

Legislative Report

A COMPILATION OF 2020 STATUTES



League of California Cities 2020 Legislative Report

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About the League of California Cities

Established in 1898, the League of California Cities (Cal Cities) is a member organization that represents California's incorporated cities. Cal Cities strives to protect the local authority and autonomy of city government and help California's cities effectively serve their residents.

In addition to advocating on cities' behalf at the California State Capitol, Cal Cities provides its members with professional development programs and information resources, conducts educational conferences and research, and publishes the *Cal Cities Advocate* and *Western City* magazine.

Legislative Report

2020

Please note: Legislation marked with an asterisk (*) has been identified as high priority by Cal Cities staff.

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Glossary of Terms

ABC	California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control
ADU	Accessory Dwelling Unit
ARF	Adult Residential Facilities
CalEPA	California Environmental Protection Agency
Cal OES	California Governor's Office of Emergency Services
Cal/OSHA	California Division of Occupational Safety and Health
CalPERS	California Public Employees' Retirement System
CARB	California Air Resources Board
CARES Act	Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act
CCPA	California Consumer Privacy Act
CDCR	California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation
CDPH	California Department of Public Health
CDSS	California Department of Social Services
CDTFA	California Department of Tax and Fee Administration
CEC	California Energy Commission
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CID	Common Interest Development
CNRA	California Natural Resource Agency
CoC	Continuums of Care
CPUC	California Public Utilities Commission
CRF	Coronavirus Relief Fund
CRV	California Redemption Value
DMV	California Department of Motor Vehicles
DOF	California Department of Finance
DOJ	California Department of Justice
DPR	California Department of Pesticide Regulation
DTSC	California Department of Toxic Substances Control
EDD	California Employment Development Department
ERAF	Educational Revenue Anticipation Fund
FED	Financing Estimate and Disclosure
FTB	California Franchise Tax Board
GSE	Golden State Energy
HCD	Department of Housing and Community Development
HCFC	Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council
HHAP	Homeless, Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program
IBANK	Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank
LIHTC	Low Income Housing Tax Credit
MHP	Multifamily Housing Program
NL	Notification Level
OSP	Office of Suicide Prevention
PACE	Property Assessed Clean Energy
PFAS	Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances
PG&E	Pacific Gas and Electric Company
RCFE	Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly

Glossary of Terms

RL	Response Level
RPS	Renewables Portfolio Standard
SGAR	Second-Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides
SMMC	Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
STAKE	Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement
SWRCB	California State Water Resources Control Board
TUT	Transactions and Use Tax

LEGISLATIVE YEAR IN REVIEW

About the Legislative Report

Each year, the League of California Cities develops a comprehensive summary of the legislative year, along with descriptions, divided by issue area, of the hundreds of bills of interest to cities that passed the Legislature and were signed into law by the Governor. Dubbed the “Legislative Report,” this compilation of statutes includes chaptered bill and resolution summaries and analyses. Cal Cities prepares this document at the conclusion of each legislative year as a resource to assist city officials in understanding laws enacted during that legislative session.

2020 Legislative Year in Review

The year 2020 was a year of many firsts. COVID-19 altered almost every facet of life for people around the globe, more Americans voted in the November general election than ever before, and Californians were rocked by unparalleled heatwaves, wildfires, and civil unrest. Many have called this year “unprecedented,” but even that does not seem to capture the unequaled havoc that 2020 wreaked upon us all, the California State Legislature included.

The last hours of the legislative session perfectly captured the mayhem of 2020 – a screaming newborn, a cursing legislator, and bills that died as the clock ran out. COVID-19 outbreaks twice resulted in extended recesses to curb virus transmission among legislators and staff. This constricted the normal legislative calendar and created fierce debates over how to legislate during a pandemic. In the final days of official business, numerous caucuses, delays, and infighting between Senate and Assembly leadership resulted in high-profile bills failing to advance to Gov. Gavin Newsom’s desk simply because the Legislature ran out of time, as they faced a constitutional deadline of midnight on Aug. 31.

In the end, the number of bills sent to the Governor’s desk for his signature was a mere fraction of what the legislature typically passes in a year. Of the nearly 2,200 bills introduced this year, 428 made it to the Governor’s desk. In comparison, 1,217 bills were sent to the Governor in 2019. The tumultuous session concluded with the Governor signing 372 bills and vetoing 56, a 15 percent veto rate.

Notable Legislation

This legislative year seemed to be more about what legislative proposals did not pass, rather than what passed. Legislation including wildfire funding, numerous high profile housing bills, police reform, and a comprehensive broadband proposal were considered high priorities but they all stalled at the end of the legislative year. The unfinished business will certainly define part of the agenda for the Legislature next year. While there was a lot left undone legislatively, several impactful proposals were signed into law this year.

Cities fared well with the Governor signing both SB 1441 (McGuire), which gives cities a helpful tool to collect much needed utility user taxes from retail sales of prepaid wireless telecommunication products, and AB 1286 (Muratsuchi), which requires micromobility (scooter) providers to obtain local approval before deploying their vehicles. Both of these measures will help cities operate more effectively in a time when efficiency is critical.

In the labor portfolio, two potentially detrimental bills were signed into law. The highest profile labor-related bill that the Governor signed was SB 1383 (Jackson), which requires any employer, public or private, with five or more employees to provide 12 weeks of protected leave each year, and threatens employers with litigation for any unintentional mistake. Additionally, the Governor also signed AB 685 (Reyes), which creates an onerous and comprehensive set of reporting requirements for all California employers when an employee is exposed to COVID-19.

Overall, this year left many good and bad legislative proposals undone. The truncated legislative timeline did not yield the amount of time and consideration needed for the typical volume of legislative proposals. However, as the Legislature adapts to “the new normal” and the challenges of meeting during COVID-19 are ameliorated, there will undoubtedly be a number of legislative proposals introduced next year that are repeats of bills that died this year. Although this legislative year was unlike any other, Cal Cities continued to be the trusted voice of city officials to our lawmakers in Sacramento and in Washington, D.C.

Resources for Cities

As COVID-19 began impacting the country and our California communities, Cal Cities focused on providing a wide range of resources for cities, including securing state and federal COVID-19 funding and providing information to city officials.

Cal Cities launched a dual state and federal campaign to secure federal dollars to help aid local governments reeling from severe revenue shortfalls as businesses complied with public safety orders. The Cal Cities “Support Local Recovery” campaign was successful in procuring \$500 million in state-allocated Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act dollars directly to cities to help cover expenses related to COVID-19. The herculean effort continues in Washington, D.C. to secure additional federal dollars to help backfill the significant impacts on city budgets and ensure that critical services, such as garbage collection, public safety, and parks and recreation programs continue uninterrupted. Cal Cities continues to advocate with its federal partners and legislators in Washington, D.C. for the much needed federal aid.

In addition to securing federal CARES Act dollars, Cal Cities supported cities in a variety of other ways. Cal Cities successfully advocated to the Governor’s Administration for assistance in executive orders and administrative actions to help cities continue providing services. Leveraging multiple communications platforms, Cal Cities created a [COVID-19 Resources for Cities webpage](#), guidance documents,

webinars, and daily emails, all designed to help cities through these hectic times. COVID-19 Roundtables were developed to facilitate a virtual flow of information between city officials to share their experiences and best practices related to the pandemic. When wildfires began to ravage the state, Cal Cities created a “Wildfire: Resources for Cities” webinar series with experts from state and federal agencies to assist cities with disaster preparedness and response. As city officials looked for support in addressing the civil unrest that faced many cities across the nation, Cal Cities began developing programming and curating resources to help guide cities in advancing equity in their communities, which can all be found on the new [Advancing Equity Resource webpage](#). The development of these interactive resources for cities illustrates the challenging and brave new world that cities and Cal Cities find themselves in this year.

Looking Forward

The disjointed nature of this legislative session will most certainly influence the next session. A new legislative delegation will be sworn in on December 7, with more seats in the California State Senate becoming Democrat. Many issues from 2020 will resurface in 2021 including police reform, wildfire preparedness and assistance, and additional COVID-19 resource needs. Cities continue to feel the fiscal impacts of the pandemic and the related economic fallout daily.

With COVID-19, California was flung into a new era of digital governance that has manifested through video conferences, telephone meetings, and webinars. California’s governing bodies have been trending in this direction over the last decade, but now the digital meeting has become standard operating procedure. With digital options now available, cities are well positioned to be more engaged than ever before. City officials can testify at legislative hearings remotely and the public can watch elected leaders do the peoples’ business. While it is unclear how long this virus will circulate, requiring people stay apart, Cal Cities has never been more committed to fight on behalf of cities to ensure that California’s elected leaders hear how best to implement policy and help make California a better place for all residents.

Onward to a future for California cities that is more connected and stronger than ever before.

BUDGET AND TRAILER BILLS

I. Budget and Trailer Bills

A. 2020 Budget Acts

[AB 89](#) (Ting) Budget Act of 2020.

Chapter 7, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

The measure contains major revisions to the Budget Act of 2020 (SB 74). Notable for local governments, this measure includes the following provisions:

Housing, Community, and Economic Development

- \$45 million to the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for moderate income housing;
- \$203 million to offset reverted 2019 housing funding; and
- Reverts \$453 million of General Fund and \$250 million of Self-Help Housing Fund funding appropriated to HCD in 2019.

Environmental Quality

- Clarifies language that allows local governments to access \$50 million for community power resiliency projects such as purchasing backup power generators. Local governments are eligible to access these funds if they either 1) update the portion of their local emergency plan regarding power shutoff events, or 2) attest they will update the section of their local emergency plan to include power shutoff events in the next update of their plan;
- Authorizes the Director of the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to contract with an operational observer to monitor the efforts of Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) to prepare for the 2020 wildfire season, implement measures to mitigate the risk of wildfire ignitions from utility infrastructure, and reduce the use, scope, and duration of public safety power shutoffs; and
- Allows the Department of Finance (DOF) to loan \$50 million to the "Golden State Energy" (GSE) utility for the purposes of establishing GSE in the event that PG&E fails to exit bankruptcy.

Public Safety

- \$250 million for county public safety realignment sales tax revenue backfill.

Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

- \$1.3 million to move the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission to Cal OES.

Revenue and Taxation

- Maintains \$500 million in Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) funding for cities allocated in SB 74 with populations under 500,000.

SB 74 (Mitchell) Budget Act of 2020.
Chapter 6, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure is the 2020 Budget Act. Notable for local governments, this measure includes the following provisions:

Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act Funding

- \$225 million from the state's Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) directly to cities with a population greater than 300,000 that did not receive a direct allocation from the federal CARES Act, based on the city's population; and
- \$275 million from the state's CRF to cities with a population less than 300,000 based on the city's population. No city shall receive less than \$50,000.

Homelessness Funding

- \$300 million to the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council (HCFC); and
- \$550 million through HCD for acquisition or acquisition and rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels; master leasing of properties; acquisition of other sites and assets; conversion of units from nonresidential to residential in a structure with a certificate of occupancy as a motel, hotel, or hostel; purchase of affordability covenants and restrictions for units; and the relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units.

California Governor's Office of Emergency Services

- \$50 million one-time from the General Fund for Community Power Resiliency to support additional preparedness measures that bolster community resiliency; and
- \$2 million for the Wildfire Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center, consistent with SB 209 (Dodd, Chapter 405, Statutes of 2019).

Department of Water Resources

- \$18 million General Fund and \$10 million Proposition 68 for the New River Project.

Trigger Cuts

This measure also contains trigger cuts if California did not receive at least \$14 billion in federal assistance by October 14, 2020. The following "trigger solutions" were codified:

- \$2.7 billion draw down from the rainy day fund and Safety Net Reserve;
- \$1.3 billion from reinstatement of a longstanding deferral of state payments to the California Public Employees' Retirement System, including from state special funds;
- \$5.9 billion of increased deferrals to Proposition 98 (K-14 education) funding;
- \$600 million reduction to the county realignment backfill in this budget plan (leaving \$400 million of county backfill remaining);
- \$770 million of university reductions (\$370 million for University of California and \$400 million for California State University systems);
- \$100 million of reductions to the Judicial Branch budget;
- At least \$1.5 billion in state employee compensation reductions for represented employees through the collective bargaining process; and

- Potentially another \$1.6 billion from reinstatement of the one-day June payroll deferral that was instituted during the last recession (this change would be optional at the direction of the Director of DOF).

B. 2020 Budget Act Trailer Measures

AB 75 (Committee on Budget) Budget Act of 2019. Augmentation. Chapter 9, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure, the 2020 Supplemental Appropriations Bill, provides budget augmentation for unforeseen state costs that occurred in the 2019-20 fiscal year, primarily related to the Kincaid and Tick Fires and other natural disaster response.

AB 78 (Committee on Budget) Bergeson-Peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Chapter 10, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure establishes the Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund under the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to receive funds from non-state governmental entities and private sources. The Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund would make loans for climate catalyst projects that further the state's climate goals.

AB 82 (Committee on Budget) State Government.

Chapter 14, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure implements the following actions related to state administration:

- Establishes the Social Entrepreneurs for Economic Development fund to provide entrepreneurial training, micro-grants, technical assistance and support, and outreach and education to individuals who are undocumented or have limited English proficiency to establish or maintain a small business in the state;
- Deletes the requirement that grants from the Broadband Infrastructure Grant Account do not include funding for costs of broadband infrastructure already funded by the federal Connect America Fund program or other similar federal public programs;
- Allows the California Public Utilities Commission to provide matching funds through the California Advanced Services Fund to broadband providers as they pursue funding from federal programs;
- Shifts sworn investigators from the Division of Investigations to the Bureau of Cannabis Control in the Department of Consumer Affairs, and allows non-peace officers to provide investigative services for enforcement activities of cannabis regulations; and
- Delays the implementation of the Responsible Beverages Act from July 1, 2021, to July 1, 2022, to provide relief to licensees of the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

AB 83 (Committee on Budget) Housing.
Chapter 15, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure includes the following provisions and funding for housing, homelessness, and tenants:

Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 2

Creates a Round 2 of HHAP funding in the amount of \$300 million. These funds must be used on evidence-based solutions that address and prevent homelessness.

- Allocates the \$300 million as follows:
 - \$90 million to Continuums of Care (CoC);
 - \$130 million to each city, or city that is also a county that has a population of 300,000 or more as of January 1, 2020; and
 - \$80 million to counties;
- Allows a city, city and county, single CoC, or county to apply jointly with a counterpart entity or entities; and
- Applications for Round 2 program allocations will be available no later than November 30, 2020 and shall be due to the council no later than 60 days from the date the HCFC makes those applications available.

Property Exchange for Affordable Housing

- Allows state properties to be exchanged for another property or other properties belonging to a local government if:
 - HCD has determined that the property or properties proposed to be conveyed to the state are suitable for the purpose of affordable housing; and
 - The Director of the Department of General Services makes a finding that the exchange is in the best interest of the state;
- Defines affordable housing to have the same meaning as Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

Planning and Zoning Law

- Revises the requirements for a unit to qualify for inclusion in a committed assistance program, including extending long-term affordability covenants and restrictions that require the unit to be available at affordable housing costs for at least 55 years;
- Authorizes units in a motel, hotel, or hostel that are converted from nonresidential to residential to count towards a jurisdiction's adequate sites, if specified conditions are met, including that the unit is part of a long-term recovery response to COVID-19, and authorizes spaces in specified mobile home parks; and
- Revises the definition of committed assistance to instead require the city or county to enter into a legally enforceable agreement during the period from the beginning of the projection period until the end of the fourth year of the planning period that obligates sufficient available funds or other in-kind services.

Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund

- Extends the deadline for a jurisdiction to encumber its SB 2 planning dollars to December 31, 2020, and expend those funds no later than December 31, 2023.

Local Early Action Planning Grants

- Extends until January 31, 2021, the time that a jurisdiction may request an allocation of funds for the Local Early Action Planning Grants.

Project Roomkey

- Allocates \$550 million through HCD for acquisition or acquisition and rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels; conversion of units from nonresidential to residential; and the relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units;
- Requires funds from the CRF to provide housing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness be disbursed in accordance with the Multifamily Housing Program, including grants to cities, counties, and other local public entities for the following:
 - Acquisition or rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels;
 - Master leasing of properties;
 - Acquisition of other sites and assets, including purchase of apartments or homes, adult residential facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, manufactured housing, and other buildings with existing residential uses that could be converted to permanent or interim housing;
 - Conversion of units from nonresidential to residential in a structure with a certificate of occupancy as a motel, hotel, or hostel;
 - The purchase of affordability covenant and restrictions for units;
 - Relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units; and
 - Capitalized operating subsidies for units purchased, converted, or altered with funds provided by this section;
- Requires any project using funds received from the CRF for any of the purposes specified above shall be deemed consistent and in conformity with any applicable local plan, standard, or requirement, and allowed as a permitted use, within the zone in which the structure is located, and shall not be subject to a conditional use permit, discretionary permit, or to any other discretionary reviews or approvals.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemption

- Provides a CEQA exemption for Project Roomkey projects until July 1, 2021 if all of the following requirements, if applicable, are satisfied:
 - No units were acquired by eminent domain;
 - The units will be in decent, safe, and sanitary condition at the time of their occupancy;
 - The project proponent requires all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the project to pay prevailing wages for any rehabilitation, construction, or alterations;

- The project proponent obtains an enforceable commitment that all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the project will use a skilled and trained workforce for any rehabilitation, construction, or alterations;
- The project proponent submits to the lead agency a letter of support from a county, city, or other local public entity for any rehabilitation, construction, or alteration work;
- Any acquisition is paid for exclusively by public funds;
- The project provides housing units for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness;
- Long-term covenants and restrictions require the units to be restricted to persons experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness, which may include lower income and very low income households, for no fewer than 55 years; and
- The project does not increase the original footprint of the project structure or structures by more than 10 percent. Any increase to the footprint of the original project structure or structures shall be exclusively to support the conversion to housing for the designated population.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)

- \$500 million in new state LIHTC for 2020-2021.

Homeowner and Tenant Protections

- \$300 million to be administered by the California Housing Finance Agency for the purpose of providing housing counseling services to homeowners, former homeowners, or renters and provide mortgage assistance to households, including borrowers who own residential properties with four or fewer units; and
- \$31 million to Judicial Council for qualified legal services projects and support centers to provide eviction defense or other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant disputes, including pre-eviction and eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, mediation, training, renter education, and representation.

AB 85 (Committee on Budget) State Taxes and Charges.

Chapter 8, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes several changes that improve collection and reporting, limit tax credits, and extend sales tax exemptions. Specifically, this measure:

- Requires used car dealers to remit the sales tax from a vehicle sale to the Department of Motor Vehicles with the registration fee. This change is projected to increase state and local revenues from these transactions by millions of dollars; and
- Extends the sales and use tax exemption for diapers for infants, toddlers, and children, and menstrual hygiene products to July 1, 2023.

**AB 90 (Committee on Budget) Transportation.
Chapter 17, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure implements the following changes to transportation programs:

- Institutes a two-year hold harmless provision for transit operators receiving state funding and whose ridership levels have been negatively impacted by COVID-19;
- Eliminates financial penalties for non-compliance with transit funding efficiency measures in the Transportation Development Act and the State Transit Assistance Program; and
- Requires aviation fuel retailers to provide to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration (CDTFA) quarterly information on revenue from aviation fuel taxes beginning January 1, 2020.

**AB 92 (Committee on Budget) Public Resources. Omnibus Trailer Bill.
Chapter 18, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes non-controversial changes to the public resources code as follows:

- Authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) to issue a certificate or statement before completion of an environmental review, which is required under CEQA, if SWRCB determines that waiting until completion of the environmental review poses a substantial risk of waiver of the state's certification authority under federal water quality control laws; and
- Requires SWRCB, to the extent authorized by federal law, to reserve authority to reopen and revise the certificate or statement as appropriate based on the information provided in the environmental review document.

**AB 100 (Committee on Budget) State Government.
Chapter 20, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure implements actions related to state administration involving elections and seismic safety:

- Allows costs related to the administration of an election during the COVID-19 pandemic to be a reimbursable expenditure; and
- Establishes the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission as a separate unit within Cal OES. This measure maintains the requirement that the League of California Cities submit at least four members for consideration to serve on the commission.

**AB 103 (Committee on Budget) Unemployment Compensation Benefits.
COVID-19.**

Chapter 22, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure expands the flexibility of the state in administering the Unemployment Insurance program by:

- Prohibiting unemployment compensation benefits paid to an unemployed individual from being charged against the reserve account of a tax-rated employer, unless the employer or an agent of the employer was at fault; and
- Allowing the state to trigger onto the Federal-State Extended Benefit program using the Total Unemployment Rate, which would potentially provide up to

20 weeks of total Unemployment Insurance extended benefits to unemployed workers, funded 100 percent by the federal government.

**[AB 107](#) (Committee on Budget) State Government.
Chapter 264, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes significant changes related to general government administration that impact local governments in the following areas:

Property Tax Assessment Appeals

- Allows county boards to extend the two-year deadline to render a final determination in property tax assessment appeal applications to March 31, 2021 for certain applicants and clarify that assessment appeals boards may conduct hearings remotely.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevent Program

- Requires the HCFC award no less than \$250,000 in the second round of funding to a grant applicant that is a CoC, and require that if more than one recipient within the CoC has a population of 300,000 or more, the proportionate share of funds be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

State Transit Assistance Program

- Allows transit operators to use funds received in fiscal years 2019-20 to 2021-22 from the State Transit Assistance State of Good Repair program for any operating or capital expenditure if doing so is necessary to prevent a reduction or elimination of transit service.

**[AB 1867](#) (Committee on Budget) Small Employer Family Leave Mediation.
Handwashing. Supplemental Paid Sick Leave.
Chapter 45, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure establishes additional employer requirements related to the health and safety of employees during the COVID-19 emergency as follows:

- Establishes a COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave program for workers not performing duties from home employed by entities with 500 or more employees or those employed as health care providers or emergency responders. This measure applies the supplemental leave provisions to public entities; and
- Requires a food employee working in any food facility to be permitted to wash their hands every 30 minutes and more often as needed.

**[AB 1869](#) (Committee on Budget) Criminal Fees.
Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure, beginning July 1, 2021, repeals statutes related to the following criminal fees collected for administrative purposes:

- \$25 Administrative Processing Fee;
- \$10 Citation Processing Fee;
- Public Defense Fees;
- Cost of Counsel;

- Public Defense Registration Fee; and
- Public Defense Fees for Minors.

AB 1872 (Committee on Budget) Cannabis.

Chapter 93, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure prohibits the CDTFA from adjusting the excise tax on cannabis upward until July 1, 2021 and from adjusting the cultivation tax for inflation until 2021. This measure also clarifies that the Board of State and Community Corrections is prohibited from making grants to local governments that have banned both indoor and outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation or have banned the retail sale of cannabis or cannabis products.

AB 1885 (Committee on Budget) Debtor Exemptions. Homestead Exemption.

Chapter 94, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes the current homestead exemption (set at \$75,000 to \$175,000 based on marital and age status) the greater of \$300,000 or the countywide median sale price of a single-family home in the calendar year prior to the calendar year the judgment debtor claims the exemption, not to exceed \$600,000. These amounts adjust annually for inflation.

SB 89 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Budget Act of 2019.

Chapter 2, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure amends the Budget Act of 2019 by appropriating \$500 million from the General Fund to be used for any purpose related to the Governor's March 4, 2020 proclamation of a state of emergency. This measure also appropriates additional funding to complete tree removal operations in Butte County related to the 2018 Camp Fire.

SB 98 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Education Finance. Education Omnibus Budget Trailer Bill.

Chapter 24, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes substantive changes related to education finance and administration. Notable for cities and counties, this measure requires the State Controller's Office, in consultation with DOF, to develop guidance for the allocation of K-12 Educational Revenue Anticipation Fund (ERAF) by county auditor controllers by December 31, 2020. The new guidance may have significant impacts on future ERAF allocations.

SB 115 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Budget Act of 2019. Budget Act of 2020.

Chapter 40, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure amends the Budget Act of 2019 and the Budget Act of 2020. Notable to local governments, this measure:

- Transfers \$100 million and additional funds to the CDTFA to cover the costs and revenue losses associated with the Small Business Hiring Credit (SB 1447 Bradford, Chapter 41, Statutes of 2020). This measure also accelerates over

\$100 million of additional Regional Planning, Housing, and Infill Incentive Account funding while providing that counties must continue to comply with COVID-19 public health orders to remain eligible for state assistance.

**SB 118 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Public Safety.
Chapter 29, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes substantive changes to public safety matters related to detention, sex offender registration, prison closures, compassionate release, parole, and firearms. This measure requires the identification of two state-owned and operated prisons for closure by January 2021 and January 2022 respectively.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

II. Community Services

A. Aging and Seniors

AB 2377 (Chiu) Residential Facilities.

Chapter 146, Statutes of 2020

This measure expands closure requirements for Adult Residential Facilities (ARFs) and establishes notification requirements to residents and relevant entities. This measure also gives the city or county first opportunity to make an offer to purchase the closing ARF property and continue the operation of the ARF.

AB 2471 (Maienschein) Senior Citizens. Rescission of Contracts.

Chapter 158, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends, from three to five business days, the right to cancel certain consumer contracts, such as service or repair contracts, for persons 65 years of age and older. This measure takes effect for contracts entered on or after January 1, 2021.

B. Animal Services

AB 2152 (Gloria) Public Health. Prohibition on the Retail Sale of Dogs, Cats, and Rabbits.

Chapter 96, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits a pet store from selling dogs, cats, or rabbits, but allows a pet store to provide space to display animals for adoption if the animals are displayed by either a shelter or animal rescue group. This measure also establishes a fee limit of \$500, inclusive of the adoption fee, for animals adopted at a pet store.

SB 573 (Chang) Dogs and Cats. Microchip Implants.

Chapter 108, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires a public animal control agency or shelter to microchip a dog or cat with current information before releasing a dog or cat to an owner seeking to reclaim it, or adopt out, sell, or give away to a new owner. This measure also allows a shelter or rescue group that does not have microchipping capability on location to enter into an agreement with the owner or new owner to present proof, within 30 days, that the dog or cat is microchipped.

C. Children, Child Care, and Youth Programs

AB 2300 (Cooper) California Youth Football Act.

Chapter 49, Statutes of 2020

This measure revises the California Youth Football Act, AB 1 (Cooper, Chapter 158, Statutes of 2019), to delete the ability of an emergency medical technician or paramedic to “evaluate” youth tackle football participants, and instead specifies that an emergency

medical technician or paramedic has the authority to provide prehospital emergency medical care or rescue services consistent with their certification or license.

D. Mental and Community Health

AB 2112 (Ramos) Suicide Prevention.

Chapter 142, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish the Office of Suicide Prevention (OSP) within CDPH with the responsibility to address the increasing suicide rates in the state. The OSP is required to provide information and technical assistance to statewide and regional partners regarding best practices on suicide prevention policies and programs. The OSP is also required to report on progress to reduce rates of suicide.

AB 2762 (Muratsuchi) Cosmetic Products. Safety.

Chapter 314, Statutes of 2020

This measure, beginning January 1, 2025, prohibits the manufacture, sale, delivery, holding, or offering for sale in commerce of any cosmetic product intentionally containing any of 24 specified chemicals. These specified chemicals are all either known carcinogens, reproductive toxicants, or endocrine disruptors.

AB 3336 (Carrillo) Third-Party Food Delivery Platforms. Food Safety.

Chapter 105, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires ready-to-eat food delivered by third-party food delivery services to be transported in a manner that protects the food from contamination and spoilage. This measure exempts food transported as part of a charitable feeding program, or food being donated to a food bank, from the tamper-evident closure requirements.

SB 312 (Leyva) Cosmetic Fragrance and Flavor Ingredient Right to Know Act of 2020.

Chapter 315, Statutes of 2020

This measure, commencing January 1, 2022, requires cosmetic manufacturers to disclose to the CDPH Division of Environmental and Occupational Disease Control information related to cosmetic products that contain a fragrance ingredient or flavor ingredient that is included on a “designated list” of harmful chemicals. This measure also requires cosmetic manufacturers to list each fragrance ingredient and flavor ingredient in the cosmetic product.

E. Natural Disaster Preparedness

***[AB 2213](#) (Limón) Office of Emergency Services. Planning Guidance. Telecommunications.**

Chapter 98, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services and California Volunteers to develop planning guidance to identify volunteers and donation management resources that could assist in responding to or recovering from disasters. This measure also expands existing emergency notification programs to include cities and universities, by clarifying that emergency alerting authorities may use wireless telephone subscriber data to enroll residents in local alerting systems, and authorizes county social service departments to share contact information of seniors and disabled individuals with emergency responders to facilitate mandatory evacuations.

[SB 596](#) (Stern) In-Home Supportive Services. Additional Higher Energy Allowance.

Chapter 304, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a county welfare department to use existing materials, such as an internet website, from an electrical corporation to inform each In-Home Supportive Services applicant and recipient that they may be eligible to receive a higher energy allowance and may be eligible to register with their electrical corporation to receive any advanced notifications provided by a public utility in an emergency.

[SB 1196](#) (Umberg) Price Gouging.

Chapter 339, Statutes of 2020

This measure includes within the existing scope of the crime of price gouging, a person or entity that was not selling specified goods and services prior to the proclamation or declaration of an emergency. This measure specifies that a person, business, or other entity may not sell specified goods and services for a price of more than 10 percent greater than the price charged by that person for those goods or services immediately prior to the proclamation or declaration of emergency, or prior to a date set in the proclamation or declaration. This measure also allows the Governor or the Legislature to extend the time frame for price gouging beyond 30 days without needing to have a new extension at the end of each 30 day period.

F. Parks and Recreation

[SB 1003](#) (Jones) Skateboard Parks. Other Wheeled Recreational Devices. Safety and Liability.

Chapter 236, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure expands existing law providing public entities qualified immunity in connection with skateboarding in skateboard parks to also include the riding of other wheeled recreational devices, such as scooters and inline skates. This measure considers the riding of other wheeled recreational devices a "hazardous recreational activity" similar to skateboarding.

G. Tobacco, E-Cigarettes, and Vaping

SB 793 (Hill) Flavored Tobacco Products.

Chapter 34, Statutes of 2020

This measure establishes the Stop Tobacco Access to Kids Enforcement (STAKE) Act. The STAKE Act prohibits a tobacco retailer, or any of the tobacco retailer's agents or employees, from selling, offering for sale, or possessing with the intent to sell or offer for sale a flavored tobacco product or a tobacco product flavor enhancer. This measure establishes a violation of this act as an infraction, and imposes a fine of \$250 for each violation.

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

III. Environmental Quality

A. California Environmental Quality Act

SB 288 (Wiener) California Environmental Quality Act. Exemptions. Transportation-Related Projects.

Chapter 200, Statutes of 2020

This measure exempts from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), until 2023, various transit-related projects. These transit-related projects include projects such as pedestrian and bicycle facilities projects, transit prioritization projects, and projects for the institution or increase of new bus rapid transit, bus, or light rail service on existing public rights-of-way or existing highway rights-of-way.

SB 974 (Hurtado) California Environmental Quality Act. Small Disadvantaged Community Water System. State Small Water System. Exemption.

Chapter 234, Statutes of 2020

This measure exempts from CEQA certain water infrastructure projects for small disadvantaged community water systems or state small water systems. This measure's CEQA exemption is for those projects that 1) improve the water system's water quality, water supply, or water reliability; 2) encourage water conservation; or 3) provide safe drinking water service to existing residences within a disadvantaged community.

B. Climate Change

AB 78 (Committee on Budget) Bergeson-peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Chapter 10, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure establishes the Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund under the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank (IBANK) to receive funds from non-state governmental entities and private sources. The Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund would make loans for climate catalyst projects that further the state's climate goals.

AB 2800 (Quirk) Climate Change. State Infrastructure Planning. Climate-safe Infrastructure Working Group.

Chapter 118, Statutes of 2020

This measure removes the sunset for the existing Climate-Safe Infrastructure Working Group and for provisions requiring state agencies to take the current and future climate change impacts into account in infrastructure projects. This measure also clarifies that state agencies, as part of their accounting for climate change impacts in infrastructure projects, include the economic damages and financial liabilities associated with those impacts.

[AB 3214](#) (Limón) Oil and Gas. Oil Spills. Fines and Penalties.

Chapter 119, Statutes of 2020

This measure doubles the minimum and maximum amounts of the penalties for criminal violations of the Lempert-Keene-Seastrand Oil Spill Prevention and Response Act related to oil spills.

[SB 895](#) (Archuleta) Energy. Zero-emission Fuel, Infrastructure, and Transportation Technologies.

Chapter 120, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the California Energy Commission (CEC) to provide research and development support for zero-emissions fuels, infrastructure, and technologies using available funds currently set aside for the development of clean diesel fuels, infrastructure, and technologies.

[SB 1320](#) (Stern) Climate Change. California Climate Change Assessment.

Chapter 136, Statutes of 2020

This measure directs the Governor's Office of Planning and Research, through the Integrated Climate Adaptation and Resiliency Program, to complete a California-specific climate change assessment no less frequently than every five years to assess the impacts and risks of climate change and identify potential solutions to inform legislative policy.

C. Coastal

[AB 2809](#) (Mullin) San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. Suisun Marsh Preservation Act of 1977.

Chapter 220, Statutes of 2020

This measure mandates various actions by the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission related to enforcement, penalties, and the implementation of the Suisun Marsh Preservation Act.

D. Emergency-Disaster Planning, Response, and Recovery

[AB 100](#) (Committee on Budget) State Government.

Chapter 20, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure implements actions related to state administration involving elections and seismic safety:

- Allows costs related to the administration of an election during the COVID-19 pandemic to be a reimbursable expenditure; and
- Establishes the Alfred E. Alquist Seismic Safety Commission as a separate unit within the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). This measure maintains the requirement that the League of California Cities submit at least four members for consideration to serve on the commission.

**[AB 838](#) (Eggman) Flood Management. Mossdale Tract.
Chapter 208, Statutes of 2020**

This measure extends the date for the Mossdale Tract, which includes the cities of Lathrop, Manteca, and Stockton, to reach an urban level of protection from 2025 to 2028 in order to accommodate the recent expansion of the San Joaquin Area Flood Control Agency's jurisdiction.

**[AB 2386](#) (Bigelow) Office of Emergency Services. Disaster Council Plans.
Chapter 254, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires Cal OES to annually review ten local emergency plans to determine if they conform or exceed best practices identified by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and in carrying out this new requirement, prioritize a plan submitted from a county determined to be at a high risk of wildfire disaster.

**[AB 2968](#) (Rodriguez) County Emergency Plans. Best Practices.
Chapter 257, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires Cal OES, by January 1, 2022, to establish best practices for counties developing and updating a county emergency plan and a review process for a county to request Cal OES to review a county's emergency plan.

E. Energy and Utilities

**[AB 913](#) (Calderon) Electrical Corporations. Wildfire and Under Collection.
Chapter 253, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to approve the securitization by electric investor-owned utilities of under collection of utility bill amounts for the year 2020. Additionally, this measure revises the definition of "eligible claim" to change "calendar year" to "year."

**[AB 1551](#) (Arambula) Property Assessments. Requirements and Disclosures.
Chapter 156, Statutes of 2020**

This measure makes a number of changes to the Property Assessed Clean Energy (PACE) program. These changes include: 1) prohibiting prepayment penalties in connection with PACE assessments; 2) prohibiting PACE assessments on properties with reverse mortgages; 3) requiring the PACE Financing Estimate and Disclosure (FED) to be provided in printed, paper form, unless the property owner signs a printed paper document opting out of a hard copy of the FED; and 4) requiring the FED to be provided electronically if a property owner opts out of receiving a printed paper copy of that document.

**[AB 3163](#) (Salas) Energy. Biomethane. Procurement.
Chapter 358, Statutes of 2020**

This measure expands the definition of “biomethane” to include methane that is produced from the non-combustion thermal conversion of eligible biomass feedstock, for purposes of the CPUC’s consideration of adopting biomethane procurement targets.

**[SB 350](#) (Hill) The Golden State Energy Act.
Chapter 27, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes the creation of a non-profit public benefit corporation, Golden State Energy, to acquire the Pacific Gas and Electric (PG&E) Company under specified circumstances, including in the event PG&E does not emerge from Chapter 11 bankruptcy. This measure provides specified actions to be taken if PG&E does not emerge from bankruptcy or if it has its CPUC-issued license revoked.

[SB 364](#) (Mitchell) Change in Ownership. Nonresidential Active Solar Energy Systems. Initiative.

Chapter 58, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure changes the classification of nonresidential active solar energy systems from real property to personal property and creates a new property tax exemption for systems constructed before 2025 if voters approve Proposition 15 of 2020.

**[SB 702](#) (Hill) California Renewables Portfolio Standard Program. Procurement.
Chapter 305, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes an electric retail seller the option to rely on the contracts or ownership agreements entered into prior to January 1, 2019, directly by its nonprofit educational institution end-use customer to help satisfy the long-term procurement requirement in the state’s renewable portfolio standard (RPS). This measure is intended to specifically allow Stanford University’s electric service provider to meet its RPS obligations by relying on Stanford’s contracts for electricity produced by solar energy.

**[SB 1117](#) (Monning) Master-Meter Customers. Electrical or Gas Service.
Chapter 164, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires existing consumer protections for electrical service provided via a master-meter customer, are also explicit for sub-metered residents and tenants of mobile home parks, apartment buildings, or similar residential complexes, regardless of whether the electrical generation is provided by an entity other than an electrical corporation, such as a Community Choice Aggregator.

F. Hazardous Materials and Waste

[AB 1657](#) (Garcia, Eduardo) State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission. Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California. Report.

Chapter 271, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires, on or before March 1, 2021, the CEC establish and convene the Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California, with 14 members appointed by a combination of the CEC, other state agencies, Assembly Speaker, and Senate Committee on Rules. Additionally, this measure requires the Blue Ribbon Commission on Lithium Extraction in California to submit, on or before October 1, 2022, a report to the Legislature documenting its findings and recommendations.

[AB 1788](#) (Bloom) Pesticides. Use of Second Generation Anticoagulant Rodenticides.

Chapter 250, Statutes of 2020

This measure, the California Ecosystems Protection Act of 2020, prohibits the use of second-generation anticoagulant rodenticides (SGAR) statewide until the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) director certifies specified measures have been taken to evaluate, restrict, and only use SGAR when necessary. During that prohibition, this measure provides exemptions for activities and locations necessary for public health and the continued production of uncontaminated food and other biological products.

[AB 2920](#) (Obernalte) Hazardous Waste. Transportation. Consolidated Manifesting Procedure.

Chapter 222, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes hazardous waste generators and transporters to use consolidated manifesting procedures for retail hazardous waste collected from retailers engaged in business in the state.

[AB 3220](#) (Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials) Hazardous Materials. Underground Storage Tanks. Pesticides.

Chapter 296, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends the sunset of two distinct programs. This measure expands and extends, until January 1, 2026, the eligibility for the Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks program, which provides loans and grants to assist small businesses with complying with state and federal standards for underground storage tanks. Additionally, this measure extends, until January 1, 2023, the sunset on a pesticide worker protection program known as the California Medical Supervision Program, which protects workers who handle organophosphate and carbamate pesticides.

[SB 86](#) (Durazo) Department of Pesticide Regulation. Chlorpyrifos. Quarterly Reports.

Chapter 299, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires DPR to submit quarterly reports on the pesticide chlorpyrifos use, monitoring, and exposure to specified committees in the Legislature and the Office of the Surgeon General.

G. Solid Waste and Recycling

[AB 793](#) (Ting) Recycling. Plastic Beverage Containers. Minimum Recycled Content.

Chapter 115, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires specified minimum postconsumer content standards for plastic beverage containers subject to the California Redemption Value (CRV). These minimum standards require the CRV beverage container to contain, on average, no less than 50 percent postconsumer recycled plastic content by January 1, 2030.

[AB 2104](#) (Garcia, Cristina) Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Act of 2016.

Chapter 276, Statutes of 2020

This measure revises public notice, public comment, and site designation requirements for the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) as part of the Lead-Acid Battery Recycling Facility Investigation and Cleanup Program and provides additional time for DTSC to complete or renew investigations.

[AB 2287](#) (Eggman) Solid Waste.

Chapter 281, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes a number of changes regarding commercial recycling and changing the definition of “compostability.” These changes include: 1) authorizing the use of agricultural mulch film plastic labeled “soil degradable” if it meets specified standards; 2) giving the Statewide Commission on Recycling Markets and Curbside Recycling an additional six months to make certain market development policy recommendations and to identify recyclable or compostable products; and 3) requiring theme parks, zoos, entertainment complexes, and similar attractions to provide a recycling bin to its customers by no later than January 1, 2022.

H. Water

[AB 2560](#) (Quirk) Water Quality. Notification Levels and Response Levels. Procedures.

Chapter 350, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the State Water Resources Control Board to post on its internet website and distribute through e-mail that it has initiated the development of a Notification Level (NL) or Response Level (RL) for a contaminant and the draft version of the NL or RL along with supporting documentation.

**[SB 1044](#) (Allen) Firefighting Equipment and Foam. PFAS Chemicals.
Chapter 308, Statutes of 2020**

This measure, commencing January 1, 2022, prohibits the manufacture, sale, distribution, and use of class B firefighting foam containing per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS), with limited exceptions for when PFAS chemicals are required by federal law. This measure also requires notification of the presence of PFAS in the protective equipment of firefighters.

**[SB 1301](#) (Hueso) Tijuana River Valley. Watershed Action Plan.
Chapter 368, Statutes of 2020**

This measure directs, upon an appropriation by the Legislature, the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA) to collaborate to create a Tijuana River Valley Watershed Action Plan. Additionally, this measure directs CalEPA and CNRA to consult with the US and Mexican governments, and specific state and local governments, to develop a common watershed action plan to address issues in the Tijuana River and its watershed.

**[SB 1386](#) (Moorlach) Local Government. Assessments, Fees, and Charges. Water.
Hydrants.**

Chapter 240, Statutes of 2020

This measure finds and declares that fire hydrants are part of the system of public improvements included in the definition of “water” for purposes of the Proposition 218 of 1996.

GOVERNANCE, TRANSPARENCY AND LABOR RELATIONS

IV. Governance, Transparency and Labor Relations

A. Elections

[AB 646](#) (McCarty) Elections. Voter Eligibility.

Chapter 320, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows a person on parole to vote, preregister to vote, and register to vote. This measure also makes other technical and conforming changes if Proposition 17 of 2020 passes.

[AB 860](#) (Berman) Elections. Vote by Mail Ballots.

Chapter 4, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure requires county elections officials to mail a ballot to every registered voter for the November 3, 2020, statewide general election.

[AB 1276](#) (Bonta) Local Redistricting.

Chapter 90, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes technical, clarifying, and conforming changes to procedures and criteria pursuant to which counties, general law cities, and charter cities adopt supervisorial and council district boundaries for the purpose of electing members of a county's board of supervisors or a city's council. Some of these changes are necessary in order to accommodate for the delayed census timeline due to the COVID-19 health crisis.

[AB 2151](#) (Gallagher) Political Reform Act of 1974. Online Filing and Disclosure System.

Chapter 214, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires a local government agency, within 72 hours of each applicable filing deadline, to post on its internet website a copy of any statement, report, or other document required to be filed pursuant to the campaign finance disclosure provisions of the Public Records Act (PRA), if the document is filed with that agency in paper format. This measure provides that if the final day of the 72-hour period is a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday, the deadline for posting copies of paper filings is extended to the next day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or holiday. The local filing officer, before posting, shall redact the street name and building number of the persons or entity representatives listed on any statement, report, or document, or any bank account number required to be disclosed by the filer. This measure also requires a statement, report, or other document posted pursuant to the provisions of this bill to be made available for four years from the date of the election associated with the filing.

[ACA 4](#) (Mullin) Elections. Voting Age.

Chapter 30, Statutes of 2020

This measure, if approved by the voters as Proposition 18 of 2020, authorizes a United States citizen who is 17 years of age, is a resident of the state, and will be at least 18 years of age at the time of the next general election to vote in any primary or special

election that occurs before the next general election in which the citizen would be eligible to vote if at least 18 years of age.

***[SB 970](#) (Umberg) Primary Election Date.**

Chapter 111, Statutes of 2020

This measure changes the date of the statewide direct primary to the first Tuesday after the first Monday in June in even-numbered years in which there is no presidential primary.

B. Labor Relations

***[AB 685](#) (Reyes) COVID-19. Imminent Hazard to Employees. Exposure.**

Notification. Serious Violations.

Chapter 84, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires that if an employer or representative of the employer receives a notice of potential exposure to COVID-19, the employer must take all of the following actions within one business day of the notice of potential exposure:

- Provide a written notice in a manner the employer normally uses to communicate employment-related information to all employees, and the employers of subcontracted employees, who were on the premises at the same worksite as the qualifying individual within the infectious period that they may have been exposed to COVID-19;
- Provide a written notice to the exclusive representative, if any, of employees;
- Provide all employees who may have been exposed and the exclusive representative, if any, with information regarding COVID-19-related benefits to which the employee may be entitled under applicable federal, state, or local laws; and
- Notify all employees, the employers of subcontracted employees, and the exclusive representative, if any, on the disinfection and safety plan that the employer plans to implement and complete per the guidelines of the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

If an employer or representative of the employer is notified of the number of cases that meet the definition of a COVID-19 outbreak, within 48 hours, the employer must notify the local public health agency in the jurisdiction of the worksite of the names, number, occupation, and worksite of employees. This notice must contain the same information as would be required in an incident report in a California Division of Occupational Safety and Health (Cal/OSHA) Form 300 injury and illness log, unless the information is inapplicable or unknown to the employer. This requirement applies regardless of whether the employer is required to maintain a Cal/OSHA Form 300 injury and illness log. This measure also provides definitions for the following terms: “COVID-19,” “infectious period,” “notice of potential exposure,” “qualifying individual,” and “worksite.” An employer is prohibited from retaliating against a worker for disclosing a positive COVID-19 test or diagnosis or order to quarantine or isolate. Workers who believe they

have been retaliated against may file a complaint with the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement.

**[AB 1731](#) (Boerner Horvath) Unemployment Insurance. Work Sharing Plans.
Chapter 209, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure, until January 1, 2024, creates an alternative process for the submission and approval of employer work sharing plan applications. This measure requires the director of the Employment Development Department (EDD) to accept an application to participate in, or renew participation in, the work sharing program that is submitted electronically and requires EDD to create a portal on its internet website for the provision and receipt of these applications.

**[AB 1945](#) (Salas) Emergency Services. First Responders.
Chapter 68, Statutes of 2020**

This measure defines “first responder” as an employee of the state or a local public agency who provides emergency response services, including a peace officer, firefighter, paramedic, emergency medical technician, public safety dispatcher, or public safety telecommunicator.

**[AB 1947](#) (Kalra) Employment Violation Complaints. Requirements. Time.
Chapter 344, Statutes of 2020**

This measure extends the period of time within which people may file complaints with the Labor Commissioner subject to the six month deadline to within one year after the occurrence of the violations.

***[AB 2257](#) (Gonzalez) Worker Classification. Employees and Independent Contractors. Occupations. Professional Services.
Chapter 38, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure provides that public agencies may engage in bonafide business to business relationships without having the contracted business be classified as employees under the AB 5 (Gonzalez, Chapter 296, Statutes of 2019) employment test.

**[AB 2311](#) (Low) Public Contracts. Skilled and Trained Workforce Requirement.
Notice.**

Chapter 347, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires a public entity, when the use of a skilled and trained workforce to complete a contract or project is required pursuant to existing law, to include in all bid documents and construction contracts a notice that the project is subject to the skilled and trained workforce requirement.

**[AB 2765](#) (O'Donnell) Public Works. Prevailing Wages.
Chapter 355, Statutes of 2020**

This measure expands the definition of “public works,” for the purposes of provisions relating to the prevailing rate of per diem wages, to also include any construction, alteration, demolition, installation, or repair work done under private contract on a

project for a charter school when the project is paid for, in whole or in part, with the proceeds of conduit revenue bonds, that were issued on or after January 1, 2021.

[AB 2967 \(O'Donnell\) Public Employees' Retirement System. Contracting Agencies. Exclusion from Membership.](#)
Chapter 223, Statutes of 2020

This measure deletes provisions of the Public Employment Retirement Law that authorized a public agency contracting with the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) to make all or part of its employees members of the system. This measure prohibits exclusions of groups of employees from being made by amendment of a public agency contract with CalPERS. This measure applies these provisions to contracts entered into, amended, or extended on and after January 1, 2021.

[AB 2992 \(Weber\) Employment Practices. Leave Time.](#)
Chapter 224, Statutes of 2020

This measure expands provisions to prohibit an employer from discharging, or discriminating or retaliating against, an employee who is a victim of crime or abuse for taking time off from work to obtain or attempt to obtain relief.

[*SB 1159 \(Hill\) Workers' Compensation. COVID-19. Critical Workers.](#)
Chapter 85, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure defines "injury" for an employee to include illness or death resulting from COVID-19 under specified circumstances, until January 1, 2023. This measure creates a disputable presumption, as specified, that the injury arose out of and in the course of the employment and is compensable, for specified dates of injury. This measure limits the applicability of the presumption under certain circumstances. This measure requires an employee to exhaust their paid sick leave benefits and meet specified certification requirements before receiving any temporary disability benefits or, for police officers, firefighters, and other specified employees, a leave of absence. This measure also makes a claim relating to a COVID-19 illness presumptively compensable, as described above, after 30 days or 45 days, rather than 90 days.

[*SB 1383 \(Jackson\) Unlawful Employment Practice. California Family Rights Act.](#)
Chapter 86, Statutes of 2020

This measure expands the California Family Rights Act to make it an unlawful employment practice for any employer with five or more employees to refuse to grant a request by an employee to take up to 12 workweeks of unpaid protected leave during any 12-month period to bond with a new child of the employee or to care for themselves or a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner, as specified. This measure also requires an employer who employs both parents of a child to grant leave to each employee.

[SB 1384](#) (Monning) Labor Commissioner. Financially Disabled Persons. Representation.

Chapter 239, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends the authority of the Labor Commissioner to represent a claimant who is financially unable to represent themselves in a hearing where a court order has compelled arbitration to determine the claim and the Labor Commissioner has determined that the claim has merit. This measure also requires that a petition to compel arbitration be served on the Labor Commissioner.

C. Government Operations

[AB 103](#) (Committee on Budget) Unemployment Compensation Benefits. COVID-19.

Chapter 22, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure expands the flexibility of the state in administering the Unemployment Insurance program by:

- Prohibiting unemployment compensation benefits paid to an unemployed individual from being charged against the reserve account of a tax-rated employer, unless the employer or an agent of the employer was at fault; and
- Allowing the state to trigger onto the Federal-State Extended Benefit program using the Total Unemployment Rate, which would potentially provide up to 20 weeks of total Unemployment Insurance extended benefits to unemployed workers, funded 100 percent by the federal government.

[AB 713](#) (Mullin) California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018.

Chapter 172, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure exempts from the California Consumer Privacy Act (CCPA) information that was deidentified in accordance with specified federal law, or was derived from medical information, protected health information, individually identifiable health information, or identifiable private information, consistent with specified federal policy.

***[AB 992](#) (Mullin) Open Meetings. Local Agencies. Social Media.**

Chapter 89, Statutes of 2020

This measure provides that, until January 1, 2026, a member of a legislative body covered by the Brown Act may engage in separate conversations or communications outside of a meeting authorized by this act with any other person using an internet-based social media platform. The communications may be to answer questions, provide information to the public, or to solicit information from the public regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body, provided that a majority of the members do not use the internet-based social media platform to discuss among themselves, business of a specific nature that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body. Additionally, a member shall not respond directly to any communication on an internet-based social media platform regarding a matter that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the legislative body that is made, posted, or shared by any other member of the legislative body.

[AB 1281 \(Chau\) Privacy. California Consumer Privacy Act of 2018.](#)
Chapter 268, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends two exemptions of the CCPA until January 1, 2022. Currently, the CCPA, until January 1, 2021, exempts from its provisions certain information collected by a business about a natural person in the course of the natural person acting as a job applicant, employee, owner, director, officer, medical staff member, or contractor, as specified. The CCPA also, until January 1, 2021, exempts from specified provisions personal information reflecting a written or verbal communication or a transaction between the business and the consumer, if the consumer is a natural person who is acting as an employee, owner, director, officer, or contractor of a company, partnership, sole proprietorship, nonprofit, or government agency and whose communications or transaction with the business occur solely within the context of the business conducting due diligence regarding, or providing or receiving a product or service to or from that company, partnership, sole proprietorship, nonprofit, or government agency.

[AB 1867 \(Committee on Budget\) Small Employer Family Leave Mediation.](#)
Handwashing. Supplemental Paid Sick Leave.
Chapter 45, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure establishes additional employer requirements related to the health and safety of employees during the COVID-19 emergency as follows:

- Establishes a COVID-19 Supplemental Paid Sick Leave program for workers not performing duties from home employed by entities with 500 or more employees or those employed as health care providers or emergency responders. This measure applies the supplemental leave provisions to public entities; and
- Requires a food employee working in any food facility to be permitted to wash their hands every 30 minutes and more often as needed.

[*ACA 5 \(Weber\) Government Preferences.](#)
Chapter 23, Statutes of 2020

This measure, if approved by the voters as Proposition 16 of 2020, repeals Section 31 of Article I of the California Constitution, which was added by Proposition 209 of 1996. This particular section of the California Constitution prohibits the state, cities, counties, community college districts, public university systems, and special districts from discriminating or giving preferential treatment to any individual or group on the basis of race, sex, color, ethnicity, or national origin with regard to public employment, public contracting or public education.

HOUSING, COMMUNITY, AND ECONOMC DEVELOPMENT

V. Housing, Community and Economic Development

A. Accessory Dwelling Units

[AB 3182](#) (Ting) Housing. Governing Documents. Rental or Leasing of Separate Interests. Accessory Dwelling Units. Chapter 198, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires common interest developments (CIDs) to allow at least 25 percent of owners to rent or lease out their units. Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) and junior accessory dwelling units are not counted toward this cap. CIDs are required to amend governing documents by December 31, 2021 but will need to comply with this bill regardless of whether the governing documents have been amended. A CID that violates the provisions of this bill shall be liable for a civil penalty of up to \$1,000.

B. Housing Finance

***[AB 434](#) (Daly) Housing Financing Programs. Uniform Procedures. Chapter 192, Statutes of 2020**

This measure aligns six rental housing programs with the Multifamily Housing Program (MHP) to enable the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) to implement a single application and scoring system for making coordinated awards under all seven programs, beginning January 1, 2022.

C. Homelessness

[AB 2174](#) (Gallagher) Homeless Multidisciplinary Personnel Teams. Chapter 143, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes the counties of Yuba and Sutter to jointly establish a homeless adult and family multidisciplinary personnel team.

[AB 2275](#) (Nazarian) State Armories. Homeless Shelters. Security. Chapter 145, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure changes a requirement that cities and counties ensure local law enforcement visit a state armory each night it is used as a shelter, to a requirement that cities and counties request law enforcement visit each night it is used as a shelter.

***[AB 2553](#) (Ting) Shelter Crisis Declarations. Chapter 147, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure expands the Shelter Crisis Act (AB 932, Ting, Chapter 786, Statutes of 2017) to all cities and counties in California. The Shelter Crisis Act allowed certain local jurisdictions that declared a shelter crisis to allow homeless individuals to occupy public facilities designated as emergency housing such as shelter beds, for the duration of the crisis. The Shelter Crisis Act also provides limited liability and suspends local housing,

health, and safety standards for public facilities to the extent that full compliance would hamper mitigation of the effects of the shelter crisis.

Additionally, this measure removes the requirement that HCD review and approve any city or county's draft ordinance providing local standards and procedures for the design, site development, and operation of homeless shelters. Instead, a jurisdiction that adopts an ordinance must meet the standards provided in the 2019 California Residential Code, and any future standards adopted by HCD related to emergency housing or emergency housing facilities, unless the city or county adopts findings stating why the standards cannot be met. This measure sunsets on January 1, 2026.

**[AB 2960](#) (Gipson) Shelter Crises. Fire and Life Safety Standards.
Chapter 148, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes a city with a population above 3.5 million to permit the operation of an emergency housing facility year round when the facility does not comply with state building standards for local fire and life safety standards if they submit reasonable standards to the State Fire Marshal. This measure authorizes permits for a period of 90 days and authorizes 90-day extensions, not to exceed 730 days of operation, and prohibits the authorization of new permits on and after January 1, 2023.

**[SB 1065](#) (Hertzberg) CalWORKs. Homeless Assistance.
Chapter 152, Statutes of 2020**

This measure modifies requirements for obtaining, extending and using homeless assistance in order to make program assistance by making changes to the California Work Opportunity and Responsibility to Kids (CalWORKs) Homeless Assistance Program (HAP).

D. Land Use/Planning

***[AB 168](#) (Aguiar-Curry) Planning and Zoning. Annual Report. Housing Development. Streamlined Approvals.
Chapter 166, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure states:

- The annual reports on the status of a city's general plan and progress in its implementation must now include information on the progress of the city in adopting or amending its general plan or local open-space element in compliance with its obligations to consult with California Native American tribes, and to identify and protect, preserve, and mitigate impacts to specified places, features, and objects;
- A development proponent, before submitting an application for an SB 35 (Wiener, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017) streamlined approval to submit notice of its intent to submit an application under these provisions, in the form of a preliminary application. After the local government receives that notice, a local government must provide formal notice to each California Native American tribe that is traditionally and culturally affiliated with the geographic area of the

proposed development and to engage in a scoping consultation regarding the potential effects the proposed development could have on a potential tribal cultural resource;

- A local government must notify a California Native American tribe if the development or environmental setting substantially changes after the completion of the scoping consultation, and requires the local government to engage in a subsequent scoping consultation if requested by the California Native American tribe;
- If the proposed development were not eligible for ministerial approval, this measure requires the local government to provide written documentation of that fact to the development proponent and to any California Native American tribe that is a party to that scoping consultation; and
- An ineligible project includes:
 - The site of the proposed development is a tribal cultural resource that is on a national, state, tribal, or local historic register list;
 - The local government and the California Native American tribe do not agree that no potential tribal cultural resource affects the proposed development; or
 - The local government and California Native American tribe find that a potential tribal cultural resource could be affected by the proposed development and the parties do not document an enforceable agreement regarding the methods, measures, and conditions for treatment of those tribal cultural resources.

***[AB 831](#) (Grayson) Planning and Zoning. Housing. Development Application Modifications.**

Chapter 194, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes changes to the process for development projects approved by the streamlined, ministerial process created by SB 35 (Wiener, Chapter 366, Statutes of 2017). The change provides a path to modify approved development projects prior to the issuance of the final building permit required for construction, including provisions on how local governments must treat such an application for a modification. This measure also specifies how local governments must approve and construct public improvements provided in conjunction with the streamlined, ministerial development project in a manner that does not inhibit the development.

***[AB 1561](#) (Garcia, Cristina) Planning and Zoning. Housing Element and Entitlement Extensions.**

Chapter 195, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires cities and counties to evaluate the impact of government actions on the cost of housing and associated impacts to minority communities and extends by 18 months the time frame for the expiration, effectuation, or utilization of a housing entitlement for any housing entitlement that was issued prior to, and was in effect on, March 4, 2020, and will expire prior to December 31, 2021.

This measure also extends, by 30 days, the time frame under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) for a Native American tribe to respond to a lead agency and request consultation in writing relating to an environmental impact report for any housing development project application determined or deemed complete on or after March 4, 2020 and prior to December 31, 2021.

***[AB 725](#) (Wicks) General Plans. Housing Element. Moderate-income and Above Moderate-income Housing. Suburban and Metropolitan Jurisdictions. Chapter 193, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires metropolitan and suburban jurisdictions, through their housing element process, to ensure that at least 25 percent of their regional housing need for moderate-income housing be allocated to sites with zoning that allows at least four units of housing, but no more than 100 units per acre of housing. This measure excludes unincorporated areas from this prohibition and does not apply to housing elements due before January 1, 2022.

***[AB 2345](#) (Gonzalez) Planning and Zoning. Density Bonuses. Annual Report. Affordable Housing.**

Chapter 197, Statutes of 2020

This measure revises the Density Bonus Law to increase the maximum allowable density and the number of concessions and incentives a developer can seek. This measure also requires that the annual report include information regarding density bonuses granted in accordance with specified law.

E. Landlord –Tenant

***[AB 3088](#) (Chiu) Tenancy. Rental Payment Default. Mortgage Forbearance. State of Emergency. COVID-19.**

Chapter 37, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure establishes a moratorium on evictions for non-payment of rent due to COVID-19 financial hardship, subject to numerous conditions. This measure prohibits tenants who so demonstrate from being evicted for failure to pay rent or other charges (“COVID-19 rental debt”) first, accrued between March 1, 2020 and August 31, 2020 and, second, accrued between September 1, 2020 and January 31, 2021, if they pay 25 percent of the amount owed for the latter period by January 31, 2021. Tenants who fail to pay this 25 percent can be evicted beginning on February 1, 2021. This measure sunsets on January 31, 2021.

Additionally, this measure:

- Permits landlords to sue tenants for unpaid COVID-19 rental debt beginning March 1, 2021;
- Increases, until February 1, 2021, the time that tenants have to respond to a demand to pay rent or other charges from three business days to 15 business days;

- Requires landlords to provide all tenants with a notice informing them of their rights under this bill;
- Prohibits landlords from retaliating against tenants prior to February 1, 2021 for incurring COVID-19 rental debt;
- Expands the Homeowners Bill of Rights until January 1, 2023 to cover small landlords; and
- Requires a mortgage servicer that denies a borrower's request for forbearance on mortgage payments for a property consisting of no more than four residential units to provide the borrower with a written explanation of the denial.

**SB 1157 (Bradford) Tenancy. Credit Reporting. Lower Income Households.
Chapter 204, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires, beginning July 1, 2021, landlords who own or manage subsidized multi-family residential properties to offer their tenants the option of having their rent payments reported to a major credit bureau. A landlord may require the tenant to pay a fee not to exceed the lesser of the actual cost to the landlord to provide the reporting service or \$10 per month. This measure sunsets on July 1, 2025

A landlord is exempt if they own an assisted housing development that contains 15 or fewer dwelling units, unless the landlord owns more than one assisted housing development, regardless of the number of units in each assisted housing development, and the landlord is one of the following: a real estate investment trust; a corporation; or a limited liability company in which at least one member is a corporation are exempt.

**SB 1190 (Durazo) Tenancy. Termination.
Chapter 205, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes a tenant to terminate their tenancy without penalty if an immediate family member was the victim of a crime. This measure expands the list of eligible crimes to include, among others, a crime that caused bodily injury or death. The notice to terminate the tenancy to be given within 180 days of the date that the newly added eligible crimes occurred. A landlord may not require a tenant who terminates a lease under these provisions to forfeit any security deposit money or advance rent paid due to that termination. The tenant who terminates a rental agreement under these provisions cannot be considered for any purpose, by reason of the termination, to have breached the lease or rental agreement.

F. Foreclosure

**SB 1079 (Skinner) Residential Property. Foreclosure.
Chapter 202, Statutes of 2020**

This measure seeks to mitigate blight, vacancy, and the transfer of residential property ownership from owner occupants to corporate landlords. This measure:

- Increases local governments' authority to assess fines on owners of blighted properties acquired at foreclosure sales;

- Requires local governments to provide these owners with more detail as to the alleged blight and giving owners more time to remedy issues before any fine is assessed against them;
- Provides an eligible bidder 45 days after a home foreclosure auction to make an offer for the home that exceeds the highest bid. Prohibits sales of bundled properties at foreclosure auctions;
- Requires a notice of sale to contain a specified notice to a tenant regarding the tenant's potential right to purchase a property; and
- Requires a trustee to maintain an internet website and a telephone number to provide specified information on the properties that is free of charge and available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

This measure sunsets on January 1, 2026.

**[SB 1148](#) (Jones) Mortgages and Deeds of Trust. Foreclosure.
Chapter 203, Statutes of 2020**

This measure eliminates the requirement that for properties located all or in part in a city in which at least one newspaper of general circulation is published, the notice of sale must be published in a newspaper of general circulation within that city. Instead, the notice could be published in any newspaper of general circulation within the public notice district in which the property is located all or in part. Additionally, courts cannot charge a filing fee for a declaration of nonmonetary status filed by a trustee.

G. Mobile Homes

**[*AB 2782](#) (Stone, Mark) Mobilehome Parks. Change of Use. Rent Control.
Chapter 35, Statutes of 2020**

This measure modifies the conditions that must be met when converting a mobilehome park to another use. Specifically, this measure:

- Extends the length of notice that parks must give to residents in advance of appearing before local authorities to request permission for the change;
- Requires mobilehome parks to compensate the displaced resident for the market value of their mobilehome if the residents cannot relocate to another mobilehome park;
- Prohibits local authorities from approving the change in use unless they find that it will not result in a shortage of affordable housing within the local jurisdiction;
- Makes state law preempting the application of local rent control ordinances to mobilehome leases inapplicable to leases entered into on or after February 13, 2020; and
- Repeals the exemption from local rent control ordinances for all mobilehome leases that are over a year in length, effective January 1, 2025.

H. Care Facilities

[AB 1766](#) (Bloom) Licensed Adult Residential Facilities and Residential Care Facilities for the Elderly. Data Collection. Residents with a Serious Mental Disorder.

Chapter 139, Statutes of 2020

This measure, beginning May 1, 2021 and annually thereafter, requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to send a list of specified information about adult residential facilities (ARFs) and residential care facilities for the elderly (RCFEs) to each county's department of mental health or behavioral health. Information includes a list of all licensed adult residential facilities and residential care facilities for the elderly that accept a specified federal rate and accept residents with a serious mental disorder, and the number of licensed beds at each facility. On a quarterly basis, CDSS must then send those county departments a report of licensed ARFs and RCFEs that closed permanently in the prior quarter.

This measure also requires:

- The CDSS to notify the county mental or behavioral health department within three business days upon receiving notice that a licensed adult residential facility or residential care facility for the elderly intends to close permanently; and
- An applicant or licensee of an adult community care facility to maintain an email address of record with the department and to provide written notification to the department of the email address and of any change to the email address within ten business days of the change.

I. Budget Trailer Bills

[AB 78](#) (Committee on Budget) Bergeson-peace Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank.

Chapter 10, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure establishes the Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund under the Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank to receive funds from non-state governmental entities and private sources. The Climate Catalyst Revolving Loan Fund would make loans for climate catalyst projects that further the state's climate goals.

[AB 83](#) (Committee on Budget) Housing.

Chapter 15, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure includes the following provisions and funding for housing, homelessness, and tenants:

Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention (HHAP) Program Round 2

Creates a Round 2 of HHAP funding in the amount of \$300 million. These funds must be used on evidence-based solutions that address and prevent homelessness.

- Allocates the \$300 million as follows:
 - \$90 million to Continuums of Care (CoC);

- \$130 million to each city, or city that is also a county that has a population of 300,000 or more as of January 1, 2020; and
 - \$80 million to counties;
- Allows a city, city and county, single CoC, or county to apply jointly with a counterpart entity or entities; and
- Applications for Round 2 program allocations will be available no later than November 30, 2020 and shall be due to the council no later than 60 days from the date the council makes those applications available.

Property Exchange for Affordable Housing

- Allows state properties to be exchanged for another property or other properties belonging to a local government if:
 - HCD has determined that the property or properties proposed to be conveyed to the state are suitable for the purpose of affordable housing; and
 - The Director of the Department of General Services makes a finding that the exchange is in the best interest of the state; and
- Defines affordable housing to have the same meaning as Section 50052.5 of the Health and Safety Code.

Planning and Zoning Law

- Revises the requirements for a unit to qualify for inclusion in a committed assistance program, including extending long-term affordability covenants and restrictions that require the unit to be available at affordable housing costs for at least 55 years;
- Authorizes units in a motel, hotel, or hostel that are converted from nonresidential to residential to count towards a jurisdiction's adequate sites, if specified conditions are met, including that the unit is part of a long-term recovery response to COVID-19, and authorizes spaces in specified mobile home parks; and
- Revises the definition of committed assistance to instead require the city or county to enter into a legally enforceable agreement during the period from the beginning of the projection period until the end of the fourth year of the planning period that obligates sufficient available funds or other in-kind services.

Building Homes and Jobs Trust Fund

- Extends the deadline for a jurisdiction to encumber its SB 2 planning dollars to December 31, 2020, and expend those funds no later than December 31, 2023.

Local Early Action Planning Grants

- Extends until January 31, 2021, the time that a jurisdiction may request an allocation of funds for the Local Early Action Planning Grants.

Project Roomkey

- Allocates \$550 million through HCD for acquisition or acquisition and rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels; conversion of units from nonresidential

to residential; and the relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units;

- Requires funds from the Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) to provide housing for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness be disbursed in accordance with the MHP, including grants to cities, counties, and other local public entities for the following:
 - Acquisition or rehabilitation of motels, hotels, or hostels;
 - Master leasing of properties;
 - Acquisition of other sites and assets, including purchase of apartments or homes, adult residential facilities, residential care facilities for the elderly, manufactured housing, and other buildings with existing residential uses that could be converted to permanent or interim housing;
 - Conversion of units from nonresidential to residential in a structure with a certificate of occupancy as a motel, hotel, or hostel;
 - The purchase of affordability covenant and restrictions for units;
 - Relocation costs for individuals who are being displaced as a result of rehabilitation of existing units;
 - Capitalized operating subsidies for units purchased, converted, or altered with funds provided by this section; and
- Requires that any project that uses funds received from CRF for any of the purposes specified above shall be deemed consistent and in conformity with any applicable local plan, standard, or requirement, and allowed as a permitted use, within the zone in which the structure is located, and shall not be subject to a conditional use permit, discretionary permit, or to any other discretionary reviews or approvals.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemption

- Provides a CEQA exemption for Project Roomkey projects, until July 1, 2021, if all of the following requirements, if applicable, are satisfied:
 - No units were acquired by eminent domain;
 - The units will be in decent, safe, and sanitary condition at the time of their occupancy;
 - The project proponent shall require all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the project to pay prevailing wages for any rehabilitation, construction, or alterations;
 - The project proponent obtains an enforceable commitment that all contractors and subcontractors performing work on the project will use a skilled and trained workforce for any rehabilitation, construction, or alterations;
 - The project proponent submits to the lead agency a letter of support from a county, city, or other local public entity for any rehabilitation, construction, or alteration work;
 - Any acquisition is paid for exclusively by public funds;
 - The project provides housing units for individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness;

- Long term covenants and restrictions require the units to be restricted to persons experiencing homelessness or who are at risk of homelessness, which may include lower income, and very low income households, for no fewer than 55 years; and
- The project does not increase the original footprint of the project structure or structures by more than 10 percent. Any increase to the footprint of the original project structure or structures shall be exclusively to support the conversion to housing for the designated population.

Low Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC)

- \$500 million in new state LIHTC for 2020-21.

Homeowner and Tenant Protections

- \$300 million to be administered by the California Housing Finance Agency for the purpose of providing housing counseling services to homeowners, former homeowners, or renters and provide mortgage assistance to households, including borrowers who own residential properties with four or fewer units; and
- \$31 million to Judicial Council for qualified legal services projects and support centers to provide eviction defense or other tenant defense assistance in landlord-tenant disputes, including pre-eviction, and eviction legal services, counseling, advice and consultation, mediation, training, renter education, and representation.

AB 107 (Committee on Budget) State Government. **Chapter 264, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes significant changes related to general government administration that impact local governments in the following areas:

Property Tax Assessment Appeals

- Allows county boards to extend the two-year deadline to render a final determination in property tax assessment appeal applications to March 31, 2021 for certain applicants and clarify that assessment appeals boards may conduct hearings remotely.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevent Program

- Requires the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council award no less than \$250,000 in the second round of funding to a grant applicant that is a Continuum of Care (CoC), and require that if more than one recipient within the CoC has a population of 300,000 or more, the proportionate share of funds be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

State Transit Assistance Program

- Allows transit operators to use funds received in fiscal years 2019-20 to 2021-22 from the State Transit Assistance State of Good Repair program for any operating or capital expenditure if doing so is necessary to prevent a reduction or elimination of transit service.

[AB 1864](#) (Limón) Financial Institutions. Regulation. Department of Financial Protection and Innovation.

Chapter 157, Statutes of 2020

This measure renames the “Department of Business Oversight” to the “Department of Financial Protection and Innovation,” and makes changes to existing law to support the enforcement of the federal Dodd-Frank Wall Street Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 and other laws to protect consumers from unlawful practices of entities and persons offering consumer financial products and services in California.

[AB 1885](#) (Committee on Budget) Debtor Exemptions. Homestead Exemption.

Chapter 94, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes the current homestead exemption (set at \$75,000 to \$175,000 based on marital and age status) the greater of \$300,000 or the countywide median sale price of a single-family home in the calendar year prior to the calendar year the judgment debtor claims the exemption, not to exceed \$600,000. These amounts adjusts annually for inflation.

J. Regional

[AB 2731](#) (Gloria) California Environmental Quality Act. City of San Diego. Old Town Center Redevelopment.

Chapter 291, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes the San Diego Association of Governments to obtain site control to support the redevelopment of the Old Town Center site, including a transit and transportation facilities project, in the City of San Diego before completing the environmental review for those actions.

[AB 2932](#) (O'Donnell) City of Long Beach. Design-build Process.

Chapter 54, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure authorizes the City of Long Beach, upon approval of the city council of the City of Long Beach, to use the design-build contracting process for its contracts for curb ramps that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act, in accordance with specified procedural requirements and limits.

[SB 940](#) (Beall) Housing Crisis Act of 2019. City of San Jose.

Chapter 201, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows the City of San Jose to proactively change a zoning ordinance to a more intensive use and use the added capacity to subsequently change a zoning ordinance applicable to an eligible parcel to a less intensive use as long as there is no net loss in residential capacity. The City of San Jose must report each downzoning online in a publicly-accessible format and in their annual progress report and submit the annual report to the relevant policy committees of the Legislature in every year that the City of San Jose amends a zoning ordinance pursuant to this bill. This measure sunsets on the date the city's housing element for the sixth cycle is due.

K. Parking Requirements

***[AB 1851](#) (Wicks) Religious Institution Affiliated Housing Development Projects. Parking Requirements.**

Chapter 196, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits:

- A local agency from requiring the replacement of religious-use parking spaces that a developer of a religious institution affiliated housing development project proposes to eliminate as part of that affordable housing development project; and
- A local agency from denying a housing development project proposed by a religious institution, or a developer working with a religious institution, solely on the basis that the project will reduce the total number of parking spaces available at the place of worship provided that the total reduction does not exceed 50 percent of existing parking spaces.

A parking space reduction shall not allow the religious institution affiliated housing development to provide less than at least one space per residential unit, unless the development is located:

- Within one-half mile walking distance of a high-quality transit corridor, or a major transit stop; or
- Within one block of a car share vehicle.

This measure also requires a local agency to allow the number of religious-use parking spaces that will be available after completion of a religious institution affiliated housing development project to count toward the number of parking spaces otherwise required for approval. Local agencies may require up to one parking space per unit for a religious institution affiliated housing development project.

[SB 1212](#) (Rubio) Joint Powers Authorities. San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust. Board of Directors.

Chapter 206, Statutes of 2020

This measure changes the membership and term requirements for the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust's board of directors (board).

Specifically, this measure:

- Requires seven of the nine board members to be either of the following:
 - A local elected official from the County of Los Angeles; or
 - A member of a city council from a city that is a member of the San Gabriel Valley Council of Government.
- Requires the two board members who are experts in homeless and housing policy to meet all of the following criteria:
 - They shall not be local elected officials or employees of a city that currently has a representative on the board;
 - They shall have regional experience with affordable housing projects in multiple San Gabriel Valley cities; and

- They shall have at least five years of experience in homeless and housing policy.
- Establishes staggered terms for the board members; and
- Requires each member of the board that represents a city that is a party to the joint powers agreement that governs the San Gabriel Valley Regional Housing Trust to be a resident of a different city.

SB 1380 (Allen) Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. Acquisition of Real Property.

Chapter 310, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) to directly address some encroachment issues and land negotiations at the local level by exempting from the Property Acquisition Law an acquisition of an interest in real property initiated after January 1, 2021, by SMMC to address or resolve an encroachment if the value of the interest is less than or equal to \$500,000.

The exemption does not apply to the exercise of the power of eminent domain. The executive director of the conservancy, at least 45 days prior to the conservancy taking action to acquire the real property or interest therein, must provide written notice to the adjacent landowners and the city council or county board of supervisors where the real property is located.

Additionally, this measure also requires SMMC, if an adjacent landowner, the city, or county objects to a proposed acquisition, to hold a noticed public hearing on the objections to the acquisition before voting to recommend an action by SMMC.

L. Miscellaneous

AB 240 (Irwin) Veterans' Homes. Lease of Property.

Chapter 61, Statutes of 2020

This measure limits the term of a lease of real property at a California Department of Veterans Affairs Veterans' Home to five years, unless the lessee is a local government or a nonprofit organization that provides services exclusively for veterans of the Armed Forces of the United States and their families, or the contract for the lease was executed before January 1, 2021.

AB 3308 (Gabriel) School Districts. Employee Housing.

Chapter 199, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows school districts to restrict occupancy of affordable housing on school district-owned land, funded with low income housing tax credits, to teachers and school district employees of the school district that owns the land, regardless of any laws that prohibit a priority or preference for school district employees and teachers.

**[SB 1030](#) (Committee on Housing) Housing.
Chapter 165, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes technical changes to various sections of the law regarding housing. These changes include clarifying definitions, cross-referencing errors, chaptering issues, and removing obsolete language. This measure also includes an urgency clause to facilitate implementation of the 2019 ADU bills and clarifies that charter cities are subject to ADU law.

**[SB 1447](#) (Bradford) Income Tax. Sales and Use Tax. Credit. Small Business.
Chapter 41, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure allows a credit against the personal income and corporate income taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2021, to certain small businesses in an amount equal to \$1,000 for each new hire, not to exceed one \$100,000 to any one business. Notably for local governments, this tax credit uniquely allows small businesses to apply the credit against any sales and use tax liability. This measure is funded by SB 115 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 40, Statutes of 2020).

PUBLIC SAFETY

VI. Public Safety

A. Alcohol and Beverage Regulations

AB 2459 (Bigelow) Alcoholic Beverage Licenses. Counties of Mariposa and Napa. Chapter 53, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) to issue up to ten additional new original on-sale general licenses for public eating places in the County of Mariposa. This measure authorizes the County of Mariposa Board of Supervisors to determine the number of licenses to be issued in a given year, not exceeding five per-year. This measure also authorizes ABC, beginning January 1, 2021, and for five years thereafter, to issue up to 10 additional new original on-sale general licenses per year to bona fide public eating places (up to 50 licenses in total) in Napa County, as specified.

AB 3139 (Gray) Alcoholic Beverages. Licensees. Chapter 175, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure creates an exception to tied-house restrictions, which prohibit certain alcoholic beverage licensees from holding any ownership interest in an on-sale license. The exception includes trustees, officers, directors, and employees of a nonprofit theater in the City of Modesto. Additionally, this measure authorizes a licensee to carry on its business at a substitute location within 1,000 feet of a destroyed premises for a period of up to 180 days while the destroyed premises is being repaired or rebuilt. Lastly, this measure allows manufacturers, winegrowers, distilled spirits rectifiers, craft distillers, and distilled spirits manufacturers to pay a retailer for advertising at a for-profit theater located in the City and County of San Francisco.

SB 432 (Nielsen) Alcoholic Beverages. Distilled Spirits. Instruction. Chapter 178, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure authorizes rectifiers and brandy manufacturers to instruct or conduct courses of instruction for licensees and their employees on the subject of distilled spirits. This measure further provides that a distilled spirits wholesaler, rectifier, brandy manufacturer, or craft distiller may furnish distilled spirits and the equipment, materials, and utensils that may be required for use in the instruction.

B. Cannabis

AB 1458 (Quirk) Cannabis Testing Laboratories. Chapter 269, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires a certificate of analysis for edible cannabis products to report that the milligrams of Tetrahydrocannabinol per-serving does not exceed ten milligrams per-serving, plus or minus 12 percent until January 1, 2022, and plus or minus 10 percent after January 1, 2022. The Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and

Safety Act prohibits cannabis and cannabis products from being sold unless a representative sample of specified batches has been tested by a licensed testing laboratory and the testing laboratory issues a certificate of analysis for selected lots of each batch.

AB 1525 (Jones-Sawyer) Cannabis. Financial institutions.

Chapter 270, Statutes of 2020

This measure clarifies that no state law prohibits an entity from providing financial services to a licensed cannabis business. This measure also permits a cannabis business to authorize a state regulatory agency to share the business' application, license, track-and-trace data, and other information with financial institutions.

AB 1872 (Committee on Budget) Cannabis.

Chapter 93, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure prohibits the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration from adjusting the excise tax on cannabis upward until July 1, 2021 and from adjusting the cultivation tax for inflation until 2021. This measure also clarifies that the Board of State and Community Corrections is prohibited from making grants to local governments that have banned both indoor and outdoor commercial cannabis cultivation or have banned the retail sale of cannabis or cannabis products.

SB 67 (McGuire) Cannabis. Marketing. Appellations of Origin. County, City, or City and County of Origin.

Chapter 298, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure prohibits cannabis cultivators from designating a city of origin for cannabis if any of the cannabis was not produced within the designated city. Specifically, cannabis cultivators cannot advertise or market their products as originating in a city if the cannabis was grown even partially elsewhere. This restriction has already been applied to designating a county of origin. This reserves the right for only cannabis cultivators who grow entirely in that city to advertise their products using that city's name.

Additionally, this measure limits the approval of appellations of origin for cannabis unless it requires the practice of planting in the ground in the canopy area and excludes the practices of using structures and any artificial light in the canopy area. This ensures that indoor grows, where plants are potted and exposed primarily to artificial light, are not provided appellations of origin, which create consumer expectations about how a product was influenced by its environment.

SB 1244 (Bradford) Cannabis Testing Laboratories.

Chapter 309, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a licensed testing laboratory to receive and test samples of cannabis from state or local law enforcement or a prosecuting or regulatory agency. This measure also clarifies that testing conducted by a testing laboratory for state or local law enforcement, a prosecuting agency, or a regulatory agency is not commercial

cannabis activity prohibiting that testing from being arranged or overseen by the Bureau of Cannabis Control.

C. Crimes, Crime Victims, and Corrections

AB 732 (Bonta) County Jails. Prisons. Incarcerated Pregnant Persons. Chapter 321, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires an incarcerated person who is identified as possibly pregnant or capable of becoming pregnant during an intake health examination or at any time during incarceration to be offered a pregnancy test upon intake or request. In the case of a county jail, the test must be provided within 72 hours of arrival at the jail. This measure requires an incarcerated person who is confirmed to be pregnant to be scheduled for a pregnancy examination within seven days.

AB 904 (Chau) Search Warrants. Tracking Devices. Chapter 63, Statutes of 2020

This measure specifies that a tracking device includes any software that permits the tracking of the movement of a person or object. This specification ensures that if a law enforcement agency utilizes software to track a person's movements, whether in conjunction with a third party or interacting directly with a person's electronic device, the provisions for obtaining a tracking device search warrant apply.

AB 1304 (Waldron) California MAT Re-entry Incentive Program. Chapter 325, Statutes of 2020

This measure establishes the California Medically Assisted Treatment Re-Entry Incentive Program. This program allows individuals released from prison on parole, who have enrolled in, or completed an institutional substance abuse program to be eligible for a reduction in the period of parole. This measure authorizes a 30-day reduction for every six months of treatment successfully completed, up to a maximum 90-day reduction.

***AB 1775 (Jones-Sawyer) False Reports and Harassment. Chapter 327, Statutes of 2020**

This measure increases the penalties for knowingly using the 911 emergency system for the purpose of harassing another based on perceived characteristics of a protected class. This measure also establishes civil liability for those who make baseless 911 calls and makes clear that "intimidation by threat of violence" includes making a false report to police that another person is engaged in unlawful activity. This measure dictates that first-time violators who use the 911 emergency system to harass another have committed either an infraction punishable by a \$250 fine or a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in county jail. A subsequent violation for such calls constitutes a misdemeanor punishable by up to six months in county jail and/or a fine of up to \$1,000. Additionally, for any 911 call intended to harass another that is also found to be a hate crime, this measure makes this act a misdemeanor punishable by up to one year in county jail and/or a fine between \$500 and \$2000.

[AB 1927](#) (Boerner Horvath) Witness Testimony in Sexual Assault Cases. Inadmissibility in a Separate Prosecution.

Chapter 241, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes testimony that a victim or witness in a felony sexual assault prosecution was using or in possession of drugs or alcohol at the time of the sexual assault inadmissible in a separate prosecution of that victim or witness.

[AB 1950](#) (Kamlager) Probation. Length of Terms.

Chapter 328, Statutes of 2020

This measure restricts the period of probation to no longer than two years for a felony conviction and one year for a misdemeanor conviction.

[AB 2321](#) (Jones-Sawyer) Juvenile Court Records. Access.

Chapter 329, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a judge or prosecutor to access sealed juvenile records for the limited purpose of processing the request of a victim or victim's family member to certify victim helpfulness on the United States Department of Homeland Security application for a U-Visa or a T-Visa. This provides law enforcement tools needed to process visas for undocumented individuals that have been the victim of a crime.

[AB 2426](#) (Reyes) Victims of Crime.

Chapter 187, Statutes of 2020

This measure clarifies which agencies are required to process a victim certification for an immigrant victim of a crime to obtain U-Visas and T-Visas. Specifically, certifying entities include the police department of the University of California, a California State University campus, or a school district. Additionally, certifying entities cannot refuse to certify that the victim has been helpful solely because the criminal case involved has already been prosecuted or closed or because the time to commence criminal action has expired.

[AB 2606](#) (Cervantes) Criminal Justice. Supervised Release File.

Chapter 332, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires every county probation department to update supervised release files available to them through the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System every ten days by entering any person that is placed on any form of post-conviction supervision within their jurisdiction.

[AB 2655](#) (Gipson) Invasion of Privacy. First Responders.

Chapter 219, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes it a misdemeanor for a first responder who responds to the scene of an accident or crime to capture a picture of a deceased person for any purpose other than an official law enforcement purpose or a genuine public interest. This measure requires agencies that employ first responders to, on January 1, 2021, notify those first responders of this prohibition. Additionally, this measure authorizes search warrants to be issued if the things to be seized contain evidence showing that a first responder has engaged in this crime.

[AB 3043 \(Jones-Sawyer\) Corrections. Confidential Calls.](#)

Chapter 333, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) to approve an attorney's request to make confidential calls to a client that they represent at a CDCR facility. This measure requires CDCR to provide the inmate at least 30 minutes once per month, per case, to make those calls, unless the inmate or attorney requests less time.

[AB 3073 \(Wicks\) CalFresh. Preenrollment.](#)

Chapter 225, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to, no later than September 1, 2022, issue a letter to all counties containing recommendations and suggested methods for county human services agencies to partner with the CDCR and county jails to enroll formerly incarcerated individuals into the CalFresh program. Additionally, this measure requires the CDSS, if it deems it necessary, to submit a waiver to the federal government to allow for the pre-enrollment of applicants prior to their release from state prison or county jail to ensure an applicant's benefits may begin as soon as possible upon reentry of the applicant into the community.

[AB 3228 \(Bonta\) Private Detention Facilities.](#)

Chapter 190, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires private detention facilities to comply with the detention standards of care and confinement agreed upon in the facility's contract for operations. This measure defines a private detention facility as a detention facility operated by a private, non-governmental, for-profit entity pursuant to a contract or agreement with a governmental entity. This measure also establishes a civil cause of action against private detention facilities that violate the requirement to comply with the detention standards of care and confinement.

[SB 132 \(Wiener\) Corrections.](#)

Chapter 182, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires CDCR to, during initial intake, to ask each individual entering into the custody to specify the individual's gender identity and sex assigned at birth. Specifically, this measure requires CDCR to ask whether an individual identifies as transgender, nonbinary, or intersex, and their gender pronoun and honorific. This measure also requires CDCR to conduct searches of and assign housing to transgender inmates based on the inmate's individual preferences. This measure prohibits CDCR from disciplining a person for refusing to answer or not disclosing complete information in response to these questions.

[SB 417 \(Portantino\) California Victim Compensation Board. Claim.](#)

Chapter 28, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure appropriates \$5,087,040 from the General Fund to the Executive Officer of the California Victim Compensation Board for payment of claims where evidence shows that a crime an individual was charged with was either not committed at all or was not committed by the individual, indemnifying the claimant.

**[SB 1141](#) (Rubio) Domestic Violence. Coercive Control.
Chapter 248, Statutes of 2020**

This measure makes findings and declarations relating to the impact of COVID-19 on victims of domestic violence. Specifically, this measure defines "disturbing the peace of the other party" as conduct that destroys the mental or emotional calm of the other party. Additionally, this measure clarifies that such conduct may be committed directly or indirectly, including through the use of a third party, and by any method or through any means including, but not limited to, telephone, online accounts, text messages, internet-connected devices, or other electronic technologies.

D. Emergency and Disaster Relief

**[AB 3267](#) (Smith) Office of Emergency Services. State Emergency Plan.
Chapter 260, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to coordinate with representatives of the access and functional needs population when updating the State Emergency Plan every five years. Additionally, this measure requires Cal OES to complete an after-action report, in coordination with state and local agencies, within 180 days after each declared disaster. This report must review public safety response and disaster recovery activities and be made available to all interested public safety and emergency management organizations.

**[AB 3366](#) (Committee on Judiciary) Judicial Emergencies.
Chapter 76, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure allows the Chairperson of the Judicial Council to issue an order authorizing multiple courts to take certain actions if the Chairperson determines that emergency conditions threaten the orderly operation of courts in more than one county or render the courts unsafe. Previously, individual courts had to request authority to implement emergency actions. This measure empowers the Chief Justice to authorize the courts to take immediate necessary action "sua sponte," without waiting for each request. Some of these emergency actions may include holding court sessions anywhere within the county, transferring civil cases to another county, or extending the time periods for bringing an action to trial.

E. Emergency Medical Services

***[AB 1544](#) (Gipson) Community Paramedicine or Triage to Alternate Destination Act.**

Chapter 138, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a local emergency medical services agency to develop a community paramedicine or triage to an alternate destination program until January 1, 2024. This measure also requires the state's Emergency Medical Services Authority to adopt minimum medical protocols as well as regulations governing minimum program and training standards. Additionally, this measure specifies that a local emergency medical services authority opting to develop a program must integrate the proposed

program into its emergency medical services plan, facilitate agreements, certify program compliance and staffing of alternate destination facilities, codify strict anti-discrimination protections governing field protocols and receiving facilities, and call upon existing advanced life support providers to provide triage paramedic services.

F. Firearms

AB 2061 (Limón) Firearms. Inspections.

Chapter 273, Statutes of 2020

This measure, beginning July 1, 2022, allows the Department of Justice (DOJ) to inspect firearms dealers, ammunition vendors, or manufacturers participating in a gun show or event in order to ensure that all transfers or sales are conducted in compliance with applicable state and local laws. This measure also allows the DOJ to adopt regulations to administer the application and enforcement of laws relating to gun shows and ammunition vendors.

AB 2362 (Muratsuchi) Firearms Dealers. Conduct of Business.

Chapter 284, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes, starting July 1, 2021, the DOJ to impose civil fines on firearms dealers for violating regulations or prohibitions related to their firearms dealers license. This measure authorizes the DOJ to impose a civil fine not exceeding \$1,000 for a violation and a civil fine not exceeding \$3,000 for a violation when the licensee has received written notification regarding the violation and failed to take corrective action. The DOJ can also impose a civil fine if they determine the licensee committed the violation knowingly or with gross negligence.

***AB 2617 (Gabriel) Firearms. Gun Violence Restraining Orders.**

Chapter 286, Statutes of 2020

This measure ensures individuals who own or possess firearms or ammunition, with the knowledge they are prohibited from doing so because of a valid protective order issued by an out-of-state jurisdiction, is guilty of a misdemeanor. This measure is consistent with existing state law, which already recognizes Domestic Violence Restraining Orders and other forms of protective orders from other states. By extending this authority to Gun Violence Restraining Orders, state and local law enforcement can enforce such orders when residents of other states who pose a dangerous risk of gun violence cross into California.

AB 2699 (Santiago) Firearms. Unsafe Handguns.

Chapter 289, Statutes of 2020

This measure specifies which entities are exempt from the existing prohibition on the manufacturing, sale, or transfer of an "unsafe handgun." These entities include specific law enforcement and government agencies, who may purchase unsafe handguns for employees who have successfully completed the basic course prescribed by the Commission on Peace officer Standards and Training (POST), and who qualify with the handgun, at least every six months. The DOJ must maintain a database of unsafe handguns obtained under these exemptions, and by no later than March 1, 2021,

provide notification to the persons and entities who possess an unsafe handgun regarding the prohibitions on the sale and transfer of those handguns. Additionally, this measure authorizes the department to impose fees and civil penalties on a person or entity who violates the provisions of this measure.

AB 2847 (Chiu) Firearms. Unsafe Handguns.

Chapter 292, Statutes of 2020

This measure, effective July 1, 2022, revises the criteria for unsafe handguns by requiring a microstamp to be imprinted in one place on the interior of the handgun. Additionally, this measure requires the DOJ, for every new firearm added to the roster, to remove three firearms from the roster that are not compliant with current requirements.

SB 723 (Jones) Firearms. Prohibited Persons.

Chapter 306, Statutes of 2020

This measure clarifies that a person with an active arrest warrant for a felony or specified misdemeanor must have knowledge of the warrant to be criminally liable as a person prohibited from possessing a firearm.

G. Gaming

AB 1082 (Low) Gambling. Gambling Control Act.

Chapter 122, Statutes of 2020

This measure removes from the Gambling Control Act the definition of applicant, a person who is about to apply for a state gambling license or other specified licenses, permits, or approvals. This measure clarifies that an applicant is only a person who has already submitted an application, not an individual who is about to submit one, as people who are about to apply cannot be identified.

SB 869 (Dodd) Tribal Gaming. Compact Ratification.

Chapter 171, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure ratifies six tribal-state gaming compacts entered into between the State of California and the Lone Band of Miwok Indians, the Mooretown Rancheria of Maidu Indians of California, the Paskenta Band of Nomlaki Indians, the Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians, the Tolowa Dee-ni' Nation, and the Tule River Indian Tribe of California. This measure specifies that, in deference to tribal sovereignty, certain actions are not deemed projects for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). This measure clarifies that none of the provisions included in the bill can be construed to exempt a city, county, or the California Department of Transportation from CEQA requirements.

H. Immigration

AB 2113 (Low) Refugees, Asylees, and Special Immigrant Visa Holders. Professional Licensing. Initial Licensure Process.

Chapter 186, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires licensing boards under the Department of Consumer Affairs to expedite professional licensure applications for individuals who supply satisfactory evidence of having been admitted to the United States as a refugee, granted asylum by the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security or the Attorney General of the United States, or have a special immigrant visa.

AB 2788 (Gloria) Public Utilities. Cooperation with Immigration Authorities.

Chapter 188, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits an electrical corporation, gas corporation, or local publicly owned electric utility from sharing, disclosing, or otherwise making accessible a customer's electrical or gas consumption data to any immigration authority without a court-ordered subpoena or judicial warrant. This measure does not prohibit access to utility data, rather it allows immigration officials access to this data via judicial warrant or court-ordered subpoena. In so doing, this measure increases customers' private electrical and gas consumption data.

AB 3133 (Aguiar-Curry) Refugees. Resettlement.

Chapter 189, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits a refugee from being denied resettlement, including by a local government, in California based on any criterion, method of administration, or practice that has the purpose or effect of discriminating on the basis of race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or any other protected characteristic.

I. Judicial Process and Criminal Procedure

AB 2014 (Maienschein) Medical Misconduct. Misuse of Sperm, Ova, or Embryos. Statute of Limitations.

Chapter 244, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires a criminal complaint for crimes involving the unlawful use or implantation of sperm, ova, or embryos to be filed within one year after the discovery of the offense or within one year after the offense could have reasonably been discovered.

AB 2147 (Reyes) Convictions. Expungement. Incarcerated Individual Hand Crews. Chapter 60, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows a defendant who successfully participated in the California Conservation Camp Program or a county incarcerated individual hand crew to petition to withdraw their plea of guilty and enter a plea of not guilty. This measure allows the court in its discretion to dismiss the conviction against the defendant and release the defendant from all penalties and disabilities resulting from the offense, creating a pathway to employment. This measure also clarifies that persons convicted of specified violent felonies and sex offenses are ineligible for this relief.

[AB 2338 \(Weber\) Courts. Contempt Orders.](#)
Chapter 283, Statutes of 2020

This measure permits the court to grant alternative punishment of probation or a conditional sentence in lieu of an order for community service, imprisonment, or both, for parties found in contempt of a family law court order or judgment. This alternative punishment must be for a period not to exceed one year upon a first finding of contempt, a period not to exceed two years upon a second finding of contempt, and a period not to exceed three years upon a third or any subsequent finding of contempt. The intent of this measure is that probation or a conditional sentence will increase compliance with the family law court order or judgment.

[AB 2445 \(Reyes\) Civil Actions. Wrongful Death.](#)
Chapter 51, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure authorizes a decedent's legal guardian to bring a wrongful death action in the same manner as a legal parent. Specifically, this measure authorizes the legal guardians of a decedent to bring a civil action if the decedent's parents were authorized to bring a civil action, but they are deceased, or if the legal guardians were dependent on the decedent and the decedent's parents are deceased. This measure does not alter the requirements for bringing a wrongful death action. It clarifies that a legal guardian can bring an action if the parent would have been able to bring the action, but the parent is deceased.

[AB 2512 \(Stone, Mark\) Death Penalty. Person with an Intellectual Disability.](#)
Chapter 331, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a defendant in a death penalty case to apply for a hearing to determine intellectual disability as part of a habeas corpus petition and revises the definition of intellectual disability. Specifically, this measure changes the definition of intellectual disability to include conditions that manifest before the end of the developmental period. Additionally, this measure prohibits the results of a test measuring intellectual functioning to be changed or adjusted based on race, ethnicity, national origin, or socioeconomic status.

[AB 2517 \(Gloria\) Domestic Violence. Personal Property and Liens.](#)
Chapter 245, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes courts, beginning January 1, 2022, to determine the use, possession, and control of real or personal property of the parties involved in domestic violence, abuse, and sexual abuse cases while an ex parte order is in effect. This measure also authorizes the order to include a finding that specific debts were incurred as the result of domestic violence without the consent of a party and provides that this finding does not affect the priority of any lien or other security interest. This measure requires the Judicial Council to adopt appropriate forms and modify existing forms to reflect this change.

**[AB 2542 \(Kalra\) Criminal Procedure. Discrimination.](#)
Chapter 317, Statutes of 2020**

This measure prohibits the state from seeking a criminal conviction or sentence based on race, ethnicity, or national origin. This measure authorizes a writ of habeas corpus to be prosecuted based on this prohibition. This measure also permits a defendant to file a motion requesting disclosure of all evidence relevant to a potential violation of this prohibition. This measure provisions are applied prospectively to cases where judgment has not been entered before January 1, 2021. Lastly, this measure allows individuals to vacate convictions or sentences that were sought, obtained, or imposed based on race, ethnicity, or national origin. This measure is cited as the California Racial Justice Act of 2020.

**[AB 2717 \(Chau\) Motor Vehicles. Unattended Children. Liability.](#)
Chapter 352, Statutes of 2020**

This measure provides civil and criminal immunity for an individual who takes reasonable steps to remove a child from a motor vehicle if the person believes that the child's safety is in immediate danger from heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or other circumstances that could cause suffering, disability, or death to the child. Additionally, this measure establishes procedures for peace officers, firefighters, or emergency responders under such circumstances, including arranging for the treatment and transport of the child according to existing policies of the local Emergency Medical Services agency.

**[AB 2723 \(Chiu\) Civil Actions. Entry of Judgment. Written Stipulation.](#)
Chapter 290, Statutes of 2020**

This measure allows attorneys and other designated agents of an insurance company to sign agreements to settle litigation outside the presence of the court. Additionally, this measure provides that an attorney who signs the writing on behalf of a party without express authorization is subject to professional discipline.

**[AB 2844 \(Obernolte\) Guardians and Conservators. Duties. Accountings.](#)
Chapter 221, Statutes of 2020**

This measure makes changes to the Guardianship-Conservatorship Law, which requires a guardian or conservator to present the accounting of the assets of the estate of the ward or conservatee to the court. This measure allows the required original account statements that must be included as supporting documents for a guardian's or conservator's biennial accounting of their ward's or conservatee's estate to be provided in a verified electronic format.

**[AB 3070 \(Weber\) Juries. Peremptory Challenges.](#)
Chapter 318, Statutes of 2020**

This measure prohibits the use of a peremptory challenge to remove a prospective juror on the basis of their race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, national origin, or religious affiliation for all jury trials in which jury selection begins on or after January 1, 2022. This measure does allow for objections to the use of a peremptory challenge based on these criteria. Upon objection, the party exercising the challenge

must state the reasons the peremptory challenge was exercised. Additionally, this measure, until January 1, 2026, specifies that its provisions do not apply to civil cases.

[AB 3092](#) (Wicks) Sexual Assault and Other Sexual Misconduct. Statutes of Limitations on Civil Actions. Chapter 246, Statutes of 2020

This measure revives otherwise time-barred claims arising out of sexual assaults at medical clinics owned or operated by the University of California, Los Angeles. Specifically, this includes sexual assaults that occurred between January 1, 1983, and January 1, 2019, for which the applicable statute of limitations has or had expired. This measure authorizes a cause of action to proceed if already pending in court on January 1, 2021, or, if not filed by that date, to be commenced between January 1, 2021, and December 31, 2021.

[AB 3234](#) (Ting) Public Safety. Chapter 334, Statutes of 2020

This measure provides judges the discretion to offer misdemeanor diversion to individuals charged with misdemeanors they deem appropriate for these programs. If the defendant complies with all required terms, conditions, and programs, the judge is required to dismiss the action against the defendant at the end of the diversion program. This measure also lowers the minimum age for the Elderly Parole Program from inmates who are 60 years old to inmates who are 50 years of age and who have served a minimum of 20 years.

[AB 3364](#) (Committee on Judiciary) Judiciary Omnibus. Chapter 36, Statutes of 2020

This measure enacts numerous technical changes to several California codes as part of the Committee on Judiciary omnibus bill. Notably, this measure:

- Clarifies that the mandatory continuing legal education curriculum related to implicit bias training for California attorneys commences with the compliance period ending after January 31, 2022;
- Clarifies that nothing in existing law outlining the disclosures and duties required of property buyers and sellers in high or very high fire severity zones is to be interpreted as limiting the ability of a state or local agency to enforce defensible space requirements;
- Clarifies that a school district or community college district is included within the definition of "local agency" for the purposes of the state's unclaimed property laws, thereby permitting property to be transferred by the State Controller directly to the school district or community college district without the filing of a claim; and
- Authorizes the Judicial Council to require matching funds for local programs to receive grants through the Court-Appointed Special Advocate (CASA) program, and authorizes the Judicial Council to require matching funds in an amount up to the proposal request amount.

[SB 145 \(Wiener\) Sex Offenders. Registration.](#)**Chapter 79, Statutes of 2020**

This measure exempts automatic and mandatory registration under the Sex Offender Registration Act, a person convicted of non-forcible voluntary sodomy, oral copulation, or sexual penetration with a minor if the person is not more than ten years older than the minor, and if that offense is the only one requiring the person to register. This measure provides courts the discretion to decide, at sentencing, if registering the defendant as a sex offender is appropriate, regardless of the sex act they performed.

[SB 592 \(Wiener\) Jury Service.](#)**Chapter 230, Statutes of 2020**

This measure deems the list of resident state tax filers as an appropriate list for juror selection, and beginning on January 1, 2022, deems this list inclusive of a representative cross-section of the population. This measure also requires the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) to annually share a list of state tax filers with the jury commissioner of each county. The FTB must revise the state resident income tax return to include a line for taxpayers to include the address of their principal residence and their county of principal residence.

[SB 1123 \(Chang\) Elder and Dependent Adult Abuse.](#)**Chapter 247, Statutes of 2020**

This measure clarifies the definition of "elder and dependent adult abuse" in the Penal Code by using cross-references to Welfare and Institutions Code definitions. This measure also requires law enforcement agencies to update their policy manuals with the new definition of elder and dependent adult abuse, if that policy manual exists.

[SB 1146 \(Umberg\) Civil Procedure. Electronic Filing, Trial Delays, and Remote Depositions.](#)**Chapter 112, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes permanent two emergency measures adopted by the Judicial Council to ensure civil litigation moved forward during the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, this measure allows represented parties to accept electronic service notices or documents that may usually be served by mail. Additionally, this measure allows depositions to continue to be taken remotely. This measure also clarifies that for trials continued during the COVID-19 state of emergency and 180 days thereafter, corresponding case dates are also continued.

J. Juvenile Welfare**[AB 901 \(Gipson\) Juveniles.](#)****Chapter 323, Statutes of 2020**

This measure eliminates the authority of county superintendents of schools to petition juvenile court on behalf of a pupil if that jurisdiction has not elected to participate in a truancy mediation program. This measure authorizes peace officers to refer a minor who habitually refuses to obey the reasonable and proper orders of the minor's parents

or has four or more truanancies within one school year to a community-based resource, the probation department, a health agency, a local educational agency, or other governmental entities that may provide services. This measure requires the program of supervision to encourage the parents or guardians of the minor to participate with the minor in counseling or education programs and delete the authority for the minor's parents to be required to reimburse the county for the cost of services rendered to the minor's family.

AB 2425 (Stone, Mark) Juvenile Police Records.

Chapter 330, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits law enforcement, social workers, or probation agencies from releasing juvenile police records when a juvenile has participated in or completed a diversion program. Specifically, these records cannot be released if the subject of the juvenile police record is:

- A minor who has been diverted by police officers from arrest, citation, detention, or referral to probation and who is currently participating in a diversion program or who has satisfactorily completed a diversion program;
- A minor who has been counseled and released by police officers without an arrest, citation, detention, or referral to probation; and
- A minor who does not fall within the jurisdiction of the juvenile delinquency court under current state law.

Additionally, this measure requires the law enforcement agency that seals a juvenile police record of a diverted minor to notify the applicable diversion service provider and require the records in the diversion service provider's custody to be kept confidential. The bill requires the Judicial Council to develop forms to implement these provisions by January 1, 2022.

AB 2805 (Eggman) Juveniles. Reunification.

Chapter 356, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the court to base findings on competent evidence when determining whether to order reunification services for a child who has been made a dependent of the juvenile court because the child, before reaching five years of age, was the victim of severe physical abuse by a parent or by any person known by the parent.

SB 203 (Bradford) Juveniles. Custodial interrogation.

Chapter 335, Statutes of 2020

This measure expands and extends existing protections for minors prior to custodial interrogation by law enforcement. Current law requires, until January 1, 2025, that a minor 15 years of age or younger consult with legal counsel prior to a custodial interrogation and before waiving any rights. This measure instead applies these provisions to a minor 17 years of age or younger and indefinitely extends the operation of these provisions.

**[SB 823](#) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Juvenile Justice Realignment.
Office of Youth and Community Restoration.
Chapter 337, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure includes statutory changes to enact public safety-related provisions of the Budget Act of 2020. Specifically, this measure:

- Intends to close the Division of Juvenile Justice within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation by July 1, 2021;
- Beginning July 1, 2021, this measure prohibits further commitment of wards to the Division of Juvenile Justice and requires all wards committed to the division prior to that date remain within the custody of the division until the ward is discharged, released, or transferred;
- Establishes the Office of Youth and Community Restoration within the California Health and Human Services Agency starting July 1, 2021, to support this transition; and
- Establishes a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to provide county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the Division of Juvenile Justice or who would have otherwise been eligible for commitment to the division.

**[SB 1126](#) (Jones) Juvenile Court Records.
Chapter 338, Statutes of 2020**

This measure expands the list of circumstances by which specific sealed juvenile records to be accessed, inspected, or utilized. Specifically, this measure authorizes probation departments, prosecuting attorneys, counsel for minors, and courts to access these records for the purpose of assessing a minor's competency in a subsequent proceeding if the issue of competency has been raised. This measure prohibits the information obtained from these records from being disseminated to any other person or agency except as necessary to evaluate the minor's competency or provide remediation services. Additionally, this measure does not allow the use of these records to support the imposition of penalties, detention, or other sanctions on the minor.

**[SB 1290](#) (Durazo) Juveniles. Costs.
Chapter 340, Statutes of 2020**

This measure vacates certain county-assessed or court-ordered costs imposed before January 1, 2018, against parents and guardians of youth subject to the juvenile delinquency system and against persons aged 18 to 21 subject to the criminal justice system.

K. Law Enforcement

**[AB 846](#) (Burke) Public Employment. Public Officers or Employees Declared by Law to be Peace Officers.
Chapter 322, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to evaluate bias against race or ethnicity, gender, nationality, religion, disability, or sexual

orientation during peace officer evaluations by a physician, surgeon, or psychologist. Under current law, peace officers are required to be evaluated to be found free from any physical, emotional, or mental condition that might adversely affect the exercise of the powers of a peace officer. Additionally, this measure requires every law enforcement agency that employs peace officers to review and change the job descriptions used in the recruitment and hiring process to deemphasize the paramilitary aspects of the job and place more emphasis on community interaction and collaborative problem-solving.

AB 1196 (Gipson) Peace Officers. Use of Force.

Chapter 324, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits a law enforcement agency from authorizing the use of a carotid restraint or a chokehold by any peace officer employed by that agency. This may require law enforcement agencies to amend their existing use of force policies.

AB 1506 (McCarty) Police Use of Force.

Chapter 326, Statutes of 2020

This measure creates a division within the Department of Justice (DOJ) to, upon the request of a law enforcement agency, review the use-of-force policy of the agency and make recommendations beginning July 1, 2023. This measure also requires a state prosecutor to conduct an investigation of any officer-involved shooting that resulted in the death of an unarmed civilian. For each investigation, the state prosecutor must prepare a written report including a statement of facts, a detailed analysis and conclusion, recommendations to modify the policies and practices of the law enforcement agency (if necessary), and if criminal charges against the involved officer are found to be warranted, initiate and prosecute a criminal action against the officer. These reports must be posted on a public internet website.

AB 3099 (Ramos) Department of Justice. Law Enforcement Assistance with Tribal Issues. Study.

Chapter 170, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the DOJ to provide technical assistance to local law enforcement agencies and tribal governments on tribal issues. This includes guidance for law enforcement education and training on policing and criminal investigations on Indian lands and improving crime reporting, crime statistics, criminal procedures, and investigative tools. This assistance must also facilitate and support improved communication between local law enforcement agencies and tribal governments. Additionally, this measure requires the DOJ to conduct a study to determine how to increase state criminal justice protective and investigative resources for reporting and identifying missing Native Americans in California, particularly women and girls.

SB 388 (Galgiani) Missing Persons. Reports. Local Agencies.

Chapter 228, Statutes of 2020

This measure deletes provisions that allow local agencies to make missing persons reporting requirements inoperative in a local jurisdiction by resolution. Specifically, this measure mandates all local law enforcement agencies to promptly obtain the release of dental and skeletal X-ray records upon acceptance of a missing person report and to broadcast a 'Be on the Lookout' bulletin if the missing person is under 21 years of age.

Additionally, this measure mandates a written declaration by local law enforcement if a missing person is determined to be an at-risk person and has not been found within 30 days, in order to facilitate the release of dental or skeletal X-ray if not already obtained.

[SB 480](#) (Archuleta) Law Enforcement Uniforms.

Chapter 336, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits local law enforcement agencies from allowing its employees to wear a uniform that is made from a camouflage printed or patterned material or a uniform that is substantially similar to a uniform of the United States Armed Forces. This measure does not apply to members of a Special Weapons and Tactics team, sniper team, or tactical team engaged in a tactical response or operation. The bill also does not apply to the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

L. Mental Health and Public Health

[AB 465](#) (Eggman) Mental Health Workers. Supervision.

Chapter 137, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires any programs or pilot programs permitting mental health professionals to respond to emergency mental health crisis calls in collaboration with law enforcement to be supervised by a licensed mental health professional, including a licensed clinical social worker.

[AB 2077](#) (Ting) Hypodermic Needles and Syringes.

Chapter 274, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends the sunset, until January 1, 2026, for existing law, which permits pharmacists to furnish hypodermic needles and syringes without a prescription or a permit for human use to a person 18 years of age. This extension continues to allow a person 18 years of age or older, without a prescription or license, to obtain hypodermic needles and syringes solely for personal use from a physician or pharmacist.

[AB 3242](#) (Irwin) Mental Health. Involuntary Commitment.

Chapter 149, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes an examination, assessment, or evaluation conducted during involuntary commitment under the Lanterman-Petris-Short Act, to be done using telehealth in an effort to improve response times due to COVID-19.

M. Miscellaneous

[AB 1145](#) (Garcia, Cristina) Child Abuse. Reportable Conduct.

Chapter 180, Statutes of 2020

This measure provides that sexual assault, for the purposes of the Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, does not include voluntary sodomy, oral copulation, or sexual penetration if there are no indicators of abuse unless that conduct is between a person 21 years of age or older and a minor under 16 years of age. The Child Abuse and

Neglect Reporting Act identifies circumstances by which a mandated reporter must make a report to a specified agency.

[AB 1869](#) (Committee on Budget) Criminal Fees.

Chapter 92, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure, beginning July 1, 2021, repeals statutes related to the following criminal fees collected for administrative purposes:

- \$25 Administrative Processing Fee;
- \$10 Citation Processing Fee;
- Public Defense Fees;
- Cost of Counsel;
- Public Defense Registration Fee; and
- Public Defense Fees for Minors.

[AB 2450](#) (Grayson) Air Ambulance Services.

Chapter 52, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure extends the imposition of a penalty of \$4, until July 1, 2024, upon every conviction for a violation of the Vehicle Code or a local ordinance related to the Vehicle Code, other than a parking offense. Revenues collected from this fine are deposited into the Emergency Medical Air Transportation and Children's Coverage Fund administered by the state Department of Health Care Services. This measure makes these fines inoperative on July 1, 2024, and repeals them on January 1, 2025.

[AB 2759](#) (Obernalte) Collateral Recovery.

Chapter 354, Statutes of 2020

This measure makes changes to the Collateral Recovery Act. Specifically, this measure prohibits a repossession agency license that has not been renewed within ten years after its expiration from being renewed, restored, reinstated, or reissued. This measure also requires an immediate family member to be granted a license to continue a business under the same license number and business name if the original licensee is deceased. The Bureau of Security and Investigative Services currently oversees this process under the supervision and control of the director of the Department of Consumer Affairs. A violation of the Collateral Recovery Act is punishable as a misdemeanor.

[AB 3330](#) (Calderon) Department of Consumer Affairs. Boards. Licensees.

Regulatory Fees.

Chapter 359, Statutes of 2020

This measure increases the licensing and regulatory fees for the Podiatric Medical Board, the California Acupuncture Board, and the Board of Behavioral Sciences. Additionally, beginning April 1, 2021, this measure increases the fee charged to licensees authorized to utilize the state's prescription drug monitoring program, Controlled Substance Utilization Review and Evaluation System. These fee increases are necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2020.

**[AB 3362](#) (Committee on Judiciary) State Bar. Open Meetings. Discipline. Attorneys. Foreign Legal Consultants. Annual License Fees.
Chapter 360, Statutes of 2020**

This measure, passed annually by the Legislature, establishes the annual dues charged to attorneys licensed by the State Bar of California and enacts reforms designed to expand the State Bar's ability to recover costs and other debts owed by disciplined attorneys. Specifically, this measure sets the base annual licensing fee for attorneys who actively practice law at \$395 and sets a base licensing fee of \$97.40 for inactive members.

**[SB 118](#) (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Public Safety.
Chapter 29, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure makes substantive changes to public safety matters related to detention, sex offender registration, prison closures, compassionate release, parole, and firearms. This measure requires the identification of two state-owned and operated prisons for closure by January 2021 and January 2022 respectively.

**[SB 905](#) (Archuleta) Criminal History Information Requests.
Chapter 191, Statutes of 2020**

This measure establishes procedures for individuals, organizations, and agencies to request a fingerprint-based criminal history information check from the DOJ. All agencies and entities authorized to get background checks can also receive federal background checks under these provisions. This measure establishes a process for communication between the DOJ and the Federal Bureau of Investigation and requires the department to respond to the requesting individual, organization, or agency. Additionally, this measure dictates that a residence address does not have to be submitted to the DOJ for a background check of an individual applying to work with a minor.

**[SB 909](#) (Dodd) Emergency Vehicles.
Chapter 262, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure authorizes an emergency vehicle to be equipped with a "Hi-Lo" audible warning sound and authorizes the "Hi-Lo" to be used solely for the purpose of notifying the public of an immediate need to evacuate. This measure directs California Highway Patrol to set the requirements for the "Hi-Lo" audible warning sound. This measure clarifies that a "Hi-Lo" audible warning sound cannot be used in lieu of a siren.

**[SB 1276](#) (Rubio) The Comprehensive Statewide Domestic Violence Program.
Chapter 249, Statutes of 2020**

This measure eliminates the 10 percent cash or in-kind match requirement for a domestic violence center to receive state funding from the California Office of Emergency Services Comprehensive Statewide Domestic Violence Program.

REVENUE AND TAXATION

VII. Revenue and Taxation

A. Sales and Use Tax

[AB 85](#) (Committee on Budget) State Taxes and Charges.

Chapter 8, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes several changes that improve collection and reporting, limit tax credits, and extend sales tax exemptions. Specifically, this measure:

- Requires used car dealers to remit the sales tax from a vehicle sale to the Department of Motor Vehicles with the registration fee. This change is projected to increase state and local revenues from these transactions by millions of dollars; and
- Extends the sales and use tax exemption for diapers for infants, toddlers, and children, and menstrual hygiene products to July 1, 2023.

[AB 2663](#) (Garcia, Eduardo) Use Fuel Tax. Dimethyl Ether. Fuel Blend.

Chapter 117, Statutes of 2020

This measure enables the retail sale of dimethyl ether-propane fuel blend and changes the use fuel tax rate of dimethyl ether from \$0.18 to \$0.06 per gallon while allowing operators of vehicles powered by the fuel to pay the flat rate fuel tax.

[SB 38](#) (Hill) Sales and Use Taxes. Consumer Designation. All Volunteer Fire Department.

Chapter 78, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure extends volunteer fire department's designation as a consumer under the Sales and Use Tax Law to January 1, 2026.

[SB 1349](#) (Glazer) Transactions and Use Taxes. County of Contra Costa.

Chapter 369, Statutes of 2020

This measure permits Contra Costa County, and cities within the county, additional space under the two percent transactions and use tax (TUT) by providing the current 0.5 percent TUT imposed by the Bay Area Rapid Transit District does not count against the two percent cap. The measure also exempts the current authority of the Contra Costa County Transportation Authority to impose a .05 percent TUT from the cap.

[SB 1447](#) (Bradford) Income Tax. Sales and Use Tax. Credit. Small Business.

Chapter 41, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure allows a credit against the personal income and corporate income taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2020, and before January 1, 2021, to certain small businesses in an amount equal to \$1,000 for each new hire, not to exceed one \$100,000 to any one business. Notably for local governments, this tax credit uniquely allows small businesses to apply the credit against any sales and use tax liability. This measure is funded by SB 115 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 40, Statutes of 2020).

B. Utility Users Tax

***[SB 1441](#) (McGuire) Local Prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Collection Act. Chapter 179, Statutes of 2020**

This measure extends operation of the local prepaid Mobile Telephony Services Act until January 1, 2026, supporting the collection of utility users taxes imposed by local governments on retail sales of prepaid wireless products and services.

C. Property Tax Administration

[AB 107](#) (Committee on Budget) State Government. Chapter 264, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes significant changes related to general government administration that impact local governments in the following areas:

Property Tax Assessment Appeals

- Allows county boards to extend the two-year deadline to render a final determination in property tax assessment appeal applications to March 31, 2021 for certain applicants and clarify that assessment appeals boards may conduct hearings remotely.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevent Program

- Requires the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council award no less than \$250,000 in the second round of funding to a grant applicant that is a Continuum of Care (CoC), and require that if more than one recipient within the CoC has a population of 300,000 or more, the proportionate share of funds be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

State Transit Assistance Program

- Allows transit operators to use funds received in fiscal years 2019-20 to 2021-22 from the State Transit Assistance State of Good Repair program for any operating or capital expenditure if doing so is necessary to prevent a reduction or elimination of transit service.

[AB 2013](#) (Irwin) Property Taxation. New Construction. Damaged or Destroyed Property. Chapter 124, Statutes of 2020

This measure allows the owner of property substantially damaged or destroyed by a disaster, as declared by the Governor, to apply the base year value of that property to replacement property reconstructed on the same site of the damaged or destroyed property within five years after the disaster if the reconstructed property is comparable to the substantially damaged or destroyed property.

[AB 3373](#) (Committee on Revenue and Taxation) Property Taxation. Assessment Appeals Boards.

Chapter 57, Statutes of 2020

This measure removes the current cap of five assessment appeals boards per county and instead authorizes counties to create as many assessment appeals boards as they deem necessary for the orderly and timely processing, hearing, and disposition of assessment appeals.

***[ACA 11](#) (Mullin) The Home Protection for Seniors, Severely Disabled, Families, and Victims of Wildfire or Natural Disasters Act.**

Chapter 31, Statutes of 2020

This measure is Proposition 19 on the November 2020 ballot. This measure authorizes an owner of a primary residence who is over 55 years of age, severely disabled, or a victim of a wildfire or natural disaster to transfer the taxable value, defined as the base year value plus inflation adjustments, of their primary residence to a replacement primary residence located anywhere in the state, regardless of the location or value of the replacement primary residence, that is purchased or newly constructed as that person's principal residence within two years of the sale of the original primary residence.

[SB 364](#) (Mitchell) Change in Ownership. Nonresidential Active Solar Energy Systems. Initiative.

Chapter 58, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure changes the classification of nonresidential active solar energy systems from real property to personal property and creates a new property tax exemption for systems constructed before 2025 if voters approve Proposition 15 of 2020.

D. Local Government Finance

[AB 2107](#) (Rodriguez) Local Government. Securitized Limited Obligation Notes.

Chapter 213, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends, until December 31, 2024, the authorization for special districts to issue securitized limited obligation notes for the acquisition or improvement of land, facilities, or equipment.

***[SB 998](#) (Moorlach) Local Government. Investments.**

Chapter 235, Statutes of 2020

This measure increases the commercial paper limit for cities and special districts that have more than \$100 million in investment assets from 25 percent to 40 percent of their total surplus funds and allows local agencies to invest in securities backed or issued by the federal government that could result in zero or negative interest accrual if held to maturity during a period of negative market interest rates. This measure also prohibits cities from investing more than 10 percent of their commercial part and medium-term investments in any single issuer.

E. Miscellaneous

AB 1864 (Limón) Financial Institutions. Regulation. Department of Financial Protection and Innovation.

Chapter 157, Statutes of 2020

This measure renames the “Department of Business Oversight” to the “Department of Financial Protection and Innovation,” and makes changes to existing law to support the enforcement of the federal Dodd-Frank Wall Street Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 and other laws to protect consumers from unlawful practices of entities and persons offering consumer financial products and services in California.

AB 3020 (Gloria) Unfair Practices Act.

Chapter 75, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires that if an Unfair Competition Law action is brought by the City Attorney of San Diego, the penalty collected shall be paid to the treasurer of the City of San Diego in full.

AB 3312 (Gray) Local Agency Formation. Annexation. City of Merced.

Chapter 56, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes the annexation of territory comprising the main campus of the University of California, Merced, and the road strip to the City of Merced, notwithstanding the requirement that the territory be contiguous with the city, if other conditions are met, including that the territory is within the city’s sphere of influence.

SB 823 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review) Juvenile Justice Realignment. Office of Youth and Community Restoration.

Chapter 337, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure includes statutory changes to enact public safety-related provisions of the Budget Act of 2020. Specifically, this measure:

- Intends to close the Division of Juvenile Justice within the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation by July 1, 2021;
- Prohibits further commitment of wards to the Division of Juvenile Justice beginning July 1, 2021, and requires all wards committed to the division prior to that date remain within the custody of the division until the ward is discharged, released, or transferred;
- Establishes the Office of Youth and Community Restoration within the California Health and Human Services Agency starting July 1, 2021, to support this transition; and
- Establishes a Juvenile Justice Realignment Block Grant program to provide county-based custody, care, and supervision of youth who are realigned from the Division of Juvenile Justice or who would have otherwise been eligible for commitment to the division.

**[SB 928](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.
Chapter 132, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure enacts the First Validating Act of 2020 to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. Validating Acts protect investors from the chance that a minor error might undermine the legal integrity of a public agency's bond.

**[SB 929](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.
Chapter 133, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure enacts the Second Validating Act of 2020 to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. Validating Acts protect investors from the chance that a minor error might undermine the legal integrity of a public agency's bond.

**[SB 930](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Validations.
Chapter 134, Statutes of 2020**

This measure enacts the Third Validating Act of 2020 to validate the organization, boundaries, acts, proceedings, and bonds of the state and counties, cities, and specified districts, agencies, and entities. Validating Acts protect investors from the chance that a minor error might undermine the legal integrity of a public agency's bond.

[SB 1386](#) (Moorlach) Local Government. Assessments, Fees, and Charges. Water. Hydrants.

Chapter 240, Statutes of 2020

This measure finds and declares that fire hydrants are part of the system of public improvements included in the definition of "water" for purposes of the Proposition 218 of 1996.

[SB 1473](#) (Committee on Governance and Finance) Local Government Omnibus Act of 2020.

Chapter 371, Statutes of 2020

This measure is the annual local government omnibus which makes several minor changes to state laws governing local agencies' powers and duties. Notably for cities, this measure:

- Allows public agencies to accept electronic filing of claims, under the Government Torts Claim Act, if they adopt procedures to do so;
- Updates government code sections pertaining to the requirement that the Board of Equalization to survey counties to determine the adequacy of the assessment procedures and practices employed by the county assessor; and
- Excludes properties with outstanding Mello-Roos debt from the exemption for affordable project established in current law therefore requiring that these properties pay Mello-Roos taxes until the debt is retired.

TRANSPORTATION, COMMUNICATIONS, AND PUBLIC WORKS

VIII. Transportation, Communications, and Public Works

A. Electric Vehicles, Emissions, and Vehicle Technology

[AB 841](#) (Ting) Energy. Transportation Electrification. Energy Efficiency Programs. School Energy Efficiency Stimulus Program.

Chapter 372, Statutes of 2020

This measure modifies existing law, which requires the California Public Utilities Commission, California Energy Commission (CEC), and California Air Resources Board (CARB) to direct electrical corporations to file applications for programs and investments to accelerate widespread transportation electrification, including the deployment of charging infrastructure. Specifically, this measure requires 35 percent of these investments to be in underserved communities. This measure also establishes a new program at CEC to fund appliance, plumbing, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning upgrades to schools using electric ratepayer-funded energy efficiency incentives.

[AB 2285](#) (Committee on Transportation) Transportation.

Chapter 100, Statutes of 2020

This measure extends, until December 31, 2021, the requirement that CARB dedicate 20 percent of the California Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Technology Program to support commercial deployment of existing zero and near-zero-emission heavy-duty trucks. This requirement was set to sunset in December 2020. The California Clean Truck, Bus, and Off-Road Vehicle and Equipment Technology Program funds zero and near-zero-emission truck, bus, and off-road vehicles and equipment technologies through appropriations from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund. This measure also extends the pilot program for alternative license plates and vehicle registrations issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) until January 1, 2023. This pilot program evaluates the use of alternatives to stickers, tabs, license plates, and registration cards and was set to sunset on July 1, 2020.

[SB 895](#) (Archuleta) Energy. Zero-emission Fuel, Infrastructure, and Transportation Technologies.

Chapter 120, Statutes of 2020

This measure requires the CEC to provide research and development support for zero-emissions fuels, infrastructure, and technologies using available funds that are currently set aside for the development of clean diesel fuels, infrastructure, and technologies.

B. Emergency Transportation

AB 2730 (Cervantes) Access and Functional Needs. Local Government. Agreement for Emergency Management and Transportation. Chapter 256, Statutes of 2020

This measure authorizes a county, including a city and county, to enter into an agreement with an adjacent county to borrow, for compensation, the county's emergency management and transportation services in the event of an emergency that requires the evacuation and relocation of the access and functional needs population. If a county chooses to enter into such an agreement, it must integrate the agreement into its emergency plan within 90 days.

C. Micromobility

***AB 1286 (Muratsuchi) Shared Mobility Devices. Agreements. Chapter 91, Statutes of 2020**

This measure requires shared mobility device providers to obtain a permit or agreement with the city or county it seeks to operate in and comply with all local operation, parking, maintenance, and safety rules. This measure also requires shared mobility device providers to maintain minimum commercial general liability insurance coverage of not less than \$1 million for each occurrence of bodily injury or property damage and not less than five million dollars aggregate for all occurrences during the policy period.

D. Parking and Towing

AB 2319 (Berman) Tow Truck Operators. Liens. Exceptions. Chapter 50, Statutes of 2020

This measure aligns the Civil Code's requirements for avoiding towing liability with Vehicle Code provisions, allowing individuals following any of the Vehicle Code's methods for avoiding liability for unpaid towing and storage fees incurred by a subsequent owner to avoid a deficiency judgment for towing a vehicle they no longer own. These provisions seek to close a loophole that has left consumers liable for towing debt years after selling a vehicle.

AB 3277 (Jones-Sawyer) Parking Penalties. Collection. Chapter 55, Statutes of 2020

This measure relates to the DMV payment plan options that allow payment of unpaid parking penalties and related service fees in monthly installments. This measure increases the total amount that can be paid in installments from \$300 or less to \$500 or less. Additionally, this measure extends the timeline for when penalties and fees can be paid from 18 months to 24 months.

E. Public Works and Contracting

AB 2231 (Kalra) Public Works.

Chapter 346, Statutes of 2020

This measure defines a public subsidy as de minimis to pay the prevailing wage in private projects if it is both less than \$600,000 and less than 2 percent of the total project cost for bids advertised or contracts awarded after July 1, 2021. If the subsidy is for a residential project consisting entirely of single-family dwellings, the subsidy is de minimis so long as it is less than two percent of the total project cost.

***SB 865 (Hill) Excavations. Subsurface Installations.**

Chapter 307, Statutes of 2020

This measure strengthens safe excavation practices by increasing collaboration between excavators and operators, requiring data sharing amongst key stakeholders, and moving the Dig Safe Board to the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, which better aligns with the board's mission and operational functions. Specifically, this measure requires regional notification centers, which provide warnings of excavations close to existing subsurface installations, to share damage reports with the Dig Safe Board within five days, and provide quarterly reports on all notifications. Notably, this measure also requires operators to map new subsurface installations using a geographic information system beginning January 1, 2023.

F. Telecommunications

AB 2421 (Quirk) Land Use. Permitting. Wireless Communications. Emergency Standby Generators.

Chapter 255, Statutes of 2020

This measure sets forth a streamlined local permitting process for siting back-up power generators on macro cell tower sites through January 1, 2024. Specifically, this measure provides that siting an emergency standby generator proposed at an existing permitted macro cell tower site is subject only to a ministerial permitting process. Additionally, a local agency that receives a permit application to install an emergency standby generator is required to approve or deny the application with 60 days of submittal of the application, or the application will be deemed approved. Local agencies can impose a fee to cover costs associated with administering these permits. Local agencies can also revoke a permit or approval status for an emergency standby generator that is determined to violate state or local laws or regulations, including building and fire safety codes.

G. Transportation – Funding, Planning, Streamlining, and State Agencies

AB 90 (Committee on Budget) Transportation.

Chapter 17, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure implements the following changes to the transportation programs:

- Institutes a two-year hold harmless provision for transit operators receiving state funding and whose ridership levels have been negatively impacted by COVID-19;
- Eliminates financial penalties for non-compliance with transit funding efficiency measures in the Transportation Development Act and the State Transit Assistance Program; and
- Requires aviation fuel retailers to provide to the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration quarterly information on revenue from aviation fuel taxes beginning January 1, 2020.

AB 107 (Committee on Budget) State Government.

Chapter 264, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)

This measure makes significant changes related to general government administration that impact local governments in the following areas:

Property Tax Assessment Appeals

- Allows county boards to extend the two-year deadline to render a final determination in property tax assessment appeal applications to March 31, 2021 for certain applicants and clarify that assessment appeals boards may conduct hearings remotely.

Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevent Program

- Requires the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council award no less than \$250,000 in the second round of funding to a grant applicant that is a Continuum of Care (CoC), and require that if more than one recipient within the CoC has a population of 300,000 or more, the proportionate share of funds be equally allocated to those jurisdictions.

State Transit Assistance Program

- Allows transit operators to use funds received in fiscal years 2019-20 to 2021-22 from the State Transit Assistance State of Good Repair program for any operating or capital expenditure if doing so is necessary to prevent a reduction or elimination of transit service.

AB 1426 (Boerner Horvath) Public Resources. San Onofre State Beach. Richard H. and Donna O'Neill Conservancy. Road Construction.

Chapter 168, Statutes of 2020

This measure prohibits a state agency, city, county, joint powers authority, regional transportation agency, or other entity from constructing, funding, approving, or authorizing the building of a street, road, or highway within a specified avoidance area at San Onofre State Beach or the Richard H. and Donna O'Neill Conservancy.

**[AB 2038](#) (Committee on Transportation) Transportation. Omnibus Bill.
Chapter 70, Statutes of 2020**

This measure makes several non-controversial, non-substantive changes to laws pertaining to transportation. Specifically, this measure:

- Clarifies how three-dollar penalties, added to parking offenses where a parking penalty, fine, or forfeiture is imposed, is to be transmitted;
- Deletes an obsolete reporting requirement that directs the California Highway Patrol to report to the Legislature on the implementation of an emergency medical dispatch training program by January 1, 1988; and
- Repeals provisions relating to a two-year pilot project that commenced on July 1, 1992, to develop recommendations for requiring emergency road service organizations to be certified and receive specified training.

**[AB 2141](#) (Mathis) Department of Motor Vehicles.
Chapter 47, Statutes of 2020**

This measure authorizes the DMV to exempt veterans from certain commercial driver's license tests. Specifically, this measure authorizes a waiver of both the knowledge test and the driving skills test for current or former members of the United States Armed Forces who meet requirements related to their experience operating a commercial vehicle in the Armed Forces. This change is consistent with existing federal regulations. This measure also allows the DMV to waive commercial driver's license fees for veterans.

**[SB 146](#) (Beall) Regional Transportation Plans. Sustainable Communities Strategies. Procedural Requirements.
Chapter 177, Statutes of 2020**

This measure allows metropolitan planning organizations and regional transportation planning agencies to use electronic communication platforms for public engagement. Specifically, existing law requires these public agencies to complete certain procedural requirements while drafting Sustainable Communities Strategies such as conducting informational meetings, workshops throughout the region, and public hearings on draft documents. This measure, until January 1, 2023, re-characterizes these workshops as public engagement gatherings and authorizes these informational meetings, public engagement gatherings, and public hearings to be conducted by electronic means.

**[SB 1291](#) (Committee on Transportation) Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program. Submissions.
Chapter 113, Statutes of 2020 (Urgency)**

This measure eliminates two transportation reporting requirements for 2020. Specifically, this bill removes the requirement that the California Department of Transportation submits a Federal Statewide Transportation Improvement Program to the United States Secretary of Transportation. Additionally, this measure eliminates the requirement that a metropolitan planning organization or transportation planning agency submit a Federal Transportation Improvement Program to the Department of Transportation for 2020. Eliminating these reporting requirements allows for millions of

dollars in planned state and local transportation projects to go forward that otherwise would be delayed.

APPENDIX A – ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

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*Note: With the exception of those addresses listed, and unless otherwise instructed, mail may be sent to:
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Sacramento, CA 95814
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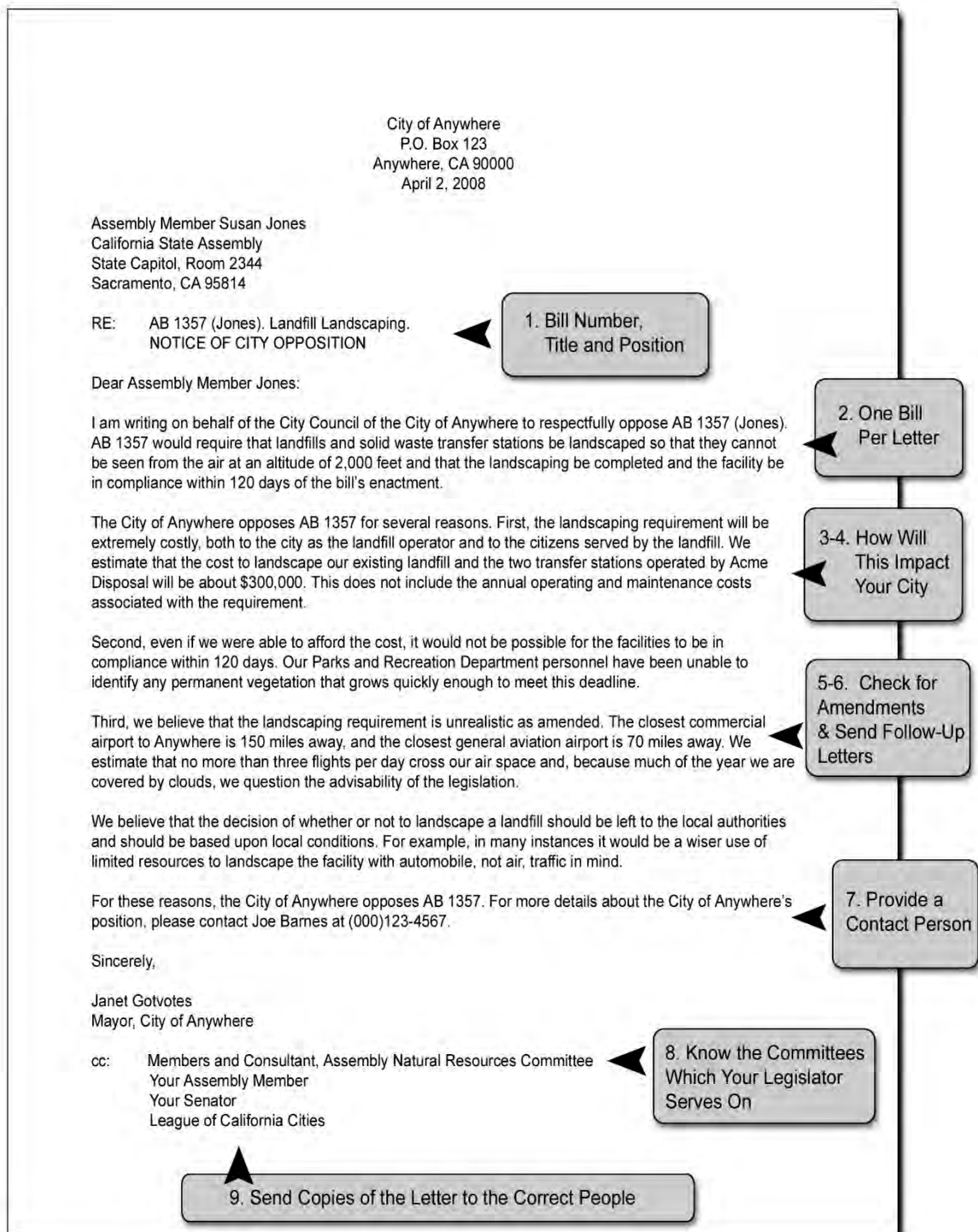
10 Tips for Cities Lobbying the California Legislature

1. Become engaged in the state level political process by appointing a legislative liaison within your city to track key legislation and work with your regional public affairs manager. You can locate contact information for your regional public affairs manager online at www.cacities.org/regionalmanagers.
2. Use Cal Cities as a resource. Visit www.cacities.org/legresources to access Cal Cities' priority bills, legislative contacts, and additional information. Cal Cities' online bill tracking tool can be found at www.cacities.org/billsearch.
3. Read the *Cal Cities Advocate*, an online weekly newsletter, to stay current on important legislation. Subscribe at www.cacities.org/cacitiesadvocate.
4. Develop relationships with your Senate and Assembly representatives as well as their capitol and district office staff.
5. Get to know members of your local press and educate them on legislative issues affecting your city.
6. Understand how state decisions impact your city's budget.
7. Build networks and collaborate with other groups in your community on key legislative issues.
8. Organize an internal process within your city for developing and proposing changes to laws that will help your city.
9. Adopt local policies on legislation that enable your city to react quickly to the legislative process and respond to Cal Cities' action alerts. View sample city legislative platforms at www.cacities.org/legplatforms.
10. Write letters on legislation featured in the *Cal Cities Advocate*. Sample letters can be found at www.cacities.org/billsearch by searching with the bill number or bill author.

Effective Letter Writing Techniques

1. **Include the bill number, title, and your position in the subject line.** Never bury the bill number and the action you want the legislator to take in the body of the letter.
2. **One bill per letter.** Legislators file letters according to the bill number.
3. **State the facts.** Describe the impact the bill would have on your city. Use “real world” facts; legislators like to know how a bill would specifically affect cities in their districts. Cal Cities often provides a sample letter that includes space to describe local impacts. Take the time to provide such examples. This part of the letter is the most valuable to the legislator.
4. **Think about the message.** Letters may be targeted to specific legislators or entire committees. Think about who you want to act on the bill and message accordingly. If you are writing in support of transportation funding, emphasizing how the project will reduce greenhouse gases might be important to one legislator, while highlighting how the project could encourage additional development and jobs might be important to another. Both messages are correct, but your effectiveness will be in selecting the right message.
5. **Check for amendments.** Always check the Cal Cities website (www.cacities.org/billsearch) to make sure you are addressing issues in the latest draft. Bills are often significantly amended and the issue you are writing about may have changed or have been deleted altogether by the time you send your letter.
6. **Send follow-up letters to the appropriate legislative committees as a bill moves along.** You can often use your original letter with some modifications. Visit www.cacities.org/billsearch to track the bill’s location. In addition, the *Cal Cities Advocate*, an online weekly newsletter, features stories on key legislation.
7. **Provide a contact.** At the close of the letter, provide a contact person in case there are questions about the city’s position.
8. **Know the committees on which your legislator serves.** A legislator is likely to pay more attention to the bill positions of their constituents especially when it comes before their committee. At the committee level, this is even more important because your legislator has greater ability at this point in the legislative process to have the bill amended.
9. **Copy the right people.** Send a copy of the letter to your senator, assembly member, and Cal Cities. Please also send a copy to each committee member and staff if applicable.

Appendix A – Cal Cities Resources Effective Letter Writing Techniques



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