the:

- State
- Region
- Federal Levels

Inform

by providing information to:

- Legislators, Board of Directors, other elected officials and staff on key issues and legislation that could have an impact on the Agency

Serve

by actively participating with:

- Other water purveyors and special districts, the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA) and regional agencies on legislative/regulatory issues that are important to the Agency

STRATEGIES FOR LEGISLATIVE ENGAGEMENT

Communication:

Communicate legislative positions on proposed federal, state, county and local legislation, measures, initiatives, and governmental regulations.

- Work with legislative advocates to develop positions on proposed legislative measures.
- Review positions taken and analysis produced by the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), California Special Districts Association (CSDA), California Municipal Utilities Association (CMUA), and others in formulating Agency's position.
- The Agency will only take positions on proposals that clearly impact our Agency or state water policy.
- Actively track key bills through the legislative process.
- Communicate the Agency's position through correspondence, meetings, and testimony, if necessary.
- Meet with legislators and their representatives to discuss issues, proposed legislation, and educate them on Agency services.
- Develop an Annual Legislative Communications Plan.

Advocate and Seek Funding:

- Seek federal, state, regional, and county funding for Agency projects.
- Advocate and request letters of support for Agency projects and grant applications.

PROCESS

Government Relations Manager will monitor and review legislation in conjunction with the Agency's advocacy consultant and membership organizations. The Committee will meet at strategic times throughout the legislative session to review and discuss pending legislation. Should a bill warrant a formal position, a recommendation from the Committee will be sent to the Board for consideration and adoption. If amendments are requested, the Board approval will include the position that the agency would move to should amendments be adopted. A letter outlining the Agency's position will be drafted for the Board President or General Manager's signature. A copy of all Agency legislative position letters will be distributed to the Board of Directors.

Membership organizations often request immediate action to join with them in advocating a position on a specific bill. In these instances, staff will use the Legislative Platform to determine if the Agency's logo should be added to the position letter. Other agencies and membership organizations may have slightly different positions or may include rankings in their positions to indicate the level of effort that will be employed in their advocacy. When joining with membership organizations, staff will review the positions for consistency in spirit with those adopted by the Agency. The following describes positions the Agency make consider and encompasses those most frequently used by membership organizations.

POSITIONS

- **Support (S)** — Agency actively supports the proposed legislation.
- **Support if Amended (S/A)** — Agency will actively support the proposed legislation, if it is amended to address specific shortcomings identified by the Agency.
- **Favor (F)** — Agency will join with other organizations in support but will not engage separately in advocacy for the measure.
- **Favor, if Amended (F/A)** — Agency will join with other organizations in support, if legislation is amended to address specific shortcomings identified by the Agency, but will not engage actively in advocacy for the measure.
- **Watch (W)** — Measures or general issues have not been sufficiently defined for a formal position.
- **Neutral (N)** — Agency determines that a formal position no longer meets the Agency objectives.
- **Not Favor (NF)** — Agency will join with other organizations in opposition, but will not engage actively in advocacy against the measure.
- **Not Favor Unless Amended (NF/A)** — Agency will join with other organizations in opposition, unless the legislation is amended to address shortcomings identified by the Agency, but will not engage actively in advocacy against the measure.
- **Oppose Unless Amended (O/A)** — Agency will actively oppose the proposed legislation unless it is amended to address specific shortcomings.
- **Oppose (O)** — Agency actively opposes the proposed legislation.



Zone 7 Water Agency 2025 Legislative Platform

The purpose of the Legislative Platform (Platform) is to define interests and concerns of the Agency for evaluating legislation. The priorities identified in the Platform mirror the goals of the 2025-2029 Strategic Plan.

Reliable Water Supply and Infrastructure/Safe Water/Groundwater Management:

- Join membership organizations in taking supporting positions or separately take a supporting position on legislation that furthers Agency's ability to manage and protect the groundwater basin, provides customers with a reliable water supply, meets the goals of the Agency's Water Quality Policy without conflicting with other goals and priorities.
- Join membership organizations in opposing and/or recommend for formal oppositional positions legislation that impedes the Agency's ability to provide a reliable, safe water supply, operate as the Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA), or reduces local control.

Effective Operations/Flood Protection:

- Join membership organizations in taking supporting positions or separately take a supporting position on legislation that furthers Zone 7's operational functionality including energy projects and programs, agency administration, governance, construction, maintenance, permitting, safety and security.
- Join membership organizations in opposing and/or recommend for formal oppositional positions legislation that may impede Zone 7's ability to operate as a special district, water supplier, flood protection manager and government organization.

Fiscal Responsibility/Workforce Excellence:

- Join membership organizations in taking supporting positions or separately take a supporting position on legislation that promotes or enhances Zone 7's ability to manage revenue, administer financial accounts, achieve fiscal stability, and maintain a professional workforce.
- Join membership organizations in opposing and/or recommend for formal oppositional positions legislation that may impede Zone 7's ability to achieve fiscal stability and maintain a skilled, motivated, professional workforce.

Energy Planning and Investment:

- Join membership organizations in taking supporting positions or separately take a supporting position on legislation that furthers energy projects and programs, including funding, permitting, construction, and maintenance.
- Join membership organizations in opposing and/or recommend for formal oppositional positions legislation that may impact funding, permitting, construction or maintenance of energy facilities or programs.