



2015 Chaptered Legislation of County Interest

| Administration of Justice/Courts | | |
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| AB 231 | Eggman D | Chaptered: 10/5/2015 pdf html |
| | Parole: placement at release. | |
| | Existing law generally requires that an inmate released on parole or postrelease community supervision be returned to the county of last legal residence. Existing law provides, however, that an inmate who is released on parole for an offense involving stalking shall not be returned to a location within 35 miles of the victim's actual residence or place of employment if specified criteria are satisfied. This bill would make that provision applicable to an inmate released on postrelease community supervision. The bill would also authorize a supervising county agency to transfer an inmate who is released on postrelease community supervision to another county, upon approval of the receiving county, when the inmate cannot be placed in his or her county of last legal residence in compliance with this provision. The bill would make other clarifying changes. By imposing additional duties on supervising county agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 879 | Burke D | Chaptered: 8/17/2015 pdf html |
| | Juveniles: court proceedings: notice. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the juvenile court to adjudge a minor who has been abused or neglected, or who meets other specified criteria, to be a dependent child of the court. Existing law requires the court to conduct various hearings regarding children who are, or who may become, dependent children, including a detention hearing, jurisdictional hearing, and dispositional hearing. Existing law requires the probation officer, the social worker, or the clerk of the court to provide notice of those hearings to certain persons, including parents, guardians, the child, if he or she is 10 years of age or older, adult relatives under certain conditions, and attorneys for the parents or guardians, as specified. This bill would, until January 1, 2019, generally allow service for the above purposes to be made by electronic mail if the county, or city and county, and the court choose to permit service by electronic mail and the person to be served has consented to service by electronic mail by signing a specified form, as provided. | |
| SB 176 | Mitchell D | Chaptered: 8/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Examining children as witnesses. | |
| | Existing law authorizes a court in a criminal proceeding, upon written notice by the prosecutor made at least 3 days prior to the date of the preliminary hearing or trial date on which the testimony of the minor is scheduled or during the course of the proceeding on the court's own motion, to order that the testimony of a minor 13 years of age or younger at the time of the motion be taken by contemporaneous examination and cross-examination in another place and out of the presence of the judge, jury, defendant or defendants, and attorneys, and communicated to the courtroom by means of closed-circuit television, if the court makes specified findings. One of the findings existing law requires is that the minor's testimony will involve a recitation of the facts of specified crimes, including an alleged violent felony of which the minor is a victim. This bill would authorize a minor 13 years of age or younger to testify by contemporaneous examination and cross-examination if the testimony will involve the recitation of the facts of an alleged violent felony, whether or not the minor is a victim. | |

| Agriculture | | |
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| SB 145 | Pan D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan. | |
| | Existing state law requires, for the 2015-16 fiscal year, the State Department of Health Care Services to provide a grant to a health benefit plan that is funded by contributions from agricultural employers, as specified, upon an appropriation of funds for this purpose. The Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan is a nonprofit voluntary employee's beneficiary association, organized under federal law, which provides payments for health care and other benefits to its members. This bill would require, until January 1, 2021, the department to annually reimburse the Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan up to \$3,000,000 per year for claim payments that exceed \$70,000 made by the plan on behalf of an eligible employee or dependent for a single episode of care on or after September 1, 2016. The bill would require the department to make the reimbursement payment within 60 days after it receives specified claims data from the plan. | |
| Air Quality | | |
| SB 9 | Beall D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. | |
| | Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the State Air Resources Board from a market-based compliance mechanism relative to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. This bill would modify the purpose of the program to delete references to operational investments and instead provide for the funding of transformative capital improvements, as defined, that will modernize California's intercity, commuter, and urban rail systems and bus and ferry transit systems to achieve certain policy objectives, including reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, expanding and improving transit services to increase ridership, and improving transit safety. By expanding the purposes for which continuously appropriated moneys may be used, the bill would make an appropriation. The bill would modify the information required to be included in applications for grants under the program and would authorize an eligible applicant to submit an application to fund a project over multiple fiscal years and to submit multiple applications. The bill would require the Transportation Agency, in selecting projects for funding, to consider the extent to which a project reduces greenhouse gas emissions, would add additional factors to be considered in evaluating applications for funding, and would expand certain factors considered to include bus and ferry transit service. The bill would require the Transportation Agency to approve, by July 1, 2018, a 5-year program of projects, and would require the California Transportation Commission to allocate funding to eligible applicants pursuant to the program of projects, with subsequent programs of projects to be approved not later than April 1 of each even-numbered year thereafter. The bill would require the Transportation Agency, in cooperation with the California Transportation Commission and at the request of an eligible applicant, to enter into and execute a multiyear funding agreement for a project to be funded over more than one fiscal year, as specified, and would authorize the California Transportation Commission to approve a letter of no prejudice that would allow an applicant to expend its own moneys on a project in the approved program of projects, subject to future reimbursement from program moneys for eligible expenditures. | |
| Assessor/Tax Collector | | |
| AB 279 | Dodd D | Chaptered: 8/12/2015 pdf html |
| | Tax administration: disclosure of information: Franchise Tax Board and cities and counties. | |
| | Existing law authorizes, until January 1, 2019, a city that has entered into a reciprocal agreement, as defined, with the Franchise Tax Board to exchange tax information, as provided. Existing law requires, until January 1, | |

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| | 2019, upon the request of the Franchise Tax Board, each city that assesses a city business tax or requires a city business license to annually submit to the board specified information relating to the administration of the city's business tax program. Existing law defines the term "city" to include, among others, a city and county. Existing law limits the collection and use of this information and provides that any unauthorized use of this information is punishable as a misdemeanor. This bill would expand these provisions to additionally apply to a county. By expanding the scope of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 661 | Mathis R | Chaptered: 7/13/2015 pdf html |
| | Counties: recording: real estate instruments. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the board of supervisors to adopt, by resolution, a fee of up to \$10 for each recording of a real estate instrument, paper, or notice required or permitted by law to be recorded, except as specified. Existing law defines the term "real estate instrument" to exclude a deed, instrument, or writing recorded in connection with a transfer subject to a documentary transfer tax. This bill would recast this latter exclusion from a "real estate instrument" as a statement that the above-described fee does not apply to any real estate instrument, paper, or notice accompanied by a declaration stating that the transfer is subject to a documentary transfer tax, is recorded concurrently with a transfer subject to a documentary transfer tax, or is presented for recording within the same business day as, and is related to the recording of, a transfer subject to a documentary transfer tax. | |
| Brown Act | | |
| AB 169 | Maienschein R | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Local government: public records: Internet. | |
| | The California Public Records Act requires a state or local agency, as defined, to make public records available for inspection, subject to certain exceptions. The act requires any agency that has any information that constitutes a public record not exempt from disclosure in an electronic format to make that public record available in an electronic format when requested by a person, and requires the agency to, among other things, make the information available in any electronic format in which the information is held. This bill, if a local agency, except a school district, maintains an Internet Resource, including, but not limited to an Internet Web site, Internet Web page, or Internet Web portal, which the local agency describes or titles as "open data," and the local agency voluntarily posts a public record on that Internet Resource, would require the local agency to post the public record in an open format that meets specified requirements, including, among others, that the format is able to be retrieved, downloaded, indexed, and searched by a commonly used Internet search application. | |
| AB 823 | Bigelow R | Chaptered: 7/2/2015 pdf html |
| | Counties: ordinances. | |
| | Existing law requires the county board of supervisors, within 15 days after the passage of an ordinance by the board, to publish the ordinance with the names of those members voting for and against the ordinance, in a newspaper published in the county, except as specified. Existing law requires that an ordinance not published, as specified, within this 15-day period is to not take effect until 30 days after the date of its publication. Existing law authorizes a county board of supervisors to meet this publication requirement by publishing a summary of a proposed ordinance or proposed amendment to an existing ordinance, under specified conditions that include, among other requirements, publishing the summary and posting a certified copy of the full text of the proposed ordinance or proposed amendment in the office of the clerk of the board of supervisors at least 5 days prior to the board of supervisors meeting at which the proposed ordinance or amendment is to be adopted. This bill would modify the requirements for a county board of supervisors to publish a summary of a proposed ordinance or proposed amendment to an existing ordinance to meet the publication requirement for an ordinance to take effect, including, among other new requirements, posting on the county's Internet Web site. | |

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| | -County Supported | |
| SB 272 | Hertzberg D | Chaptered: 10/11/2015 pdf html |
| | The California Public Records Act: local agencies: inventory. | |
| | Existing law, the California Public Records Act, requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies. The act declares that access to information concerning the conduct of the people's business is a fundamental and necessary right of every person in this state. This bill would require each local agency, except a local educational agency, in implementing the California Public Records Act, to create a catalog of enterprise systems, as defined, to make the catalog publicly available upon request in the office of the person or officer designated by the agency's legislative body, and to post the catalog on the local agency's Internet Web site. The bill would require the catalog to disclose a list of the enterprise systems utilized by the agency, and, among other things, the current system vendor and product, unless, on the facts of the particular case, the public interest served by not disclosing that information clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure, in which case the local agency may instead provide a system name, brief title, or identifier of the system. Because the bill would require local agencies to perform additional duties, it would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| SB 331 | Mendoza D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Public contracts: local agencies: negotiations. | |
| | Existing law relating to public contracts requires local agencies, including cities and counties, to comply with specified procedures for public contracting for public construction. This bill would enact the Civic Reporting Openness in Negotiations Efficiency Act to establish specific procedures for the negotiation and approval of certain contracts valued at \$250,000 or more for goods or services by cities, counties, cities and counties, or special districts that have adopted a civic openness in negotiations ordinance, or COIN ordinance, defined as an ordinance imposing specified requirements as part of any collective bargaining process undertaken pursuant to the Meyers-Milias-Brown Act. The act would require the designation of an independent auditor to review and report on the cost of any proposed contract. The act would require a city, county, city and county, or special district to disclose prescribed information relating to the contract and contract negotiations on its Internet Web site. The act would prohibit a final determination by the governing body regarding approval of any contract until the matter has been heard at a minimum of 2 public meetings of the governing body. | |
| CalWORKs/WIA/WIB | | |
| SB 342 | Jackson D | Chaptered: 10/5/2015 pdf html |
| | California Workforce Investment Board: responsibilities. | |
| | Under existing law, the California Workforce Investment Board is responsible for assisting the Governor in the development, oversight, and continuous improvement of California's workforce investment system. Existing law requires the board to assist the Governor in targeting resources to specified industry sectors and providing guidance to ensure that services reflect the needs of those sectors. This bill would additionally require the board to assist the Governor in helping individuals with barriers to employment achieve economic security and upward mobility by implementing policies that encourage the attainment of marketable skills relevant to current labor market trends. | |
| CEQA | | |
| SB 348 | Galgiani D | Chaptered: 8/7/2015 pdf html |
| | California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: railroad crossings. | |
| | CEQA exempts from its requirements railroad grade separation projects that eliminate existing grade crossings or that reconstruct existing grade separations. CEQA authorizes a lead agency, if it determines that a | |

project is exempt from the requirements of CEQA, to file a notice of exemption with specific public entities. This bill would require a lead agency, if it determines that the above exemption applies to a project that the agency approves or determines to carry out, to file a notice of exemption with the Office of Planning and Research and, in the case of a local agency, with the county clerk in each affected county. Because the bill would impose additional duties on local agencies with regards to the filing of a notice of exemption, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

Child Support

[AB 610](#) [Jones-Sawyer](#) D Chaptered: 10/8/2015 [pdf](#) [html](#)

Child support: suspension of support order.

Prior law authorized an obligor, upon release from incarceration or involuntary institutionalization, to petition the court for an adjustment of the arrears pursuant to the suspension of the support obligation. This bill would enact similar provisions to require the suspension of a child support order to occur by operation of law when an obligor is incarcerated or involuntarily institutionalized, unless the obligor has the means to pay support, or the obligor was incarcerated or involuntarily institutionalized for either an offense constituting domestic violence or the failure to pay child support. The bill would also authorize the local child support agency to administratively adjust account balances for a money judgment or order for support of a child that is suspended by operation of law if the agency verifies that arrears and interest were accrued in violation of these provisions, that specified conditions relating to the obligor's inability to pay while incarcerated and the underlying offense for which he or she was incarcerated do not exist, and neither the obligor nor the obligee object to the adjustment. The bill would require the local child support agency to give notice, as prescribed, of the adjustment to the obligor and obligee. If either the obligor or the obligee objects to the adjustment, the bill would require the agency to file a motion with the court to adjust the arrears and would allow the adjustment only after approval by the court. The bill would require the child support obligation to resume on the first day of the first full month after the release of the person owing support. The bill would require the Department of Child Support Services, in consultation with the Judicial Council, to develop forms to implement these provisions, and would require them to report specified information relating to these provisions to the Assembly Judiciary Committee and the Senate Judiciary Committee on or before January 1, 2019. The bill would make these provisions operative only until January 1, 2020.

Clerk/Recorder

[AB 285](#) [Gallagher](#) R Chaptered: 9/21/2015 [pdf](#) [html](#)

Professions and vocations: registration.

(1) Existing law defines and regulates the activities of legal document assistants and unlawful detainer assistants, as those terms are defined. Existing law requires a legal document assistant or unlawful detainer assistant to be registered in the county in which his or her principal place of business is located, which is deemed the primary place of registration, and in any other county in which he or she performs acts for which registration is required, which is deemed a secondary place of registration. A violation of this requirement is a misdemeanor. Existing law prohibits a legal document assistant from providing self-help service, as defined, for compensation unless he or she is registered in the county in which his or her principal place of business is located and in any other county in which he or she performs acts for which registration is required. Existing law requires a county clerk to, among other things, issue an identification card to each registered legal document assistant and unlawful detainer assistant. This bill would delete the requirement that a legal document assistant or an unlawful detainer assistant be registered in any other county in which he or she performs acts for which registration is required. The bill would also specify that a legal document assistant

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| | registered in the county in which his or her principal place of business is located and in which he or she maintains a branch office may provide self-help services in any part of this state. The bill would also delete references to primary and secondary places of registration. | |
| AB 851 | Mayes R | Chaptered: 9/21/2015 pdf html |
| | Local government: organization: disincorporations. | |
| | Existing law specifies a procedure for the legislative body of a city, county, or district to propose to the voters an ordinance or resolution to adopt a special tax pursuant to constitutional requirements. Existing law authorizes a local agency which is conducting proceedings for the incorporation of a city, formation of a district, change of organization, reorganization, a change of organization of a city, or a municipal reorganization to propose the adoption of a special tax on behalf of the affected city or district in accordance with this procedure. This bill would additionally authorize a local agency conducting proceedings for the disincorporation of a city to propose the adoption of a special tax on behalf of an affected city in accordance with the above-described procedure. -County Supported | |
| SB 762 | Wolk D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Competitive bidding: best value: pilot program: design-build. | |
| | The Local Agency Public Construction Act requires counties, among others, to comply with specified procedures for contracting for public works projects, including the use of a competitive bidding process and awarding contracts to the lowest responsible bidder. Existing law provides that specified provisions of the act applicable to public works contracts awarded by counties, as specified, do not apply to certain contracts by the County of Napa and the County of San Diego. This bill would establish a pilot program to allow the Counties of Alameda, Los Angeles, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, Solano, and Yuba to select a bidder on the basis of best value, as defined, for construction projects in excess of \$1,000,000. The bill would establish procedures and criteria for the selection of a best value contractor. The bill would require that bidders verify specified information under oath, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program by creating a new crime. The bill would require the board of supervisors of a participating county, before January 1, 2020, to submit a report to specified legislative committees. The bill would repeal the pilot program provisions on January 1, 2020. -County Supported | |
| Economic Development | | |
| SB 533 | Pan D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Cities and counties: sales and use tax agreements. | |
| | The Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law authorizes counties and cities to impose local sales and use taxes in conformity with the Sales and Use Tax Law. That law provides that for the purpose of a local sales tax adopted pursuant to that law, all retail sales are consummated at the place of business of the retailer unless otherwise specified. This bill would repeal that prohibition and instead prohibit, on or after January 1, 2016, a local agency from entering into any form of agreement that would result, directly or indirectly, in the payment, transfer, diversion, or rebate of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues to any person, as defined, for any purpose, if the agreement results in a reduction in the amount of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues that, in the absence of the agreement, would be received by another local agency and the retailer continues to maintain a physical presence within the territorial jurisdiction of that other local agency, with specified exceptions. This bill would also impose specified notification and reporting requirements on a local agency entering into an agreement that results in a reduction of the amount of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues, that in the absence of the agreement, would be received by another local agency, prior to the ratification of that agreement. This bill would also require any local agency to post such an agreement on its Internet Web site, including any agreements entered into prior to January 1, 2016, that are still in effect. By imposing these notifications and | |

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| | reporting requirements on a local agency, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would exclude from these provisions any mutual tax revenue sharing agreement between local agencies to pay, transfer, or divert Bradley-Burns local tax revenues to another local agency, and where the agreement would not result, directly or indirectly, in the payment, transfer, diversion, or rebate of those tax revenues to a retailer. | |
| Elections | | |
| AB 44 | Mullin D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Elections: statewide recounts. | |
| | Existing law requires the Secretary of State to adopt regulations relating to the use of voting systems in recounting ballots. This bill would also require the Secretary of State to revise and adopt regulations relating to procedures for recounting ballots, including regulations establishing guidelines for the charges a county elections official may impose when conducting a manual recount. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. | |
| AB 363 | Steinorth R | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Closing of the polls. | |
| | Existing law requires a precinct board to account for ballots at the closing of the polls. This bill would authorize a county elections official to account for ballots at the central counting place. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. -County Sponsored Bill | |
| AB 370 | Brown D | Chaptered: 7/15/2015 pdf html |
| | Election campaigns: candidate misrepresentation. | |
| | Existing law provides that every person is guilty of a misdemeanor who, with intent to mislead the voters in connection with his or her campaign for nomination or election to a public office, or in connection with the campaign of another person for nomination or election to a public office, assumes, pretends, or implies, by his or her statements or conduct, that he or she is the incumbent of a public office, or has been acting in the capacity of a public officer, when that is not the case. This bill would specify that a person is guilty of a misdemeanor if he or she assumes, pretends, or implies by his or her campaign materials that he or she is the incumbent of a public office, or has been acting in the capacity of a public officer, when that is not the case. By expanding the activities that constitute a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 477 | Mullin D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Elections: ballots and the Green Party. | |
| | Upon receipt of a vote by mail ballot and to determine if the signatures compare, existing law requires an elections official to compare the signature on the identification envelope with either (A) the signature appearing on the voter's affidavit of registration or a previous affidavit of registration of the voter, or (B) the signature appearing on a form issued by an elections official that contains the voter's signature, that is part of the voter's registration record, and that the elections official has determined compares with the signature on the voter's affidavit of registration or a previous affidavit of registration of the voter. If the signatures do not compare, existing law requires the identification envelope to not be opened, the ballot to not be counted, and the cause of the rejection to be written on the face of the identification envelope. This bill would strike the requirement that an elections official, in comparing the signatures on the identification envelope, as described in (B) above, determine that the signature appearing on a form issued by the elections official that contains the voter's signature compares with the signature on the voter's affidavit of registration or a previous affidavit of registration of the voter. If an elections official determines that a voter has failed to sign the identification envelope, the bill would prohibit the elections official from rejecting the vote by mail ballot if the voter signs the identification envelope at the elections official's office before 5 p.m. on the 8th day after | |

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| | the election, completes and submits an unsigned ballot statement, as specified, before 5 p.m. on the 8th day after the election, or completes and submits an unsigned ballot statement to a polling place within the county or a ballot dropoff box before the close of the polls on election day. The bill would require the elections official to accept any completed unsigned ballot statement. The bill would require the elections official, upon receipt of the unsigned ballot statement, to compare the voter's signature on the statement, as described above, and, if the signatures compare, would require the elections official to attach the statement to the identification envelope and deposit the ballot, still in the identification envelope, in a ballot container in his or her office. The bill would require the identification envelope to not be opened and the ballot to not be counted if the elections official determines that the signatures do not compare. The bill would also require an elections official to include the unsigned ballot statement and instructions, and certain contact information, on his or her Internet Web site. By requiring elections officials to take additional actions related to vote by mail ballots, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 547 | Gonzalez D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Elections: special elections: all-mailed ballot elections. | |
| | Existing law authorizes, until January 1, 2020, San Diego County to conduct, as a pilot program, an all-mailed ballot special election or special consolidated election to fill a congressional or legislative vacancy under specified conditions. If such an election is conducted, existing law requires San Diego County to report certain information to the Legislature and the Secretary of State regarding the success of the election. This bill, until January 1, 2021, would authorize San Diego County, or any city, school district, community college district, special district, or other district or political subdivision whose boundaries are located wholly within San Diego County, to conduct an all-mailed ballot special election or special consolidated election to fill a vacancy on the legislative or governing body of those entities. The bill would authorize those entities to also hold an all-mailed ballot special election for county initiatives, city initiatives, district initiatives, bond issues, and school measures conducted pursuant to specified provisions. The bill would extend the pilot program for San Diego County, as described above, until January 1, 2021. The bill would also require certain voter education workshops to be conducted in-person. | |
| SB 21 | Hill D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Political Reform Act of 1974: gifts of travel. | |
| | The Political Reform Act of 1974 provides for the comprehensive regulation of campaign financing and related matters, including the reporting of gifts, as defined. The act prohibits specified officers from receiving gifts in excess of \$440 in value from a single source in a calendar year. The act exempts gift payments for the actual costs of specified types of travel that are reasonably related to a legislative or governmental purpose, or to an issue of state, national, or international public policy, from the annual limit on the value of gifts from a single source. This bill would require a nonprofit organization that regularly organizes and hosts travel for elected officials, as specified, and that pays for these types of travel for an elected state officer or local elected officeholder to disclose the names of donors who, in the preceding year, both donated to the nonprofit organization and accompanied an elected officer or officeholder for any portion of the travel, as specified. The bill would require a person who receives a gift of a travel payment from any source to report the travel destination on his or her statement of economic interests. | |
| SB 365 | Pavley D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Vote by mail ballot drop-off locations. | |
| | Existing law provides that the Secretary of State is the chief elections officer of the state and requires the Secretary of State to administer the provisions of the Elections Code. Existing law authorizes the Secretary of State to adopt regulations to ensure the uniform application and administration of state election laws. This bill would permit a vote by mail voter to return his or her voted vote by mail ballot to the elections official from whom it came at a vote by mail ballot drop-off location, as defined. The bill would require the Secretary of State, on or before January 1, 2017, to promulgate regulations establishing guidelines based on best practices for security measures and procedures that a county elections official may use if the county elections official | |

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| | establishes one or more vote by mail ballot drop-off locations and vote by mail ballot drop boxes, as defined. | |
| SB 366 | Nguyen R | Chaptered: 8/7/2015 pdf html |
| | Ballot materials: translations. | |
| | Existing law requires each county elections official to prepare separate sample ballots for each political party and a separate sample nonpartisan ballot, as specified. Existing law requires the elections official to send to each voter, together with the sample ballot, a voter's pamphlet that contains the written statements of each candidate. Existing law requires the elections officials to provide a Spanish translation to those candidates who wish to have one and requires that the person selected to provide that translation be from a list of approved Spanish-language translators and interpreters of the superior court of the county or from an institution accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. This bill would expand the group of acceptable translators for purposes of those provisions to include persons appearing on the Judicial Council Master List, persons qualified by the Administrative Office of the United States Courts, persons from an institution accredited by a regional or national accrediting agency recognized by the United States Secretary of Education, and members of certain professional organizations. | |
| Fire | | |
| AB 301 | Bigelow R | Chaptered: 7/15/2015 pdf html |
| | State responsibility areas: fire prevention fees. | |
| | Existing law requires the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection to adopt emergency regulations to establish a fire prevention fee in an amount not to exceed \$150 to be charged annually on each habitable structure on a parcel that is within a state responsibility area. Existing law requires the fee to be levied upon the owner of a habitable structure if that person owns the structure on July 1 of the year for which the fee is due. This bill would permit the owner of a property with one or more habitable structures subject to the fire prevention fee to, when selling the property, negotiate as one of the terms of the sale the apportionment between the parties of liability for payment of the fee, as specified. This bill would require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection to notify an owner subject to a fire prevention fee that the owner may, when selling the habitable structure or structures, negotiate the apportionment of liability for payment of the fee between the parties as one of the terms of the sale. | |
| AB 644 | Wood D | Chaptered: 10/1/2015 pdf html |
| | Land use: general plan: safety element: fire hazard impacts. | |
| | The Subdivision Map Act requires the legislative body of a city or county to deny approval of a tentative map, or a parcel map for which a tentative map was not required, unless it makes certain findings. Under that act, the legislative body of a county is required to make 3 specified findings before approving a tentative map, or a parcel map for which a tentative map was not required, for an area located in a state responsibility area or a very high fire hazard severity zone, as defined. This bill would exempt from those requirements the approval of a tentative map, or a parcel map for which a tentative map was not required, that would subdivide land identified in the open space element of the general plan for the managed production of resources, as defined. The bill would apply the exemption to the subdivision of land that is consistent with the open space purpose, and would require the land to be subject to a binding and recorded restriction prohibiting the development of a habitable, industrial, or commercial building or structure if the subdivision would result in parcels that are 40 acres or smaller in size. The bill would require all other structures to comply with specified defensible space requirements. The bill would additionally require the legislative body to make the 3 specified findings before later approving the removal of a binding restriction placed as a condition of a tentative map, or a parcel map for which a tentative map was not required, for land that was previously exempt from those requirements if the proposed subdivision would allow the development of a building or structure as specified. | |
| SB 239 | Hertzberg D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |

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| | Local services: contracts: fire protection services. |
| | <p>Existing law prescribes generally the powers and duties of the local agency formation commission in each county with respect to the review approval or disapproval of proposals for changes of organization or reorganization of cities and special districts within that county. Existing law permits a city or district to provide extended services, as defined, outside its jurisdictional boundaries only if it first requests and receives written approval from the local agency formation commission in the affected county. Under existing law, the commission may authorize a city or district to provide new or extended services outside both its jurisdictional boundaries and its sphere of influence under specified circumstances. This bill would, with certain exceptions, permit a public agency to exercise new or extended services outside the public agency's jurisdictional boundaries pursuant to a fire protection contract, as defined, only if the public agency receives written approval from the local agency formation commission in the affected county. The bill would require that the legislative body of a public agency that is not a state agency adopt a resolution of application and submit the resolution along with a plan for services, as provided, that a proposal by a state agency be initiated by the director of the agency with the approval of the Director of Finance, and that a proposal by a local agency that is currently under contract for the provision of fire protection services be initiated by the local agency and approved by the Director of Finance. The bill would require, prior to adopting the resolution or submitting the proposal, the public agency to enter into a written agreement for the performance of new or extended services pursuant to a fire protection contract with, or provide written notice of a proposed fire protection contract to, each affected public agency and recognized employee organization representing firefighters in the affected area, and to conduct a public hearing on the resolution.</p> |

Foster Care

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| SB 238 | Mitchell D | Chaptered: 10/6/2015 pdf html |
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| | Foster care: psychotropic medication. |
| | <p>Existing law authorizes only a juvenile court judicial officer to make orders regarding the administration of psychotropic medications for a dependent child or a ward of the court who has been removed from the physical custody of his or her parent, as specified. Existing law requires court authorization for the administration of psychotropic medication to be based on a request from a physician, indicating the reasons for the request, a description of the child's or ward's diagnosis and behavior, the expected results of the medication, and a description of any side effects of the medication. Existing law requires the officer to approve or deny the request for authorization to administer psychotropic medication, or set the matter for hearing, as specified, within 7 court days. Existing law requires the Judicial Council to adopt rules of court and develop appropriate forms for the implementation of these provisions. This bill would require the Judicial Council, on or before July 1, 2016, to amend and adopt rules of court and develop appropriate forms for the implementation of these provisions, in consultation with the State Department of Social Services, the State Department of Health Care Services, and specified stakeholders. The bill would require the rules of court and forms to address, among other things, that the child or ward and his or her caregiver and court-appointed special advocate, if any, have an opportunity to provide input on the medications being prescribed, and would require the rules of court and forms to include a process for periodic oversight by the court of orders regarding the administration of psychotropic medications. The bill would also require a county child welfare department, probation agency, or other person who requests authorization for the administration of psychotropic medication to provide the child's caregiver with a copy of the resulting court order, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program.</p> |

Health

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| AB 187 | Bonta D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
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| | Medi-Cal: managed care: California Children's Services program. | |
| | Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid provisions. Existing law provides for the department to enter into contracts with managed care systems, hospitals, and prepaid health plans for the provision of various Medi-Cal benefits. Existing law prohibits services covered by the California Children's Services program (CCS) from being incorporated into a Medi-Cal managed care contract entered into after August 1, 1994, until January 1, 2016, except with respect to contracts entered into for county organized health systems in specified counties. This bill would extend the termination of the prohibition against CCS covered services being incorporated into a Medi-Cal managed care contract entered into after August 1, 1994, until January 1, 2017. | |
| AB 266 | Bonta D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Medical marijuana. | |
| | Existing law, the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, an initiative measure enacted by the approval of Proposition 215 at the November 5, 1996, statewide general election, authorizes the use of marijuana for medical purposes. Existing law enacted by the Legislature requires the establishment of a program for the issuance of identification cards to qualified patients so that they may lawfully use marijuana for medical purposes, and requires the establishment of guidelines for the lawful cultivation of marijuana grown for medical use. Existing law provides for the licensure of various professions by boards or bureaus within the Department of Consumer Affairs. Existing law, the Sherman Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Law, provides for the regulation of food, drugs, devices, and cosmetics, as specified. A violation of that law is a crime. This bill, among other things, would enact the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act for the licensure and regulation of medical marijuana and would establish within the Department of Consumer Affairs the Bureau of Medical Marijuana Regulation, under the supervision and control of the Director of Consumer Affairs. The bill would require the director to administer and enforce the provisions of the act. | |
| AB 374 | Nazarian D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Health care coverage: prescription drugs. | |
| | Existing law, the Knox-Keene Health Care Service Plan Act of 1975, provides for the licensure and regulation of health care service plans by the Department of Managed Health Care and makes a willful violation of that act a crime. Existing law also provides for the regulation of health insurers by the Department of Insurance. Existing law imposes various requirements and restrictions on health care service plans and health insurers, including, among other things, requiring a health care service plan or health insurer that provides prescription drug benefits to utilize a specified uniform prior authorization form or electronic authorization process when requiring prior authorization for prescription drug benefits. This bill would authorize a request for an exception to a health care service plan's or health insurer's step therapy process for prescription drugs to be submitted in the same manner as a request for prior authorization for prescription drugs, and would require the plan or insurer to treat, and respond to, the request in the same manner as a request for prior authorization for prescription drugs. | |
| AB 461 | Mullin D | Chaptered: 8/13/2015 pdf html |
| | Coordinated Care Initiative. | |
| | Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid Program provisions. One of the methods by which these services are provided is pursuant to contracts with various types of managed care health plans. Existing federal law provides for the federal Medicare Program, which is a public health insurance program for persons 65 years of age and older and specified persons with disabilities who are under 65 years of age. This bill would authorize a beneficiary receiving services through a regional center who resides in the County of San Mateo to participate voluntarily in the demonstration project if certain requirements are met. | |

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| AB 503 | Rodriguez D | Chaptered: 9/30/2015 pdf html |
| | Emergency medical services. | |
| | Existing law requires the Emergency Medical Services Authority to develop planning and implementation guidelines for emergency medical services (EMS) systems that address several components, including, but not limited to, manpower and training, communications, transportation, and assessment of hospitals and critical care centers. This bill would authorize a health facility, as defined, to release patient-identifiable medical information to a defined EMS provider, a local EMS agency, and the authority, to the extent specific data elements are requested for quality assessment and improvement purposes. The bill would also authorize the authority to develop minimum standards for the implementation of this data collection. | |
| AB 601 | Eggman D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Residential care facilities for the elderly: licensing and regulation. | |
| | Existing law, the California Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly Act, provides for the licensure of residential care facilities for the elderly by the State Department of Social Services. Existing law requires any person seeking a license for a residential care facility for the elderly to file an application with the department, as specified. Among other required application information, if the applicant is a firm, association, organization, partnership, business trust, corporation, or company, evidence of reputable and responsible character is required to be submitted as to the members or shareholders thereof, and the person in charge of the residential care facility for the elderly for which the application for issuance of license or special permit is made. This bill would, among other things, additionally require the applicant to disclose specified information, including whether it is a for-profit or not-for-profit provider, the name, address, and license number of other health, residential, or community care facilities owned, managed, or operated by the same applicant or by any parent organization of the applicant, and the name and address of any person, organization, or entity that owns the real property in which specified facilities are located. The bill would require an applicant to provide additional information, including evidence of the right of possession of the facility prior to the time the license is granted. The bill would also require the department to cross-check specified applicant information, if electronically available, with the State Department of Public Health to determine if the applicant has a prior history of operating, holding a position in, or having ownership in, specified licensed facilities. The bill would require the information specified in these provisions to be provided to the department upon initial application for licensure, and any change in the information to be provided within 30 calendar days of the change, except as specified. The bill would authorize the department to assess an immediate civil penalty of \$1,000 for a violation of these provisions subsequent to licensure. | |
| AB 614 | Brown D | Chaptered: 10/2/2015 pdf html |
| | Health care standards of practice. | |
| | This bill would authorize the department to use a streamlined administrative process to update regulatory references to health care standards of practice adopted by a state or national association when outdated standards are already referenced in the California Code of Regulations. The procedure created by this bill would, among other things, require the department to post the update on the department's Internet Web site, notify stakeholders of the proposed change, submit notice of the proposed change to the Office of Administrative Law for publication in the California Regulatory Notice Register, accept comments, and consider those comments prior to the adoption of the new standards. The bill would require, if a member of the public requests a public hearing, that the department hold a hearing and consider any comments. The bill would, if comments are submitted in opposition to the proposed change, require the department to instead follow the procedures provided for by the Administrative Procedure Act. | |
| AB 658 | Wilk R | Chaptered: 7/16/2015 pdf html |
| | County jails: inmate health care services: rates. | |
| | Existing federal law provides for the federal Medicare Program, which is a public health insurance program for persons 65 years of age and older and specified persons with disabilities who are under 65 years of age. This bill would authorize, for claims that have not previously been paid or otherwise determined by local law | |

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| | enforcement, those costs to be calculated according to the most recent approved cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program. The bill would authorize the hospital, with the approval of the county sheriff, police chief, or other public agency responsible for providing health care services to local law enforcement patients, to choose which cost-to-charge ratio is most appropriate, and would require the hospital to give notice of any change. If the hospital chooses to use the cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program, the bill would require the hospital to attach supporting Medicare documentation and an expected payment calculation to the claim. If a claim does not contain that documentation and payment calculation, or if, within 60 days of the hospital's request for approval to use the cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program, approval is not granted by the county sheriff, police chief, or other public agency responsible for providing health care services to local law enforcement patients, the bill would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development cost-to-charge ratio to be used to calculate the payment. | |
| AB 664 | Dodd D | Chaptered: 9/30/2015 pdf html |
| | Medi-Cal: universal assessment tool report. | |
| | Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services, under which qualified low-income individuals receive health care services, including, among other services, home- and community-based services. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid Program provisions. This bill would extend the operation of these provisions until September 1, 2018. The bill would instead require the State Department of Health Care Services, the State Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Aging to report to the Legislature on the stakeholder workgroup's progress no later than December 1, 2016. The bill would instead require the State Department of Health Care Services, the State Department of Social Services, and the California Department of Aging to report to the Legislature on the results of the initial use of the universal assessment process no later than 15 months after the implementation of the universal assessment process. The bill would require this report to include, among other things, findings from consumers assessed using the universal assessment tool regarding their satisfaction of the universal assessment process. | |
| AB 1129 | Burke D | Chaptered: 9/30/2015 pdf html |
| | Emergency medical services: data and information system. | |
| | Existing law requires a local EMS agency to plan, implement, and evaluate an emergency medical services system, as specified, and authorizes the local EMS agency to develop and submit a plan to the authority for an emergency medical services system according to prescribed guidelines that address data collection and evaluation, among other things. This legislation would allow for the decentralization of emergency medical services data systems and jeopardize emergency patient care, health outcomes, and increase costs locally and at the state and federal level. The bill would not modify or affect a written contract or agreement executed before January 1, 2016, between a local EMS agency and an emergency medical care provider. -County Opposed | |
| AB 1223 | O'Donnell D | Chaptered: 9/30/2015 pdf html |
| | Emergency medical services: ambulance transportation. | |
| | Existing law establishes the Emergency Medical Services Authority, and requires it to adopt regulations that further the purpose of establishing a statewide system for emergency medical services. Existing law, the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act, authorizes each county to develop an emergency medical services program. The act further authorizes a local emergency medical services (EMS) agency to develop and submit a plan to the Emergency Medical Services Authority for an emergency medical services system, and requires the local EMS agency, using state minimum standards, to establish policies and procedures to assure medical control of the emergency medical services system that may require basic life support emergency medical transportation services to meet any medical control requirements, including dispatch, patient destination policies, patient care guidelines, and quality assurance requirements. This bill would authorize a local EMS agency to adopt policies and procedures relating to ambulance patient offload time, as defined. The bill would require the authority to develop a statewide | |

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| | standard methodology for the calculation and reporting by a local EMS agency of ambulance patient offload time. | |
| SB 36 | Lara D | Chaptered: 10/09/2015 pdf html |
| | Health care coverage: immigration status. | |
| | Current law extends eligibility for full-scope Medi-Cal benefits to individuals under 19 years of age who do not have, or are unable to establish, satisfactory immigration status, commencing after the Director of Health Care Services determines that systems have been programmed for implementation of this extension, but in no case sooner than May 1, 2016. This bill would require individuals under 19 years of age enrolled in restricted-scope Medi-Cal at the time the director makes the above-described determination to be enrolled in the full scope of Medi-Cal benefits, if otherwise eligible, pursuant to an eligibility and enrollment plan. | |
| SB 36 | Hernandez D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Medi-Cal: demonstration project. | |
| | Existing law provides for the Medi-Cal program, which is administered by the State Department of Health Care Services and under which qualified low-income persons receive health care benefits. The Medi-Cal program is, in part, governed and funded by federal Medicaid provisions. Existing law provides for a demonstration project under the Medi-Cal program until October 31, 2015, to implement specified objectives, including better care coordination for seniors and persons with disabilities and maximization of opportunities to reduce the number of uninsured individuals. This bill would authorize the Director of Health Care Services, if the State Department of Health Care Services has not received adequate assurances from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services before November 1, 2015, that the department's application for a subsequent demonstration project, as specified, is likely to be approved with an effective date of November 1, 2015, to request one or more temporary extensions until the approved effective date of the subsequent demonstration project. The bill would require the department, under an approved temporary extension, subsequent demonstration project, or as otherwise permitted under existing federal Medicaid law, to extend and apply existing payment methodologies and allocations, as prescribed. Requirements of the bill would be implemented only to the extent that any necessary federal approvals are obtained and federal financial participation is available and is not jeopardized. The bill would authorize the department, until July 1, 2016, to implement, interpret, or make specific these provisions by means of all-county letters, plan letters, plan or provider bulletins, or similar instructions without taking regulatory action. | |
| SB 145 | Pan D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan. | |
| | Existing state law requires, for the 2015-16 fiscal year, the State Department of Health Care Services to provide a grant to a health benefit plan that is funded by contributions from agricultural employers, as specified, upon an appropriation of funds for this purpose. The Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan is a nonprofit voluntary employees beneficiary association, organized under federal law, that provides payments for health care and other benefits to its members. This bill would require, until January 1, 2021, the department to annually reimburse the Robert F. Kennedy Farm Workers Medical Plan up to \$3,000,000 per year for claim payments that exceed \$70,000 made by the plan on behalf of an eligible employee or dependent for a single episode of care on or after September 1, 2016. The bill would require the department to make the reimbursement payment within 60 days after it receives specified claims data from the plan. | |
| SB 319 | Beall D | Chaptered: 10/6/2015 pdf html |
| | Child welfare services: public health nursing. | |
| | Existing law requires the State Department of Social Services to establish a program of public health nursing in the child welfare services program, and requires counties to use the services of the foster care public health nurse under this program. Existing law requires the foster care public health nurse to perform specified duties, including participating in medical care planning and coordinating for a child in foster care. This bill would authorize a foster care public health nurse, as part of his or her requirement to participate in medical | |

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| | care planning and coordinating for a child, to monitor and oversee the child's use of psychotropic medications. The bill would also require a foster care public health nurse to assist a nonminor dependent to make informed decisions about his or her health care. By imposing this additional duty on foster care public health nurses, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| Infrastructure | | |
| AB 313 | Atkins D | Chaptered: 9/22/2015 pdf html |
| | Enhanced infrastructure financing districts. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county, defined to include a city and county, to establish an enhanced infrastructure financing district to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance, including, but not limited to, the acquisition, construction, or rehabilitation of housing for persons of low and moderate income for rent or purchase. Existing law requires proceedings for the establishment of a district to be instituted by the adoption of a resolution of intention to establish the proposed district, and imposes specified duties on the legislative body with respect to the preparation, proposal, and adoption of an infrastructure financing plan after that resolution of intent is adopted. This bill would require, after the adoption of a resolution of intention to establish the proposed district, the legislative body to send a copy of the resolution to the public financing authority. This bill would revise the duties of the public financing authority after the resolution of intention to establish the proposed district has been adopted, so that the public financing authority, instead of the legislative body, will perform the specified duties related to the preparation, proposal, and adoption of the infrastructure financing plan and the adoption of the formation of the district. The bill would also require the legislative body to establish the public financing authority at the same time that it adopts a resolution of intention. | |
| Mental Health | | |
| AB 1194 | Eggman D | Chaptered: 10/7/2015 pdf html |
| | Mental health: involuntary commitment. | |
| | Existing law, the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act, provides for the involuntary commitment and treatment of persons with specified mental disorders for the protection of the persons so committed. Under the act, when a person, as a result of mental health disorder, is a danger to others, or to himself or herself, or gravely disabled, he or she may, upon probable cause, be taken into custody by a peace officer, member of the attending staff of an evaluation facility, designated members of a mobile crisis team, or other designated professional person, and placed in a facility designated by the county and approved by the State Department of Social Services as a facility for 72-hour treatment and evaluation. Existing law requires, when determining if probable cause exists to take a person into custody, or cause a person to be taken into custody pursuant to the provisions described above, any person who is authorized to take or cause that person to be taken into custody to consider available relevant information about the historical course of the person's mental disorder, as specified, if the authorized person determines that information has a reasonable bearing on the determination described above. This bill would provide that, when determining if a person should be taken into custody pursuant to the provisions described above, the individual making that determination shall consider available relevant information about the historical course of the person's mental disorder if the individual concludes that the information has a reasonable bearing on the determination, and that the individual shall not be limited to consideration of the danger of imminent harm. | |
| SB 29 | Beall D | Chaptered: 10/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Peace officer training: mental health. | |
| | Existing law requires specified categories of law enforcement officers to meet training standards pursuant to courses of training certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Existing law | |

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| | requires POST to include in its basic training course adequate instruction in the handling of persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness, or both. Existing law also requires POST to establish and keep updated a continuing education classroom training course relating to law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons. This bill would require POST to require field training officers who are instructors for the field training program to have at least 8 hours of crisis intervention behavioral health training, as specified. The bill would also require POST to require as part of its existing field training officer course, at least 4 hours of training relating to competencies of the field training program and police training program that addresses how to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability, to be completed as specified. | |
| Miscellaneous | | |
| AB 189 | Bloom D | Chaptered: 10/1/2015 pdf html |
| | Arts Council: cultural districts. | |
| | The Dixon-Zenovich-Maddy California Arts Act of 1975 establishes the Arts Council, consisting of 11 appointed members, sets forth the duties of the council, and authorizes the council to accept federal grants and unrestricted gifts, donations, bequests, or grants of funds from private sources and public agencies for the purposes of encouraging artistic awareness, promoting the employment of artists, and providing for the exhibition of art works in public buildings, among others. This bill would additionally require the Arts Council to establish criteria and guidelines for state-designated cultural districts, as defined. The bill would require the council to establish a competitive application system for certification, provide technical and promotional support for certified state-designated cultural districts, and collaborate with public agencies and private entities to maximize the benefits of state-designated cultural districts. The bill would provide that a geographical area within the state may be certified as a state-designated cultural district by applying to the council for certification, as provided. The bill would also provide that certification as a state-designated cultural district is effective for 5 years, after which the district may renew certification every 3 years. | |
| AB 630 | Linder R | Chaptered: 9/30/2015 pdf html |
| | Public officers and employees: oath of office. | |
| | The California Constitution requires Members of the Legislature, and all public officers and employees, to take and subscribe a specified oath of office or affirmation. The California Constitution permits inferior officers and employees to be exempted by law from this requirement. Existing law, in the case of particular officers, requires the oath, after being administered, to be filed in designated offices. This bill would authorize a county board of supervisors to require a new oath or affirmation to be filed within 10 days of a legal change in name, delegated authority, or department by an officer or department head of that county. The bill would authorize the county to maintain a record, subject to disclosure under the California Public Records Act, of each person so required to file a new oath of office, indicating whether or not the person has complied. The bill would specify that failure to comply with this requirement for a new oath or affirmation is not punishable as a crime. This bill would specify that the powers of an appointed officer of a county are no longer granted upon the officer's departure from office, and would authorize a county board of supervisors to require the appointing authority to rescind these powers in writing by filing a revocation in the same manner as the oath of office was filed. | |
| ACR 7 | Rodriguez D | Chaptered: 9/10/2015 pdf html |
| | National Night Out. | |
| | This measure would proclaim August 4, 2015, as National Night Out in California and would urge the people of California to observe and participate in National Night Out. | |
| ACR 25 | Oberholte R | Chaptered: 4/23/2015 pdf html |

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| | Pi Day. | |
| | This measure would proclaim March 14, 2015, as Pi Day. The measure would also encourage the organization of appropriate activities that celebrate the significance of Pi, urge the formation of partnerships that provide extended exposure to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) learning opportunities, and support the creation of cross-sector STEM networks linking partners from various specified entities to address regional needs in STEM education through information and resource sharing. | |
| SB 35 | Wolk D | Chaptered: 9/1/2015 pdf html |
| | Income and corporation taxes: deductions: disaster relief. | |
| | The Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law provide for a deduction of specified losses sustained as a result of disasters occurring in California in an area determined by the President of the United States to warrant specified federal assistance or, for other disasters for which a specific law has been enacted, proclaimed by the Governor to be in a state of emergency. Those laws allow a taxpayer to elect to deduct those disaster losses on the return for the taxable year preceding the taxable year in which the disaster occurred, filed by a specified date. Existing law also allows individual and corporate taxpayers to utilize net operating losses and carryovers and carrybacks of those losses for purposes of offsetting their individual and corporate tax liabilities. Existing law, for net operating losses incurred in taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2013, allows net operating losses to be carrybacks to each of the preceding 2 taxable years, as provided, but varies the amount of carryback allowed for net operating losses attributed to specified taxable years. This bill would, for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2014, and before January 1, 2024, extend the provisions relating to disaster losses to losses in any city, county, or city and county that is proclaimed by the Governor to be in a state of emergency and would extend the time during which a taxpayer may claim the deduction. This bill would additionally provide that any law that suspends, defers, reduces, or otherwise diminishes the deduction of a net operating loss, other than those variations already imposed in existing law, shall not apply to a net operating loss attributable to these specified disaster losses. | |
| SB 181 | Committee on Governance and Finance | Chaptered: 6/1/2015 pdf html |
| | Validations. | |
| | This bill would enact the First Validating Act of 2015, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. | |
| SB 182 | Committee on Governance and Finance | Chaptered: 9/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Validations. | |
| | This bill would enact the Second Validating Act of 2015, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. | |
| SB 183 | Committee on Governance and Finance | Chaptered: 7/2/2015 pdf html |
| | Validations. | |
| | This bill would enact the Third Validating Act of 2015, which would validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. | |
| SB 184 | Committee on Governance and Finance | Chaptered: 9/4/2015 pdf html |
| | Local government: omnibus bill. | |
| | Existing law authorizes specified local entities, including cities, counties, special districts, and other authorized public corporations, to collect fees, tolls, rates, rentals, or other charges for water, sanitation, storm drainage, or sewerage system services and facilities. Under existing law, a local entity may collect these charges on the property tax roll at the same time and in the same manner as its general property taxes. If the entity collects these charges in this way, existing law requires the entity to prepare and file with its clerk or secretary a report describing each parcel of property receiving the above-described services and the amount charged. Existing law requires the clerk or secretary to annually file the report with the auditor. Existing law defines "clerk" for these purposes to mean the official clerk or secretary of the entity. Existing law also authorizes these local entities to fix fees or charges for the privilege of connecting parcels of property to their sanitation | |

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| | or sewerage facilities, subject to specified procedures. Existing law requires the legislative body of the local entity to annually file with the auditor a list of lots or parcels of land subject to these fees or charges and the amounts of the installments of the fees or charges to be entered against the affected lots or parcels of land. Existing law requires the auditor to enter on the assessment roll the amounts of installments of these fees or charges. Existing law defines the auditor, for the purposes of these provisions, as the financial officer of the local entity. This bill would instead define "clerk" to mean the clerk of the legislative body or secretary of the entity. The bill would clarify that the above-described provisions relating to the authority and duties of the auditor apply only to the county auditor. The bill would also make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions. | |
| SB 355 | Lara D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy. | |
| | Existing law establishes the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, which is responsible for the preservation and protection of specified lands within the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains area, as defined. Existing law prescribes the duties of the conservancy, and requires that its governing board be comprised of 13 voting members and 7 nonvoting members, as specified. Existing law requires that the voting members include, among other members, representatives of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments, the Gateway Cities Council of Governments, and the Orange County Division of the League of California Cities, as prescribed. This bill would increase to 15 the number of voting members of the governing board, by adding 2 members who are residents of a city not otherwise represented on the governing board at the time of the member's appointment, one bordering the Lower Los Angeles River and the other bordering the San Gabriel River, as prescribed. The bill would also increase the number of nonvoting members to 9, and would require that one Member of the Senate, appointed by the Senate Committee on Rules, and one Member of the Assembly, appointed by the Speaker of the Assembly, serve as nonvoting members. The bill would require that those legislators serving as nonvoting members participate in activities of the conservancy only to the extent that participation is compatible with his or her duties as a legislator. | |
| Personnel | | |
| AB 622 | Hernández, Roger D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Employment: E-Verify system: unlawful business practices. | |
| | The federal E-Verify system, administered by the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services, the United States Department of Homeland Security, and the United States Social Security Administration, enables participating employers to use the system, on a voluntary basis, to verify that the employees they hire are authorized to work in the United States. This bill would expand the definition of an unlawful employment practice to prohibit an employer or any other person or entity from using the E-Verify system at a time or in a manner not required by a specified federal law or not authorized by a federal agency memorandum of understanding to check the employment authorization status of an existing employee or an applicant who has not received an offer of employment, except as required by federal law or as a condition of receiving federal funds. The bill would also require an employer that uses the E-Verify system to provide to the affected employee any notification issued by the Social Security Administration or the United States Department of Homeland Security containing information specific to the employee's E-Verify case or any tentative nonconfirmation notice. The bill would provide for a civil penalty of \$10,000 for an employer for each violation of these provisions. The bill would include a statement of intent. | |
| Planning/Growth Management/Land Use | | |
| AB 349 | Gonzalez D | Chaptered: 9/4/2015 pdf html |

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| | Common interest developments: property use and maintenance. | |
| | The Davis-Stirling Common Interest Development Act governs the management and operation of common interest developments. Existing law provides that, unless otherwise provided in the common interest development declaration, the association is responsible for repairing, replacing, or maintaining the common area, other than exclusive use common area, and the owner of each separate interest is responsible for maintaining that separate interest and any exclusive use common area appurtenant to that interest. Existing law makes void and unenforceable any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies that prohibits use of low water-using plants, or prohibits or restricts compliance with water-efficient landscape ordinances or regulations on the use of water, as specified. This bill would make void and unenforceable any provision of the governing documents or architectural or landscaping guidelines or policies that prohibits use of artificial turf or any other synthetic surface that resembles grass. | |
| SB 350 | De León D | Chaptered: 10/7/2015 pdf html |
| | Clean Energy and Pollution Reduction Act of 2015. | |
| | (1) Under existing law, the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has regulatory jurisdiction over public utilities, including electrical corporations, community choice aggregators, and electric service providers, while local publicly owned electric utilities are under the direction of their governing boards. Existing law imposes various regulations on public utilities and local publicly owned electric utilities. Existing law establishes the California Renewables Portfolio Standards (RPS) Program, which is codified in the Public Utilities Act, with the target to increase the amount of electricity generated per year from eligible renewable energy resources to an amount that equals at least 33% of the total electricity sold to retail customers per year by December 31, 2020. Under existing law, a violation of the Public Utilities Act is a crime. This bill would require that the amount of electricity generated and sold to retail customers per year from eligible renewable energy resources be increased to 50% by December 31, 2030, as provided. The bill would make other revisions to the RPS Program and to certain other requirements on public utilities and publicly owned electric utilities. | |
| SB 379 | Jackson D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Land use: general plan: safety element. | |
| | 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 unreasonable risks associated with the effects of various geologic hazards, flooding, and wildland and urban fires. This bill would, upon the next revision of a local hazard mitigation plan on or after January 1, 2017, or, if the local jurisdiction has not adopted a local hazard mitigation plan, beginning on or before January 1, 2022, require the safety element to be reviewed and updated as necessary to address climate adaptation and resiliency strategies applicable to that city or county. The bill would require the update to include a set of goals, policies, and objectives based on a vulnerability assessment, identifying the risks that climate change poses to the local jurisdiction and the geographic areas at risk from climate change impacts, and specified information from federal, state, regional, and local agencies. By imposing new duties on cities and counties, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| Property Tax | | |
| AB 571 | Brown D | Chaptered: 10/5/2015 pdf html |
| | Property taxation: property statement: change in ownership statement: penalty. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the county board of equalization or the assessment appeals board to order the penalty abated for failure to file a specified property statement or change in ownership statement, if the assessee establishes to the satisfaction of the county board of equalization or the assessment appeals board that the failure to file the property statement or change in ownership statement within the specified time required was due to reasonable cause and not due to willful neglect and the assessee has filed a written application for abatement of the penalty, as provided. This bill would instead authorize the penalty to be abated if the | |

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| | assessee establishes that the failure to file the property statement or change in ownership statement within the specified time period was due to reasonable cause and circumstances beyond the assessee's control, and occurred notwithstanding the exercise of ordinary care in the absence of willful neglect. | |
| Public Safety | | |
| AB 69 | Rodriguez D | Chaptered: 10/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Peace officers: body-worn cameras. | |
| | Existing law makes it a crime to intentionally record a confidential communication without the consent of all parties to the communication. Existing law exempts specified peace officers from that provision if they are acting within the scope of their authority. This bill would require law enforcement agencies to consider specified best practices when establishing policies and procedures for downloading and storing data from body-worn cameras, including, among other things, prohibiting the unauthorized use, duplication, or distribution of the data, and establishing storage periods for evidentiary and nonevidentiary data, as defined. | |
| AB 71 | Rodriguez D | Chaptered: 10/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Criminal justice: reporting. | |
| | Existing law requires each sheriff and police chief to annually furnish a report to the Department of Justice on justifiable homicides. This bill would require each law enforcement agency to annually furnish to the Department of Justice a report of specified incidents when a peace officer is involved in the use of force. The bill would require that for each of these incidents, the report also include specified information about that incident. The bill would require the department to include a summary of the annual reports in its annual crime report. By imposing new duties on local agencies, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 231 | Eggman D | Chaptered: 10/5/2015 pdf html |
| | Parole: placement at release. | |
| | Existing law generally requires that an inmate released on parole or postrelease community supervision be returned to the county of last legal residence. Existing law provides, however, that an inmate who is released on parole for an offense involving stalking shall not be returned to a location within 35 miles of the victim's actual residence or place of employment if specified criteria are satisfied. This bill would make that provision applicable to an inmate released on postrelease community supervision. The bill would also authorize a supervising county agency to transfer an inmate who is released on postrelease community supervision to another county, upon approval of the receiving county, when the inmate cannot be placed in his or her county of last legal residence in compliance with this provision. The bill would make other clarifying changes. By imposing additional duties on supervising county agencies, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| AB 249 | Oberholte R | Chaptered: 8/13/2015 pdf html |
| | Criminal courts: appeals: fees. | |
| | This bill would prohibit a defendant from taking an appeal from a judgment of conviction solely on the ground of an error in the imposition or calculation of fines, penalty assessments, surcharges, fees, or costs unless the defendant first presents the claim in the trial court at the time of sentencing, or if the error is not discovered until after sentencing, the defendant first makes a motion for correction in the trial court, which may be made informally in writing. The bill would also allow a motion for correction in the trial court regarding the calculation of presentence custody credits to be made informally in writing. The bill would provide that the trial court retains jurisdiction after a notice of appeal has been filed to correct any error in the calculation of presentence custody credits, or in the imposition or calculation of fines, penalty assessments, surcharges, fees, or costs, upon the defendant's request for correction. | |
| AB 256 | Jones-Sawyer D | Chaptered: 10/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Falsifying evidence. | |

2015 Chaptered Legislation

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| | Existing law makes it a misdemeanor for a person to willfully destroy or conceal any book, paper record, instrument in writing, or other matter or thing knowing that it is about to be produced in evidence in a trial, inquiry, or investigation. This bill would expand that prohibition to include a digital image, or a video recording that is owned by another, and to prohibit erasure of those books, papers, records, instruments in writing, digital images, video recordings that are owned by others, or their content. | |
| AB 658 | Wilk R | Chaptered: 7/16/2015 pdf html |
| | County jails: inmate health care services: rates. | |
| | Existing federal law provides for the federal Medicare Program, which is a public health insurance program for persons 65 years of age and older and specified persons with disabilities who are under 65 years of age. This bill would authorize, for claims that have not previously been paid or otherwise determined by local law enforcement, those costs to be calculated according to the most recent approved cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program. The bill would authorize the hospital, with the approval of the county sheriff, police chief, or other public agency responsible for providing health care services to local law enforcement patients, to choose which cost-to-charge ratio is most appropriate, and would require the hospital to give notice of any change. If the hospital chooses to use the cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program, the bill would require the hospital to attach supporting Medicare documentation and an expected payment calculation to the claim. If a claim does not contain that documentation and payment calculation, or if, within 60 days of the hospital's request for approval to use the cost-to-charge ratio from the Medicare Program, approval is not granted by the county sheriff, police chief, or other public agency responsible for providing health care services to local law enforcement patients, the bill would require the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development cost-to-charge ratio to be used to calculate the payment. | |
| AB 879 | Burke D | Chaptered: 8/17/2015 pdf html |
| | Juveniles: court proceedings: notice. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the juvenile court to adjudge a minor who has been abused or neglected, or who meets other specified criteria, to be a dependent child of the court. Existing law requires the court to conduct various hearings regarding children who are, or who may become, dependent children, including a detention hearing, jurisdictional hearing, and dispositional hearing. Existing law requires the probation officer, the social worker, or the clerk of the court to provide notice of those hearings to certain persons, including parents, guardians, the child, if he or she is 10 years of age or older, adult relatives under certain conditions, and attorneys for the parents or guardians, as specified. This bill would, until January 1, 2019, generally allow service for the above purposes to be made by electronic mail if the county, or city and county, and the court choose to permit service by electronic mail and the person to be served has consented to service by electronic mail by signing a specified form, as provided. -County Supported | |
| AB 1056 | Atkins D | Chaptered: 10/2/2015 pdf html |
| | Second Chance Program. | |
| | Existing law, until January 1, 2020, establishes the Social Innovation Financing Program, and requires the Board of State and Community Corrections to administer the program. Existing law, among other things, authorizes the board, upon appropriation of funds by the Legislature for deposit into the Recidivism Reduction Fund, to award grants in amounts of not less than \$500,000 and not more than \$2,000,000 to each of 3 counties, selected as specified, for the purpose of entering into a pay for success or social innovation financing contract, pursuant to which private investors agree to provide financing to service providers to achieve social outcomes agreed upon in advance and the government agency that is a party to the contractual agreement agrees to pay a return on the investment to the investors if successful programmatic outcomes are achieved by the service provider. Existing law limits the total amount of the grants awarded to \$5,000,000. Existing law requires each county receiving an award to report annually to the Governor and Legislature on the status of its program. Existing law requires the board to compile the county reports and submit a summary report to the Governor and the Legislature annually. This bill would extend the operation of that | |

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| | program and the reporting requirements until January 1, 2022. -County Supported | |
| SB 29 | Beall D | Chaptered: 10/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Peace officer training: mental health. | |
| | Existing law requires specified categories of law enforcement officers to meet training standards pursuant to courses of training certified by the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). Existing law requires POST to include in its basic training course adequate instruction in the handling of persons with developmental disabilities or mental illness, or both. Existing law also requires POST to establish and keep updated a continuing education classroom training course relating to law enforcement interaction with developmentally disabled and mentally ill persons. This bill would require POST to require field training officers who are instructors for the field training program to have at least 8 hours of crisis intervention behavioral health training, as specified. The bill would also require POST to require as part of its existing field training officer course, at least 4 hours of training relating to competencies of the field training program and police training program that addresses how to interact with persons with mental illness or intellectual disability, to be completed as specified. | |
| SB 178 | Leno D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Privacy: electronic communications: search warrant. | |
| | Existing law provides that a search warrant may only be issued upon probable cause, supported by affidavit, naming or describing the person to be searched or searched for, and particularly describing the property, thing, or things and the place to be searched. Existing law also states the grounds upon which a search warrant may be issued, including, among other grounds, when the property or things to be seized consist of any item or constitute any evidence that tends to show a felony has been committed, or tends to show that a particular person has committed a felony, or when there is a warrant to arrest a person. This bill would prohibit a government entity from compelling the production of or access to electronic communication information or electronic device information, as defined, without a search warrant, wiretap order, order for electronic reader records, or subpoena issued pursuant under specified conditions, except for emergency situations, as defined. The bill would also specify the conditions under which a government entity may access electronic device information by means of physical interaction or electronic communication with the device, such as pursuant to a search warrant, wiretap order, or consent of the owner of the device. The bill would define a number of terms for those purposes, including, among others, "electronic communication information" and "electronic device information," which the bill defines collectively as "electronic information." The bill would require a search warrant for electronic information to describe with particularity the information to be seized and would impose other conditions on the use of the search warrant or wiretap order and the information obtained, including retention, sealing, and disclosure. The bill would require a warrant directed to a service provider to be accompanied by an order requiring the service provider to verify by affidavit the authenticity of electronic information that it produces, as specified. The bill would authorize a service provider to voluntarily disclose, when not otherwise prohibited by state or federal law, electronic communication information or subscriber information, and would require a government entity to destroy information so provided within 90 days, subject to specified exceptions. The bill would, subject to exceptions, require a government entity that executes a search warrant pursuant to these provisions to contemporaneously provide notice, as specified, to the identified target, that informs the recipient that information about the recipient has been compelled or requested, and that states the nature of the government investigation under which the information is sought. The bill would authorize a delay of 90 days, subject to renewal, for providing the notice under specified conditions that constitute an emergency. The bill would require the notice to include a copy of the warrant or statement describing the emergency under which the notice was delayed. The bill would provide that any person in a trial, hearing, or proceeding may move to suppress any electronic information obtained or retained in violation of its provisions, according to specified procedures. The bill would provide that a California or foreign corporation, and its officers, employees, and agents, are not subject to any cause of action for providing records, information, facilities, or assistance in | |

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| | accordance with the terms of a warrant, wiretap order, or other order issued pursuant to these provisions. | |
| SB 212 | Mendoza D | Chaptered: 8/7/2015 pdf html |
| | Controlled substances: factors in aggravation. | |
| | Existing law makes it a felony, punishable by imprisonment in a county jail for 3, 5, or 7 years, to manufacture, compound, convert, produce, derive, process, or prepare by chemical extraction, or by means of chemical synthesis, any controlled substance. Existing law requires the sentencing court to consider the fact that a person under 16 years of age resided in a structure in which a violation of these provisions occurred as a factor in aggravation, except when a specified enhancement is pled and proved. This bill would specifically authorize the sentencing court to consider the fact that a violation involving methamphetamine occurred within 200 feet of an occupied residence as a factor in aggravation, except when a specified enhancement is pled and proved. The bill would also specifically authorize the sentencing court to consider the fact that a violation of this section involving the use of a volatile solvent to chemically extract concentrated cannabis occurred within 300 feet of an occupied residence as a factor in aggravation. | |
| Public Works | | |
| AB 219 | Daly D | Chaptered: 10/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Public works: concrete delivery. | |
| | Existing law defines "public works," for purposes of requirements regarding the payment of prevailing wages for public works projects, to include, among other things, the hauling of refuse from a public works site to an outside disposal location with respect to contracts involving any state agency, including the California State University and the University of California, or any political subdivision of the state. Existing law makes a willful violation of law relating to payment of prevailing wages on public works a misdemeanor. This bill would expand the definition of "public works" for these purposes to include the hauling and delivery of ready-mixed concrete, as defined, to carry out a public works contract, with respect to contracts involving any state agency or any political subdivision of the state. The bill would require the applicable prevailing wage rate to be the rate for the geographic area in which the concrete factory or batching plant is located. The bill would require the entity hauling or delivering ready-mixed concrete to enter into a written subcontract agreement with, and to provide employee payroll and time records to, the party that engaged that entity, as specified. The bill would provide that these provisions apply to public works contracts awarded on or after July 1, 2016. By expanding the definition of a crime, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| Redevelopment | | |
| AB 2 | Alejo D | Chaptered: 9/22/2015 pdf html |
| | Community revitalization authority. | |
| | This bill would authorize certain local agencies to form a community revitalization authority (authority) within a community revitalization and investment area, as defined, to carry out provisions of the Community Redevelopment Law in that area for purposes related to, among other things, infrastructure, affordable housing, and economic revitalization. The bill would provide for the financing of these activities by, among other things, the issuance of bonds serviced by tax increment revenues, and would require the authority to adopt a community revitalization and investment plan for the community revitalization and investment area that includes elements describing and governing revitalization activities. The bill would also provide for periodic audits by the Controller. The bill would also require the Department of Housing and Community Development, advised by an advisory committee appointed by the Director of Housing and Community Development, to periodically review the calculation of surplus housing under these provisions. The bill would require certain funds allocated to the authority to be deposited into a separate Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund and used by the authority for the purposes of increasing, improving, and preserving the | |

community's supply, as specified. The bill would, if an authority failed to expend or encumber surplus funds in the Low and Moderate Income Housing Fund, require those funds to be disbursed towards housing needs. The bill would require an authority to make relocation provisions for persons displaced by a plan and replace certain dwelling units that are destroyed or removed as part of a plan. The bill would authorize an authority to acquire interests in real property and exercise the power of eminent domain, as specified.

Resources

[AB 1034](#) [Obernolte](#) R Chaptered: 10/8/2015 [pdf](#) [html](#)

Surface mining: reclamation plans: renewable energy generation facility.

The Surface Mining and Reclamation Act of 1975 prohibits a person from conducting a surface mining operation unless, among other things, a reclamation plan has been submitted to and approved by the lead agency, as defined, for the mining operation. The act requires an amendment to an approved reclamation plan that is a substantial deviation from the approved plan to be filed with, and approved by, the lead agency and submitted to the Director of Conservation for review and comment. This bill would require a lead agency to consider the construction and operation of a renewable energy generation facility on disturbed mined lands to be an interim use and would prohibit a lead agency from requiring an amendment to an approved reclamation plan if specified criteria are met. The bill would require a lead agency to submit to the director an application for an operating permit for a renewable energy generation facility prior to approving the operating permit, as specified. The bill would authorize the director to prepare written comments to the operating permit application and would require the lead agency, at least 30 days prior to approving the operating permit, to prepare a written response to the director's comments. By adding to the duties of a local government acting as a lead agency, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

-County Sponsored

Retirement/PERS

[AB 663](#) [Irwin](#) D Chaptered: 7/2/2015 [pdf](#) [html](#)

County retirement boards: alternate members.

The County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 sets forth the membership composition requirements for the board of retirement of counties subject to certain provisions regarding safety members. The 4th, 5th, 6th, and 9th members are required to be qualified electors of the county who are not connected with the government, except that one may be a member of the county board of supervisors. Existing law authorizes a retirement board, in a county of the 9th class, to appoint an alternate member for the 4th, 5th, 6th, or 9th member of the board, as specified. This bill would additionally authorize a county of the 13th class, also known as Ventura County, to appoint an alternate member for the 4th, 5th, 6th, or 9th member of the board. This bill contains other related provisions.

[AB 868](#) [Obernolte](#) R Chaptered: 7/14/2015 [pdf](#) [html](#)

Public Employees' Retirement System: contracting agencies: transfer of membership.

Existing law authorizes public agencies to contract with the Board of Administration of the Public Employees' Retirement System to have their employees become members of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS). Existing law, with respect to the Counties of Kern, Los Angeles, and Orange, permits the board to enter into an agreement with the contracting agency's board of retirement for termination of the contracting agency's participation in PERS and inclusion of the agency's employees in the retirement system of the city or county, if specified requirements are met, with respect to certain safety members, including firefighters. The County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 establishes a corresponding authority for accepting these people as members for retirement systems created pursuant to its provisions, and granting them service credit for their service credited by PERS. This bill would expand the application of the provisions described above to the

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| | County of San Bernardino. | |
| SB 354 | Huff R | Chaptered: 8/10/2015 pdf html |
| | California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013: joint powers authority: employees. | |
| | <p>The California Public Employees' Pension Reform Act of 2013 (PEPRA) requires a public retirement system, as defined, to modify its plan or plans to comply with the act and, among other provisions, establishes new retirement formulas that may not be exceeded by a public employer offering a defined benefit pension plan for employees first hired on or after January 1, 2013. Existing law, the Joint Exercise of Powers Act, generally authorizes 2 or more public agencies, by agreement, to jointly exercise any common power, which may include hiring employees and establishing retirement systems. PEPRA authorizes a joint powers authority formed by the Cities of Brea and Fullerton on or after January 1, 2013, to provide employees who are not new members under PEPRA with the defined benefit plan or formula that was received by those employees from their respective employers on December 31, 2012, if they are employed by the joint powers authority without a break in service of more than 180 days. This bill would revise the period during which the authorization granted to a joint powers authority formed by the Cities of Brea and Fullerton to provide specified retirement benefits, as described above, may be applied. The bill would authorize the authority to provide its employees the defined benefit plan or formula that those employees received from their respective employers prior to the exercise of a common power, to which the employee is associated, by the joint powers authority to any employee of specified cities who is not a new member and subsequently is employed by the joint powers authority within 180 days of the city providing for the exercise of a common power, to which the employee was associated, by the joint powers authority.</p> | |
| Sales & Use Tax | | |
| SB 533 | Pan D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Cities and counties: sales and use tax agreements. | |
| | <p>The Bradley-Burns Uniform Local Sales and Use Tax Law authorizes counties and cities to impose local sales and use taxes in conformity with the Sales and Use Tax Law. That law provides that for the purpose of a local sales tax adopted pursuant to that law, all retail sales are consummated at the place of business of the retailer unless otherwise specified. This bill would repeal that prohibition and instead prohibit, on or after January 1, 2016, a local agency from entering into any form of agreement that would result, directly or indirectly, in the payment, transfer, diversion, or rebate of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues to any person, as defined, for any purpose, if the agreement results in a reduction in the amount of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues that, in the absence of the agreement, would be received by another local agency and the retailer continues to maintain a physical presence within the territorial jurisdiction of that other local agency, with specified exceptions. This bill would also impose specified notification and reporting requirements on a local agency entering into an agreement that results in a reduction of the amount of Bradley-Burns local tax revenues, that in the absence of the agreement, would be received by another local agency, prior to the ratification of that agreement. This bill would also require any local agency to post such an agreement on its Internet Web site, including any agreements entered into prior to January 1, 2016, that are still in effect. By imposing these notification and reporting requirements on a local agency, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would exclude from these provisions any mutual tax revenue sharing agreement between local agencies to pay, transfer, or divert Bradley-Burns local tax revenues to another local agency, and where the agreement would not result, directly or indirectly, in the payment, transfer, diversion, or rebate of those tax revenues to a retailer.</p> | |
| AB 566 | O'Donnell D | Chaptered: 8/17/2015 pdf html |
| | School facilities: leasing property: construction contracts. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the governing board of a school district, without advertising for bids, to lease real property for a minimum rental of \$1 per year if the instrument by which this property is leased requires the | |

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| | lessee to construct, or provide for the construction of, a building to be used by the school district and provides that the title to the building shall vest in the school district at the end of the lease. Existing law, until January 1, 2019, also requires the instrument, if funds for the instrument derive from the Leroy F. Greene School Facilities Act of 1998 or from any future state school bond for a public project that involves a projected expenditure of \$1,000,000 or more, to provide that the person, firm, or corporation that constructs the building shall comply with specified prequalification requirements. This bill would, until January 1, 2019, require the instrument and agreement to provide that the person, firm, or corporation that constructs the building to comply with specified prequalification requirements in this context regardless of the funding source for the public project. The bill would require that certain conditions relating to the use of a skilled and trained workforce on the project or contract be satisfied before the governing board of a school district may enter into a contract with any entity for the construction, or for providing for the construction of, a building to be leased or used by the school district. | |
| Social Services | | |
| AB 260 | Lopez D | Chaptered: 10/6/2015 pdf html |
| | Foster care: parenting youth. | |
| | Existing law establishes the jurisdiction of the juvenile court, which may adjudge a child to be a dependent of the court under certain circumstances, including when the child has been left without any provision for support or when a parent or guardian fails to provide the child with adequate food, clothing, shelter, or medical treatment. Existing law provides that the Legislature declares that a child whose parent has been adjudged a dependent child of the court shall not be considered at risk of abuse or neglect solely because of the age, dependent status, or foster care status of the parent. This bill would additionally declare that a child whose parent has been adjudged a dependent child of the court shall not be considered at risk of abuse or neglect solely on the basis of information concerning the parent's placement history, past behaviors, health or mental health diagnoses occurring prior to the pregnancy, except as specified. | |
| AB 365 | Garcia, Cristina D | Chaptered: 7/13/2015 pdf html |
| | Child custody proceedings: testimony by electronic means. | |
| | Existing law authorizes the court in a child custody proceeding to permit testimony by telephone, audiovisual means, or other electronic means when a witness or party resides in another state. Existing law also requires a court to permit a party to present testimony and participate in court-ordered child custody mediation by electronic means when the party's military deployment has a material effect on his or her ability to appear in person, to the extent that this technology is reasonably available to the court and protects the due process rights of all parties. This bill would require the court to allow a party whose deportation or detention by the federal Department of Homeland Security materially effects his or her ability to appear in person at a child custody proceeding to present testimony and evidence and participate in mandatory child custody mediation by electronic means, including telephone, video teleconferencing, or other means, to the extent that this technology is reasonably available to the court and protects the due process rights of all parties. | |
| AB 592 | Stone, Mark D | Chaptered: 8/17/2015 pdf html |
| | Juveniles: proof of dependency or wardship. | |
| | Existing law provides that a minor may be adjudged a dependent child or a ward of the juvenile court under specified circumstances. Existing law authorizes the court to place a minor who has been removed from the custody of his or her parent or guardian in foster care, among other placements. Existing law provides for the termination of the juvenile court jurisdiction when the minor reaches a specified age. This bill would authorize the State Department of Social Services to provide to a person who was previously adjudged a dependent or ward of the juvenile court, was placed in foster care, and whose dependency or wardship has been dismissed, upon request by that person, the information included in the proof of dependency or wardship document, as | |

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| | specified, or any information necessary to provide verification that the person was formerly a dependent or ward of the juvenile court and placed in foster care. This bill contains other related provisions. | |
| SB 176 | Mitchell D | Chaptered: 8/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Examining children as witnesses. | |
| | Existing law authorizes a court in a criminal proceeding, upon written notice by the prosecutor made at least 3 days prior to the date of the preliminary hearing or trial date on which the testimony of the minor is scheduled or during the course of the proceeding on the court's own motion, to order that the testimony of a minor 13 years of age or younger at the time of the motion be taken by contemporaneous examination and cross-examination in another place and out of the presence of the judge, jury, defendant or defendants, and attorneys, and communicated to the courtroom by means of closed-circuit television, if the court makes specified findings. One of the findings existing law requires is that the minor's testimony will involve a recitation of the facts of specified crimes, including an alleged violent felony of which the minor is a victim. This bill would authorize a minor 13 years of age or younger to testify by contemporaneous examination and cross-examination if the testimony will involve the recitation of the facts of an alleged violent felony, whether or not the minor is a victim. | |
| SB 196 | Hancock D | Chaptered: 9/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Elder abuse: protective orders. | |
| | Existing law authorizes a court to issue a protective order to restrain any person for the purpose of preventing the abuse of an elder or dependent adult. Under existing law, certain persons are authorized to file a petition for these protective orders on behalf of the elder or dependent adult, including a conservator or trustee, an attorney-in-fact, a person appointed as a guardian ad litem, or other person legally authorized to seek the order. This bill would, commencing July 1, 2016, additionally authorize a county adult protective services agency to file a petition for a protective order on behalf of an elder or dependent adult who has suffered abuse and has an impaired ability to appreciate and understand the circumstances that place him or her at risk of harm, or who has provided written authorization for the agency to act on his or her behalf. The bill would impose specified requirements on an adult protective services agency that files the petition, including, among others, assisting the elder or dependent adult to attend the hearing and, if a petition to appoint a conservator has not already been filed, referring the elder or dependent adult to the public guardian, as specified. The bill would also recast and clarify the definition of "abuse of an elder or a dependent adult." | |
| SB 352 | Block D | Chaptered: 9/8/2015 pdf html |
| | Elder abuse. | |
| | Existing law makes it a crime for a person who knows or reasonably should know that a person is an elder or dependent adult to willfully cause or permit the person or health of the elder or dependent adult to be injured, or willfully cause or permit the elder or dependent adult to be placed in a situation in which his or her person or health is endangered. Existing law specifies penalties for a person who violates any provision of law proscribing theft, embezzlement, forgery, fraud, or specified identity theft provisions of law when the victim is an elder or dependent adult. Existing law makes it a crime to falsely imprison an elder or dependent adult by the use of violence, menace, fraud, or deceit. This bill would require a sentencing court, upon a person's conviction for violating these provisions, to consider issuing an order restraining the defendant from any contact with the victim, whether the defendant is sentenced to state prison or county jail, or if imposition of sentence is suspended and the defendant is placed on probation, which may be valid for up to 10 years, as determined by the court. By expanding the scope of the crime of violating a protective order, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| Transportation | | |
| AB 652 | Cooley D | Chaptered: 10/8/2015 pdf html |

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| | State Highway Route 16: relinquishment. | |
| | Existing law gives the Department of Transportation full possession and control of all state highways. Existing law describes the authorized routes in the state highway system and establishes a process for adoption of a highway on an authorized route by the California Transportation Commission. Existing law authorizes the commission to relinquish certain state highway segments to local agencies. This bill would revise this authorization to apply to a specified portion of State Highway Route 16 that is located within the unincorporated area of the county, between the general easterly city limits of the City of Sacramento and near Grant Line Road, and would impose additional conditions on the relinquishment. The bill would state the intent of the Legislature in this regard. | |
| AB 914 | Brown D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Toll facilities: County of San Bernardino. | |
| | Existing law provides for the Department of Transportation and local authorities, with respect to highways under their respective jurisdictions, to authorize or permit exclusive or preferential use of highway lanes for high-occupancy vehicles (HOVs). Existing law authorizes the development and implementation of a value-pricing program consisting of high-occupancy toll (HOT) lanes in various corridors under certain circumstances, pursuant to which vehicles that do not meet the vehicle occupancy requirements for use of an HOV lane may use the lane upon payment of a toll. This bill would authorize the San Bernardino County Transportation Commission to conduct, administer, and operate a value-pricing program, that may include HOT lanes or other toll facilities in the Interstate Highway Routes 10 and 15 in the County of San Bernardino and, with the agreement of affected transportation agencies, specified extensions and connections into the Counties of Los Angeles and Riverside. The bill would require the toll revenues to be spent for specified transportation purposes and would authorize the commission to issue revenue bonds payable from toll revenues. The bill would require the commission to report to the Legislative Analyst on specified matters within 3 years of commencement of revenue collection from the value-pricing program. | |
| SB 9 | Beall D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program. | |
| | Existing law requires all moneys, except for fines and penalties, collected by the State Air Resources Board from a market-based compliance mechanism relative to reduction of greenhouse gas emissions to be deposited in the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. This bill would modify the purpose of the program to delete references to operational investments and instead provide for the funding of transformative capital improvements, as defined, that will modernize California's intercity, commuter, and urban rail systems and bus and ferry transit systems to achieve certain policy objectives, including reducing emissions of greenhouse gases, expanding and improving transit services to increase ridership, and improving transit safety. By expanding the purposes for which continuously appropriated moneys may be used, the bill would make an appropriation. The bill would modify the information required to be included in applications for grants under the program and would authorize an eligible applicant to submit an application to fund a project over multiple fiscal years and to submit multiple applications. The bill would require the Transportation Agency, in selecting projects for funding, to consider the extent to which a project reduces greenhouse gas emissions, would add additional factors to be considered in evaluating applications for funding, and would expand certain factors considered to include bus and ferry transit service. The bill would require the Transportation Agency to approve, by July 1, 2018, a 5-year program of projects, and would require the California Transportation Commission to allocate funding to eligible applicants pursuant to the program of projects, with subsequent programs of projects to be approved not later than April 1 of each even-numbered year thereafter. The bill would require the Transportation Agency, in cooperation with the California Transportation Commission and at the request of an eligible applicant, to enter into and execute a multiyear funding agreement for a project to be funded over more than one fiscal year, as specified, and would authorize the California Transportation Commission to approve a letter of no prejudice that would allow an applicant to expend its own moneys on a project in the approved program of projects, subject to future reimbursement from program moneys for eligible expenditures. | |

2015 Chaptered Legislation

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| SB 241 | Bates R | Chaptered: 8/10/2015 pdf html |
| | Neighborhood electric vehicles. | |
| | Existing law, until January 1, 2017, authorizes the County of Orange to establish a neighborhood electric vehicle (NEV) transportation plan for the Ranch Plan Planned Community in that county. Under existing law, operation of a neighborhood electric vehicle in violation of certain provisions is an infraction. This bill would extend the operative period of these provisions until January 1, 2022. By extending the operative period of a crime, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| SB 374 | Hueso D | Chaptered: 10/9/2015 pdf html |
| | Local agency design-build projects: transit districts. | |
| | Existing law authorizes local agencies to use the design-build method of project delivery for specified projects, except for projects on the state highway system. Existing law defines "local agency" for purposes of these provisions as cities and counties, certain special districts relating to wastewater, solid waste, water recycling, and fire protection facilities, joint powers authorities formed to provide transit service, and specified types of local public entities responsible for the construction of transit projects. These provisions further define "project" specifically for each category of local agency. Existing law requires specified information submitted by a design-build entity, as defined, in the design-build procurement process to be certified under penalty of perjury. This bill would specify that the definition of a local agency authorized to use the design-build method of project delivery includes the San Diego Association of Governments. The bill would define projects, as it pertains to the San Diego Association of Governments, to include development projects adjacent, or physically or functionally related, to transit facilities developed by the association. By expanding the design-build authorization of the San Diego Association of Governments to additional development projects, the bill would expand the scope of crime of perjury and would impose a state-mandated local program. | |
| Utilities | | |
| AB 1262 | Wood D | Chaptered: 9/2/2015 pdf html |
| | Telecommunications: universal service: California Advanced Services Fund. | |
| | Existing law, the federal Telecommunications Act of 1996, establishes a program of cooperative federalism for the regulation of telecommunications to attain the goal of local competition, while implementing specific, predictable, and sufficient federal and state mechanisms to preserve and advance universal service, consistent with certain universal service principles. The universal service principles include the principle that consumers in all regions of the nation, including low-income consumers and those in rural, insular, and high-cost areas, should have access to telecommunications and information services, including interexchange services and advanced telecommunications and information services, that are reasonably comparable to those services provided in urban areas and that are available at rates that are reasonably comparable to rates charged for similar services in urban areas. The act authorizes each state to adopt regulations to provide for additional definitions and standards to preserve and advance universal service within the state, only to the extent that they adopt additional specific, predictable, and sufficient mechanisms that do not rely on or burden federal universal service support mechanisms. This bill would require that of the moneys collected for CASF on and after January 1, 2011, \$15,000,000 is to be deposited into the Rural and Urban Regional Broadband Consortia Grant Account and used for specified purposes, and \$10,000,000 is to be deposited into the Broadband Infrastructure Revolving Loan Account and used for specified purposes. -County Supported | |
| Veterans | | |
| AB 583 | Chávez R | Chaptered: 8/12/2015 pdf html |

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| | Military service: employment protections. | |
| | Existing law provides protections for members of the National Guard ordered into active state service by the Governor or active federal service by the President of the United States for emergency purposes, and for reservists called to active duty, as specified. This bill would reorganize these provisions, and would extend these protections to members of the National Guard of other states who are called to military service by their respective Governors or by the President of the United States, and who have left a position in private employment in California. Because this bill would expand the duties of district attorneys, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. | |
| ACR 21 | Obernolte R | Chaptered: 7/1/2015 pdf html |
| | Rim of the World Veterans Memorial Highway. | |
| | This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 18 in the County of San Bernardino as the Rim of the World Veterans Memorial Highway. The measure would request that the Department of Transportation determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs. | |
| SB 193 | Committee on Veterans Affairs | Chaptered: 10/6/2015 pdf html |
| | The state militia. | |
| | Existing law adopts the Uniform Code of Military Justice, and the Manual for Courts-Martial, as governing and applicable to the active state militia, including the California National Guard. This bill would delete outdated references to executive orders and statutes creating the Manual for Courts-Martial and the Uniform Code of Military Justice, update specified references, and provide that these apply except as otherwise provided in the California Manual for Courts-Martial or other regulations adopted by the Governor or the Adjutant General. | |
| Water Issues/Flood Control | | |
| AB 1 | Brown D | Chaptered: 7/13/2015 pdf html |
| | Drought: local governments: fines. | |
| | The California Constitution requires that the water resources of the state be put to beneficial use to the fullest extent of which they are capable and that the waste or unreasonable use or unreasonable method of use of water be prevented. Existing law, the California Emergency Services Act, sets forth the emergency powers of the Governor under its provisions and empowers the Governor to proclaim a state of emergency for certain conditions, including drought. This bill would prohibit a city, county, or city and county from imposing a fine under any ordinance for a failure to water a lawn or having a brown lawn during a period for which the Governor has issued a proclamation of a state of emergency based on drought conditions. | |
| SB 13 | Pavley D | Chaptered: 9/3/2015 pdf html |
| | Groundwater. | |
| | Existing law, the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act, requires all groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins by the Department of Water Resources that are designated as basins subject to critical conditions of overdraft to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2020, and requires all other groundwater basins designated as high- or medium-priority basins to be managed under a groundwater sustainability plan or coordinated groundwater sustainability plans by January 31, 2022, except as specified. The act authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board to designate a basin as a probationary basin if the state board makes a certain determination and to develop an interim plan for the probationary basin. The act requires a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency to have 90 or 180 days, as prescribed, to remedy the deficiency if the board designates the basin as a probationary basin. This bill would specify that the board is authorized to designate a high- or medium-priority basin as a probationary basin. This bill would provide a local agency or groundwater sustainability agency 90 or 180 days, as prescribed, to remedy certain deficiencies that caused | |

2015 Chaptered Legislation

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| | the board to designate the basin as a probationary basin. This bill would authorize the board to develop an interim plan for certain probationary basins one year after the designation of the basin as a probationary basin. |
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