



Office of Legislative & Governmental Affairs End of Year Legislative Report 2025

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Cal OES Analyzed Bills



2025 Final Disposition of Analyzed Bills with Governor's Action

Measure	Author	Торіс	Governor's Action & Date	Chapter No.	Effective Date
AB 239	Harabedian	State-led County of Los Angeles disaster housing task force.	Vetoed on 10/13/25	N/A	N/A
<u>AB 370</u>	Carrillo	California Public Records Act: cyberattacks.	Signed on 7/14/25	Chapter # 34	1/1/26
<u>AB 379</u>	Schultz	Crimes: prostitution.	Signed on 7/30/25	Chapter # 82	1/1/26
AB 468	Gabriel	Crimes: looting.	Signed on 10/10/25	Chapter # 533	1/1/26
<u>AB 478</u>	Zbur	Accessibility to emergency information and services: evacuations: pets.	Signed on 10/13/25	Chapter # 695	1/1/26
<u>AB 615</u>	Davies	Power facilities: emergency response and action plans.	Vetoed on 10/06/25	N/A	N/A
AB 696	Ransom	Lithium-ion vehicle batteries: emergencies: advisory group.	Vetoed on 10/11/25	N/A	N/A
<u>AB 766</u>	Sharp-Collins	State agencies and departments: strategic plans: diversity, equity, and inclusion.	Vetoed on 10/13/25	N/A	N/A
<u>AB 979</u>	Irwin	California Cybersecurity Integration Center: artificial intelligence.	Signed on 10/03/25	Chapter # 285	1/1/26
<u>AB 986</u>	Muratsuchi	State of emergency and local emergency: landslides and climate change.	Vetoed on 10/01/25	N/A	N/A
<u>AB 1075</u>	Bryan	Fire protection: privately contracted fire prevention resources: public water sources.	Signed on 10/10/25	Chapter # 538	1/1/26

AB 1200	Caloza	Emergency services: disaster preparedness.	Vetoed on 10/11/25	N/A	N/A
<u>AB 1285</u>	Committee on Emergency Management	State Fire Marshal: lithium-ion battery facilities: guidance.	Signed on 10/11/25	Chapter # 637	1/1/26
<u>AB 1531</u>	Committee on Emergency Management	Office of Emergency Services: comprehensive wildfire mitigation program.	Signed on 10/01/25	Chapter # 204	1/1/26
<u>SB 36</u>	Umberg	Price gouging: state of emergency.	Vetoed on 10/11/25	N/A	N/A
<u>SB 53</u>	Wiener	Artificial intelligence models: large developers.	Signed on 9/29/25	Chapter # 138	1/1/26
<u>SB 326</u>	Becker	Wildfire safety: fire protection building standards: defensible space requirements: The California Wildfire Mitigation Strategic Planning Act.	Vetoed on 10/11/25	N/A	N/A
<u>SB 509</u>	Caballero	Office of Emergency Services: training: transnational repression.	Vetoed on 10/13/25	N/A	N/A
<u>SB 616</u>	Rubio	Community Hardening Commission: wildfire mitigation program.	Vetoed on 10/13/25	N/A	N/A
<u>SB 641</u>	Ashby	Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Real Estate: states of emergency: waivers and exemptions.	Vetoed on 10/13/25	N/A	N/A

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Two-year bills may be acted upon again in January 2026.

Assembly Bills

AB 239 (Harabedian D) State-led County of Los Angeles disaster housing task force.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to convene a state-led County of Los Angeles disaster housing task force, as specified, for the purpose of coordinating and streamlining efforts between HCD, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, OES, and local governments to rebuild housing in communities impacted by the wildfires that began on January 7, 2025, in the County of Los Angeles. The bill would require the task force to appoint a state disaster housing coordinator to accelerate the delivery of resources to communities impacted by the wildfires, and report to the Legislature on the status of rebuilding housing in communities impacted by the wildfires on April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, as specified. The bill would repeal these provisions on June 30, 2028.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 239 without my signature. This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to convene a state-led County of Los Angeles disaster housing task force to coordinate and streamline efforts to rebuild housing in the communities impacted by the 2025 Los Angeles Wildfires. I appreciate the author's intent to provide a strong and coordinated recovery in Los Angeles County. However, California already has a robust disaster housing coordination structure that delivers on this very goal. Following the Eaton and Palisades Fires, HCD and Cal OES created a Housing Task Force within the Joint Field Office, regularly convening state, federal, and local partners to accelerate delivery of resources and provide technical assistance in rebuilding efforts. That task force has launched resiliency centers, held rebuild workshops, and is actively advancing housing recovery for affected communities. This same framework has guided recovery from countless disasters – from the Camp Fire to the North Complex Fire and beyond – consistently showing that California has the tools and partnerships needed to drive recovery. This bill would duplicate longstanding work already underway, create additional costs and reporting requirements, and limit the flexibility that has proven essential in disaster response. My Administration remains fully committed to supporting Los Angeles County's wildfire recovery, and we will continue to build on the progress achieved through the existing task force framework by pursuing efforts that are additive to, rather than duplicative of, this proven structure. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

AB 262 (Caloza D) California Individual Assistance Act.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Governmental Organization Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would enact the California Individual Assistance Act to establish a grant program to provide financial assistance, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to local agencies, community-based organizations, and individuals for specified costs related to a disaster, as prescribed. The bill would require the director to allocate from the fund, subject to specified conditions, funds to meet the cost of expenses for those purposes.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to establish a pilot project to assess whether a firefighting helicopter equipped with autonomous aerial suppression technology can be transitioned into operational use in the State of California. The bill would also require the department to invite local, state, tribal, and federal fire agencies to participate in those familiarization and training activities. The bill would require the department to convene, within 60 days of completion of the pilot project, or January 1, 2029, whichever comes first, leading fire professionals in California to assess the performance of the pilot project and, if the pilot project meets its objectives, determine how to incorporate autonomous aerial suppression technology into existing state wildfire mitigation efforts. The bill would require an operator of autonomous aerial suppression technology that is part of the pilot project and that is required to submit reports to local or federal agencies about autonomous aerial suppression technology to also provide those reports to the department and the Legislature, as provided. The bill would include related legislative findings.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Utilities and Energy Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to establish, on or before December 31, 2026, a working group to evaluate and develop recommendations for implementing a wildfire aerial response program to provide year-round, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, rapid aerial suppression capabilities. The bill would require the working group to consider specified elements to ensure effective statewide aerial wildfire suppression and to develop recommendations, including whether the program should be implemented as a pilot program, a full-scale statewide initiative, or if implementation is not recommended based on feasibility findings. The bill would require the Director of Emergency Services, in consultation with the department, to appoint members to the working group who are familiar with wildfire aviation response programs, as provided. The bill would require the working group to report its findings and implementation recommendations to the Assembly Committee on Emergency Management and the Senate Committee on Governmental Organization on or before December 31, 2027, as provided.

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

Status: Chapter Number 34, 2025

Summary: The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, except as specified. Current law requires each agency, within 10 days of a request for a copy of records, to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person of the determination and the reasons therefor. Current law authorizes that time limit to be extended by no more than 14 days under unusual circumstances, and defines "unusual circumstances" to include, among other things, the need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine records during a state of emergency when the state of emergency currently affects the agency's ability to timely respond to requests due to

staffing shortages or closure of facilities, as provided. This bill would also expand the definition of unusual circumstances to include the inability of the agency, because of a cyberattack, to access its electronic servers or systems in order to search for and obtain a record that the agency believes is responsive to a request and is maintained on the servers or systems in an electronic format.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: INACTIVE FILE - 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill, contingent upon appropriation by the Legislature, would establish the Rural Water Infrastructure for Wildfire Resilience Program within the OES for the distribution of state matching funds to urban wildland interface communities, as defined, in designated high fire hazard severity zones or very high fire hazard severity zones to improve water system infrastructure, as prescribed. The bill would require the OES to work in coordination with the Department of Water Resources, the State Water Resources Control Board, the Office of the State Fire Marshal, and other state entities, to achieve the purposes of the program.

AB 379 (Schultz D) Crimes: prostitution.

Status: Chapter Number 82, 2025

Summary: This bill would make that increased punishment applicable if the solicited minor was more than 3 years younger than the defendant at the time of the offense. The bill would require a defendant subject to that increased punishment, if granted probation, to successfully complete an education program on human trafficking and the exploitation of children, as specified. The bill would make it a misdemeanor for any person to loiter in any public place with the intent to purchase commercial sex, as specified. The bill would make any person who violates that crime or who commits prostitution in exchange for providing compensation, money, or anything of value to the other person subject to an additional fine of \$1,000, would establish the Survivor Support Fund, and require that additional fine be deposited in the fund. The bill would require the California Victim Compensation Board to establish a grant program to provide grants to community-based organizations that provide direct services and outreach to victims of sex trafficking and exploitation, and would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, authorize moneys in the Survivor Support Fund to be used for the purposes of that grant program. By creating a new crime and increasing the punishment of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would prohibit a person from operating or using an unmanned aerial vehicle, remote piloted aircraft, or drone at the scene of an emergency and thereby impeding firefighters, peace officers, medical personnel, military personnel, or other emergency personnel in the performance of their fire suppression, law enforcement, or emergency response duties, unless the person has a federal operational waiver, as specified. The bill would authorize the Attorney General or a county counsel or city attorney to bring civil action to enforce the prohibition and authorize a prevailing plaintiff to recover civil penalties, injunctive relief, or reasonable attorney's fees and costs, as specified.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law establishes the Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development in state government within the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to study, test, and advise regarding procurement of emerging technologies and tools in order to more effectively prevent and suppress wildfires within the state. For those purposes, current law requires the office to, among other things, develop a balanced, multimodal research and development program designed to identify, research, test, and evaluate emerging technologies and tools designed to improve the state's preparation for, and response to, wildfires in the state, as specified. Current law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2029. This bill would extend the repeal date of the above provisions to January 1, 2031.

AB 468 (Gabriel D) Crimes: looting.

Status: Chapter Number 533, 2025

Summary: Current law defines the crime of burglary as entering specified buildings, places, or vehicles with the intent to commit grand or petty theft or a felony. Current law clarifies that a structure designed for habitation is being used for dwelling purposes if, at the time of the burglary, it was not occupied solely because a disaster caused the occupants to leave the premises. This bill would specify that neither the fact that the structure entered has been damaged by a natural or other disaster, nor the extent of the damage, shall preclude conviction.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Public Utilities Commission, in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, to adopt a process through which a telephone corporation acting as a carrier of last resort is authorized to seek relief from their carrier of last resort obligations in a census block where the United States Census Bureau reports no population and where the telephone corporation provides no basic exchange service to any customer address located within the area, and in a census block that is well-served, as defined. The bill would require the commission, on or before December 15, 2026, to adopt a map designating well-served areas. The bill would require that the process include specified notice and challenge requirements. The bill would require a telephone corporation to meet certain requirements during specified time periods following the date that amended status is granted by the commission, as provided.

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

Status: Chapter Number 695, 2025

Summary: This bill, upon the next update to a city's or county's emergency plan, would require a city or county to update its emergency plan to designate procedures for the rescue of a pet, as defined, from an area subject to an evacuation order, as defined, subject to approval by the incident commander in coordination with the emergency management authority, that at the time of the evacuation the pet's owner believed to be alive. The bill would require that the procedures establish timelines or conditions in which

rescues can occur as safely as possible. The bill would specify that nothing in these provisions is to be construed to grant any person the absolute right to reenter an evacuation zone, and would require all reentry to be subject to incident conditions and approval by the designated incident commander in coordination with the emergency management authority. The bill, upon the next update to a city's or county's emergency plan, would also require a city or county to update its emergency plan to designate a person or entity for a person with a residence in an area subject to an evacuation order to call if the person is in need of information regarding pets during an evacuation, as specified.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services, in collaboration with host counties, host committees, and partners, to prepare for the planning, resourcing, management, and delivery of safety and security at the mega sporting events and official watch parties, including the 2026 FIFA World Cup games, Super Bowl LXI 2027, the Summer Olympic Games 2028, and the Paralympic Games 2028. The bill would require the office to, among other things, consider ways to increase safety around and reduce the risk of, among other things, human trafficking at the mega sporting events.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Office of Emergency Services serves as the State Disaster Council for the purposes of the California Disaster and Civil Defense Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law states it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of aid to areas stricken by an emergency and to make unnecessary the execution of written agreements customarily entered into by public agencies exercising joint powers, and that emergency plans duly adopted and approved as provided by the Governor shall be effective as satisfying the requirement for mutual aid operational plans provided in the Master Mutual Aid Agreement. Current law requires outside aid be rendered in accordance with approved emergency plans during any state of war emergency or state of emergency when the need arises in any county, city and county, or city. This bill would additionally state that it is the purpose of the Legislature to facilitate the rendering of public works resources critical for disaster response and recovery to areas stricken by an emergency. The bill would require that outside aid rendered during any state of war emergency or state of emergency includes public works personnel, equipment, and materials.

AB 598 (Gipson D) School safety: School Mapping Data Grant Program.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law provides that school districts and county offices of education are responsible for the overall development of a comprehensive school safety plan for each of its schools, as provided. This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature, would establish the School Mapping Data Grant Program under the administration of the Office of Emergency Services to provide one-time grants to participating school districts, county offices of education, and charter schools to enter into contracts with qualified vendors providing school mapping data, as provided, for purposes of assisting public safety agencies in efficiently responding to on-campus emergencies at schools.

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

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 6, 2025.

Summary: Current law requires an application to be filed with the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission for certification of a site and related facility that includes an electrical transmission line or thermal powerplant, or both. Current law requires the application to contain, among other information, a description of any electrical transmission lines, a map of the proposed route and existing transmission lines, justification for the proposed route, and a preliminary description of the effect of the proposed electrical transmission lines on the environment, ecology, and scenic, historic, and recreational values, as specified. This bill would remove the requirement that the application include the information described above, and would require that the application also contain an emergency response and action plan, to be paid for by the applicant, that incorporates impacts to the surrounding areas in the event of an emergency and that would be conducted and coordinated with local emergency management agencies, unified program agencies, and local first response agencies.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 615 without my signature. This bill would require battery energy storage facilities seeking a site certification permit from the California Energy Commission (CEC), in coordination with local emergency planning agencies, to develop an emergency response and action plan and require the CEC to confirm the project's compliance with the national Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 855 Standards. I support the goal of ensuring the safety of battery energy storage facilities, which is why my Administration launched the California Battery Safety Collaborative in September 2024 to examine battery storage technologies and safety practices, particularly as California ramps up deployment of battery energy facilities. That is why I signed SB 38 (Laird) last year, which requires battery energy storage facility owners to develop emergency response plans in coordination with local agencies and to comply with the latest NFPA standards. To that end, this bill is largely duplicative of existing requirements and mandates a new procedural requirement that risks delaying critical clean energy projects applying for permits through the CEC's site certification permitting programs, without providing the intended additional safety benefits. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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

Status: Failed Deadline. Hearing canceled at the request of the author in the Assembly Emergency Management Committee

Summary: This bill would require the OES, to the extent permitted by federal law, to provide to local operational areas and urban areas the maximum local share of federal grant funding administered by the office from the Emergency Management Performance Grant Program. The bill would also require the OES, to the extent permitted by federal law, to provide specified legislative committees with copies of agreements entered into with local governments to spend the state share of federal grant funding administered by the office from specified federal grant programs, including the State Homeland Security Grant Program.

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

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 11, 2025.

Summary: Would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal on or before December 31, 2026, to convene the Lithium-Ion Car Battery Advisory Group to review, and advise the Legislature on, policies pertaining to the safety and management of lithium-ion vehicle batteries involved in an emergency, as provided. The bill would require the Office of the State Fire Marshal to appoint members to the advisory group from specified departments, agencies, vocations, and organizations. The bill would require the advisory group to meet at least quarterly until July 1, 2028, and to consult with universities and research institutions that have conducted research on lithium-ion batteries, with manufacturers of electric and hybrid vehicles, and both state and local first responders. The bill would require the group to develop standards, on or before July 1, 2028, based on local, state, and national guidance and research, aimed at ensuring that best standards and practices are created that allow first responders to respond to lithium-ion vehicle battery emergencies in a safe and efficient manner. The bill would repeal these provisions on January 1, 2029.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 696 without my signature. This bill requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection's Office of the State Fire Marshall to convene a Lithium-Ion Car Battery Advisory Group by December 31, 2026. Last year, I established the California Battery Safety Collaborative (Collaborative) to examine battery energy storage technologies and safety considerations, which includes the Office of the State Fire Marshall, and several other state agencies and departments. The establishment of a new advisory group, as required by this bill, would be uncoordinated with the work being done through the Collaborate, and it is largely duplicative of the work already completed by the Lithium Ion Car Battery Recycling Advisory Group. In furtherance of my commitment to improve the safety of these technologies, I am directing the Collaborative to expand its state agency membership and scope to assess and address the safety risks of not just stationary, but also mobile, battery energy storage technologies. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Higher Education Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would prohibit the University of California, California State University, or California Community Colleges from disqualifying a student from being hired for an employment position due to the student's failure to provide proof of federal work authorization, except where that proof is required by federal law or where that proof is required as a condition of a grant that funds the particular employment position for which the student has applied.

AB 719 (Calderon D) County emergency plans.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Emergency Management Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law requires the Governor to coordinate the State Emergency Plan and the preparation of plans and programs for the mitigation of the effects of an emergency by the political subdivisions of this state. Current law requires the governing body of each political subdivision of the state to carry out the provisions of the State Emergency Plan. Current law requires the office to establish best practices for counties developing and

updating a county emergency plan and a process for a county to request that the office review a county's emergency plan by January 1, 2022. This bill would require each county to review and update its emergency plan at least every 2 years. Because the bill would require local officials to perform additional duties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would remove the January 1, 2022, date specified above, and would remove another reference to that date.

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

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: The State Government Strategic Planning and Performance and Review Act requires each agency, department, office, or commission for which strategic planning efforts are recommended, as specified, to develop a strategic plan and to report to the Governor and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee by April 1 each year on the steps being taken to develop and adopt a strategic plan. The act requires the report to include a description of the elements to be included in the strategic plan, the process for developing and adopting the plan, and the timetable for its completion. This bill would instead require each agency, department, office, or commission subject to the Governor's authority to develop and report on the above-described strategic plan.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 766 without my signature. This bill would require agencies, departments, offices, or commissions under the Governor's authority to develop or update their strategic plans to more effectively advance racial equity and respond to identified disparities with changes to the organization's policies, programs, and operations. This bill would also require each entity to report to the Legislature and Governor, by April 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, on the steps taken to develop and adopt a strategic plan. I share the author's goal to ensure equity is embedded within my Administration's actions and plans. In 2022, I signed EO N-16-22, which provided a framework towards helping make the California Dream a reality for everyone of us. That EO also created the 11-member Racial Equity Commission to recommend tools, methodologies, and opportunities to address inequities facing historically underserved and marginalized communities across the state. Unfortunately, this bill's timelines for reporting on strategic plans, along with the additional information entities must include in their plan, and uncertainty around which entities are required to comply, are unworkable. Lastly, expanding reporting requirements to all entities under my purview with these accelerated timelines will lead to significant costs not accounted for in this year's final budget agreement. 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 855 (Lackey R) Vehicles: commercial electric vehicle safety.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require the Office of Emergency Services, on or before January 1, 2027, to develop and post on its internet website an action plan for responding to electric commercial motor vehicle battery fires that covers specified topics, including best practices for reducing wildfire risk and mitigating the risk of battery reignition. The bill would require the office, in developing the action plan, to consult with certain stakeholders, including the California Highway Patrol, electric truck manufacturers, and labor organizations.

AB 869 (Irwin D) State agencies: information security: Zero Trust architecture.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require every state agency, as specified, and subject to specified exceptions, to implement Zero Trust architecture for all data, hardware, software, internal systems, and essential third-party software, including for on-premises, cloud, and hybrid environments, to achieve prescribed levels of maturity based on the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Maturity Model, as defined, by specified dates. In implementing Zero Trust architecture, the bill would require state agencies to prioritize the use of solutions that comply with, are authorized by, or align with federal guidelines, programs, and frameworks, and, at a minimum, prioritize multifactor authentication for access to all systems and data, enterprise endpoint detection and response solutions, and robust logging practices, as specified. The bill would require the Office of Information Security's chief to develop or revise uniform technology policies, standards, and procedures for use by all state agencies in Zero Trust architecture to achieve specified maturity levels on all systems in the State Administrative Manual and Statewide Information Management Manual.

AB 911 (Carrillo D) Emergency telecommunications medium- and heavy-duty zero-emission vehicles.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Environmental Quality Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The State Air Resources Board has adopted the Advanced Clean Fleets
Regulations, which impose various requirements for transitioning local, state, and federal government fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, other high-priority fleets of medium- and heavy-duty trucks, and drayage trucks to zero-emission vehicles, as provided. This bill would exempt emergency telecommunications vehicles owned or purchased by emergency telecommunications service providers that are used to participate in the federal Emergency Alert System, to provide access to 911 emergency services, or to provide wireless connectivity during service outages from specified requirements in the above-described regulations.

AB 979 (Irwin D) California Cybersecurity Integration Center: artificial intelligence.

Status: Chapter Number 285, 2025

Summary: Would require the California Cybersecurity Integration Center to develop, on or before January 1, 2027, in consultation with the Office of Information Security and the Government Operations Agency, a California AI Cybersecurity Collaboration Playbook, as specified, to facilitate information sharing across the cyber and artificial intelligence communities and to strengthen collective cyber defenses against emerging threats. The bill

would require the center to review federal requirements, standards, and industry best practices, as specified, and to use those resources to inform the development of the California AI Cybersecurity Collaboration Playbook. Except as specified, the bill would provide that any information related to cyber threat indicators or defensive measures for cybersecurity purposes shared in accordance with the California AI Cybersecurity Collaboration Playbook is confidential and would prohibit its disclosure, except as specified.

AB 986 (Muratsuchi D) State of emergency and local emergency: landslides and climate change.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 1, 2025.

Summary: Existing law, the California Emergency Services Act, authorizes the Governor to declare a state of emergency, and local officials and local governments to declare a local emergency, when specified conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property exist, and authorizes the Governor or the appropriate local government to exercise certain powers in response to that emergency. Existing law defines three conditions or degrees of emergency for these provisions, and this bill includes landslides among the conditions constituting a state of emergency or a local emergency.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 986 without my signature. This bill would add a "landslide" to the conditions under which the Governor may proclaim a State of Emergency and localities may proclaim a Local Emergency. I appreciate the author's goal to clarify paths to emergency proclamations, but this bill is unnecessary. Under existing law, California's Emergency Services Act already grants the Governor broad authority to proclaim a State of Emergency in response to "conditions of disaster or extreme peril to the safety of persons and property". In addition to the enumerated list of exemplary events, this language encompasses comparable events such as landslides, mudslides, and related geological hazards without the need for further statutory amendment. My administration has exercised and will continue to exercise the authority to respond decisively to landslides and associated hazards; adding "landslides" as a separate enumerated condition in statute would not expand these powers or provide additional tools for communities or first responders. In fact, it could be interpreted to suggest that events not explicitly identified in statute are ineligible for an emergency proclamation, which would unduly limit a Governor's power to respond to disasters. For this reason, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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

Status: Chapter Number 538, 2025

Summary: The FIRESCOPE Act of 1989 requires the Office of Emergency Services to establish and administer the FIRESCOPE program to maintain and enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of managing multiagency firefighting resources in responding to an incident. Current law requires the office, in collaboration with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the board of directors of the FIRESCOPE program, to develop standards and regulations for any privately contracted private fire prevention resources operating during an active fire incident in the state, as provided, and to develop regulations to govern the use of equipment used by privately contracted private fire prevention resources during an active fire incident, as provided. This bill would additionally require the office to develop

regulations prohibiting privately contracted private fire prevention resources from hooking up their equipment to public water sources, unless approved by incident command or the authority having jurisdiction over the active fire incident, and unless the equipment includes a backflow prevention device.

AB 1200 (Caloza D) Emergency services: disaster preparedness.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 11, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require OES to biennially convene key personnel and agencies with emergency management roles and responsibilities to participate in tabletop exercises in which participants' emergency preparedness plans are discussed and evaluated under various simulated catastrophic disaster scenarios, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 1200 without my signature. This bill would require the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to biennially convene key personnel and agencies to participate in a tabletop exercise and require Cal OES, in cooperation with California Volunteers, to annually conduct community disaster preparedness training in vulnerable regions of the state. I appreciate the author's commitment to disaster readiness. However, this bill is duplicative of existing preparedness measures already in place to enhance disaster readiness. Cal OES already conducts targeted, multi-jurisdictional, and tabletop exercises that are strategically aligned with existing plans and capabilities. The exercises envisioned in the bill are overly broad and lack clarity. As a result, requiring these exercises would unintentionally undermine the effectiveness of California's current emergency preparedness efforts. Additionally, this bill would result in new ongoing costs in the millions of dollars to implement. 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 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 1278 (Harabedian D) Emergency Management Assistance Compact.

Status: Failed Deadline: In print – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current law ratifies the Emergency Management Assistance Compact entered into by California and other party states for the provision of mutual assistance in managing emergencies or disasters, as specified. Current law expresses the state's intent to continue its long history of sharing emergency response resources with other states during disasters. This bill would make a technical, non-substantive change to these provisions.

<u>AB 1283</u> (<u>Committee on Emergency Management</u>) Office of Emergency Services: firefighting mutual aid.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Emergency Management Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to establish the Firefighting Mutual Aid and Prepositioning Program for specified purposes, including to support the implementation of the state fire service and rescue emergency mutual aid plan, as

described above, and to establish a reimbursement program to allow firefighting agencies deployed under the state's Master Mutual Aid Agreement to pay for costs, as specified.

<u>AB 1284</u> (<u>Committee on Emergency Management</u>) Emergency services: catastrophic plans: recovery frameworks.

Status: In Assembly Appropriations: Held under submission. – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Would require the Office of Emergency Services (OES) to develop state recovery frameworks for California's catastrophic plans, as provided. The bill would also require the governing body of a political subdivision to establish regional recovery frameworks for California's catastrophic plans, and it would require OES to provide technical assistance in this regard. This bill would require OES and the governing bodies of political subdivisions to incorporate lessons learned from recent major disasters when developing recovery frameworks. The bill would require the recovery frameworks to be consistent with guidance from the Federal Emergency Management Agency and to address, at a minimum, specified recovery support functions, including economic recovery, health and social services, and infrastructure systems. The bill would require OES to use, to the greatest extent possible, federal preparedness grant funding to offset the state, local, and tribal government costs associated with developing recovery frameworks. The bill would require the state and regional recovery frameworks to be completed by January 15, 2027. By imposing new duties on local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 1285 (Committee on Emergency Management) State Fire Marshal: lithium-ion battery facilities: guidance.

Status: Chapter Number 637, 2025

Summary: Would require the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, to develop fire prevention, response, and recovery measures for utility-grade lithium-ion battery storage facilities, as specified.

AB 1469 (Hart D) Disaster preparedness: public water systems.

Status: Failed Deadline: In print – 2 Year Bill

Summary: The California Emergency Services Act requires all public water systems, as defined, with 10,000 or more service connections to review and revise their disaster preparedness plans in conjunction with related agencies, including, but not limited to, local fire departments and the Office of Emergency Services to ensure that the plans are sufficient to address possible disaster scenarios. Current law requires these public water systems to, following a declared state of emergency, furnish an assessment of their emergency response and recommendations to the Legislature within 6 months after each disaster, and to implement the recommendations in a timely manner. Current law requires the office to establish emergency response and recovery plans in coordination with these public water systems. This bill would make non-substantive changes to those provisions.

AB 1530 (Committee on Emergency Management) California Disaster Assistance Act.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Under the California Disaster Assistance Act, current law authorizes the Office of Emergency Services to establish a model process to assist a community in recovering from an emergency proclaimed by the Governor that includes, among other information,

measures to encourage the participation of nongovernmental organizations in the community recovery process to supplement recovery activities undertaken by federal or local agencies. This bill would instead require the office to establish that model process and would require the model process to also include measures to encourage the participation of private nonprofit organizations and how they may be eligible to receive state assistance for distribution of supplies and other disaster or emergency assistance activities resulting in extraordinary costs.

AB 1531 (Committee on Emergency Management) Office of Emergency Services:

comprehensive wildfire mitigation program.

Status: Chapter Number 204, 2025

Summary: This bill would require, on or before July 1, 2026, the Department of Insurance to be added as an ex officio nonvoting member to the California Wildfire Mitigation Program Board created pursuant to the joint powers agreement.

ABX1 11 (Macedo R) Crimes: impeding emergency personnel.

Status: Died at Desk.

Summary: Current law makes it a misdemeanor to go to the scene of an emergency, or stop at the scene of an emergency, for the purpose of viewing the scene or the activities of police officers, firefighters, emergency medical, or other emergency personnel, or military personnel coping with the emergency in the course of their duties during the time it is necessary for emergency vehicles or those personnel to be at the scene of the emergency or to be moving to or from the scene of the emergency for the purpose of protecting lives or property and thereby impeding police officers, firefighters, emergency medical, or other emergency personnel or military personnel, in the performance of their duties in coping with the emergency. Current law includes a person who operates or uses an unmanned aerial vehicle, remote piloted aircraft, or drone that is at the scene of an emergency, regardless of the person's location. This bill would make it a felony to operate an unmanned aerial vehicle, remote piloted aircraft, or drone, in violation of the provision mentioned above, during a fire-related emergency.

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Senate Bills

SB 36 (Umberg D) Price gouging: state of emergency.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 11, 2025.

Summary: Existing law, the Unfair Competition Law, makes various practices unlawful and provides that a person who engages, has engaged, or proposes to engage in unfair competition is liable for a civil penalty, as specified. This bill would additionally make a person who violates those provisions, if the act or acts of unfair competition are perpetrated against one or more persons displaced due to a state of emergency or local emergency, as defined, at the time the violation occurred, liable for a civil penalty not to exceed \$2,500 for each violation, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 36 without my signature. This bill expands price gouging protections following a State of Emergency or Local Emergency declaration, establishes a housing listing program to report and remove listings that violate price gouging, and imposes criminal and civil penalties on violators. This bill would also allow the Legislature to terminate the extension of price gouging limitations via a concurrent resolution. I appreciate the author's intent to strengthen and expand protections against price gouging for those displaced by a state or local emergency. Unfortunately, this bill includes a provision that would allow the Legislature to terminate extensions of emergency protections by concurrent resolution. This shift would weaken the Governor's authority under the Emergency Services Act in disasters. In times of emergency, Californians expect swift and decisive action to protect public safety, deliver resources, and maintain stability. Making the Governor's actions subject to termination by concurrent vote by the Legislature could delay critical measures and create uncertainty when Californians can least afford it. For that reason, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

SB 53 (Wiener D) Artificial intelligence models: large developers.

Status: Chapter Number 138, 2025

Summary: This bill would enact the Transparency in Frontier Artificial Intelligence Act (TFAIA) that would, among other things, ensure the safety of a foundational model developed by a large frontier developer, require a large frontier developer to write, implement, and clearly and conspicuously publish on its internet website the framework that applies to the frontier models, and describes how the large frontier developer approaches, among other things, incorporating national standards, international standards, and industry-consensus best practices into its framework. The TFAIA would also require a large frontier developer to transmit to the Office of Emergency Services a summary of any catastrophic risk, as defined, resulting from internal use of its frontier models. The TFAIA would require the Office of Emergency Services to establish a mechanism to be used by a frontier developer or a member of the public to report, as prescribed, a critical safety incident, as defined, and would also require the Office of Emergency Services to establish a mechanism to be used by a large frontier developer to confidentially submit summaries of any assessments of the potential for catastrophic risk resulting from internal use of its frontier models, as prescribed. Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am signing Senate Bill 53, the Transparency in Frontier Artificial Intelligence Act, which will establish state-level oversight of the use, assessment, and governance of advanced artificial intelligence (AI) systems. This bill will strengthen California's ability to monitor, evaluate, and respond to critical safety incidents associated with these advanced systems, empowering the state to act quickly to protect public safety, cybersecurity, and national security. California is the birthplace of modern technology and innovation, and home to many of the world's top AI researchers and developers, who in turn have created more leading AI companies than any other region on the planet. Our state's status as a global leader in technology allows us a unique opportunity to provide a blueprint for well-balanced Al policies beyond our borders – especially in the absence of a comprehensive federal AI framework and national AI safety standards. In pursuit of this balance, last fall, I called on world-leading AI experts to prepare a report that outlines the capabilities and potential risks of frontier AI models. That report, released in late spring, provides us with a roadmap to regulate frontier AI prudently and

proactively, ensuring we balance innovation with public safety. SB 53 builds on the work of this report and ensures Californians – and by extension, the nation – can have greater confidence that frontier AI models are responsibly developed and deployed. At the same time, SB 53 also recognizes that meaningful oversight of AI safety, particularly as it relates to matters of national security, involves joint work with the federal government. Should the federal government or Congress adopt national AI standards that maintain or exceed the protections of this bill, subsequent action will be necessary to provide alignment between policy frameworks – ensuring businesses are not subject to duplicative or conflicting requirements across jurisdictions. SB 53 fulfills this obligation by authorizing a compliance pathway for critical incident-reporting requirements. To the degree that additional clarification is required, I encourage the Legislature to monitor actions at the federal level and, if and when federal standards are adopted, ensure alignment with those standards – all while maintaining the high bar established by SB 53. California has long been a leader in technology and innovation. In enacting this law, we are once again demonstrating our leadership by protecting our residents today while pressing the federal government to act on national standards. The future happens here first. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would include, in the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, in the list of eligible projects grants to the local agencies, state agencies, joint powers authorities, tribes, resource conservation districts, fire safe councils, and nonprofit organizations for improvements to public evacuation routes in very high and high fire hazard severity zones, mobile rigid dip tanks, as defined, to support firefighting efforts, prepositioned mobile rigid water storage, as defined, and improvements to the response and effectiveness of fire engines and helicopters.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control, in consultation with specified entities, to form a workgroup related to exposure to toxic heavy metals after a wildfire. The bill would require the workgroup to establish best practices and recommendations for wildfire-impacted communities, first responders, and other personnel engaged in wildfire response and cleanup to avoid exposure to heavy metals after a wildfire, including through outreach. The bill would authorize the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to contract with public universities, research institutions, and other technical experts to support the work of the workgroup. The bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, the Office of Emergency Services, and the Department of Toxic Substances Control to report their findings to the Legislature no later than 3 years after the first meeting of the workgroup.

SB 256 (Pérez D) Electricity: electrical infrastructure: wildfire mitigation.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the commission, on or before January 1, 2027, to update a general order to require each electrical corporation to remove all permanently abandoned facilities, as specified. The bill would require an electrical corporation, for areas affected by wildfire that require rebuilding electrical distribution infrastructure, to consider undergrounding if it is determined to be cost-effective compared to other wildfire mitigation strategies.

<u>SB 326</u> (<u>Becker</u> D) Wildfire safety: fire protection building standards: defensible space requirements: The California Wildfire Mitigation Strategic Planning Act.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 11, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require the Deputy Director of Community Wildfire Preparedness and Mitigation within CAL FIRE, on or before January 1, 2027, and every 3 years thereafter, in consultation with the state hazard mitigation officer, as defined, to prepare a Wildfire Risk Mitigation Planning Framework sufficient to evaluate wildfire risk mitigation actions, as provided quantitatively. The bill would require the framework to allow for geospatial evaluation and comparison of wildfire risk mitigation actions, as defined, sufficient to direct coordinated mitigation efforts and long-term collaborative mitigation planning. Governor's 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. This bill would also expand the list of eligible entities for the 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 we remain disciplined when considering a bill 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.

<u>SB 465</u> (<u>Pérez</u>D) Governor's Office of Emergency Services: California Alert.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services to establish a statewide emergency alert system called California Alert. The bill would require California Alert to utilize Wireless Emergency Alerts authorized by the Integrated Public Alert Warning System, the Federal Emergency Management Agency's national system for local alerting that provides authenticated emergency information to the public through mobile phones within a designated cell tower's coverage area. The bill would require the office to contract with a private vendor that provides alerting systems to send California Alerts to registered phone numbers that are not location-based. The bill would require the office to establish standards for issuing emergency alerts to California residents across local jurisdictional boundaries.

SB 509 (Caballero D) Office of Emergency Services: training: transnational repression.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: Current law establishes the California Specialized Training Institute within the Office of Emergency Services. This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2027, the Office of Emergency Services, through the California Specialized Training Institute, to develop a transnational repression recognition and response training, as specified.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 509 without my signature. This bill would require the Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), in consultation with the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST), to develop training on recognizing and responding to transnational repression. While I appreciate the author's intent to enhance the state's ability to identify and respond to transnational repression, this issue is best addressed through administrative action in coordination with federal agencies. By codifying definitions related to this training, this bill would remove the state's flexibility and ability to avoid future inconsistencies related to this work, especially since no unified federal definition exists. Cal OES has already developed a training to help law enforcement recognize and respond to transnational repression. Information about this Transnational Repression Awareness class can be found on Cal OES's California Specialized Training Institute Criminal Justice/Homeland Security webpage. This work was done in coordination with Cal OES, POST, and federal partners to ensure alignment with national standards and equip local law enforcement with the tools needed to identify and react to this threat. My administration moved quickly to provide local agencies with the necessary tools to protect these impacted communities while maintaining the essential administrative flexibility to adapt to this evolving issue. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

SB 559 (Stern D) Electricity: deenergization events: communications.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require an electrical corporation to immediately notify, when possible and at the time a decision to conduct a deenergization event is made, public safety partners about the potential public safety impacts of the deenergization event, as specified. The bill would require detailed status information on restoration efforts to be made available to emergency management organizations, public safety officials, customers, and the public, where feasible, with regular progress updates issued at intervals of no more than 12 hours, for all impacted circuits, as specified. The bill would require, in advance of a deenergization event, an electrical corporation to make a reasonable effort to publish and make available weather conditions observed within the affected circuit being considered for deenergization, as provided.

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

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: Existing law requires the Office of Emergency Services to enter into a joint powers agreement, as specified, with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to develop and administer a comprehensive wildfire mitigation program, known as the California wildfire mitigation financial assistance program, that, among other things, encourages cost-effective structure hardening and retrofitting that creates fire-resistant homes, businesses, and public buildings. This bill would require the joint powers authority to consider revising the wildfire

mitigation program in accordance with prescribed community hardening standards and guidelines developed pursuant to the bill's provisions, as specified below. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 616 without my signature. This bill would establish an independent Community Hardening Commission within the Department of Insurance (CDI) to review current and develop new wildfire community hardening standards every quarter starting January 1, 2026, and make recommendations to expedite certain community hardening practices. 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 costeffective home hardening practices, aiming to improve insurability for millions of homeowners. CALFIRE 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 atrisk 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 demonstrating 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 in 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.

<u>SB 641</u> (<u>Ashby</u> D) Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Real Estate: states of emergency: waivers and exemptions.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: Would authorize the Department of Real Estate and boards under the jurisdiction of the Department of Consumer Affairs to waive the application of certain provisions of the licensure requirements that the board or department is charged with enforcing for licensees and applicants who reside in or whose primary place of business is in a location damaged by a natural disaster for which a state of emergency is proclaimed by the Governor, as specified, or for which an emergency or major disaster is declared by the President of the United States, including certain examination, fee, and continuing education requirements. The bill would require a board to notify the director of the Department of Consumer Affairs in writing of any waiver approved by that board, and would prohibit the waiver from taking effect for a period of 5 business days after the director receives the notification from the board. The bill would authorize the director to approve or disapprove a waiver within the five

business days described above, and require the director to notify the board of any decision to approve or disapprove a waiver within those five business days. The bill would prohibit a waiver from taking effect if the director disapproves of the waiver, and require a waiver that is approved by the director, or that fails to be approved or disapproved by the director within the five business days described above, to take effect the following day.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 641 without my signature. This bill would authorize licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs and Department of Real Estate to waive the application of specified laws for licensees and applicants who are impacted by a proclaimed federal, state, or local emergency, or whose homes or businesses are located in a disaster area. Additionally, this bill would ban unsolicited offers by real estate licensees and their clients that are below market value, as it was the day before the disaster, and would ban it throughout the entire geographic area in which the disaster is proclaimed. I appreciate the intent of the author to help those impacted by natural disasters to find regulatory relief quickly and to protect those with property in disaster areas. In response to recent disasters, my Administration worked closely with the Legislature to coordinate targeted relief and consumer protections to disaster victims – absent the authority sought in this bill. With respect to the real estate protection provisions, the bill is overly broad, applying to all natural disasters even when housing is unaffected. It also leaves an enforcement gap by regulating licensees only when acting for clients, not for themselves. Together, these issues call into question whether this bill is properly tailored to achieve its stated goals. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

SB 833 (McNerney D) Critical infrastructure: artificial intelligence systems: human oversight.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require, on or before July 1, 2026, an operator, defined as a state agency responsible for operating, managing, overseeing, or controlling access to critical infrastructure, that deploys a covered artificial intelligence (AI) system, as defined, to establish a human oversight mechanism that ensures a human monitors the system's operations in real time and reviews and approves any plan or action proposed by the covered AI system before execution, except as provided. The bill would require the Department of Technology to develop specialized training in AI safety protocols and risk management techniques to oversight personnel. The bill would require oversight personnel for an operator to conduct an annual assessment of its covered AI systems, as specified, and to submit a summary of the findings to the department.

SB 841 (Rubio D) Immigration enforcement.

Status: Failed Deadline: Inactive File - 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill, the Keep Safe Spaces Safe Act, would prohibit, to the extent possible, an employee of a homeless shelter, rape crisis center, domestic violence shelter, family justice center, or human trafficking service provider from allowing access to the nonpublic areas of those facilities, except as required by state or federal law, for immigration enforcement activity, as defined, unless specified criteria are met, including a valid judicial warrant. This bill would provide that its provisions are severable.

Other Cal OES Tracked Bills

Assembly Bills

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

Status: Chapter Number 472, 2025

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Insurance, on or before January 1, 2030, and every 5 years thereafter, to consider whether or not to update its regulations to include additional building hardening measures for property-level mitigation efforts and communitywide wildfire mitigation programs. As part of this consideration, the bill would require the department to consult with specified agencies to identify additional building hardening measures to consider, as well as to develop and implement a public participation process during the evaluation.

AB 18 (DeMaio R) California Secure Borders Act of 2025.

Status: Failed Deadline: In print – 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill, the California Secure Borders Act of 2025, would state the intent of the Legislature to combat illegal immigration and secure the border by repealing those provisions, prohibiting the use of state funds for various welfare, health, housing, and other services for undocumented immigrants, requiring public disclosure of information on the impact of illegal immigration on crime rates and state and local services, providing cross-deputization training for local law enforcement to support federal border security actions, and providing standards for deployment of the State Guard to the border.

AB 27 (Schiavo D) Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event: exclusions.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Appropriations Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, and before January 1, 2029, would provide an exclusion from gross income for amounts received, on or after March 1, 2024, as compensation for specified costs and losses related to the Chiquita Canyon elevated temperature landfill event in the County of Los Angeles, as provided.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Local Government Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Existing law defines the term "conservation easement" for these purposes, and authorizes certain entities and organizations to acquire and hold conservation easements, including a federally recognized California Native American tribe or a non-federally recognized California Native American tribe that is on the contact list maintained by the Native American Heritage Commission, to protect a California Native American prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place, if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed. This bill would instead authorize a California Native American tribe that is on the above-described contact list to protect a California Native American prehistoric, archaeological, cultural, spiritual, or ceremonial place, to acquire and hold conservation easements, if the conservation easement is voluntarily conveyed or otherwise conveyed pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Natural Resources and Water – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would, until January 1, 2032, exempt from CEQA egress route projects undertaken by a public agency to improve emergency access to and evacuation from a subdivision without a secondary egress route if the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has recommended the creation of a secondary access to the subdivision and certain conditions are met. The bill would require the lead agency to hold a noticed public meeting to hear and respond to public comments before determining that a project is exempt. The bill would require the lead agency, if it determines that a project is not subject to CEQA and approves or carries out that project, to file a notice of exemption with the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation and with the clerk of the county in which the project will be located.

AB 91 (Harabedian D) State and local agencies: demographic data.

Status: Chapter Number 357, 2025

Summary: Would, commencing January 1, 2028, require state and local agencies, as defined, that collect demographic data as to the ancestry or ethnic origin of Californians to use separate collection categories and tabulations for major Middle Eastern or North African groups, as specified, and, with certain exceptions, to include that data in every demographic report published on or after January 1, 2029, and to make the aggregated data available to the public.

AB 97 (Lackey R) Personal Income Tax Law: Corporation Tax Law: Bobcat Fire: exclusions.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2024, and before January 1, 2029, provide an exclusion from gross income for any qualified taxpayer, as defined, for amounts received in settlement for costs and losses associated with the 2020 Bobcat Fire in the County of Los Angeles, as provided.

AB 227 (Gabriel D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Budget Committee

Summary: Would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2025–26 fiscal year. This bill contains other related provisions.

AB 232 (Calderon D) Natural disasters: catastrophe savings accounts: personal income tax. Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill Summary: Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2026, and before January 1, 2031, allow a deduction from adjusted gross income for amounts contributed by a qualified taxpayer, as defined, to a catastrophe savings account, in accordance with specified provisions. The bill would define "catastrophe savings account" to mean a regular savings account or money market account with a financial institution that, among other requirements, is established to pay for the qualified catastrophe expenses, as defined, of a qualified taxpayer establishing the account, as provided. The bill would subject a qualified taxpayer to a specified penalty if they use a distribution from a catastrophe savings account to cover an expense other than a qualified catastrophe expense.

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

Status: Chapter Number 128, 2025

Summary: This bill would authorize a borrower who is experiencing financial hardship that prevents the borrower from making timely payments on a specified residential mortgage loan due directly to the wildfire disaster described in the proclamation of a state of emergency issued by Governor Gavin Newsom on January 7, 2025, or the federally declared disaster, declared on January 8, 2025, related to the Eaton Wildfire, the Palisades Fire, and the Straight-line Winds, to request forbearance on their residential mortgage loan, as prescribed. The bill would limit eligibility for that forbearance to loans that are secured by residential real property improved by 4 or fewer residential units. The bill would require the borrower to affirm that they are experiencing a financial hardship due to the wildfire disaster. Because the bill would expand the crime of perjury, it would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would, except as specified, require a mortgage servicer to offer mortgage payment forbearance of a period of up to an initial 90 days, which shall be extended at the request of the borrower in 90-day increments, up to a maximum forbearance period of 12 months. The bill would also prohibit a mortgage servicer from assessing any late fees to the borrower's account or charging a default rate of interest during the forbearance period. The bill would provide that the forbearance period includes any period of forbearance related to the wildfire disaster that a mortgage servicer has provided to a borrower before the effective date of these provisions. The bill would require a mortgage servicer to report the credit obligations of borrowers under a disaster-related forbearance plan in compliance with the federal Fair Credit Reporting Act.

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

Status: Chapter Number 530, 2025

Summary: Current law, pursuant to the authorization of the California Constitution, authorizes the transfer of the base year value of property that is substantially damaged or destroyed by a disaster, as declared by the Governor, to comparable replacement property within the same county that is acquired or newly constructed within 5 years after the disaster, as provided. Current law authorizes the owner of property substantially damaged or destroyed by a disaster, as declared by the Governor, to apply the base year value of that property to replacement property reconstructed on the same site of the damaged or destroyed property within 5 years after the disaster if the reconstructed property is comparable to the substantially damaged or destroyed property, determined as provided. This bill would extend the 5-year time period described above by 3 years if the property was substantially damaged or destroyed by the 2025 Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Lidia Fire, Sunset Fire, or Woodley Fire on or after January 7, 2025, but before February 1, 2025.

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

Status: Chapter Number 337, 2025

Summary: This bill would, until January 20, 2029, enact the Social Security Tenant Protection Act of 2025 (the Act). The Act would authorize a tenant of residential real property to assert Social Security hardship as an affirmative defense in an unlawful detainer proceeding based on the nonpayment of rent. The Act would define "Social Security hardship" as a loss of income due to an interruption in the payment of Social Security benefits due to the action or

inaction of the federal government. The Act would require a tenant asserting Social Security hardship as an affirmative defense to provide, to the satisfaction of the court, evidence that Social Security payments typically received by the tenant's household have been terminated, delayed, or reduced due to no fault of the tenant and that the hardship prevented the tenant from paying the rent. If the tenant successfully provides this evidence, the Act would require the court to issue a stay of the unlawful detainer action, as specified. The Act would not relieve a tenant of their obligation to pay past due rent, and it would require a tenant, within 14 days of the Social Security benefits being restored, to either pay all past due rent or enter into a mutually agreed upon payment plan with the owner of the residential real property.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law establishes the Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program, administered by the Interagency Council on Homelessness, with respect to rounds 1 through 5, inclusive, of the program, and Department of Housing and Community Development (department), with respect to round 6 of the program, for the purpose of providing jurisdictions, as defined, with one-time grant funds to support regional coordination and expand or develop local capacity to address their immediate homelessness challenges, as specified. Current law requires the department, upon appropriation, to distribute certain amounts, as specified, for purposes of round 6 of the programCurrent law requires an applicant to use at least 10% of the specified funds allocated for services for homeless youth populations. This bill would require a continuum of care, upon appropriation and beginning with the 2026–27 fiscal year, to annually certify that they create or maintain a youth-specific process with their respective coordinated entry system, as specified, implement a youthspecific assessment tool, create a body or identify an existing body composed of youth with lived experience of homelessness that the continuum of care and other Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program grantees must consult with regularly, and identify an array of youth-specific housing inventory.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to reach full staffing levels, as defined, on or before January 1, 2028, and to maintain full staffing levels throughout the calendar year at all fire stations and facilities under its jurisdiction. The bill would require the department to implement staffing requirements on a schedule, as specified. The bill would require the department to report annually to the Legislature on, among other things, progress toward implementation of year-round staffing requirements.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File -2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would prohibit the State Fire Marshal's determination of fire hazard severity zone, in both state responsibility areas and lands that are not state responsibility areas, from being based on risk mitigation activities. The bill would, as applied to both state responsibility areas and lands that are not state responsibility areas, authorize the State Fire Marshal, in

periods between the State Fire Marshal's review of areas of the state for recommendations regarding an area's fire hazard severity zone, to confer with entities, including, but not limited to, public agencies, tribes, nonprofit organizations, project applicants, and members of the public, on actions that may impact the degree of fire hazard in an area or the area's recommended fire hazard severity zone designation. The bill would authorize the State Fire Marshal to provide a written response to an entity on actions that may impact the degree of fire hazard and would require the response to be posted on the State Fire Marshal's website.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Transportations Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would suspend the appropriation to the High-Speed Rail Authority for the 2026–27 and 2027–28 fiscal years and would instead require those amounts from moneys collected by the State Air Resources Board to be transferred to the General Fund. The bill would specify that the transferred amounts shall be available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to augment funding for water infrastructure and wildfire prevention.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Water Parks and Wildlife Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law provides for the regulation and supervision of dams and reservoirs by the state, and requires the Department of Water Resources, under the police power of the state, to supervise the construction, enlargement, alteration, repair, maintenance, operation, and removal of dams and reservoirs for the protection of life and property, as prescribed. Current law requires the department to, upon appropriation by the Legislature, develop and administer the Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program to provide state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities that were in service prior to January 1, 2023, subject to prescribed criteria. This bill would include the removal of project facilities as additional projects eligible to receive funding under the program.

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

Status: Chapter Number 139, 2025

Summary: This bill would expand Public Employment Relations Board's (PERB's) jurisdiction by authorizing a worker, under specified circumstances, to petition PERB to protect and enforce prescribed rights, including, among other circumstances, if the worker is employed in a position subject to the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA) but the NLRB expressly or impliedly cedes jurisdiction, as specified. The bill would authorize PERB to, among other things, decide unfair labor practice cases, as specified, pursuant to a specified timeline and order all appropriate relief for a violation, including civil penalties, as prescribed. In order to pursue relief from PERB, the bill would require a covered worker or their representative to file an unfair practice charge or petition that includes specified information, including, where applicable, the original charge or petition filed with the NLRB. The bill would require PERB to hold the supporting documentation and evidence confidential and maintain it as part of its investigatory file and would exempt this documentation and evidence from the California Public Records Act.

AB 290 (Bauer-Kahan D) California FAIR Plan Association: automatic payments.

Status: Chapter Number 475, 2025

Summary: Current law establishes the California FAIR Plan Association, a joint reinsurance association in which all insurers licensed to write basic property insurance participate to administer a program for the equitable apportionment of basic property insurance for persons who are unable to obtain that coverage through normal channels. Current law authorizes cancellation of an insurance policy for nonpayment of premium, and requires an insurer to notify a policyholder at least 10 calendar days before the policy will be canceled for nonpayment. This bill, on or before April 1, 2026, would require the California FAIR Plan Association to create an automatic payment system and accept automatic payments for premiums from policyholders. The bill would prohibit cancellation or nonrenewal of a FAIR Plan policy solely because the policyholder is not enrolled in automatic payments.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Office of Emergency Services (OES) is under the supervision of the Director of Emergency Services. During a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency, current law requires the director to coordinate the emergency activities of all state agencies in connection with that emergency. This bill would authorize the OES to prioritize funding and technical assistance under specified programs, including, but not limited to, for infrastructure and housing recovery projects, in communities that suffered a loss in population and businesses due to a major federal disaster, state of emergency, or local emergency, or local emergency, or local emergency.

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

Status: Chapter Number 531, 2025

Summary: Current law regulates the terms and conditions of tenancies and defines the term "persons who hire" for the purpose of regulating residential tenancies. Current law excludes hotel or motel occupancy if certain conditions are met, if the occupancy is for a period of 30 days or less. Current law establishes a procedure, known as an unlawful detainer action, that a landlord must follow to evict a tenant. Under this bill, the continued occupancy of a resident of a lodging would not be considered a person who hires, nor have their lodging constitute a new tenancy for purposes of an unlawful detainer action, until the guest has resided in the lodging for 270 days, if the guest is residing in the lodging as a result of a disaster that substantially damaged, destroyed, or made their prior housing uninhabitable.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law requires the State Fire Marshal to identify areas in the state as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, as specified. Current law also requires the State Fire Marshal to classify lands within state responsibility areas into fire hazard severity zones, and, by regulation, to designate fire hazard severity zones and assign to each zone a rating reflecting the degree of severity of fire hazard that is expected to prevail in the zone. Current law requires the State Fire Marshal to periodically review very high fire hazard severity zones that are not state responsibility areas, and designated and rated zones that

are state responsibility areas, as provided. This bill would instead require the State Fire Marshal, at least once every 5 years, to review areas in the state identified as moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones, and to review lands within state responsibility areas classified as fire hazard severity zones.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Natural Resources Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 authorized the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Of these funds, the act makes available \$1,500,000,000, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for wildfire prevention, including, among other things, by making \$25,000,000 available, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for technologies that improve detection and assessment of new fire ignitions. This bill would require that, of the \$25,000,000 made available to the department, \$10,000,000 be allocated to the ALERTCalifornia fire camera mapping system.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Judiciary Committee – 2 Year Bill Summary: Prior law, until January 1, 2024, authorized a tenant to temporarily permit the occupancy of their dwelling unit by a person who is at risk of homelessness, as defined, regardless of the terms of the lease or rental agreement, with the written approval of the owner or landlord of the property, and subject to extension under certain circumstances. Prior law further authorized an owner or landlord to adjust the rent payable under the lease during the time the person who is at risk of homelessness is occupying the dwelling unit, as compensation for the occupancy of that person, and required the terms regarding the rent payable in those circumstances to be agreed to in writing by the owner or landlord and the tenant. This bill, until January 1, 2031, would reinstate the above-described provisions, and would include certain new provisions regarding occupancy. The bill would additionally define "person at risk of homelessness" to include any person who is displaced from their residence as a result of a disaster in a disaster-stricken area in which a state of emergency has been proclaimed by the Governor. The bill, among other things, would permit a tenant, with written approval of the owner or landlord, to temporarily permit the occupancy of their dwelling unit by a person who is at risk of homelessness and one or more common household pets owned or otherwise maintained by the person.

AB 322 (Ward D) Precise geolocation information.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File -2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require a business that collects precise geolocation information to prominently display, when information is being collected, a notice to the consumer whose information is being collected that states certain information related to the collection of the

information and its use by the business, including the goods or services requested by the consumer for which the business is collecting, processing, or disclosing the geolocation information and a description of how the business will process the geolocation information to carry out those purposes.

AB 330 (Rogers D) Local Prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Collection Act.

Status: Chapter Number 553, 2025

Summary: The Local Prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Collection Act, until January 1, 2026, suspends the authority of a city, county, or city and county to impose a utility user tax on the consumption of prepaid communications service and any charge that applies to prepaid mobile telephony service, as defined, on access to communication services or access to local "911" emergency telephone systems, and instead requires those taxes and charges to be applied during the period beginning January 1, 2016, and ending January 1, 2026, under any local ordinance to be at specified rates. The act requires that these local charges imposed by a city, county, or city and county on prepaid mobile telephony services be collected from the prepaid consumer by a seller at the time of sale, as specified. Current law requires that all local charges be collected and paid to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration pursuant to the Fee Collection Procedures Law and be deposited into the Local Charges for Prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Fund, and be transmitted to the city, county, or city and county, as provided. This bill would extend the operation of the act until January 1, 2031

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

Status: Chapter Number 532, 2025

Summary: This bill would require the California Workforce Development Board to allocate funds from that appropriation to the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity for, among other things, workforce development strategies, such as education or supportive services, including stipends for underemployed and unemployed low- to moderate-income individuals to ensure a skilled and sufficient workforce for the scale of rebuilding and recovery of areas in the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura impacted by the 2025 wildfires and to support underemployed and unemployed low- to moderate-income workers affected by the fires. The bill would require the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity to reallocate \$600,000 to the Economic Development Collaborative for those purposes. The bill would require the board to allow the Los Angeles County Department of Economic Opportunity to subcontract with other entities to fulfill the bill's provisions and intent and would require the board to establish quality standards and practices, as specified.

AB 354 (Rodriguez, Michelle D) Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training.

Status: Chapter Number 32, 2025

Summary: This bill would require POST employees whose job duties require access to criminal offender record information, state summary criminal history information, or information obtained from California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (CLETS) to undergo a fingerprint-based state and national criminal history background check, as specified.

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

Status: Chapter Number 690, 2025

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

AB 380 (González, Mark D) Price gouging.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Under current law, upon the proclamation of a state of emergency by the President of the United States or the Governor, or upon the declaration of a local emergency by the executive officer of any county, city, or city and county, and for 30 days or 180 days, as specified, following the proclamation or declaration of emergency, it is a misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in county jail, a fine of \$10,000, or both that imprisonment and fine, for a person, contractor, business, or other entity to sell or offer to sell certain goods or services for a price of more than 10% greater than the price charged by that person immediately prior to the proclamation or declaration of emergency. This bill would instead make that misdemeanor applicable, for those provisions for which the misdemeanor is applicable for a period of 30 days following the proclamation or declaration of emergency, for a period of 60 days. The bill would, for an entity or person other than a natural person, make that misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$25,000.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Public Safety Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would prohibit California law enforcement agencies from collaborating with, or providing any information in writing, verbally, on in any other manner to, immigration authorities regarding proposed or currently underway immigration enforcement actions when the actions could be or are taking place within a radius of one mile of any childcare or daycare facility, religious institution, place of worship, hospital, or medical office. To the extent this bill would impose additional duties on local law enforcement agencies or officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law provides that an emergency regulation adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board following a Governor's proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions, for which the board makes specified findings, may remain in effect for up to one year, as provided, and may be renewed if the board determines that specified conditions relating to precipitation are still in effect. This bill would require the board, within 180 days following a finding by the board that a nonfee emergency regulation is no longer necessary, as provided, to conduct a comprehensive economic study assessing the impacts of the regulation, as specified.

AB 438 (Hadwick R) Authorized emergency vehicles.

Status: Chapter Number 152, 2025

Summary: This bill would authorize the Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol to issue an emergency vehicle permit to any vehicle owned by a county, city, or city and county office of emergency services only while that vehicle is being used by a public employee who is employed by the office in responding to any disaster.

AB 469 (Gabriel D) Crimes: impersonation of first responders.

Status: Failed Deadline: In print – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to the impersonation of first responders during a state of emergency.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: This bill would provide that if an at-risk species, as defined, becomes listed as an endangered, threatened, or candidate species, further authorization or approval shall not be required for a take of that species, if specified conditions are met, including that the potential listing of the at-risk species was anticipated in a permit previously issued by the department for incidental take caused by a renewable electrical generation facility. The bill would authorize the department, in partnership with a permit applicant for an incidental take caused by a renewable electrical generation facility, to develop a research project that evaluates specified factors. The bill would authorize a research project reviewed and approved by the department to contribute to a renewable electrical generation project's mitigation, as provided.

AB 599 (Connolly D) Hazardous waste: classification and alternative management standards: notice of change.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Environmental Quality Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would, if the Department of Toxic Substances Control proposes to reclassify wastes or adopt alternative management standards for regulated waste, require the department to take all necessary and authorized steps required by law to facilitate full public notification and review of state, regional, and local facility entitlements, to enable local community input regarding the proposed changes to the classification of wastes or the alternative management standards.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require the Department of Transportation, on or before January 1, 2026, to update the Highway Design Manual to direct local governments to consult with local fire departments when making road improvements to ensure the improvements do not negatively impact emergency response times.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Natural Resources Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would exempt a fuel modification project to maintain defensible space of 500 feet from each side and from the front and rear of a building or structure and a fuel reduction project to prevent and contain the spread of wildfires from the requirements of CEQA. The bill would also exempt an electrical grid resilience or hardening project from the requirements of CEQA. Because a lead agency would be required to determine whether a project qualifies for these exemptions, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 639 (Soria D) Dams: exceptions.

Status: Chapter Number 617, 2025

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

AB 645 (Carrillo D) Emergency medical services: dispatcher training.

Status: Chapter Number 273, 2025

Summary: Would require, by January 1, 2027, a public safety agency that provides "911" call processing services for emergency medical response to provide prearrival medical instructions to "911" callers requiring medical assistance, including, among other things, airway and choking medical instructions for infants, children, and adults and administration of naloxone for narcotics overdoses. The bill would require prearrival medical instructions to be approved by the local EMS agency medical director and implemented consistent with the medical protocols and procedures adopted by the public safety agency. By expanding the scope of a crime, and to the extent that the bill would create new duties for a public safety agency, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 654 (Caloza D) Homelessness resource telephone system.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require the County of Los Angeles to establish a homelessness resource telephone system to receive telephone calls regarding individuals who are experiencing, or at risk of experiencing, homelessness in order to provide those individuals with resources. By

imposing new duties on the County of Los Angeles, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 655 (Alvarez D) California-Mexico Border Relations Council.

Status: Chapter Number 41, 2025

Summary: This bill would authorize the Speaker of the Assembly to appoint a Member of the Assembly and the President pro Tempore to appoint a Member of the Senate who each represent a district that shares a border with Mexico to the California-Mexico Border Relations Council to serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member.

AB 678 (Lee D) Interagency Council on Homelessness.

Status: Chapter Number 495, 2025

Summary: This bill would require the Interagency Council on Homelessness to coordinate with representatives from LGBTQ+ communities to identify recommended policies and best practices for providing inclusive and culturally competent services to LGBTQ+ people experiencing homelessness and develop recommendations to, among other things, expand data collection to understand the needs and experiences of LGBTQ+ people in state homelessness programs, as defined. The bill would require the council, on or before July 1, 2027, to submit a report to specific committees of the Legislature on these recommendations.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Economic Development, Growth and Household Impact Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Would establish the Los Angeles and Ventura Wildfire Small Business Recovery Act to assist small businesses directly impacted by the January 2025 wildfires in the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura. For this purpose, the bill would appropriate \$50,000,000 from the General Fund to the Los Angeles and Ventura Wildfire Small Business Recovery Fund, which the bill would create in the State Treasury. The bill would require the Office of Small Business Advocate (OSBA) to administer the fund and allocate funds to both the CIP and the SB-TAP. The bill would also require OSBA to establish a separate program to provide relief for employees of small businesses directly impacted by those wildfires. The bill would require Go-Biz to submit a report to the Legislature detailing the allocation and expenditure of funds pursuant to these provisions. The act would be repealed on January 1, 2031.

AB 727 (González, Mark D) Pupil and student safety: identification cards.

Status: Chapter Number 483, 2025

Summary: Would, commencing July 1, 2026, require public schools that serve pupils in any of grades 7 to 12, inclusive, and public institutions of higher education that issue pupil identification cards to additionally have printed on the identification cards the telephone number and text line for a specified LGBTQ+ suicide hotline, as provided.

AB 733 (Tangipa R) Agency reports.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Governmental Organization Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would require each state agency that is required to submit one or more reports to the Legislature to submit, by April 1 of each year, a list of all reports the agency has not yet

submitted to the Legislature along with a status summary for each report, including a statement explaining why any overdue report has not yet been submitted and a compliance plan, as specified. The bill would also provide that the Legislature may withhold appropriations for an agency that fails to submit timely reports.

AB 755 (Tangipa R) Income tax: exclusion: disasters.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2035, provide an exclusion from gross income for amounts received as income, not to exceed \$300,000 per taxable year, by a qualified taxpayer whose real property, residence, or business burned or was deemed uninhabitable due to a disaster, as defined, during the taxable year in which the disaster occurred and the following taxable year.

AB 758 (DeMaio R) Wildfire: vegetation management.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Natural Resources Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would, on or before January 1, 2028, and every 2 years thereafter, require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection or a local entity to conduct an assessment, as provided, of all undeveloped public lands for which it is primarily responsible for preventing and suppressing fires to ensure that the public land is not a severe fire hazard.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Judiciary Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would exempt a mobilehome park that is located in a city or county that is, or has been in the prior 6 months, under a state of emergency caused by a disaster or conditions that resulted in housing units being damaged, destroyed, or rendered uninhabitable, or that is located in an adjacent city or county. In this regard, the bill would allow the mobilehome park to directly rent a mobilehome to a tenant on a limited emergency basis, as specified, not to exceed 36 months from the expiration of the state of emergency. The bill would specify that this exemption would apply for the duration of a tenancy in which the tenant is using the mobilehome as their personal and actual residence.

AB 783 (Caloza D) Public contracts: construction materials: disaster relief.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would, until January 1, 2031, authorize the Department of General Services to negotiate and enter into contracts on a bid or negotiated basis for construction materials commonly used in residential structures that may include price discounts, rebates, refunds, or other strategies aimed at lowering the cost of these materials. The bill would require that these materials be offered at cost or with minimal administrative fees added to homeowners, contractors, nonprofit organizations, and local governments in any area affected by a state of emergency resulting from an earthquake, flood, fire, storm, or other natural disaster, as specified. The bill would require that the materials only be used for recovery efforts that are directly linked to housing losses caused by a state of emergency.

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

Status: Chapter Number 534, 2025

Summary: This bill would require a city, county, or city and county to approve or deny a complete application, within 10 business days of receipt of the application, for a building permit or an equivalent permit for any of the specified structures intended to be used by a person until the rebuilding or repair of an affected property is complete.

AB 822 (Elhawary D) Commission on the State of Hate.

Status: Chapter Number 714, 2025

Summary: Current law establishes the Commission on the State of Hate in the state government, and specifies the goals of the commission, including providing resources and assistance to various state agencies, law enforcement agencies, and the public on the state of hate to keep these entities and the public informed of emerging trends in hate-related crime. Current law requires the commission to, among other things, issue an Annual State of Hate Commission Report to the Governor and the Legislature, as specified. Current law repeals these provisions on January 1, 2027. This bill would extend the repeal date until January 1, 2031, and would make conforming changes.

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

Status: Chapter Number 382, 2025

Summary: This bill would require, until January 1, 2031, the State Fire Marshal, in consultation with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health, to develop a working group with specified membership to make recommendations regarding personal protective equipment used in responding to lithium-ion battery fires. The bill would require, at a minimum, the working group to review, and for the purpose of making the recommendations to consider, the latest personal protective equipment to limit exposure to lithium and other heavy metals, technology to clean personal protective equipment, whether different types of personal protective equipment should be used for different types of lithium-ion battery fires, and current decontamination practices at the fire scene, as specified.

AB 845 (Arambula D) Employment: complaints: agricultural employees.

Status: Chapter Number 624, 2025

Summary: This bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require the Agricultural Labor Relations Board, Department of Industrial Relations, Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, or Division of Occupational Safety and Health, upon intake of a complaint from an agricultural employee by any department, division, or board within the Labor and Workforce Development Agency, to collaborate with each other and take all reasonable efforts to transmit the complaint to the appropriate entity for processing and investigation.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, special district, or other local agency to submit to the Department of Fish and Wildlife a wildfire preparedness plan to conduct wildfire preparedness activities on land designated as a fire hazard severity zone, as defined, that minimizes impacts to wildlife and habitat for candidate, threatened, and endangered species. The bill would require the wildfire preparedness plan to include, among

other things, a brief description of the planned wildfire preparedness activities, the approximate dates for the activities, and a description of the candidate, endangered, and threatened species within the plan area. The bill would require the department to impose a fee on a local agency for the cost of reviewing a wildfire preparedness plan submitted by that local agency, as specified. The bill would require the department, if sufficient information is included in the wildfire preparedness plan for the department to determine if an incidental take permit is required, to notify the local agency within 90 days of receipt of the wildfire preparedness plan if an incidental take permit or other state permit is needed, or if there are other considerations, exemptions, or streamlined pathways that the wildfire preparedness activities qualify for, including, but not limited to, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's California Vegetation Treatment Program.

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

Status: Chapter Number 535, 2025

Summary: January 7, 2025, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura due to fire and windstorm conditions that caused multiple fires. Executive Order No. N-7-25, signed by the Governor on January 14, 2025, prohibited a buyer from making an unsolicited offer to an owner of real property located in specified ZIP Codes in the County of Los Angeles to purchase the real property for an amount less than the fair market value of the property as of January 6, 2025. This bill would prohibit a person, as defined, from making an unsolicited offer to purchase residential real property in certain ZIP Codes in the County of Los Angeles covered by the above-described executive orders and other specified ZIP Codes in the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura. The bill would require the buyer and seller, before the transfer of title in the purchase of residential real property subject to the above-described prohibition, to execute a written attestation affirming compliance with that prohibition, which, if signed, would create a presumption that the accepted offer was solicited by the seller, as specified. The bill would require the buyer to record the signed attestation as an attachment to the deed or other conveyance of title when recording the transfer of title, as specified. Because the bill would expand the crime of perjury, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

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

Status: Chapter Number 536, 2025

Summary: Would establish the California Safe Homes grant program to be developed by the Department of Insurance to reduce local and statewide wildfire losses, among other things. The bill would require the department to prioritize specified needs when awarding grant funds, and would require eligible program applicants, which would include individuals, cities, counties, and special districts, to meet specified criteria. The bill would establish the Sustainable Insurance Account within the Insurance Fund and would make the funds available to the department for the program upon appropriation by the Legislature or upon receipt of federal or other grants or funds. The bill would require the department to collect specified information about the performance of the program and, on or before January 1, 2027, and every 2 years thereafter, to publish a performance report that would be posted to its internet website and submitted to the Legislature.

AB 925 (Addis D) Mobilehome parks: emergency preparedness.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Mobilehome Parks Act generally regulates various classifications of mobilehome and related vehicle parks and imposes enforcement duties on the Department of Housing and Community Development (department) and local enforcement agencies. Current law makes it unlawful to operate a park without a valid permit issued by the enforcement agency. In this connection, current law requires payment of an annual fee of \$4 per lot at the time of payment of the annual operating permit fee that is used exclusively by the department or local enforcement agency for the inspection of mobilehome parks and mobilehomes to determine compliance with the act. This bill would increase the per-lot fee to \$10 until January 1, 2030.

AB 944 (Macedo R) State government: emergency services: nonprofit service providers.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would authorize a nonprofit entity that provides services pursuant to a contract with a state agency, during a state of war emergency or a state of emergency, to request the state agency to allow that nonprofit to modify the method in which it provides those services so long as the purpose of the contract is served. The bill would prohibit the nonprofit entity from exceeding the contract budget unless the nonprofit entity and the state agency enter into an agreement for modification. The bill would require the state agency and the nonprofit entity, if the state agency agrees to that modification, to prepare and sign an addendum to the contract establishing the terms and conditions of the modification.

AB 1003 (Calderon D) Public health: emergency plans and wildfire research.

Status: Chapter Number 537, 2025

Summary: Current law requires the State Department of Public Health to develop a plan with recommendations and guidelines for counties to use in the case of a significant air quality event, as defined, caused by wildfires or other sources, including establishing policies and procedures that address respiratory protection and other protective equipment and devices and providing information to residents on what they should do if the air quality index hits a significant threshold. This bill would require the department's plan to be completed on or before June 30, 2027, posted on the department's internet website within 7 days of completion, and distributed within 14 days of completion to specified local and state entities and officers. The bill would require the county-specific plan to incorporate a process to conduct outreach and communicate to the public and with key stakeholders specified information about the plan. The bill would require, after a county-specific plan or a regional multicounty plan is approved by the county's board of supervisors, a copy of the plan to be distributed to specified local officers and to the local and state public health directors.

AB 1010 (Rodriguez, Michelle D) Local government: broadband: traffic control requirements: state standard.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly: In print – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current law authorizes any municipal corporation to acquire, construct, own, operate, or lease any public utility, and provides that "public utility" for these purposes means to supply the inhabitants of that municipal corporation with specified services,

including a means of communication. Current law similarly authorizes a municipal utility district and a public utility district to acquire, construct, own, operate, control, or use works for supplying the inhabitants of the district with specified services, including a means of communication. Current law authorizes a county service area to acquire, construct, improve, maintain, and operate broadband internet access services. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation to implement a state standard of traffic control requirements for local governments during broadband deployment.

AB 1020 (Schiavo D) Public utilities: energy: taxpayer funding: reporting.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require each utility, defined as an investor-owned electrical corporation or gas corporation, to report certain information for any taxpayer funding, as defined, greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 that the utility has applied for or received. The bill would require the Public Utilities Commission, for each application in which a utility is seeking ratepayer funding, to require the utility to report all relevant taxpayer funding greater than or equal to \$1,000,000 that the utility is pursuing or has secured, and, if the commission determines that a utility is not in compliance with that requirement, the bill would authorize the commission to impose a penalty against the utility, as specified. The bill would require the commission to require each utility to promptly deliver to ratepayers the financial benefits of taxpayer funding received, as provided.

AB 1039 (Hart D) State-funded assistance grants and contracts: advance payments.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Appropriations Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would limit the requirement to prioritize recipient entities and projects to grants and contracts advertised before January 1, 2026. The bill would eliminate the requirement to stipulate an advance payment structure and request process, and, instead, would require the administering agency to consider utilizing specified advance payment best practices and processes. The bill would limit the above-described federally insured account requirement to apply only to grants and contracts in excess of \$10,000.

<u>AB 1057</u> (<u>Rodriguez, Michelle</u> D) Personal Income Tax Law: exclusions: first responders: overtime pay.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2030, exclude from the gross income of a qualified taxpayer, as defined, qualified overtime wages, defined to mean overtime wages paid to a qualified taxpayer in relation to work performed directly in response to, or in support of, emergency operations, as specified.

AB 1068 (Bains D) Emergency services available during natural disasters.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** No later than July 1, 2026, this bill would require the Secretary of the California Department of Aging in the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS), in coordination with various state departments, offices, and other entities, as specified, to develop a working group to make recommendations regarding the evacuation and sheltering needs of older adults and persons with disabilities living in long-term care facilities during natural, technological, or manmade disasters and emergencies. The bill would require

the Secretary of CalHHS to submit the recommendations no later than July 1, 2027, and would repeal that requirement on January 1, 2030.

AB 1069 (Bains D) Older adults: emergency shelters.

Status: Chapter Number 445, 2025

Summary: This bill would, as part of disaster planning and response, require a representative of the county welfare director, in coordination with the lead local agency designated with sheltering support duties under the State Emergency Plan Emergency Support Functions, to initiate a memorandum of understanding with an area agencies on aging (AAA), an ILC, or an Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) program to allow access by the AAA, the ILC, or the ADRC program to an emergency shelter, as defined, established for evacuation purposes during an active event, in order to ensure that older adults and persons with disabilities receive continuous services and necessary support. By creating new duties for local officials, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

AB 1124 (Bains D) Personal Income Tax Law: exclusions: first responders: overtime pay.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Personal Income Tax Law, in modified conformity with federal law, generally defines "gross income" as income from whatever source derived, except as specifically excluded, and provides various exclusions from gross income for purposes of computing tax liability. This bill would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2025, and before January 1, 2030, exclude from the gross income of a qualified taxpayer, as defined, for qualified overtime wages, defined to mean overtime wages paid to a qualified taxpayer in relation to work performed directly in response to, or in support of, emergency operations, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

AB 1132 (Schiavo D) Department of Transportation: climate change vulnerability assessment: community resilience assessment.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Department of Transportation, on or before January 1, 2029, to identify key community resilience indicators for measuring the impacts of climate-induced transportation disruptions, as specified. The bill would also require the department, on or before January 1, 2030, to include in the Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment reports an evaluation of the broader social and economic impacts on communities connected to the evaluated infrastructure risks, as specified.

AB 1181 (Haney D) Firefighters: personal protective equipment.

Status: Chapter Number 392, 2025

Summary: This bill would require the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board to consider modifying its existing safety order regarding firefighter personal protective equipment by January 1, 2028, to address National Fire Protection Association performance standards for PPE that are not relevant or applicable to how firefighters utilize their PPE and that result in the use of perfluoroalkyl and polyfluoroalkyl substances, fluoropolymers, flame retardants, and other hazardous substances in firefighting personal protective garments and auxiliary firefighting PPE, as provided. The bill would also require, by July 1, 2026, the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to report on progress toward implementation of the

modified PPE safety standards, as provided. The bill would also make related findings and declarations.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Under the authority of the California Emergency Services Act, on March 1, 2025, Governor Gavin Newsom issued a proclamation of a state of emergency that suspends applicable state statutes, rules, regulations, and requirements that fall within the jurisdiction of boards, departments, and offices within the California Environmental Protection Agency or the Natural Resources Agency to the extent necessary for expediting critical fuels reduction projects, as provided. The proclamation requires an individual or entity desiring to conduct a critical fuels reduction project to request the secretary of the appropriate agency to make a determination that the proposed project is eligible for the suspension and requires the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency to maintain on their respective internet website a list of all suspensions approved. This bill would, on or before January 31, 2026, require the California Environmental Protection Agency and the Natural Resources Agency to each report to the Legislature information on the implementation of the above-described proclamation of emergency, as provided.

AB 1242 (Nguyen D) Language access.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill Summary: The Dymally-Alatorre Bilingual Services Act requires every state agency directly involved in the furnishing of information or the rendering of services to the public where contact is made with a substantial number of non-English-speaking people to employ a sufficient number of qualified bilingual persons in public contact positions to ensure provision of information and services to the public in the language of the non-English-speaking person, except as specified. The act requires every state agency that serves a substantial number of non-English-speaking people and provides materials in English explaining services to also provide the same type of materials in any non-English language spoken by a substantial number of the public served by the agency, as specified. The act defines "substantial number of non-English-speaking people" to mean members of a group who either do not speak English or who are unable to effectively communicate in English because it is not their native language and who comprise 5% or more of the people served by the state agency, as specified. This bill would revise the definition of "substantial number of non-Englishspeaking people" to include the higher of either the people served by or eligible to be served by the state agency and would make related conforming changes to the act.

AB 1427 (Calderon D) Consumer credit report: sale of property: natural disasters.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Judiciary Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill would prohibit a consumer credit reporting agency from making a consumer credit report containing information about the sale of property that is located in an area where the Governor has proclaimed a state of emergency due to a natural disaster, and the property is rendered uninhabitable as a result of the natural disaster. The bill would prohibit a person who uses a consumer credit report in connection with a credit transaction from using the sale of an aforementioned property listed on the report as a negative factor when making a credit decision.

AB 1452 (Ta R) State mandates: claims.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Local Government Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The California Constitution, whenever the Legislature or a state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, including school districts, requires the state to provide a subvention of funds to reimburse the local government, unless an exception applies. Statutory provisions that establish procedures for making that reimbursement include a requirement that no claim shall be made or paid unless it exceeds \$1,000. This bill would change the minimum claim amount to \$800.

AB 1455 (Bryan D) State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection: defensible space requirements: ember-resistant zones: emergency regulations: California Environmental Quality Act.

Status: Chapter Number 731, 2025

Summary: This bill would revise and recast the defensible space requirements applicable to a very high fire hazard severity zone as designated by a local agency by explicitly requiring the state board to adopt regulations to implement defensible space requirements. The bill would authorize local agencies responsible for fire protection to designate, by ordinance, defensible space requirements based on the defensible space regulations promulgated by the state board, as provided, and would authorize the local agency to consider local variations in local fire hazards, geography, development, and other conditions and authorize alternative practices to those in the state board regulations, if the alternative practices provide for substantially similar practical effects as those stated in the state board regulations. The bill would establish that a property owner, as defined, in compliance with the applicable alternative practices adopted by the local agency, shall not be deemed to have violated the defensible space requirements adopted by the state board, as provided. To the extent that this expands the duties of a local agency, the bill would impose a statemandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File - 2 Year Bill **Summary:** CEQA authorizes the preparation and certification of an EIR for a program, plan, policy, or ordinance, commonly known as a "program EIR," and requires a lead agency to examine later activities in the program in light of the program EIR to determine whether an additional environmental document is required to be prepared. This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2027, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to update the California Vegetation Treatment Program Final Program Environmental Impact Report (FPEIR) to, among other things, expand the area that is treatable landscape under the FPEIR to portions of the state suitable for vegetation treatment consistent with the FPEIR, regardless of fire suppression responsibility designation, and recognize cultural burning conducted pursuant to a specified law as a covered treatment activity. The bill would authorize a public agency to partner with a federally recognized California Native American tribe to conduct a project under the FPEIR in the agency's jurisdiction.

AB 1457 (Bryan D) Wildfires: training: defensible space: inspections.

Status: In Senate. Held at Desk. – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Existing law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, until January 1, 2026, to establish a statewide program to allow certain persons and entities that have completed specific training developed by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection for these purposes to support and augment the department in its defensible space and home hardening assessment and education efforts. Existing law requires the director to establish a common reporting platform that allows defensible space and home hardening assessment data collected by those persons and entities to be reported to the department and authorizes the department to use that data to direct its inspection and enforcement resources and for other specified purposes. This bill would extend the program described above indefinitely. It would require training, beginning July 1, 2026, that is consistent with the "Home Ignition Zone/Defensible Space Inspector" course plan established by the State Fire Marshal, to ensure that individuals are trained to conduct home ignition zone inspections.

AB 1467 (Hoover R) Residential property insurance: tree fire risks.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Insurance Committee - 2 Year Bill

Summary: Existing law generally regulates classes of insurance, including residential fire and property insurance. Existing law defines the measure of indemnity for a loss under a property insurance policy. Existing law requires a person who controls a building or structure in, upon, or adjoining a specified wildfire-prone area to, among other things, maintain 100 feet of defensible space around the structure. This bill would exempt a residential property insurance policyholder from state and local laws, ordinances, fees, and fines associated with the removal of a tree if their insurer identifies the tree as a fire risk and the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection confirms that the tree is a fire risk.

AB 1471 (Soria D) Resource and referral agencies.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill Summary: Current law establishes childcare resource and referral programs to serve a defined geographic area and provide prescribed services. Among the services provided by these programs is the establishment of a referral process that responds to parental need for information and that makes referrals to licensed child daycare facilities, as specified. Current law requires federal funds allocated to local childcare resource and referral agencies to support their continued participation in COVID-19 relief and recovery to be used to strengthen their role in serving as intermediaries to develop new, and support existing, childcare facilities and capacity, and to streamline and improve data collection processes, as specified. This bill would repeal that provision and instead require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, local childcare resource and referral agencies to take specified actions relating to assisting childcare providers during a disaster, including, among others, implementing certain roles and responsibilities assigned to them in specified disaster plans. The bill would also require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, the California Child Care Resource and Referral Network to implement the roles and responsibilities assigned to it in those disaster plans.

ABX1 1 (Gabriel D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: From committee without further action. - DEAD

Summary: Would amend the Budget Act of 2024 by making changes to existing appropriations, as provided. This bill contains other related provisions.

ABX1 2 (Gabriel D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: From committee without further action. - DEAD

Summary: Would amend the Budget Act of 2024 by making changes to existing appropriations, as provided. This bill would declare that it is to take effect immediately as a Budget Bill.

<u>ABX1 10</u> (<u>Macedo</u> R) State government: emergency services: nonprofit service providers.

Status: Died at Desk.

Summary: This bill would authorize a nonprofit entity that provides services pursuant to a contract with a state agency, during a state of war emergency or a state of emergency, to request the state agency to allow that nonprofit to modify the method in which it provides those services so long as the purpose of the contract is served. The bill would prohibit the nonprofit entity from exceeding the contract budget unless the nonprofit entity and the state agency enter into an agreement for modification. The bill would require the state agency and the nonprofit entity, if the state agency agrees to that modification, to prepare and sign an addendum to the contract establishing the terms and conditions of the modification.

<u>AJR 11</u> (<u>Ransom</u> D) Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program: federal funding cuts.

Status: Chapter Number 84, 2025

Summary: Would urge the President of the United States and the Congress of the United States to immediately restore full funding for the Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities program.

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Senate Bills

SB 10 (Padilla D) Otay Mesa East Toll Facility Act: toll revenues.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Transportation Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current law authorizes the San Diego Association of Governments (SANDAG) to fix and revise from time to time and charge and collect tolls and other charges for entrance to or the use of the corridor, as provided. Current law authorizes toll revenues to be used for specified costs, including, among other things, payments of a cooperative tolling agreement with the federal government of Mexico. This bill would, consistent with applicable federal and state laws, authorize those toll revenues to additionally be used to assist in the maintenance of the South Bay International Boundary and Water Commission sewage treatment facility and the development of additional sanitation infrastructure projects related to the Tijuana River pursuant to an agreement with the federal government.

<u>SB 12</u> (<u>Gonzalez</u> D) State government: Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency: Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would establish the Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency as an agency within state government, to be headed by a secretary who is appointed by the Governor and subject to Senate confirmation. The bill would specify that the purpose of the agency is to enhance and reduce obstacles to immigrant and refugee inclusion into the social, cultural, economic, and civic life of the state. The bill would authorize the secretary to, among other things, assist other state agencies in evaluating their programs for accessibility and effectiveness in providing services to immigrants and refugees, and recommend policy and budget mechanisms for meeting immigrant and refugee inclusion.

SB 13 (Grove R) Oil and gas.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would express the intent of the Legislature that the Energy Commission monitor foreign countries that export oil to California and identify on its website which of those countries have demonstrated human rights abuses, as documented by the United States Department of State, and which of those countries have lower environmental standards for the production of oil than California.

SB 19 (Rubio D) Crimes: threats.

Status: Chapter Number 594, 2025

Summary: This bill would make it a crime for a person to willfully threaten, by any means, including, but not limited to, an image or threat posted or published on an internet web page, to commit a crime at specified locations, including a daycare and workplace, with specific intent that the statement is be taken as a threat, even if there is no intent of actually carrying it out, if the threat, on its face and under the circumstances in which it is made is so unequivocal, unconditional, immediate, and specific as to convey to the person or persons threatened a gravity of purpose and an immediate prospect of execution of the threat, and if the threat causes a person or person to reasonably be in sustained fear for their own safety or the safety of others at the specified locations.

SB 65 (Wiener D) Budget Act of 2025.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would make appropriations for the support of state government for the 2025–26 fiscal year.

SB 69 (McNerney D) Artificial intelligence program: Attorney General.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require the Attorney General to establish and maintain a specified program to build internal expertise in artificial intelligence, including its applications, risks, regulatory implications, and civil rights impacts. The bill would require, on or before July 1, 2027, and annually thereafter, the Attorney General to submit a public report to the Legislature describing the program, key developments in artificial intelligence law and policy, and recommendations for additional state oversight or safeguards.

SB 70 (Seyarto R) Public contracts: Small Business Procurement and Contract Act.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Small Business Procurement and Contract Act permits a state agency or the California State University to award a contract for goods, services, or information technology with an estimated value between \$5,000 and \$250,000 to a certified small business, including a microbusiness and a disabled veteran business enterprise, without complying with specified competitive bidding requirements. This bill would increase the maximum estimated value of a contract for goods, services, or information technology awarded pursuant to the act from \$250,000 to \$350,000.

SB 222 (Wiener D) Climate disasters: civil actions.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Judiciary Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill would authorize a person who suffered physical harm to their person or property totaling at least \$10,000 to bring a civil action against a party responsible for a climate disaster to recover damages, restitution, specified costs, and other appropriate relief. The bill would make responsible parties jointly, severally, and strictly liable to a plaintiff for damages and restitution.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill, the Wildfire Smoke and Health Outcomes Data Act, would require the State Department of Public Health, in consultation with the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, to create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated wildfire smoke and health data platform on or before July 1, 2028, that, among other things, would integrate wildfire smoke and health data from multiple databases. Under the bill, the purposes for the data platform would include providing adequate information to understand the negative health impacts on California's population caused by wildfire smoke and evaluating the effectiveness of investments in forest health and wildfire mitigation on health outcomes in California.

SB 238 (Smallwood-Cuevas D) Workplace surveillance tools.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Privacy and Consumer Protection Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would require an employer to annually provide a notice to the Department of Industrial Relations of all the workplace surveillance tools the employer is using in the workplace. The bill would require the notice to include, among other information, the personal information that will be collected from workers and consumers and whether they will have the option of opting out of the collection of personal information. The bill would require the department to make the notice publicly available on the department's internet website within 30 days of receiving the notice. The bill would define "employer" to include, among other entities, public employers, as specified.

SB 254 (Becker D) Energy.

Status: Chapter Number 119, 2025

Summary: The Bergeson-Peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Act, establishes the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (I-Bank) within GO-

Biz, under the direction of an executive director and governed by, and its corporate power exercised by, a board of directors (bank board). Current law, among other things, authorizes the bank to make loans, issue bonds, and provide financial assistance for various types of projects that qualify as economic development or public development facilities, as provided. Current law prohibits the financing of economic development facilities unless the bank determines that the financing or assistance meets specified public interest criteria. The Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024, approved by the voters as Proposition 4 at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election, authorizes the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$10,000,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate-smart, sustainable, and resilient farms, ranches, and working lands, park creation and outdoor access, and clean air programs. Current law makes \$850,000,000 of that amount available, upon appropriation of the Legislature, for clean energy projects, as provided. This bill would deem the financing of projects related to the clean energy projects funded by the bond act, as described above, to be in the public interest and eligible for financing by the I-Bank or by a special purpose trust established pursuant to the bank act and would, except as specified, require that any such financing be treated as financing of an economic development facility for purposes of the bank act. The bill would authorize the I-Bank to provide any form of financial assistance, including issuing bonds, as provided.

SB 260 (Wahab D) Unmanned aircraft.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Assembly Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill would make it an infraction to intentionally or knowingly operate an unmanned aircraft over or to come within either a specified distance or a distance that would interfere with the operations of a critical infrastructure facility, as defined, with specified exceptions, including that the operator is a governmental entity acting in their capacity as a regulator or the operator has the written consent of the owner or operator of the facility. The bill would make it an infraction to intentionally or knowingly operate an unmanned aircraft over or to come within either a specified distance or a distance that would interfere with the operations of specified property in the City of Sacramento in which the State Capitol is located, with specified exceptions, including if a person is acting with the express authorization of the Joint Rules Committee of the Legislature, and would require the Joint Rules Committee to establish related policies in consultation with the Department of the California Highway Patrol. By creating new crimes, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

<u>SB 283</u> (<u>Laird</u> D) Energy storage systems.

Status: Chapter Number 407, 2025

Summary: This bill would require that an application submitted to the Energy Commission after January 1, 2026, in accordance with provisions relating to certification of facilities by the Energy Commission, and an application submitted to a local jurisdiction, as defined, for an energy storage system, include the applicant's certification that at least 30 days before submitting the application, the applicant met and conferred with the authority that has jurisdiction over fire suppression in the area where the energy storage system is proposed, as

provided. The bill would also prohibit the approval of those applications unless the local jurisdiction requires, as a condition of approval, that after installation is complete, but before commencing operations or use of the batteries, the energy storage system is inspected by the authority that has jurisdiction over fire suppression, and that the applicant bear the cost of the inspection, as specified. The bill would require, as part of the next update to the California Building Standards Code considered after July 1, 2026, the Office of the State Fire Marshal to review and consider proposing provisions that restrict the location of energy storage systems to dedicated-use noncombustible buildings or outdoor installations, as provided. By imposing additional duties on local officers, the bill would impose a statemandated local program.

<u>SB 293</u> (<u>Pérez</u> D) Real property tax: transfer of base year value: generational transfers: wildfire.

Status: Chapter Number 539, 2025

Summary: The California Constitution generally limits ad valorem taxes on real property to 1% of the full cash value of that property, defined as the county assessor's valuation of real property as shown on the 1975–76 tax bill and, thereafter, the appraised value of the property when purchased, newly constructed, or a change in ownership occurs after the 1975 assessment, subject to an annual inflation adjustment not to exceed 2%. Current property tax law provides that the purchase or transfer of the principal residence, and the first \$1,000,000 of other real property, of a transferor in the case of a transfer between parents and their children, or between grandparents and their grandchildren if all the parents of those grandchildren are deceased, is not a "purchase" or "change in ownership" for purposes of determining the "full cash value" of property for taxation. The California Constitution, pursuant to Proposition 19, adopted by the voters at the November 3, 2020, general election, beginning on and after February 16, 2021, excludes from the terms "purchase" and "change in ownership," for purposes of determining the "full cash value" of property, the purchase or transfer of a family home or family farm, as those terms are defined, of the transferor in the case of a transfer between parents and their children, or between grandparents and their grandchildren if all the parents of those grandchildren are deceased, as specified. Current law requires a filing to be made with regard to a transfer that is eligible for the above-referenced exclusions, and sets various deadlines, including a requirement to file six months after the date of mailing of a notice of supplemental or escape assessment, issued as a result of the purchase or transfer of real property for which the claim is filed. This bill would require a filing for a transfer that is eligible for the abovereferenced exclusions to be treated as timely if the filing is made within three years of the date of mailing of a notice of supplemental or escape assessment if specified requirements are met, including a requirement that the assessor reassesses the property as a result of that property being damaged or destroyed by the 2025 Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Lidia Fire, Sunset Fire, or Woodley Fire, for which the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency.

<u>SB 345</u> (<u>Hurtado</u> D) California Fire Service Training and Education Program: California Fire and Arson Training Act: fees.

Status: Chapter Number 312, 2025

Summary: This bill would authorize the State Fire Marshal to establish and collect the admission fees and other fees associated with the California Fire Service Training and

Education Program, and to establish the fees to implement the California Fire and Arson Training Act, only to the extent that state appropriations and other funding sources are insufficient to cover the necessary costs of the activities eligible to be paid from those fees.

SB 365 (Alvarado-Gil R) Fire insurance: reporting on cancellation and nonrenewal.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Insurance Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current law prohibits an insurer from canceling or refusing to renew a policy of residential property insurance for a property located in a ZIP Code within or adjacent to a fire perimeter for one year after the declaration of a state of emergency, if the cancellation or nonrenewal is based solely on the fact that the insured structure is located in an area in which a wildfire has occurred. This bill would require the Department of Insurance, on or before January 1, 2027, and on or before each January 1 thereafter, to report specified information to the Legislature on the effect the above-described one-year prohibition against cancellation or nonrenewal has had in ZIP Codes subject to the prohibition.

SB 368 (Smallwood-Cuevas D) Price gouging.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Under current law, upon the proclamation of a state of emergency by the President of the United States or the Governor, or upon the declaration of a local emergency by the executive officer of any county, city, or city and county, and for 30 days or 180 days, as specified, following the proclamation or declaration of emergency, it is a misdemeanor for a person, contractor, business, or other entity to sell or offer to sell certain goods or services for a price of more than 10% greater than the price charged by that person immediately prior to the proclamation or declaration of emergency. This bill would require the Department of Justice and local prosecutors to establish partnerships to enforce those provisions.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee – 2 Year Bill Summary: This bill would authorize a city, county, city and county, special district, or other local agency to submit to the Department of Fish and Wildlife a wildfire preparedness plan to conduct wildfire preparedness activities on land designated as a fire hazard severity zone, as defined, that minimizes impacts to wildlife and habitat for candidate, threatened, and endangered species. The bill would require the wildfire preparedness plan to include, among other things, a brief description of the planned wildfire preparedness activities, the approximate dates for the activities, and a description of the candidate, endangered, and threatened species within the plan area. The bill would require the department, if sufficient information is included in the wildfire preparedness plan for the department to determine if an incidental take permit is required, to notify the local agency within 90 days of receipt of the wildfire preparedness plan if an incidental take permit or other permit is needed, or if there are other considerations, exemptions, or streamlined pathways that the wildfire preparedness activities qualify for, including, but not limited to, the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection's California Vegetation Treatment Program. The bill would require the department to provide the local agency, in its notification, with guidance that includes, among other things, a description of the candidate, endangered, and threatened species

within the plan area and measures to avoid, minimize, and fully mitigate the take of the candidate, threatened, and endangered species, as provided. The bill would require the department, on or before July 1, 2026, to make a standard wildfire preparedness plan submission form publicly available on its internet website. The bill also would require the department, commencing January 1, 2027, to annually post on its internet website a summary of the wildfire preparedness plans submitted and include specified information in that summary.

SB 426 (Alvarado-Gil R) California Environmental Quality Act: defensible space.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Environmental Quality Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The California Environmental Quality Act requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. Current law requires a person who owns, leases, controls, operates, or maintains specified structures within certain areas to maintain a defensible space around the structures meeting certain requirements. This bill would exempt from CEQA projects undertaken or approved by a public agency for purposes of maintaining defensible space to comply with the above requirements.

SB 470 (Laird D) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

Status: Chapter Number 222, 2025

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

SB 488 (Limón D) Safety element: local hazard mitigation plan.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Rules Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law requires the legislative body of a city or county to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan that includes various elements, including, among others, a safety element for the protection of the community from specified risks. Current law authorizes a city or county to adopt within the safety element a local hazard mitigation plan, and requires that plan to meet specified requirements set out in the federal Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000. This bill would make non-substantive changes in the provision that authorizes a city or county to adopt a local hazard mitigation plan.

SB 495 (Allen D) Insurance.

Status: Chapter Number 542, 2025

Summary: This bill would require, on or before March 1, 2026, and on or before March 1 every year thereafter, an admitted insurer in a group with written premiums in the prior year from specified lines of insurance totaling \$50,000,000 to submit a report to the Insurance Commissioner that includes data and information necessary to understand its reinsurance program placement data and use of probabilistic catastrophic models for the previous year. The bill would require the report to include data from the latest available reinsurance treaty year. The bill would require the insurer to promptly respond to inquiries from the commissioner upon submission of the report. The bill would require the commissioner to post to the department's internet website an aggregated report of the data in the report from insurers. The bill would require all other information submitted to the commissioner under these provisions be confidential, among other things, and exempt from the California Public Records Act.

SB 501 (Allen D) Household Hazardous Waste Producer Responsibility Act.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act establishes a producer responsibility program designed to ensure that producers of single-use packaging and food service ware covered by that program take responsibility for the costs associated with the end-of-life management of that material and ensure that the material is recyclable or compostable. This bill would create a producer responsibility program for products containing household hazardous waste and would require a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to ensure the safe and convenient collection and management of covered products at no cost to consumers or local governments. The bill would define "covered product" to mean a consumer product that is ignitable, toxic, corrosive, or reactive, or that meets other specified criteria, except as specified.

<u>SB 514</u> (<u>Cabaldon</u> D) Wildfire prevention: qualified entities: assessments: California Fire Service Training and Education Program Act.

Status: Chapter Number 767, 2025

Summary: Current law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, until January 1, 2026, to establish a statewide program to allow qualified entities, as defined, who have completed a specific training program developed and administered by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to support and augment the department in its defensible space and home hardening assessment and education efforts. Current law authorizes these qualified entities to, among other things, assess compliance with defensible space requirements applicable to the state responsibility area. Current law requires the director to establish a common reporting platform that allows defensible space and home hardening assessment data, collected by qualifying entities, to be reported to the department, and authorizes the director to use this data for specified reasons. This bill would revise and recast these provisions by, among other things, indefinitely extending the operative date of both the above-described statewide program and the associated training program for qualified entities. The bill would add nonprofit entities focused on wildfire resiliency to the list of qualified entities. The bill would authorize qualified entities to additionally assess compliance

with defensible space requirements applicable to local responsibility areas, as provided. The bill would require specified data obtained voluntarily from property owners for purposes of the common reporting platform to be anonymized and kept confidential if requested by the property owner, and would prohibit that data from being used for compliance or enforcement purposes associated with ordinances that directly relate to defensible space and home hardening inspections unless specifically requested by the property owner.

SB 523 (Seyarto R) California Earthquake Authority: commission.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Insurance Committee - 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill would require the California Earthquake Authority (CEA) to establish a commission, to convene no later than April 1, 2026, to consider expanding the authority. The bill would require the commission to be composed of the board members or their designees. The bill would also require the commission to explore specified topics, including financial estimates for statewide earthquake threats. The bill would require the commission to conclude its work no later than April 1, 2027, and to submit a report to the Legislature no later than June 1, 2027, on the feasibility of creating a disaster insurance program in California. The bill would repeal these provisions on June 1, 2031.

SB 524 (Arreguín D) Law enforcement agencies: artificial intelligence.

Status: Chapter Number 587, 2025

Summary: This bill would require each law enforcement agency to maintain a policy to require an official report prepared by a law enforcement officer or any member of a law enforcement agency that is generated using artificial intelligence either fully or partially to include specified information, including a disclosure statement and the signature of the law enforcement officer or member of a law enforcement agency who prepared the official report, as specified. If an officer or any member of an agency uses artificial intelligence to create an official report, the bill would require the first draft created to be retained for as long as the official report is retained. The bill would, except for the official report, prohibit a draft of any report created with the use of artificial intelligence from constituting an officer's statement. The bill would require an agency utilizing artificial intelligence to generate a first draft or official report to maintain an audit trail that identifies, at a minimum, certain things, including the person who used artificial intelligence to create a report.

SB 547 (Pérez D) Commercial property insurance cancellation and nonrenewal.

Status: Chapter Number 544, 2025

Summary: Existing law generally regulates classes of insurance, including commercial property insurance. Existing law prohibits an insurer from canceling or refusing to renew a policy of residential property insurance for a property located in a ZIP Code within or adjacent to the fire perimeter for one year after the declaration of a state of emergency, if the cancellation or nonrenewal is based solely on the fact that the insured structure is located in an area in which a wildfire has occurred, except as specified. This bill would extend that prohibition against cancellation or nonrenewal and its exceptions to a policy of commercial property insurance, except as specified.

SB 571 (Archuleta D) Emergencies: crimes.

Status: Chapter Number 545, 2025

Summary: Current law defines looting as the commission of certain offenses during and within an affected county in a state of emergency or local emergency, as specified. Current law includes any 2nd-degree burglary or grand theft in the definition of looting and makes looting based on those offenses punishable by either imprisonment in a county jail for one year or as a felony. This bill would authorize the court to consider the fact, if pled and proven, that the defendant committed the crime of looting while impersonating emergency personnel as a factor in aggravation.

SB 581 (McGuire D) Department of Forestry and Fire Protection: employment: firefighters.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Floor - 2 Year Bill

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Human Resources, the State Personnel Board, and any other relevant state agency to take the necessary actions to transition the Firefighter I classification within CAL FIRE to a permanent firefighter employment classification.

SB 582 (Stern D) Health and care facilities: licensing during emergencies or disasters.

Status: Chapter Number 546, 2025

Summary: The Long-Term Care, Health, Safety, and Security Act of 1973 generally requires the State Department of Public Health to license, inspect, and regulate long-term health care facilities, including skilled nursing facilities. Current law makes it a misdemeanor for any person to willfully or repeatedly violate the act, as specified. Existing regulations require skilled nursing facilities to adopt and follow a written external disaster and mass casualty program plan developed with the advice and assistance of county or regional and local planning offices. This bill would require skilled nursing facilities to review the external disaster and mass casualty program plan at least once per year. The bill would require, in adopting and updating the plan, skilled nursing facilities to, among other things, seek input from county or regional and local planning offices, including the medical health operational area coordinator (MHOAC). By expanding the scope of an existing crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

<u>SB 625</u> (<u>Wahab</u> D) Housing developments: disasters: reconstruction of destroyed or damaged structures.

Status: Chapter Number 548, 2025

Summary: Current law makes any covenant, restriction, or condition contained in any deed, contract, security instrument, or other instrument affecting the transfer or sale of any interest in a planned development, and any provision of a governing document, that either effectively prohibits or unreasonably restricts the construction or use of an accessory dwelling unit or junior accessory dwelling unit on a lot zoned for single-family residential use, as specified, void and unenforceable. If the governing documents require association approval before a member may make a physical change to the member's separate interest or to the common area, current law requires an association to satisfy specified requirements, including to provide a fair, reasonable, and expeditious procedure for making its decision in reviewing and approving or disapproving a proposed physical change, as described above. This bill would make any covenant, restriction, or condition contained in any deed, contract,

security instrument, or other instrument, and any provision of a governing document, void and unenforceable to the extent that it prohibits, or includes conditions that have the effect of prohibiting, a substantially similar reconstruction of a residential structure, as specified, that was destroyed or damaged in a disaster, as defined.

<u>SB 653</u> (<u>Cortese</u> D) Wildfire prevention: environmentally sensitive vegetation management.

Status: Chapter Number 778, 2025

Summary: Current law requires the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, in accordance with policies established by the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection, to assist local governments in preventing future high-intensity wildland fires and instituting appropriate fuels management by making its wildland fire prevention and vegetation management expertise available to local governments, as provided. This bill would define an environmentally sensitive vegetation management project to mean vegetation management that reduces catastrophic wildfire risk over the long term while supporting native wildlife and biodiversity.

<u>SB 658</u> (<u>Pérez</u> D) Real property impacted by the 2025 Eaton or Palisades Fires: notification of owner's intent to sell.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File -2 Year Bill **Summary:** On January 7, 2025, the Governor proclaimed a state of emergency to exist in the Counties of Los Angeles and Ventura due to fire and windstorm conditions that caused multiple fires, including the Eaton and Palisades Fires. This bill would require the County of Los Angeles to develop a process for specified governmental or nonprofit organizations to notify the county of their interest in purchasing specified types of real property located within an area impacted by the Eaton or Palisades Fires. The bill would require the county to maintain on its internet website a list of the organizations that have provided the county with that notification. By imposing new duties on the County of Los Angeles, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would allow the owner of property subject to the bill's provisions to notify the County of Los Angeles or an organization on the county's list of the owner's intent to sell the property.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Current law requires the Director of Forestry and Fire Protection, until January 1, 2026, to establish a statewide program to allow qualifying entities to support and augment the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection in its defensible space and home hardening assessment and education efforts and requires the director to establish a common reporting platform that allows defensible space and home hardening assessment data, collected by qualifying entities, to be reported to the department, among other things. Current law requires the department, until January 1, 2026, to develop and implement a training program to train individuals to support and augment the department in its defensible and home hardening assessment and public education efforts. This bill would extend those programs to January 1, 2031.

SB 663 (Allen D) Winter Fires of 2025: real property tax: exemptions and reassessment.

Status: Chapter Number 549, 2025

Summary: The California Constitution generally limits ad valorem taxes on real property to 1% of the full cash value of that property. For purposes of this limitation, "full cash value" is defined as the assessor's valuation of real property as shown on the 1975–76 tax bill under "full cash value" or, thereafter, the appraised value of that real property when purchased, newly constructed, or a change in ownership has occurred. Current law defines "newly constructed" and "new construction" to mean any addition to real property since the last lien date and any alteration of land or of any improvement since the last lien date that constitutes a major rehabilitation thereof or that converts the property to a different use. Current law, where real property has been damaged or destroyed by misfortune or calamity, excludes from the definition of "newly constructed" and "new construction" any timely reconstruction of the real property, or portion thereof, where the property after reconstruction is substantially equivalent to the property prior to damage or destruction. Current law, pursuant to the authorization of the California Constitution, authorizes the transfer of the base year value of property that is substantially damaged or destroyed by a disaster, as declared by the Governor, to comparable replacement property within the same county that is acquired or newly constructed within 5 years after the disaster, as provided. This bill would extend the 5-year time period described above by 3 years if the property was substantially damaged or destroyed by the 2025 Palisades Fire, Eaton Fire, Hurst Fire, Lidia Fire, Sunset Fire, or Woodley Fire, or the 2024 Mountain Fire or Franklin Fire, on or after November 1, 2024, but before February 1, 2025.

SB 688 (Niello R) Office of Regulatory Counsel.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** This bill, until January 1, 2035, would establish the Office of Regulatory Counsel in state government within the Governor's office, under the direction and control of a director. The bill would require the director to be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation of the Senate and for the director's term to be coterminous with that of the appointing power, except as provided.

<u>SB 695</u> (<u>Cortese</u> D) Transportation: climate resiliency: projects of statewide and regional significance.

Status: Chapter Number 781, 2025

Summary: This bill would require the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the California Transportation Commission and the Transportation Agency, and on or before July 1, 2026, and annually thereafter, to create a prioritized list of projects of statewide and regional significance, as defined, to better prepare the state for extreme weather-related events, with priority based on specified criteria.

SB 700 (Grayson D) California Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program.

Status: Failed Deadline: Senate Local Government Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Existing law establishes the California Firefighter Cancer Prevention and Research Program, pursuant to which the Legislature requests the University of California, in consultation with the FIRESCOPE Program, to develop and administer a competitive grant program to award grants to eligible educational institutions to conduct research on the

California fire service using a community-based participatory research model in collaboration with California firefighters. Existing law requires research conducted by program grantees to include, but not be limited to, understanding biomarkers of exposure that quantify chemical carcinogens absorbed and metabolized by firefighters and studying biomarkers of effect that quantify cancer-promoting cellular changes that ultimately lead to a cancer diagnosis. This bill would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from preventing a firefighter or fire department from voluntarily participating in a study undertaken pursuant to the above-described provisions, including allowing access to facilities and the use of equipment for the purposes of the terms of the grant.

SB 715 (Allen D) Regional housing need: methodology: distribution.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Housing & Community Development Committee – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current law requires the council of governments, or delegate subregion as applicable, to develop a proposed methodology for distributing the existing and projected regional housing need to cities, counties, and cities and counties within the region or subregion, as applicable, that furthers specified objectives. Current law, to the extent that sufficient data is available as provided, requires each council of governments, or delegate subregion as applicable, to consider including specified factors to develop the methodology that allocates regional housing needs, including the loss of units during a state of emergency that was declared by the Governor that have yet to be rebuilt or replaced at the time of the analysis. This bill would remove the requirement that the loss of units factor be considered and instead require those lost units to be distributed proportionally according to the region's proposed methodology, as provided, and would prohibit the lost units from solely being distributed to the jurisdictions in which they were lost.

<u>SB 729</u> (<u>Limón</u> D) State of emergency: nonprofit liaison.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The California Emergency Services Act, among other things, creates the Office of Emergency Services (OES), which is responsible for the state's emergency and disaster response services, as specified. The OES is under the supervision of the Director of Emergency Services. During a state of war emergency, a state of emergency, or a local emergency, current law requires the director to coordinate the emergency activities of all state agencies in connection with that emergency. This bill would require certain state agencies to establish a nonprofit liaison for nonprofit organizations to contact during a state of emergency.

SB 739 (Arrequín D) Disaster CalFresh: county resources: status.

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Inactive File – 2 Year Bill

Summary: Current federal law, through Disaster SNAP, provides for short-term food assistance benefits to eligible households who are victims of a disaster that disrupts commercial channels of food distribution. Current state law requires the State Department of Social Services to identify the necessary elements of a county disaster plan, to issue guidance to county human services agencies, and to offer training on Disaster CalFresh, as specified. Existing law requires the department to provide to an affected county, upon request, support necessary for out-stationed application intake locations to support timely, adequate, and safe access to Disaster CalFresh during or following a disaster. Current law

also requires the department to maintain and make available to affected counties, free of charge, technology and equipment to support the mobile issuance of electronic benefit transfer (EBT) cards to recipients of Disaster CalFresh or replacement benefits. This bill would additionally require the department to inquire of the ability of each county facility that serves CalFresh participants in the impacted area to provide timely and adequate service. To the extent that the bill would create new duties for counties to provide Disaster CalFresh-related information to the department, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

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

Status: Failed Deadline: Assembly Natural Resources Committee – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** The California Coastal Act of 1976, which is administered by the California Coastal Commission, requires any person wishing to perform or undertake any development in the coastal zone, as defined, to obtain a coastal development permit from a local government or the commission. Current law exempts from that coastal development permitting process certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore existing highways, as provided. This bill would expand that exemption to include certain emergency projects undertaken, carried out, or approved by a public agency to maintain, repair, or restore existing railroad track along the Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor, as provided.

SB 746 (Alvarado-Gil R) Water: Urban Water Community Drought Relief program: Small Community Drought Relief program: high fire hazard and very high fire hazard severity zones. Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill Summary: This bill would establish in the Department of Water Resources the Urban Water Community Drought Relief program and the Small Community Drought Relief program to provide grants for similar interim or immediate drought relief. These programs, upon a specified appropriation, would authorize funding for benefits in addition to drought relief, including, among other projects, projects that reduce the risk of wildfire for entire neighborhoods and communities through water delivery system improvements for fire suppression purposes in high fire hazard severity zone communities or very high fire hazard severity zone communities or by a local agency.

<u>SB 767</u> (<u>Richardson</u> D) Energy: transportation fuels: supply: reportable pipelines.

Status: Chapter Number 657, 2025.

Summary: Current law requires major oil producers, refiners, marketers, oil transporters, oil storers, pipeline operators, and ports to annually submit certain information to the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission, as provided. This bill would require the commission to work with stakeholders to identify, on or before December 31, 2026, those pipelines that qualify as reportable pipelines, as defined. The bill would require, commencing March 30, 2027, and each month thereafter, the operators of reportable pipelines to submit specified information to the commission related to minimum and maximum operating volumes in a 24-hour period necessary to ensure safe operations, volume of crude oil delivered and number of hours in operation each day, and maximum nameplate capacity and available capacity, as provided.

SB 782 (Pérez D) Enhanced infrastructure financing district: climate resilience districts.

Status: Chapter Number 552, 2025

Summary: This bill would authorize a city or county to adopt a resolution providing for the division of taxes of any participating entity without following specified procedures for the preparation and adoption of an infrastructure financing plan, if certain conditions are met. The bill would require the city or county entity proposing formation of the district to hold a public meeting to consider the resolution of intention to establish the district and the governing board of the district to hold a public meeting to consider the adoption of the infrastructure financing plan. The bill would require the city and county entity and the governing board of the district to post specified notices prior to the respective meetings, as specified.

SB 814 (Rubio D) Homelessness.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Existing law requires the Governor to create a California Interagency Council on Homelessness for specified purposes, including to create partnerships among various entities, like participants in the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development's Continuum of Care Program, and to identify mainstream resources, benefits, and services that can be accessed to prevent and end homelessness in California. This bill would instead require the council to evaluate the above-described goals at least every year. This bill contains other existing laws.

SB 815 (Allen D) Planning and zoning: very high fire hazard areas.

Status: Failed Deadline: Held in Senate Appropriations Committee Suspense File – 2 Year Bill **Summary:** Existing law requires the planning agency to review and, if necessary, revise the safety element upon each revision of the housing element or local hazard mitigation plan, but not less than once every 8 years, to identify new information relating to flood and fire hazards and climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to the city or county that was not available during the previous revision of the safety element. Existing law requires that the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, among other things, coordinate with appropriate entities, including state, regional, or local agencies, to establish a clearinghouse for climate adaptation information for use by state, regional, and local entities, as provided. This bill would require the safety element, upon the next revision of the housing element or the hazard mitigation plan, on or after January 1, 2026, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to improve safety and reduce the risk of property loss and damage during wildfires, as specified, and would require the planning agency to submit the adopted strategy to the Office of Planning and Research for inclusion into the above-described clearinghouse.

SB 831 (Limón D) Geologic hazards: California Geological Survey.

Status: Chapter Number 236, 2025

Summary: Current law makes the California Geological Survey in the Department of Conservation the primary state agency responsible for review and investigation of geologic hazards, including, but not limited to, the strong motion aspects of earthquake and any geologic hazards that may occur in relation to natural disasters. This bill would expand the

duties of the department to review and investigate geologic hazards to specifically include geologic hazards that may occur in relation to climate change and make other related changes.

SBX1 1 (Wiener D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: Chapter Number 3, 2025

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2024–25 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2024 by making changes to existing appropriations, as provided.

SBX1 2 (Wiener D) Budget Act of 2024.

Status: Chapter Number 4, 2025

Summary: The Budget Act of 2024 made appropriations for the support of state government for the 2024–25 fiscal year. This bill would amend the Budget Act of 2024 by making changes to existing appropriations, as provided.

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Vetoed Bills

Assembly Bills

AB 689 (Rubio, Blanca D) Foster youth: disaster aid assistance.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 1, 2025.

Summary: The bill would establish the Child Welfare Disaster Response Account to fund the Child Welfare Disaster Response Program. The bill would require, upon appropriation by the Legislature, money in the Child Welfare Disaster Response Account to be used for purposes of the program and to support the needs of foster children and youth and their caregivers during a disaster. The bill would require the department to determine eligibility criteria for applicants and would authorize county child welfare agencies, county probation departments, or Indian tribes to apply for funds. The bill would require funds awarded pursuant to those provisions to be available to meet the housing, clothing, transportation, and other tangible needs of foster children and youth and their caregivers that occur within 180 days of a local emergency proclamation by a local government or a state of emergency proclamation by the Governor. The bill would authorize the department to implement, interpret, or make specific these provisions by means of all-county letters or similar written instructions.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 689 without my signature. This bill established a statewide Child Welfare Disaster Response Fund and a Child Welfare Disaster Response Program to support the needs of foster children and youth and their caregivers during a disaster. While I share the author's goal to support foster children and youth and their caregivers during a disaster, this bill would create a new, unfunded grant program. Without an identified funding source, this bill will create significant ongoing General Fund cost pressures to fund local assistance costs annually. 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 1143 (Bennett D) State Fire Marshal: home hardening certification program.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require, on or before January 1, 2027, the State Fire Marshal's Wildfire Mitigation Advisory Committee to develop a home hardening certification program that identifies home hardening measures, including defensible space, that can be 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.

Governor's 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 Marshall'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 homehardening playbook that at-risk communities can list 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 customers, 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 this reason, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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Senate Bills

SB 7 (McNerney D) Employment: automated decision systems.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require an employer to provide written notice to all workers who will be directly affected by an automated decision system (ADS) used for employment-related decisions, excluding hiring, that an ADS is in use at the workplace. The bill would require the employer to maintain an updated list of all ADS currently in use. The bill would require an employer to notify, as provided, a job applicant that the employer utilizes an ADS when making hiring decisions, if the employer will use the ADS in making decisions for that position. The bill would prohibit an employer from using an ADS that performs specific functions and would limit the purposes and manner in which an ADS may be used to make decisions. The bill would authorize a worker to request, and require an employer to provide, a copy of the most recent 12 months of the worker's own data primarily used by an ADS to make a discipline, termination, or deactivation decision, as specified. The bill would require an employer that mainly relied on an ADS to make a discipline, termination, or deactivation decision to provide the affected worker with a written notice, as specified.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 7 without my signature. This bill would establish new rules for employers using automated decision systems (ADS) to make employment-related decisions. Proposed rules include requiring the employer to notify a worker before deploying an ADS that makes employmentrelated decisions, prohibiting an employer from relying solely on an ADS when making a disciplinary, termination, or deactivation decision, and giving a worker the right to request data used by the ADS to help make such a decision. I share the author's concern that, in certain cases, unregulated use of ADS by employers can be harmful to workers. However, rather than addressing the specific ways employers misuse this technology, the bill imposes unfocused notification requirements on any business using even the most innocuous tools. This proposed solution fails to directly address incidents of misuse. Moreover, this measure proposes overly broad restrictions on how employers may use ADS tools. For example, prohibiting an employer from using customer ratings as the primary input data for an ADS takes away a potentially valuable tool for rewarding high-performing employees. To the extent customer reviews are unfairly or inappropriately used to make decisions about a worker, legislation should address those specific scenarios rather than this practice altogether. Finally, I share the author's concern about situations where an employer uses an ADS to make disciplinary, termination, or deactivation decisions. Such situations are partially covered by forthcoming California Privacy Protection Agency regulations, which would allow employees and independent contractors to better understand how their personal data is used by automated decision technology. Before enacting new legislation in this space, we should assess the efficacy of these regulations to address these concerns. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

SB 11 (Ashby D) Artificial intelligence technology.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 13, 2025.

Summary: Current law prohibits the false impersonation of another person in either their personal or official capacity with the intent to steal or defraud, as specified. This bill would define various terms related to artificial intelligence and digital replication, and would clarify that false impersonation includes the use of a digital replica with the intent to impersonate another for purposes of these and other criminal provisions.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 11 without my signature. This bill would amend existing statutes regarding the right of publicity and the crime of false impersonation to address situations involving digital replicas. It would also direct the Judicial Council to consider issues raised by evidence generated or manipulated by artificial intelligence (AI). I commend the author for working to ensure that our state is prepared for the challenges raised by AI's ability to produce highly realistic digital content. I share the author's concern over the risks posed by synthetic content, including the use of AI to impersonate or appropriate another's likeness without their consent. However, this bill also requires any AI technology that enables a user to create a digital replica to include, wherever a user may input a prompt, a hyperlink to a clear and conspicuous disclosure to warn users of potential civil or criminal liability. Failure to include the hyperlink exposes the technology provider to significant civil liability under this measure. This year, I have signed bills requiring companion chatbot operators to disclose to users that they are interacting with an artificial system (SB 243, Padilla) and internet companies to warn minors of the potential dangers of social media use (AB 56, Bauer-Kahan). Under certain circumstances, public disclosures and warning labels can play a key role in providing transparency to the public and mitigating harm. In this case, however, it is unclear whether a warning would be sufficient to dissuade wrongdoers from using AI to impersonate others without their consent. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

SB 274 (Cervantes D) Automated license plate recognition systems.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 1, 2025.

Summary: Existing law prohibits a public agency, which includes the state, a city, a county, a city and county, or any agency or political subdivision of the state, a city, a county, or a city and county, including, but not limited to, a law enforcement agency, from selling, sharing, or transferring automated license plate recognition (ALPR) information, except to another public agency, and only as otherwise permitted by law. Existing law defines ALPR information as information or data collected through the use of an ALPR system. This bill would provide that "public agency" does not include a transportation agency, a public transit operator, or a local department of transportation or public works department, as specified. The bill would, beginning January 1, 2026, require new, updated, expansions of, or addendums of contractual agreements with ALPR vendors, manufacturers, or suppliers to mandate that no default access is provided to any national ALPR database and that an agency's collected scans are by default not accessible to any other agency, and would impose new requirements on sharing between California state law enforcement agencies. The bill would authorize a law enforcement agency to use ALPR information only for purposes of locating vehicles or persons when either are reasonably suspected of being involved in the commission of a public offense. The bill would prohibit a public agency from retaining ALPR information for more than 60 days after the date of collection if it does not match

information on an authorized hot list, as defined, and as of January 1, 2026, would require a public agency to delete all ALPR information that has been held for more than 60 days and does not match information on an authorized hot list within 14 days. By imposing new requirements on public agencies, which include local agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 274 without my signature. This bill restricts the use and sharing of automated license plate reader (ALPR) data, including by placing a default 60-day limit on how long public entities may retain ALPR data. I appreciate the author's intent to prevent information regarding a person's whereabouts from falling into the wrong hands. Nevertheless, this measure does not strike the delicate balance between protecting individual privacy and ensuring public safety. For example, it may not be apparent, particularly with respect to cold cases, that license plate data is needed to solve a crime until after a 60-day retention period has elapsed. Conversely, restrictions on inter-agency data sharing may impair solving crimes in real time, such as highway shootings, where the suspect may be rapidly crossing jurisdictional boundaries. Further, by restricting law enforcement agencies' use of ALPR information only for locating persons or vehicles suspected of involvement in crimes, this bill would prevent the use of information to locate missing persons. This bill also creates cost pressures, which are not accounted for in this year's budget, by requiring the Department of Justice to conduct random audits of public entities in order to ensure compliance with this bill. 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 629 (Durazo D) Wildfires: fire hazard severity zones: post-wildfire safety areas.

Status: Vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 11, 2025.

Summary: This bill would require the factors on which the fire severity zones are based to include areas within the perimeter of a wildfire that burned 1,000 or more acres, destroyed more than 10 structures, or resulted in a fatality, and to include areas at risk for an urban conflagration that accounts for the potential for structures to serve as a fuel source that extends the ember cast outside of wildland areas and areas where agricultural land affects fire hazard. The bill would require the State Fire Marshal to publish the model and methodology used to develop the fire hazard severity zones on its internet website at least 60 days before finalizing those designations and to publish the model and methodology for specified factors whenever the State Fire Marshal reviews the fire severity zones.

Governor's Message: To the Members of the California State Senate: I am returning Senate Bill 629 without my signature. This bill would, among other things, create a newly defined post-wildfire safety area designation and would require the Office of the State Fire Marshall of the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to include new criteria when mapping Fire Hazard Severity Zones (FHSZs). Wildfire risk and hazard modeling are crucial tools for informing wildfire mitigation strategies and allocating resources to prevent ignitions

and effectively respond to wildfires before they become catastrophic. Since 2019, my Administration, in partnership with the Legislature, has invested over \$5 billion in wildfire mitigation, response, and forest resilience. All of which have been guided by leading-edge science and modeling, with most of it developed right here is California. I remain strongly supportive of this work and the work of OSFM to enhance its modeling capabilities and to maintain updated, robust FHSZs to further inform wildfire mitigation measures. This work is actively underway, and though I find this bill's intent laudable, it presents new, ongoing, and significant costs to the state not accounted for in this year's budget. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom.

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