



State and Federal Legislative Updates

Policy, Grants, and Technology Committee

September 16, 2026

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Abbreviations

- Assembly Bill (AB)
- Senate Bill (SB)
- Air Pollution Control District (APCD)
- Artificial Intelligence (AI)
- California Air Resources Board (CARB)
- California Department of Public Health (CDPH)
- California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)
- California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC)
- Community Emission Reduction Plan (CERP)
- Community Steering Committee (CSC)
- Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC)
- Environmental Impact Report (EIR)
- Fiscal Year (FY)
- Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC)
- Local Community Emission Reduction Plan (LCERP)
- Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA)



State Legislative Update

2026 Legislative Session Board-Adopted Position Bills As of September 2, 2026

Staff Note: Any bills that the Committee previously received a status update on for failing to meet various deadlines on or prior to the June 17, 2026, Committee meeting will not be reported on again.



Co-Sponsored Bill

SB 222 (Wiener)

Heat Pump Access Act

This bill would make cost-saving, energy efficient heat pump water heater and HVAC installations faster, simpler and more affordable by streamlining the permitting process.

Position: Co-Sponsor (Adopted by the Board on February 4, 2026)

Support Bills

AB 907 (Solache)

State Air Resources Board: Board Members: Compensation

The bill proposal would provide that CARB board members representing air districts receive the same level of compensation as other Governor-appointed voting CARB board members. Per current statute, Health and Safety Code Section 39512.5, air district CARB Board members only receive \$100 per meeting plus actual and necessary expenses.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on February 5, 2025)

Staff Note: **Held under submission in Senate Appropriations Committee**

AB 2313 (Berman)

Gas Corporations: Gas Distribution Service Line Replacements: Alternatives

Among other things, this bill, the Home Energy Choice Act, would require the CPUC, in a new or existing proceeding, to solicit proposals for, and require each gas corporation to offer, a Gas Distribution Service Line Replacement Alternatives Program, on or before January 1, 2028, to provide certain residential gas customers served by a gas distribution service line that will be replaced with a monetary incentive to deploy gas distribution service line replacement alternatives, as defined, and cease gas service to avoid the gas distribution service line replacement, as specified.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on April 1, 2026)

AB 2349 (Solache)

State Air Resources Board: Regional Air Quality Incident Response Program

This bill would establish a statewide network of Air Quality Incident Response Centers in collaboration with CARB and local air districts. The program would strengthen California's emergency air monitoring capacity and support coordinated state and local responses during wildfires, industrial accidents, and other air quality emergencies.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on May 6, 2026)

SB 299 (Cabaldon)

CEQA: Exemption: Day Care Center: Zoning

This bill establishes a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemption for day care centers located in residential areas, while excluding projects located within 3,200 feet of a facility that actively extracts or refines oil or natural gas and projects located on natural and protected lands, as defined.

This bill seeks to fix problems with SB 131 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2025) – a budget trailer bill from 2025 – which provided a CEQA exemption for day care centers proposed on a parcel of land zoned as industrial, which ultimately made it easier to zone day care centers in industrial areas rather than residential areas.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on April 1, 2026)

SB 899 (Grove)

Fire Prevention: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force: Wildfire Smoke

This bill would require the task force, on or before July 1, 2028, and in cooperation with OEHHA and CDPH, to assess the health costs and impacts of wildfire smoke using existing wildfire smoke and health data, as provided. The bill would require the task force, in developing this assessment, to, among other things, develop a model to determine the approximate health benefits of achieving the goals identified in the action plan and make recommendations on how the action plan can increase its health benefits.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on June 3, 2026)

Staff Note: **Held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee**

SB 954 (Blakespear)

CEQA : Advanced Manufacturing Facilities: Exemption

This bill amends SB 131 (Committee on Budget and Fiscal Review, Chapter 24, Statutes of 2025) – a budget trailer bill from 2025 – that provided broad CEQA exemptions for “advanced manufacturing facilities” which ended up including a long list of industrial activities.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on April 1, 2026)

SB 1159 (Cabaldon)

Artificial Intelligence: Transparency and Governance

This bill would specify that, for purposes of the California Public Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, the Ralph M. Brown Act, the Legislative Open Records Act, the Administrative Procedure Act, the California Coastal Act of 1976, and CEQA, “person,” “interested person,” “participant,” “member of the public,” as applicable, and any other similar terms under each act referring to those who may engage with governmental agencies, do not include artificial intelligence, as defined, systems, autonomous agents, or robots, whether physical or digital.

Position: Support (Adopted by the Board on May 6, 2026)

Oppose Bills

SB 1392 (Cortese and Grove)

Smog Check: Exemption: Collector Motor Vehicles

This bill would expand the definition of a collector motor vehicle to include a motor vehicle that is at least 35 model years old and complies with certain regulations that are required to be adopted by the Bureau of Automotive Repair, as specified. The bill would, beginning January 1, 2028, exempt specified collector motor vehicles manufactured before the 1981 model year from the requirement to obtain a certificate of compliance or noncompliance upon initial registration, biennially upon renewal of registration, or upon transfer of ownership.

Position: Oppose (Adopted by the Board on April 1, 2026)

Oppose Unless Amended Bills

AB 2635 (C. Rodriguez)

Air Pollution: Small Off-Road Engines: Voucher Programs: Local Regulation

This bill would require, to the extent that funding is appropriated by the Legislature, each large and medium air pollution control and air quality management district, no later than January 1, 2028, to implement and maintain a commercial voucher program to support the transition to zero-emission small off-road equipment consistent with specified requirements. By requiring districts to establish a new program, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. The bill would also require a small rural district or local government that chooses to adopt such a program to comply with specified requirements in administering the program.

Position: Oppose Unless Amended (Adopted by the Board on June 3, 2026)

SB 1075 (Reyes)

Air Resources: Toxic Air Contaminants: Criteria Air Pollutants: Community Emissions Reduction Programs: Local Community Emissions Reduction Plans

Among other things, the bill would expand California's community emissions reduction program by broadening the definition of "disadvantaged community," changing state review and enforcement requirements of local plans, and adding new reporting, coordination, and grant requirements. It would require local plans to be submitted to CARB for approval, keep steering committees active until all emission goals are met or disbanded by vote of the committee, and require annual legislative reports beginning June 30, 2027.

Position: Oppose Unless Amended (Adopted by the Board on May 6, 2026)

Staff Note: **Held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee**

Additional Bills of Interest for Discussion

AB 40 (Bonta)

CEQA: Environmental Impact Reports: Coal Handling, Storage, and Export

This bill would require that new projects for the handling, storage, or export of more than 5 million tons per year of coal be reviewed in an environmental impact report (EIR) under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and that certain conditions, including changing the type of coal or increasing the quantity of coal handled, stored, or exported, triggers a subsequent EIR, among other provisions.

SB 675 (Padilla)

Imperial County APCD: Members and Duties

Among other things, this bill would restructure the governing board of the Imperial County APCD from the five-member county board of supervisors to an 11-member board, effective July 1, 2027 (breakdown below), and imposes several new reporting and planning duties on the district.

- One member representing the board of supervisors
- One city council member from each of the five supervisorial districts
- A representative from an irrigation district
- Four public members representing each of the following: physician or public health professional, environmental justice interests, labor, and commercial agricultural commodity production

SB 811 (Caballero)

Hazardous Materials: Metal Shredding Facilities

This bill would require the owner or operator of a metal shredding facility to obtain a permit from the Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). Prohibits a metal shredding facility from operating in the state without a permit. Includes within the permit: requirements for managing various wastes within and leaving the facility, measures to prevent fires, and measures to reduce impacts to communities near the facility. Provides that local and state regulators retain enforcement authority with respect to metal shredding facilities, as that authority exists under current law.

SB 1187 (Durazo)

Open Meetings

Existing law, beginning July 1, 2026, requires eligible legislative bodies, as defined, to have in place a system for electronically accepting and fulfilling requests for meeting agendas and documents. Existing law additionally requires these legislative bodies to translate the agenda for each meeting of that body and to reasonably assist members of the public who wish to translate a public meeting or receive interpretation, as specified. This bill would instead delete the above-described requirements on eligible legislative bodies.

Data Center Bills

- AB 1577 (Bauer Kahan) - Data Centers: Reporting
- AB 2383 (Zbur) - Electricity: Data Centers
- AB 2469 (Papan) - Data Centers: Water Use Disclosures
- AB 2619 (Papan) - Water Resources: Data centers
- SB 886 (Padilla) - California Technology Innovation and Ratepayer Protection Act
- SB 887 (Padilla) - CEQA: Environmental Leadership Development Projects: Data Centers: Geothermal Powerplant Projects
- SB 1168 (McNerney) - Data Centers: Rate Structures



State Legislative Update

State Budget Update
FY 2026-27



State Budget Update

Air District staff will provide the Committee with a verbal update on the state budget and the status of funding as it pertains to the Air District.

Staff Note – As suggested at previous meetings, the Legislature did indeed pass additional budget amendments in the form of budget bill juniors and budget trailer bills after the budget was adopted on June 29, 2026.

Federal Legislative Updates

California Clean Air Act
Waivers and Recent Events
of Significance on the
Federal Level



California Clean Air Act Waivers

Air District Staff will provide a summary and status of six additional California Clean Air Act Waivers that the United States Environmental Protection Agency has transmitted to Congress under the Congressional Review Act.

- Motor Vehicle Evaporative Emissions and Greenhouse Gas (“Advanced Clean Cars I” (ACC I))
- Reinstatement of ACC I
- Small Offroad Engine (SORE) Amendments
- Greenhouse Gas Emission Standards – 2009 and Subsequent Model Years
- Ocean-Going Vessels At Berth (“CARB at Berth”)
- Commercial Harbor Craft Amendments

Questions & Discussion

For more information:

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