

State Legislative Update



State Legislative Session Calendar

2024

Aug. 31: Adjournment of two-year 2023-24 legislative session (no carryover to '25)

Sep. 30: Last day for Governor to sign / veto bills

Nov. 5: Election Day

Dec. 2: Legislature reconvenes

2025

Jan. 1: New statutes go into effect

1st week of Jan: Legislators reconvene in Sacramento & 2025-26 Legislative session begins



2023-24 Session Stats

2024: 2,124 bills introduced

- ~1,200 passed by Legislature
- ~1,000 signed by Governor
- 183 vetoed by Governor – 16%

2023: 2,600+ bills introduced

- 1,046 passed Legislature
- 890 signed by Governor
- 156 vetoed by Governor – 15%

*Vetoes can be overridden with 2/3
vote in each House –
1979 last time that happened*





Key Bills

- SB 1255
 - AB 2182
 - AB 2257
 - SB 366
 - AB 2149
 - SB 867 (Prop. 4)
-

SB 1255 (Durazo)

Low-Income Rate Assistance Program

- Would require retail water suppliers with 3300+ connex to establish a low income rate assistance program by 4/1/27
- Program must provide 20% off qualifying customers' bills.
- Opt-out, not opt-in program
- Calleguas & **many** other WAs opposed
- On 8/15, died in Asm. Appropriations cmte
- Dead for year but issue will return

AB 2182 (Haney)

- **Summary:** Would allow for changes in prevailing wage during public works projects that use contractors
- Changes are allowed when Dept. of Industrial Relations adjusts prevailing wage - typically every 6 mos
- **Concerns:**
 - Unpredictability in budgeting for multi-year projects involving contractors
- **Status:** Vetoed by Governor
- **Positions:**
 - Oppose: Calleguas / CSDA / contractors
 - Support: Organized labor

Veto message

“While I am a steadfast supporter of prevailing wage law, the adjustments proposed by this measure would likely lead to uncertainty in the cost of public works projects, potentially creating significant cost pressures on the state budget.”

AB 2257 (Wilson)

- Would prevent “surprise lawsuits” during public agency rate setting procedures by requiring concerns to be raised during the established procedures for doing so, rather than waiting until the rates are adopted
- Sponsored by Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- Support: Calleguas, Camrosa WD, City of Camarillo, Las Virgenes MWD, MWD, CSDA, CMUA, CSAC others
- Status: Signed by Governor 9/25/24

SB 366 (Caballero)

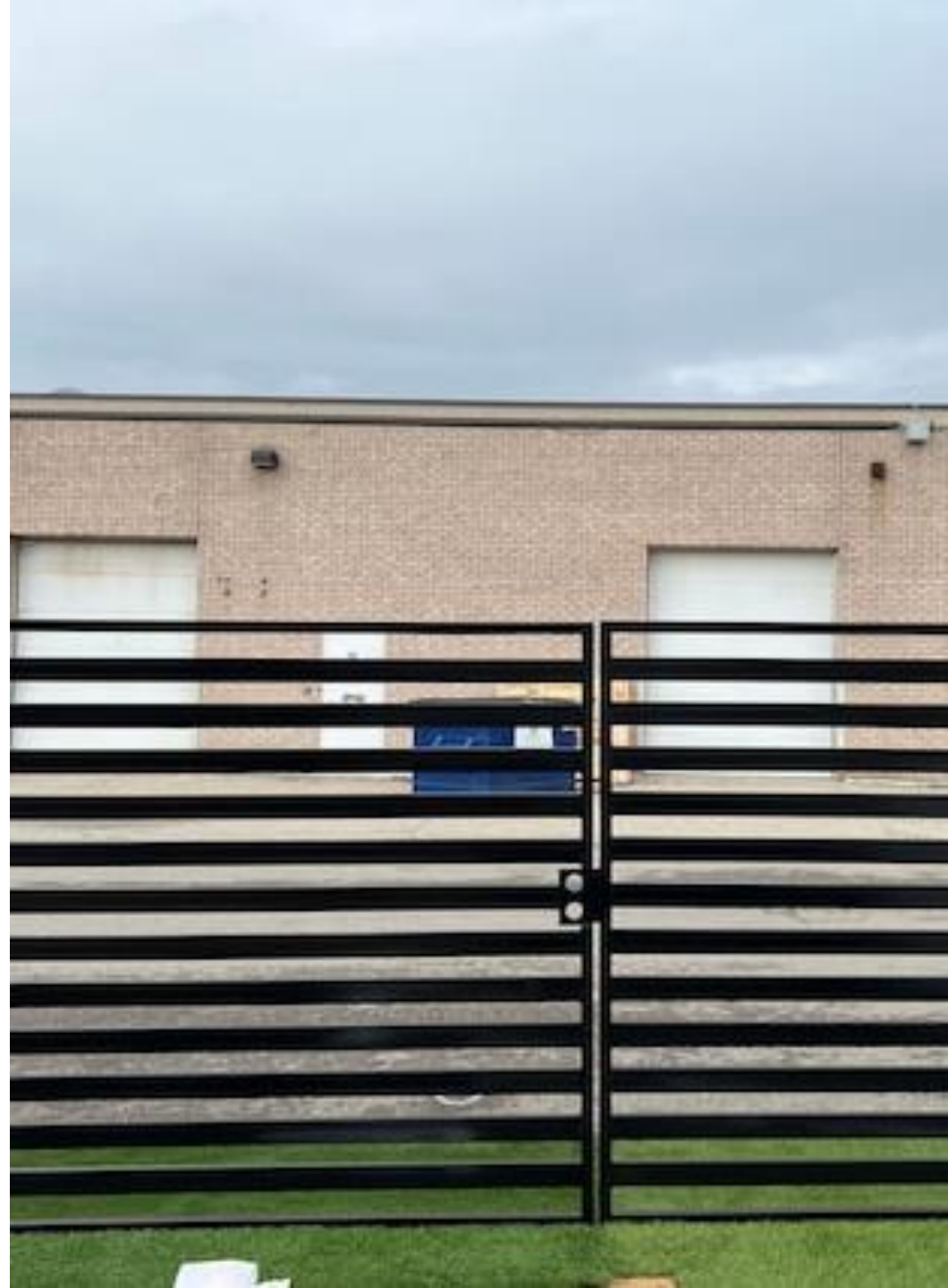


- Sets water supply targets for the state
- Among other provisions, requires DWR to identify 9 million acre-feet of additional supply by 2040 via multiple strategies:
 - Groundwater storage
 - Conservation
 - Stormwater capture
 - Recycled water
 - Graywater
- University of California research estimates loss of up to 9 MAF in state by 2050.
- **Status:** Vetoed by Governor 9/25/24

“While I appreciate the author's intent, this bill would create substantial ongoing costs for DWR, the State Water Resources Control Board, and other state agencies and departments to assist in the development of water supply planning targets. A revision to the Plan of this magnitude, that creates such significant costs, must be considered in the context of the annual budget.”

AB 2149 (Connolly)

- Summary:
 - Bill started as very wide-ranging mandate requiring inspection and repair of large public gates, stemming from tragedy involving a child killed by a gate at school
 - Would have required the owner of a regulated gate to have it inspected on or before July 1, 2026, or upon installation, and have it reinspected every 5 years.
 - Many public agencies very concerned; unclear which gates were subject to proposed requirements
 - Amended to apply only to regulated gates located in schools and parks
- Status: In August, died in Senate Appropriations committee
- Positions:
 - Oppose: ACWA, CSDA, CA State Assn. of Counties, etc.



SB 867 (Proposition 4) - Climate Resilience Bond

- Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparedness, and Clean Air Bond Act of 2024
- Placed on November ballot by Senate Bill 867 (Allen)
- \$10B bond
 - \$3.8B safe drinking water, drought, flood, and water resilience
 - \$1.85B “to protect & increase CA water supply & quality”
 - 40% of bond funds designated for disadvantaged communities
- At 10/16 meeting, Calleguas Board considered taking a position; chose not to do so

A Look Ahead – Calleguas Legislative Advocacy

- External Affairs is in final stages of hiring for a Management Analyst
 - Position will assist with advocacy efforts
 - Onboarding: December or January
- Calleguas Regional Legislative Group will reconvene later this year or early next
 - Focus will continue to be on bills of **regional** interest
- Calleguas Board will consider re-adoption of Legislative Policy Principles in December – these policy statements guide our advocacy
 - 2023 was first year of working under LPP guidance
 - Some lessons learned; some adjustments to be made



Thank You

