

CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

OUR MISSION

Protect, enhance, and develop Calaveras County's water resources and watersheds to provide safe, reliable, and cost-effective services to our communities.

2021-2026 Strategic Plan, Adopted April 28, 2021, can be viewed at this [link](#)

Special Committee Meeting
Thursday, June 4, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Calaveras County Water District
120 Toma Court
San Andreas, California 95249

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Administration Office at 209-754-3028. Notification in advance of the meeting will enable CCWD to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting. Any documents that are made available to the Board before or at the meeting, not privileged or otherwise protected from disclosure, and related to agenda items, will be made available at CCWD for review by the public.

District Board Meetings are open to in-person attendance by the public and are conducted virtually. The public may participate in the District's Board meeting with the link below. Members of the public who participate in the meeting via teleconference or web conference will be given the opportunity to speak and address the Board, and their comments will be included in the recording of the meeting.

While the District makes efforts to facilitate remote participation, please be aware that remote Teams involvement is offered solely for convenience. In the event of a technological malfunction, the Board can only guarantee the receipt of live comments through in-person attendance. With the exception of a noticed teleconference meeting, the Board retains the right to proceed with the meeting without remote access in case of a malfunction.

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Passcode: Ev6HT9q9

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ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Scott Ratterman, Chair Jeff Davidson, Director

1. **ROLL CALL**

2. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

At this time, members of the public may address the Committee on any non-agendized item. The public is encouraged to work through staff to place items on the agenda for consideration. No action can be taken on matters not listed on the agenda. Comments are limited to three minutes per person.

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3a Approval of Minutes for April 7, 2026, Committee Meeting
(Rebecca Hitchcock, Clerk to the Board)

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

4a* Federal Legislative Update
(Mia O’Connell, O’Connell & Dempsey)

4b* CSDA Legislative Days 2026 Update
(Dane Wadle Senior Public Affairs Field Coordinator – Sierra Network)

4c State Legislative and Regulatory Updates
(Kelly Gerkensmeyer, External Affairs Manager)

5.* **GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS**

6.* **DIRECTOR COMMENTS OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

7. **NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING**

- Tuesday, August 4, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**



MINUTES

CALAVERAS COUNTY WATER DISTRICT LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE MEETING

APRIL 7, 2026

The following Committee Members were present:

Jeff Davidson	Director, District 5
Scott Ratterman	Director, District 1

Staff Present:

Michael Minkler	General Manager
Rebecca Hitchcock	Clerk to the Board
Kelly Gerkensmeyer	External Affairs Manager
Andrew Renshaw	Water Resources Manager*
Kevin Williams	District Engineer*

Others Present:

Mia O'Connell	Oconnell & Dempsey*
Lufti Kharuf	Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)*
Kylie Wright	Association of California Water Agencies*

Members of the Public:

None

*Attended Virtually

ORDER OF BUSINESS

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

1. ROLL CALL

Director Ratterman called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was heard.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3a Approval of Minutes for February 3, 2025, Committee Meeting
(Rebecca Hitchcock, Clerk to the Board)

Director Davidson moved to approve the minutes, and Director Ratterman seconded the motion.
The motion carried.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- 4a Federal Legislative Update
(Mia O'Connell, O'Connell & Dempsey)

DISCUSSION: Mia O'Connell provided an update on Federal Affairs and addressed questions from the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment No public comment was heard.

- 4b AB 2180 Update
(Lutfi Kharuf, ACWA Legal Affairs Committee Chair)

DISCUSSION: Lutfi Kharuf, from ACWA gave an update on AB 2180 (Ward) Clarifying Proportional Water Rates Under Proposition 218 and addressed questions from the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was heard.

- 4c SB 1153 Update
(Kylie Wright, ACWA State Relations Advocate)

DISCUSSION: Kylie Wright, from ACWA gave an update on SB 1153 Water Systems and Wildfire Preparedness and addressed questions from the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was heard.

- 4d State Legislative and Regulatory Updates
(Michael Minkler, General Manager and Kelly Gerkenmeyer, External Affairs Manager)

DISCUSSION: Michael Minkler and Kelly Gerkenmeyer gave updates on various other State Legislative items and addressed questions from the Committee.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No public comment was heard.

5. GENERAL MANAGER COMMENTS

Michael Minkler had nothing additional to report.

6. DIRECTOR COMMENTS OR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Director Davidson had nothing to report.

Director Ratterman stated he would like the Committee to follow the bills in today's meeting for updates.

7. NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING

- Tuesday, June 2, 2026, at 1:00 p.m.

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Hitchcock
Clerk to the Board

DRAFT



LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

JUNE 4, 2026



GOLDEN MUSSELS

Limnoperna fortunei

GOLDEN MUSSELS, FIRST DETECTED IN CALIFORNIA IN OCTOBER 2024, ARE RAPIDLY SPREADING THROUGH THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA AND INTERCONNECTED WATER SYSTEMS, POSING A SIGNIFICANT THREAT TO WATER INFRASTRUCTURE, OPERATIONS, AND SUPPLY RELIABILITY.



● Golden Mussel Presence in California





Golden mussels are rapidly degrading California’s water infrastructure—clogging pipes and conveyance systems, increasing operational costs, and threatening water quality, reliability, and ecosystem health. State and local impacts are escalating, with emergency declarations and long-term response costs projected in the hundreds of millions.

State Legislative Activity (ACWA Priority Bills)



AB 1772 (Papan) – Aquatic Invasive Species Framework

- Status (May 27, 2026): Passed Assembly; in Senate.
- Establishes legislative intent to strengthen statewide response to invasive mussels, including golden mussels.
- Highlights impacts to water infrastructure, hydropower, and recreation, and signals future statutory action.



AB 2032 (Ransom) – Water Agency Operations & Control Plans

- Status (May 27, 2026): In Senate policy committees
- Allows water agencies to conduct control and maintenance activities without restricted species permits if a control plan is submitted.
- Requires state guidance by April 1, 2027 for control plans and research coordination.

AB 1894 (Rubio)

- Active bill monitored by ACWA (details evolving as of May 2026).
- Generally aligned with strengthening the state’s prevention and response framework.

Water Affordability (AB 2739 / SB 1125)



AB 2739 proposes a long-term, durable approach to addressing water affordability across California at the household, system, and community levels. The bill recognizes that rising water costs are not solely a customer affordability issue, but are largely driven by increasing system costs such as aging infrastructure, energy prices, and regulatory requirements.

The measure establishes a sustainable funding framework to both provide direct customer assistance and invest in water system improvements that reduce cost pressures over time.

Key Provisions of AB 2739

AB 2739 creates the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Trust and Fund, designed to generate a reliable, ongoing funding source without reliance on a new water tax.

The fund would support two complementary statewide efforts:

- **Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program (State Water Board):**
Provides direct financial assistance to qualifying customers to help reduce monthly water bills.
- **Community Water Affordability Program (Department of Water Resources):**
Provides grants to water systems for:
 - Infrastructure repairs and upgrades
 - Water quality improvements
 - System reliability and efficiency projects

These investments are intended to stabilize system costs at the source, reducing the need to pass increasing costs onto ratepayers.

AB 2739 is grounded in the principle that customer assistance programs alone cannot solve affordability challenges unless underlying system costs are also addressed.

By pairing direct bill assistance with targeted infrastructure investment, the bill takes a comprehensive approach to improving long-term affordability statewide.

SB 1125

SB 1125 builds on the framework established in AB 2739 by formally creating a statewide Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program.



Key Provisions of SB 1125

- **Statewide Administration:**

The program is administered by the State Water Resources Control Board.

- **Direct Customer Assistance:**

Provides bill credits to eligible low-income residential customers.

- **Automatic Enrollment:**

Leverages existing public assistance programs, including:

- CalFresh
- Medi-Cal
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

This approach is intended to streamline enrollment and maximize participation.

- **Fiscal Guardrails:**

Includes strict requirements to ensure:

- A majority of funds go directly to customer assistance
- Administrative costs are limited and controlled

- **Support for Small Systems:**

While primarily benefiting larger systems, the bill includes provisions for technical assistance to smaller water systems.

AB 2739 and SB 1125 represent a comprehensive statewide approach to water affordability—balancing immediate financial relief for customers with strategic investments that reduce cost pressures over time.

AB 2180 (Ward) Clarifying Proportional Water Rates Under Proposition 218

March 2026

Background and Existing Law

Proposition 218, adopted by voters in 1996, requires that water rates be proportional to the cost of service attributable to each parcel.

Public water agencies rely on professional cost-of-service studies and established rate-setting practices to comply with these constitutional requirements. Many agencies use uniform "flat" or tiered-rate structures to reflect differences in water use and the higher incremental costs associated with serving higher usage.

While courts have previously upheld tiered water rates supported by cost-of-service analysis, recent appellate decisions have produced conflicting interpretations of how proportionality must be demonstrated. This uncertainty increases litigation risk and creates unpredictability for agencies and their customers.

The Challenge

Recent appellate rulings have introduced ambiguity into how water agencies may structure and defend tiered rates. As a result, agencies:

- Face increased litigation risk from challenges brought by high-volume water users
- May be forced to spend significant public resources defending rates that were developed using accepted professional standards
- May be discouraged from adopting rate structures that promote water use efficiency and reflect higher incremental costs of service

Without legislative clarification, agencies and customers will continue to face costly and unnecessary legal disputes and struggle to make needed investments to maintain safe, reliable, and affordable service.



How AB 2180 Would Help

AB 2180 would clarify how agencies may comply with Proposition 218's proportionality requirement by codifying the framework established in *Dreher v. Los Angeles Department of Water and Power*.

Specifically, the bill would affirm that:

- › Costs related to water supplies, infrastructure, and system-wide peak demand may be allocated using reasonable methodologies without tracing specific water sources to individual parcels.
- › Agencies may use any reasonable method, supported by existing or projected data, to allocate service costs.
- › Agencies are not required to determine the exact cost of service for each parcel.
- › Uniform and tiered rate structures are permissible when based on reasonable cost allocation principles.

AB 2180:
Clear rules.
Defensible water rates.
Reduced litigation risk.

Why This Matters

Clarifying the proportionality standard will:

- › Provide predictability and consistency for public water agencies statewide
- › Reduce unnecessary litigation and associated costs
- › Allow agencies to confidently develop constitutionally sound rates
- › Support rate structures that reflect the real costs of delivering reliable water service

By providing clear statutory guidance, AB 2180 will help ensure stable, defensible water rates for California communities.



SB 1153 (Caballero) Water Systems and Wildfire Preparedness

February 2026

Background

California faces catastrophic climate-driven wildfires, exacerbated by periods of heavy rainfall followed by periods of extreme drought, decades of fire suppression, and historically limited focus on forest health and vegetation management projects. These wildfires place extraordinary demands on water systems.

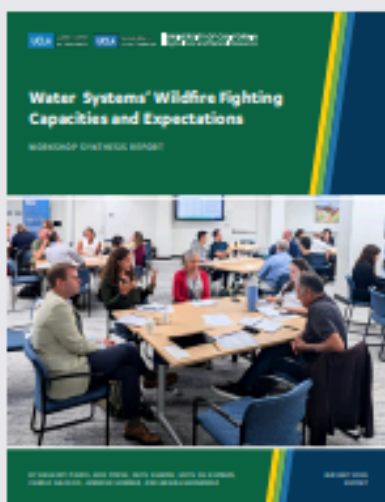
Despite these demands, public water agencies are making investments to adapt to climate change, including preparing for catastrophic wildfires. Water agencies also take specific actions in response to wildfire events. The investments and activities of each agency vary based on the needs of that agency and area of the state.

Public water systems are designed to provide customers with safe, reliable drinking water and aid in structural firefighting for the properties they serve. They are not designed, intended or funded to supply the significant volume of water necessary for large-scale

wildfire defense and suppression, and doing so would be physically impracticable, financially infeasible, and would compromise water quality and affordability.

Water systems can become overwhelmed when too many fire hydrants are used within the same pressure zone. For a structural fire, there might be three to five fire engines responding to the fire. For a wildfire, there can be hundreds of fire engines hooked up to the same system. Wildfires can also damage pipelines, storage tanks, and power infrastructure, further limiting system performance.

Misunderstandings of the limitations of public water systems have led to unrealistic public expectations and have resulted in the public perception that water systems underperformed following a wildfire event. Following major wildfire events, public water agencies have increasingly faced claims and lawsuits for wildfire damages. The financial burden of litigation ultimately is borne by ratepayers, impacting water affordability.



“Participants reached a strong consensus that water systems have a limited and inherently constrained role in wildfire suppression. Hydrants, storage, and pipe networks are neither required nor engineered to deliver the sustained flows and pressures required to stop fast-moving, multi-block fires. Yet public perception, misinformation, and fragmented communication have created unrealistic expectations and, at times, misplaced blame. Workshop discussions emphasized the need for clearer communication with policymakers and the public; improved coordination among water systems, fire agencies, and emergency response entities; and careful evaluation of trade-offs in proposed infrastructure or operational interventions.”

— UCLA Luskin Center for Innovation

The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) Luskin Center for Innovation published a report titled, [“Water Systems' Wildfire Fighting Capacities and Expectations,”](#) which synthesizes insights from a workshop of 42 experts representing water agencies, fire services, regulators, researchers, and technical assistance providers.

Existing Law

- › State law recognizes that water service is distinct from fire service. Hydrants are generally designed to protect properties served by the water provider — not wildfire suppression.
- › The California Emergency Services Act requires public water systems with 10,000+ service connections to review and revise their disaster preparedness plans in conjunction with related agencies, to ensure the plans address possible disaster scenarios.
- › The federal Safe Drinking Water Act requires certain public water systems to maintain emergency response plans to address risks to drinking water infrastructure and public health.

How SB 1153 Would Help

- › Strengthen preparedness by requiring urban retail water suppliers in high and very high fire hazard severity zones to incorporate wildfire-specific response procedures into existing emergency plans, beginning January 1, 2028.
- › Establish that water supply or pressure limitations during a wildfire are not a substantial cause of wildfire damages.
- › Affirm system design limits by recognizing that wildfire spread is not an inherent risk of water system design.

By improving wildfire planning and resilience while recognizing the physical and financial limits of water infrastructure, this bill protects ratepayers, supports emergency response, and ensures the long-term reliability of California's drinking water systems.





Leaders Bring Rural Water Priorities to Sacramento

On May 20, MCWRA members, elected officials, general managers, and regional water leaders from across the Sierra Nevada headwaters gathered in Sacramento for the 2026 Legislative Advocacy Day, bringing the voice of rural California directly to policymakers.

Throughout the day, participants met with legislators, staff, and administration representatives to highlight the unique challenges facing the communities responsible for protecting California's headwaters.

Discussions focused on key priorities, including water affordability, aging infrastructure, wildfire and watershed resilience, and the need for practical policies that reflect the realities of mountain and rural agencies.

The Sierra Nevada headwaters supply more than 60% of California's developed water, yet the agencies protecting these resources face fundamentally different operational challenges than large urban systems.



MOUNTAIN COUNTIES WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

60%

of California's developed water supply begins in the Sierra Nevada headwaters.

Protecting the Sierra Nevada Watershed

SECURES

California's Water Future



California's WATER Starts Here



Healthy Forests = Safe, Resilient Communities

- Proactive forest management decreases wildfire risks.
- Mega fires devastate watersheds, water quality, and infrastructure.



Our Headwaters Have a Statewide Impact

- Sierra Nevada headwaters serve the entire state.
- Investment in the source benefits all Californians.



California's Water Starts in the Mountains

- Sierra headwaters are the origin of most of California's surface water.
- Protecting these sources means clean, reliable water for homes, farms, and ecosystems throughout the state.

PROACTIVE, SCIENCE-BASED MANAGEMENT WORKS

- Strategic forest thinning and prescribed burns are cost-effective.
- Preventing disasters saves billions in recovery costs.



MCWRA advocates for sustainable watershed management to ensure a reliable water future for

25 MILLION CALIFORNIANS





Our Policy Priorities



Invest in Forest and Watershed Management

- Scale up funding for thinning, restoration, and wildfire prevention.



Support Science-Based Forest and Water Plans

- Prioritize proactive strategies rooted in climate science and ecology.



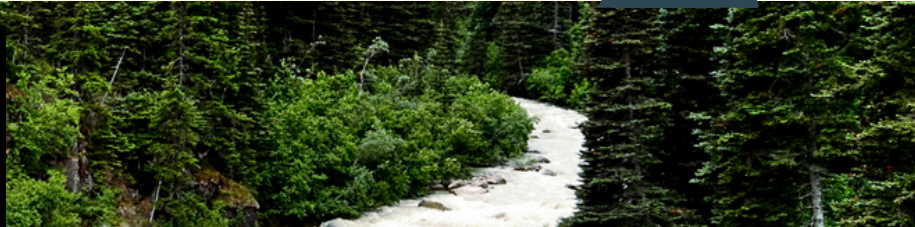
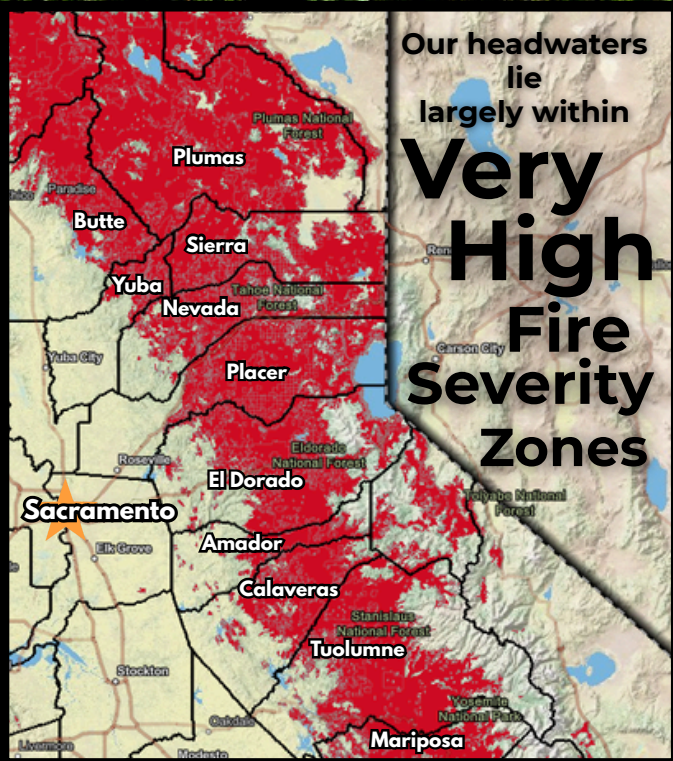
Expand Water Storage and Infrastructure

- Improve capacity and flexibility to adapt to climate extremes.



Protect Regional Water Rights

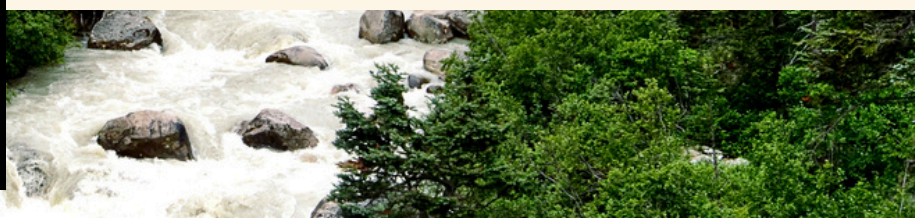
- Uphold area-of-origin protections and fair water allocation.



Call to Action: INVEST IN CALIFORNIA'S HEADWATERS

We urge state and federal policymakers to act now:

- Fund long-term watershed and forest management.
- Advance policies that protect water supply at its source.
- Safeguard local water rights and area-of-origin water supplies.



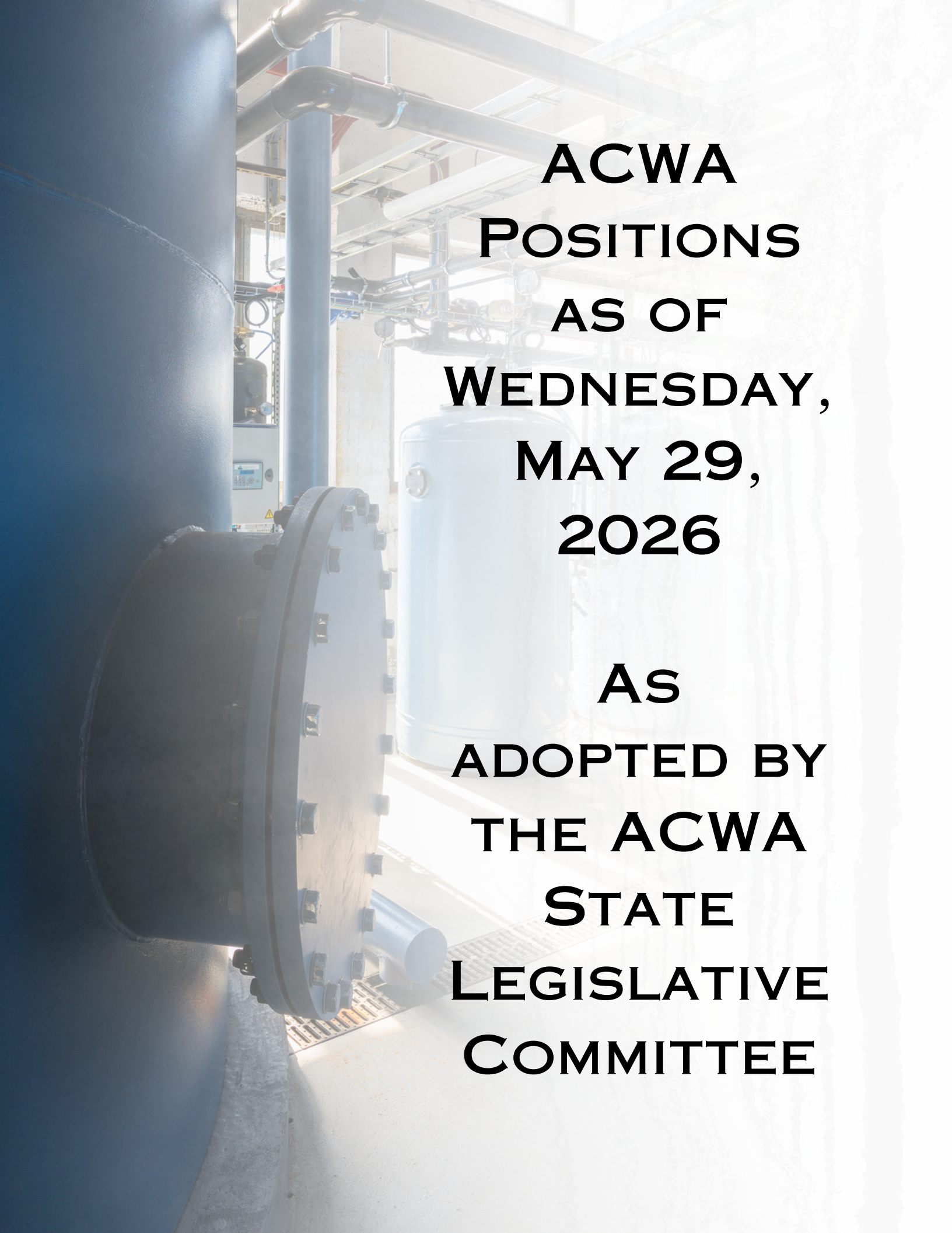
Let's secure California's water future at the **SOURCE**



MCWRA
MOUNTAIN COUNTIES
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION



The Mountain Counties Water Resources Association (MCWRA) advocates for the protection and sustainable management of California's watersheds, which provide a majority of the state's water supply.

A background image of a water treatment plant. On the left, there is a large, dark blue cylindrical tank with a circular access door. In the center and right, there are various pipes, valves, and a large white cylindrical tank. The scene is brightly lit, suggesting an indoor or well-lit outdoor facility.

**ACWA
POSITIONS
AS OF
WEDNESDAY,
MAY 29,
2026**

**AS
ADOPTED BY
THE ACWA
STATE
LEGISLATIVE
COMMITTEE**

ACWA Positions as of Friday, May 29, 2026
As adopted by the ACWA State Legislative Committee

[AB 35](#)

(Alvarez D) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

Introduced: 12/2/2024

Summary: The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4 at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election, authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Current law authorizes certain regulations needed to effectuate or implement programs of the act to be adopted as emergency regulations in accordance with the Administrative Procedure Act, as provided. Current law requires the emergency regulations to be filed with the Office of Administrative Law and requires the emergency regulations to remain in effect until repealed or amended by the adopting state agency. This bill, notwithstanding the above, would exempt the adoption of regulations needed to effectuate or implement programs of the act from the requirements of the Administrative Procedure Act, as provided. The bill would require a state entity that receives funding to administer a competitive grant program established using the Administrative Procedure Act exemption to do certain things, including develop draft project solicitation and evaluation guidelines and to submit those guidelines to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency, except as provided. The bill would require the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency to post an electronic form of the guidelines submitted by a state entity and the subsequent verifications on the Natural Resources Agency's internet website.

Position
SUPPORT

Advocate
HALL

[AB 43](#)

(Schultz D) Wild and scenic rivers.

Introduced: 12/2/2024

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.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
HALL

[AB 93](#)

(Papan D) Water resources: data centers.

Introduced: 1/7/2025

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. The bill would authorize the Department of Water Resources, as part of any efficiency standard adopted under a specified provision of law, to identify different tiers of data centers, based on factors affecting water consumption, and appropriate standards for each data tier.

Position
NEUTRAL

Advocate
HALL

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

Introduced: 1/16/2025

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.

Position
SUPPORT

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 263](#) (Rogers D) Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds.

Introduced: 1/16/2025

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.

Position
OPPOSE

Advocate
HAINES

[AB 269](#) (Bennett D) Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program.

Introduced: 1/17/2025

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.

Position
OPPOSE

Advocate
HALL

[AB 293](#) (Bennett D) Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

Introduced: 1/22/2025

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.

Position
NOT FAVOR

Advocate
NELSON

[AB 339](#) (Ortega D) Local public employee organizations: notice requirements.

Introduced: 1/28/2025

Summary: The Meyers-Miliias-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 45 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.

Position
NOT FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 362](#) (Ramos D) Water policy: California tribal communities.

Introduced: 1/30/2025

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."

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
HALL

[AB 367](#) (Bennett D) Water: County of Ventura: fire suppression.

Introduced: 2/3/2025

Summary: Would, beginning July 1, 2030, require a water supplier, as defined, to have access to sufficient backup energy sources to operate critical fire suppression infrastructure, as defined, needed to supply water for at least 24 hours for the purpose of fire suppression in high or very high fire hazard severity zones in the County of Ventura, or to have access to alternative sources of water supplied by a different water supplier or agency that can serve this same purpose of supplying backup water to critical wells and water pumps for 24 hours, as provided. The bill would require the water supplier to take various actions, including annually inspecting critical fire suppression infrastructure and backup energy sources and notifying the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services within 3 business days of any reduction in its water delivery capacity that could substantially hinder firefighting operations or significantly delay the replenishment of reservoirs. The bill would require, if any fire damages and makes uninhabitable more than 10 residential dwellings within the service area of a water supplier, a report be made by the Ventura County Fire Department in cooperation with the water supplier, as specified. By levying new requirements on the Ventura County Fire Department, this bill would create a state-mandated local program.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
WRIGHT

[AB 372](#) (Bennett D) Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

Introduced: 2/3/2025

Summary: Current law charges the Office of Emergency Services (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 upon appropriation by the Legislature, 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.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 404](#) (Sanchez R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects.

Introduced: 2/4/2025

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 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. Current law, until January 1, 2028, except for the issuance of a permit or other permit approval, exempts from the requirements of CEQA prescribed fire, reforestation, habitat restoration, thinning, or fuel reduction projects, or related activities, undertaken, in whole or in part, on federal lands to reduce the risk of high-severity wildfire that have been reviewed under the federal National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 meeting certain requirements. Current law requires a lead agency, if it determines that a project qualifies for the above exemption and it determines to approve or carry out the project, to file a notice of exemption with the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation and with the county clerk in the county in which the project will be located and to post the notice of exemption on its internet website together with a description of where the documents analyzing the environmental impacts of the project under the federal act are available for review. Current law requires the lead agency, if it is not the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to provide the notice of exemption and certain information to the department. This bill would extend the above exemption and requirements on the lead agency indefinitely.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 514](#) (Petrie-Norris D) Water: emergency water supplies.

Introduced: 2/10/2025

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.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

HALL

[AB 523](#) (Irwin D) Metropolitan water districts: proxy vote authorizations.

Introduced: 2/10/2025

Summary: Under the Metropolitan Water District Act, the board of a metropolitan water district is required to consist of at least one representative from each member public agency, as prescribed. The act authorizes each member public agency to appoint additional representatives not exceeding one additional representative for each 5% of the assessed valuation of property taxable for district purposes within the entire district that is within the boundaries of that member public agency. This bill would, until January 1, 2030, authorize a representative of a member public agency that is entitled to designate or appoint only one representative to the board of directors to assign a proxy vote authorization to a representative of another member public agency to be exercised when the assigning representative is unable to attend a meeting or meetings of the board, as provided. The bill would require the proxy vote authorization to be memorialized by a written instrument, as

specified. The bill would prohibit a proxy vote authorization from authorizing the assumption of the assigning representative's officer position at the designated meeting and would limit a proxy vote authorization's effectiveness to no more than 6 board meetings in a calendar year.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 532](#) (Ransom D) Water rate assistance program.

Introduced: 2/11/2025

Summary: Current federal law, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2021 requires the federal Department of Health and Human Services to carry out a Low-Income Household Drinking Water and Wastewater Emergency Assistance Program, which is also known as the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program, for making grants to states and Indian tribes to assist low-income households that pay a high proportion of household income for drinking water and wastewater services, as provided. Current law requires the Department of Community Services and Development to administer the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program in this state, and to receive and expend moneys appropriated and allocated to the state for purposes of that program, pursuant to the above-described federal law. The Low Income Household Water Assistance Program was only operative until March 31, 2024. This bill would repeal the above-described requirements related to the Low Income Household Water Assistance Program.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
NELSON

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

Introduced: 2/12/2025

Summary: The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 prohibits a person, with exceptions, from conducting surface mining operations unless a permit is obtained from, a specified reclamation plan is submitted to and approved by, and financial assurances for reclamation have been approved by, the lead agency for the operation of the surface mining operation. Current law authorizes the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) to prepare a master reclamation plan, as provided, that identifies each individual surface mining operation in specified counties and satisfies all reclamation plan requirements for each individual surface mining site. Current law requires the State Mining and Geology Board to act as the lead agency for surface mining operations conducted by the MWD and authorizes the board to conduct an inspection of an individual surface mining operation once every 2 calendar years during a period when that individual surface mining operation is idle or the site has no mineral production. Current law requires the MWD to be the lead agency for any environmental review of the master reclamation plan. Current law repeals the provisions authorizing the preparation and approval of the master reclamation plan for the MWD on January 1, 2026. This bill would extend the operation of those provisions until January 1, 2041.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 639](#) (Soria D) Dams: exceptions.

Introduced: 2/13/2025

Summary: Current law defines a dam to mean any artificial barrier, together with appurtenant works, that does or may impound or divert water, and meets other specified criteria. Current law excludes from the definition a barrier that is or will be not in excess of 6 feet in height, regardless of storage capacity, or that has or will have a storage capacity not in excess of 15 acre-feet, regardless of height. This bill would additionally exclude from the definition of a dam a barrier that does not impound water above the top of a levee where maximum storage behind the barrier has a minimum of 3 feet of freeboard on the levee and is a weir, as defined, but would apply only to specified weirs named in the bill.

Position
SUPPORT

Advocate
HALL

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

Introduced: 2/14/2025

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law requires a local agency, as defined, to compile one or more lists that specify in detail the information required from any applicant for a postentitlement phase permit, as defined. Current law also establishes time limits for completing reviews regarding whether an application for a postentitlement phase permit is complete and compliant, and whether to approve or deny an application. If a local agency finds that a complete application is

noncompliant, existing law requires the local agency to provide the applicant with a list of items that are noncompliant and a description of how the application can be remedied by the applicant within specified time limits. Current law requires the time limits to be tolled, if the local agency requires review of the application by an outside entity, until the outside entity completes the review and returns the application to the local agency, as specified. This bill would prohibit the local agency from requiring or requesting more than 2 plan check and specification reviews in connection with an application for a building permit, as part of its review, except as specified. The bill would authorize a local agency to deny an application that is not compliant with the permit standards following 2 plan check and specification reviews. The bill would also authorize an applicant to request additional submittals of applications that are not compliant with the permit standards. The bill, if a local agency finds that a complete application is noncompliant, would prohibit a local agency from requesting or requiring any action or inaction as a result of a building inspection undertaken to assess compliance with the applicable building permit standards that would represent a deviation from a previously approved building plan or similar approval for the building permit, except as specified.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
WRIGHT

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

Introduced: 2/14/2025

Summary: The Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973 prohibits a person from conducting timber operations unless a timber harvesting plan prepared by a registered professional forester has been submitted to, and approved by, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection. The act provides that any person who willfully violates any provision of the act or rule or regulation of the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection is guilty of a misdemeanor. This bill would authorize up to 35 projects per year that are exclusively for noncommercial wildfire fuels reduction in timberland, less than 1,500 acres in size, and paid for in part or in whole with public funds, to prepare a timber harvesting plan to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). By expanding the scope of a crime, the bill would create a state-mandated local program. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2031.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

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

Introduced: 2/14/2025

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.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
HALL

[AB 794](#) (Gabriel D) California Safe Drinking Water Act: emergency regulations.

Introduced: 2/18/2025

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.

Position	Advocate
OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED	BLAIR

AB 810 (Irwin D) Local government: internet websites and email addresses.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: Current law requires that a local agency that maintains an internet website for use by the public to ensure that the internet website uses a “.gov” top-level domain or a “.ca.gov” second-level domain no later than January 1, 2029. Current law requires that a local agency that maintains public email addresses to ensure that each email address provided to its employees uses a “.gov” domain name or a “.ca.gov” domain name no later than January 1, 2029. Current law defines “local agency” for these purposes as a city, county, or city and county. This bill would recast these provisions by instead requiring a city, county, or city and county to comply with the above-described domain requirements and by deleting the term “local agency” from the above-described provisions. The bill would also require a special district, joint powers authority, or other political subdivision to comply with similar domain requirements no later than January 1, 2031.

Position	Advocate
NOT FAVOR	WRIGHT

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

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act requires a public agency to determine whether an application for a development project is complete within specified time periods, as specified. The act requires a public agency that is the lead agency for a development project to approve or disapprove that project within specified time periods. Current law, the California Emergency Services Act, among other things, authorizes the governing body of a city, county, or city and county to proclaim a local emergency under certain circumstances, as specified, and grants political subdivisions various powers and authorities in periods of local emergency. This bill would require a city, county, or city and county to approve or deny a complete application, within 10 business days of receipt of the application, for a building permit or an equivalent permit for any of the specified structures intended to be used by a person until the rebuilding or repair of an affected property is complete.

Position	Advocate
WATCH	WRIGHT

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

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: The California Endangered Species Act prohibits the taking of an endangered, threatened, or candidate species, except as specified. Under the act, the Department of Fish and Wildlife (department) may authorize the take of listed species by certain entities through permits or memorandums of understanding for specified purposes. Current law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. Existing law requires a local agency to designate, by ordinance, moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones in its jurisdiction within 120 days of receiving recommendations from the State Fire Marshal, as provided. This bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, special district, or other local agency to submit to the department a wildfire preparedness plan to conduct wildfire preparedness activities on land designated as a fire hazard severity zone, as defined, that minimizes impacts to wildlife and habitat for candidate, threatened, and endangered species. The bill would require the wildfire preparedness plan to include, among other things, a brief description of the planned wildfire preparedness activities, the approximate dates for the activities, and a description of the candidate, endangered, and threatened species within the plan area. The bill would require the department to impose a fee on a local agency for the cost of reviewing a wildfire preparedness plan submitted by that local agency, as specified. The bill would require the department, if sufficient information is included in the wildfire preparedness plan for the department to determine if an incidental take permit is required, to notify the local agency within 90 days of receipt of the wildfire preparedness plan if an incidental take permit or other state permit is needed, or if there are other considerations, exemptions, or streamlined pathways that the wildfire

preparedness activities qualify for, including, but not limited to, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's California Vegetation Treatment Program.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 874](#) ([Ávila Farías D](#)) Mitigation Fee Act: development impact fees: qualified residential ownership and qualified rental projects.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: The Mitigation Fee Act imposes certain requirements on a local agency that imposes a fee as a condition of approval of a development project that is imposed to provide for an improvement to be constructed to serve the development project, or a fee for public improvements, as specified. The act also regulates fees for development projects and fees for specific purposes, including water and sewer connection fees, among others. The act, among other things, requires local agencies to comply with various conditions when imposing fees, extractions, or charges as a condition of approval of a proposed development or development project. The act prohibits a local agency that imposes fees or charges on a residential development for the construction of public improvements or facilities from requiring the payment of those fees or charges until the date of the final inspection or the date the certificate of occupancy is issued, whichever occurs first, except for utility service fees, as provided. This bill would require a local agency to provide a qualified residential rental project, as defined, with the option of either or both (1) development impact fees set at a rate of \$0 or (2) a development impact fee deferral agreement loan, subject to certain requirements.

Position

WATCH

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 914](#) ([Garcia D](#)) Air pollution: indirect sources.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: Existing law generally designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency with the primary responsibility for the control of vehicular air pollution, and air pollution control districts and air quality management districts with the primary responsibility for the control of air pollution from all sources other than vehicular sources. Existing law authorizes air districts to adopt and implement regulations to reduce or mitigate emissions from indirect sources of air pollution. Existing law authorizes an air district to adopt a schedule of fees to be assessed on indirect sources of emissions to recover the costs of district programs related to these sources. This bill would require the state board, if necessary to carry out that duty to achieve those ambient air quality standards, to adopt and enforce rules and regulations applicable to indirect sources of emissions. The bill would require the state board to establish a schedule of fees on facilities and mobile sources to cover the reasonable costs of implementing and enforcing the regulations and would require the fees to be deposited in the Air Pollution Control Fund and made available to the state board upon appropriation by the Legislature. The bill would require each air district, no later than 120 days after the adoption by the state board of indirect source regulations, to determine if the district or the state board will implement and enforce those regulations within its jurisdiction, as specified. The bill would require the state board to annually prepare a presentation on the impacts and effects of any indirect source regulations that it adopts and to post that presentation on its internet website. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

WATCH/AMEND

Advocate

BLAIR

[AB 929](#) ([Connolly D](#)) Sustainable groundwater management: managed wetlands.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: 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. Current law defines various terms for purposes of the act. This bill would add various defined terms for purposes of the act, including the terms "managed wetland" and "small community water system."

Position

OPPOSE

Advocate

NELSON

[AB 942](#) ([Calderon D](#)) Electricity: climate credits.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

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.

Position
NEUTRAL

Advocate
BLAIR

[AB 1075](#) (Bryan D) Fire protection: privately contracted fire prevention resources: public water sources.

Introduced: 2/20/2025

Summary: Current law requires the Office of Emergency Services to be responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services for natural, technological, or manmade disasters and emergencies, including responsibility for activities necessary to prevent, respond to, recover from, and mitigate the effects of emergencies and disasters to people and property. The FIRESCOPE Act of 1989 requires the office to establish and administer the FIRESCOPE program to maintain and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of managing multiagency firefighting resources in responding to an incident. Current law requires the office, in collaboration with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the board of directors of the FIRESCOPE program, to develop standards and regulations for any privately contracted private fire prevention resources operating during an active fire incident in the state, as provided, and to develop regulations to govern the use of equipment used by privately contracted private fire prevention resources during an active fire incident, as provided. This bill would additionally require the office to develop regulations prohibiting privately contracted private fire prevention resources from hooking up their equipment to public water sources, unless approved by incident command or the authority having jurisdiction over the active fire incident and unless the equipment includes a backflow prevention device.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
WRIGHT

[AB 1096](#) (Connolly D) Water: schoolsites: lead testing.

Introduced: 2/20/2025

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.

Position
WATCH/AMEND

Advocate
BLAIR

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

Introduced: 2/20/2025

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.

Position

NEUTRAL

Advocate

HALL

[AB 1276](#) (Carrillo D) Housing developments: ordinances, policies, and standards.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: The Housing Accountability Act prohibits a local agency from disapproving, or conditioning approval in a manner that renders infeasible, a housing development project, as defined for purposes of the act, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households or an emergency shelter unless the local agency makes specified written findings based on a preponderance of the evidence in the record. The act provides that for its purposes, a housing development project or emergency shelter shall be deemed consistent, compliant, and in conformity with an applicable plan, program, policy, ordinance, standard, requirement, or other similar provision if there is substantial evidence that would allow a reasonable person to conclude that the housing development project or emergency shelter is consistent, compliant, or in conformity. The act requires a housing development project to be subject only to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when a preliminary application, as specified, was submitted, except as otherwise provided. The act defines "ordinances, policies, and standards" to include general plan, community plan, specific plan, zoning, design review standards and criteria, subdivision standards and criteria, and any other rules, regulations, requirements, and policies of a local agency, as defined, including those relating to development impact fees, capacity or connection fees or charges, permit or processing fees, and other exactions. This bill would include in the definition of "ordinances, policies, and standards" materials requirements, postentitlement permit standards, and any rules, regulations, determinations, and other requirements adopted or implemented by other public agencies, as defined

Position

WATCH/AMEND

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 1313](#) (Papan D) Water quality: permits.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: Under current law, 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 federal national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program established by the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Current law requires each regional board to formulate and adopt water quality control plans for all areas within the region, as provided. The bill would require the state board, after making the necessary residual designation authority findings, to establish a statewide commercial, industrial, and institutional NPDES order for properties with 5 acres or more of impervious surface, as provided. The bill would require the state board to publish a draft order of the statewide order for public comment on or before December 31, 2028, or 18 months after the reissuance of a specified statewide permit, as specified. The bill would require the state board to contemporaneously establish rules for offsite compliance agreements to issue with the publication of the draft statewide order for public comment that details the necessary components of an agreement between commercial, industrial, and institutional permittees and local municipalities for achieving offsite stormwater capture and use within the adopted final statewide commercial, industrial, and institutional NPDES order.

Position

NOT FAVOR
UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate

ROSSOW

[AB 1319](#) (Schultz D) Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: Existing law makes it unlawful to take a bird, mammal, fish, reptile, or amphibian, except as authorized by law. This bill would make it unlawful for a person in California to import, cause to be imported, export, cause to be exported, 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 law or statute of any state or any law, treaty, or statute of the United States with regard to fish, wildlife, or plants in effect on January 19, 2025. The bill would, upon conviction or other entry of judgment, require any seized evidence be forfeited, as specified. The bill would make these provisions inoperative on December 31, 2031, and would repeal them on January 1, 2032. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
HALL

[AB 1373](#) (Soria D) Water quality: state certification.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: Under existing law, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements in accordance with the Federal Water Pollution Control Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Under federal law, any applicant seeking a federal license or permit for an activity that may result in any discharge into the navigable waters of the United States is required to first seek a state water quality certification, as specified. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the state 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, as provided. 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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
HALL

[AB 1413](#) (Papan D) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Water Resources to periodically review the groundwater sustainability plans developed by groundwater sustainability agencies pursuant to the act to evaluate whether a plan conforms with specified laws and is likely to achieve the sustainability goal for the basin covered by the plan. Current law requires a groundwater sustainability agency to evaluate its groundwater sustainability plan periodically. This bill would require a groundwater sustainability agency to, at least once every 7 years, review, and update if appropriate, its sustainable yield to ensure that the sustainable yield is based on the best available information and best available science, as defined, and will achieve sustainable groundwater management. The bill would also require a groundwater sustainability agency to provide an opportunity for public review and comment before making a determination whether to update its sustainable yield. To the extent that these requirements impose additional duties on groundwater sustainability agencies that are local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position
NOT FAVOR
UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
NELSON

[AB 1466](#) (Hart D) Groundwater adjudication.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: Current law establishes procedures for the comprehensive adjudication of groundwater rights in civil court. Under current law, if the court finds that claims of right to extract or divert only minor quantities of water, as defined, would not have a material effect on the groundwater rights of other parties, the court may exempt those claimants from the proceedings, except as specified.

Current law further prescribes that a judgment in a comprehensive adjudication to determine rights to extract groundwater in a basin is not binding on, among others, claimants whose claims have been exempted. This bill would authorize a court, in lieu of the exemption process described above, to treat persons with claims of right to extract or divert only minor quantities of water separately from other parties to the comprehensive adjudication.

Position
NEUTRAL

Advocate
NELSON

AB 1704 (González, Mark D) Greenhouse gases: embodied carbon building materials.

Introduced: 2/4/2026

Summary: Existing law requires, by December 31, 2026, the State Air Resources Board, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, as provided, to develop a framework for measuring the average carbon intensity of the materials used in the construction of new buildings, including those for residential uses. Existing law requires, by December 31, 2028, the state board to develop a comprehensive strategy for the state's building sector to achieve a 40% net reduction in greenhouse gas emissions of building materials, as specified, as soon as possible, but no later than December 31, 2035. Existing law authorizes the state board to establish an embodied carbon trading system, as defined, in compliance with these requirements, as provided. This bill would require the state board to determine whether the cost of building materials with lower embodied carbon have reached cost parity with conventional building materials before implementing the above-described provisions.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
BLAIR

AB 1710 (Carrillo D) Housing developments: ordinances, policies, and standards.

Introduced: 2/4/2026

Summary: The Housing Accountability Act prohibits a local agency from disapproving, or conditioning approval in a manner that renders infeasible, a housing development project, as defined for purposes of the act, for very low, low-, or moderate-income households or an emergency shelter unless the local agency makes specified written findings based on a preponderance of the evidence in the record. The act requires a housing development project to be subject only to the ordinances, policies, and standards adopted and in effect when a preliminary application, as specified, was submitted, except as otherwise provided. The act defines "ordinances, policies, and standards" to include general plan, community plan, specific plan, zoning, design review standards and criteria, subdivision standards and criteria, and any other rules, regulations, requirements, and policies of a local agency, as defined, including those relating to development impact fees, capacity or connection fees or charges, permit or processing fees, and other exactions. This bill would include in the definition of "ordinances, policies, and standards" materials requirements, postentitlement permit standards, and any rules, regulations, determinations, and other requirements adopted or implemented by other public agencies, as defined.

Position
NOT FAVOR
UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
WRIGHT

AB 1754 (Pacheco D) State general obligation bonds: requirements.

Introduced: 2/9/2026

Summary: The State General Obligation Bond Law generally sets forth the procedures for the issuance and sale of bonds governed by its provisions and for the disbursement of the proceeds of the sale of those bonds. Existing law specifies various provisions required for inclusion in a bond act. Existing law requires any state bond measure approved on or after January 1, 2004, to be subject to an annual reporting process, with the head of the lead state agency administering the bond proceeds reporting certain information about the projects being funded to the Legislature and the Department of Finance. Existing law permits this information to be provided on the agency's internet website or the state's open data portal under certain circumstances. Existing law authorizes the costs of the report to be included in the cost of administering the bond act unless prohibited by the bond act. Existing law defines various terms for these purposes, including "board." Existing law defines "board" to mean the state board, department, or agency authorized by a bond act to request the committee to cause bonds to be issued for the purpose of creating a fund that is to be expended by the board for the purposes specified in the bond act. For any state general obligation bond measure that is approved by voters on and after January 1, 2027, this bill would require a bond act to include specified information about the objectives of the bond expenditure and related data. The bill would also require the board to post on its internet website a notification that

contains, among other information, details about the programs and projects authorized to be funded by the bond. The bill would require the board to provide a short, one page, executive summary style written report to the Department of Finance, the Legislative Analyst, and specified legislative committees that contains certain information regarding the general obligation bond, in accordance with the above-described provision permitting this information to be provided on the board's internet website or the state's online data portal.

Position	Advocate
NOT FAVOR UNLESS AMENDED	HALL

AB 1772 (Papan D) Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels.

Introduced: 2/9/2026

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water in the state, invasive mussels, and authorizes the Director of Fish and Wildlife or the director's designee to engage in various enforcement activities, including ordering the areas in conveyance that contain water be drained, dried, or decontaminated, as provided. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system. Existing law requires, if invasive mussels are detected, the operator of a water supply system to, in cooperation with the department, prepare and implement a plan to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system, and eliminate or minimize any potential downstream transport of an invasive mussel. Existing law requires, on or before December 31, 2026, the department to review all approved plans and require all plans that do not specifically address all invasive mussel species known to be present in bodies of water in the state as of January 1, 2026, to be updated or revised appropriately to include all invasive mussel species, on or before September 30, 2027. Existing law requires every invasive mussel species to be addressed in a plan no later than 180 days from the date that the species is listed in a certain regulation. Existing law defines "invasive mussel" for these purposes as any nonnative detrimental mussel, as provided. Under existing law, except as otherwise provided, any violation of the Fish and Game Code, or of any rule, regulation, or order made or adopted under the code, is a crime. This bill would prohibit a conveyance from being launched until a specified drying period has completed, as provided. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the department to require water supply system operators to update their plans to address all invasive mussel species present in the operator's water system as of January 1, 2026, as provided.

Position	Advocate
SUPPORT IF AMENDED	HALL, MORIN

AB 1881 (Ramos D) California Indian Freedom Act of 2026.

Introduced: 2/12/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes various protections for California Native American tribes, including prohibiting a public agency or private party using or occupying public property or operating on public property from interfering with the free expression or exercise of Native American religion as provided in the United States Constitution and the California Constitution. Existing law also requires a local government to provide formal notification to each California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project site as an invitation to consult on the proposed project, as provided. Existing law requires the local government, during the consultation, to give deference to the tribal information, tribal knowledge and customs, and the significance of the resource to the California Native American tribe. Existing law prohibits any information, as described, that is submitted by a California Native American tribe during the environmental review process from being included in the environmental document or otherwise disclosed by the lead agency or any other public agency to the public, as specified, without the prior consent of the tribe that provided the information. This bill, the California Indian Freedom Act of 2026, would prohibit a governmental agency from substantially burdening a California Indian or California Native American tribe's exercise of religious beliefs or spiritual practices on state lands, including their access to and use of sacred sites and objects, and their ability to perform religious ceremonies and rites, even if the burden results from a rule of general applicability, unless the governmental agency demonstrates that application of the burden is in furtherance of a compelling governmental interest and is in the least restrictive means of furthering that interest.

Position	Advocate
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AB 1893 (Gallagher R) Wildfire prevention: local assistance grant program: eligible activities.

Introduced: 2/12/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to establish a local assistance grant program for fire prevention and home hardening education activities in California and extends eligibility for grants to specified entities, including local agencies. Existing law provides that eligible activities under the local assistance grant program include, among other things, technical assistance to local agencies to improve fire prevention and reduce fire hazards and projects to improve public safety, including, but not limited to, access to emergency equipment and improvements to public evacuation routes. Existing law makes funding for this program subject to an appropriation by the Legislature. This bill would expand eligible activities under the local assistance grant program to include projects undertaken by a local governmental entity involving the acquisition or installation of mobile rigid dip tanks or similar mobile and permanent infrastructure that is capable of providing helicopter-accessible water supplies for firefighting response or suppression purposes in very high fire and high fire hazard severity zones, as provided.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

AB 1894 (Rubio, Blanca D) Fish and wildlife: invasive mussels: imported water.

Introduced: 2/12/2026

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels, and authorizes the Director of Fish and Wildlife, or the director's designee, to engage in various enforcement activities with regard to invasive mussels. Existing law, until January 1, 2030, requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that occurs in a water supply system. Existing law requires any person, or federal, state, or local agency, district, or authority that owns or manages a reservoir, where specified activities are permitted, except as specified, to develop and implement a program designed to prevent the introduction of invasive mussel species, as provided. Existing law requires any entity that discovers invasive mussels within the state to immediately report the discovery to the department. This bill would prohibit a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment, as defined, due to invasive mussels if the importation complies with a specified invasive mussel control plan and unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the invasive mussels.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
MORIN

AB 1895 (Hadwick R) Surplus Land Act: exemptions: land unsuitable for housing.

Introduced: 2/12/2026

Summary: Current law requires land to be declared either surplus land or exempt surplus land, as supported by written findings, before a local agency may take any action to dispose of it consistent with an agency's policies or procedures. Current law establishes procedures for the disposal of surplus land. These procedures do not apply to the disposal of exempt surplus land. Current law establishes various categories of exempt surplus land, including surplus land that is a former street, right-of-way, or easement, and is conveyed to an owner of an adjacent property. This bill would broaden the definition of exempt surplus land to include land that is unsuitable for housing development due to the presence of one or more specified characteristics, including land with slope instability that increases risk of mudslides, landslides, subsidence, liquefaction, and other seismic hazards.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

AB 1997 (Lee D) Land use: housing development approvals: timelines and processes.

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 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. The Permit Streamlining Act sets forth various procedures for the review and approval of development project applications.

Among other things, the act requires a public agency that is the lead agency for a development project to approve or disapprove the project within a specified period of time, which varies depending on the project's phase in the CEQA process. This bill would additionally require approval or disapproval of a housing development project within 30 days from the date of certification by the lead agency of the environmental impact report (EIR), if the EIR is prepared pursuant to specified provisions of CEQA if certain other conditions are met. By imposing additional duties on local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
WRIGHT

AB 2013 (Bennett D) High and very high fire risk areas: community water systems: preparedness and resiliency.

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones based on consistent statewide criteria and based on the severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in those areas. This bill would require a community water system that services more than 100 customers that are located in a high or very high fire risk area, as defined, to include an annex to its disaster preparedness plans, as provided, that includes information regarding system preparedness and resiliency during a wildfire. The bill would require the annex to contain several things, including, among others, an assessment that identifies the minimum number of and type of water pumps that are necessary to maintain average daily capacity, including, but not limited to, the operation of fire hydrant systems at the rated capacity.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
WRIGHT

AB 2026 (Aguiar-Curry D) Water diversion: groundwater recharge: permit.

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Summary: Existing law prohibits an entity from substantially diverting or obstructing the natural flow of, or substantially changing or using any material from the bed, channel, or bank of, any river, stream, or lake, or from depositing or disposing of certain material where it may pass into any river, stream, or lake, without first notifying the Department of Fish and Wildlife of that activity, and entering into a lake or streambed alteration agreement if required by the department to protect fish and wildlife resources, except as specified. This bill would revise and recast those conditions required for the appropriative water right exemption for a diversion of floodflows for groundwater recharge, would apply the requirements to a diversion commenced before January 1, 2034, and would further exempt those diversions from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and requirements relating to lake or streambed alteration agreements, subject to conducting tribal consultation, as provided. The bill would expand the definition of "floodflow" to include flows downstream of a dam that is releasing water for flood control purposes, as provided.

Position
SUPPORT/AMEND

Advocate
NELSON

AB 2032 (Ransom D) Fish and wildlife: golden mussels.

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Summary: Existing law, until January 1, 2030, generally prohibits a person from possessing, importing, shipping, or transporting in the state, or from placing, planting, or causing to be placed or planted in any water within the state, invasive mussels, as defined. Existing law requires a public or private agency that operates a water supply system to cooperate with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system, and, if invasive mussels are detected, to prepare and implement a plan, as specified, to control or eradicate invasive mussels within the system (control plan). Existing law prohibits the importation, transportation, possession, or live release of specified wild animals, except under a revocable, nontransferable permit, known as a restricted species permit, issued by the department, in cooperation with the Department of Food and Agriculture, and only if certain requirements are met. Existing law authorizes the department to issue permits, commonly known as scientific collecting permits, to take or possess any form of plant or animal life for scientific, educational, or propagation purposes. This bill would exempt from the requirement to obtain a restricted species permit for golden mussels a public or private agency that operates a water supply system and has submitted a control plan to the department for maintenance and operational activities to control the spread of golden mussels in the water supply system, as specified.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
MORIN

AB 2125 (Bennett D) Groundwater basin adjudication: notice.

Introduced: 2/18/2026

Summary: Existing law requires a plaintiff who files an action to comprehensively determine rights to extract groundwater from a basin to provide the court a draft notice of commencement of groundwater basin adjudication and a draft form answer to adjudication complaint, as specified. Existing law also requires a plaintiff to file, within a specified timeframe, a motion for approval of the draft notice and draft form answer. Under existing law, once the court approves the draft notice, the plaintiff is required to serve the notice, as specified. Following a court order approving both the notice and draft form answer and authorizing service thereof, existing law requires the plaintiff to take additional steps to provide notice to defendants including, but not limited to, mailing, by registered mail or certified mail, return receipt requested, the notice, complaint, and form answer to all holders of fee title to real property in the basin. Under existing law, if a return receipt is not received for a parcel of real property, the plaintiff must post a copy of the notice, complaint, and form answer in a conspicuous place on the real property. After completing these notice procedures, existing law requires the plaintiff to file a notice of completion of the mailing with the court. Existing law permits a court to authorize any other procedures it finds appropriate and necessary to provide notice to persons who may hold groundwater rights in basin. This bill would impose additional requirements on a plaintiff when filing the notice of completion of mailing. The bill would require the plaintiff to include with the notice of completion an affidavit of the person who mailed the notice and the certified or registered mail delivery receipt for each parcel stating the date, time, and place of mailing. The bill would further require the notice to include as an attachment any certified or registered mail delivery receipts received as of the date of the filing.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
NELSON

AB 2180 (Ward D) Local government: Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act: proportional cost of service.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: The California Constitution specifies various requirements with respect to the levying of assessments and property-related fees and charges by a local agency. As part of those requirements, the California Constitution mandates that such fees or charges that are extended, imposed, or increased satisfy certain requirements, including, but not limited to, that the amount of the fee or charge imposed upon any parcel or person as an incident of property ownership not exceed the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel. Existing law, known as the Proposition 218 Omnibus Implementation Act (act), prescribes specific procedures and parameters for local jurisdictions to comply with these requirements and, among other things, authorizes an agency providing water, wastewater, sewer, or refuse collection services to adopt a schedule of fees or charges authorizing automatic adjustments that pass through increases in wholesale charges for water, sewage treatment, or wastewater treatment or adjustments for inflation under certain circumstances. This bill would authorize a local government to demonstrate the proportional cost of the service attributable to the parcel by any method that reasonably allocates the ascertainable cost of providing service to all parcels, if substantiated as provided. The bill would, however, provide that for water or sewer service fee or charge impositions, a local government is not required to provide an exact measure of the cost of the service at each parcel and may instead impose uniform or tiered rates to parcel or customer classes that are defined based on common characteristics indicative of likely water or sewer use.

Position
SUPPORT/SPONSOR

Advocate
NELSON

AB 2214 (Jackson D) Government finance: deposits.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the Treasurer to invest, or deposit into banks and other financial institutions, specified state moneys designated as surplus as a part of the Pooled Money Investment Account and determined to be available for that purpose by the Pooled Money Investment Board. Existing law generally requires banks and other financial institutions to deposit with the Treasurer securities in a value at least 10% in excess of the amount deposited with the institution to be eligible to receive deposits of state funds, except as specified. This bill would create within the Pooled Money Investment Account the Community Reinvestment Account from which deposits shall be made to institutions that meet specified performance standards including verified small business lending in underserved census tracts and first-time or first-generation home buyer lending. The bill

would require the Treasurer to transfer \$4 billion from the Pooled Money Investment Account to the Community Reinvestment Account. Because the moneys invested and reinvested as part of the Pooled Money Investment Account are continuously appropriated, this bill would make an appropriation. Notwithstanding the above-described securities requirement, this bill would instead require securities, for a deposit from the Community Reinvestment Account or under the Small Business Lending Time Deposit Program, to be in an amount in value of at least 90% of the amount deposited with the institution.

Position
NOT FAVOR

Advocate
HALL

AB 2215 (Calderon D) Water rights: permits: State Water Project.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: The Department of Water Resources operates the State Water Resources Development System, commonly referred to as the State Water Project. Existing law requires that construction work for a project that will put appropriated water to beneficial use be commenced, prosecuted with due diligence, and completed within the time period specified in the water right permit. Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to extend the deadline specified in the permit to commence or complete construction work and to put appropriated water to beneficial use for good cause shown. This bill would require that the time periods for the application of water to beneficial use and for the completion of construction work for specific water right permits held by the Department of Water Resources for the operation of the State Water Project be December 31, 2046.

Position
SUPPORT

Advocate
HALL

AB 2216 (Aguiar-Curry D) Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy. Existing law requires the conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and to support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents. Existing law specifies the composition of the governing board of the conservancy and requires liaison advisers to serve in an advisory, nonvoting capacity. Existing law requires the conservancy to prepare and adopt a strategic plan to achieve the goals of the conservancy and requires the strategic plan to be consistent with certain plans. Existing law authorizes the conservancy to engage in partnerships with nonprofit organizations, local public agencies, and landowners, and authorizes the conservancy to provide grants and loans to state agencies, local public agencies, and nonprofit organizations to further the goals of the conservancy. Existing law establishes the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Fund in the State Treasury. Existing law makes moneys in the fund available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for purposes of these provisions. This bill would expand the area covered by the conservancy to include the Valley, as defined. The bill would rename the conservancy the Valley and Delta Conservancy, rename the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Fund the Valley and Delta Conservancy Fund, and make conforming changes.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
PANG

AB 2218 (Kalra D) Water policy: California Native American tribes.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: Would require the state government to support California Native Americans to maintain cultural and linguistic traditions, practice ecosystem stewardship, and engage in good faith government-to-government consultations with all California Native American tribes regarding policies that may affect tribal communities.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
ROSSOW

AB 2260 (Connolly D) Water: restoration management: small restoration use.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

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.

This bill would extend the above-described ability to obtain a right to appropriate water to a small restoration use, as provided. The bill would define several terms for these purposes, including defining a small restoration use as a specified use of water for native fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement in connection with a project to restore, enhance, or provide habitat for native fish and wildlife, as provided. The bill would require the board to give priority to processing small restoration use registrations that are coupled with a petition for mandatory dedication to instream beneficial uses or wetlands habitat, as specified

Position

WATCH

Advocate

MORIN

[AB 2322](#) (Papan D) Water discharge: commercial, industrial, or institutional sites.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: The State Water Resources Control Board and the 9 California regional water quality control boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of stormwater by municipalities and industries in accordance with the federal national pollutant discharge elimination system (NPDES) permit program, established by the federal Clean Water Act and the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act. Under existing law, the state board and the 9 regional water quality control boards issue permits for the discharge of stormwater from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s). For purposes of issuing permits for the discharge of stormwater from MS4s, this bill define "commercial, industrial, or institutional site" or "CII site" as a privately owned parcel or contiguous parcels of land that are commercial, industrial, or institutional based on the appropriate county tax assessor land use codes, as specified.

Position

WATCH

Advocate

ROSSOW

[AB 2410](#) (Ellis R) Wildfire safety: fuels reduction projects: California Environmental Quality Act: California Coastal Act.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 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 projects. This bill would, until January 1, 2030, exempt from CEQA critical fuels reduction projects conducted in communities located in high fire threat districts or very high fire hazard severity zones, as provided. Because a lead agency would be required to determine whether a project qualifies for this exemption, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

[AB 2447](#) (Bauer-Kahan D) Water: Nitrogen Pollution Reduction Act.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Under existing law, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the State Water Resources Control Board and the California regional water quality control boards are the principal state agencies with authority over matters relating to water quality. The act requires the state board to formulate and adopt state policies for water quality control and requires the regional boards to adopt regional water quality control plans in compliance with the state policies. Under the act, the state board and the regional boards prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge of waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the state. This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to require the regional boards to update the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program in order to reduce nitrogen waste discharges from commercial irrigated agricultural areas, as provided. The bill would require the regional boards to adopt revised orders with waste discharge requirements on or before January 1, 2028, that are sufficient to meet certain reductions in nitrogen waste discharges. The bill would require the state board to, on or before July 1, 2027, publish both a list of standardized crop names and categories, and a statewide methodology for calculating, and field-level reporting of, nitrogen balances for croplands, including nitrogen fertilizer applications and nitrogen discharges, that account for available soil nitrogen, to be used by the regional boards and incorporated into the revised orders.

Position

OPPOSE

Advocate

ROSSOW

[AB 2469](#) (Papan D) Data centers: water use disclosures.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from approving a discretionary or ministerial permit or other entitlement that would result in the construction, or an expansion that increases the maximum peak water use, of a data center unless specified conditions are satisfied, including, among others, that the applicant provides the city, county, or city and a county prescribed information. The bill would include in this prescribed information a water scarcity plan, a water supply assessment, and a water use assessment, each as provided. The bill would also include in the specified conditions that the applicant assumes responsibility for the full cost of any required water conveyance, treatment or storage, or distribution infrastructure improvements necessary to serve the project, as determined by the Department of Water Resources or the applicable water supplier. By expanding the duties of local agencies to administer these provisions, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position
WATCH/AMEND

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 2521](#) ([Papan D](#)) **California Council on Science and Technology: water availability study: Central Valley.**

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to administer a water rights program pursuant to which the board grants and revokes permits and licenses to appropriate water. Existing law authorizes any person who has an urgent need to divert and use water to apply for, and authorizes the board to issue, a conditional, temporary permit, as prescribed. Existing law finds and declares that the California Council on Science and Technology (CCST) was organized as a nonprofit corporation at the request of the Legislature for the specific purpose of offering expert advice to the state government on public policy issues significantly related to science and technology. This bill would, on or before January 1, 2028, require the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board and the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to select 2 watersheds that are within, or drain into, the Central Valley to conduct a watershedwide water availability study. The bill would, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature, request CCST to, in consultation with the Department of Water Resources and the board, undertake and complete a comprehensive study of water availability in the selected watersheds. The bill would require the study to, among other things, determine daily flow rates in rivers, streams, and creeks in the watersheds over the past 30 years to the extent data is available.

Position
WATCH/AMEND

Advocate
NELSON

[AB 2568](#) ([Johnson R](#)) **Water district directors: compensation.**

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes a water district, as defined, to adopt an ordinance that provides compensation to members of the governing board, as specified. Existing law prohibits a water district from adopting an ordinance that compensates members of the governing board for more than a total of 10 days in any calendar month. This bill would, until January 1, 2032, authorize a water district that has at least 90,000 residents within its jurisdiction to adopt an ordinance that compensates members of the governing board for up to a total of 15 days in any calendar month, but would require the members of the governing board of a water district that compensates its members for more than 10 days in a calendar month to annually adopt a written policy describing, based on a finding supported by substantial evidence, why providing compensation for more than 10 days per calendar month is necessary for the effective operation of the water district.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

[AB 2619](#) ([Papan D](#)) **Water resources: data centers.**

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes the legislative body of an incorporated city and the county board of supervisors to license businesses carried on within their respective jurisdictions and to set license fees, as specified. This bill 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, the anticipated source of water, and the data center's projected water use volume for the maximum day, maximum month, and average year. 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 report, under penalty of perjury, on the application, an estimate of the expected water use, the anticipated source of water, and the data center's projected water use volume for the maximum day, maximum month,

and average year. 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 report, under penalty of perjury, on the application, the data center's annual water use for the preceding calendar year, including total water use, direct water use, and indirect water use, as prescribed.

Position
NOT FAVOR
UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
ROSSOW

AB 2630 (Bennett D) Water diversion and use: adoption of regulations.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt regulations requiring measurement and reporting of water diversion and use by persons, including, among others, those authorized to appropriate water under a permit, a license, a registration for small domestic, small irrigation, or livestock stockpond use, or a certificate for livestock stockpond use. For the initial regulations, existing law requires that they be adopted as emergency regulations and provides that the emergency regulations remain in effect until revised by the state board. Existing law also exempts the initial regulations from the California Environmental Quality Act. This bill would require, until January 1, 2032, that all further regulations adopted by the state board pursuant to these provisions be adopted as emergency regulations and remain in effect until revised by the state board, and would exempt them from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Position
OPPOSE

Advocate
HALL

AB 2739 (Soria D) Water: affordability and system stabilization.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Department of Water Resources. Existing law vests in the department powers, duties, purposes, responsibilities, and jurisdiction in matters pertaining to water or dams. Existing law declares the responsibility of the state to assist local governments in providing certain essential services and facilities where water resource construction projects financed, in whole or in part, by the state or by the state jointly with the federal government create an undue burden on a local area's ability to provide these services and facilities. Existing law, 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. Existing law declares it to be the established policy of the state that every human being has the right to safe, clean, affordable, and accessible water adequate for human consumption, cooking, and sanitary purposes. This bill would establish in the State Treasury the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Fund for holding the principal and income of the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Trust, which the bill would create. The bill would designate the Treasurer as trustee of the trust, as specified, and would require the trustee, among other things, to hold, manage, and invest the principal of the trust with the obligation of providing a growing perpetual source of annual funding to the Water Rate Assistance Fund, administered by the state board, and the Community Water Affordability Assistance Fund, administered by the department, beginning 25 years after the Legislature transfers funding from the General Fund to the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Fund.

Position
SUPPORT

Advocate
NELSON

AB 2777 (Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials) State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund program: loans: outdoor eating areas: water reuse.

Introduced: 2/24/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund program, pursuant to which state and federal funds are continuously appropriated from the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund to the State Water Resources Control Board for loans and other financial assistance for purposes related to the federal Clean Water Act. Existing law establishes the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund Administration Fund (administration fund) to provide funds, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to be expended by the state board for payment of the reasonable costs of administering the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund. Existing law authorizes the state board to assess an annual charge for financial assistance services, not to exceed 1% of the financial assistance repayment amount and computed according to the true interest cost method, as provided, and requires those annual charges to be deposited into the administration fund. Existing law authorizes the financial service rate to be applied at any time during the term of the financial assistance and requires the rate to remain unchanged for the

duration of the financial assistance. Existing law prohibits the financial assistance rate from increasing the financial assistance repayment amount after being applied. Existing law requires the state board to, at least once each fiscal year, adjust the financial assistance service rate. Existing law requires the state board to set the total amount of revenue collected each year through the annual charges at an amount that is equal as practicable to the appropriation amount set forth in the annual Budget Act. This bill would additionally authorize the state board to assess fees in place of an annual charge for financial assistance and would authorize the fees or annual charge to be assessed at any rate as permitted by federal law.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
HALL

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

Introduced: 12/2/2024

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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

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

Introduced: 1/15/2025

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.

Position
SUPPORT/AMEND

Advocate
HALL

SB 88 (Caballero D) Air resources: carbon emissions: biomass.

Introduced: 1/22/2025

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 ensure that statewide greenhouse gas emissions are reduced to at least 40% below the 1990 level by 2030. Current law requires the state board, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to develop a standardized system for quantifying the direct carbon emissions and decay from fuel reduction activities for purposes of meeting the accounting requirements for Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund expenditures, as specified. This bill would require the state board, on or before January 1, 2028, to publish on its internet website an assessment of the life-cycle emissions from alternative uses of forest and agricultural biomass residues, as specified.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
BLAIR

SB 223 (Alvarado-Gil R) The Wildfire Smoke and Health Outcomes Data Act.

Introduced: 1/27/2025

Summary: Current law establishes the State Department of Public Health and sets forth its powers and duties pertaining to, among other things, protecting, preserving, and advancing public health. Current law requires the department, in consultation with specified stakeholders, to develop a plan, addressing specified issues, with recommendations and guidelines for counties to use in the case of a significant air quality event caused by wildfires or other sources. This bill, the Wildfire Smoke and Health Outcomes Data Act, would require the State Department of Public Health, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated wildfire smoke and health data platform on or before July 1, 2028, that, among other things, would integrate wildfire smoke and health data from multiple databases. Under the bill, the purposes for the data platform would include providing adequate information to understand the negative health impacts on California's population caused by wildfire smoke and evaluating the effectiveness of investments in forest health and wildfire mitigation on health outcomes in California.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 239 **(Arreguín D) Crimes: criminal threats.**

Introduced: 1/30/2025

Summary: Existing law makes it a crime to willfully threaten to commit a crime that will result in death or great bodily injury to another person, as specified. Under existing law, this crime is punishable as a misdemeanor or by imprisonment in state prison as a felony. Existing law, for the purposes of sentencing for a felony violation of these provisions, authorizes the court to consider, as a factor in aggravation, that the defendant willfully threatened to commit a crime that would result in the death or great bodily injury of a state constitutional officer, a Member of the Legislature, or a judge or court commissioner, as specified. This bill would additionally authorize the court to consider, as a factor in aggravation, that the defendant willfully threatened to commit a crime that would result in the death or great bodily injury of a county or city elections official, or a local agency official, as specified.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

SB 350 **(Durazo D) Water Rate Assistance Program.**

Introduced: 2/12/2025

Summary: Would establish the Water Rate Assistance Program. As part of the program, the bill would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury, available upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide water affordability assistance, for both residential water and wastewater services, to low-income residential ratepayers, as specified. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the fund, including, among other things, tracking and managing revenue in the fund separately from all other revenue. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with relevant agencies and after a public hearing, to adopt guidelines for implementation of the program and to adopt an annual report to be posted on the state board's internet website identifying how the fund has performed, as specified. The bill would require the guidelines to include minimum requirements for eligible systems, including the ability to confirm eligibility for enrollment through a request for self-certification of eligibility under penalty of perjury. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the program, including, but not limited to, providing guidance, oversight, and funding for low-income rate assistance for residential ratepayers of eligible systems. The bill would authorize the Attorney General, at the request of the state board, to bring an action in state court to restrain the use of any method, act, or practice in violation of these provisions, except as provided. The bill would make the implementation of all of these provisions contingent upon an appropriation by the Legislature.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
NELSON

SB 394 **(Allen D) Water theft: fire hydrants.**

Introduced: 2/14/2025

Summary: Current law authorizes a utility to bring a civil action for damages against any person who commits, authorizes, solicits, aids, abets, or attempts certain acts, including, diverting or causing to be diverted, utility services by any means whatsoever. Current law creates a rebuttable presumption that there is violation of these provisions if, on premises controlled by the customer or

by the person using or receiving the direct benefit of utility service, certain actions occur, including that there is an instrument, apparatus, or device primarily designed to be used to obtain utility service without paying the full lawful charge for the utility. This bill would add to the list of acts for which a utility may bring a civil cause of action under these circumstances to include tampering with a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check, or connecting to, diverting water from, or causing water to be diverted from, a fire hydrant without authorization from the utility that owns the fire hydrant, except as provided.

Position
SUPPORT/SPONSOR

Advocate
HALL, WRIGHT

SB 445 (Wiener D) High-speed rail: third-party agreements, permits, and approvals: regulations.

Introduced: 2/18/2025

Summary: Current law creates the High-Speed Rail Authority Office of the Inspector General (office) and authorizes the High-Speed Rail Authority Inspector General (inspector general) to initiate an audit or review regarding oversight related to delivery of the high-speed rail project undertaken by the authority and the selection and oversight of contractors related to that project. Current law requires the inspector general to submit annual reports to the Legislature and Governor regarding its findings. This bill would require the authority, on or before July 1, 2026, to develop and adopt internal rules, as defined, setting forth standards and timelines for the authority to engage utilities to ensure coordination and cooperation in relocating utility infrastructure or otherwise resolving utility conflicts affecting the delivery of the high-speed rail project. The bill would require the authority to ensure that the internal rules, among other things, identify the circumstances under which the authority would be required seek to enter into a cooperative agreement with a utility that, where relevant, identifies who is responsible for specific utility relocations, as specified.

Position
NOT FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 454 (McNerney D) State Water Resources Control Board: PFAS Mitigation Program.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: Current 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 perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (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 nonstate, federal, and private funds designated for PFAS remediation and treatment and deposit the funds into the PFAS Mitigation Fund. The bill would continuously appropriate these funds 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 PFAS contaminant levels.

Position
SUPPORT/SPONSOR

Advocate
HAINES

SB 466 (Caballero D) Drinking water: primary standard for hexavalent chromium: exemption.

Introduced: 2/19/2025

Summary: The California Safe Drinking Water Act requires the State Water Resources Control Board to adopt primary drinking water standards for contaminants in drinking water based upon specified criteria and requires a primary drinking water standard to be established for hexavalent chromium. Current law authorizes the state board to grant a variance from primary drinking water standards to a public water system. This bill would prohibit a public water system that meets the total chromium maximum contaminant level (MCL) enforceable standard for drinking water in California from being determined, held, considered, or otherwise deemed in violation of the primary drinking water standard for hexavalent chromium while implementing a state board approved compliance plan or while state board action on the proposed and submitted compliance plan is pending, except as provided.

Position

Advocate

SB 499 (Stern D) Residential projects: fees and charges.**Introduced:** 2/19/2025

Summary: The Mitigation Fee Act imposes various requirements with respect to the establishment, increase, or imposition of a fee by a local agency as a condition of approval of a development project. If a local agency imposes any fees or charges on designated residential developments for the construction of public improvements or facilities, current law imposes various conditions on the fees and charges. Among these conditions, existing law prohibits the local agency from requiring the payment of those fees or charges until the date the first certificate of occupancy or first temporary certificate of occupancy is issued, whichever occurs first, except as specified. Current law, for designated residential development projects, authorizes the local agency to collect utility service fees related to connections at the time an application for service is received if those fees do not exceed the costs incurred by the utility provider resulting from the connection activities. This bill would additionally authorize a local agency to collect utility service charges related to connections at the time an application is received, as described above.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

SB 598 (Durazo D) Public contracts: local water infrastructure projects: Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method.**Introduced:** 2/20/2025

Summary: Current law defines the Construction Manager/General Contractor project delivery method (CM/GC method) as a project delivery method in which a construction manager is procured to provide preconstruction services during the design phase of a project and construction services during the construction phase of the project. Under current law, the method allows the contract for construction services to be entered into at the same time as the contract for preconstruction services or at a later time. Current law authorizes the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to utilize the CM/GC method for regional recycled water projects or other water infrastructure projects under specified conditions. Pursuant to existing law, certain information required to be submitted as part of the CM/GC method is required to be verified under oath. Current law makes the provisions described above pertaining to the CM/GC method effective only until January 1, 2028, and inoperative as of that date. This bill would, until January 1, 2031, authorize a local agency, as defined, upon approval of its governing body, to similarly use the CM/GC method for a regional recycled water project or other water infrastructure project undertaken by the district to alleviate water supply shortages attributable to drought or climate change. The bill would require that authorization to apply to no more than 15 capital outlay projects for each local agency and would require a local agency to award a contract pursuant to the bill on a best value basis or to the lowest responsible bidder.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

HALL

SB 599 (Caballero D) Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools.**Introduced:** 2/20/2025

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.

Position

FAVOR

Advocate

HALL

SB 601 (Allen D) Water: waste discharge.**Introduced:** 2/20/2025

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.

Position
OPPOSE

Advocate
NELSON

SB 616 (Rubio D) Community Hardening Commission: wildfire mitigation program.

Introduced: 2/20/2025

Summary: Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a joint powers agreement, as specified, with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program, known as the California wildfire mitigation financial assistance program, that, among other things, encourages cost-effective structure hardening and retrofitting that creates fire-resistant homes, businesses, and public buildings. This bill would require the joint powers authority to consider revising the wildfire mitigation program in accordance with prescribed community hardening standards and guidelines developed pursuant to the bill's provisions, as specified below. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 650 (Cabaldon D) The Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009.

Introduced: 2/20/2025

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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
HAINES

SB 654 (Stern D) California Environmental Protection Agency: contract: registry: greenhouse gas emissions that result from the water-energy nexus.

Introduced: 2/20/2025

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 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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
BLAIR

SB 682 (Allen D) Environmental health: product safety: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: 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 perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), as defined, except for previously used products and as otherwise preempted by federal law. The bill would, until January 1, 2031, exempt certain components of a cleaning product from this prohibition, as specified. The bill would clarify that, on and after January 1, 2028, a cleaning product is required to comply with certain regulations adopted by the California Air Resources Board

regarding volatile organic compounds in consumer products and would prohibit the use of a regulatory variance to comply with those regulations, as specified. 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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
BLAIR, HAINES

[SB 695](#) (Cortese D) Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

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.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
HALL

[SB 697](#) (Laird D) Determination of water rights: stream system.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

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.

Position
NEUTRAL

Advocate
HAINES

[SB 707](#) (Durazo D) Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

Introduced: 2/21/2025

Summary: 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, beginning July 1, 2026, and 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. The bill would require an eligible legislative body, on or before July 1, 2026, to approve at a noticed public meeting in open session a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet services occurring during meetings subject to these provisions, as specified, and would require the eligible legislative body to comply with certain requirements relating to disruption, including for certain disruptions, recessing the open session for at least one hour and making a good faith attempt to restore the service, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position

Advocate

SB 724 (Richardson D) Public housing: lead testing.**Introduced:** 2/21/2025

Summary: Current law prohibits a person from using any pipe, pipe or plumbing fitting or fixture, solder, or flux that is not lead free in the installation or repair of any public water system or any plumbing in a facility providing water for human consumption, except when necessary for the repair of leaded joints of cast iron pipes. Current law requires a community water system to compile an inventory of known lead user service lines in use in its distribution system and identify areas that may have lead user service lines in use in its distribution system, as provided. This bill would require the owner of a public housing unit that is owned or managed by a city, county, city and county, or city, county, or city and county housing authority, to provide information to the residents of the public housing unit regarding any applicable existing program that offers free testing of the water for lead.

Position

WATCH/AMEND

Advocate

BLAIR

SB 872 (McNerney D) Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund.**Introduced:** 1/6/2026

Summary: the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009, declares that the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) is a critically important natural resource for California and the nation and it serves as both the hub of the California water system and the most valuable estuary and wetland ecosystem on the west coast of North and South America. Existing law establishes in the Natural Resources Agency the Department of Water Resources. Existing law requires the department and the Department of Fish and Wildlife to determine the principal options for the Delta and requires the department to evaluate and comparatively rate each option for its ability to do specified things, including, among others, to maintain Delta water quality for Delta users, and to preserve, protect, and improve Delta levees. Existing law establishes in the agency the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy. Existing law requires the conservancy to act as a primary state agency to implement ecosystem restoration in the Delta and to support efforts that advance environmental protection and the economic well-being of Delta residents. Existing law provides for the preservation of specified management areas of the Suisun Marsh, pursuant to a protection plan prepared and adopted by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, as provided. Existing law establishes the Delta Stewardship Council, and requires the council to develop, adopt, and implement a comprehensive long-term management plan for the Delta, known as the Delta Plan, as provided. This bill would establish the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury and, upon appropriation, would make the moneys in the fund available to the Secretary of the Natural Resources Agency for expenditure consistent with the allocations described below. The bill would authorize the secretary to seek out, and the fund to accept, state moneys from, among other sources, any bond funds, the General Fund, or the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. The bill would authorize the fund to accept moneys from nonstate sources, including federal and private moneys, and would continuously appropriate those moneys without regard to fiscal year, for allocation as described, thereby making an appropriation.

Position

SUPPORT

Advocate

HALL

SB 899 (Grove R) Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.**Introduced:** 1/20/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to develop a comprehensive implementation strategy to track and ensure the achievement of the goals and key actions identified in the state's "Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan," as provided. Existing law requires, on or before March 1, 2026, and every 5 years thereafter, the task force to update the action plan. This bill would require the task force, on or before July 1, 2028, and in cooperation with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the State Air Resources Board, and the State Department of Public Health, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke using existing wildfire smoke and health data, as provided. The bill would require the task force, in developing this assessment, to, among other things, develop a model to determine the approximate health benefits of achieving the goals identified in the action plan and make recommendations on how the action plan can increase its health benefits.

Position

SUPPORT/SPONSOR

Advocate

WRIGHT

SB 910 (Seyarto R) Municipal water districts: water service: Indian lands.

Introduced: 1/26/2026

Summary: The Municipal Water District Law of 1911 provides for the formation of municipal water districts and grants to those districts specified powers. Current law permits a district to acquire, control, distribute, store, spread, sink, treat, purify, recycle, recapture, and salvage any water for the beneficial use of the district, its inhabitants, or the owners of rights to water in the district. Current law, upon the request of certain Indian tribes and the satisfaction of certain conditions, requires a district to provide service of water at substantially the same terms applicable to the customers of the district to the Indian tribe's lands that are not within a district, as prescribed. Current law also authorizes a district, until January 1, 2027, under specified circumstances, to apply to the applicable local agency formation commission to provide this service of water to Indian lands, as defined, that are not within the district and requires the local agency formation commission to approve that application. This bill would extend the above provisions regarding the application to the applicable local agency formation commission to January 1, 2032.

Position
WATCH

Advocate
HALL

SB 952 (Laird D) State Water Project: renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources.

Introduced: 2/2/2026

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Water Resources, in procuring electricity to serve all state agencies, to consider portfolio diversity, resource type, location, and hours of typical peak operation. The bill would expand the scope of the department's authorization to defer the procurement of those resource quantities to apply to an existing contract to procure fossil generation entered into before January 1, 2011, rather than January 1, 2010. The bill would authorize, on and after January 1, 2036, excess procurement, as defined, of eligible renewable energy resources and zero-carbon resources in one year to be applied to any subsequent year's obligation, as provided.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
BLAIR

SB 1001 (Archuleta D) Local agency, public utility, or mutual water company: personnel access: Personal Identity Verification-Interoperable.

Introduced: 2/9/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes officers of the Department of the California Highway Patrol, police departments, marshal's office or sheriff's office, and officers or employees of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or the Department of Fish and Wildlife designated as peace officers to close to all unauthorized persons an area where a menace to the public health or safety created by a calamity exists for the duration of the menace and the immediate area surrounding any emergency field command post or any other command post activated for the purpose of abating a calamity, riot, or other civil disturbance, as specified. Under existing law, an unauthorized person who enters or remains in a closed area, as prescribed, is guilty of a misdemeanor. This bill would, beginning on July 1, 2028, require the Office of Emergency Services, upon request, to issue a local agency, public utility, or mutual water company responsible for public works and critical infrastructure with specified credentialing to facilitate personnel access to an area during or following a natural disaster, act of terrorism, or other man-made disaster. The bill would specify that the credentialing, a Personal Identity Verification-Interoperable (PIV-I), would conform with the federal Personal Identity Verification standards pursuant to federal National Incident Management System guidelines.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 1014 (Grayson D) Development projects: preliminary estimate of required improvements: onsite and offsite improvements.

Introduced: 2/10/2026

Summary: The Permit Streamlining Act sets forth various procedures for the review and approval of development project applications, including, among other things, requiring each public agency to compile one or more lists that specify in detail the information that will be required from any applicant for a development project. The act also requires a city, county, or city and county to deem an applicant for a housing development project to have submitted a preliminary application upon providing specified information about the proposed project to the city, county, or city and county from which approval for the project is being sought. This bill would permit an applicant who submits a preliminary application for a housing development project, as specified, or an application if a preliminary application is not submitted, to include in the preliminary application or application a request for a preliminary estimate of required improvements, as provided. The bill would require a

city, county, or city and county that receives a request under these provisions to provide the preliminary estimate within 30 business days of the submission of the request, as provided. The bill, within 30 business days of deeming an application for a postentitlement phase permit complete, would additionally require the city, county, or city and county to provide the applicant with an itemized list of all onsite and offsite improvements that will be required prior to issuance of, or otherwise in connection with, that permit, as provided. The bill would define various terms for these purposes.

Position	Advocate
NOT FAVOR UNLESS AMENDED	WRIGHT

SB 1055 (Laird D) Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency: contracts.

Introduced: 2/12/2026

Summary: The Local Agency Public Construction Act governs public works contracts awarded by counties and requires the work of construction or repair of specified public buildings to be done by contract, if the estimated cost exceeds \$4,000, as prescribed. Existing law, in counties containing a population of 500,000 or more, exempts that work from the above-described requirement if the estimated cost of the work is less than \$6,500. This bill would, until January 1, 2035, authorize the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency, upon approval of its governing body, to use specified alternative project delivery methods, in addition to other contracting methods allowable by law, and require a contract awarded pursuant to these provisions to be awarded on a best value basis or to the lowest responsible bidder. Because the bill would expand the crime of perjury, it would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would require the agency to follow specified procedures if its governing body approves the use of Job Order contracting, as defined, and limit the maximum total dollar amount that may be awarded under a single Job Order contract and the term of a Job Order contract.

Position	Advocate
FAVOR	ROSSOW

SB 1081 (Laird D) Waste discharge requirements: minimum penalties: exception: publicly owned treatment works.

Introduced: 2/13/2026

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 and the national pollutant discharge elimination system permit program. The act requires mandatory minimum penalties to be assessed for serious violations. The act authorizes the state board or regional board, in lieu of assessing all or a portion of those mandatory minimum penalties against a publicly owned treatment works serving a small community, to instead require the publicly owned treatment works to spend an equivalent amount towards the completion of a compliance project proposed by the publicly owned treatment works if the state board or regional board make specified findings. The act defines "a publicly owned treatment works serving a small community" for these purposes to mean a publicly owned treatment works serving a population of 20,000 persons or fewer or a rural county, with a financial hardship as determined by the state board after consideration of specified factors. This bill would expand the authorization for the state board or regional board to require funding of a compliance project in lieu of the otherwise mandatory penalty to apply to a publicly owned treatment works serving a population of 3,000 persons or fewer, with a financial hardship, determined by the state board, within the 10 years preceding the assessment of the penalty.

Position	Advocate
FAVOR	ROSSOW

SB 1085 (Durazo D) Water supply planning: housing developments.

Introduced: 2/13/2026

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to be responsible for determining whether a project is exempt from CEQA and whether an environmental impact report, a negative declaration, or a mitigated negative declaration is required. Existing law requires a city or county that determines a certain type of project is subject to the requirements of CEQA to identify any public water system that may supply water for the project and to request those public water systems to prepare a specified water supply assessment, as provided. This bill, among other things, would instead require a city or county, upon receipt of a preliminary application for a housing development project that meets certain conditions, or upon a development application for certain projects being determined as complete or deemed complete, to make that

identification of public water systems. The bill would require a city or county, within 15 days of receiving an application that meets either of the above-mentioned criteria, to request each identified public water system to determine whether the projected water demand associated with the proposed project was included in the most recently adopted urban water management plan.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 1125 (Menjivar D) Water Rate Assistance Program.

Introduced: 2/17/2026

Summary: Existing law requires the State Water Resources Control Board to develop a plan for the funding and implementation of the Low-Income Water Rate Assistance Program. Existing law requires the plan to include, among other things, a description of the method for collecting moneys to support and implement the program and a description of the method for determining the amount of moneys that may need to be collected from water ratepayers to fund the program. This bill would establish the Water Rate Assistance Program. As part of the program, the bill would establish the Water Rate Assistance Fund in the State Treasury, available upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide water affordability assistance for residential water services to low-income residential ratepayers, as specified. The bill would require the state board to take various actions in administering the fund, including, among other things, tracking and managing revenue in the fund separately from all other revenue. The bill would require the state board, in consultation with relevant agencies and after a public hearing, to adopt guidelines for implementation of the program and to adopt an annual report to be posted on the state board's internet website identifying how the fund has performed, as specified. The bill would require the guidelines to include minimum requirements for eligible systems, including the ability to confirm eligibility for enrollment through a request for self-certification of eligibility under penalty of perjury. By expanding the crime of perjury, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position
SUPPORT IF
AMENDED

Advocate
NELSON

SB 1139 (Laird D) Monterey Peninsula Water Management District: nonfunctional turf: noncompliance and enforcement.

Introduced: 2/18/2026

Summary: The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District Law establishes the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District. The act authorizes the district to, among other things, prohibit the use of district water during an emergency caused by drought, or other threatened or existing water shortage, for specific uses that the district finds to be nonessential. Existing law prohibits the use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, other than a cemetery, and on properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities, as specified. Existing law requires a person or entity to be subject to civil liability or penalties by the State Water Resources Control Board, as prescribed, or to civil liability and penalties imposed by an urban water supplier, pursuant to a locally adopted ordinance or policy. Existing law authorizes a public water system, city, county, or city and county to enforce the provisions relating to the prohibition, as specified. This bill would require a person or entity to be subject to civil liability or penalties imposed by the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District pursuant to a locally adopted ordinance or policy.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
ROSSOW

SB 1153 (Caballero D) Disaster preparedness: urban retail water suppliers and public water systems: wildfire.

Introduced: 2/18/2026

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act requires all public water systems, as defined, with 10,000 or more service connections to review and revise their disaster preparedness plans in conjunction with related agencies, including, but not limited to, local fire departments and the Office of Emergency Services, to ensure that the plans are sufficient to address possible disaster scenarios. A person, as defined, who violates the provisions of this act is guilty of a misdemeanor. This bill, beginning January 1, 2028, would require all urban retail water suppliers, as defined, serving a high or very high fire hazard severity zone to include incident-specific response procedures for wildfires as part of their disaster preparedness plans, including any applicable emergency response plan as required by federal law. The bill would require these plans to include, among other things, mitigation actions, including actions, procedures, and equipment, that can

obviate or significantly lessen the impact of a wildfire on the water system and the supply of drinking water provided by the water supplier. Because violation of these requirements by certain urban retail water suppliers would constitute a misdemeanor, the bill would expand the scope of a crime, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.

Position
SUPPORT/SPONSOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 1263 (McGuire D) Contractors: debris removal.

Introduced: 2/19/2026

Summary: Existing law, the Contractors State License Law, provides for the licensure and regulation of contractors by the Contractors State License Board. Existing law prohibits contractors from performing specified acts. Existing law requires the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery or another state agency tasked to manage contracts for wildfire debris cleanup and removal by the Office of Emergency Services to prequalify contractors to enter into contracts to perform prescribed wildfire debris cleanup and removal work in communities impacted by wildfires. This bill contains other existing laws.

Position
WATCH/AMEND

Advocate
WRIGHT

SB 1313 (McNerney D) Drinking water: perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law establishes the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, and moneys in the fund are continuously appropriated to the State Water Resources Control Board for the provision of grants and revolving fund loans to provide for the design and construction of projects for public water systems that will enable suppliers to meet safe drinking water standards. Existing law provides that moneys in the fund and its special accounts may be expended for additional purposes provided in the federal Safe Drinking Water Act. This bill would provide that moneys in the fund and its special accounts may be considered eligible and expended for projects that address perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances in drinking water. By expanding the purposes for which a continuously appropriated fund may be expended, the bill would make an appropriation.

Position
FAVOR

Advocate
MORIN

SB 1326 (Wahab D) California Environmental Quality Act: tribal cultural resources: mitigation measures.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) 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. This bill would modify the definition of tribal cultural resource to, among other things, include a site, feature, place, cultural landscape, sacred place, or object with cultural value to a California Native American tribe that is identified by the Native American Heritage Commission as a sacred place, as provided, or included in a local tribal register.

Position
NOT FAVOR
UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
ROSSOW

SB 1417 (Pérez D) Mutual water companies: assessments and water charges: notice.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: Existing law authorizes any corporation organized for or engaged in the business of selling, distributing, supplying, or delivering water for irrigation purposes, and requires any corporation organized for or engaged in the business of selling, distributing, supplying, or delivering water for domestic use, to provide in its articles or bylaws that water shall be sold, distributed, supplied, or delivered only to owners of its shares and that those shares are appurtenant to certain lands, as specified. Under existing law, these corporations are known as mutual water companies. This bill would prohibit a mutual water company from charging, issuing a bill, or otherwise seeking to hold tenants of shareholders responsible for the costs of water or its delivery, except for specified tenants, and would require all notices of charges for water to be sent to the last known address of the shareholder or tenant, as applicable. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Position
OPPOSE UNLESS
AMENDED

Advocate
NELSON

SB 1425 (Cortese D) High-Speed Rail Authority: property: right-of-way.

Introduced: 2/20/2026

Summary: The California High-Speed Rail Act creates the High-Speed Rail Authority to develop and implement a high-speed rail system in the state, with specified powers and duties, including the power to acquire rights-of-way through purchase or eminent domain, as specified. This bill would establish a permit program, administered by the authority, for encroachments on the authority's rights-of-way. The bill would make any person who installs or performs an encroachment within the authority's right-of-way, without a permit, guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill would also make any person who willfully damages any feature of the high-speed train system or any portion of the authority's right-of-way guilty of a misdemeanor. The bill would provide for civil penalties for specified categories of encroachment and, unless authorized by law or an encroachment permit, would make it unlawful to manage water flows in certain ways that impact the high-speed train system or the authority's right-of-way, as specified.

Position
NOT FAVOR

Advocate
WRIGHT

Total Measures: 105
Total Tracking Forms: 105

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LEGAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

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