



Department Operations

AB 769 (Jones-Sawyer) State employee: disciplinary action: time limitation

This bill would reduce the time period under which a state agency could issue an adverse action against an employee from three years, to one year.

Vetoed by the Governor

AB 935 (Salas) Friant-Kern Pump-back Project

This bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require the Department of Water Resources to fund the Reverse-Flow Pump-back project on the Friant-Kern Canal to restore flows released in accordance with the San Joaquin River Settlement.

Chapter 601, Statutes of 2016

AB 1755 (Dodd) The Open and Transparent Water Data Act

This bill would enact the Open and Transparent Water Data Act and will require the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with other state entities, to create, operate and maintain an integrated data platform to provide specific water supply and quality data.

Chapter 506, Statutes of 2016

AB 1840 (Gipson) State agencies: interns and student assistants: hiring preference.

Existing law requires state agencies, when hiring for internships and student assistant positions, to give preference to persons who are, or have been, dependent children in foster care. This bill would require state agencies to also give preference to homeless youth and formerly incarcerated youth. This bill would require an application to allow the applicant to identify eligibility for these preferences without requiring the applicant to identify the specific category that entitles him or her for eligibility.

Chapter 404, Statutes of 2016

AB 2148 (Holden) Unmanned aircraft: operation over state lands

AB 2148 would prohibit the use of an unmanned aircraft over lands of the Department of Fish and Wildlife or the Department of Parks and Recreation without authorization by the departments. State agencies are exempted from this prohibition.

Vetoed by the Governor

SB 554 (Wolk) Delta levee maintenance: cost share

This bill would extend, until July 1, 2020, the sunset on the current state cost-share rate for the Delta Levee Subventions Program, which provides reimbursements of up to 75 percent of the costs in excess of \$1,000 per levee mile.

Vetoed by the Governor

SB 831 (Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review) Monterey County Interlake Tunnel

This bill appropriates \$10 million (General Fund) to the Department of Water Resources for a grant to support the Monterey County Interlake Tunnel Project.

Chapter 388, Statutes of 2016

SB 839 (Committee on Budget & Fiscal Review) Public Resources

The Public Resources Trailer Bill of the 2016-17 Budget Act grants the Department of Water Resources design-build authority for projects at the Salton Sea and the Department of Fish and Wildlife permit fee authority for the issuance of take permits.

Chapter 340, Statutes of 2016

SB 1085 (Roth) Certificate renewal: Geologists and Geophysicists

This bill would, as a condition of renewal, require a geologist or geophysicist to be administered an assessment by the Board for Professional Engineers, Land Surveyors, and Geologists to reinforce the license or certificate holders' knowledge of specific CA state laws.

Chapter 629, Statutes of 2016

SB 1165 (Cannella) Engineers, Geologists, Geophysicists, and Land Surveyors

This bill extends the delinquent license reinstatement timeframe of a professional engineer or land surveyors' license from three to five years after the expiration of the license.

Chapter 236, Statutes of 2016

Water Conservation / Water Supply

AB 2087 (Levine) Regional conservation investment strategies

This bill will authorize the Department of Fish and Wildlife to approve regional conservation investment strategies to identify and provide voluntary guidance for regional conservation, and to encourage investments in conservation through advanced mitigation.

Chapter 455, Statutes of 2016

AB 2594 (Gordon) Stormwater resources: use of captured water.

This bill would authorize a public entity that captures stormwater from urban areas, in accordance with a stormwater resource plan, before the water reaches a natural channel to use the captured water under certain circumstances.

Chapter 526, Statutes of 2016

AB 2515 (Weber) Water Conservation in Landscaping Act: model water-efficient landscape ordinance

The Department of Water Resources would be required to update the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance on or before January 1, 2020, and at least every three years thereafter, or determine that an update is not useful or effective.

Chapter 576, Statutes of 2016

AB 2551 (Gallagher) Contract procurement: surface storage projects

AB 2551 would allow surface storage projects identified in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Record of Decision, that receive Proposition 1 funding in support of the project, to use the design-build method of project delivery.

Chapter 760, Statutes of 2016

SB 7 (Wolk) Housing: water meters: multiunit structures.

This bill requires, as of January 1, 2018, that individual water meters, also called submeters, be installed on all new multifamily residential units or mixed commercial and multifamily units, and requires that landlords bill residents for the increment of water they use

Chapter 623, Statutes of 2016

SB 814 (Hill) Excessive water use: retail water suppliers

This bill requires all California urban retail water suppliers to develop a definition of excessive water use, and to discourage (through penalties or water rates) excessive water users during any Governor's declared state of emergency due to drought conditions.

Chapter 230, Statutes of 2016

SB 1340 (Wolk) Water Conservation in Landscaping Act

This bill would mandate a local agency to require a permit for any automatic irrigation system needed for large landscaping projects.

Vetoed by Governor

SB 1416 (Stone) Voluntary contributions: Revive the Salton Sea Fund

This bill creates the "Revive the Salton Sea Fund," which would allow individual tax payers to contribute towards the restoration and maintenance of the Salton Sea.

Chapter 219, Statutes of 2016

Groundwater Bills

AB 453 (Salas) Semitropic Water Storage District: fee authority

This bill would authorize the Semitropic Water Storage District to impose fees on groundwater extraction, and require the reporting of groundwater.

Chapter 439, Statutes of 2016

SB 37 (Vidak) Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency

This bill would create the Kings River East Groundwater Sustainability Agency and require Kings River to be a groundwater sustainability agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Chapter 391, Statutes of 2016

SB 564 (Cannella) North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Act

This bill would create the North Fork Kings Groundwater Sustainability Agency Act and require Kings River to be a groundwater sustainability agency under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Chapter 392, Statutes of 2016

SB 1262 (Pavley) Water supply planning: groundwater

This bill would require a local agency, prior to the approval of specific development projects, to include in the water supply availability assessment required by existing law, to include specific information about groundwater conditions in the basin.

Chapter 594, Statutes of 2016

Climate Change / Greenhouse Gas

AB 1550 (Gomez) Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund: disadvantaged communities

This bill requires an increase in the percentages of Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund dollars that would be required to be expended upon projects that benefit low-income households and communities. Specifically, it expands the use of money from the Fund to be used within or to benefit disadvantaged communities, and within or to benefit low-income households.

Chapter 369, Statutes of 2016

AB 2800 (Quirk) Climate Change: infrastructure planning

Would require the Natural Resources Agency to establish a working group, composed of experienced professional engineers and scientists from various entities, to examine and provide recommendations for integrating climate change impacts into state infrastructure.

Chapter 580, Statutes of 2016

SB 1386 (Wolk) Resource Conservation: working and natural lands

This bill would require all state agencies to consider the protection and management of natural and working lands in policies, regulations, expenditures or grant criteria.

Chapter 545, Statutes of 2016

SB 1425 (Pavley) Water-energy nexus registry.

This bill would require the California Environmental Protection Agency to oversee the development of a registry for greenhouse gas emissions resulting from the water-energy nexus using the best available data.

Chapter 596, Statutes of 2016

Miscellaneous Bills

AB 1716 (McCarty) Lower American River Conservancy Program.

This bill creates the Lower American River Conservancy Program within the Wildlife Conservation Board, to benefit the Lower American River and related lands by, among other things, providing grants to local public agencies and nonprofit organizations for projects benefiting the Lower American River. The bill would establish the Lower American River Conservancy Program Fund and a Donation Account within the Fund and would continuously appropriate the moneys in the account to the board for purposes of the program.

Chapter 375, Statutes of 2016

AB 1794 (Garcia) Central Basin Municipal Water District [see also SB 953]

This bill would revise the existing governance structure for the Central Basin Municipal Water District Board of Directors from five under existing law, to an eight member Board, including three appointed by the water purveyors.

Chapter 401, Statutes of 2016

AB 1842 (Levine) Water pollution: fines

This bill imposes a civil penalty of up to \$10 per pound or gallon of pollutant or designated discharge into state waters.

Chapter 349, Statutes of 2016

AB 1928 (Campos) Water Efficiency: Landscape Irrigation Equipment

This bill requires the California Energy Commission, with the Department of Water Resources, to establish water efficiency standards for landscape irrigation equipment.

Chapter 326, Statutes of 2016

AB 2446 (Gordon) State Water Resources Control Board: judicial review.

This bill expands the authority of Board to stay an order or decision issued under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the Board, allows judicial review of a decision by the Board with regard to a request for a stay, amends the law with regard to Board actions relating to a civil action brought pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Act in which a regional water board or the SWRCB seeks an injunction or restraining order, it shall not be necessary to allege or prove that irreparable harm will occur, and makes other technical changes.

Chapter 523, Statutes of 2016

AB 2480 (Bloom) Source Watersheds: financing

This bill would declare as state policy that source watersheds are integral components of California's water system, and as such the maintenance and repair of such watersheds should be eligible for the same financing as other, more traditional infrastructure projects.

Chapter 695, Statutes of 2016

AB 2561 (Irwin) Water supply planning: Photovoltaic and wind generation

This bill would extend by two years, a sunset on types of projects for which a local agency need not conduct a water supply assessment before approval for development.

Chapter 669, Statutes of 2016

SB 953 (Lara) Central Basin Municipal Water District [see also AB 1794]

This bill is a companion to AB 1794 and places specific requirements on activities of the Central Basin Municipal Water District's Board of Directors.

Chapter 426, Statutes of 2016

Failed Passage:

AB 2909 (Levine) Water transfer or exchange: expedited review

This bill would have required an expedited review process for short term water transfers that have been previously approved or are environmentally beneficial until January 2022.

Failed passage in Senate Appropriations Committee

SB 995 (Pavley) Well Standards: update

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources to, by January 2019, update well standards for water wells, monitoring wells, and cathodic protection wells based on existing knowledge and to submit these standards to the State Water Resources Control Board.

Failed Passage in Assembly Appropriations Committee

SB 1233 (McGuire) Joint powers authorities: Water Bill Savings Act

This bill would have extended the existing Marks Roos Local Bond Pooling Act authority, used by joint powers authorities to fund utility projects, to voluntary customer water efficiency projects. The Department of Water Resources would have been required to undertake several activities to guide eligible project types.

Failed passage in Assembly Appropriations Committee