



# Legislative Bulletin

**DRAFT**

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*A Publication of the County Executive Office/Legislative Affairs*

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May 5, 2026  
Item No. 17

## **County of Orange Positions on Proposed Legislation**

The Legislative Bulletin provides the Board of Supervisors with analyses of measures pending in Sacramento and Washington that are of interest to the County. Staff provides recommended positions that fall within the range of policies established by the Board. According to the County of Orange Legislative Affairs Program Guidelines adopted by the Board of Supervisors on January 25, 2022, staff recommendations for formal County positions on legislation will be agendaized and presented in this document for Board action at regular Board of Supervisors meetings. When the Board takes formal action on a piece of legislation, the CEO will direct the County's legislative advocates to promote the individual bills as approved by the Board. The Legislative Bulletin also provides the Board of Supervisors with informative updates on State and Federal issues.

The 2025-2026 Legislative Platform was adopted by the Board of Supervisors on November 19, 2024.

On May 5, 2026, the Board of Supervisors will consider the following actions:

### **RECOMMENDED ACTIONS**

- 1. Receive and File Legislative Bulletin**

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

- 1. County Position Matrix: CEO-LA**
- 2. Sacramento Legislative Report**
- 3. Washington DC Legislative Report**

**INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**1. County Position Matrix: CEO-LA**

The tables below list the bills the Board of Supervisors has taken positions on in the 2025-26 legislative session.

State Legislation

*As of Thursday, April 30, 2026*

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Date of Board Action</b>	<b>Board Position</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b><u>AB 28</u></b>	<u>Schiavo</u>	Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures.	06/24/2025	<b>Oppose</b>	09/11/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>AB 35</u></b>	<u>Alvarez</u>	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024: Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines and selection criteria.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	01/27/2026 - Senate Rules
<b><u>AB 262</u></b>	<u>Caloza</u>	California Individual Assistance Act.	06/24/2025	<b>Support</b>	04/27/2026 - Senate Rules
<b><u>AB 282</u></b>	<u>Pellerin</u>	Discrimination: housing: source of income.	05/06/2025	<b>Support</b>	09/11/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>AB 283</u></b>	<u>Haney</u>	In-Home Supportive Services Employer-Employee Relations Act.	08/26/2025	<b>Support if Amended</b>	09/11/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>AB 550</u></b>	<u>Petrie-Norris</u>	The California Endangered Species Act: take of species: renewable electrical generation facilities.	03/25/2025	<b>Support</b>	07/17/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>AB 736</u></b>	<u>Wicks</u>	The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026.	04/28/2026	<b>Support if Amended</b>	04/21/2026 - Senate Appropriations
<b><u>AB 762</u></b>	<u>Irwin</u>	Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.	04/22/2025	<b>Support</b>	01/29/2026 - Senate Rules
<b><u>AB 1088</u></b>	<u>Bains</u>	Public health: kratom.	06/24/2025	<b>Support</b>	07/17/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>AB 1567</u></b>	<u>Ta</u>	General plan: annual report: congregate and residential care for the elderly.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/23/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>AB 1602</u></b>	<u>Rubio, Blanca</u>	Foster youth: disaster aid assistance.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/15/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 1638</u></b>	<u>Ta</u>	County veterans service officers: additional resources.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 1830</u></b>	<u>Petrie-Norris</u>	Ignition interlock devices.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	03/25/2026 - Assembly Appropriations

<b><u>AB 1893</u></b>	<u>Gallagher</u>	Wildfire prevention: local assistance grant program: eligible activities.	04/28/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 2002</u></b>	<u>Solache</u>	Local government assistance: Regional Early Action Planning Fund.	04/28/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 2076</u></b>	<u>Lowenthal</u>	The Parent's Accountability and Child Protection Act: online marketplaces: nitrous oxide.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 2194</u></b>	<u>Valencia</u>	Medi-Cal: special commissions.	12/16/2025	<b>Sponsor</b>	04/16/2026 - Senate Rules
<b><u>AB 2309</u></b>	<u>Bains</u>	CalFresh Protection Act.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/23/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>AB 2320</u></b>	<u>Ta</u>	Multifamily Housing Program: Homekey: adaptive reuse.	12/16/2025	<b>Sponsor</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>AB 2373</u></b>	<u>Dixon</u>	The California Coastal Act: local coastal program: sea level rise plan: neighborhood-scale adaptation approach.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/21/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>AB 2513</u></b>	<u>Petrie-Norris</u>	Wildfire: Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program: local assistance grant program: regional landscape grants.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/29/2026 - Assembly Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>AB 2562</u></b>	<u>Dixon</u>	Alcohol or other drug recovery and treatment programs and facilities: suicide prevention.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/14/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>AB 2614</u></b>	<u>Dixon</u>	Public health: Body Brokering and Patient Referral Integrity Act.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/23/2026 - Dead
<b><u>SB 296</u></b>	<u>Archuleta</u>	Property taxation: exemption: disabled veteran homeowners.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	07/15/2025 - Assembly Rev. & Tax Suspense File
<b><u>SB 329</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Alcohol and drug recovery or treatment facilities: investigations.	03/25/2025	<b>Support</b>	08/28/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>SB 417</u></b>	<u>Cabaldon</u>	The Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026.	04/28/2026	<b>Support if Amended</b>	04/22/2026 - Assembly Appropriations
<b><u>SB 561</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Hazardous waste: Emergency Distress Flare Safe Disposal Act.	04/08/2025	<b>Support</b>	07/17/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>SB 569</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Department of Transportation: homeless encampments.	03/25/2025	<b>Support</b>	07/17/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>SB 577</u></b>	<u>Laird</u>	State Government.	08/25/2025	<b>Support</b>	09/11/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>SB 623</u></b>	<u>Archuleta</u>	Property taxation: homeowners', veterans', and disabled veterans' exemptions.	03/25/2025	<b>Support</b>	01/29/2026 - Assembly Desk

<b><u>SB 741</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Coastal resources: coastal development permit: exemption: Los Angeles-San Diego-San Luis Obispo Rail Corridor.	06/24/2025	<b>Oppose</b>	07/17/2025 - 2 Year
<b><u>SB 758</u></b>	<u>Umberg</u>	Public health: nitrous oxide.	01/13/2026	<b>Sponsor</b>	01/27/2026 - Assembly Desk
<b><u>SB 888</u></b>	<u>Seyarto</u>	Property taxation: disabled veterans' exemption: household income.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/27/2026 - Senate Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>SB 893</u></b>	<u>Seyarto</u>	State parks: facilities pass: Gold Star Family members.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/20/2026 - Senate Appropriations
<b><u>SB 907</u></b>	<u>Archuleta</u>	Driving under the influence and other driving offenses: comprehensive reform.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/20/2026 - Senate Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>SB 936</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Nitrous oxide: sales.	12/16/2025	<b>Sponsor</b>	04/13/2026 - Senate Appropriations
<b><u>SB 967</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Planning and zoning: housing element: interim housing units: acutely low income households.	12/16/2025	<b>Sponsor</b>	04/27/2026 - Senate Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>SB 1040</u></b>	<u>Choi</u>	Veterans Cemetery Maintenance-Endowment Match Act.	04/14/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/27/2026 - Senate Appr. Suspense File
<b><u>SB 1167</u></b>	<u>Blakespear</u>	Vehicles: electric bicycles.	04/28/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/14/2026 - Senate Appropriations
<b><u>SB 1310</u></b>	<u>Choi</u>	Voter registration: prospective jurors.	12/16/2025	<b>Sponsor</b>	04/23/2026 - Dead
<b><u>SB 1314</u></b>	<u>Menjivar</u>	Smoke shops: locations, hours of operation, and sale of nitrous oxide.	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	04/23/2026 - Senate Appropriations

Federal Legislation

*As of Thursday, April 30, 2026*

<b>Measure</b>	<b>Author</b>	<b>Topic</b>	<b>Date of Board Action</b>	<b>Board Position</b>	<b>Status</b>
<b><u>H.R. 965</u></b>	<u>Sherman</u>	Housing Unhoused Disabled Veterans Act	05/20/2025	<b>Support</b>	Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
<b><u>H.R. 1012</u></b>	<u>Levin</u>	Spent Fuel Prioritization Act of 2025	05/20/2025	<b>Support</b>	House Committee on Energy and Commerce
<b><u>H.R. 2483</u></b>	<u>Guthrie</u>	SUPPORT for Patients and Communities Reauthorization Act of 2025	06/24/2025	<b>Support</b>	Became Law
<b><u>H.R. 5462</u></b>	<u>Goldman</u>	The Michelle Alyssa Go Act	03/24/2026	<b>Support</b>	House Committee on Energy and Commerce
<b><u>S. 1462</u></b>	<u>Curtis</u>	Fix Our Forests Act	09/23/2025	<b>Support</b>	Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

Measure	Author	Topic	Date of Board Action	Board Position	Status
<b><u>S. 2212</u></b>	<u>Padilla</u>	Visible Identification Standards for Immigration-Based Law Enforcement (VISIBLE) Act of 2025	08/26/2025	<b>Support</b>	Senate Committee on the Judiciary



Highlighted sections symbolize a status change.

## 2. Sacramento Legislative Report

### *Prepared by Precision Advocacy Group LLC*

Over the past several weeks, the legislature has been working at a rapid pace to move roughly 1,000 bills through policy committee deadlines. As the process advances, fiscal committees are now preparing to dispense with their appropriations suspense files on May 14, a critical step that will determine which bills move forward and which are held, effectively narrowing the field of active legislation.

At the same time, budget discussions continue to evolve alongside these policy debates, with the state facing ongoing structural fiscal challenges highlighted in recent analyses from the Legislative Analyst's Office. Attention is also turning toward the May Revision, expected around May 14, which will provide updated revenue projections and serve as the framework for final budget negotiations.

The following report provides updates on key federal and state developments, including ongoing litigation affecting homelessness funding, the drivers of California's significant spending growth, and recent legislative oversight of high-speed rail.

### **HUD Continuum of Care Program Legal Challenge Update**

California secured a key legal win last week that, for now, blocks the Trump administration from shifting federal homelessness funding away from permanent housing toward temporary shelters. The administration dropped its appeal of a court ruling that halted the proposed changes, meaning existing rules remain in place while the case continues. This preserves access to billions in Continuum of Care (CoC) funds that California jurisdictions largely use for long-term housing solutions.

This dispute stems from actions taken in November, when the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) issued, and later withdrew, a controversial funding notice (NOFO) that would have capped spending on permanent housing at 30%, a major departure from prior policy where roughly 90% of California's CoC funds supported permanent housing. The proposal reflected a broader shift away from the longstanding "Housing First" model toward prioritizing temporary shelters, including those requiring sobriety.

California, alongside local jurisdictions including Santa Clara County and San Francisco, challenged the changes in court, arguing HUD unlawfully bypassed Congress. Federal officials ultimately withdrew the notice to reassess legal concerns and prepare a revised approach, but litigation is continuing, and advocacy groups warn the pause creates ongoing delays and uncertainty for local governments seeking funding.

In the near term, counties can continue relying on existing funding rules that prioritize permanent housing, but the policy direction, and funding stability, remains unresolved as both the legal cases and potential federal revisions move forward.

### **Understanding \$100 Billion in Spending Growth: Causes and Fiscal Implications**

This week, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) published a [report](#) examining the state's fiscal trajectory. Since the 2019-20 fiscal year, California's General Fund expenditures have surged by more than \$100 billion, climbing from \$146 billion to a projected \$248 billion in the governor's 2026-27 budget proposal. The LAO's analysis identifies the primary drivers and long-term fiscal consequences of this substantial growth to help guide the legislature's future policy decisions.

California's General Fund spending has increased by just over \$100 billion since 2019-20, and the state now faces ongoing structural deficits estimated at \$20 billion to \$30 billion annually. The LAO finds that this growth is largely not driven by new programs, but by the rising cost of maintaining existing services. Roughly 70% of spending growth reflects sustaining existing commitments, primarily due to inflation, caseload increases, higher utilization, and rising service costs, while about 30% reflects policy choices to expand or create new services.

A small number of major program areas account for the vast majority of this growth. The largest drivers include K-14 education (\$37 billion), Medi-Cal (\$25 billion), developmental services (\$8 billion), In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) (\$8 billion), child care (\$4 billion), and higher education (\$3 billion). These programs largely serve low-income or high-need populations, reflecting the state's broader budget structure, where over 60% of non-education spending is directed toward safety-net services. Importantly, much of the cost growth in these programs is tied to underlying demand and cost pressures rather than policy expansions, for example, Medi-Cal costs have grown primarily due to higher cost per enrollee, while IHSS and developmental services have expanded due to demographic trends and increased service utilization.

Local assistance spending (excluding K-14 education) grew by about \$58 billion over this period, with nearly two-thirds of that growth occurring automatically under existing law to maintain current service levels. These automatic increases include factors such as higher caseloads, increased health care costs, and statutory cost-of-living adjustments. Another 15% growth reflects legislative actions taken to maintain services, such as rate increases or inflation adjustments, while about 20% reflects discretionary expansions, including expanded Medi-Cal eligibility, additional child care slots, and increased financial aid eligibility. External requirements, such as federal policy changes or voter-approved mandates, account for a relatively small share of growth (less than 5%).

K-14 education spending, governed by Proposition 98, operates differently from the rest of the budget. Nearly all growth in this area is "externally driven" by constitutional formulas tied to revenues and other inputs, rather than legislative discretion. Between 2019-20 and 2026-27, base General Fund spending under Proposition 98 grew by about \$31 billion, with roughly 56% used to sustain existing services (such as covering salary and cost increases) and 44% used for expansions, including transitional kindergarten, after-school programs, and arts education initiatives. This makes K-14 education one of the few areas where spending growth is more evenly split between sustaining and expanding services.

State operations spending grew more modestly, by about \$9 billion, but still reflects similar dynamics. Most of this growth is tied to employee compensation (approximately \$6 billion), driven both by increases in staffing and rising salaries and benefits. Additional growth stems from higher debt service costs, particularly retirement-related obligations and bond debt. While some staffing increases support new services (such as wildfire response or public safety oversight), the majority of state operations growth is attributed to maintaining existing functions.

Revenues have grown substantially, about 60% since 2019-20, but not enough to keep pace with spending growth, which has increased by about 70%. Additionally, constitutional constraints limit fiscal flexibility. Proposition 98 effectively requires about 40 cents of every new dollar of revenue to be allocated to K-14 education, while Proposition 2 requires additional spending on reserves and debt. Together, these rules predetermine the use of roughly half of new revenues, making it difficult to close deficits through revenue increases alone.

The LAO concludes that addressing the state's structural deficit will require difficult trade-offs. Eliminating all discretionary program expansions enacted since 2019-20 would only close about half of the projected budget gap, leaving policymakers with the need to consider significant spending reductions, revenue increases, or both. However, raising sufficient revenue is constrained by the state

appropriations limit (SAL) and other constitutional provisions, meaning a revenue-only solution is unlikely without voter-approved changes.

Ultimately, the report finds that California's current fiscal challenges are the result of a mismatch between ongoing spending commitments and the state's revenue structure. In hindsight, the state could not sustainably fund both the full cost of maintaining existing services and the set of expansions adopted in recent years. Moving forward, policymakers will need to evaluate which programs to sustain, reduce, or expand, often without clear data on program outcomes. The LAO emphasizes that these decisions will be complex and consequential, requiring sustained action to restore long-term fiscal balance.

### Senate Transportation Committee Hearing on High-Speed Rail

The Senate Transportation Committee held an oversight hearing on the High-Speed Rail Authority's (HSRA's) 2026 Draft Business Plan on Monday, reflecting continued legislative frustration with the project's cost, timeline, and scope changes, while also acknowledging efforts by the new leadership team to stabilize and move the project forward.

Two panels presented, including representatives from the HSRA, the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO), and the independent California High-Speed Rail Authority Inspector General. The hearing, chaired by Senator Dave Cortese (D-San Jose), included Senators Tony Strickland (R-Huntington Beach), Timothy Grayson (D-Walnut Creek), Catherine Blakespear (D-Carlsbad), Scott Weiner (D-San Francisco), Bob Archuleta (D-Norwalk), Laura Richardson (D-Inglewood) and Kelly Seyarto (R-Murrieta).

**High Speed Rail Authority Update.** CEO Ian Choudri, CFO Jamey Matalaka, and Chief of Staff Mark Tollefson outlined project updates, noting passenger service is now projected to begin in 2033 with a total estimated cost of \$120.6 billion. Choudri highlighted changes in commodity procurement practices expected to generate roughly \$14 billion in efficiencies and emphasized the Authority's strategy to complete the initial Merced-to-Bakersfield segment first, with future expansion to the Bay Area and Los Angeles. He also underscored the importance of the state's ongoing \$1 billion annual appropriation from the Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund (GGRF), describing it as critical, stable funding, and pointed to potential revenue opportunities including real estate development, energy generation, broadband, and logistics.

Legislators raised ongoing structural challenges, including permitting delays and utility relocation issues, which HSRA identified as major drivers of cost escalation and schedule uncertainty, sometimes requiring contractor demobilization. Oversight entities, including the LAO and Inspector General, also flagged concerns with the draft business plan, citing transparency gaps, incomplete funding assumptions, and deviations from statutory requirements.

In response, Matalaka emphasized a shift toward cost-saving strategies and new revenue opportunities, including direct procurement efficiencies and an increased focus on public-private partnerships and corridor-based economic development. HSRA also acknowledged that attracting private investment will depend on demonstrating a viable path beyond the Central Valley, including connections to major population centers like Los Angeles and the Bay Area, an issue particularly relevant for regions like Orange County that depend on full system connectivity to realize transportation and economic benefits.

Choudri identified utility relocation as one of the most significant challenges facing the project and suggested additional statutory authority over utilities could improve construction certainty. He also raised the possibility of leveraging private financing to advance segments connecting to Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Committee members also questioned the reduced level of double tracking in the current plan. Choudri explained that the Authority is building to meet projected demand rather than future capacity, noting the Merced-to-Bakersfield segment is expected to operate only six to eight trains per day, making full double tracking unnecessary at this stage.

Senator Richardson raised concerns about the loss of \$4.2 billion in federal funding. Choudri responded that current resources are sufficient to complete the initial segment, but the Authority will continue pursuing additional federal grants. Senator Wiener emphasized the need for a statewide rail system and called for permitting reform, noting that delays significantly contribute to rising costs. Choudri added that a one-year delay can account for as much as 79% of cost increases, reinforcing the need for streamlined approvals.

Station siting also drew scrutiny, with Senators Seyarto and Cortese questioning proposed locations outside of downtown areas. Choudri noted that, similar to systems in Europe and Japan, high-speed rail stations are often located slightly outside dense urban cores due to infrastructure constraints and emphasized that station locations remain subject to change as none are currently under contract.

**LAO and Inspector General Analysis.** The second panel, featuring LAO Principal Analyst Helen Kerstein and Inspector General Benjamin Belnap, raised significant concerns with the draft business plan. Both cited a lack of transparency, an inadequate and uncertain funding plan, and scope changes that may not align with statutory requirements. Kerstein also noted that the reliability of the \$1 billion annual GGRF funding is uncertain and dependent on future revenues.

Kerstein further highlighted that borrowing costs, estimated in prior analyses at roughly \$4 billion, are not accounted for in the draft plan, and when included, could leave the Merced-to-Bakersfield segment underfunded. She emphasized the need for a comprehensive funding plan upfront, pointing to ongoing cash flow challenges and a significant funding gap.

Additional concerns were raised regarding station placement and scope changes, particularly in Merced, where relocating the station away from downtown may reduce costs but was not clearly disclosed in the business plan. Senator Blakespear criticized the lack of transparency and expressed frustration with the Authority's approach.

Senators Strickland and Seyarto also expressed skepticism about the project's trajectory, raising concerns about spending levels, transparency, and feasibility. Belnap added that the Authority's reporting may be limiting the Legislature's ability to provide effective oversight and recommended clearer presentation of scope reduction options.

Overall, while the hearing highlighted measurable progress and a more defined strategy under new leadership, it reinforced ongoing concerns about funding, implementation, and long-term delivery. The discussion underscored that the ultimate value of high-speed rail will depend on the state's ability to secure financing, resolve implementation barriers, and deliver connections into Southern California that integrate with existing regional transportation systems.

## **Background**

- [04/27/26 Agenda \[PDF\]](#)
- [04/27/26 Background \[PDF\]](#)
- [04/27/26 California High-Speed Rail Authority Handout \[PDF\]](#)
- [04/27/26 LAO Handout -- High-Speed Rail Draft 2026 Business Plan \[PDF\]](#)
- [04/27/26 Office of the Inspector General CA High-Speed Rail Handout \[PDF\]](#)

## **Upcoming Hearings**

Agendas are typically posted on the committee websites in the [Assembly](#) and [Senate](#) a few days prior

to the hearings. To view hearings after they take place, you may access them in the [Assembly](#) or [Senate](#) media archives where they are generally available within a few hours of committee adjournment.

**Monday, May 04, 2026, 2:30 p.m.**

**Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Health**

State Capitol, Room 126

Behavioral Health

4440 Department of State Hospitals

4260 Department of Health Care Services

4560 Behavioral Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission

Overview of Budgets, Estimate Changes, Budget Change Proposals, and Trailer Bills

Oversight of The Children and Youth and Behavioral Health Initiative

Behavioral Health Community-Based organization Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment Initiative (Bh-Connect)

Proposition 1 (2024): Behavioral Health Transformation Implementation

**Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 1:30 p.m.**

**Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 5 on State Administration**

State Capitol, Room 447

April Letters / Open Issues

0890 Secretary of State

8620 Fair Political Practices Commission

1701 Department of Financial Protection and Innovation

0511 Secretary for Government Operations Agency

2240 Department of Housing and Community Development

2255 Interagency Council on Homelessness

8885 Commission on State Mandates

**Tuesday, May 05, 2026, 1:30 p.m.**

**Assembly Utilities and Energy**

1021 O Street, Room 1100

Oversight Hearing: Fueling Uncertainty: Assessing California's Petroleum Supply Resilience and Strategic Planning

**Wednesday, May 06, 2026, 9:30 a.m.**

**Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 4 on Climate Crisis, Resources, Energy, and Transportation**

State Capitol, Room 447

Informational Hearing: Home Hardening Oversight

**Thursday, May 07, 2026, 9:30 a.m. or upon adjournment of Session**

**Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 2 on Resources, Environmental Protection and Energy**

1021 O Street, Room 2200

3560 State Lands Commission

3600 Department of Fish and Wildlife

3720 California Coastal Commission

3790 Department of Parks and Recreation

3820 San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission

3860 Department of Water Resources

3885 Delta Stewardship Council

3930 Department of Pesticide Regulation

3940 State Water Resources Control Board

3960 Department of Toxic Substances Control  
3970 Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery  
All Departments - Open Issues

**Thursday, May 07, 2026, 9:30 a.m. or upon adjournment of Session**  
**Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 3 on Health and Human Services**

1021 O Street, Room 1200  
4300 Department of Developmental Services  
5180 Department of Social Services  
In-Home Supportive Services  
All Departments - Open Issues

**Thursday, May 07, 2026, 9:30 a.m. or upon adjournment of Session**  
**Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 4 on State Administration and General Government**

State Capitol, Room 113  
0890 Secretary of State  
0840 State Controller  
0950 State Treasurer  
8885 Commission on State Mandates  
8940 Military Department  
8955 Department of Veterans Affairs  
All Departments - Open Issues

**Thursday, May 07, 2026, 9:30 a.m. or upon adjournment of Session**  
**Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Subcommittee No. 5 on Corrections, Public Safety, Judiciary, Labor, and Transportation**

State Capitol, Room 112  
2665 High-Speed Rail Authority  
All Departments - Open Issues

## Grant Opportunities

Below is a list of the latest grant opportunities released by the state. All opportunities for local jurisdictions may be found [here](#).

Application deadline: 7/8/26 00:00

Title: [Farm and Ranch Solid Waste Cleanup and Abatement Grant Program FR91](#)

State Agency / Department: [Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery](#)

Match Funding? No

Estimated Total Funding: \$200K maximum per applicant each FY \$50K maximum per cleanup site

Funding Method: Reimbursement(s)

## Governor's Press Releases

Below is a list of the governor's press releases beginning April 22.

**April 29:** [First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom and statewide leaders convene to address perinatal mental health crisis](#)

**April 29:** [On Denim Day, Governor Newsom highlights actions to support sexual assault survivors](#)

**April 28:** [Governor Newsom announces appointments 4.28.2026](#)

- Jessica Crowley, of Los Angeles, has been reappointed to the California State Board of Pharmacy
- Satinder Sandhu, of Davis, has been reappointed to the California State Board of Pharmacy

- Dayle C. Armstrong, of San Dimas, has been reappointed to the Physical Therapy Board of California
- Devon Glazer, of Laguna Niguel, has been reappointed to the Podiatric Medical Board of California
- Roi David Lollar, of Bakersfield, has been reappointed to the California Board of Registered Nursing
- Patricia “Tricia” Wynne, of Aptos, has been reappointed to the California Board of Registered Nursing
- Nelly G. Nieblas, of Montebello, has been reappointed to the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians
- Rashima Sonson, of Oakland, has been reappointed to the Board of Vocational Nursing and Psychiatric Technicians

**April 28:** [Happy California Ocean Day to everyone except Donald Trump and his dirty oil enablers](#)

**April 28:** [California’s servicemembers seize \\$11.4 million in deadly fentanyl so far this year](#)

**April 28:** [California expands mobile driver’s license to Samsung Wallet, continuing DMV’s digital transformation](#)

**April 28:** [First Partner Jennifer Siebel Newsom highlights new program preparing CSU Northridge students for careers and entrepreneurship](#)

**April 28:** [La Primera Pareja Jennifer Siebel Newsom destaca nuevo programa que prepara a estudiantes de CSU Northridge para carreras profesionales y el emprendimiento](#)

**April 28:** [Governor Newsom celebrates National Apprenticeship Week, highlighting pathways connecting workers to good jobs](#)

**April 27:** [Governor Newsom proclaims National Apprenticeship Week](#)

**April 24:** [As Trump destroys the planet and green jobs, Governor Newsom announces California joins world’s largest environmental protection organization](#)

**April 24:** [What they’re saying: California leaders applaud Governor Newsom and First Partner Siebel Newsom’s State Parks Forward announcement](#)

**April 24:** [Governor Newsom proclaims Day of Remembrance of the Armenian Genocide](#)

**April 24:** [Governor Newsom reissues \\$50,000 rewards to crack cold cases, deliver justice for victims](#)

**April 24:** [Delta Conveyance Project achieves important milestone, advances closer to construction](#)

**April 23:** [Welcome to California, Bed, Bath & Beyond!](#)

**April 23:** [Governor, First Partner statement on the passing of Michael Tilson Thomas](#)

**April 23:** [Governor Newsom proclaims Workers’ Memorial Day](#)

**April 23:** [Governor Newsom announces 38 new film projects – from animated features to big budget productions and independents – coming to the Golden State](#)

### 3. Washington D.C. Legislative Report

*Prepared by Townsend Public Affairs*

#### LEGISLATIVE BRANCH ACTIVITY

#### Budget Reconciliation and FY26 Homeland Security Appropriations See Progress, Controversy Remains

On April 29, the House passed [S Con Res 33](#), finalizing a budget resolution providing for budget reconciliation to provide three years of regular appropriations for immigration enforcement agencies under the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). DHS has been partially shutdown after its regular funding for Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) [lapsed](#) on February 14 over Senate Democrats objections to continued funding for immigration enforcement following multiple incidents in Minnesota. The Administration has been [using](#) the \$140 billion in supplemental funding for immigration enforcement provided by [HR 1](#), the One Big Beautiful Bill Act (OBBBA), to pay all DHS employees temporarily, though will [exhaust](#) that ability on April 30. The budget resolution having passed the House and Senate, the standing policy committees will now begin drafting a reconciliation package with action anticipated in the Senate during the week of May 18.

Separately, though connected, the Senate returned to the House an amended version of [HR 7744](#), providing regular appropriations for all non-immigration enforcement components of DHS. HR 7744 also contains the final community projects funding requests, also known as earmarks, for FY26. Congressional Leaders are seeking to bifurcate DHS funding, with three years of immigration enforcement funding via the targeted reconciliation package, and regular appropriations bill HR 7744 for the non-immigration enforcement agencies under DHS.

Some House Republicans have been [denying](#) passage of the appropriations bill, pushing for additional progress on budget reconciliation before agreeing to bifurcate the funding despite the President's [approval](#) of the plan. Other Representatives and some Senators are [pushing](#) to expand the scope of Reconciliation 2.0 to include a larger set of Republican priorities included in their draft [framework](#). Leadership has committed to pursuing a third reconciliation package, Reconciliation 3.0, before the end of the year to enact these priorities, hoping to keep the immigration enforcement package narrow in scope. On April 30, House Speaker Mike Johnson made procedural moves to advance HR 7744, following passage of S Con Res 33.

[Budget reconciliation](#) is a special legislative vehicle allowing for rapid adjustments to federal revenues and expenditures. It allows the Senate to bypass the normal 60-vote threshold to end debate a pass a bill, but is limited to budgetary measures by the [Byrd Rule](#), which prohibits extraneous policy riders from being included in reconciliation packages.

The [process](#) begins with both the House and Senate passing identical budget resolutions, providing instructions for certain standing committees of the House and Senate to adjust policy to meet certain fiscal targets, called toplines. The Committees then work to draft a reconciliation package complying with the instructions, which can then bypass the filibuster in the Senate. Budget reconciliation differs from the appropriations process, as it can adjust program authorizations, revenues (taxes), and expenditures for a period of up to 10 years, while appropriations is limited to changes to spending in one fiscal year.

## [FY27 Appropriations Process Continues with the Release of Draft Bill for Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies](#)

On April 29, the House Appropriations Committee [released](#) draft text of their Fiscal Year 2027 (FY27) Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies (CJS) [bill](#) and a [list](#) of community project funding (CPF) requests, also known as earmarks, to be included in the draft legislation. The CJS subcommittee [markup](#) was also scheduled for April 30.

The \$77.3 billion package represents a slight, \$670 million, topline cut for the legislation compared to FY26, passed in January. Under the draft, the Department of Justice (DOJ) would see a \$1.6 billion increase to \$38.6 billion in funding. A significant portion of that increase would go toward drug interdiction as DOJ and Congress look to mitigate the import of narcotics. The DOJ section of the bill also provides \$30 million for DOJ's National Fraud Enforcement Division, which was [created](#) in early April and will seek to audit federal expenditures.

Other agencies under the bill received more significant cuts, including the Economic Development Administration, the National Institute of Standards and Technology and the International Trade Administration, which would all see at least quarter of their annual funding taken away if the bill was enacted.

While the House is likely to eventually pass a bill similar to this draft on a partisan basis, due to the 60-vote threshold to end debate in the Senate, the Senate is likely to produce a bill with a higher overall funding level and less significant cuts.

## [House Passes a Farm Bill, Unlikely to Have Sufficient Support in the Senate](#)

On April 30, the House passed [HR 7567](#), Farm, Food, and National Security Act of 2026, also known as the Farm Bill. The Farm Bill, last passed in its entirety in 2018 and having expired in 2023, sets policy for five years after passage on agricultural subsidies, nutrition assistance, crop insurance, and commodities financial market supports.

The draft bill represents the remainder of Farm Bill that was excluded from [HR 1](#), the One Big Beautiful Bill Act last year, covering the bulk of the policy with a comparatively small amount of funding. Notably, the bill would reauthorize the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), keeping the mandatory spending structure providing "such sums as are necessary."

The bill as written is less partisan than prior drafts that failed to induce action in the Senate. The House Agriculture Committee approved the bill on March 5 by a 34-17 vote, including a number of Democrats, who [expressed](#) optimism the Senate would produce a more bipartisan draft. Congress has until the end of the Fiscal Year on September 30 to either extend the current farm bill or pass a new one in order to avoid a lapse.

## [Orange County Delegation Press Releases](#)

- Sen. Alex Padilla – April 24, 2026: [ICYMI: The Hill Op-Ed — Padilla, Curtis: "We still aren't doing enough to prevent the next devastating wildfire" - Senator Alex Padilla](#)
- Sen. Alex Padilla – April 23, 2026: [Padilla Joins Klobuchar, Heinrich, Merkley, Colleagues in Raising Concerns About Forest Service Reorganization - Senator Alex Padilla](#)

- Sen. Alex Padilla – April 23, 2026: [Padilla Denounces Republicans Writing \\$140 Billion Blank Check to ICE and CBP as Americans Face Skyrocketing Costs - Senator Alex Padilla](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 28, 2026: [NEWS: Schiff, Thompson, Valadao Secure Federal Relief for Peach Farmers](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 28, 2026: [WATCH: Sen. Schiff Denounces Trump Administration's Incoherent Strategy for Ending Iran War](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 28, 2026: [NEWS: Sen. Schiff Joins Sen. Whitehouse in Introducing Bill to End Trump's Corrupt Exemptions for Toxic Industrial Polluters](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 28, 2026: [NEWS: Sens. Schiff, Rounds Introduce Bipartisan Legislation to Bolster Artificial Intelligence Literacy for Students](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 28, 2026: [NEWS: Schiff, Padilla, Brownley, and Garamendi Announce More than \\$22 Million for Infrastructure Upgrades at Port of Hueneme and Port of Richmond](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 24, 2026: [STATEMENT: Sen. Schiff Statement on Armenian Genocide Remembrance Day](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 23, 2026: [NEWS: Sen. Schiff, Colleagues Probe Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's Termination of Citibank's \\$25 Million Settlement for Discriminating Against Armenian Americans](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 23, 2026: [WATCH: Sen. Schiff Dismantles Latest Republican Budget for Not Addressing Our Nation's Affordability Crisis, Promising \\$140 Billion More for ICE and Border Patrol](#)
- Sen. Adam Schiff – April 23, 2026: [WATCH: Sen. Schiff Criticizes Trump DOJ for Pursuing Baseless Cases with "No Evidence" on MS NOW](#)
- Rep. Lou Correa – April 25, 2026: [CORREA RESPONDS TO WHCD SHOOTING | U.S. Congressman Lou Correa of California](#)
- Rep. Lou Correa – April 24, 2026: [CORREA APPLAUDS RECLASSIFICATION OF STATE-LICENSED MEDICAL MARIJUANA | U.S. Congressman Lou Correa of California](#)
- Rep. Lou Correa – April 23, 2026: [CORREA CRITICAL OF DHS FRAUD, WASTE, ABUSE AMID FUNDING DEBATE | U.S. Congressman Lou Correa of California](#)
- Rep. Young Kim – April 27, 2026: [Rep. Young Kim Leads Resolution Condemning Targeted Attack on President Donald J. Trump and His Administration, Calls Out Rising Political Violence - Congresswoman Young Kim](#)
- Rep. Young Kim – April 23, 2026: [Rep. Young Kim's Bill to Boost Geothermal Energy Passes U.S. House of Representatives - Congresswoman Young Kim](#)
- Rep. Linda Sanchez – April 23, 2026: [Sánchez debunks Trump's Medicare fraud lies | Congresswoman Linda Sanchez](#)
- Rep. Mike Levin – April 28, 2026: [Rep. Mike Levin Calls for Investigation into Hungarian Funds Funneled to CPAC | U.S. Congressman Mike Levin](#)

### Legislation Introduced by the Orange County Delegation

Bill Number	Bill Title	Introduction Date	Sponsor	Bill Description	Latest Major Action
H. Res. 1216	Resolution on White House Correspondence Dinner Violence	4/27/2026	Rep. Young Kim	Condemning the politically motivated attack on April 25, 2026, at the White House Correspondents' Association Dinner	Referred to the Committee on the Judiciary, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and

				and denouncing political violence.	Homeland Security, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned. Action Date: 4/27/2026
S. 4402		4/27/2026	Sen. Adam Schiff	A bill to require a report on the use of artificial intelligence with respect to access to unminimized information collected pursuant to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978, and for other purposes.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Action Date: 4/27/2026
S. 4417		4/28/2026	Sen. Alex Padilla	A bill to amend the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Mission Indians Water Rights Settlement Act to make technical corrections, and for other purposes.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs. (Sponsor introductory remarks on measure: CR S2083) Action Date: 4/28/2026
S. 4414		4/28/2026	Sen. Adam Schiff	A bill to improve educational efforts related to artificial intelligence literacy at the elementary school and secondary school level, and for other purposes.	Read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation. Action Date: 4/28/2026

If you or your staff have any questions or require additional information on any of the items in this bulletin, please contact Peter DeMarco at 714-834-5777.