
State Legislative Update

January 11, 2021

[AB 1](#)

([Garcia, Cristina](#) D) Hazardous waste.

Status: 1/11/2021-Referred to Com. on E.S. & T.M.

Summary: Would create the Board of Environmental Safety in the California Environmental Protection Agency. The bill would provide requirements for the membership of the board and would require the board to conduct no less than 6 public meetings per year. The bill would provide for the duties of the board, which would include, among others, reviewing specified policies, processes, and programs within the hazardous waste control laws; proposing statutory, regulatory, and policy changes; and hearing and deciding appeals of hazardous waste facility permit decisions and certain financial assurance decisions.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	John (1)	Solid Waste

[AB 9](#)

([Wood](#) D) Wildfires.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee January 7.

Summary: Current law establishes various programs for the prevention and reduction of wildfires. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation that would increase California's capacity to prevent and reduce the impact of wildfires, and would make related findings and declarations.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	John (2), Staci (1)	Fire, Forestry

[AB 14](#)

([Aguiar-Curry](#) D) Communications: broadband services: California Advanced Services Fund.

Status: 1/11/2021-Referred to Coms. on C. & C. and L. GOV.

Summary: Current law establishes the State Department of Education in state government, and vests the department with specified powers and duties relating to the state's public school system. This bill would authorize local educational agencies to report to the department their pupils' estimated needs for computing devices and internet connectivity adequate for at-home learning. The bill would require the department, in consultation with the Public Utilities Commission, to compile that information and to annually post that compiled information on the department's internet website.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Telecommunications

[AB 34](#)

([Muratsuchi](#) D) Communications: Broadband for All Act of 2022.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee January 7.

Summary: Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would enact the Broadband for All Act of 2022, to become operative only if approved by the voters at the November 8, 2022, statewide general election, to authorize the issuance of state general obligation bonds to fund increased access to broadband services to rural, urban, suburban, and tribal unserved and underserved communities.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Telecommunications

[AB 52](#)

([Frazier](#) D) California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006: scoping plan updates: wildfires.

Status: 1/11/2021-Referred to Com. on NAT. RES.

Summary: The California Global Warming Solutions Act of 2006 authorizes the State Air Resources Board to

include in its regulation of emissions of greenhouse gases the use of market-based compliance mechanisms. Current law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the state board from a market-based compliance mechanism to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (fund) and to be available upon appropriation by the Legislature. Current law continuously appropriates 35% of the annual proceeds of the fund for transit, affordable housing, and sustainable communities programs and 25% of the annual proceeds of the fund for certain components of a specified high-speed rail project. This bill would require the state board, in each scoping plan update prepared by the state board after January 1, 2022, to include, consistent with the act, recommendations for achieving the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective reductions of emissions of greenhouse gases and black carbon from wildfires.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Watch	John (2), Staci (1)	Fire

ACA 1

(Aguiar-Curry D) Local government financing: affordable housing and public infrastructure: voter approval.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be heard in committee January 7.

Summary: The California Constitution prohibits the ad valorem tax rate on real property from exceeding 1% of the full cash value of the property, subject to certain exceptions. This measure would create an additional exception to the 1% limit that would authorize a city, county, city and county, or special district to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, or the acquisition or lease of real property for those purposes, if the proposition proposing that tax is approved by 55% of the voters of the city, county, or city and county, as applicable, and the proposition includes specified accountability requirements.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Support	Tracy (1)	Housing

SB 4

(Gonzalez D) Communications: California Advanced Services Fund.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Current law establishes the Governor’s Office of Business and Economic Development, known as “GO-Biz,” within the Governor’s office to serve the Governor as the lead entity for economic strategy and the marketing of California on issues relating to business development, private sector investment, and economic growth. This bill would require the office to coordinate with other relevant state and local agencies and national organizations to explore ways to facilitate streamlining of local land use approvals and construction permit processes for projects related to broadband infrastructure deployment and connectivity.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Support	Tracy (1)	Telecommunications

SB 5

(Atkins D) Housing: bond act.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation that would authorize the issuance of bonds and would require the proceeds from the sale of those bonds to be used to finance housing-related programs that serve the homeless and extremely low income and very low income Californians.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Housing

SB 6

(Caballero D) Local planning: housing: commercial zones.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law requires each county and city to adopt a comprehensive, long-term general plan for its physical development, and the development of certain lands outside its boundaries, that includes, among other mandatory elements, a housing element. This bill, the Neighborhood Homes Act, would deem a housing development project, as defined, an allowable use on a neighborhood lot, which is defined as a parcel within an office or retail commercial zone that is not adjacent to an industrial use. The bill would require the density for a housing development under these provisions to meet or exceed the density deemed appropriate to accommodate housing for lower income households according to the type of local jurisdiction, including a density of at least 20 units per acre for a suburban jurisdiction.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Housing

SB 9

(Atkins D) Housing development: approvals.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would require a proposed housing development containing 2 residential units within a single-family residential zone to be considered ministerially, without discretionary review or hearing, if the proposed housing development meets certain requirements, including, but not limited to, that the proposed housing development would not require demolition or alteration of housing that is subject to a recorded covenant, ordinance, or law that restricts rents to levels affordable to persons and families of moderate, low, or very low income, that the proposed housing development does not allow for the demolition of more than 25% of the existing exterior structural walls, except as provided, and that the development is not located within a historic district, is not included on the State Historic Resources Inventory, or is not within a site that is legally designated or listed as a city or county landmark or historic property or district.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Housing

SB 12

(McGuire D) Local government: planning and zoning: wildfires.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Current law requires that the Office of Planning and Research, 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 July 1, 2024, whichever occurs first, to be reviewed and updated as necessary to include a comprehensive retrofit strategy to 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.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	Tracy (1)	Housing

SB 38

(Wieckowski D) Beverage containers.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would require beverage manufacturers in the state to form a beverage container stewardship organization. The organization would be required to develop and submit to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery a plan, annual report, and budget for the recovery and recycling of empty beverage containers in the state similar to that described in the Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act. The bill would require the organization to establish a stewardship fee, to be paid by beverage manufacturer members of the organization, to assist in covering the costs of implementing the beverage container stewardship program. The bill would require the organization to reimburse the department for the department's costs of enforcing the program.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
	John (1)	Solid Waste

[SB 45](#)

(Portantino D) Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would enact the Wildfire Prevention, Safe Drinking Water, Drought Preparation, and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2022, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$5,510,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for a wildfire prevention, safe drinking water, drought preparation, and flood protection program.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Pending	John (1), Sidd (2), Staci (2)	Fire, Forestry, Water

[SB 52](#)

(Dodd D) State of emergency: local emergency: sudden and severe energy shortage: planned power outage.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Current law defines the terms “state of emergency” and “local emergency” to mean a duly proclaimed existence of conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state or the territorial limits of a local government caused by, among other things, a sudden and severe energy shortage. Current law defines a “sudden and severe energy shortage” as a rapid, unforeseen shortage of energy, resulting from, but not limited to, events such as an embargo, sabotage, or natural disasters, and that has statewide, regional, or local impact. This bill would expand the definition of “sudden and severe energy shortage” to include a “deenergization event,” defined as a planned power outage, as specified, and would make a deenergization event one of those conditions constituting a state of emergency and a local emergency.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Support	John (1)	Emergency Management, Energy

[SB 54](#)

(Allen D) Solid waste: disposable packaging and food ware.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would declare the intent of the Legislature to enact the Plastic Pollution Producer Responsibility Act, which would significantly reduce the amount of disposable packaging and food ware waste entering California’s waste stream, polluting oceans, littering local communities and beaches, and costing local governments millions of dollars in cleanup costs through source reduction requirements and increased composting and recycling.

Position	Lobbyist	Subject
Watch	John (1)	Solid Waste

[SB 55](#)

(Stern D) Very high fire hazard severity zone: state responsibility area: development prohibition.

Status: 12/8/2020-From printer. May be acted upon on or after January 7.

Summary: Would, in furtherance of specified state housing production and wildfire mitigation goals, prohibit the creation or approval of a new development, as defined, in a very high fire hazard severity zone or a state responsibility area. By imposing new duties on local governments with respect to the approval of new developments in very high fire hazard severity zones and state responsibility areas, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Position
Pending

Lobbyist
Tracy (1)

Subject
Housing

SB 109

(Dodd D) Office of Emergency Services: Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development.

Status: 1/11/2021-Read first time.

Summary: Would establish the Office of Wildfire Technology Research and Development within the Office of Emergency Services under the direct control of the Director of the Office of Emergency Services. The bill would make the office responsible for studying, testing, and advising regarding procurement of emerging technologies and tools in order to more effectively prevent and suppress wildfires, and serving as the central organizing hub for the state government's identification of emerging wildfire technologies, as provided.

Position
Watch

Lobbyist
Staci (1)

Subject
Emergency
Services, Fire