

CALIFORNIA STATE LEGISLATURE

Senate Committee on
Natural Resources and Water

2025-2026
Legislative Bill Summary

Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee

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2025 - 2026 Legislative Bill Summary

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Index for Acronyms

CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
CAL FIRE	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection
CalGEM	Geologic Energy Management Division, California Department of Conservation
CalOES	The Governor's Office of Emergency Services
CEC	California Energy Commission*
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CDFA	California Department of Food and Agriculture
CDFW	California Department of Fish and Wildlife
Coastal Commission	California Coastal Commission
CNRA	California Natural Resources Agency
CVFPB	Central Valley Flood Protection Board
DGS	California Department of General Services
DOC	California Department of Conservation
DPR	California Department of Pesticide Regulation
DSC	Delta Stewardship Council
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
DWR	California Department of Water Resources
FGC	California Fish and Game Commission

LUCI	**The Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation****
OPC	**Ocean Protection Council**
SCC	**State Coastal Conservancy**
SGC	**Strategic Growth Council**
SLC	**State Lands Commission**
State Parks	**California Department of Parks and Recreation**
State Water Board	**State Water Resources Control Board**

***Formally the Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission**

****Formerly the Governor's Office of Planning and Research**

Note on bill summaries and subjects

The summary description reflects the content of the bill as it was heard before this Committee or the final version of the bill. The subject lines for each bill are essentially as exported by the Committee Services program.

Biodiversity, fish and wildlife

SB-424 (Grove) - California Environmental Quality Act: expired regional habitat conservation plan: exemption.

This bill would have exempted from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act a project developed solely to serve an urgent public health or housing need, as specified, that is within the boundaries of an expired regional habitat conservation plan, and that had an environmental review completed consistent with the requirements of the regional habitat conservation plan as the plan existed before the plan's expiration, as provided.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

SB-427 (Blakespear) - Habitat Conservation Fund.

This bill extends the July 1, 2030, sunset date for five years to July 1, 2035, for the annual allocation of $30 million to the Habitat Conservation Fund, and the continuous appropriation of these monies to the Wildlife Conservation Board and others for expenditure, including for the acquisition and restoration of habitat, as provided.

Status: Chapter 317, Statutes of 2025

SB-542 (Limón) - Oil spill prevention: administrator for oil spill response: duties.

This bill would have prohibited the restart of an existing oil pipeline that had not been in use for five or more years without passing a spike hydrostatic testing program that meets requirements established by the State Fire Marshal, as provided. This bill would have also required the administrator of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the reasonable worst case spill volumes for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the reasonable worst case spill volumes to reflect the best available information, as provided. This bill would have further required the administrator to publicly post online a list of all applications for certificates of financial responsibility submitted by facility owners and operators, and also required the administrator at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the financial responsibility requirements for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the financial assurances necessary to respond to an oil spill to reflect the best available information, as provided.

This bill was gut-and-amended into another issue area after being heard by this

committee.

Status: Chapter 224, Statutes of 2026

SB-556 (Hurtado) - Habitat enhancement and restoration: floodplains.

This bill would have required, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or another statute for purposes of this bill, $21.5 million be allocated to the Wildlife Conservation Board for floodplain acquisition, habitat restoration, and associated conservation projects on floodplains in the Counties of Kern, Kings, and Tulare, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-609 (Laird) - Fish: commercial fishing.

This bill authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to publicly release commercial fisher names and fishing license numbers, fish business names and identification numbers, and fishing vessel names and registration numbers upon request in order to facilitate the accurate reporting of fishing activity, landing receipts, and fish sales, deliveries and transfers. This bill also deletes the requirement that marine aquaria receivers submit an electronic fish ticket for bringing ashore their own live fish.

Status: Chapter 227, Statutes of 2025

SB-653 (Cortese) - Wildfire prevention: environmentally sensitive vegetation management.

This bill requires a state public entity to consider incorporating into its funding guidelines for a grant program that funds an environmentally sensitive vegetation management project specified criteria, and defines environmentally sensitive vegetation management as vegetation management that reduces catastrophic wildfire risk over the long term while supporting native wildlife and biodiversity, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 778, Statutes of 2025

SB-718 (Dahle) - Hunting and sport fishing licenses: reduced fees.

This bill would have expanded the eligibility for reduced fee sport fishing and hunting licenses until January 1, 2031, to those eligible for certain state and federal assistance programs for low-income individuals and families, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-818 (Alvarado-Gil) - Mountain Lions: pilot program: permitted houndspersons.

This bill would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to maintain, enhance, and expand its human-mountain lion conflicts program statewide to protect public health and safety; required CDFW to develop and implement a grant program to assist eligible applicants to obtain, install, and maintain equipment and other measures in El Dorado County to protect livestock and domestic animals, as provided; and required CDFW to continue and expand its scientific research effort to develop and evaluate methods to deter mountain lions from entering communities and to prevent habituation to humans, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-839 (Laird) - Oil spills: fishing: water closure: grants: liability.

This bill revises the process and requirements for a fishery closure to protect public and fishery health in the event of an oil spill or discharge to state waters and makes federally-recognized tribes eligible for certain grant programs offered by the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 237, Statutes of 2025

SB-895 (Wiener) - California Science and Health Research Bond Act.

This bill creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research (CFSHR), housed in the Government Operations Agency, to award grants, loans, and contracts to public or private research companies, universities, academic medical centers, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development from a California Foundation for Science and Health Research and Innovation Acceleration (CFSHRIA) Fund and CFSHRIA Benefit Fund. This bill further establishes the CFSHR Council to establish and develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the CFSHR and determine which projects will be awarded grants, loans, or contracts; funds the CFSHRIA Fund through the issuance and sale of $7.5 billion in bonds, pending voter approval on the March 7, 2028 primary election ballot; establishes the CFSHR Finance Committee to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds; and contains an urgency clause that will make this bill effective upon enactment.

Status: Chapter 1040, Statutes of 2026

SB-1021 (Choi) - Fishing and hunting: youth program.

This bill would have required, contingent upon appropriation, the California Fish and Game Commission (FGC) to develop and establish a program to increase opportunities to fish and hunt for youth with life-threatening illness; set certain program requirements,

including hunter education; authorized the FGC to provide reasonable accommodations; required a legislative report containing information about the program; and sunsetted on January 1, 2033, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1061 (Ochoa Bogh) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: take: relocation.

This bill would have authorized the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to authorize, by permit, and without payment of fees or other mitigation, the relocation of up to 10 individual western Joshua trees from a parcel within 2.5 kilometers of their original location, and required a person seeking a relocation permit to submit a permit application to CDFW and meet certain other conditions, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1062 (Ochoa Bogh) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: life-sustaining services: project-specific conditions.

This bill requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, when adjusting the in-lieu fees for the take of western Joshua trees under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act, to consider making the fees proportionate to the impact of the project and the use of tiered fees by project type, size, or other criteria.

Status: Chapter 673, Statutes of 2026

SB-1063 (Ochoa Bogh) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: life-sustaining services: take permit.

This bill would have authorized the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act, to permit the taking of a Western Joshua tree without payment of fees or other mitigation, upon demonstration to CDFW that the taking of the Western Joshua tree is related to the maintenance, operation, or construction of a life-sustaining service, as defined, including through a service connection to a single-family residence or multifamily residence, including distribution infrastructure, as specified. The bill would have also required CDFW to grant or deny that permit within 30 days of a request, or within 10 days of a request to address a threat to health or safety, among other provisions.

Status: This bill failed passage in this committee with a vote of 2 - 4 (1 DNV).

SB-1108 (Caballero) - Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

This bill would have established the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy to protect, conserve, and restore the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area. The Grassland Ecological Area is one of the largest remaining contiguous wetland and grassland complexes in California's Central Valley.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1135 (Blakespear) - California Wildlife Coexistence Act.

This bill establishes the California Wildlife Coexistence Act, establishes state policy requiring an emphasis on the safe coexistence of humans and wildlife in the management of wildlife, and requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, upon appropriation, to establish a Wildlife Coexistence Program, the Wolf-Livestock Coexistence and Compensation Program, and the Wildlife Coexistence Technical Advisory Committee to perform certain duties to support coexistence, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 820, Statutes of 2026

SB-1212 (Jones) - Endangered wildlife: kangaroos.

This bill would have allowed the importation for commercial purposes, to possess with intent to sell, or to sell within the state, the dead body or a part or product of wild kangaroos harvested pursuant to Australian federal, state, and territory law, the federal Endangered Species Act, and applicable international conventions, as provided.

Status: This bill failed passage in this committee with a vote of 1 - 2 (4 DNV).

SB-1250 (Cortese) - State highway system: wildlife connectivity.

This bill requires the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to publish a supplemental list of wildlife connectivity improvements to the state highway system (SHS), as specified, and further requires Caltrans, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a comprehensive approach to address wildlife connectivity needs on the SHS.

Status: Chapter 821, Statutes of 2026

SB-1305 (Richardson) - Wildlife: bears.

This bill would have required, contingent upon appropriation, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a roadmap to evaluate under what conditions the reintroduction of grizzly bear in the state is feasible and advisable; and required the

roadmap to include certain scientific assessments and evaluations, consultation, and management, implementation, and regulatory measures, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1393 (McGuire) - Commercial fishing: steelhead trout: Dungeness crab.

This bill makes multiple changes to the statutes governing the commercial Dungeness crab fishery, and revises and extends the sunset on the steelhead trout fishing report-restoration card until January 1, 2032, as provided.

Status: Chapter 707, Statutes of 2026

SB-1397 (Alvarado-Gil) - Mountain Lions: human-mountain lion conflicts program: scientific research.

This bill would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to maintain, enhance, and expand its human-mountain lion conflicts program statewide to protect public health and safety, and required CDFW to continue and expand its scientific research effort to develop and evaluate methods to deter mountain lions from entering communities and to prevent habituation to humans, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SJR-12 (Laird) - Proposed 2026–2031 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: opposition.

This resolution declares the Legislature's strong and unequivocal opposition to the proposed leasing of federal lands offshore California for oil and gas development given the risks to coastal resources, recreation and economy, and the Legislature's commitment to take action to maintain the existing prohibition on new federal leasing; and requests the US Bureau of Ocean Engineering Management hold public meetings in the state in advance of any proposed leasing to receive input and prepare an appropriate environmental document for the proposed leasing, among other provisions.

Status: Resolution Chapter 166, Adopted Resolutions of 2026

SR-51 (Becker) - Protecting The Amazon Rainforest In Ecuador.

This resolution commends the advocacy of the Nacionalidad Waorani del Ecuador, the Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador, the Nacionalidad Kichwa de

Pastaza, and their communities for their steadfast work in protecting the Amazon biome and safeguarding the future for their children and our entire planet, and commits the Senate to investigating the impact of California's role in the consumption of crude sourced from the Amazon region and exploring ways that changes to state policies and practices can assist with efforts to preserve and protect the Amazon rainforest.

Status: This resolution was adopted by the Senate.

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

This bill codifies and provides for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: Chapter 606, Statutes of 2025

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-53 (Ramos) - Native American tribes: fish and wildlife: conservation and mitigation lands.

This bill would have made federally recognized tribes eligible recipients of grant and awards or grants and loans from the Wildlife Conservation Board's California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program and Inlands Wetlands Conservation Program, respectively; and stated legislative intent to enact subsequent legislation that would develop a faster public process for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to return lands that meet certain criteria to federally recognized tribes, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-263 (Rogers) - Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds.

This bill extends the operation of specified emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Board for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds to January 1, 2031, or until the State Water Board adopts permanent rules establishing and implementing long-term instream flow requirements in the watersheds, whichever occurs first.

Status: Chapter 130, Statutes of 2025

AB-454 (Kalra) - Migratory birds: California Migratory Bird Protection Act.

This bill prohibits the take or possession of any migratory bird, or any part of any migratory bird, that was designated as of January 1, 2025, under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Status: Chapter 365, Statutes of 2025

AB-527 (Papan) - California Environmental Quality Act: geothermal exploratory projects: geothermal field development projects.

This bill would have provided an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act for geothermal exploratory projects that meet certain criteria, as provided, and would have required the Geological Energy Management Division in the California Department of Conservation to update their regulations regarding geothermal projects.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 527 without my signature.

This bill would create a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption through 2030 for qualifying geothermal exploratory projects when a county or the Department of Conservation's California Geologic Energy Management Division (Division) is the lead agency, if those projects meet specified requirements.

This bill also would require the Division to combine new regulations for "enhanced geothermal systems" (EGS) wells with a current geothermal rulemaking by January 1, 2029, and, until those regulations are in effect, operators would be required to provide specified technical information when filing a drilling Notice of Intention for EGS wells in CEQA-exempt projects.

In addition to delaying much-needed regulations that are already in process, the Division would need to substantially increase fees on geothermal operators to implement the new requirements imposed by the bill. While I support the expansion of the geothermal energy industry in California as a much-needed source of baseload clean power, the increased fees caused by this bill could disincentivize geothermal development in California beyond any incentive provided by a CEQA exemption for one

part of a project's permitting process.

Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1359 (Papan) last year, which made a series of targeted reforms to the review and approval of geothermal exploration projects. It is prudent that we understand the effects of these changes before granting wholesale CEQA exemptions with costly and complicated conditions.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to include a species proposed for listing, as defined, in an incidental take permit (ITP) for an endangered, threatened, and candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), and provides that if a species proposed for listing becomes a candidate or listed species pursuant to CESA is a covered species under an ITP for a renewable energy generation facility than no additional permitting or authorization is required for take of that species, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 357, Statutes of 2026

AB-697 (Wilson) - Protected species: authorized take: State Route 37 project.

This bill allows the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to authorize the incidental take of four fully protected species – the salt-marsh harvest mouse, the California clapper rail, the California black rail, and the white-tailed kite – as a result of construction on State Route 37, as provided.

Status: Chapter 438, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill would have attempted to change a regulation adopted by the California Energy Commission (CEC) by requiring any biological resources data submitted to the CEC in an application for certification and small power plan exemption to be made publicly available on the agency’s docket as part of the certification proceeding unless the

California Department of Fish and Wildlife makes a written determination to protect certain sensitive data.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 734 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Energy Commission (CEC) to publicly release granular biological resources data used in the completion of Environmental Impact Reports, unless the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) determines that releasing such data would pose a significant risk of harm to individuals of a species.

Currently, the CEC receives both detailed biological resource maps generated by a project applicant and similar maps that the applicant obtains from CDFW, as part of the environmental impact assessment for proposed energy projects moving through the CEC's site certification permitting programs. The resolution of these maps is governed by data-use guidelines publicly developed by CDFW to protect the precise location of sensitive species and biological resources, as higher resolution maps risk increasing poaching, collection and habitat disturbance in these locations.

Though this bill is well-intended, the risks associated with this divulgence of information and the added procedural requirement of a CDFW determination on whether to divulge such information, if found harmful, are unnecessary, add additional process complexity, and likely won't yield additional mitigations or safeguards for species impacted by proposed energy projects.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-764 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Birds and mammals: nongame birds.

This bill adds mute swans (*Cygnus olor*) to the list of nongame birds that may be taken and possessed at any time if taken or possessed in compliance with certain requirements, requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to collect information about enforcement actions associated with the take and possession of mute

swans, and sunsets on January 1, 2031, as provided.

Status: Chapter 441, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species if needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities and would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to impose fees for its costs to review wildfire preparedness plans, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have established the Safer Roads Act, and would have required the lead agency on certain transportation infrastructure projects to incorporate wildlife passage features to feasibly avoid, minimize, and mitigate impairment to wildlife connectivity into those projects, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-929 (Connolly) - Sustainable groundwater management: managed wetlands.

This bill, as heard before the Committee, would have prohibited groundwater sustainability agencies from exercising certain authority to regulate groundwater extractions for and impose fees on small community water systems serving disadvantaged communities and managed wetland extractors until January 1, 2029, as provided.

This bill was subsequently gut-and-amended into a bill related to cemeteries in Marin County.

Status: Chapter 510, Statutes of 2026

AB-975 (Gallagher) - Lake and streambed alteration agreements: exemptions: culverts and bridges.

This bill would have exempted from Lake and Streambed Alteration Agreement requirements until January 1, 2027, projects to repair or reconstruct a bridge up to 30 feet in length or a culvert up to 70 feet in length within Sutter County that has been damaged or destroyed as a result of fire, flood, storm, earthquake, land subsidence,

gradual earth movement, or landslide, between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2024, inclusive, with specified exception, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 975 without my signature.

This bill exempts specified Sutter County projects and activities for bridges and culverts that have been damaged as a result of fire, flood, storm, earthquake, subsidence, gradual earth movement, or landslide between January 1, 2022, and December 31, 2024, from existing specified state requirements related to lake and streambed alteration.

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is tasked with determining if bridge and culvert project activity would substantially and adversely impact fish and wildlife resources. If found to have such impacts, CDFW must draft a lake or streambed alteration agreement that identifies species present in the area and for the project developer to mitigate the adverse impacts in conjunction with the activity. CDFW also assesses an administrative fee to support the implementation of these agreements.

Though this bill is intended to expedite damaged bridge and culvert projects, CDFW would still be required to develop individualized fish and wildlife resource protections for exempt projects, creating unknown but potentially significant General Fund cost pressures because the number and scope of projects that meet this bill's exemption criteria are not fully known.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1056 (Bennett) - Gill nets: permits.

This bill authorizes, on or after January 1, 2027, a set gill net permit holder to transfer a permit only to a family member once, and prohibit any further transfer of that permit, as provided.

Status: Chapter 720, Statutes of 2025

AB-1089 (Carrillo) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: industrial projects and commercial projects.

This bill would have 1) authorized the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree (WJT) associated with commercial and industrial projects in certain conditions, and 2) revised CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of WJT, including to meet defensible space requirements, among other provisions, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1089 without my signature.

This bill authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with commercial and industrial projects. In addition, this bill revises CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of a Western Joshua Tree around single-family homes.

The Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (Act) of 2023 was carefully crafted to balance the need to develop housing and clean energy projects in the Mojave Desert region, while creating a robust but practical permitting process aimed at protecting one of California's most iconic species. The Act currently authorizes CDFW to enter into an agreement with any county or city and delegate limited authority to permit the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with developing single-family residences, multifamily residences, accessory structures, and public works projects.

While I recognize the desire to expand this delegated authority to include the taking of

these trees where commercial and industrial projects are sited, this bill goes too far in authorizing the blanket removal of these trees near single-family homes that will ultimately undermine Western Joshua Tree protections and conservation requirements under the Act. Furthermore, this bill would increase the complexity and time required to manage the permitting process as modified by this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1169 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Wildlife grants: Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement program.

This bill would have raised the compensation available to a landowner who participates in the Shared Habitat Alliance for Recreational Enhancement (SHARE) program, which offers hunting and fishing opportunities on private lands, to $52 per acre or $87 per public participant for the 2026 calendar year and index the compensation limit thereafter, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1319 (Schultz) - Protected species: California Endangered Species Act.

This bill authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to determine whether a federally listed species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) native to the state would be impacted by a decrease in federal protections that could be substantially reduced by protection under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA), authorizes CDFW to deem that species a provisional candidate species under CESA, authorizes the California Fish and Game Commission to proceed with the process to list the species under CESA, and makes it unlawful for a person to import, cause to be imported, export, cause to be exported, transport, sell, offer for sale, possess, receive, acquire, or purchase any fish, wildlife , or plant that was taken , possessed, transported or sold in violation of any law, regulation or order, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 638, Statutes of 2025

AB-1520 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Public resources: conservation.

This bill is the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee omnibus bill; it makes various changes to statutes relating to water, parks, and wildlife.

Status: Chapter 401, Statutes of 2025

AB-1663 (Wallis) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: removal: trimming.

This bill authorizes the agent of a property owner to seek a permit under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act and removes the permit application requirement that a signed attestation or certification of dead western Joshua trees be submitted, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 813, Statutes of 2026

AB-1673 (Hadwick) - County fish and wildlife propagation fund: wildlife coexistence: tear gas.

This bill would have allowed a person, who is authorized by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to apply aversive conditioning on wolves, to purchase, possess, or use any tear gas weapon that expels a projectile upon authorization from the sheriff of a county or the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county, and additionally authorized expenditures from a county fish and wildlife propagation fund for costs relating to wildlife coexistence programs to prevent human-wildlife conflict, as provided.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in this committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

AB-1722 (Hadwick) - California Endangered Species Act: take prohibition: self-defense.

This bill would have prohibited the imposition of a civil, administrative, or criminal penalty for a violation of the take prohibition for listed and candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act if the defendant used necessary and reasonable force to protect themselves, a member of their family, or any other individual from immediate bodily harm, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1722 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit the imposition of civil or criminal penalties on an individual who takes a species listed, or a candidate for listing, under the California Endangered Species Act if the individual acted in self-defense or in defense of another individual to protect against immediate bodily harm.

Defending oneself from immediate bodily harm is a fundamental right. California law already protects against penalties for taking endangered species if the take occurred to protect oneself or another person. This bill duplicates these protections while creating confusion about the applicable standard for invoking this type of defense.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill would have established standards and licensing for a statewide network of recreational vessel inspection and decontamination stations staffed by trained inspectors to prevent the spread of invasive mussels, as provided. The bill further would have established the use of a recreational vessel tracking system, and a new biannual nonmotorized recreational vessel invasive mussel infestation prevention fee to help fund invasive mussel prevention efforts, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1802 (Stefani) - Land use: mitigation lands.

This bill removes the sunset on the ability of a governmental agency, nonprofit organization, or a special district that manages mitigation lands to also hold and manage the endowments established for long-term stewardship of those lands, and requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to compile a summary of the status of endowments subject to CDFW's jurisdiction every five years, as provided.

Status: Chapter 274, Statutes of 2026

AB-1808 (Carrillo) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: industrial projects and commercial projects: single-family residences: public works projects.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to delegate to a city permitting authority under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act

for commercial and industrial projects to take up to 40 western Joshua trees; 2)further authorizes CDFW to authorize, without fees or other mitigation the removal or trimming of up to 10 western Joshua trees by the owner of a single family residence or up to 40 western Joshua trees for a public works project where certain criteria are met; and 3) waives the California Environmental Quality Act for these single-family home projects until CDFW certifies a programmatic environmental impact report; among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 816, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have prevented a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment due to invasive mussels unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the invasive mussels.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1894 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit a public agency from denying imported water for groundwater replenishment due to the presence of an invasive mussel.

In response to the detection of golden mussels in October 2024, my administration immediately began working with managers of uninfested and infested waters to support the implementation of invasive mussel prevention and containment programs. This work is critical to ensure that water managers are prepared to respond to the ongoing threat these species pose.

While I appreciate the author's intent, I am concerned by this bill's "one-size-fits-all" approach prohibiting the denial of local water deliveries. This could have serious, unintended consequences for water managers statewide, especially as the challenges associated with invasive mussels continue to evolve.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1912 (Hadwick) - Deer: archery season: concealed firearms.

This bill authorizes a hunter to carry a firearm during the archery-only hunting season for deer.

Status: Chapter 132, Statutes of 2026

AB-1987 (Aguiar-Curry) - Department-managed lands: wildlife areas: hunting.

This bill 1) creates the Waterfowl Management Areas Operations and Management Fund (fund) and requires moneys in the fund, upon appropriation, to be expended by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for the operation and maintenance of certain wildlife areas; 2) requires all revenues generated from the sale of waterfowl hunting reservation applications and certain wildlife area entry passes to be deposited in the created fund; and 3) requires account funds to be used to augment and not replace current spending levels for the operation and maintenance of Type A and Type B wildlife areas, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 913, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill 1) exempts a public or private agency that operates a water supply system from certain California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) invasive mussel permitting requirements until an invasive mussel control plan is submitted, approved, or denied, as applicable; 2) requires at least quarterly updating of an online map of invasive mussel observations by CDFW; and 3) requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Water Resources Control Board to quickly and efficiently respond to the threat of golden mussels, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 817, Statutes of 2026

AB-2045 (Connolly) - Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act.

This bill extends the sunset on and makes additional changes to the Habitat Restoration and Enhancement Act that provides for streamlined permitting for small restoration projects at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, as provided.

Status: Chapter 818, Statutes of 2026

AB-2207 (Hadwick) - Hunting tags: transfer: youth and disabled veteran participation programs.

This bill requires the California Fish and Game Commission to establish a hunting tag transfer program for pronghorn antelope, elk, deer, bear, or bighorn sheep tags from a parent, grandparent, or legal guardian to a youth, as provided.

Status: Chapter 589, Statutes of 2026

AB-2254 (Addis) - Coastal resources: monarch butterfly habitat.

This bill would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the California Coastal Commission, to identify monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone, and to develop model policies for the protection of monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone. This bill would have further directed a local government with monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone to develop and implement enforceable monarch butterfly overwintering habitat site protection policies, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have created a “small restoration use” water right registration, which would allow up to 20 acre-feet of water per year to be diverted and stored for native fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2787 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Water, parks, and wildlife: omnibus bill.

This bill clarifies requirements for the California Department of Water Resources to review and re-prioritize groundwater basins when their boundaries change, and exempts, for either of the lakes located on the California-Nevada border, recreational boaters meeting certain Nevada requirements for aquatic invasive species prevention from citations for violating California requirements for invasive mussel infestation prevention, as provided.

Status: Chapter 222, Statutes of 2026

Climate adaptation and resilience

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

This bill would have required the California Air Resources Board to publish an assessment of the life-cycle emissions from alternative uses of forest and agricultural biomass residues and develop a strategy to support beneficial carbon removal products; would have directed the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to require state-funded forest health projects to include a forest biomass resource disposal component, as specified; and, would have directed the California Energy Commission to include the value proposition of using agricultural biomass resources and forest biomass resources for low- and negative-carbon liquid and gaseous fuels in certain reports.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 88 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Air Resources Board to develop specified methods and protocols to quantify the avoided emissions and beneficial uses of forest and agricultural biomass. This bill also would direct the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to require forest health projects to include a resource disposal component, and the California Energy Commission to include biomass-derived low- and negative-carbon fuels in certain reports.

Throughout my Administration, I have been supportive of advancing methods and practices to sustainably address the growing amount of woody biomass waste in the state, primarily due to the risk it presents of exacerbating catastrophic wildfires. This is why my Administration, for years, has recommended and acted on strategies to address this challenge and risk.

While I applaud the authors' desire to further this work, most of the requirements in this bill are duplicative of existing efforts. At the same time, other provisions would trigger new and substantial costs at each of the affected agencies not accounted for in the 2025 Budget Act. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with

significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-462 (Cortese) - California Farmland Conservancy Program: conservation easements: funding.

This bill would have continuously appropriated $20 million annually from the General Fund to the California Farmland Conservancy Program. This bill would have provided that that funding go to easements on agricultural land, as defined, except for grazing land.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-894 (Allen) - Wildfire resiliency: financial assistance.

This bill establishes the California Wildfire Resilience Loan Program to provide financial assistance to eligible individual property owners undertaking improvements to improve a structure's vulnerability to wildfire.

Status: Chapter 770, Statutes of 2026

SB-895 (Wiener) - California Science and Health Research Bond Act.

This bill creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research (CFSHR), housed in the Government Operations Agency, to award grants, loans, and contracts to public or private research companies, universities, academic medical centers, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development from a California Foundation for Science and Health Research and Innovation Acceleration (CFSHRIA) Fund and CFSHRIA Benefit Fund. This bill further establishes the CFSHR Council to establish and develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the CFSHR and determine which projects will be awarded grants, loans, or contracts; funds the CFSHRIA Fund through the issuance and sale of $7.5 billion in bonds, pending voter approval on the March 7, 2028 primary election ballot; establishes the CFSHR Finance Committee to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds; and contains an urgency clause that will make this bill effective upon enactment.

Status: Chapter 1040, Statutes of 2026

SB-899 (Grove) - Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.

This bill would have required the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, in cooperation with other public health and air quality agencies, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke. The assessment would have been required to include an estimate of the number of emergency room visits and deaths; a cost estimate for the health care costs of wildfire smoke; a model to determine the approximate health benefits, including cost and human health impacts, of achieving the goals of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan (Action Plan), and would have included recommendations on how the Action Plan could increase its health benefits.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-949 (Becker) - Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: landscape of statewide significance: Santa Cruz Mountains.

This bill establishes the Santa Cruz Mountains as a resource of statewide significance that requires special protection. “Protection” includes those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons, property, or natural, cultural, and historic resources, actions to improve access to public open-space areas, or actions to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural, cultural, and historic resources. Protection includes site monitoring, acquisition, development, restoration, preservation, and interpretation. This bill requires the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and its boards, departments, and conservancies, when appropriate and when resources are available, to encourage collaborative stewardship approaches. This bill specifies that it is not to be construed as authorizing CNRA to impose additional regulatory requirements on land use or working lands, including timber and agricultural lands, within the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Status: Chapter 318, Statutes of 2026

SB-1079 (Stern) - Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: Fire Innovation Unit.

This bill establishes the Fire Innovation Unit at the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to serve as the department’s innovation arm for wildfire technology research, coordination, procurement, and deployment for technologies that, among other things, improve ecosystem and landscape scale resilience.

Status: Chapter 774, Statutes of 2026

SB-1108 (Caballero) - Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

This bill would have established the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy to protect, conserve, and restore the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area. The Grassland Ecological Area is one of the largest remaining contiguous wetland and grassland complexes in California's Central Valley.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1270 (Richardson) - Wildfire mitigation program: financial assistance to counties.

This bill would have required the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to adjust funding allocations to include more counties in the wildfire mitigation program. The bill would also have required CAL FIRE and CalOES to evaluate the amount of additional funding that would be required to expand the wildfire mitigation program to counties with the greatest combined risk of wildfire and social vulnerability.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1297 (Allen) - Regional Wildfire Mitigation Collaboratives.

This bill would have authorized regional wildfire partnerships to receive funding from the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1394 (Limón) - Environmental protection: lands and coastal waters: conservation goals: reports.

As introduced, by Senator Limón, this bill would have required the annual report on the 30x30 goal, prepared by the California Natural Resources Agency, to include sufficient information to accurately quantify and identify the acreage reported to be newly conserved to distinguish it from acreage previously reported.

This bill was amended out of this Committee's jurisdiction and the author changed to Senator Gonzalez in the Assembly on June 11, 2026.

Status: Chapter 708, Statutes of 2026

SCR-50 (Stern) - Maladaptation.

This resolution recognizes the serious and urgent threat that maladaptation poses to the success and cost effectiveness of the state's climate resilience actions; calls on the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (GO-LCI) to work with other state departments, researchers, and communities to develop and adopt a statewide policy with an agreed upon definition for maladaptation and to evaluate the effectiveness of measures to improve climate resilience; and calls upon GO-LCI to review its policies and plans in the state's Adaptation Clearinghouse database and evaluate their progress to determine if any have or are likely to be maladapted.

Status: Resolution Chapter 149, Adopted Resolutions of 2025

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill, upon appropriation, would have authorized the California Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 399 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to facilitate the development of blue carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2024 alone, the state invested approximately $9.6

billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, my Administration developed and released achievable carbon removal targets for natural and working lands as a result of Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022. That same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across state agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solutions for climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-706 (Aguiar-Curry) - Forest Organic Residue, Energy, and Safety Transformation and Wildfire Prevention Fund Act.

This bill, upon appropriation, makes available moneys from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) or the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) available to the Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BoF) to establish and implement the Forest Organic Residue Energy and Safety Transformation Program (FOREST) in order to maintain and expand biomass power generation in the state. This bill makes a facility’s electrical generation eligible for reimbursement at an incentive rate determined by the BoF if, among other things, the facility uses forest biomass waste, as defined, to generate electricity and the electricity is sold to specified retail sellers.

Status: Chapter 869, Statutes of 2026

AB-803 (Garcia) - Urban forestry: school greening.

This bill would have added “school greening” as an allowable benefit of projects initiated under the Urban Forestry Act of 1978.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-900 (Papan) - Environmental protection: 30x30 goals: land conservation: science-based management and stewardship.

This bill requires the California Natural Resources Agency to update the 2027 Pathways to 30x30 Report to include recommendations to increase and improve stewardship of 30x30 lands, including innovative ways to reduce barriers and increase federal, state, and local support for science-based management and stewardship, as specified.

Status: Chapter 385, Statutes of 2025

AB-946 (Bryan) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have required the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature, when distributing resources, to recognize the coequal goals and benefits of the 30x30 goal and the Outdoors for All initiative, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. The bill would have required state funding agencies, including certain state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board, to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program's authorizing statutes, and the state's goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-996 (Pellerin) - Public Resources: sea level rise plans.

This bill establishes an early consultation framework between a local government and the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) prior to a local government's submission of a local coastal program (LCP) or LCP amendment in order to facilitate Coastal Commission certification of the LCP or LCP amendment, including to meet sea level rise planning requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 286, Statutes of 2025

AB-1089 (Carrillo) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: industrial projects and commercial projects.

This bill would have 1) authorized the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree (WJT) associated with commercial and industrial projects in certain conditions, and 2) revised CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of WJT, including to meet defensible space requirements, among other provisions, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1089 without my signature.

This bill authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with commercial and industrial projects. In addition, this bill revises CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of a Western Joshua Tree around single-family homes.

The Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (Act) of 2023 was carefully crafted to balance the need to develop housing and clean energy projects in the Mojave Desert region, while creating a robust but practical permitting process aimed at protecting one of California's most iconic species. The Act currently authorizes CDFW to enter into an agreement with any county or city and delegate limited authority to permit the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with developing single-family residences, multifamily residences, accessory structures, and public works projects.

While I recognize the desire to expand this delegated authority to include the taking of these trees where commercial and industrial projects are sited, this bill goes too far in authorizing the blanket removal of these trees near single-family homes that will ultimately undermine Western Joshua Tree protections and conservation requirements under the Act. Furthermore, this bill would increase the complexity and time required to manage the permitting process as modified by this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1666 (Rogers) - Forest management: biomass innovation parks: wood products.

This bill would have enacted the Biomass Innovation Parks Act, which would have established the Biomass Innovation Park Grants and Financing Program, to be administered by the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA). This bill would have required CNRA, in coordination with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the California Department of Food and Agriculture, to identify one or more biomass innovation parks and to develop guidelines and solicit proposals from an eligible

applicant, as defined, to develop, operate, and manage a biomass innovation park, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1666 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Biomass Innovation Park Grants and Financing Program, to be administered by the Natural Resources Agency, to identify biomass innovation parks.

I thank the author for his commitment to advancing the use of wood biomass to improve forest health and build wildfire resilience. In partnership with the Legislature, my administration allocated $50 million from the Climate Bond to the Department of Conservation to develop a program to fund the development of large-scale biomass facilities and identify opportunities to accelerate the utilization of wood waste biomass.

The program proposed in this measure would require additional resources not included in this year's budget. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1699 (Rogers) - Good Fire Act: Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program: burn bosses: California Environmental Quality Act.

This bill establishes the Good Fire Act, which would indefinitely extend the Prescribed Fire Liability Program. The bill specifies that the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund shall support coverage for losses from prescribed fires and cultural burning on any lands within the state and expands program eligibility by changing the entities who may receive coverage for losses from prescribed fires and cultural burning.

Status: Chapter 761, Statutes of 2026

AB-1891 (Connolly) - Forestry: Beneficial Fire Capacity Program.

This bill would have required the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, on an annual basis, to allocate not less than 10% of funding appropriated to the department for local assistance and other grant programs where prescribed or beneficial fire is an eligible activity, consistent with the term of the appropriation, to expand training, organizational capacity, and support for community-led beneficial fire programs.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1891 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to dedicate a specified percentage of all grant funding appropriated to the Department to beneficial fire activities.

The state has nearly doubled the amount of prescribed bun treatments since 2021, treating roughly 200,000 acres annually. While I share the author's goal to increase the pace and scale of prescribed fire projects, this bill limits CAL FIRE's ability to prioritize limited state resources toward the projects and communities facing the greatest wildfire risks.

Funding decisions of this nature should be considered within the annual budget process, where they can be evaluated alongside the state's broader wildfire resilience priorities and considered among *(sic)* available resources.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1934 (Bennett) - State Fire Marshal: home hardening certification program implementation plan.

This bill requires the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee to develop an implementation plan for a home hardening certification program that identifies home hardening measures, including defensible space, that can be voluntarily implemented during renovation or property improvement projects, or both, to

substantially reduce the risk of loss during a fire and bring existing building stock into alignment with state building standards for wildland-urban interface areas.

Status: Chapter 763, Statutes of 2026

AB-1960 (Bennett) - Wildfire Prevention Grants Program: identified cohesive fire communities.

This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee, to establish a wildfire mitigation validation program to provide voluntary official recognition to a community that achieves progress toward community-scale wildfire preparedness and mitigations.

Status: Chapter 764, Statutes of 2026

AB-2051 (Wicks) - Public resources: Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to retroactively extend for up to 5 years any time limitation established for a local government to act on the Coastal Commission's suggested modifications to a land use plan amendment that would authorize approval of a 100% affordable housing development which otherwise expired, as provided; and 2) requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to convene a Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group to develop a Coastal Resilience Permitting Roadmap by July 1, 2028 with recommendations for process improvements and legislative reforms to enable efficient environmental permitting of coastal resilience projects statewide, as provided.

Status: Chapter 575, Statutes of 2026

AB-2483 (Elhawary) - Wildland firefighters: Formerly Incarcerated Firefighter Certification and Employment Program.

This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), in partnership with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the California Conservation Camp program, to implement a standardized process to ensure that all eligible individuals who successfully complete training in a department firefighting training camp while incarcerated receive official written certification reflective of the training completed before their release, as specified. This bill requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as defined, applies for a Fire Fighter 1 Classification position, or any successor classifications, and has the required training and meets the minimum qualifications for the position, to award hiring preference under Category Placement 2 to the qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as specified. The bill requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual applies for a

Forestry Technician Classification position, or any successor classifications, to count the duration of specified training and fieldwork as an incarcerated hand crew member towards the minimum qualifications for the classification.

Status: Chapter 612, Statutes of 2026

AB-2513 (Petrie-Norris) - Wildfire: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: local assistance grant program: regional landscape grants.

This bill adds additional activities eligible for funding under the Wildlife Conservation Board, Regional Forest Fire Capacity Program, and local assistance grants. These new activities include ignition prevention, manual vegetation management, and the creation of ignition-prone nonnative fuels or flashy fuels with less flammable vegetation, among others.

Status: Chapter 768, Statutes of 2026

Coastal and Ocean Issues

SB-375 (Grove) - Wildfire prevention activities: Endangered Species Act: California Environmental Quality Act: California Coastal Act of 1973.

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species, if any, needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities, among other provisions, as provided. For a project for the reduction of fuels in areas within moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, this bill would also have provided an exemption from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and from the requirement of obtaining a coastal development permit in the coastal zone.

Status: This bill was set for hearing twice in this Committee, but both hearings were cancelled at the request of the author.

SB-484 (Laird) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: infill area categorical exclusion.

This bill requires the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to identify coastal zone infill areas in three jurisdictions where the Coastal Commission retains coastal development permitting authority for a 10 year categorical exclusion from that permitting requirement for residential housing projects comprised entirely of very low, low, and moderate income housing units, as provided.

Status: Chapter 416, Statutes of 2025

SB-542 (Limón) - Oil spill prevention: administrator for oil spill response: duties.

This bill would have prohibited the restart of an existing oil pipeline that had not been in use for five or more years without passing a spike hydrostatic testing program that meets requirements established by the State Fire Marshal, as provided. This bill would have also required the administrator of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the reasonable worst case spill volumes for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the reasonable worst case spill volumes to reflect the best available information, as provided. This bill would have further required the administrator to publicly post online a list of all applications for certificates of financial responsibility submitted by facility owners and operators, and also required the administrator at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the financial responsibility requirements for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the financial assurances necessary to respond to an oil spill to reflect the best available information, as provided.

This bill was gut-and-amended into another issue area after being heard by this committee.

Status: Chapter 224, Statutes of 2026

SB-675 (Padilla) - California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: streamlining.

This bill, as it was heard in this Committee, would have provided permit review streamlining benefits under the Coastal Act to Waterfront Environmental Leadership Development Projects within the Central Embarcadero Planning District of the San Diego Unified Port District within the County of San Diego.

The bill was subsequently amended to restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 675 without my signature.

This bill would restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution

Control District (APCD) and impose new reporting and planning duties.

The Imperial County APCD plays a critical role in improving air quality and protecting public health in a county disproportionately impacted by severe air quality challenges. While increasing representation and transparency on governing boards is important work, change of this magnitude requires sufficient support and resources.

I am concerned that this bill would impose significant new financial obligations on the County, its cities, and ultimately its residents, without identifying a funding source to meet them.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-741 (Blakespear) - Coastal resources: coastal development permit: exemption: Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor.

This bill would have expanded the existing exemption from specified coastal development permitting processes for certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore existing highways to include certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing railroad track along the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor, as provided.

This bill was subsequently gut-and-amended into another issue area after being heard by this Committee.

Status: Chapter 247, Statutes of 2026

SB-762 (Arreguín) - San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission: funds.

This bill would have expanded the purposes that moneys in the Bay Fill Clean-up and Abatement Fund can be used for by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission when appropriated by the Legislature, as provided.

This bill was set for hearing in this committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author. This bill was subsequently gut-and-amended into another issue area outside this committee's jurisdiction.

Status: Chapter 109, Statutes of 2026

SB-839 (Laird) - Oil spills: fishing: water closure: grants: liability.

This bill revises the process and requirements for a fishery closure to protect public and fishery health in the event of an oil spill or discharge to state waters, and makes federally-recognized tribes eligible for certain grant programs offered by the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 237, Statutes of 2025

SB-856 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - California Coastal Act of 1976: filing fee waiver: Marine Invasive Species Act: biennial reports: semiannual updates.

This bill, the 2025 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee omnibus bill, authorizes the California Coastal Commission to waive the filing fee for an application for a coastal development permit amendment; requires the State Lands Commission (SLC) to prepare a report on the Marine Invasive Species Program (MISP) triennially, instead of biennially; requires the SLC to post certain information on its internet website semiannually; and makes technical changes to the MISP report to address potential federal preemption issues.

Status: Chapter 102, Statutes of 2025

SB-895 (Wiener) - California Science and Health Research Bond Act.

This bill creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research (CFSHR), housed in the Government Operations Agency, to award grants, loans, and contracts to public or private research companies, universities, academic medical centers, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development from a California Foundation for Science and Health Research and Innovation Acceleration (CFSHRIA) Fund and CFSHRIA Benefit Fund. This bill further establishes the CFSHR Council to establish and develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the CFSHR and determine which projects will be awarded grants, loans, or contracts; funds the CFSHRIA Fund through the issuance and sale of $7.5 billion in bonds, pending voter approval on the March 7, 2028 primary election ballot; establishes the CFSHR Finance Committee to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds; and contains an urgency clause that will make this bill effective upon enactment.

Status: Chapter 1040, Statutes of 2026

SB-963 (Laird) - California Coastal Act of 1976: coastal development permits: appeal: de novo review.

This bill sets certain time limits for the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to identify and review necessary data and hold a de novo and public hearing when a coastal development permit issued by a local jurisdiction is appealed to the Coastal Commission and the Coastal Commission determines a substantial issue exists, as provided.

Status: Chapter 103, Statutes of 2026

SB-1229 (Allen) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: disaster exemption.

This bill would have prohibited the use of the coastal development permit exemption to rebuild a certain structure destroyed by a disaster if the property owner is not the property owner of record prior to the disaster and if certain additional conditions are met, such as being located in an environmentally sensitive area, as specified.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Assembly floor.

SB-1318 (Allen) - Coastal resources: local coastal program: coastal development permit: non-owner-occupied short-term rentals.

This bill would have required, notwithstanding specific provisions of the California Coastal Act of 1976, the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to approve a coastal development permit or a local coastal program amendment submitted by a local government restricting or prohibiting non-owner-occupied short-term rentals, regardless of the availability of other visitor-serving accommodations, if the local agency made findings that it was necessary to address significant local housing needs and the Coastal Commission determined that the permit or amendment strikes a reasonable balance between local housing needs and public access to the coast.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SJR-12 (Laird) - Proposed 2026–2031 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: opposition.

This resolution declares the Legislature's strong and unequivocal opposition to the proposed leasing of federal lands offshore California for oil and gas development given the risks to coastal resources, recreation and economy, and the Legislature's commitment to take action to maintain the existing prohibition on new federal leasing; and requests the US Bureau of Ocean Engineering Management hold public meetings in the state in advance of any proposed leasing to receive input and prepare an

appropriate environmental document for the proposed leasing, among other provisions.

Status: Resolution Chapter 166, Adopted Resolutions of 2026

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

This bill codifies and provides for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: Chapter 606, Statutes of 2025

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill requires the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to defer to the state university or college or private university in determining the number of vehicle parking spaces necessary for residents of student, faculty, or staff housing facilities, authorizes the Coastal Commission's executive director to determine that a proposed amendment to a public works plan or long-range development plan is de minimis, and provides procedures for the determination and approval of de minimis amendments, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 256, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill, upon appropriation, would have authorized the California Coastal Commission to authorize blue carbon demonstration projects, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 399 without my signature.

This bill would authorize the California Coastal Commission to facilitate the development of blue carbon demonstration projects in certain coastal areas and wetlands.

California is a global leader in advancing nature-based carbon capture and sequestration solutions, having built and expanded our portfolio of actions over decades. In fact, between 2020 and 2024 alone, the state invested approximately $9.6 billion in nature-based solutions. Additionally, my Administration developed and released achievable carbon removal targets for natural and working lands as a result of Assembly Bill 1757 (C. Garcia) in 2022. That same year, the Natural and Working Land Climate Smart Strategy cataloged over 350 efforts across state agencies to deliver meaningful nature-based solutions for climate action.

While I share the author's desire to accelerate novel nature-based climate solutions, this bill creates a new, unfunded program. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill eliminates the delay in “de minimis” local coastal program (LCP) or port master plan (PMP) amendments going into effect as part of a certified LCP or PMP, and revises and revamps California Coastal Commission administrative penalty reporting requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 556, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill requires coastal development permits (CDPs) for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to be approved or denied within 60 days, waives prohibitions on issuing certificates of occupancy for ADUs on lots without a primary dwelling unit following a disaster, and eliminates the ability to appeal a CDP for an ADU issued by a local government to the California Coastal Commission, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 491, Statutes of 2025

AB-996 (Pellerin) - Public Resources: sea level rise plans.

This bill establishes an early consultation framework between a local government and the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) prior to a local government's submission of a local coastal program (LCP) or LCP amendment in order to facilitate Coastal Commission certification of the LCP or LCP amendment, including to meet sea level rise planning requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 286, Statutes of 2025

AB-1417 (Stefani) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill authorizes the California Energy Commission to allocate moneys in an existing continuously appropriated fund for capacity funding activities and grants to help local communities and tribes engage in planning for offshore wind development projects, as provided.

Status: Chapter 397, Statutes of 2025

AB-1448 (Hart) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Sanctuary: tidelands and submerged lands: oil and gas development.

This bill modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026; requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment; and limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas

not in the state's marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Status: Chapter 812, Statutes of 2026

AB-1740 (Zbur) - Coastal resources: local coastal program: coastal development permits: City of Santa Monica.

This bill requires the City of Santa Monica (City) to submit a complete proposed local coastal program (LCP) to the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) by January 1, 2029, and requires the Coastal Commission to act on the proposal within six months, as provided. The bill would further require accelerated permitting for the conversion of certain roadways to active transportation uses in the coastal zone, as specified.

Status: Chapter 892, Statutes of 2026

AB-2051 (Wicks) - Public resources: Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to retroactively extend for up to 5 years any time limitation established for a local government to act on the Coastal Commission's suggested modifications to a land use plan amendment that would authorize approval of a 100% affordable housing development which otherwise expired, as provided; and 2) requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to convene a Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group to develop a Coastal Resilience Permitting Roadmap by July 1, 2028 with recommendations for process improvements and legislative reforms to enable efficient environmental permitting of coastal resilience projects statewide, as provided.

Status: Chapter 575, Statutes of 2026

AB-2254 (Addis) - Coastal resources: monarch butterfly habitat.

This bill would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, in consultation with the California Coastal Commission, to identify monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone, and to develop model policies for the protection of monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone. This bill would have further directed a local government with monarch butterfly overwintering habitat in the coastal zone to develop and implement enforceable monarch butterfly overwintering habitat site protection policies, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2734 (Hart) - Vehicles: special interest license plates.

This bill re-directs funds raised through the sale and renewal of two special interest license plates, including the Whale Tail plate, as provided.

Status: Chapter 407, Statutes of 2026

AB-2791 (Committee on Natural Resources) - Public resources.

This is the Assembly Natural Resources Committee omnibus bill, making technical, nonsubstantive, and conforming changes to the Forest Practice Act and the California Coastal Act of 1976.

Status: Chapter 60, Statutes of 2026

Conservation Corps and Local Corps

SB-803 (Durazo) - California Conservation Corps: Green Collar Certification Program.

This bill would have required young adults participating in the California Conservation Corps program to be generally engaged in projects that, among other things, promote or contribute to the conservation of energy and the development or enhancement of clean energy, climate resilience, or sustainable nature-based solutions. This bill would have further required the Director of the California Conservation Corps to establish a Green Collar Certification Program and would have authorized the director to authorize certified community conservation corps to implement the program pursuant to guidelines established by the California Conservation Corps. This bill would also have authorized the director to apply for and accept grants or donations of funds from any public or private source that are provided for specified purposes relating to the program.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1207 (Laird) - California Conservation Corps.

This bill amends the definition of "public service" to include serving as a corpsmember with the California Conservation Corps, for the purposes of calculating CalPERS service credit. This bill also authorizes corpsmembers to receive certain CalPERS retirement benefits.

Status: Chapter 156, Statutes of 2026

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-2483 (Elhawary) - Wildland firefighters: Formerly Incarcerated Firefighter Certification and Employment Program.

This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), in partnership with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the California Conservation Camp program, to implement a standardized process to ensure that all eligible individuals who successfully complete training in a department firefighting training camp while incarcerated receive official written certification reflective of the training completed before their release, as specified. This bill requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as defined, applies for a Fire Fighter 1 Classification position, or any successor classifications, and has the required training and meets the minimum qualifications for the position, to award hiring preference under Category Placement 2 to the qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as specified. The bill also requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual applies for a Forestry Technician Classification position, or any successor classifications, to count the duration of specified training and fieldwork as an incarcerated hand crew member towards the minimum qualifications for the classification.

Status: Chapter 612, Statutes of 2026

Mining

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

This bill extends by fifteen years, until January 1, 2041, the authorization for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to develop a single master reclamation plan to comply with its obligations under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975.

Status: Chapter 270, Statutes of 2025

AB-982 (Carrillo) - The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975: idle reserve mine status.

This bill creates an “Idle Reserve Mine Status” of up to 10 years length for idle construction aggregate mines, and sunsets on January 1, 2032, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 873, Statutes of 2026

Museums and historical resources

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-644 (Gabriel) - Holocaust memorial.

This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature, would have authorized a nonprofit organization that represents victims and survivors of the Holocaust, in consultation with the California Natural Resources Agency, the Legislature, and the Department of General Services, to plan, construct, and maintain a memorial to the victims and survivors of the Holocaust at Exposition Park.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate floor.

AB-1592 (Ramos) - California Indian Heritage Center support organization.

This bill authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with the California Indian Heritage Center support organization and requires the agreement to meet certain requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 451, Statutes of 2026

AB-2770 (Alvarez) - State Property: San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.

This bill would have required the state to quitclaim, forthwith, the San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park to the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2770 without my signature.

This ill would require the state to quitclaim the state-owned land within San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park.

Under my administration, the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) has worked with tribal governments to foster government-to-government coordination and co-management of natural lands within California tribes' ancestral lands. Such arrangements now cover more than half of State Parks *(sic)* land. Additionally, my administration facilitate the return of over 100,000 acres of land to tribes.

While I share the author's goal of further advancing ancestral land return, I am mindful of the need to approach that important work systemically *(sic)* – by building processes that are transparent and fair to all interested parties. I am concerned that piecemeal measures, like this bill, could undermine those values.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

Oil and gas-related

SB-542 (Limón) - Oil spill prevention: administrator for oil spill response: duties.

This bill would have prohibited the restart of an existing oil pipeline that had not been in use for five or more years without passing a spike hydrostatic testing program that meets requirements established by the State Fire Marshal, as provided. This bill would have also required the administrator of the Office of Spill Prevention and Response at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the reasonable worst case spill volumes for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the reasonable worst case spill volumes to reflect the best available information, as provided. This bill would have further required the administrator to publicly post online a list of all applications for certificates of financial responsibility submitted by facility owners and operators, and also required the

administrator at least once every ten years to solicit public input regarding the appropriateness of the financial responsibility requirements for facilities, and review and, as appropriate, revise the criteria and formulas for calculating the financial assurances necessary to respond to an oil spill to reflect the best available information, as provided.

This bill was gut-and-amended into another issue area after being heard by this committee.

Status: Chapter 224, Statutes of 2026

SB-567 (Limón) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program.

This bill establishes the Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program until January 1, 2035 and authorizes the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to authorize the conversion of 250 oil and gas wells for use as gravity-based energy storage wells, as defined, in order to evaluate their use to safely generate energy, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 419, Statutes of 2025

SB-767 (Richardson) - Energy: transportation fuels: supply: reportable pipelines.

This bill would have required 1) the Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to identify, on or before December 31, 2026, those pipelines that qualify as reportable pipelines, as defined; required, commencing March 30, 2027, and each month thereafter, the operators of reportable pipelines to report pipeline flows to CalGEM; 2) required the operators to notify CalGEM within 24 hours of a potential pipeline shutdown; and 3) required CalGEM to notify the California Energy Commission and others of the potential reportable pipeline shutdown; among other provisions, as provided.

This bill was amended out of this committee's jurisdiction prior to the bill being heard by this committee.

Status: Chapter 657, Statutes of 2025

SB-839 (Laird) - Oil spills: fishing: water closure: grants: liability.

This bill revises the process and requirements for a fishery closure to protect public and fishery health in the event of an oil spill or discharge to state waters, and makes federally-recognized tribes eligible for certain grant programs offered by the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 237, Statutes of 2025

SB-940 (Grove) - Geothermal resources: oil and gas reservoirs.

This bill would have established the New Technology Program within the Geologic Energy Management Division in the Department of Conservation to facilitate the evaluation of repurposing oil and gas or geothermal wells for renewable energy storage or generation purposes, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1428 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program: marine invasive species: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: public lands.

This bill, the 2026 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee omnibus bill, revises certain cross references to the federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, corrects erroneous cross-references, and makes a technical change.

Status: Chapter 36, Statutes of 2026

SJR-12 (Laird) - Proposed 2026–2031 National Outer Continental Shelf Oil and Gas Leasing Program: opposition.

This resolution declares the Legislature's strong and unequivocal opposition to the proposed leasing of federal lands offshore California for oil and gas development given the risks to coastal resources, recreation and economy, and the Legislature's commitment to take action to maintain the existing prohibition on new federal leasing; and requests the US Bureau of Ocean Engineering Management hold public meetings in the state in advance of any proposed leasing to receive input and prepare an appropriate environmental document for the proposed leasing, among other provisions.

Status: Resolution Chapter 166, Adopted Resolutions of 2026

SR-51 (Becker) - Protecting The Amazon Rainforest In Ecuador.

This resolution commends the advocacy of the Nacionalidad Waorani del Ecuador, the Confederación de Nacionalidades Indígenas del Ecuador, the Nacionalidad Kichwa de Pastaza, and their communities for their steadfast work in protecting the Amazon biome and safeguarding the future for their children and our entire planet, and commits the Senate to investigating the impact of California's role in the consumption of crude sourced from the Amazon region and exploring ways that changes to state policies and practices can assist with efforts to preserve and protect the Amazon rainforest.

Status: This resolution was adopted by the Senate.

AB-1448 (Hart) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Sanctuary: tidelands and submerged lands: oil and gas development.

This bill modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026; requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment; and limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas not in the state's marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Status: Chapter 812, Statutes of 2026

AB-1661 (Bryan) - Oil and gas: low-production wells: Baldwin Hills Conservancy: Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account: health impacts.

This bill expands the uses of the Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account and requires direct cash assistance to be made available to certain families living within 2-1/2 miles of the identified low production oil or gas wells located in the Inglewood Oil Field in Los Angeles County, as provided.

Status: Chapter 539, Statutes of 2026

AB-2461 (Hart) - Oil and gas: bonding requirements.

This bill would have expanded the requirement for an operator upon a transfer, purchase, or other conveyance of an existing oil or gas well and production facility to provide an individual indemnity bond for the full cost of well plugging-and-abandonment, facility decommissioning and site restoration to include a change in control of the operator, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2711 (Ellis) - Oil and gas: notice of intention.

This bill would have required the Geologic Energy Management Division to evaluate whether a submitted notice of intention to drill or redrill a well is complete or not within 10 days, approve or deny a complete notice of intention within 30 days following the determination of completeness, require an explanation of the denial, and provide for an operation of law approval of a notice of intention if certain technical and environmental

reviews are completed, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2716 (Ávila Farías) - Oil and gas: bonding requirements.

This bill would have raised the existing maximum additional financial surety that certain risky oil and gas operators are required to provide to the Geologic Energy Management Division to $80 million; codified requirements for self-insurance for low risk operators; removed the prohibition on self-insurance or a corporate guarantee for the full bond required upon the transfer, acquisition or other conveyance of a well or production facility; and exempted from the full bond requirement the transfer, acquisition or other conveyance of a well or facility purely for the purpose of plugging-and-abandonment or decommissioning, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

Parks, open space, public land and outdoor recreation

SB-55 (Umberg) - State parks: free day use pass: Gold Star Family members.

This bill would have required the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks), upon presentation of proof, to issue a pass to an “eligible Gold Star Family member,” as defined, entitling the bearer to the use of all facilities, including boat launching facilities, in units of the state park system. The bill would have further required State Parks to adopt regulations, as necessary, to implement the bill.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-287 (Arreguín) - California Trails Conservancy Program.

This bill would have established, within the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), the California Trails Conservancy Program (program). This bill would allow the program to establish an ad hoc working group and administer funding. The bill would have further authorized the CNRA Deputy Secretary for Access to administer the program.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-462 (Cortese) - California Farmland Conservancy Program: conservation easements: funding.

This bill would have continuously appropriated $20 million annually from the General Fund to the California Farmland Conservancy Program. This bill would have also provided that that funding go to easements on agricultural land, as defined, except for grazing land.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-499 (Stern) - Residential projects: fees and charges: emergency services.

As introduced, this bill requires the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to use certain data related to defensible space assessments, as specified.

This bill was amended out of the committee's jurisdiction before it was heard.

Status: Chapter 543, Statutes of 2025

SB-563 (Valladares) - State parks: Off-highway Motor Vehicle Recreation: grants: eligible applicants.

This bill would have made special districts that employ peace officers eligible for grants and cooperative agreements with the Division of Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-586 (Jones) - Off-highway motor vehicles: eMotos.

This bill classifies an "off-highway electric motorcycle" or "eMoto" as an off-highway motor vehicle (OHV) thereby requiring them to follow OHV rules, including displaying an identification plate or device issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Status: Chapter 588, Statutes of 2025

SB-630 (Allen) - State parks: real property: acquisitions and leases.

This bill exempts the Department of Parks and Recreation from using the State Public Works Board process to acquire land, under certain conditions, until January 1, 2033.

Status: Chapter 775, Statutes of 2025

SB-727 (McGuire) - The Great Redwood Trail Agency.

This bill makes changes to the administrative functions of the Great Redwood Trail Agency.

Status: Chapter 424, Statutes of 2025

SB-818 (Alvarado-Gil) - Mountain Lions: pilot program: permitted houndspersons.

This bill would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to maintain, enhance, and expand its human-mountain lion conflicts program statewide to protect public health and safety; required CDFW to develop and implement a grant program to assist eligible applicants to obtain, install, and maintain equipment and other measures in El Dorado County to protect livestock and domestic animals, as provided; and required CDFW to continue and expand its scientific research effort to develop and evaluate methods to deter mountain lions from entering communities and to prevent habituation to humans, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-832 (Allen) - Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group: membership: revitalization plan.

This bill adds two additional members to the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group, to include a representative of the city council district within the City of Los Angeles with the greatest number of Upper Los Angeles River miles. This bill also requires the working group to meet at least once every year and propose amendments to the river's revitalization plan to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for approval, and requires the Conservancy to approve amendments within 60 days.

Status: Chapter 983, Statutes of 2026

SB-893 (Seyarto) - State parks: facilities pass: Gold Star Family members.

This bill would have required the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue a pass for use of all facilities, including boat launching facilities, in units of the state park system, to an eligible Gold Star Family member, as defined.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-899 (Grove) - Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.

This bill would have required the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, in cooperation with other public health and air quality agencies, to assess the health costs

and impacts of wildfire smoke. The assessment would have been required to include an estimate of the number of emergency room visits and deaths; a cost estimate for the health care costs of wildfire smoke; a model to determine the approximate health benefits, including cost and human health impacts, of achieving the goals of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan (Action Plan); and would have made recommendations on how the Action Plan can increase its health benefits.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-949 (Becker) - Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: landscape of statewide significance: Santa Cruz Mountains.

This bill establishes the Santa Cruz Mountains as a resource of statewide significance that requires special protection. “Protection” includes those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons, property, or natural, cultural, and historic resources, actions to improve access to public open-space areas, or actions to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural, cultural, and historic resources. Protection includes site monitoring, acquisition, development, restoration, preservation, and interpretation. This bill requires the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and its boards, departments, and conservancies to, when appropriate and when resources are available, to encourage collaborative stewardship approaches. This bill specifies that it is not to be construed as authorizing CNRA to impose additional regulatory requirements on land use or working lands, including timber and agricultural lands, within the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Status: Chapter 318, Statutes of 2026

SB-1108 (Caballero) - Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

This bill would have established the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy to protect, conserve, and restore the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area. The Grassland Ecological Area is one of the largest remaining contiguous wetland and grassland complexes in California's Central Valley.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1167 (Blakespear) - Vehicles: electric bicycles.

This bill provides specific safety standards regarding the batteries in moped or off-highway electric motorcycles. This bill also specifies requirements for vehicles sold as electrical bicycles or "e-bikes," regarding the bikes' maximum motor power and speed,

and makes conforming changes related to similar vehicles such as "motor-driven cycles" and "mopeds."

Status: Chapter 846, Statutes of 2026

SB-1268 (Gonzalez) - Outdoor public recreation spaces: equitable access.

This bill establishes the Outdoors for All initiative, to be administered by the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), to implement the priorities in the Outdoors for All Strategy published by CNRA on November 15, 2023. This bill also requires CNRA to update the Outdoors for All Strategy on or before December 31, 2031, and at least every eight years after.

Status: Chapter 822, Statutes of 2026

SB-1394 (Limón) - Environmental protection: lands and coastal waters: conservation goals: reports.

As introduced, by Senator Limón, this bill would have required the annual report on the 30x30 goal, prepared by the Natural Resources Agency, to include sufficient information to accurately quantify and identify the acreage reported to be newly conserved to distinguish it from acreage previously reported.

This bill was amended out of this committee's jurisdiction and the author changed to Senator Gonzalez in the Assembly on June 11, 2026.

Status: Chapter 708, Statutes of 2026

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have authorized the Department of Parks and Recreation, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to provide vehicle day use annual passes, free of charge, to the California State Library.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-679 (Pellerin) - Department of Parks and Recreation: Big Basin Redwoods, Año Nuevo, and Butano State Parks.

This bill exempts property acquired by the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) for Big Basin Redwoods, Año Nuevo, and Butano State Parks from the requirement that property be acquired by the State Public Works Board on behalf of State Parks.

Status: Chapter 275, Statutes of 2025

AB-900 (Papan) - Environmental protection: 30x30 goals: land conservation: science-based management and stewardship.

This bill requires the California Natural Resources Agency to update the 2027 Pathways to 30x30 Report to include recommendations to increase and improve stewardship of 30x30 lands, including innovative ways to reduce barriers and increase federal, state, and local support for science-based management and stewardship, as specified.

Status: Chapter 385, Statutes of 2025

AB-946 (Bryan) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have required the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature, when distributing resources, to recognize the coequal goals and benefits of the 30x30 goal and the Outdoors for All initiative, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. The bill would have also required state funding agencies, including certain state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board, to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program's authorizing statutes, and the state's goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1139 (Rogers) - California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: public access: nonmotorized recreation.

This bill expands an existing California Environmental Quality Act exemption for changes in use of preexisting roads and trails in parks, as specified, to apply to situations where the lead agency is a "county park agency" and adds additional eligibility criteria for the exemption.

Status: Chapter 391, Statutes of 2025

AB-1225 (Bennett) - State parks: Accessibility Advisory Committee.

This bill requires the Director of Parks and Recreation to establish an Accessibility Advisory Committee.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1225 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Parks and Recreation (Department) to establish an Accessibility Advisory Committee to make recommendations to the Department on improving accessibility throughout the State Park System.

While I support enhancing accessibility to recreational opportunities in state parks, this bill would be duplicative of the Department's existing Accessibility Division. Moreover, the Department has completed hundreds of projects throughout the state park system, removing architectural and programmatic access barriers and constructing accessible trails pursuant to a court-approved timeline under a long-standing consent decree.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1520 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Public resources: conservation.

This bill is the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee omnibus bill; and makes various changes to statutes relating to water, parks, and wildlife.

Status: Chapter 401, Statutes of 2025

AB-1592 (Ramos) - California Indian Heritage Center support organization.

This bill authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with the California Indian Heritage Center support organization and requires the agreement to meet certain requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 451, Statutes of 2026

AB-1613 (Wilson) - Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicle safety.

This bill would have established the Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Safety and Stewardship Program and required the Division of Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation to develop a training course. The course would have been required to cover specific topics, including principles of safe operation and the use of appropriate safety gear.

Status: –This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1756 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Off-highway vehicle recreation: City of Needles.

This bill extends a pilot program in the City of Needles related to linking existing trails and trailheads for off-highway motor vehicle use with existing combined-use highways.

Status: Chapter 131, Statutes of 2026

AB-1804 (Hart) - State parks: parks passes: libraries.

This bill declares that it is the policy of the state to ensure equitable and inclusive access to the state park system by empowering the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) to administer programs that broaden public access to the state parks. The bill authorizes State Parks to work with the California State Library and individual library systems to provide park passes.

Status: Chapter 815, Statutes of 2026

AB-2453 (Michelle Rodriguez) - Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles.

This bill authorizes first responders to operate off-highway motor vehicles on highways, in certain areas in an emergency response situation. This bill further authorizes a local authority to regulate the operation of off-highway motor vehicles subject to identification by peace officers and first responders upon highways within the local authority's jurisdiction while performing official duties subject to specified requirements.

Status: Chapter 400, Statutes of 2026

AB-2679 (Hadwick) - State highways: public parking: traffic control.

This bill would have authorized the State Department of Transportation to contract with other agencies in the Tahoe corridor to improve pedestrian safety and enhance public access to recreation sites.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2770 (Alvarez) - State Property: San Pasqual Battlefield State Park.

This bill would have required the state to quitclaim, forthwith, the San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park to the San Pasqual Band of Mission Indians.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2770 without my signature.

This bill would require the state to quitclaim the state-owned land within San Pasqual Battlefield State Historic Park.

Under my administration, the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) has worked with tribal governments to foster government-to-government coordination and co-management of natural lands within California tribes' ancestral lands. Such arrangements now cover more than half of State Parks *(sic)* land. Additionally, my administration facilitate the return of over 100,000 acres of land to tribes.

While I share the author's goal of further advancing ancestral land return, I am mindful of the need to approach that important work systemically *(sic)* – by building processes that are transparent and fair to all interested parties. I am concerned that piecemeal measures, like this bill, could undermine those values.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AJR-9 (Wallis) - National parks: federal funding.

This resolution urges the President and Congress to restore full and consistent funding and staffing for the National Park Service and support two specific pieces of legislation. This resolution also makes findings regarding the iconic nature of the state's national parks, the popularity of these parks, and the impact reducing the National Park Service workforce will have on the local economy, National Park Service employees, and park visitors.

Status: Resolution Chapter 209, Adopted Resolutions of 2026

Ports, public trust and school lands

SB-304 (Arreguín) - Public lands: Port of Oakland: City of Oakland: permitted uses.

This bill lifts the granting statute and public trust doctrine use restrictions on certain lands in Jack London Square until February 1, 2066, and requires the Port of Oakland to make specified findings in a public meeting in order to lease these lands for nontrust uses, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 578, Statutes of 2025

SB-675 (Padilla) - California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: streamlining.

This bill, as it was heard in this committee, would have provided permit review streamlining benefits under the Coastal Act to Waterfront Environmental Leadership Development Projects within the Central Embarcadero Planning District of the San Diego Unified Port District within the County of San Diego.

The bill was subsequently amended to restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 675 without my signature.

This bill would restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and impose new reporting and planning duties.

The Imperial County APCD plays a critical role in improving air quality and protecting public health in a county disproportionately impacted by severe air quality challenges. While increasing representation and transparency on governing boards is important work, change of this magnitude requires sufficient support and resources.

I am concerned that this bill would impose significant new financial obligations on the County, its cities, and ultimately its residents, without identifying a funding source to meet them.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-856 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - California Coastal Act of 1976: filing fee waiver: Marine Invasive Species Act: biennial reports: semiannual updates.

This bill, the 2025 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee omnibus bill, authorizes the California Coastal Commission to waive the filing fee for an application for a coastal development permit amendment; requires the State Lands Commission (SLC) to prepare a report on the Marine Invasive Species Program (MISP) triennially, instead of biennially; requires the SLC to post certain information on its internet website semiannually; and makes technical changes to the MISP report to address potential federal preemption issues.

Status: Chapter 102, Statutes of 2025

SB-1428 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program: marine invasive species: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: public lands.

This bill, the 2026 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee omnibus bill, revises certain cross references to the federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, corrects erroneous cross-references, and makes a technical change.

Status: Chapter 36, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill codifies and provides for the expansion and implementation of a seasonal voluntary vessel speed reduction and sustainable shipping program off the California coast to reduce whale strikes and air pollution, as specified.

Status: Chapter 606, Statutes of 2025

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the

Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill eliminates the delay in “de minimis” local coastal program (LCP) or port master plan (PMP) amendments going into effect as part of a certified LCP or PMP, and revises and revamps California Coastal Commission administrative penalty reporting requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 556, Statutes of 2025

AB-1448 (Hart) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Sanctuary: tidelands and submerged lands: oil and gas development.

This bill modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026; requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment; and limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas not in the state’s marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Status: Chapter 812, Statutes of 2026

AB-2051 (Wicks) - Public resources: Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to retroactively extend for up to 5 years any time limitation established for a local government to act on the Coastal Commission’s suggested modifications to a land use plan amendment that would authorize approval of a 100% affordable housing development which otherwise expired, as provided; and 2) requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to convene a Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group to develop a Coastal Resilience Permitting Roadmap by July 1, 2028 with recommendations for process improvements and legislative reforms to enable efficient environmental permitting of coastal resilience projects statewide, as provided.

Status: Chapter 575, Statutes of 2026

AB-2312 (Ávila Farías) - State property: tidelands transfer: City of Martinez: leases.

This bill authorizes the City of Martinez to lease trust lands for up to 66 years, or, subject to State Lands Commission approval, for a term longer than 66 years if the commission finds that a longer lease term is in the best interest of the state. The bill requires the city to bear the costs of any study or analysis that the commission undertakes, reviews, or requests in consideration of whether a longer lease term is in the best interest of the state, as provided.

Status: Chapter 394, Statutes of 2026

Resource Conservation Districts

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

State conservancies

SB-462 (Cortese) - California Farmland Conservancy Program: conservation easements: funding.

This bill would have continuously appropriated $20 million annually from the General Fund to the California Farmland Conservancy Program. This bill would have provided that that funding go to easements on agricultural land, as defined, except for grazing land.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-832 (Allen) - Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group: membership: revitalization plan.

This bill adds two additional members to the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group, to include a representative of the city council district within the City of

Los Angeles with the greatest number of Upper Los Angeles River miles. This bill also requires the working group to meet at least once every year and propose amendments to the river's revitalization plan to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for approval and requires the Conservancy to approve amendments within 60 days.

Status: Chapter 983, Statutes of 2026

SB-1108 (Caballero) - Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

This bill would have established the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy to protect, conserve, and restore the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area. The Grassland Ecological Area is one of the largest remaining contiguous wetland and grassland complexes in California's Central Valley.

Status: –This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-946 (Bryan) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have required the Governor’s office, state agencies, and the Legislature, when distributing resources, to recognize the coequal goals and benefits of the 30x30 goal and the Outdoors for All initiative, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. The bill would have further required state funding agencies, including certain state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board, to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program’s authorizing statutes, and the state’s goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have renamed the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy Act to the Valley, Lake, and Delta Conservancy Act, would have expanded the Conservancy's geographical jurisdiction to include the Valley, Lake County, and Suisun Marsh, and would have established the Valley and Lake Program under the administration of the Conservancy to support efforts that advance the environmental protection and the economic well-being of Valley and Lake residents, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

Tribal Issues

SB-839 (Laird) - Oil spills: fishing: water closure: grants: liability.

This bill revises the process and requirements for a fishery closure to protect public and fishery health in the event of an oil spill or discharge to state waters, and makes federally-recognized tribes eligible for certain grant programs offered by the Office of Spill Prevention and Response, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 237, Statutes of 2025

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-53 (Ramos) - Native American tribes: fish and wildlife: conservation and mitigation lands.

This bill would have made federally recognized tribes eligible recipients of grant and awards or grants and loans from the Wildlife Conservation Board’s California Riparian Habitat Conservation Program and Inlands Wetlands Conservation Program, respectively; and stated legislative intent to enact subsequent legislation that would develop a faster public process for the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to return lands that meet certain criteria to federally recognized tribes, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have established, upon appropriation, the Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program to provide financial and technical assistance to support land acquisition and protection by providing financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, farmer cooperatives, tribal governments and tribal entities, agricultural land trusts, and community land trusts, and would have provided long-term leases to beginning farmers or ranchers or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranches, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 524 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Conservation, in collaboration with the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force, to establish the Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program to improve land access and tenure for socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, tribal producers, and beginning farmers and ranchers.

Land access is a critical issue for beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and I support the intention of this bill to assist those groups. While this bill would authorize the program to receive funds from Proposition 4 - The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 - recent budget action by the Legislature did not explicitly appropriate funding to support this program and there is no sustained funding to support the ongoing cost pressure this program would create.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1417 (Stefani) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill authorizes the California Energy Commission to allocate moneys in an existing continuously appropriated fund for capacity funding activities and grants to help local communities and tribes engage in planning for offshore wind development projects, as provided.

Status: Chapter 397, Statutes of 2025

AB-1592 (Ramos) - California Indian Heritage Center support organization.

This bill authorizes the Department of Parks and Recreation to enter into an agreement with the California Indian Heritage Center support organization and requires the agreement to meet certain requirements, as provided.

Status: Chapter 451, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have created several California Environmental Quality Act exemptions for water diversion projects meeting specified criteria and for related emergency regulations; would have required notice to and consultation with California Native American tribes for projects using those exemptions; and would have established alternative diversion criteria for groundwater recharge, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have declared it statewide policy to recognize and address the wrongs inflicted upon California Native American tribes regarding certain water-related issues, directed certain state agencies to take steps to implement this policy, and established a mediation process to resolve disputes, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2218 without my signature.

This bill would establish a state policy to recognize and address the inequities inflicted upon all California Native American tribes regarding access to, and control over, water by state-sanctioned actions of termination, removal, and assimilation, and would require several state agencies to take a series of steps to implement this policy. The bill would also require disputes between a tribe and an agency over implementation of the policy to be brought before the Governor's Office of Tribal Affairs for mediation before the agency action is challenged in court.

I have long recognized the historical harms perpetrated against Native peoples and tribal governments in California, and my administration has worked tirelessly to address them. Under my administration, state agencies are directed to foster respectful, government-to-government dialogue with tribes above and beyond what existing law requires. For example, the Department of Water Resources convened a tribal advisory committee to ensure tribal perspectives are incorporated into updates to the California Water Plan. The State Water Resources Control Board also expressly incorporated Tribal Beneficial Uses into its long-term planning, which involves extensive engagement and collaboration with tribal nations to protect water resources important to tribes.

I also recognize, however, that California must streamline its water policies to protect our water supply from the reality of climate change. I am concerned this bill would undermine that imperative – adding new layers of process to duplicate work that my Administration *(sic)* already prioritizes. I am further concerned that the bill is not sufficiently clear about how its new policy should be implemented – or whether such implementation would disrupt important regulations, policies, permits, and grant criteria already moving forward. Adding new sources of uncertainty will delay our urgent fight to secure Californians' water supplies.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

Water

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

This bill encourages the use of recycled water by changing the requirements for specific recycled water applications.

Status: Chapter 736, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill revises the contents of the California Water Plan, which is updated every five years by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), requires DWR to develop a long-term water supply planning target for 2050, establishes an interim target to develop an additional 9 million acre-feet of water, and requires that each plan update includes specified components.

Status: Chapter 210, Statutes of 2025

SB-224 (Hurtado) - Department of Water Resources: water supply forecasting.

This bill would have required the Department of Water Resources to update its water supply forecasting models and procedures to address the effects of climate change, and to implement a formal policy and procedures for documenting its operational plans and rationale for its operating procedures.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 224 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to update its water supply forecasting models and procedures to address the effects of climate change.

This bill is in response to an audit request in 2022 that incorrectly claimed the DWR overestimated the amount of water expected to run off from the Sierra Nevada and prematurely released over 700,000 acre-feet of water in 2021. The resulting State Auditor report indeed found no unnecessary release of water, but stated that DWR did not adequately account for climate change in its water supply forecasts. In June of this year, DWR submitted its final report to the State Auditor, identifying in detail how it has implemented the Auditor's recommendations, including additional climate change modeling.

I am satisfied with DWR's response to this audit and with its ongoing work to model climate change, particularly rain and snowfall, across California. As a result, this bill is unnecessary.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-369 (Padilla) - Salton Sea: restoration projects: skilled and trained workforce.

This bill would have extended the requirement to use a skilled and trained workforce to Salton Sea restoration projects undertaken by specified state agencies.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 369 without my signature.

This bill would impose new workforce requirements on contractors, subcontractors, and entities at every other tier that work on state restoration projects at the Salton Sea starting January 1, 2026.

Over the course of my Administration, the state's Salton Sea Management Program has dramatically increased the pace and scale of its restoration projects, covering miles of previously exposed lakebed with bird and fish habitat, as well as native plants.

These efforts are addressing severe habitat loss and the public health risks of exposed lakebed dust emissions. Simultaneously, these investments are providing job opportunities for local workers in a region long burdened by high unemployment. These mutually beneficial outcomes are a transformative step for this region. That is why I was proud to collaborate with the author last year on the creation of the Salton Sea Conservancy, which will further advance these shared objectives and enhance these outcomes.

I appreciate the author's efforts and commitment to addressing the pervasive issues in the Salton Sea region. Though well-intended, I am concerned this bill may result in delays to critical, shovel-ready restoration projects. Recognizing the importance of prioritizing efforts to provide high-quality, local jobs while balancing the urgent need to accelerate restoration projects at the Salton Sea, I am directing the California Natural Resources Agency, in consultation with the California Labor and Workforce

Development Agency, to identify and publish recommendations on increasing regional workforce development opportunities and promote long-term economic mobility in the community.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-463 (Alvarado-Gil) - Drought planning: resiliency measures.

This bill would have exempted a small water supplier or nontransient noncommunity water system from the requirement to meter each service connection and monitor for water loss due to leakages, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-556 (Hurtado) - Habitat enhancement and restoration: floodplains.

This bill would have required, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or another statute for purposes of this bill, $21.5 million be allocated to the Wildlife Conservation Board for floodplain acquisition, habitat restoration, and associated conservation projects on floodplains in the Counties of Kern, Kings, and Tulare, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-599 (Caballero) - Atmospheric rivers: research: forecasting methods: experimental tools.

This bill requires the Department of Water Resources, when researching, developing, and implementing novel forecasting methods pursuant to a certain atmospheric rivers research program, to also include the use of experimental tools that produce seasonal and subseasonal atmospheric river forecasts.

Status: Chapter 650, Statutes of 2026

SB-614 (Stern) - Carbon dioxide transport.

This bill, as it was referred to this committee, would have moved up the prohibition on the use of potable water for nonfunctional turf located on common areas of properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations or similar entities by one year, to January 1, 2028.

This bill was subsequently amended to require the State Fire Marshal to adopt regulations regarding the transportation of carbon dioxide in a pipeline and withdrawn from this committee.

Status: Chapter 529, Statutes of 2025

SB-639 (Ashby) - Zoning: Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley.

This bill extends the deadline for the Natomas subarea of the City of Sacramento, the Beach Lake subarea of the City of Sacramento (City), and portions of the Natomas Basin in the unincorporated area of the County of Sacramento (County) to meet the urban level of flood protection for five years to January 1, 2030. This bill also establishes that the City or County are liable for costs associated with property damage due to a flood if the City or County unreasonably approves new development in those areas.

Status: Chapter 777, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill amends the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 to add state and local public agencies to those entities authorized to appeal a certification of consistency, to impose a 90-day statute of limitations to challenge certain actions of the Delta Stewardship Council, and to add a severability clause to the Delta Plan.

Status: Chapter 324, Statutes of 2025

SB-697 (Laird) - Determination of water rights: stream system.

This bill gives the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) flexibility in the manner used to investigate a stream system, rather than requiring the State Water Board to conduct a detailed field investigation, and, when conducting these investigations, authorizes the State Water Board to issue an information order to any person or entity that diverts or uses water or claims a water right.

Status: Chapter 422, Statutes of 2025

SB-746 (Alvarado-Gil) - Water: Urban Water Community Drought Relief program: Small Community Drought Relief program: high fire hazard and very high fire hazard severity zones.

This bill would have codified the Urban Water Community Drought Relief program and the Small Community Drought Relief program at the Department of Water Resources.

Further, this bill would have authorized these programs, upon appropriation, to fund projects that provide benefits in addition to drought relief, including projects that reduce the risk of wildfires for communities through water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes in high- and very high-fire hazard severity zones, among other things.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-872 (McNerney) - Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund.

This bill would have established the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund in the State Treasury to be a receptacle for funds for capital projects to restore the design capacity of the State Water Project and improve existing levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 872 without my signature.

This bill establishes the Delta Levees and Canal Subsidence Fund (Fund) to support multi-benefit levee projects and capital improvements to water conveyance systems impacted by subsidence in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, and requires the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy (Conservancy) to establish an advisory committee to make recommendations for projects to be supported by the Fund.

In this year's budget, in partnership with the Legislature, we allocated $68 million to mitigate subsidence on the state's aqueducts and canals, $75 million for projects that repair levees and improve flood protection and climate resiliency in the Delta, $20.2 million to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Conservancy to reduce the risks of climate change impacts on communities, fish and wildlife, and natural resources, and $7.9 million to pay for mitigation costs associated with the Delta levee projects.

This bill would establish parameters for spending revenue from a Fund that did not receive resources in this year's budget. While well-intentioned, this bill is unnecessary.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-997 (Caballero) - North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency: lien authority.

This bill provides critical enforcement tools to the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency (Agency) through authorizing the Agency to seek civil penalties against water users who pump more groundwater than permitted by the Groundwater Sustainability Plan, and authorizing the Agency to impose a lien on a property owner who fails to pay their water bill in a timely manner.

Status: Chapter 86, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill restores a requirement that cities and counties approving certain projects identify a water system that would supply water for that project and complete a water supply assessment, as provided.

Status: Chapter 1004, Statutes of 2026

SB-1108 (Caballero) - Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy.

This bill would have established the Grassland Ecological Area Conservancy to protect, conserve, and restore the Grassland Ecological Area and the Grassland Focus Area. The Grassland Ecological Area is one of the largest remaining contiguous wetland and grassland complexes in California's Central Valley.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill gives the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District authority to enforce an existing prohibition against the use of potable water for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties, and on properties of homeowners' associations, common interest developments, and community service organizations, as specified.

Status: Chapter 88, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill requires, beginning January 1, 2028, applicable urban retail water suppliers serving areas in a high or very high fire hazard severity zones to include wildfire-specific response procedures in their disaster preparedness plans, including any applicable federal plan; and clarifies the liability limitations of public water systems when responding to wildfires, as specified.

Status: Chapter 776, Statutes of 2026

SB-1253 (Laird) - Salinas Reservoir: recreational use.

This bill exempts the Salinas Reservoir from the general prohibition against bodily contact with water stored in a reservoir for domestic use if three conditions are met, as specified.

Status: Chapter 177, Statutes of 2026

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-43 (Schultz) - Wild and scenic rivers.

This bill indefinitely extends the date by which the secretary of the Natural Resources Agency is authorized to add rivers or segments of rivers to the state's wild and scenic rivers system.

Status: Chapter 431, Statutes of 2025

AB-93 (Papan) - Water resources: demands: data centers.

This bill would have required the owners and operators of data centers, when applying for a business license, to report their estimated water use to their water supplier and to self-certify to such on their application, and, when renewing a license, to self-certify that they have provided their water supplier with a report of annual water use.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 93 without my signature.

This bill requires data centers, when applying for an initial business license, to provide to their water supplier an estimate of expected water use. It further requires data centers, when applying for a renewal of a business license, to provide their water supplier with a report on annual water use.

The widespread adoption of artificial intelligence technologies is driving an unprecedented demand for data center capacity throughout the nation. As the global epicenter of the technology sector, California is well positioned to support the development of this critically important digital infrastructure in the state.

While I appreciate the author's intent, I am reluctant to impose rigid reporting requirements about operational details on this sector without understanding the full impact on businesses and the consumers of their technology.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-263 (Rogers) - Scott River: Shasta River: watersheds.

This bill extends the operation of specified emergency regulations adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds to January 1, 2031, or until the State Water Board adopts permanent rules establishing and implementing long-term instream flow requirements in the watersheds, whichever occurs first.

Status: Chapter 130, Statutes of 2025

AB-293 (Bennett) - Groundwater sustainability agency: transparency.

This bill requires Groundwater Sustainability Agencies, by January 1, 2026, to publish information regarding their board membership and their board members' and executives' economic interests on its internet website or its local agency's internet website.

Status: Chapter 359, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill requires a water supplier to take certain actions that would help ensure effective fire response and ensure adequate water availability to aid in fire suppression in high or very-high fire hazard severity zones in Ventura County.

Status: Chapter 690, Statutes of 2025

AB-372 (Bennett) - Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

This bill would have established, contingent on funding be appropriated pursuant to Proposition 4, the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program for the distribution of state matching funds to urban wildland interface communities in high and very-high fire hazard severity zones to improve water system infrastructure, as specified.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

AB-568 (Macedo) - Tule East Groundwater Sustainability Agency Act.

This bill would have created the Tule East Groundwater Sustainability Agency to oversee groundwater management and compliance with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act in portions of the Tule subbasin in eastern Tulare County.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Assembly floor.

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

This bill extends by fifteen years, until January 1, 2041, the authorization for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California to develop a single master reclamation plan to comply with its obligations under the Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975.

Status: Chapter 270, Statutes of 2025

AB-638 (Celeste Rodriguez) - Stormwater: uses: irrigation.

This bill would have required the State Water Resources Control Board to develop recommendations for stormwater capture and use for the irrigation of urban public lands, as defined by the bill.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-639 (Soria) - Dams: exceptions.

This bill exempts specified weirs, as defined, that have at least three feet of freeboard from the regulation and oversight of the Division of Safety of Dams in the Department of Water Resources.

Status: Chapter 617, Statutes of 2025

AB-709 (Jeff Gonzalez) - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater sustainability plans.

This bill specifies that groundwater sustainability agencies that have developed multiple groundwater sustainability plans for a basin are not prohibited from amending the coordination agreement following the Department of Water Resources assessment of the groundwater sustainability plans.

Status: Chapter 439, Statutes of 2025

AB-915 (Petrie-Norris) - Dam safety: state supervision: exceptions.

This bill would have exempted from the Department of Water Resources' Division of Safety of Dams' oversight water storage facilities, structures, and activities associated with the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center in Kern County using compressed air technology if the facility, structure, or activity meets certain requirements.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 915 without my signature.

This bill would exempt from state dam safety requirements and oversight, as well as specified fees, any water storage facilities associated with an energy storage system project that uses compressed air technology.

While I support the development of novel, long-lead-time, and large clean energy resources, it is imperative that we do so with safety at the forefront. Additionally, it is essential that the costs incurred by state agencies overseeing the safety of these facilities are recovered from project developers to adequately ensure compliance with applicable safety requirements.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-929 (Connolly) - Sustainable groundwater management: managed wetlands.

This bill, as heard before the committee, would have prohibited groundwater sustainability agencies from exercising certain authority to regulate groundwater extractions for and impose fees on small community water systems serving disadvantaged communities and managed wetland extractors until January 1, 2029, as provided.

This bill was subsequently gut-and-amended into a bill related to cemeteries in Marin County.

Status: Chapter 510, Statutes of 2026

AB-1075 (Bryan) - Fire protection: privately contracted fire prevention resources: public water sources.

This bill requires Governor's Office of Emergency Services to develop regulations prohibiting privately contracted private fire prevention resources from hooking up their equipment to public water resources, unless approved by incident command or the authority having jurisdiction over the active fire incident, as specified.

Status: Chapter 538, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill would have prohibited 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, as defined by the bill.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1413 (Papan) - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

This bill would have made various changes to comprehensive groundwater adjudication procedures and to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) including, amongst others, providing that a court's judgment substantially interferes with the implementation of SGMA if the judgment permits more total pumping from a basin annually or on average than a valid groundwater sustainability plan (GSP); permitting a

court to establish a safe yield that exceeds the sustainable yield established in a valid GSP under certain circumstances; requiring a groundwater sustainability agency to review its sustainable yield every seven years; and requiring that a validation action be filed within 180 days of the GSP's adoption.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate floor.

AB-1466 (Hart) - Groundwater adjudication.

This bill, in actions to adjudicate groundwater rights, allows a court to exempt or treat separately claimants who extract or divert minor quantities of water; requires a party's initial disclosure to additionally include information relating to agricultural use; and requires a court to request the groundwater sustainability agency provide a technical report that quantifies and describes the groundwater uses of parties that have not otherwise appeared before the court.

Status: Chapter 643, Statutes of 2025

AB-1520 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Public resources: conservation.

This bill is the Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee omnibus bill; it makes various changes to statutes relating to water, parks, and wildlife.

Status: Chapter 401, Statutes of 2025

AB-1873 (Bennett) - County of Ventura: fire suppression: backup energy source.

This bill revises existing requirements, set to take effect July 1, 2030, for Ventura County water suppliers to extend the time for mobile or mutual aid backup energy sources to come online from 60 minutes to 90 minutes after a loss of power, requires water suppliers to notify the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services if that backup power is not available within 90 minutes, sets a July 1, 2027, deadline to develop an emergency preparedness plan, and adds a new assessment item to the existing post-fire reporting requirements.

Status: Chapter 168, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have prevented a public agency from prohibiting imported water deliveries for groundwater replenishment due to invasive mussels unless there is substantial, documented evidence of a proven health and safety risk as a result of the

invasive mussels.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1894 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit a public agency from denying imported water for groundwater replenishment due to the presence of an invasive mussel.

In response to the detection of golden mussels in October 2024, my administration immediately began working with managers of uninfested and infested waters to support the implementation of invasive mussel prevention and containment programs. This work is critical to ensure that water managers are prepared to respond to the ongoing threat these species pose.

While I appreciate the author's intent, I am concerned by this bill's "one-size-fits-all" approach prohibiting the denial of local water deliveries. This could have serious, unintended consequences for water managers statewide, especially as the challenges associated with invasive mussels continue to evolve.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,
Gavin Newsom

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

This bill would have created several California Environmental Quality Act exemptions for water diversion projects meeting specified criteria and for related emergency regulations; would have required notice to and consultation with California Native American tribes for projects using those exemptions; and would have established alternative diversion criteria for groundwater recharge, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill places new requirements on a plaintiff when filing a notice in a groundwater basin adjudication, including an attachment of any certified or registered mail delivery receipts received as of the date of the filing, as provided. Under the bill, if a return

receipt is not received for a parcel of real property, the plaintiff is required to also include an affidavit of the person who posted the notice specifying the date, time, and physical location of each parcel of real property where the posting occurred, accompanied by a photograph depicting the posted notice.

Status: Chapter 138, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have extended the time periods to put water appropriated under six water rights permits held by the Department of Water Resources for the State Water Project to beneficial use until December 31, 2046.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in this committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

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

This bill would have declared it statewide policy to recognize and address the wrongs inflicted upon California Native American tribes regarding certain water-related issues, directed certain state agencies to take steps to implement this policy, and established a mediation process to resolve disputes, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2218 without my signature.

This bill would establish a state policy to recognize and address the inequities inflicted upon all California Native American tribes regarding access to, and control over, water by state-sanctioned actions of termination, removal, and assimilation, and would require several state agencies to take a series of steps to implement this policy. The bill would also require disputes between a tribe and an agency over implementation of the policy to be brought before the Governor’s Office of Tribal Affairs for mediation before the agency action is challenged in court.

I have long recognized the historical harms perpetrated against Native peoples and tribal governments in California, and my administration has worked tirelessly to address them. Under my administration, state agencies are directed to foster respectful, government-to-government dialogue with tribes above and beyond what existing law requires. For example, the Department of Water Resources convened a tribal advisory

committee to ensure tribal perspectives are incorporated into updates to the California Water Plan. The State Water Resources Control Board also expressly incorporated Tribal Beneficial Uses into its long-term planning, which involves extensive engagement and collaboration with tribal nations to protect water resources important to tribes.

I also recognize, however, that California must streamline its water policies to protect our water supply from the reality of climate change. I am concerned this bill would undermine that imperative – adding new layers of process to duplicate work that my Administration *(sic)* already prioritizes. I am further concerned that the bill is not sufficiently clear about how its new policy should be implemented – or whether such implementation would disrupt important regulations, policies, permits, and grant criteria already moving forward. Adding new sources of uncertainty will delay our urgent fight to secure Californians' water supplies.

For these reasons, I am unable to sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill would have created a "small restoration use" water right registration, which would allow up to 20 acre-feet of water per year to be diverted and stored for native fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2469 (Papan) - Data centers: water use disclosures.

This bill imposes certain requirements on cities and counties to meet before they can issue permits to proposed data center projects, as provided.

Status: Chapter 436, Statutes of 2026

AB-2521 (Papan) - California Council on Science and Technology: water availability study: Central Valley.

This bill would have, upon appropriation, requested that the California Council on Science and Technology undertake two watershed-wide water availability studies for watersheds that are within, or drain into, the Central Valley to help facilitate groundwater

recharge permitting, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2619 (Papan) - Water resources: data centers.

This bill imposes new requirements on data centers that apply for business licenses, as provided.

Status: Chapter 437, Statutes of 2026

AB-2728 (Soria) - Groundwater: de minimis extractors: fees: exemption.

This bill allows a local government, including a groundwater sustainability agency, that imposes a fee, levy, charge, or exaction for groundwater monitoring or management to exempt de minimis extractors.

Status: Chapter 963, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have established the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Trust as a charitable trust to fund the Community Water Affordability Program administered by the Department of Water Resources and the Water Rate Affordability Assistance Fund administered by the State Water Resources Control Board, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2739 without my signature.

This bill establishes the Water Affordability and System Stabilization Trust to theoretically generate ongoing funding for two programs – one to provide water rate assistance and another to provide infrastructure grants for community water systems.

Ensuring access to safe and affordable drinking water in California has been a top priority of my Administration over the last eight years. We have made tremendous progress in bringing clean, affordable drinking water to California's most disadvantaged communities – over one million people who lacked this most basic need now have it thanks to this work. That said, much more work remains, and I deeply appreciate the intent behind this proposal. But *(sic)* by creating a permanent program without identifying a sustainable, ongoing funding source, this bill – as well as SB 1125 –

misses the mark. I encourage the Legislature to revisit this issue next year as part of the annual budget process, in order to balance the funding needed to support a proposal of this nature with other fiscal considerations.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-2787 (Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife) - Water, parks, and wildlife: omnibus bill.

This bill clarifies requirements for the California Department of Water Resources to review and re-prioritize groundwater basins when their boundaries change, and exempts, for either of the lakes located on the California-Nevada border, recreational boaters meeting certain Nevada requirements for aquatic invasive species prevention from citations for violating California requirements for invasive mussel infestation prevention, as provided.

Status: Chapter 222, Statutes of 2026

Wildfire and Forestry

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

This bill would have required the California Air Resources Board to publish an assessment of the life-cycle emissions from alternative uses of forest and agricultural biomass residues and develop a strategy to support beneficial carbon removal products; directed the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to require state-funded forest health projects to include a forest biomass resource disposal component, as specified; and, directed the California Energy Commission to include the value proposition of using agricultural biomass resources and forest biomass resources for low- and negative-carbon liquid and gaseous fuels in certain reports.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 88 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Air Resources Board to develop specified methods and protocols to quantify the avoided emissions and beneficial uses of forest and agricultural biomass. This bill also would direct the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to require forest health projects to include a resource disposal component, and the California Energy Commission to include biomass-derived low- and negative-carbon fuels in certain reports.

Throughout my Administration, I have been supportive of advancing methods and practices to sustainably address the growing amount of woody biomass waste in the state, primarily due to the risk it presents of exacerbating catastrophic wildfires. This is why my Administration, for years, has recommended and acted on strategies to address this challenge and risk.

While I applaud the authors' desire to further this work, most of the requirements in this bill are duplicative of existing efforts. At the same time, other provisions would trigger new and substantial costs at each of the affected agencies not accounted for in the 2025 Budget Act. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-90 (Seyarto) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: grants: improvements to public evacuation routes: mobile rigid water storage: electrical generators.

This bill would have explicitly specified certain projects, such as improvements to public evacuation routes in very high or high fire hazard severity zones, as eligible for wildfire mitigation grant program funding from the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4), as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have required the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to coordinate and integrate existing wildfire smoke and health data from local, state, and federal agencies in order, for example, to evaluate the effectiveness of investments in forest health and wildfire mitigation on health outcomes. This bill would have also required CDPH, in consultation with those agencies, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide-integrated wildfire smoke and health data platform on or before July 1, 2028, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-234 (Niello) - Wildfires: workgroup: toxic heavy metals.

This bill would have directed the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control to form a workgroup to establish best practices and recommendations, and study and consider ways to prevent, avoid, and mitigate exposure to heavy metals after a wildfire, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-326 (Becker) - Wildfire safety: The California Wildfire Mitigation Strategic Planning Act.

This bill would have required the Office of the State Fire Marshal to prepare, and regularly update, a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework, a Wildfire Risk Baseline and Forecast, and a Wildfire Mitigation Scenarios Report, as specified; and would have required, contingent upon an appropriation, the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to provide local assistance to local governments to achieve wildfire risk reduction consistent with the aforementioned plans, for defensible space inspections, and to facilitate compliance with forthcoming ember-resistant zone (known as zone zero) regulations, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 326 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to prepare a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework, a Wildfire Risk Baseline and Forecast, and

a Wildfire Mitigation Scenarios Report, and to update each report at regular intervals. The bill would also expand the list of eligible entities for Wildfire Prevention Grants Program funding to include activities that support early compliance with Zone Zero regulations.

The requirements of this bill would trigger substantial, ongoing costs that are not accounted for in the budget. In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-375 (Grove) - Wildfire prevention activities: Endangered Species Act: California Environmental Quality Act: California Coastal Act of 1973.

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species, if any, needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities, among other provisions, as provided. For a project for the reduction of fuels in areas within moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, this bill would also have provided an exemption from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act and from the requirement of obtaining a coastal development permit in the coastal zone.

Status: This bill was set for hearing twice in this committee, but both hearings were cancelled at the request of the author.

SB-424 (Grove) - California Environmental Quality Act: expired regional habitat conservation plan: exemption.

This bill would have exempted from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act a project developed solely to serve an urgent public health or housing need, as specified, that is within the boundaries of an expired regional habitat conservation plan, and that had an environmental review completed consistent with the requirements of the regional habitat conservation plan as the plan existed before the plan’s expiration,

as provided.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

SB-499 (Stern) - Residential projects: fees and charges: emergency services.

As introduced, this bill would have required the Director of the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to use certain data related to defensible space assessments, as specified.

This bill was amended out of the committee's jurisdiction before it was heard.

Status: Chapter 543, Statutes of 2025

SB-514 (Cabaldon) - Wildfire prevention: assessment: accreditation.

This bill authorizes the Office of the State Fire Marshal, as part of the California Fire Service Training and Education Program, to allow certification of contractors who conduct defensible space, home hardening, fuel reduction, roadside clearance, and other contracting activities for wildfire resiliency efforts and who have completed the above-described training program for qualified entities to support and augment the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in its defensible space and home hardening and education efforts or an equivalent program.

Status: Chapter 767, Statutes of 2025

SB-653 (Cortese) - Wildfire prevention: environmentally sensitive vegetation management.

This bill requires a state public entity to consider incorporating into its funding guidelines for a grant program that funds an environmentally sensitive vegetation management project specified criteria, and defines environmentally sensitive vegetation management as vegetation management that reduces catastrophic wildfire risk over the long term while supporting native wildlife and biodiversity, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 778, Statutes of 2025

SB-662 (Alvarado-Gil) - Wildfires: defensible space: education efforts.

This bill would have extended for five years the sunsets on the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection’s statewide program to support its defensible space inspection and home hardening assessment and education efforts, including its training

pilot program for volunteers, to January 1, 2031, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-894 (Allen) - Wildfire resiliency: financial assistance.

This bill establishes the California Wildfire Resilience Loan Program to provide financial assistance to eligible individual property owners undertaking improvements to improve a structure's vulnerability to wildfire.

Status: Chapter 770, Statutes of 2026

SB-895 (Wiener) - California Science and Health Research Bond Act.

This bill creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research (CFSHR), housed in the Government Operations Agency, to award grants, loans, and contracts to public or private research companies, universities, academic medical centers, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development from a California Foundation for Science and Health Research and Innovation Acceleration (CFSHRIA) Fund and CFSHRIA Benefit Fund. This bill further establishes the CFSHR Council to establish and develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the CFSHR and determine which projects will be awarded grants, loans, or contracts; funds the CFSHRIA Fund through the issuance and sale of $7.5 billion in bonds, pending voter approval on the March 7, 2028 primary election ballot; establishes the CFSHR Finance Committee to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds; and contains an urgency clause that will make this bill effective upon enactment.

Status: Chapter 1040, Statutes of 2026

SB-899 (Grove) - Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.

This bill would have required the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, in cooperation with other public health and air quality agencies, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke. The assessment would have been required to include an estimate of the number of emergency room visits and deaths; a cost estimate for the health care costs of wildfire smoke; a model to determine the approximate health benefits, including cost and human health impacts, of achieving the goals of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan (Action Plan); and would have made recommendations on how the Action Plan could increase its health benefits.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-949 (Becker) - Environmental protection: Natural Resources Agency: landscape of statewide significance: Santa Cruz Mountains.

This bill establishes the Santa Cruz Mountains as a resource of statewide significance that requires special protection. “Protection” includes those actions necessary to prevent harm or damage to persons, property, or natural, cultural, and historic resources, actions to improve access to public open-space areas, or actions to allow the continued use and enjoyment of property or natural, cultural, and historic resources. Protection includes site monitoring, acquisition, development, restoration, preservation, and interpretation. This bill requires the Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) and its boards, departments, and conservancies to, when appropriate and when resources are available, to encourage collaborative stewardship approaches. This bill specifies that it is not to be construed as authorizing CNRA to impose additional regulatory requirements on land use or working lands, including timber and agricultural lands, within the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Status: Chapter 318, Statutes of 2026

SB-973 (Becker) - Wildfire County Coordinator Program.

This bill establishes the California Wildfire Preparedness Program in the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop guidance for organizations engaged in community wildfire preparedness planning and implementation, develop guidance for county-level wildfire risk assessments, and maintain oversight of the Wildfire County Coordinator Program. This bill additionally establishes the Wildfire County Coordinator Program and requires the Department to administer and deliver the program via agreement with the California Fire Science Consortium.

Status: Chapter 772, Statutes of 2026

SB-1079 (Stern) - Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: Fire Innovation Unit.

This bill establishes the Fire Innovation Unit at the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to serve as the department’s innovation arm for wildfire technology research, coordination, procurement, and deployment for technologies that, among other things, improve ecosystem and landscape scale resilience.

Status: Chapter 774, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill requires, beginning January 1, 2028, applicable urban retail water suppliers serving areas in a high or very high fire hazard severity zones to include wildfire-specific

response procedures in their disaster preparedness plans, including any applicable federal plan; and clarifies the liability limitations of public water systems when responding to wildfires, as specified.

Status: Chapter 776, Statutes of 2026

SB-1270 (Richardson) - Wildfire mitigation program: financial assistance to counties.

This bill would have required the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) to adjust funding allocations to include more counties in the wildfire mitigation program. The bill would also have required CAL FIRE and CalOES to evaluate the amount of additional funding that would be required to expand the wildfire mitigation program to counties with the greatest combined risk of wildfire and social vulnerability.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1297 (Allen) - Regional Wildfire Mitigation Collaboratives.

This bill would have authorized regional wildfire partnerships to receive funding from the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Status: –This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1404 (Stern) - Wildfire prevention: state responsibility areas: fire prevention fee.

This bill would have reinstated the fire prevention fee, applicable to structures in the State Responsibility Area, effective January 1, 2027.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1428 (Committee on Natural Resources and Water) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program: marine invasive species: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: public lands.

This bill, the 2026 Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee omnibus bill, revises certain cross references to the federal Vessel Incidental Discharge Act, corrects erroneous cross-references, and makes a technical change.

Status: Chapter 36, Statutes of 2026

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have authorized the State Fire Marshal (SFM) to confer with public, private, and tribal entities on actions that may impact the degree of fire hazard in an area's fire hazard severity zone designation, or to accept information from them for the same. The SFM would have been required to post this information publicly, and would have been authorized to charge a fee from an entity for conferring with the SFM.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have required the State Fire Marshal, every 5 years, to re-review areas in the local responsibility area or state responsibility area not identified as moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zones and, if applicable, identify those areas as such.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill requires a water supplier to take certain actions that would help ensure effective fire response and ensure adequate water availability to aid in fire suppression in high or very-high fire hazard severity zones in Ventura County.

Status: Chapter 690, Statutes of 2025

AB-372 (Bennett) - Office of Emergency Services: state matching funds: water system infrastructure improvements.

This bill would have established, contingent on funding be appropriated pursuant to Proposition 4, the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program for the distribution of state matching funds to urban wildland interface communities in high and very-high fire hazard severity zones to improve water system infrastructure, as specified.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate Floor.

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

This bill would have extended the sunset date for the California Wildfire Mitigation Financial Assistance Program from July 1, 2029, to January 1, 2030.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-442 (Hadwick) - Z'berg-Nejedly Forest Practice Act of 1973: working forest management plans: nonindustrial timber management plans.

This bill increases the maximum acreage for nonindustrial tree farmers and nonindustrial management plans to 4,000 acres and for working forest landowners and working forest management plans to 15,000 acres, and eliminates the requirement that the harvest area of a working forest management plan be contained within a single hydrological area. This bill also allows landowners in the Southern Subdistrict of the Coast Forest District to use the working forest management plan as a timberland management tool.

Status: Chapter 504, Statutes of 2026

AB-706 (Aguiar-Curry) - Forest Organic Residue, Energy, and Safety Transformation and Wildfire Prevention Fund Act.

This bill, upon appropriation, makes available moneys from the Timber Regulation and Forest Restoration Fund (TRFRF) or the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF) available to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (BoF) to establish and implement the Forest Organic Residue Energy and Safety Transformation Program (FOREST) in order to maintain and expand biomass power generation in the state. This bill makes a facility's electrical generation eligible for reimbursement at an incentive rate determined by the BoF if, among other things, the facility uses forest biomass waste, as defined, to generate electricity and the electricity is sold to specified retail sellers.

Status: Chapter 869, Statutes of 2026

AB-803 (Garcia) - Urban forestry: school greening.

This bill would have added "school greening" as an allowable benefit of projects initiated under the Urban Forestry Act of 1978.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill would have established a process to facilitate the approval of an incidental take permit for listed species if needed by a local agency to undertake wildfire preparedness activities and would have required the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to impose fees for its costs to review wildfire preparedness plans, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-946 (Bryan) - Natural resources: equitable outdoor access: 30x30 goal: urban nature-based projects.

This bill would have required the Governor's office, state agencies, and the Legislature, when distributing resources, to recognize the coequal goals and benefits of the 30x30 goal and the Outdoors for All initiative, and, to the extent practical, maximize investment in historically underserved urban communities consistent with those initiatives. The bill would have further required state funding agencies, including certain state conservancies and the Wildlife Conservation Board, to allow, to the extent consistent with the funding source, the funding program's authorizing statutes, and the state's goals, for urban nature-based projects on degraded lands to be eligible and competitive for state funds.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1075 (Bryan) - Fire protection: privately contracted fire prevention resources: public water sources.

This bill requires the Governor's Office of Emergency Services to develop regulations prohibiting privately contracted private fire prevention resources from hooking up their equipment to public water resources, unless approved by incident command or the authority having jurisdiction over the active fire incident, as specified.

Status: Chapter 538, Statutes of 2025

AB-1143 (Bennett) - State Fire Marshal: home hardening certification program.

This bill would have required the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee to develop a home hardening certification program, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1143 without my signature.

This bill would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to develop a home-hardening certification program by January 1, 2027.

At a time when Californians are grappling with rising insurance costs due to natural disasters exacerbated by climate change, the state has launched multiple efforts to expedite proven and cost-effective home-hardening practices, aiming to improve insurability for millions of homeowners. CAL FIRE currently administers California's Wildfire Mitigation Program, established in 2019 to strengthen community-wide resilience against wildfires. The California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) and CAL FIRE, working side-by-side with counties and cities, have launched a statewide wildfire home-hardening playbook that at-risk communities can lift straight off the shelf. In 2022, CDI introduced its "Safer from Wildfires" framework, a first-of-its-kind regulation that requires insurance companies to offer discounts to homeowners and businesses that take specific wildfire mitigation steps. These are just a few examples that demonstrate the state's commitment to tackling this important issue.

This year, the Legislature sent me multiple bills with the intention of building upon this ongoing work. Unfortunately, rather than providing a coordinated approach, these measures are in conflict with one another, tasking different state entities with similar objectives. The lack of harmony between these efforts will not only result in conflicting outcomes but also confusion for consumers, insurance companies, local governments, and emergency responders.

I encourage the Legislature to revisit this important issue next year and work collaboratively to navigate the different approaches to setting hardening standards, including determining the responsible state entity. In the meantime, California will continue to aggressively implement the multiple initiatives underway to mitigate wildfire risk, encourage cost-effective structure hardening and retrofitting, facilitate vegetation management, and address the availability and cost of insurance.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1227 (Ellis) - Wildfire safety: fuels reduction projects.

This bill would have exempted from the California Environmental Quality Act certain critical fuels reduction projects and required the California Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Agencies to report to the Legislature on the implementation of Governor Newsom's March 1, 2025, state of emergency proclamation.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1380 (Elhawary) - Wildland firefighters: Formerly Incarcerated Firefighter Certification and Employment Program.

This bill would have directed the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to implement a standardized process to ensure that all individuals who complete CAL FIRE's firefighting training program while incarcerated receive official written certification before their release; required CAL FIRE to award hiring preference to qualified formerly incarcerated individuals; and track incarcerated individuals who have completed the firefighting training program and report to the Legislature the effectiveness of the program.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1455 (Bryan) - State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection: ember-resistant zones: emergency regulations.

This bill requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection (state board) to adopt regulations to implement the Zone 0 defensible regulations in the State Responsibility Area and very high fire hazard severity zone in the Local Responsibility Area. This bill authorizes the state board to adopt those regulations as emergency regulations.

Status: Chapter 731, Statutes of 2025

AB-1456 (Bryan) - California Environmental Quality Act: California Vegetation Treatment Program.

This bill would have required the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to update the Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) for the California Vegetation Treatment Program by January 1, 2027. This bill also would have specified that a public agency may partner with a federally recognized California Native American tribe to conduct a project under the FPEIR.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1531 (Committee on Emergency Management) - Office of Emergency Services: comprehensive wildfire mitigation program.

This bill adds the Department of Insurance to the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Board as an ex officio nonvoting member.

Status: Chapter 204, Statutes of 2025

AB-1666 (Rogers) - Forest management: biomass innovation parks: wood products.

This bill would have enacted the Biomass Innovation Parks Act, which would have established the Biomass Innovation Park Grants and Financing Program, to be administered by the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA). This bill would have required CNRA, in coordination with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Department of Food and Agriculture, to identify one or more biomass innovation parks and to develop guidelines and solicit proposals from an eligible applicant, as defined, to develop, operate, and manage a biomass innovation park, as provided.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1666 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Biomass Innovation Park Grants and Financing Program, to be administered by the Natural Resources Agency, to identify biomass innovation parks.

I thank the author for his commitment to advancing the use of wood biomass to improve forest health and build wildfire resilience. In partnership with the Legislature, my administration allocated $50 million from the Climate Bond to the Department of Conservation to develop a program to fund the development of large-scale biomass facilities and identify opportunities to accelerate the utilization of wood waste biomass.

The program proposed in this measure would require additional resources not included in this year's budget. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1699 (Rogers) - Good Fire Act: Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program: burn bosses: California Environmental Quality Act.

This bill establishes the Good Fire Act, which would indefinitely extend the Prescribed Fire Liability Program. The bill specifies that the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund shall support coverage for losses from prescribed fires and cultural burning on any lands within the state and expands program eligibility by changing the entities who may receive coverage for losses from prescribed fires and cultural burning.

Status: Chapter 761, Statutes of 2026

AB-1873 (Bennett) - County of Ventura: fire suppression: backup energy source.

This bill revises existing requirements, set to take effect July 1, 2030, for Ventura County water suppliers to extend the time for mobile or mutual aid backup energy sources to come online from 60 minutes to 90 minutes after a loss of power, requires water suppliers to notify the Ventura County Office of Emergency Services if that backup power is not available within 90 minutes, sets a July 1, 2027, deadline to develop an emergency preparedness plan, and adds a new assessment item to the existing post-fire reporting requirements.

Status: Chapter 168, Statutes of 2026

AB-1891 (Connolly) - Forestry: Beneficial Fire Capacity Program.

This bill would have required the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, on an annual basis, to allocate not less than 10% of funding appropriated to the department for local assistance and other grant programs where prescribed or beneficial fire is an eligible activity, consistent with the term of the appropriation, to expand training, organizational capacity, and support for community-led beneficial fire programs.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1891 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) to dedicate a specified percentage of all grant funding appropriated to the Department to beneficial fire activities.

The state has nearly doubled the amount of prescribed bun treatments since 2021, treating roughly 200,000 acres annually. While I share the author's goal to increase the pace and scale of prescribed fire projects, this bill limits CAL FIRE's ability to prioritize limited state resources toward the projects and communities facing the greatest wildfire risks.

Funding decisions of this nature should be considered within the annual budget process, where they can evaluated alongside the state's broader wildfire resilience priorities and considered among *(sic)* available resources.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1934 (Bennett) - State Fire Marshal: home hardening certification program implementation plan.

This bill requires the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee to develop an implementation plan for a home hardening certification program that identifies home hardening measures, including defensible space, that can be voluntarily implemented during renovation or property improvement projects, or both, to substantially reduce the risk of loss during a fire and bring existing building stock into alignment with state building standards for wildland-urban interface areas.

Status: Chapter 763, Statutes of 2026

AB-1960 (Bennett) - Wildfire Prevention Grants Program: identified cohesive fire communities.

This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in consultation with the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee, to establish a wildfire mitigation validation program to provide voluntary official recognition to a community that achieves progress toward community-scale wildfire preparedness and mitigations.

Status: Chapter 764, Statutes of 2026

AB-2075 (Bennett) - Forestry: safety requirements: fire equipment: internal combustion engines.

This bill specifies that a "person," for the purposes of keeping certain fire safety equipment near brush-cutting operations, means "a natural person, partnership, firm, association, corporation, limited liability company, or other legal entity." This bill makes additional clarifying and conforming changes to the specific requirements regarding fire-safety equipment required to be onsite in specified areas during any time of year that burning permits are required.

Status: Chapter 766, Statutes of 2026

AB-2410 (Ellis) - Wildfire safety: fuels reduction projects: California Environmental Quality Act: California Coastal Act.

This bill would have exempted from the California Environmental Quality Act certain critical fuels reduction projects addressing extremely flammable species.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-2483 (Elhawary) - Wildland firefighters: Formerly Incarcerated Firefighter Certification and Employment Program.

This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), in partnership with the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation and the California Conservation Camp program, to implement a standardized process to ensure that all eligible individuals who successfully complete training in a department firefighting training camp while incarcerated receive official written certification reflective of the training completed before their release, as specified. This bill requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as defined, applies for a Fire Fighter 1 Classification position, or any successor classifications, and has the required training and meets the minimum qualifications for the position, to award hiring preference under Category Placement 2 to the qualified formerly incarcerated individual, as specified. The bill requires CAL FIRE, if a qualified formerly incarcerated individual applies for a Forestry Technician Classification position, or any successor classifications, to count the duration of specified training and fieldwork as an incarcerated hand crew member towards the minimum qualifications for the classification.

Status: Chapter 612, Statutes of 2026

AB-2494 (Rogers) - State forests: forest management.

This bill would have recast the mandate of the Demonstration State Forest system from a focus on commercial timber production to other ecosystem benefits.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 2494 without my signature.

This bill would significantly revise the state's management policies for the Demonstration State Forests and establish new goals, forestry techniques, research efforts, and other activities allowable on the demonstration forests.

For 80 years, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Demonstration State Forests have served as living laboratories for research, recreation, and the demonstration of sustainable forest management.

My administration, in partnership with the Legislature, has made historic investments to accelerate the pace and scale of science-based forest management to improve forest health, enhance wildfire resilience, and mitigate climate change. Though small in size, Demonstration State Forests produce cutting-edge strategies that inform forest management on public and private lands across California – work that is critical to achieving our goals.

By narrowing the management of these forests to a limited set of public benefits, the bill risks the State's ability to fully demonstrate the best science-based practices. At a time when California is racing to keep pace with a rapidly changing climate, we cannot afford to lose the flexibility needed to safeguard our forests for future generations.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-2513 (Petrie-Norris) - Wildfire: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: local assistance grant program: regional landscape grants.

This bill adds additional activities eligible for funding under the Wildlife Conservation Board, Regional Forest Fire Capacity Program, and local assistance grants. These new activities include ignition prevention, manual vegetation management, and the creation of ignition-prone nonnative fuels or flashy fuels with less flammable vegetation, among others.

Status: Chapter 768, Statutes of 2026

AB-2791 (Committee on Natural Resources) - Public resources.

This is the Assembly Natural Resources Committee omnibus bill, making technical, nonsubstantive, and conforming changes to the Forest Practice Act and the California Coastal Act of 1976.

Status: Chapter 60, Statutes of 2026

AJR-10 (Rogers) - United States Forest Service: federal funding.

This measure calls on the President of the United States to honor his promise to save American lives and communities through forest management and wildfire risk reduction projects, requests that he veto any legislation that defunds the United States Forest Service and work with Congress to protect and improve these programs, and calls for related congressional action.

Status: Resolution Chapter 133, Adopted Resolutions of 2025

Miscellaneous

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

This bill would have required the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force to coordinate and integrate existing wildfire smoke and health data from local, state, and federal agencies in order, for example, to evaluate the effectiveness of investments in forest health and wildfire mitigation on health outcomes. This bill would have also required CDPH, in consultation with those agencies, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide-integrated wildfire smoke and health data platform on or before July 1, 2028, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-234 (Niello) - Wildfires: workgroup: toxic heavy metals.

This bill would have directed the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control to form a workgroup to establish best practices and recommendations, and study and consider ways to prevent, avoid, and mitigate exposure to heavy metals after a wildfire, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-424 (Grove) - California Environmental Quality Act: expired regional habitat conservation plan: exemption.

This bill would have exempted from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act a project developed solely to serve an urgent public health or housing need, as specified, that is within the boundaries of an expired regional habitat conservation plan, and that had an environmental review completed consistent with the requirements of the regional habitat conservation plan as the plan existed before the plan's expiration, as provided.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in the Senate Environmental Quality Committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

SB-462 (Cortese) - California Farmland Conservancy Program: conservation easements: funding.

This bill would have continuously appropriated $20 million annually from the General Fund to the California Farmland Conservancy Program. This bill would have provided that that funding go to easements on agricultural land, as defined, except for grazing land.
Status: –This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-484 (Laird) - Coastal resources: coastal development permits: infill area categorical exclusion.

This bill requires the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to identify coastal zone infill areas in three jurisdictions where the Coastal Commission retains coastal development permitting authority for a 10 year categorical exclusion from that permitting requirement for residential housing projects comprised entirely of very low, low, and moderate income housing units, as provided.

Status: Chapter 416, Statutes of 2025

SB-567 (Limón) - Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program.

This bill establishes the Gravity-Based Energy Storage Well Pilot Program until January 1, 2035 and authorizes the State Oil and Gas Supervisor to authorize the conversion of 250 oil and gas wells for use as gravity-based energy storage wells, as defined, in order to evaluate their use to safely generate energy, among other provisions.

Status: Chapter 419, Statutes of 2025

SB-675 (Padilla) - California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: streamlining.

This bill, as it was heard in this committee, would have provided permit review streamlining benefits under the Coastal Act to Waterfront Environmental Leadership Development Projects within the Central Embarcadero Planning District of the San Diego Unified Port District within the County of San Diego. This bill was subsequently amended to restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 675 without my signature.

This bill would restructure the governing board of the Imperial County Air Pollution Control District (APCD) and impose new reporting and planning duties.

The Imperial County APCD plays a critical role in improving air quality and protecting public health in a county disproportionately impacted by severe air quality challenges. While increasing representation and transparency on governing boards is important work, change of this magnitude requires sufficient support and resources.

I am concerned that this bill would impose significant new financial obligations on the County, its cities, and ultimately its residents, without identifying a funding source to meet them.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB-741 (Blakespear) - Coastal resources: coastal development permit: exemption: Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor.

This bill would have expanded the existing exemption from specified coastal development permitting processes for certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore existing highways to include certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public

agency to maintain, repair, or restore an existing railroad track along the Los Angeles – San Diego – San Luis Obispo (LOSSAN) Rail Corridor, as provided.

This bill was subsequently gut-and-amended into another issue area after being heard by this committee.

Status: Chapter 247, Statutes of 2026

SB-767 (Richardson) - Energy: transportation fuels: supply: reportable pipelines.

This bill would have required the Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) to identify, on or before December 31, 2026, those pipelines that qualify as reportable pipelines, as defined; required, commencing March 30, 2027, and each month thereafter, the operators of reportable pipelines to report pipeline flows to CalGEM; required the operators to notify CalGEM within 24 hours of a potential pipeline shutdown; and require CalGEM to notify the California Energy Commission and others of the potential reportable pipeline shutdown; among other provisions, as provided.

This bill was amended out of this committee's jurisdiction prior to the bill being heard by this committee.

Status: Chapter 657, Statutes of 2025

SB-829 (Wiener) - California Institute for Scientific Research: CalRx Initiative: vaccines.

This bill would have established the California Institute for Scientific Research within the Government Operations Agency to facilitate scientific research by awarding grants and making loans to public or private research companies, universities, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development, in specific areas of research, including, but not limited to, biomedical, behavioral, and climate research. This bill would have also required the California Health and Human Services Agency to enter into partnerships or contracts resulting in the development, production, procurement, or distribution of vaccines, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-832 (Allen) - Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group: membership: revitalization plan.

This bill adds two additional members to the Upper Los Angeles River and Tributaries Working Group, to include a representative of the city council district within the City of Los Angeles with the greatest number of Upper Los Angeles River miles. This bill also

requires the working group to meet at least once every year and propose amendments to the river's revitalization plan to the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for approval, and requires the Conservancy to approve amendments within 60 days.

Status: Chapter 983, Statutes of 2026

SB-893 (Seyarto) - State parks: facilities pass: Gold Star Family members.

This bill would have required the Department of Parks and Recreation to issue a pass for use of all facilities, including boat launching facilities, in units of the state park system, to an eligible Gold Star Family member, as defined.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-895 (Wiener) - California Science and Health Research Bond Act.

This bill creates the California Foundation for Science and Health Research (CFSHR), housed in the Government Operations Agency, to award grants, loans, and contracts to public or private research companies, universities, academic medical centers, institutes, and organizations for scientific research and development from a California Foundation for Science and Health Research and Innovation Acceleration (CFSHRIA) Fund and CFSHRIA Benefit Fund. This bill further establishes the CFSHR Council to establish and develop the strategic objectives and priorities of the CFSHR and determine which projects will be awarded grants, loans, or contracts; funds the CFSHRIA Fund through the issuance and sale of $7.5 billion in bonds, pending voter approval on the March 7, 2028 primary election ballot; establishes the CFSHR Finance Committee to authorize the issuance and sale of bonds; and contains an urgency clause that will make this bill effective upon enactment.

Status: Chapter 1040, Statutes of 2026

SB-899 (Grove) - Fire prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: wildfire smoke.

This bill would have required the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, in cooperation with other public health and air quality agencies, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke. The assessment would have been required to include an estimate of the number of emergency room visits and deaths; a cost estimate for the health care costs of wildfire smoke; a model to determine the approximate health benefits, including cost and human health impacts, of achieving the goals of the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan (Action Plan); and would have made recommendations on how the Action Plan can increase its health benefits.

Status: –This bill was held in the Assembly Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-940 (Grove) - Geothermal resources: oil and gas reservoirs.

This bill would have established the New Technology Program within the Geologic Energy Management Division in the Department of Conservation to facilitate the evaluation of repurposing oil and gas or geothermal wells for renewable energy storage or generation purposes, as provided.

Status: –This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

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

This bill restores a requirement that cities and counties approving certain projects identify a water system that would supply water for that project and complete a water supply assessment, as provided.

Status: Chapter 1004, Statutes of 2026

SB-1250 (Cortese) - State highway system: wildlife connectivity.

This bill requires the State Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to publish a supplemental list of wildlife connectivity improvements to the state highway system (SHS), as specified, and further requires Caltrans, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife to develop a comprehensive approach to address wildlife connectivity needs on the SHS.

Status: Chapter 821, Statutes of 2026

SB-1297 (Allen) - Regional Wildfire Mitigation Collaboratives.

This bill would have authorized regional wildfire partnerships to receive funding from the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

SB-1318 (Allen) - Coastal resources: local coastal program: coastal development permit: non-owner-occupied short-term rentals.

This bill would have required, notwithstanding specific provisions of the California Coastal Act of 1976, the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to approve a coastal development permit or a local coastal program amendment submitted by a local government restricting or prohibiting non-owner-occupied short-term rentals, regardless of the availability of other visitor-serving accommodations, if the local agency

made findings that it was necessary to address significant local housing needs and the Coastal Commission determined that the permit or amendment strikes a reasonable balance between local housing needs and public access to the coast.

Status: –This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-35 (Alvarez) - Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.

This bill exempts the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4, from the Administrative Procedures Act, as provided.

Status: Chapter 89, Statutes of 2026

AB-93 (Papan) - Water resources: demands: data centers.

This bill would have required the owners and operators of data centers, when applying for a business license, to report their estimated water use to their water supplier and to self-certify to such on their application, and, when renewing a license, to self-certify that they have provided their water supplier with a report of annual water use.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 93 without my signature.

This bill requires data centers, when applying for an initial business license, to provide to their water supplier an estimate of expected water use. It further requires data centers, when applying for a renewal of a business license, to provide their water supplier with a report on annual water use.

The widespread adoption of artificial intelligence technologies is driving an unprecedented demand for data center capacity throughout the nation. As the global epicenter of the technology sector, California is well positioned to support the development of this critically important digital infrastructure in the state.

While I appreciate the author's intent, I am reluctant to impose rigid reporting requirements about operational details on this sector without understanding the full

impact on businesses and the consumers of their technology.

For this reason, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill requires the California Coastal Commission to defer to the state university or college or private university in determining the number of vehicle parking spaces necessary for residents of student, faculty, or staff housing facilities, authorizes the commission's executive director to determine that a proposed amendment to a public works plan or long-range development plan is de minimis, and provides procedures for the determination and approval of de minimis amendments, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 256, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill requires coastal development permits (CDPs) for accessory dwelling units (ADUs) to be approved or denied within 60 days, waives prohibitions on issuing certificates of occupancy for ADUs on lots without a primary dwelling unit following a disaster, and eliminates the ability to appeal a CDP for an ADU issued by a local government to the California Coastal Commission, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 491, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill would have established, upon appropriation, the Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program to provide financial and technical assistance to support land acquisition and protection by providing financial assistance to nonprofit organizations, public agencies, farmer cooperatives, tribal governments and tribal entities, agricultural land trusts, and community land trusts, and providing long-term leases to beginning farmers or ranchers or socially disadvantaged farmers or ranches, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:
To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 524 without my signature.

This bill would require the Department of Conservation, in collaboration with the California Agricultural Land Equity Task Force, to establish the Farmland Access and Conservation for Thriving Communities Program to improve land access and tenure for socially disadvantaged farmers or ranchers, tribal producers, and beginning farmers and ranchers.

Land access is a critical issue for beginning and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers, and I support the intention of this bill to assist those groups. While this bill would authorize the program to receive funds from Proposition 4 - The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 - recent budget action by the Legislature did not explicitly appropriate funding to support this program and there is no sustained funding to support the ongoing cost pressure this program would create.

In partnership with the Legislature this year, my Administration has enacted a balanced budget that recognizes the challenging fiscal landscape our state faces while maintaining our commitment to working families and our most vulnerable communities. With significant fiscal pressures and the federal government's hostile economic policies, it is vital that we remain disciplined when considering bills with significant fiscal implications that are not included in the budget, such as this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-527 (Papan) - California Environmental Quality Act: geothermal exploratory projects: geothermal field development projects.

This bill would have provided an exemption from the California Environmental Quality Act for geothermal exploratory projects that meet certain criteria, as provided, and would have required the Geological Energy Management Division in the California Department of Conservation to update their regulations regarding geothermal projects.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 527 without my signature.

This bill would create a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption through 2030 for qualifying geothermal exploratory projects when a county or the Department of Conservation's California Geologic Energy Management Division (Division) is the lead agency, if those projects meet specified requirements.

This bill also would require the Division to combine new regulations for "enhanced geothermal systems" (EGS) wells with a current geothermal rulemaking by January 1, 2029, and, until those regulations are in effect, operators would be required to provide specified technical information when filing a drilling Notice of Intention for EGS wells in CEQA-exempt projects.

In addition to delaying much-needed regulations that are already in process, the Division would need to substantially increase fees on geothermal operators to implement the new requirements imposed by the bill. While I support the expansion of the geothermal energy industry in California as a much-needed source of baseload clean power, the increased fees caused by this bill could disincentivize geothermal development in California beyond any incentive provided by a CEQA exemption for one part of a project's permitting process.

Additionally, I signed Assembly Bill 1359 (Papan) last year, which made a series of targeted reforms to the review and approval of geothermal exploration projects. It is prudent that we understand the effects of these changes before granting wholesale CEQA exemptions with costly and complicated conditions.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to include a species proposed for listing, as defined, in an incidental take permit (ITP) for an endangered, threatened, and candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act

(CESA), and provides that if a species proposed for listing becomes a candidate or listed species pursuant to CESA is a covered species under an ITP for a renewable energy generation facility than no additional permitting or authorization is required for take of that species, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 357, Statutes of 2026

AB-697 (Wilson) - Protected species: authorized take: State Route 37 project.

This bill allows the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to authorize the incidental take of four fully protected species – the salt-marsh harvest mouse, the California clapper rail, the California black rail, and the white-tailed kite – as a result of construction on State Route 37, as provided.

Status: Chapter 438, Statutes of 2025

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

This bill would have attempted to change a regulation adopted by the California Energy Commission (CEC) by requiring any biological resources data submitted to the CEC in an application for certification and small power plan exemption to be made publicly available on the agency's docket as part of the certification proceeding unless the California Department of Fish and Wildlife makes a written determination to protect certain sensitive data.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 734 without my signature.

This bill would require the California Energy Commission (CEC) to publicly release granular biological resources data used in the completion of Environmental Impact Reports, unless the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) determines that releasing such data would pose a significant risk of harm to individuals of a species.

Currently, the CEC receives both detailed biological resource maps generated by a project applicant and similar maps that the applicant obtains from CDFW, as part of the environmental impact assessment for proposed energy projects moving through the

CEC's site certification permitting programs. The resolution of these maps is governed by data-use guidelines publicly developed by CDFW to protect the precise location of sensitive species and biological resources, as higher resolution maps risk increasing poaching, collection and habitat disturbance in these locations.

Though this bill is well-intended, the risks associated with this divulgence of information and the added procedural requirement of a CDFW determination on whether to divulge such information, if found harmful, are unnecessary, add additional process complexity, and likely won't yield additional mitigations or safeguards for species impacted by proposed energy projects.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

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

This bill would have established the Safer Roads Act, and would have required the lead agency on certain transportation infrastructure projects to incorporate wildlife passage features to feasibly avoid, minimize, and mitigate impairment to wildlife connectivity into those projects, as specified.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-915 (Petrie-Norris) - Dam safety: state supervision: exceptions.

This bill would have exempted from the Department of Water Resources' Division of Safety of Dams' oversight water storage facilities, structures, and activities associated with the Willow Rock Energy Storage Center in Kern County using compressed air technology if the facility, structure, or activity meets certain requirements.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 915 without my signature.

This bill would exempt from state dam safety requirements and oversight, as well as specified fees, any water storage facilities associated with an energy storage system project that uses compressed air technology.

While I support the development of novel, long-lead-time, and large clean energy resources, it is imperative that we do so with safety at the forefront. Additionally, it is essential that the costs incurred by state agencies overseeing the safety of these facilities are recovered from project developers to adequately ensure compliance with applicable safety requirements.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1089 (Carrillo) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: industrial projects and commercial projects.

This bill would have 1) authorized the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree (WJT) associated with commercial and industrial projects in certain conditions, and 2) revised CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of WJT, including to meet defensible space requirements, among other provisions, as specified.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1089 without my signature.

This bill authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to enter into an agreement with any city to delegate to the city the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with commercial and industrial projects. In addition, this bill revises CDFW's authority to issue a permit for the removal of a Western Joshua Tree around single-family homes.

The Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act (Act) of 2023 was carefully crafted to balance the need to develop housing and clean energy projects in the Mojave Desert region, while creating a robust but practical permitting process aimed at protecting one of California's most iconic species. The Act currently authorizes CDFW to enter into an agreement with any county or city and delegate limited authority to permit the taking of a Western Joshua Tree associated with developing single-family residences, multifamily

residences, accessory structures, and public works projects.

While I recognize the desire to expand this delegated authority to include the taking of these trees where commercial and industrial projects are sited, this bill goes too far in authorizing the blanket removal of these trees near single-family homes that will ultimately undermine Western Joshua Tree protections and conservation requirements under the Act. Furthermore, this bill would increase the complexity and time required to manage the permitting process as modified by this measure.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1413 (Papan) - Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

This bill would have made various changes to comprehensive groundwater adjudication procedures and to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) including, amongst others, providing that a court's judgment substantially interferes with the implementation of SGMA if the judgment permits more total pumping from a basin annually or on average than a valid groundwater sustainability plan (GSP); permitting a court to establish a safe yield that exceeds the sustainable yield established in a valid GSP under certain circumstances; requiring a groundwater sustainability agency to review its sustainable yield every seven years; and requiring that a validation action be filed within 180 days of the GSP's adoption.

Status: This bill died on the inactive file on the Senate floor.

AB-1417 (Stefani) - Energy: Voluntary Offshore Wind and Coastal Resources Protection Program: community capacity funding activities and grants.

This bill authorizes the California Energy Commission to allocate moneys in an existing continuously appropriated fund for capacity funding activities and grants to help local communities and tribes engage in planning for offshore wind development projects, as provided.

Status: Chapter 397, Statutes of 2025

AB-1448 (Hart) - Coastal resources: California Coastal Sanctuary: tidelands and submerged lands: oil and gas development.

This bill modifies existing requirements for the transfer, assignment or modification of leases for oil and gas-related infrastructure upon tidelands and submerged lands within state waters associated with Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases; prohibits leases and oil- and gas-related infrastructure located upon tidelands and submerged lands from being used to support Pacific Outer Continental Shelf leases issued after January 1, 2026; requires the State Lands Commission to consider additional explicit factors when determining whether to approve a proposed lease assignment, renewal, modification, or amendment; and limits the exception authorizing new oil- and gas-leasing on state tide and submerged lands within the California Coastal Sanctuary if state oil deposits are being drained from producing wells on federal lands to those areas not in the state's marine protected areas or national marine sanctuaries, as provided.

Status: Chapter 812, Statutes of 2026

AB-1661 (Bryan) - Oil and gas: low-production wells: Baldwin Hills Conservancy: Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account: health impacts.

This bill expands the uses of the Equitable Community Repair and Reinvestment Account and requires direct cash assistance to be made available to certain families living within 2-1/2 miles of the identified low production oil or gas wells located in the Inglewood Oil Field in Los Angeles County, as provided.

Status: Chapter 539, Statutes of 2026

AB-1673 (Hadwick) - County fish and wildlife propagation fund: wildlife coexistence: tear gas.

This bill would have allowed a person, who is authorized by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to apply aversive conditioning on wolves, to purchase, possess, or use any tear gas weapon that expels a projectile upon authorization from the sheriff of a county or the chief or other head of a municipal police department of any city or city and county, and additionally authorized expenditures from a county fish and wildlife propagation fund for costs relating to wildlife coexistence programs to prevent human-wildlife conflict, as provided.

Status: This bill was set for hearing in this committee, but that hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

AB-1722 (Hadwick) - California Endangered Species Act: take prohibition: self-defense.

This bill would have prohibited the imposition of a civil, administrative, or criminal penalty for a violation of the take prohibition for listed and candidate species under the California Endangered Species Act if the defendant used necessary and reasonable force to protect themselves, a member of their family, or any other individual from immediate bodily harm, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was vetoed by Governor Newsom.

Governor's Veto Message:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 1722 without my signature.

This bill would prohibit the imposition of civil or criminal penalties on an individual who takes a species listed, or a candidate for listing, under the California Endangered Species Act if the individual acted in self-defense or in defense of another individual to protect against immediate bodily harm.

Defending oneself from immediate bodily harm is a fundamental right. California law already protects against penalties for taking endangered species if the take occurred to protect oneself or another person. This bill duplicates these protections while creating confusion about the applicable standard for invoking this type of defense.

For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB-1740 (Zbur) - Coastal resources: local coastal program: coastal development permits: City of Santa Monica.

This bill requires the City of Santa Monica to submit a complete proposed local coastal program to the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) by January 1, 2029, and requires the Coastal Commission to act on the proposal within six months, as provided. The bill would further require accelerated permitting for the conversion of certain roadways to active transportation uses in the coastal zone, as specified.

Status: Chapter 892, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill would have established standards and licensing for a statewide network of recreational vessel inspection and decontamination stations staffed by trained inspectors to prevent the spread of invasive mussels, as provided. The bill further would have established the use of a recreational vessel tracking system, and a new biannual nonmotorized recreational vessel invasive mussel infestation prevention fee to help fund invasive mussel prevention efforts, as provided, among other provisions.

Status: This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee on the suspense file.

AB-1802 (Stefani) - Land use: mitigation lands.

This bill removes the sunset on the ability of a governmental agency, nonprofit organization, or a special district that manages mitigation lands to also hold and manage the endowments established for long-term stewardship of those lands, and requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to compile a summary of the status of endowments subject to CDFW's jurisdiction every five years, as provided.

Status: Chapter 274, Statutes of 2026

AB-1808 (Carrillo) - Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act: industrial projects and commercial projects: single-family residences: public works projects.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to delegate to a city permitting authority under the Western Joshua Tree Conservation Act for commercial and industrial projects to take up to 40 western Joshua trees; 2) further authorizes CDFW to authorize, without fees or other mitigation the removal or trimming of up to 10 western Joshua trees by the owner of a single family residence or up to 40 western Joshua trees for a public works project where certain criteria are met; and 3) waives the California Environmental Quality Act for these single-family home projects until CDFW certifies a programmatic environmental impact report; among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 816, Statutes of 2026

AB-1912 (Hadwick) - Deer: archery season: concealed firearms.

This bill authorizes a hunter to carry a firearm during the archery-only hunting season for deer.

Status: Chapter 132, Statutes of 2026

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

This bill 1) exempts a public or private agency that operates a water supply system from certain California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) invasive mussel permitting requirements until an invasive mussel control plan is submitted, approved, or denied, as applicable; 2) requires at least quarterly updating of an online map of invasive mussel observations by CDFW; and 3) requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Water Resources Control Board to quickly and efficiently respond to the threat of golden mussels, among other provisions, as provided.

Status: Chapter 817, Statutes of 2026

AB-2051 (Wicks) - Public resources: Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group.

This bill 1) authorizes the California Coastal Commission (Coastal Commission) to retroactively extend for up to 5 years any time limitation established for a local government to act on the Coastal Commission's suggested modifications to a land use plan amendment that would authorize approval of a 100% affordable housing development which otherwise expired, as provided; and 2) requires the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to convene a Coastal Resilience Permitting Working Group to develop a Coastal Resilience Permitting Roadmap by July 1, 2028 with recommendations for process improvements and legislative reforms to enable efficient environmental permitting of coastal resilience projects statewide, as provided.

Status: Chapter 575, Statutes of 2026

AB-2234 (Papan) - California Environmental Quality Act: geothermal exploratory projects.

This bill modifies the definition of "geothermal exploratory project" to include equipment and activities necessary to establish interconnectivity between wells and reservoir and to specify the features the one-half mile distance between a geothermal exploratory project well and a geothermal development well is measured from.

Status: Chapter 927, Statutes of 2026

AB-2453 (Michelle Rodriguez) - Vehicles: off-highway motor vehicles.

This bill authorizes first responders to operate off-highway motor vehicles on highways, in certain areas in an emergency response situation. This bill authorizes a local authority to regulate the operation of off-highway motor vehicles subject to identification by peace officers and first responders upon highways within the local authority's jurisdiction while performing official duties subject to specified requirements.

Status: Chapter 400, Statutes of 2026

AB-2469 (Papan) - Data centers: water use disclosures.

This bill imposes certain requirements on cities and counties to meet before they can issue permits to proposed data center projects, as provided.

Status: Chapter 436, Statutes of 2026

AB-2619 (Papan) - Water resources: data centers.

This bill imposes new requirements on data centers that apply for business licenses, as provided.

Status: Chapter 437, Statutes of 2026

AB-2734 (Hart) - Vehicles: special interest license plates.

This bill re-directs funds raised through the sale and renewal of two special interest license plates, including the Whale Tail plate, as provided.

Status: Chapter 407, Statutes of 2026

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