



Legislative Report

UPCOMING DEADLINES

01/01/2024 Statutes take effect
01/03/2024 Legislature reconvenes
01/10/2024 Budget must be submitted by Governor

BOND BILLS

[AB1567](#) (Garcia, D) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024

The bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Clean Energy, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$15,995,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, clean energy, and workforce development programs. The current version includes \$1,225,000,000 to be appropriated to the Coastal Conservancy and additional funds available for our projects.

[SB867](#) (Allen, D) Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024

The bill would enact the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$15,500,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate smart agriculture, park creation and outdoor access, and clean energy programs. The current version includes \$1,175,000,000 to be appropriated to the Coastal Conservancy and additional funds available for our projects.

CHAPTERED LEGISLATION

[SB272](#) (Laird, D) **Sea level rise: planning and adaptation.**

The bill requires all local governments within the jurisdiction of the Coastal Commission (Commission) or the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (BCDC) to develop sea level rise plans by January 1, 2034. Entities that complete those plans by January 1, 2029 would be prioritized for state sea level rise funding, upon appropriation. The bill requires that the Commission and BCDC, in coordination with other state agencies including the Conservancy, establish guidelines for sea level rise planning and adaptation.

[AB882](#) (Davies, R) **Coastal resources: State Coastal Conservancy: advance payments.**

Existing law establishes a pilot program, which is repealed on July 1, 2025, to explore possible improvements to the state's existing advance payment practices for state-funded assistance grants. This bill allows the Conservancy to advance up to 25% of the total grant amount. The bill permits the Conservancy to authorize advance payments on a contract or grant awarded in accordance with the pilot program that expires in July 2025.

[AB590](#) (Hart, D) **AB 590 State-funded assistance grants and contracts: advance payments.**

This bill seeks to improve and expand the state's existing advance payment practices for state grants and contracts with nonprofits. The bill authorizes state agencies to advance a payment to nonprofit organizations, subject to meeting specified requirements. The bill requires the administering state agency to prioritize recipient entities and projects serving disadvantaged, low-income, and under-resourced communities, and to ensure advance payments do not exceed 25% of the total grant or contract amount. The bill also requires the recipient entity to satisfy certain minimum requirements, including providing an itemized budget and submitting documentation.

VETOED LEGISLATION

[AB966](#) (Davies, R) **Division of Boating and Waterways: report to the Legislature: shoreline erosion control and public beach programs**

This bill would require the Department's Division of Boating and Waterways to coordinate with the State Coastal Conservancy to submit a joint report to the Legislature, no later than January 1, 2025, on shoreline erosion control and public beach restoration programs.

Veto Message: To the Members of the California State Assembly: I am returning Assembly Bill 966 without my signature. This bill would require the Division of Boating and Waterways and the State Coastal Conservancy to submit a report to the Legislature about shoreline erosion control efforts. The cost of this one-time report is substantial. In addition, the 2022 and 2023 Budgets provide a combined total of \$930 million General Fund to the State Coastal Conservancy for coastal resilience projects. While this funding is not specifically dedicated to coastal erosion, projects funded through these appropriations will address the concerns this measure intends to identify. For these reasons, I cannot sign this bill. Sincerely, Gavin Newsom

OTHER INTRODUCED LEGISLATION

AB45 (Boerner, D) Coastal resources: coastal development permits: blue carbon demonstration projects.

This bill would authorize the Coastal Commission to require coastal development permit applicants with a project that impacts coastal wetland, subtidal, intertidal, or marine habitats or ecosystems to build or contribute to a blue carbon demonstration project.

AB612 (Berman, D) State parks: Pedro Point.

This bill would require CalTrans to sell and transfer Director's Deed DD-028801-01-01 (also known as the "Disney Lot"), located between the southern end of Pacifica State Beach and publicly owned lands in the Pedro Point Headlands, to the Department of Parks and Recreation for state park purposes and to be included in their management of Pacifica State Beach

AB566 (Pellerin, D) Department of Parks and Recreation: acquisition and protection of real property.

The bill allows State Parks to enter into an agreement with and work with an eligible entity to permanently protect lands or engage in stewardship within the Santa Cruz State Parks District. It allows State Parks to coordinate with State Coastal Conservancy and WCB. Eligible entities include nonprofit organizations, federally recognized Native American tribes, and California Native American tribes.

SB336 (Umberg, D) State grant programs: negotiated cost rate agreements.

This bill would require DGS to establish a state standard negotiated cost agreement and requires state agencies administering grant programs to use the same terms as a grantee's existing federal negotiated indirect cost rate agreement (NICRA), the state standard negotiated cost agreement, or a 10% minimum cost rate, as decided by the grantee.

AB1284 (Ramos, D) Tribal ancestral lands and waters: cogovernance and comanagement agreements

This bill would encourage CNRA and its agencies to enter into cogovernance and comanagement agreements with federally recognized tribes. The bill would authorize the Secretary of Natural Resources or a delegate, within 90 days of a federally recognized tribe's request, to begin government-to-government negotiations on cogovernance and comanagement agreements with the tribe.

AB1407 (Addis, D) Ocean recovery and restoration: large scale restoration artificial reefs

This bill would require the Secretary of Natural Resources to establish acreage-based targets to restore kelp forests, eelgrass meadows, and native oyster beds. The bill would require the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) to establish a Kelp Forest and Estuary Restoration and Recovery Framework and interagency working group to achieve the acreage-based targets. Finally, the bill would establish in the State Treasury the Ocean Restoration and Recovery Fund to be administered by the OPC to develop and carry out large-scale restoration and enhancement projects.

AB1453 **(Dixon, R) Ocean Waste**

Upon appropriation of funding pursuant to the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act (SB54) or other funds, the State Coastal Conservancy would establish a five year grant program to accomplish four goals:

- 1) Funding beach and waterway clean-ups;
- 2) Offering free recreational access to clean-up participants;
- 3) Funding capital projects to prevent waste from reaching the ocean; and
- 4) Increasing monitoring of and research related to microplastics in sea life.

AB1554 **(Patterson, R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: wildfire fuels reduction projects.**

This bill would add a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for fuels reduction projects within moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones. This would include projects that remove or reduce overgrown vegetation through the use of prescribed fire, tree thinning, pruning, chipping, or roadway clearance.

AB692 **(Patterson, R) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: egress route projects: fire safety.**

This bill would exempt egress route projects from CEQA if they are undertaken by a public agency to improve emergency access to and evacuation from a subdivision without a secondary egress route and if the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection has recommended the creation of a secondary access to the subdivision.