

Assembly Budget Committee

Budget Trailer Bill Analyses Package

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SUMMARY

Amends the 2025 Budget Act to reflect changes to the budget as a result of the September 2025 budget package. Specifically, this bill:

Major Provisions

2025-26 Proposition 4 Expenditures

- 1) Appropriates a total of \$3.287 billion from the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Prop. 4), and approves 79.5 positions to implement the bond, with:
 - a. \$1.2 billion for Safe Drinking Water, Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience,
 - b. \$416 million for Wildfire and Forest Resilience,
 - c. \$279 million for Coastal Resilience,
 - d. \$110 million for Extreme Heat Mitigation,
 - e. \$390 million for Biodiversity and Nature-Based Solutions
 - f. \$153 million for Climate Smart Agriculture,
 - g. \$466 million for Park Creation and Outdoor Access
 - h. \$275 million for Clean Air and Energy;

Greenhouse Gas Reduction Funds

- 2) Appropriates \$540 million Greenhouse Gas Reduction funds in 2025 for the following purposes:
 - a. \$368 million to the State Transportation Agency for transit operations and capital consistent with SB 125 (2023),
 - b. \$40 million to the Energy Commission for medium and heavy duty zero-emission vehicle infrastructure, including hydrogen and electric,
 - c. \$7 million to the Department of Food and Agriculture for livestock methane reduction,
 - d. \$100 million to the Air Resources Board for AB 617,
 - e. \$25 million Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the Air Resources Board for district based Clean Cars for All programs and limits car replacements to those model year 2004 or older;

HR 1 Response

- 3) Includes up to \$254.8 million (\$102.7 million General Fund) for costs associated with responding to the federal government's enactment of HR 1 and other federal policy changes including:
 - a. \$53.6 million (\$26.2 million General Fund) to resource multiple, multi-year activities that are part of the Administration's CalFresh Payment Error Rate

mitigation strategy and that are necessary to implement non-discretionary policy provisions of the federal H.R. 1 (Public Law 119-21).

- b. Up to \$30 million (\$15 million General Fund) for CalFresh automation to further address the CalFresh Payment Error Rate,
- c. \$20 million General Fund for emergency food bank support to help mitigate anticipated harmful effects due to the enactment H.R. 1, augmenting the \$60 million General Fund provided for food banks (also called the CalFood program) in the June 2025 Budget Act
- d. \$40 million (\$20 million General Fund) for county administration for H.R. 1 provisions related to Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS), who will imminently experience new work requirements due to the federal law,
- e. \$294,000 General Fund one-time for the California Health and Human Services Agency (CalHHS or Agency) to fund an Attorney 3 position for the significant increase in workload for CalHHS with Agency's involvement in H.R. 1 and other federal issues,
- f. \$1 million special fund to support California's application for the Rural Health Transformation program,
- g. \$15 million special fund to defray costs of continuing gender-affirming care coverage, after federal rules eliminated it as an essential health benefit,
- h. \$1.2 million special fund for healthcare reporting for the Minimum Staffing Standards for Long-Term Care Facilities and Medicaid Institutional Payment Transparency Reporting Final Rule,
- i. \$2.5 million (\$1.25 million General Fund) for technical assistance to comply with citizen verification activities mandated by federal direction,
- j. \$20 million General Fund to the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development to promote travel and tourism,
- k. \$71.2 million special fund for Reproductive health is also included as the appropriation for the September health trailer bill;

Other Major Provisions

- 4) Includes an additional \$13.75 million for services to immigrant communities, including \$8.75 million for specified immigrant legal services and \$5 million General Fund to the Immigration Services Program, administered by the California Department of Social Services (also called "One California"), which augments the \$10 million that was provided above baseline funding in the 2025 Budget Act;
- 5) Provides \$6 million to support implementation of pending legislation that establishes the Bureau for Descendants of American Slavery, subject to enactment at the Civil Rights Department.
- 6) Creates a new item in the 2024 and 2025 Budget Acts to support the Public Interest Attorney Loan Repayment Account at the California Student Aid Commission, which provides loan repayment assistance to attorneys who practice in various areas of non-profit or public interest law;

- 7) Increases support for the California State Library by increasing the amount of funds available to the Library from a federal grant that was recently re-instated.
- 8) Reverts up to \$68.2 million from the California State Library from the Statewide Imagination Library program, and moves funding to the Department of General Services, which will take over administration of the program;
- 9) Amends language providing funding to the University of California academic health centers for the establishment or expansion of menopause programs by stating that each participating campus shall collaborate to ensure standardization and each program shall be modeled after the existing UCLA Comprehensive Menopause Program and under the direction of a menopause expert;
- 10) Reappropriates up to \$12.6 million from the 2024 Budget Act for the Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training to support local law enforcement trainings, including the “Tools of Tolerance” training operated by the Simon Wiesenthal Center-Museum of Tolerance;
- 11) Reappropriates up to \$57 million from the 2024 Budget Act for the Adult Reentry Grant administered by the Board of State and Community Corrections;
- 12) Appropriates \$10 million from the Motor Vehicle Account to the Department of Motor Vehicles to build a database to share license information consistent with federal REAL ID regulations, subject to future legislation;
- 13) Directs the Department of Finance to examine loan or financing options to assist local transit agencies and local government entities in Los Angeles County facing responsibilities due to the January 2025 wildfires;
- 14) Identifies specific General Fund expenditures assumed in the June 2025 Budget package; and
- 15) Makes technical and conforming changes to provisions of the 2023, 2024, and 2025 budget act.

COMMENTS

This bill amends the 2025 Budget Act (SB 101 Wiener, Chapter 4 Statutes of 2025, AB 102 Gabriel, Chapter 5 Statutes of 2025, and AB 104 Gabriel, Chapter 77 Statutes of 2025) to reflect changes contained in the September budget package. The June 2025 budget package deferred action on some items to allow more deliberation, with the intent that the Legislature would revisit the budget at the end of the 2025 Legislative Session. The allocation of Proposition 4 bond funds being of particular significance and note as an example of a budget item that was anticipated in June, but finalized in this September bill.

Since this bill is a continuation of June budget discussions, the total expenditures and revenues for the state are largely unchanged, with most of the funding allocated in the bill already assumed in the 2025 estimates of the budget. However, this budget package does include a net \$68.8 million in new General Fund expenditures above these estimates associated with activities to respond to HR1 and other federal actions.

According to the Author

This bill implements the September 2025 Budget Package.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

The September Budget Package is estimated by the Department of Finance to have a net cost of \$68.8 million General Fund above the June budget package.

VOTES**SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2**

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Christian Griffith / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This budget trailer bill implements various health-related provisions of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

This budget trailer bill implements various provisions of the Budget Act of 2025.

Specifically, this bill:

State Immunization Guidance:

- 1) Establishes the list of immunizations, items, and services recommended by the United States Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF), the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP), and the Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA), in effect on January 1, 2025, as the baseline recommendations for California.
- 2) Provides that the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) may modify or supplement the baseline recommendations described above in consultation with medical and scientific organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, and the American Academy of Family Physicians.
- 3) Authorizes CDPH to also incorporate subsequent recommendations issued by the USPSTF, ACIP, or HRSA, to the extent the department determines those recommendations are consistent with promoting public health.
- 4) Requires CDPH to publish the recommendations of immunizations, items, and services, and publish any updates, modifications, or supplements adopted, which become effective upon publication.
- 5) Updates related provisions for health care benefit coverage, professional and occupational licensing, and school immunization notification statutes to reflect the implementation of state immunization guidelines.
- 6) Provides liability protections for persons prescribing, dispensing, ordering, furnishing, or administering a vaccine required by state law or under specified circumstances, except in cases of willful misconduct or gross negligence.

California Department of Public Health:

- 1) Increases the original license, license renewal and temporary license fees for Genetic Counselors, as specified.

- 2) Increases application, registration, and license fees for clinical laboratories and various clinical laboratory personnel, as specified.
- 3) Allocates \$18 million for state operations out of the \$65 million appropriated to fund services, programs, or initiatives funded by the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) Rebate Fund for which federal funding has been reduced or eliminated as a result of federal policy actions. Additionally allocates \$1.6 million for state operations out of \$9 million appropriated to fund state and local disease intervention specialists.

Department of Health Care Services

- 1) Exempts foster youth and former foster youth with Unsatisfactory Immigration Status from various service limitations in the Medi-Cal program, including the enrollment freeze and monthly premium slated to take effect in future years.
- 2) Requires the Department to convene a working group to discuss the status of, and receive feedback regarding, the implementation of the Children and Youth Behavioral Health Initiative (CYBHI) school fee schedule. Requires a contracted administrator to automate the matching of student records with health plan enrollment information and to reimburse claims pursuant to claim payment deadlines for the CYBHI school fee schedule, as specified.
- 3) Eliminates various legislative reports deemed outdated or obsolete.
- 4) Extends the Medi-Cal medical interpretation study and pilot project for limited English proficient beneficiaries by one year, to July 1, 2026, and makes the original \$5 million appropriation available through June 30, 2026.
- 5) Makes various technical revisions and corrections.

Additional Key Provisions

- 1) Establishes the Abortion Access Fund to provide funding for abortion services and authorizes the Department of Health Care Access and Information to distribute funding through grants and contracts. Establishes the funding source as excess balances from segregated accounts maintained by health plans offering qualified health plans through Covered California.
- 2) Requires Covered California, beginning January 1, 2026, to provide payments to qualified health plan issuers to defray the costs of state-mandated gender-affirming care benefits, recently determined to be by the federal government to exceed essential health benefits, subject to legislative appropriation. Authorizes use of the Health Care Affordability Reserve Fund, upon appropriation, for these payments.
- 3) Exempts health care practitioners licensed in another state, territory, or country from certain healing arts licensure, certification, or registration requirements, while providing professional services at Olympic and Paralympic activities, if the health care practitioner has been invited by the Los Angeles Organizing Committee for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games to provide those services, as specified.

- 4) Exempts out-of-state licensed or certified Emergency Medical Services personnel from California licensure requirements when authorized to provide services at sanctioned sites for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games, as specified.

COMMENTS

This bill is a budget trailer bill that implements provisions of the 2025-26 budget package affecting health-related provisions.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill would make appropriations in the following ways: by expanding the allowable uses of the ADAP Rebate Fund; by authorizing additional deposits into the continuously appropriated Genetic Disease Testing Fund; by extending the availability of previously appropriated funds for the Medi-Cal medical interpretation study and pilot project; and by continuously appropriating the Abortion Access Fund to support grants and contracts for abortion services.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 9, 2025

CONSULTANT: Patrick Le / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This is the Human Services Omnibus trailer bill containing statutory changes necessary to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

This bill does the following:

1. Creates a new complaint procedure with due process requirements for the Housing and Homelessness programs administered by the CDSS, including the CalWORKs Housing Support Program, the Home Safe Program, the Bringing Families Home Program, and the Housing and Disability Income Advocacy Program, and does the following:
 - a. Requires counties opting to participate in any of those programs to have written program policies and make them available to the public, and to implement and conduct county-level complaint resolution processes.
 - b. Requires the CDSS to develop program guidance on a procedure for counties to inform recipients in writing of housing-related services and financial assistance being provided to the recipient in individualized written housing plans.
 - c. Provides program recipients with the right to file a request with the department for a state administrative hearing for county actions resulting in a reduction or discontinuance of housing-related services and financial assistance under specified circumstances and requires the department to establish criteria for recipients to receive housing-related services and financial assistance pending the resolution of a complaint and a state hearing.
 - d. Requires the CDSS to consult with the County Welfare Directors Association of California, counties, and advocates for program applicants and recipients on the development of these processes and authorizes the CDSS to implement and administer these provisions by means of all-county letters or similar written instructions.
2. Deletes the requirement that the CDSS complete final policy guidance relating to the semiannual report form, also called the SAR 7, by August 15, 2025. The delay in this policy will allow for a more informed assessment of how this change could impact the state's payment error rate.
3. Authorizes the CDSS, when necessary to reduce the CalFresh payment error rate and until October 1, 2027, to implement and administer the CalFresh program by means of all-county letter and emergency regulations. Requires the CDSS to engage in stakeholder consultation starting in September 2025 and continuing through the duration of the multiyear activities. Additionally requires CDSS, beginning in November 2025 through November 2027, to update the Legislature on a quarterly basis on the details of the implementation of the multiyear activities.
4. Delays the implementation of the CalFresh Pre-Release effort by two years, changing the date for the associated workgroup establishment from February 1, 2026 to February 1, 2028

and the first date for the workgroup's recommendations from August 31, 2027 to August 31, 2029. This policy allows for preenrollment of otherwise eligible applicants for the CalFresh program to ensure that an applicant's benefits may begin as soon as possible upon reentry of the applicant into the community from state prison or county jail. The delay was requested principally to allow for the California Department of Social Services (CDSS) to focus statewide effort on the CalFresh payment error rate (PER) pursuant to the enactment of federal H.R. 1 (Public Law 119-21).

5. Makes technical clean-up changes to CalWORKs provisions that were adopted in an earlier trailer bill related to the 2025 Budget Act, Senate Bill 119 (Chapter 79, Statutes of 2025).
6. Makes technical clean-up changes to Adoption Assistance Program (AAP) provisions that were adopted in an earlier trailer bill related to the 2025 Budget Act, Assembly Bill 118 (Chapter 7, Statutes of 2025). Deletes the requirement that county adoption agencies be licensed, as they are not required to be licensed, consistent with Family Code Section 8513.
7. Appropriates \$3,200,000 from the General Fund to the CDSS for automation related to CalFresh payment error rate mitigation and implementation of federal H.R. 1 (Public Law 119-21).
8. Declares that this bill is to take effect immediately as a bill providing for appropriations related to the Budget Bill.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

This is the Human Services Omnibus trailer bill containing statutory changes necessary to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2025. This trailer bill includes critical provisions to respond to needs in the 2025-26 fiscal year.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

These statutory changes align to investments included in the amendments to the 2025 Budget Act. These include an (1) additional \$20 million General Fund for emergency food banks, (2) up to \$20 million General Fund (\$40 million total funds) for county administration for H.R. 1 provisions related to Able-Bodied Adults Without Dependents (ABAWDS), (3) up to \$15 million General Fund (\$30 million total funds) for CalFresh automation to address the PER, and a net \$26.2 million General Fund (net \$53.6 million total funds) to resource multiple activities as part of the CDSS payment error mitigation strategy.

Additionally, at least \$951,000 General Fund from prior authorized funds will be used for the new complaint procedure with due process requirements for the Housing and Homelessness programs administered by the CDSS.

Federal law establishes the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), known in California as CalFresh, under which supplemental nutrition assistance benefits allocated to the state by the federal government are distributed to eligible individuals by each county. Under existing federal law under H.R. 1, beginning in fiscal year 2028, a state's cost share for SNAP benefits will be determined based on the state's payment error rate. Under that federal law, if a state's payment error rate is less than 6%, the state's cost share is 0%, with increasing cost share for the state if the payment error rate is above that threshold.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Nicole Vazquez / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill is a TK-12 Education trailer bill for the 2025-26 Budget Act, to achieve Legislative intent and correct allocations and cross references, including the Local Control Funding Formula, Student Teacher Stipend Program, and Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program.

Major Provisions

- 1) Clarifies the Department of Education's process for conducting the professional development review process authorized by the 2025-26 Budget Act, and requires the department, to conduct a statement of intent for professional development materials submission and authorizes the department to charge a fee, as specified. The fees are capped at the Department's actual costs, no more than \$10,000 per submission, and exempts local education agencies from fees. The bill requires the department to contract with the Marin County Office of Education for the services of a research organization or nonprofit organization with expertise in evidenced-based literacy instruction, subject to the approval of the executive director of the state board, to support the implementation of this program, as provided.
- 2) Specifies an annual deadline for Department public posting for local education agency certificated and classified employee data, collected as required under current law.
- 3) Adjusts the statutory time period under existing law, which provides that \$5,442,143,000 allocated in the 2022–23 fiscal year for specified apportionments to school districts and charter schools, and \$770,786,000 allocated in the 2022–23 fiscal year for specified apportionments to community college districts, are excess moneys credited to the 2022–23 fiscal year only for the purposes of determining the state's minimum funding obligation to school districts and community college districts in the 2022–23 and 2023–24 fiscal years. The bill adjusts the amounts to 12 proportional shares of \$437,769,000 and \$62,231,000, respectively, of the revised \$5,422,143,000 amount and the \$770,786,000 amount, respectively, to be recognized annually from the 2027–28 fiscal year through the 2038–39 fiscal year, and shares of \$168,915,000 and \$24,014,000, respectively, of those amounts, to be recognized in the 2039–40 fiscal year, for budgetary and financial reporting purposes as allocations made in the 2022–23 fiscal year, and would continue to prohibit those amounts from being credited as allocations made to meet the minimum funding obligation to school districts and community college districts in the fiscal year in which the amount is recognized for budgetary and financial reporting purposes.
- 4) Adjusts funding available to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing, under the Student Teacher Stipend Program as authorized in the 2025-26 Budget Act, to allow up to \$6,000,000 to be made available to the Kern County Superintendent of Schools for those same specified purposes, including the independent evaluation of all state teacher recruitment and retention initiatives.

- 5) Requires appropriations made in the annual Budget Act for purposes of the Classified School Employee Summer Assistance Program to be available for encumbrance during both the fiscal year in which the funds are appropriated and the immediately following fiscal year.
- 6) Clarifies for the purposes of computing average daily attendance for attendance recovery programs for opportunity schools, as authorized in the 2024-25 Budget Act, to apply the instructional minute requirements that are applicable to opportunity schools.
- 7) Extends the availability of the Golden State Teacher grant program funds to applications received under the program on July 1, 2025, to June 30, 2026, inclusive.
- 8) Clarifies, for purposes of the local control funding formula for the 2025–26 and 2026–27 fiscal years only, requires the Superintendent of Public Instruction to determine a proxy count of English learner pupils enrolled in a transitional kindergarten that is based upon the percentage of English learners enrolled in kindergarten who are either not eligible for free or reduced-price meals or not a foster youth.
- 9) Requires the contracted vendor, for the translated IEP template, to be a vendor that currently transmits federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act-compliant data to the department through the California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System and requires the vendor, upon the availability of the translated IEP template, to integrate those translations into the digitized IEP template in order to ensure that users can access the IEP template in the top 10 most commonly spoke languages used in California other than English.
- 10) Clarifies the terms and timelines for the department’s contract with the Marin County Office of Education for a study of ultraprocessed foods of concern and restricted school foods.
- 11) Makes technical changes to various statutory references and budget appropriation years.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Reallocates \$1,000,000 in the Student Teacher Stipend Program \$100 million appropriation for the fiscal year, for program evaluation costs.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Erin Gabel / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill makes necessary changes to implement the higher education provisions adopted as a part of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

Specifically, this bill makes the following changes:

- 1) *CCC Classified Staff*: Creates a two-year pilot program, beginning in 2026-27, that allow California Community College classified staff to use food pantry services offered at campus basic needs centers. The program would shift unused funds from the Classified Community College Employee Summer Assistance Program to basic needs centers to support the increased usage. Includes reporting language.
- 2) *Dual Enrollment Courses*: Includes intent language that high school students and students in adult education programs who are also enrolled in transfer-level community college courses for which they receive credit have those courses recognized for admissions purposes at the University of California and California State University.
- 3) *Middle Class Scholarship*: Requires the Student Aid Commission, University of California and California State University to develop institutional participation agreements outlining deadlines and issues regarding the program, and includes language stating that a student's Middle Class Scholarship amount need not be changed if the student's financial aid package changes by less than \$300 during the academic year.
- 4) *Zero-Textbook-Cost Degree Program*: Amends the program to allow the Community College Chancellor's Office to use unused funds to support a systemwide technology platform that will allow all faculty to use and share open educational resources that limit or eliminate the need for textbooks.
- 5) *CCC Deferrals*: Makes technical changes to enact the deferral and payback process called for in the 2024 Budget Act.
- 6) *CCC Public School System Stabilization Act Funding*: Uses \$49.7 million from the Public School System Stabilization to support 2025-26 community college costs. This was agreed to in the 2025 Budget Act but accidentally omitted from previous trailer bill language.
- 7) *CCC Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement Program Set Aside*: Allows the Community College Chancellor's Office to use up to 3.5 percent, beginning in 2026-27, to develop statewide coordination and support for the MESA program.
- 8) *CCC Emergency Aid*: Makes changes to emergency aid funding provided in the 2025 Budget Act to allow the Chancellor's Office to redistribute unused funding to other districts and requires a 2026 report on how funds were used.

- 9) *CCC State Controller Payments*: Allows the Community College Chancellor's Office to use the apportionments process to issue payments for specific categorical programs, which will allow the state to more quickly distribute funding to districts.

COMMENTS

This is a clean-up trailer bill for higher education issues related to the 2025 Budget Act.

According to the Author

This is a clean-up trailer bill for higher education issues related to the 2025 Budget Act.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This is a clean-up trailer bill for higher education issues related to the 2025 Budget Act.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Mark Martin / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill is the August Budget Resources Omnibus trailer bill that includes statutory provisions necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

- 1) *Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024 (Proposition 4)*. Authorizes state agencies to adopt emergency regulations for the purpose of developing and adopting program guidelines and selection criteria for programs under Proposition 4. This bill makes technical changes related to specified state agencies receiving appropriations under Proposition 4.
- 2) *Los Angeles Olympics: Coastal Act Exemption*. Exempts all temporary development undertaken for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games from the requirement under the California Coastal Act to obtain a coastal development permit, as specified. This bill provides that the exemption shall apply until the temporary development is removed, but in no case later than December 31, 2028.
- 3) *Los Angeles Olympics: California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Exemption*. Exempts from CEQA activities or approvals necessary for the bidding, hosting, or staging of, and funding of the upcoming 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games; and exempts from CEQA the construction of temporary facilities for the 2028 Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- 4) *Invasive Mussels*. Appropriates \$20 million from Proposition 4 to address invasive mussel infestations, including the Golden Mussel. Among other things, this bill:
 - a. Expands the scope of the provisions related to “dreissenid” mussels to “invasive” mussels, such as requiring the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) to implement measures to avoid infestation by invasive mussels and to control or eradicate any infestation that may occur in a water supply system.
 - b. Defines “invasive mussels” as any nonnative detrimental mussel species, as specified.
 - c. Renames the quagga and zebra mussel infestation prevention fee as the invasive mussel infestation prevention fee. This bill increases the fee in specified amounts, and requires the amounts to be adjusted for inflation. This bill requires the department to collect, from resident and nonresident vessel owners, an invasive mussel infestation prevention fee.
- 5) *Farm Equipment Sharing*. Requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to establish the Regional Farmer Equipment and Cooperative Resources Assistant Pilot Program. This bill specifies entities eligible for financial assistance under the program.
- 6) *Firefighter Transition Technical Cleanup*. Requires the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, subject to an appropriation of funds, to begin to employ sufficient permanent

firefighting personnel to increase the base period staffing levels, without limitation to hand crew staffing levels.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

This bill is the August Budget Resources Omnibus trailer bill that includes statutory provisions necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill appropriates \$20 million from Proposition 4 to address invasive mussel infestations, including the Golden Mussel.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Christine Miyashiro / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill is an Early Childhood Education trailer bill for the 2025-2026 Budget Act, to ratify the Memorandum of Understanding dated August 7, 2025, between the State and Child Care Providers United – California, codify statutory changes pursuant to this agreement, and make appropriations and allocations pursuant to this agreement for all child care and preschool programs.

Major Provisions

- 1) Appropriates \$157,852,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Social Services to fully fund child care payments authorized pursuant to the trailer bill.
- 2) Ratifies the agreement dated August 7, 2025, entered into by the Governor and Child Care Providers United - California, in its sole capacity as the certified provider organization representing family childcare providers, as specified.
- 3) Extends the period in which reimbursement of state-subsidized childcare and development providers, license-exempt providers, and California state preschool family childcare home education network providers is based on the maximum authorized or certified hours of care, to July 1, 2028.
- 4) Extends the payment of the statutory monthly cost of care plus rate, including the 2025-26 Budget Act cost of living increase, indefinitely, for family childcare providers and childcare centers.
- 5) Establishes a one-time payment to family daycare providers for the total amount of the cost of living increase for each month or partial month occurring between July 1, 2025, and December 30, 2025, and requires the payment to be paid to providers by January 1, 2026, contingent on full ratification by September 30, 2025, of the tentative agreement received between the State of California and the Child Care Providers United - California (CCPU) on August 7, 2025.
- 6) Establishes an additional one-time, per-child stabilization payment for all family daycare providers and childcare centers, of \$431 for licensed family childcare providers and childcare centers and \$300 for license-exempt family childcare providers. Requires an alternative one-time payment if the CCPU agreement not ratified by September 30, 2025.
- 7) Authorizes the Department of Finance to maintain statutory funding levels for the Joint Child Care Providers United - State of California Training Partnership Fund, the CCPU Workers Health Care Fund, and the CCPU Retirement Trust for each year of the agreement, from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2028, inclusive, subject to reporting requirements as specified.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Appropriates \$157,852,000 from the General Fund to the State Department of Social Services to fully fund child care payments authorized pursuant to the trailer bill.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Erin Gabel / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill is the omnibus Transportation budget trailer bill. It contains provisions necessary to implement the 2025 Budget Act.

Major Provisions

- 1) *State Route 185 Weight Limit*. Authorizes the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to issue permits to operate vehicles or mobile equipment on the 1.7-mile portion of State Route 185 in the City of Oakland if it meets specified criteria until December 31, 2031, or until an alternate truck route becomes available. The bill also requires the City of Oakland to report certain data to the Legislature and the Department of Transportation by January 1, 2031.
- 2) *Charter Bus Services*. Authorizes specified entities to provide charter bus services during the 2026 FIFA World Cup in the County of Los Angeles and greater San Francisco Bay Area.
- 3) *Mobile Driver License*. Increases the percentage of licensed drivers who can participate in a pilot mobile driver license program from 5 to 15 percent.
- 4) *Transport Refrigeration Unit (TRU) Fee*. Authorizes the State Air Resources Board to impose a fee on regulated entities under the Transport Refrigeration Unit program for implementation, administration, and enforcement. The fee shall be set to the amount as of January 1, 2025 and increase annually based on the Consumer Price Index. The fee as of January 1, 2025 is \$45 every three years, or \$23 every three years for zero-emission TRUs.
- 5) *Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP)*. Exempts the \$132 million appropriated to the State Air Resources Board for the Hybrid and Zero-Emission Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project from the Administrative Procedure Act, consistent with other funding sources.
- 6) *Low Carbon Transit Operations Program Statutory Relief*. Clarifies the allocation formula for the Low Carbon Transit Operations Program is paused from 2019-20 to 2025-26, inclusive.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

This bill is the omnibus Transportation budget trailer bill. It contains provisions necessary to implement the 2025 Budget Act.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill appropriates \$1,000 from the Air Pollution Control Fund to the State Air Resources Board for implementation of the Transport Refrigeration Unit regulation.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Shy Forbes / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SENATE THIRD READING
SB 154 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review)
As Amended September 8, 2025

SUMMARY

This bill exempts regulations adopted to implement two recent emissions disclosure laws from the California Environmental Quality Act.

Major Provisions

California Environmental Quality Act Exemption. Exempts regulations adopted to implement two recent emissions disclosure laws, SB 253 (Chapter 382, Statutes of 2023) and SB 261 (Chapter 383, Statutes of 2023) from the California Environmental Quality Act, consistent with existing case law.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

This bill restates existing case law to expedite implementation of recently enacted laws.

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Appropriates \$1,000 from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund to the State Air Resources Board for the implementation of SB 253 (Chapter 382, Statutes of 2023) and SB 261 (Chapter 383, Statutes of 2023).

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Shy Forbes / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill provides statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025 related to economic development.

Major Provisions

This bill contains the following statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Establishes the California Civic Media Program to be administered by the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) for specified purposes, including enhancing the public good through supporting a robust and dynamic California press corps.
- 2) Requires the Director of GO-Biz to establish and appoint a nine-person advisory board, as specified, to provide recommendations to Go-Biz for the allocation of private moneys in the fund.
- 3) Creates the Civic Media Fund in the State Treasury of California to be administered by the GO-Biz.
 - a. Provides that all moneys deposited in the fund, including General Fund appropriations and private bequeaths, donations, gifts, or grants are continuously appropriated.
 - b. Requires public money to be accounted separately from private money in the fund.
 - c. Allows GO-Biz to accept contributions from private sources, including private for-profit and nonprofit organizations.
 - d. Directs GO-Biz to direct the expenditure of public money in the fund consistent with the purpose of the California Civic Media Program.
 - e. Prohibits more than 7.5 percent of the fund from being used for the administration of the California Civic Media Program.
 - f. Allows Go-Biz to enter into agreements with third parties for purposes of administering programs funded, in whole or in part, with public moneys allocated from the fund.
 - g. Requires Go-Biz to prioritize allocations to support local and community new organizations, when expending public moneys in the fund.
 - h. Prohibits, in any fiscal year, the total expenditure of public money from the fund exceeding the total aggregate expenditure of funds from private sources, as specified.

- 4) Appropriates \$10 million from the General Fund to the California Civic Media Fund.

COMMENTS

This bill contains statutory changes necessary to implement the 2025 Budget Act related to economic development.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill makes a General Fund appropriation of \$10 million to the California Civic Media Fund.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Genevieve Morelos / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This Labor trailer bill contains the necessary changes to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

- 1) Includes a \$372 million one-time supplemental payment toward the CalPERS state plans' unfunded liabilities using available Proposition 2 debt repayment funding, as a result of many unions opting to suspend employer OPEB contributions during bargaining this year.
- 2) Authorizes a successor agency for the Humboldt No. 1 Fire Protection District and the City of Eureka Fire Department to provide employees the defined benefit plan or formula that those employees received from their respective employer prior to annexation.
- 3) Makes technical changes to section 11549.53 of the Government code to ensure that firefighters contracted to serve at a federal installation are eligible for the displaced firefighter list, hopefully making it easier for them to seek employment with other agencies who are hiring.
- 4) Makes multiple changes related to providers In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) program, including streamlining the process toward reaching collective bargaining agreements, codifying into state law overtime payment requirements former required by federal law, and permitting alternatives to avoid disruption of payroll and deduction processing for the payoff of IHSS provider wages.

COMMENTS

This Labor trailer bill contains the necessary changes to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget act of 2025.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill would require the appropriation of \$372,000,000 from General fund to supplement the state's appropriation to the Public Employees' Retirement to be applied to the unfunded state liabilities for the state employee member categories that are in excess of the base amount for the 2025-26 fiscal year, thereby making an appropriation.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Guy Strahl / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This trailer bill includes the necessary provisions required to implement the 2025-26 Budget Act related to public safety.

Major Provisions

- 1) Updates the Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund grant methodology which was first established by Chapter 608, Statutes of 2009, and provides county probation departments with grants to maintain or improve their prison rates. The updated formula includes a performance maintenance payment and a performance incentive payment, as specified, provides a minimum of \$200,000 to each county, and updates various definitions and reporting requirements.
- 2) Aligns specified contracting requirements for the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation's (CDCR) Community Participant Mother Program with the department's other reentry programs. The updated requirements allow for long-term contracts of up to ten years, permits the use of a request for information contracting process, and directs CDCR to prioritize program proposals that: 1) have approved land use, 2) can provide rehabilitative programming in a rehabilitative setting, 3) are operated by nonprofit organizations, and 4) have demonstrated expertise in supporting and strengthening family connection and parent-child relationships.
- 3) Provides a limited exemption to the Office of the State Public Defender from certain state contracting requirements to avoid potential conflicts with the office's ethical duty to serve the best interests of their clients. This exemption does not apply to the office's contracts for general services such as technology procurement.
- 4) Clarifies that specified employees within the Board of State Community Corrections have access to local detention facilities' records to fulfill their mandate to review in-custody deaths, pursuant to Chapter 306, Statutes of 2023.
- 5) Includes amendments to resolve a chaptering issue between AB 134 (Committee on Budget, Chapter 10, Statutes of 2025), and SB 857 (Committee on Public Safety) of the 2025-26 Regular Session, which will only become operative if both bills are enacted and become effective on or before January 1, 2026.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Appropriates \$103.7 million General Fund for the Community Corrections Performance Incentives Fund.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Jennifer Kim / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill provides statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025 related to land use.

Major Provisions

This bill contains the following statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Expresses the intent of the Legislature for the Housing Development and Finance Executive Committee created by the Governor’s Reorganization Plan No. 1 of 2025, to make recommendations to the Legislature regarding improvements the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) may make to optimize loan administration to expedite the processing of awards and loan closing.
- 2) Restores two provisions to the Budget Act of 2025, which were enacted in AB 137 (Chapter 20, Statutes of 2025) but inadvertently chaptered out by the subsequent enactment of AB 130 (Chapter 22, Statutes of 2025):
 - a. Updating references to the Governor’s Office of Planning and Research to reflect that entity’s new name, the Governor’s Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation (GO-LCI).
 - b. Authorizing GO-LCI to require submission of General Plan Annual Progress Reports using standard forms, standards, and definitions, with specified exceptions.
- 3) Applies the provisions of the Permit Streamlining Act (PSA) to ministerial housing development projects, as defined in the Housing Crisis Act (HCA), reviewed by local agencies.
- 4) Modifies the deadline for a public agency to approve or disapprove housing projects that are exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) from 30 days after the conclusion of tribal consultation process to 30 days from the later of :
 - a. The conclusion of the tribal consultation process under AB 130 (Chapter 22, Statutes of 2025) or
 - b. The time period specified under the Housing Accountability Act.
- 5) Requires the HCD to prepare to administer Round 7 of the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program with the goal that the initial Round 7 disbursement will be available to grantees meeting the statutory provisions, beginning September 1, 2026, subject to specified criteria.
- 6) Revises the definition of “natural and protected lands” for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) to include lands that are identified for conservation in

an adopted natural community conservation plan as specified, or other adopted natural resource protection plan.

- 7) Exempts builder's remedy projects greater than four acres from the limited application of CEQA provided by Public Resources Code Section 21080.1.
- 8) Reduces the eligibility for builder's remedy projects to receive the CEQA exemption provided by Public Resources Code Section 21080.66 from five acres to four acres.
- 9) Requires the lead agency, for any housing project using the CEQA exemption provided by Public Resources Code Section 21080.66, to file a notice of exemption with GO-LCI and the county clerk of the county in which the activity will occur.
- 10) Renumbers and makes non-substantive change to existing law that exempts from CEQA specified new agricultural employee housing projects and projects consisting exclusively of the repair or maintenance of an existing farmworker housing project.
- 11) Applies CEQA to housing development projects meeting specified conditions related to local population size and proximity to sensitive environmental and historic resources.
- 12) Appropriates the sum of \$2,106,000 from the General Fund to GO-LCI to support the implementation of SB 131 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2025).

COMMENTS

This bill contains technical clean-up necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025 related to land use.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support/ Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

The bill makes a General Fund appropriation of \$2,106,000 from the General Fund to GO-LCI to support the implementation of SB 131 (Chapter 24, Statutes of 2025).

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Genevieve Morelos / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill provides statutory changes to facilitate implementation of the Budget Act of 2025 as it relates to revenues.

Major Provisions

This bill contains the following statutory changes necessary to implement the 2025 Budget Act.

Specifically, this bill;

- 1) Clarifies definitions for “qualified amount” and “qualified taxpayer” to have a connection to a qualified wildfire disaster.
- 2) Defines “qualified wildfire disaster” to mean any disaster arising from a wildfire for which either the Governor has declared a state of emergency or the President of the United States has declared an emergency or major disaster as defined under the Robert T Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. Sec. 5121 et seq.).
- 3) Clarifies the definition of settlement entity to mean an entity making a settlement payment of a qualified amount to a qualified taxpayer.
- 4) Appropriates \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Franchise Tax Board to administer tax exemptions related to the qualified wildfire disaster settlements.

COMMENTS

The bill contains statutory changes necessary to implement the 2025 Budget Act related to revenues.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

The provisions of this bill related to the Wildfire Settlements exclusion are estimated to reduce revenues by \$28 million in 2024-25, by \$15 million in 2025-26, by \$11 million in 2026-27, by \$4.4 million in 2027-28, and by \$1.3 million in 2028-29. This bill makes no changes to these estimates included in SB 132 (Chapter 17, Statutes of 2025).

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Genevieve Morelos / **BUDGET** / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This bill provides statutory changes to facilitate implementation of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

This bill contains the following statutory changes necessary to implement the Budget Act of 2025. Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Makes adjustments to continue enabling the University of California, the California State Summer School for the Arts, the State Department of Education, California State University, Exposition Park, the Department of FI\$Cal, the Secretary of State's Office, the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration, the Department of Veteran's Affairs, the Department of Parks and Recreation, and others, to conduct federal background checks and fingerprinting.
- 2) In regards to California Penal Code Section 11105, removes terms that the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has identified as being too broad, in addition to terms authorizing the receipt of federal criminal history information by certain entities not authorized to receive such information. The bill ensures that California Department of Justice (DOJ) will continue to disseminate state and federal criminal history in accordance with state and federal law.
- 3) Within Section 11105 of the Penal Code, removes undefined terms which are no longer necessary and removes references to the "Designated Drivers Association", which is no longer in existence.
- 4) Prohibits DOJ from disseminating criminal history information to an unauthorized private entity, and removes the undefined terms 'officer' and 'official.'
- 5) Maintains the current Section 11105.2 without amendment, allowing Federal "Rap Back" services to continue uninterrupted. The bill also allows a parallel amended Section 11105.2 to be submitted to the FBI for review and compliance with federal law. Federal "Rap Back" is an FBI service that allows authorized government agencies to receive notification of activity on individuals who hold positions of trust or who are under criminal justice supervision or investigation.
- 6) Separates the requirement that the DOJ provide state and federal subsequent arrest and disposition information to the State Department of Social Services, the Medical Board of California, and the Osteopathic Medical Board of California from the DOJ's authority to provide such notification to all applicant agencies.
- 7) Recasts requirements that peace officers to undergo fingerprint-based state and federal criminal history background checks for employment (Section 1030 of the Government

Code) and conforms to other provisions that define the state summary criminal history process.

- 8) Establishes statutory authority necessary to continue requiring criminal justice agency employees, contractors, and volunteers to undergo a fingerprint-based state and national criminal history background check, as required by state regulation.
- 9) Allows a law enforcement agency to submit fingerprint images and related information for a retiring or retired peace officer seeking an endorsement for the officer to carry a concealed firearm, in order to fulfill the respective agency's duty to deny or revoke that endorsement for good cause.
- 10) Makes various other technical and conforming changes related to background check authority.

COMMENTS

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

Appropriates \$10,000 from the General Fund to the Department of Justice for purposes of administering the fingerprint requirements.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Genevieve McCloy / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

Makes necessary statutory changes to codify and ratify a new memorandum of understanding (MOU), addenda to existing MOUs, side letter agreements and closure letters between the state and various state employee bargaining units (BUs).

The agreements cover state employees represented by eight exclusive employee representatives, as follows:

Service Employees International Union, Local 1000 (SEIU 1000)

- BU 1: Administrative, Financial, and Staff Services
- BU 3: Professional Educators and Librarians
- BU 4: Office and Allied
- BU 11: Engineering and Scientific Technicians
- BU 14: Printing Trades
- BU 15: Allied Services
- BU 17: Registered Nurses
- BU 20: Medical and Social Services
- BU 21: Education Consultants and Library Employees

California Association of Highway Patrolmen (CAHP)

- BU 5: Highway Patrol

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection Firefighters, CAL FIRE Local 2881

- BU 8: California Firefighters

California Association of Professional Scientists (CAPS)

- BU 10: Professional Scientists

International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE)

- BU 12: Craft and Maintenance
- BU 13: Stationary Engineers

AFSCME - Union of American Physicians and Dentists (UAPD)

- BU 16: Physicians, Dentists, and Podiatrists

California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT)

- BU 18: Psychiatric Technicians

American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME)

- BU 19: Health and Social Services/Professional

Major Provisions

This bill ratifies a new/successor MOU with BU 18 (CAPT), two addenda to current MOUs with BU 8 (CalFire Firefighters) and BU 10 (PECG), side letters agreements with BUs 1, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 21 (SEIU 1000), BU 5 (CAHP), BUs 12 and 13 (IUOE) and closure letters with BU 16 (UAPD) and BU 19 (AFSCME).

Specifically, this measure does the following:

New Memoranda of Understanding or Successor Agreement with BU 18

Memorandum of Understanding with BU 18. This bill ratifies a new MOU entered into on August 14, 2025 between the state and BU 18, which is represented by the California Association of Psychiatric Technicians (CAPT). The MOU agreement is as follows:

Compensation

General Salary Adjustment and Special Salary Adjustments

- 1) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties, all BU 18 classifications shall receive a general salary increase of 3%.
- 2) Effective July 1, 2027, all BU 18 classifications shall receive a general salary increase of 3%.

Personal Leave Program (PLP 2025)

- 3) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties through the June 2027 pay period, PLP 2025 will apply to BU 18-represented employees.
- 4) Employees will continue to work their assigned work schedules and receive a 3% pay reduction.
- 5) Each full-time employee shall be credited with five hours of PLP 2025 on the first day of each pay period for the duration of the PLP 2025.
- 6) PLP 2025 may be cashed out upon separation from state service.
- 7) PLP 2025 leave shall not be considered as “time worked” for overtime purposes except when an employee is “mandated” to work overtime.

Bilingual Pay Differential

- 8) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties, the bilingual pay differential will increase from \$100 to \$200 per month.

Health Benefits

Health, Dental, Vision (CoBen)

- 1) The state's monthly health benefit contribution for each employee shall continue to be a flat dollar amount equal to 80 percent of the weighted average of the basic health benefit plan premiums of the four largest enrolled basic health plans. The flat dollar amounts shall be increased or decreased as appropriate pursuant to the formula on January 1, 2026, January 1, 2027, and January 1, 2028.

Prefunding of Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB)

- 2) The employees' and employer's monthly contribution for prefunding other postemployment benefits for the 2025-26 and 2026-27 fiscal years, is suspended and shall not be withheld from employees' salaries or contributed by the employer beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2027.
- 3) Beginning July 1, 2027, with the goal of reestablishing a 50% cost sharing agreement of actuarially determined normal costs for both employer and employees, the amount of employees and matching employer contributions required to prefund retiree healthcare shall be phased in as follows:
 - a. July 1, 2027: by 1.5%
 - b. July 1, 2028: by 1.5%, for a total of 3%
 - c. July 1, 2029: by 1.5%, for a total of 4.5%.
- 4) Effective July 1, 2030, both the employer and employee contribution percentages will be increased or decreased to maintain a 50% cost sharing of actuarially determined normal costs.
- 5) The increase or decrease to the employer or employee contribution in any given fiscal year shall not exceed 0.5% per year.

Retirement

State Miscellaneous/Industrial – First Tier A Retirement Formula (2% at age 55), First Tier B Retirement Formula (2% at age 60) and Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) First Tier Retirement Formula (2% at age 62)/Employee Contribution/Final Compensation

- 1) Effective July 1, 2025, the employee contribution for Miscellaneous and Industrial members shall remain in place through June 30, 2027.
- 2) Cost sharing – effective July 1, 2027, when CalPERS determines the employee contribution rate for Miscellaneous or Industrial members increases or decreases by more than 1% from the 2026-27 fiscal year total normal cost, the rate shall be adjusted to 50% of the normal cost rate rounded to the nearest quarter of one percent on July 1 of the fiscal year after the determination, not exceed 1% per year.

State Safety A Retirement Formula (2.5% at age 55), State Safety B Retirement Formula (2% at age 55), and Public Employees' Pension Reform Act (PEPRA) Retirement Formula (2% at age 57)/Employees Contribution/Final Compensation

- 3) Effective July 1, 2025, the employee contribution for State Safety members shall remain in place through June 30, 2027.

- 4) Cost sharing – effective July 1, 2027, when CalPERS determines the employee contribution rate for State Safety increases or decreases by more than 1% from the 2021-22 fiscal year total normal cost, the rate shall be adjusted to 50% of the normal cost rate rounded to the nearest quarter of .25% on July 1 of the fiscal year after the determination, not to exceed 1% per year.

Miscellaneous

Recruitment and Retention

- 1) The parties shall meet twice each year through June 30, 2028, to discuss methods and opportunities to increase the recruitment and retention of BU 18 employees.

Overtime

- 2) Reduces mandatory overtime from four shifts per month (five shifts for the Department of Developmental Services Stabilization, Treatment, Integration, and Reintegration (STAR) homes), to three shifts per month (four shifts for STAR homes), effective June 30, 2028.

Bereavement Leave

- 3) Provides five days of unpaid bereavement leave for permanent probational, and non-permanent employees, unless the employee is eligible for other leave, as defined. All bereavement leave must be taken within three months of the date of death.

Business and Travel Expenses

- 4) During the term of this agreement, the state agrees to apply any future changes to the business and travel expense reimbursement rates to BU 18 employees.

Floating

- 5) Adds that contracted registry staff shall normally be floated before any BU 18 employees.

Union Release Time

- 6) Increases the rate the union shall reimburse the state for union release time from 130% over three years to:
 - 134% effective July 1, 2026,
 - 138% effective July 1, 2027,
 - 142% effective July 1, 2028, to cover costs associated with employee salary and benefits.

Contracting Out Committee

- 7) The state agrees to meet with CAPT twice a year to examine existing personal services contracts that call for services found in BU 18 class specifications. The purpose of these meetings includes, but is not limited to, providing the opportunity for CAPT to present alternatives, which mitigate or avoid the need for contracting out, while still satisfying the needs of the state to provide services.

Term

- 1) July 1, 2025, through July 1, 2028.

Fiscal

- 1) Fiscal Year 2025-26 cost: \$2.8 million (\$2.7 million General Fund).

Addendum to the Memoranda of Understanding with BU 8

Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with BU 8. This bill ratifies an addendum to an MOU entered into on July 16, 2025 between the state and BU 8, which is represented by CAL FIRE Local 2881. The agreement is as follows:

Compensation

General Salary Adjustment

- 1) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties, all BU 8 represented employees shall receive a 2.5% general salary increase.

Personal Leave Program (PLP 2025)

- 2) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties through the June 2027 pay period, PLP 2025 will apply to BU 8-represented employees.
- 3) Employees continue to work their assigned work schedules and shall have a reduction in pay equal to a 2.5% for all BU 8 employees.
- 4) Each full-time employee shall be credited with PLP 2025 on the first day of each pay period for the duration of the PLP 2025 program. Six hours credited monthly for fire protection employees and four hours of PLP 2025 credited monthly for specialty classes.
- 5) PLP 2025 accruals do not expire. PLP 2025 may be cashed out upon separation from state service.

Duration

6. This side letter is effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties and extends the MOU current term from June 30, 2026, to June 30, 2027.

Miscellaneous

7. The state agrees that the 2027 successor MOU negotiations will include the 56-hour industry-standard work week in the MOU.
8. The Department of Human Resources and CAL FIRE Local 2881 agree to meet on or before February 1, 2026, to allow the union an opportunity to present a Deferred Retirement Option Plan to the state.

Fiscal

9. Fiscal Year 2025-26 Savings: \$492,000 (\$327,000 General Fund).

Addendum to the Memoranda of Understanding with BU 10

Addendum to the Memorandum of Understanding with BU 10. This bill ratifies an addendum to an MOU entered into on August 14, 2025 between the state and BU 10, which is represented by the California Association of Professional Scientists (PECG). The agreement is as follows:

Compensation

Special Salary Adjustments

- 1) Group A: Employees in the Pest Prevention classification series will receive a Special Salary Adjustment as outlined below:
 - a. Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, these classifications will be adjusted by increasing the maximum salary range by 4% and increasing the minimum salary by 3.5%. Employees at the old maximum of the classification shall move to the new maximum of the classification. Employees not at the old maximum of the classification shall receive a Special Salary Adjustment of 3.5%. Employees in these classifications shall retain their anniversary date.
- 2) Group B: Employees in the Energy Commission Specialist, Research Scientist, Research Specialist, Energy Resources Specialist, Energy Specialist, Energy Analyst, Toxicologist, and Spectroscopist classification series will receive a Special Salary Adjustment as outlined below:
 - a. Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, these classifications will be adjusted by increasing the maximum salary range by 4% and increasing the minimum salary by 3.5%. Employees at the old maximum of the classification shall move to the new maximum of the classification. Employees not at the old maximum of the classification shall receive a Special Salary Adjustment of 3.5%. Employees in these classifications shall retain their anniversary date.
- 3) Group C: Employees in the Health Physicist, Ergonomic Specialist (State Compensation Insurance Fund), Industrial Hygienist, Public Health Biologists, Wildlife Forensic Specialist, Industrial Hygienist (State Compensation Insurance Fund), Ergonomic Specialist (State Compensation Insurance Fund), Economic Entomologist, Microbiologist Intern, Public Health Microbiologist, Examiner Laboratory Field Services, Cytotechnologist, Hazardous Materials Specialist, Cytotechnologist and Agricultural Biologist classification series will receive a Special Salary Adjustment as outlined below:
 - a. Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, these classifications will be adjusted by increasing the maximum salary range by 4% and increasing the minimum salary by 3.5%. Employees at the old maximum of the classification shall move to the new maximum of the classification. Employees not at the old maximum of the classification shall receive a Special Salary Adjustment of 3.5%. Employees in these classifications shall retain their anniversary date.
- 4) Group D: Employees in the Veterinarian and Plant Sciences, Seismologist, Fish and Wildlife Interpreter, Archeologist, Environmental Scientist, Integrated Waste Management, Senior Geologist, Chemist, Senior Meteorologist Water Resources and

Oceanographer classification series will receive a Special Salary Adjustment as outlined below:

- Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, these classifications will be adjusted by increasing the maximum salary range by 5% and increasing the minimum salary by 3.5%. Employees at the old maximum of the classification shall move to the new maximum of the classification. Employees not at the old maximum of the classification shall receive a Special Salary Adjustment of 3.5%. Employees in these classifications shall retain their anniversary date.

Telework Stipend Program

- 5) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, the telework stipend program will end.

Personal Leave Program (PLP) 2025

- 6) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification through the June 2027 pay period, BU 10 employees will participate in PLP 2025.
- 7) Each full-time employee shall continue to work their assigned work schedule and shall have a reduction in pay equal to 3.5%.
- 8) Each full-time employee shall be credited with 6 hours of PLP 2025 per month for the duration of the PLP 2025 Program.
- 9) Employees in Work Week Group 2 may request and use PLP 2025 in 15-minute increments.
- 10) PLP 2025 must be used before any other leave except for sick leave and Professional Development Days. Employees may elect to use PLP in lieu of approved sick leave.
- 11) Employees should use all leave earned under PLP 2025 prior to voluntary separation. Appointing powers may schedule employees to take PLP 2025 time off to meet the intent of this section. In circumstances where an employee was not able to use their PLP 2025 prior to separation, PLP 2025 may be cashed out. If an employee's separation is not voluntary and the separation date cannot be extended, PLP 2025 shall be cashed out.
- 12) PLP 2025 accruals do not expire.
- 13) Time during which an employee is excused from work because of PLP 2025 leave shall not be considered as "time worked" for purposes of determining the number of hours worked in a work week.
- 14) Seasonal and temporary employees are not subject to PLP 2025.
- 15) Part-time and permanent intermittent employees shall be subject to the same conditions as stated above, on a prorated basis.

Health Benefits

Health, Dental, Vision

- 1) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, state employees shall receive the same level of state employer contributions for health, vision, dental, flex-elect cash option, and enhanced survivor's benefits the represented employee would have received had the PLP 2025 not occurred.

Leave

Leave

- 1) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification, the 640-hour vacation and annual leave cap shall be increased by the equivalent number of PLP hours BU 10 employees have been credited with until June 30, 2028, thereby increasing the cap to 766 hours.
- 2) Upon ratification of this side letter by both parties, BU 10 employees may elect to switch between either program, the Vacation and Sick Leave Program and the Annual Leave Program, until October 31, 2025. An employee may only elect to make the switch once during this time period.

Voluntary Personal Leave Program (VPLP)

- 3) Continuation of the VPLP during the duration of PLP 2025 shall be at the discretion of the employee. If the employee elects to alter their participation in VPLP, they shall be allowed to opt out or change at any time during the PLP 2025 program. For the duration of any mandatory PLP program.

Retirement

Prefunding of Other Post-Employment Benefits

- 1) Effective the first day of the pay period following ratification by both parties, the employees' and employer's monthly contribution for prefunding other post-employment benefits is suspended and shall not be withheld from employees' salaries or contributed by the employer through the June 2027 pay period.

Miscellaneous

Telecommute/Telework Program

- 1) The provision is modified to include examples of "office" work.
- 2) The provision is modified to provide at least a 60-day notice prior to implementation of, or a change to, an existing telecommuting policy or program.

Electronic Monitoring

- 3) This section is now subject to the grievance and arbitration provision as outlined in the MOU.

Reopener

- 4) The parties agree to reopen depending on 2026 Budget Act, consistent with the Dills Act and the 2026 Budget Act.
 - a. If the Legislature does not approve or fully fund any provision of the MOU which requires the expenditure of funds for the 2026-2027 fiscal year, either party may reopen negotiations on all or part of the MOU. The parties shall meet and confer in good faith on or before July 1, 2026.

Term

- 1) Upon ratification by both parties, this Side Letter agreement becomes addendum to the July 1, 2024, through July 1, 2027, BU 10 MOU.

Fiscal

- 1) Fiscal Year 2025-26 Savings: \$6.7 million (\$1.8 million General Fund).

State Special Schools Recruitment and Retention Side Letters

State Special Schools Employees. This bill ratifies three side letters and two closure letters related to recruitment and retention compensation adjustments for employees that work at California's State Special Schools, located in Fremont, Riverside and the Diagnostic Center North. The agreements include employees represented by SEIU 1000 (BUs 1, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 21), International Union of Operating Engineers – IUOE (BUs 12 and 13), Union of American Physicians and Dentists – UAPD (BU 16) and the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees – AFSCME (BU 19).

The agreements contain various compensation increases including special salary adjustments for specified employee classifications and recruitment and retention pay differentials for various identified job classifications.

In addition, the side letters and closure letters include workforce stability incentive stipends for staff employed at the California School for the Deaf in Fremont, the California School for the Blind in Fremont and the Diagnostic Center North.

Out-of-State Health Benefits Side Letter

Out-of-State Health Benefits. This bill ratifies a side letter entered into on August 12, 2025 between the state and BUs 1, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20, and 21, which are represented by SEIU 1000.

The agreement increases monthly payments to state employees who are headquartered out-of-state and enrolled in a CalPERS sponsored Preferred Provider Organization health plan because they unable to enroll in a CalPERS sponsored HMO plan.

Mass Transit Side Letter

Mass Transit. This bill ratifies a side letter entered into on August 3, 2025 between the state and BU 5, which is represented by California Association of Highway Patrolmen (CAHP). The agreement increases the amount employees can be reimbursed for public transit passes and vanpool services to 100% of the current maximum exclusion amount provided by the Internal Revenue Service.

Phlebotomy Differential Side Letter

Phlebotomy Differential. This bill ratifies a side letter entered into on August 6, 2025 between the state and BU 11, which is represented by SEIU 1000. The agreement increases the pay differential for the Laboratory Assistant Series and Laboratory Assistant, Correctional Facility Series classification specifications to include licensure/certification requirements for phlebotomy work.

COMMENTS

This bill ratifies a new/successor MOU with BU 18 (CAPT), two addenda to current MOUs with BU 8 (CalFire Firefighters) and BU 10 (PECG), side letters agreements with BUs 1, 3, 4, 11, 14, 15, 17, 20 and 21 (SEIU 1000), BU 5 (CAHP), BUs 12 and 13 (IUOE) and closure letters with BU 16 (UAPD) and BU 19 (AFSCME).

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

This bill results in a cost of \$14,597,000 (\$1,557,000 General Fund) with the implementation of the MOU, the addenda to the MOUs, the side letters and the closure letters, as described above.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

CONSULTANT: Guy Strahl / BUDGET / (916) 319-2099

SUMMARY

This Labor trailer bill contains the necessary changes to implement provisions adopted as part of the Budget Act of 2025.

Major Provisions

Makes local elections held on November 4, 2025, subject to the same deadlines as the statewide special election held on that date. Allows Santa Clara County to adopt reasonable timeframes for specified activities related to an election it holds after the November 4, 2025, statewide special election, but before the end of the year.

Specifically this bill:

- 1) Makes a clarifying technical change to allow for the allocation schedule to be provided directly to the State Controller, to remit payments to counties to administer the November 4, 2025 Special Election.
- 2) Provides that notwithstanding specified provisions of the Elections Code, results from any regular or special local election called on or before August 8, 2025, and held on November 4, 2025, shall not be certified until at least 28 days after the election. Aligns the deadline for voters to resolve issues with vote by mail (VBM) ballots in these local elections with the deadline for the statewide special election.
- 3) Authorizes Santa Clara County to establish reasonable timelines for its elections official to carry out duties related to any election held in the county after November 4, 2025, and before December 31, 2025, as needed to comply with state certification requirements for the November 4, 2025, statewide special election.

COMMENTS

SB 280 (Cervantes, Chapter 97, Statutes of 2025), called a statewide special election for November 4, 2025. Local jurisdictions in several counties already had local elections scheduled for that same date. In some counties, voters will receive two separate ballots for elections held on November 4, one for local contests and one for the statewide measure. These elections may have different certification deadlines, which could create administrative challenges for county elections officials and confuse voters - especially relating to deadlines to resolve issues with VBM ballots. Accordingly, this bill aligns the deadlines for local elections held on November 4, 2025, with those for the statewide special election.

One such local election is a countywide special election in Santa Clara County to fill a vacancy in the office of County Assessor. Under the county's charter, if no candidate receives a majority of the votes on November 4, a runoff between the top two candidates must be held within 56 days. As a result, a runoff is scheduled for December 30, 2025, if needed.

Given the short timeline following certification of the statewide election pursuant to SB 280, Santa Clara County may need to modify deadlines for preparing and mailing materials for the runoff. This bill authorizes the county to adjust those timelines by resolution to ensure compliance with both the county charter and state law.

According to the Author

Arguments in Support

None on file.

Arguments in Opposition

None on file.

FISCAL COMMENTS

The bill would require the appropriation of \$100,000 from the General Fund to the Secretary of State for the 2025-2026 fiscal year for the purposes of developing the report on the final cost of the November 4, 2025, statewide special election, thereby making an appropriation.

VOTES

SENATE FLOOR: 28-10-2

YES: Allen, Archuleta, Arreguín, Ashby, Becker, Blakespear, Cabaldon, Caballero, Cervantes, Cortese, Durazo, Gonzalez, Grayson, Hurtado, Laird, Limón, McGuire, McNerney, Menjivar, Padilla, Pérez, Richardson, Rubio, Smallwood-Cuevas, Umberg, Wahab, Weber Pierson, Wiener

NO: Alvarado-Gil, Choi, Dahle, Grove, Jones, Niello, Ochoa Bogh, Seyarto, Strickland, Valladares

ABS, ABST OR NV: Reyes, Stern

UPDATED

VERSION: September 8, 2025

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