7-2. INFORMATION
Lobby Updates

California Vanpool Authority

AGENDA ITEM 7-2.
March 13, 2025
Presented by: Brandon Wong, Senior Associate | Environmental & Energy Consulting
Presented by: Kai Cooper, Associate | Environmental & Energy Consulting

SUBJECT:

INFORMATION: Environmental & Energy Consulting Lobbyist Update

INFORMATION:

Environmental & Energy Consulting to provide a comprehensive update.

RECOMMENDED ACTION & FISCAL IMPACT:

This is an information item.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Exhibit A. Environmental & Energy Consulting Lobbyist Update
2. Exhibit B. CalVans Bill Report

AGENDA ITEM 7-2. EXHIBIT A

March 13, 2025

California Vanpool Authority Board of Directors
Environmental & Energy Consulting Lobbyist Update

Legislative & Regulatory Updates

- The bill introduction deadline was February 21st. A total of 2,546 bills have been introduced this session. With 1,614 in the Assembly and 932 in the Senate. For comparison, a total of 3,030 bills were introduced in the first year of 2023-24 session. There is also a new bill limit cap.
- Throughout the next two weeks, bills will be referred to policy committees this week and hearings will begin shortly after. All spot bills must be amended by March 17th.
- Flagging several new appointments to the CARB Board:
    - Lynda Hopkins (Sonoma) is replacing Davina Hurt, representing BAAQMD.
    - Dawn Ortiz-Legg (SLO) is replacing V. Manuel Perez, representing Air Districts.
    - Todd Gloria (San Diego) is replacing Nora Vargas, representing San Diego APCD.
    - Asm Dr. Corey Jackson is replacing Asm. Eduardo Garcia, who is the Assembly *ex officio* appointee.
    - Gideon Kracov, the current representative for the South Coast AQMD, has stepped down for personal reasons. It is not clear who will replace him.
- The Board terms have expired for Dean Florez and Hector De La Torre, who are both legislative appointees.
- Updates on two bills that EEC is tracking that seek to amend the state's open meetings law, the Ralph M. Brown Act. Attached is a more detailed bill report, with twelve measures that EEC is monitoring.
    - AB 259 (Rubio, Blanca-D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.
        - Status: Referred to Assembly Local Government Committee
        - This bill would make permanent the current rules for local agency teleconferencing, which are set to expire on January 1, 2026. This includes the allowance for teleconferencing when at least a quorum of members is physically present in one location, and the limitation of no more than two remote meetings for a member of a body that meets once a month or less.
    - SB 239 (Arreguín-D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

    - Status: Referred to Assembly Local Government Committee and Assembly Judiciary Committee
    - This bill would authorize advisory subsidiary bodies of a public agency to meet by teleconference, and prescribes the rules and procedures for those meetings.

Budget Update

- The legislature approved a $2.5 billion aid package for Los Angeles fires.
- Also approved was the Governor's special funding session funding request including $25 million for federal litigation, including waivers, and $25 million for immigration services.
- The legislative budget committees and the Legislative Analyst's Office are currently reviewing the Governor's proposal, scheduling hearings on the proposed spending plan. May 15th is the due date for the Governor's May Revision version of the budget.

CalVans Bill Report

Tuesday, 03/11/2025

Sorted by: Measure

AB 259 | **Rubio, Blanca (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.

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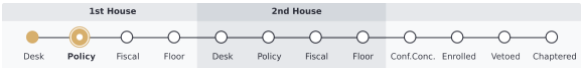

Bill information

Status: 02/10/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary: Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Existing law requires a member to satisfy specified requirements to participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including that specified circumstances apply. Existing law establishes limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including prohibiting such participation for more than 2 meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. This bill would remove the January 1, 2026, date from those provisions, thereby extending the alternative teleconferencing procedures indefinitely. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/16/2025 text)

Location: 02/10/2025 - Assembly L. GOV.

AB 370 | **Carrillo (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

California Public Records Act: cyberattacks.

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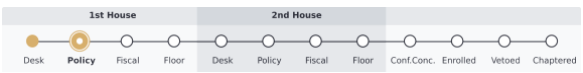

Bill information

Status: 02/18/2025 - Referred to Com. on JUD.

Summary: The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, except as specified. Existing law requires each agency, within 10 days of a request for a copy of records, to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person of the determination and the reasons therefor. Existing law authorizes that time limit to be extended by no more than 14 days under unusual circumstances, and defines “unusual circumstances” to include, among other things, the need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine records during a state of

emergency when the state of emergency currently affects the agency's ability to timely respond to requests due to staffing shortages or closure of facilities, as provided. This bill would revise the definition of unusual circumstances as it applies to a state of emergency to require the state of emergency, in addition to currently affecting the agency's ability to timely respond to requests as described above, to also require the state of emergency to directly affect the agency's ability to timely respond to requests as described above. By restricting the time period in which a local agency may respond to requests, thus increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. This bill would also expand the definition of unusual circumstances to include the inability of the agency, because of a cyberattack, to access its electronic servers or systems in order to search for and obtain a record maintained on the servers or systems in an electronic format that may be responsive to a request. Under the bill, the extension would apply only until the agency regains its ability to access its electronic servers or systems and search for and obtain electronic records that may be responsive to a request. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/03/2025 text)

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly JUD.

AB 467 | **Fong (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Open meetings: teleconferences: neighborhood councils.

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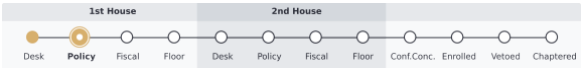

Bill information

Status: 02/18/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

Summary: Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would extend the authorization for specified neighborhood city councils to use the alternate teleconferencing provisions described above until January 1, 2031. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/06/2025 text)

Location: 02/18/2025 - Assembly L. GOV.

AB 1341 | **Hoover (R)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

California Public Records Act: record withholding.

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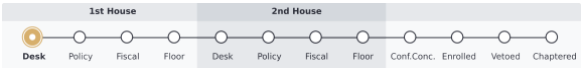

Bill information

Status: 02/24/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: Existing law, the California Public Records Act, requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, unless an exemption from disclosure applies. The act requires an agency to justify withholding any record by demonstrating that the record in question is exempt under express provisions of the act, or that on the facts of the particular case the public interest served by not disclosing the record clearly outweighs the public interest served by disclosure of the record. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to the provision requiring justification for withholding any record. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Location: 02/21/2025 - Assembly PRINT

AB 1362 | **Kalra (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Foreign labor contractor registration: agricultural workers.

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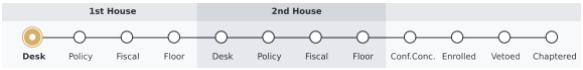

Bill information

Status: 02/24/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: Existing law requires the Labor Commissioner to enforce and administer a program to register and supervise foreign labor contractors who perform foreign labor contracting activities to recruit or solicit foreign workers. Existing law requires foreign labor contractors to register under the program, as prescribed, and imposes specific requirements relating to recruitment or solicitation for employment and relating to work contracts. Existing law authorizes the commissioner to adopt regulations or policies and procedures to implement these provisions. A violation of these provisions is a crime. Existing law makes these provisions applicable only to nonagricultural workers, and exempts persons licensed as farm labor contractors, specified persons exempt from farm labor contractor licensing requirements, and employers of agricultural workers. This bill would delete those limitations. The bill would make related findings and declarations. By expanding the application of the foreign labor contractor registration provisions, the bill would expand an existing crime, thereby imposing a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Location: 02/21/2025 - Assembly PRINT

AB 1480 | **Valencia (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Local agencies: legislative bodies.

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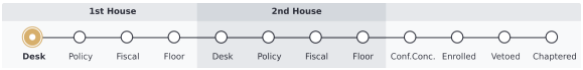

Bill information

Status: 02/24/2025 - Read first time.

Summary: Existing law defines the term “legislative body” for purposes of laws relating to cities, counties, and other local agencies. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to that definition. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Location:	02/21/2025 - Assembly PRINT

AB 1491 | **Ta (R)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Transportation: road safety.

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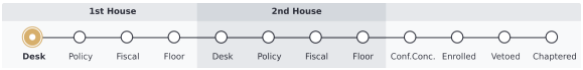

Bill information

Status:	02/24/2025 - Read first time.
Summary:	Existing law requires the Department of Transportation to improve and maintain the state's highways, and establishes various programs to fund the development, construction, and repair of local roads, bridges, and other critical transportation infrastructure in the state. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact subsequent legislation to improve safety on the roads in the state. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)
Location:	02/21/2025 - Assembly PRINT

SB 239 | **Arreguín (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.

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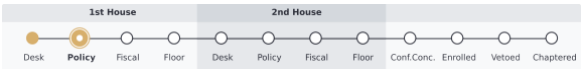

Bill information

Status:	02/14/2025 - Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD.
Summary:	Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at the primary physical meeting location. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, as specified. The bill would also require the subsidiary body to list a member of the subsidiary body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location in the minutes of the meeting. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/30/2025 text)

Location:	02/14/2025 - Senate L. GOV.

SB 470 | Laird (D) | HTML | PDF

Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

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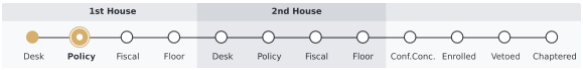

Bill information

Status: 02/26/2025 - Referred to Coms. on G.O. and JUD.

Summary: Existing law, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a state body be open and public and all persons be permitted to attend any meeting of a state body. The act authorizes meetings through teleconference subject to specified requirements, including, among others, that the state body post agendas at all teleconference locations, that each teleconference location be identified in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, that the agenda provide an opportunity for members of the public to address the state body directly at each teleconference location, and that at least one member of the state body be physically present at the location specified in the notice of the meeting. The act authorizes an additional, alternative set of provisions under which a state body may hold a meeting by teleconference subject to specified requirements, including, among others, that at least one member of the state body is physically present at each teleconference location, as defined, that a majority of the members of the state body are physically present at the same teleconference location, except as specified, and that members of the state body visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, except as specified. The act authorizes, under specified circumstances, a member of the state body to participate pursuant to these provisions from a remote location, which would not be required to be accessible to the public and which the act prohibits the notice and agenda from disclosing. The act repeals these provisions on January 1, 2026. This bill would delete the January 1, 2026 repeal date, thereby authorizing the above-described additional, alternative set of teleconferencing provisions indefinitely. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Location:	02/26/2025 - Senate G.O.

SB 474 | Niello (R) | HTML | PDF

State Air Resources Board: regulatory authority: revocation.

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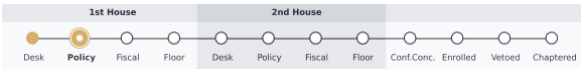

Bill information

Status: 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on E.Q.

Summary: Existing law designates the State Air Resources Board as the state agency charged with monitoring and regulating sources of emissions of greenhouse gases that cause global warming in order to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases, and confers the state board various regulatory authorities, including the authority to achieve the maximum technologically feasible and cost-effective greenhouse gas emission reductions, as specified. This bill would revoke all authority of the state board to adopt, revise, or repeal regulations and would declare that any law granting authority to or requiring the state board to adopt, revise, or repeal regulations, or take an action that requires exercising regulatory authority, instead be read as only authorizing the state

board to provide advice and propose measures to the Legislature for statutory enactment. The bill would require the state board to, as necessary, provide advice and propose measures to the Legislature for statutory enactment regarding its duties, as provided. The bill would declare that it does not invalidate or repeal any regulation adopted by the state board before January 1, 2026. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Location: 02/26/2025 - Senate E.Q.

SB 506 | **Committee on Transportation ()** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Transportation: omnibus bill.

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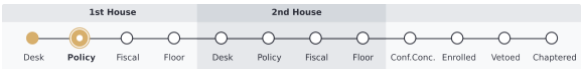

Bill information

Status: 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on TRANS.

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of the California Highway Patrol to adopt reasonable rules and regulations which, in the judgment of the department, are designed to promote the safe operation of specified vehicles, including among other vehicles, schoolbuses and commercial motor vehicles.This bill would make technical, nonsubstantive changes to these provisions. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

Location: 02/26/2025 - Senate TRANS.

SB 707 | **Durazo (D)** | **HTML** | **PDF**

Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.

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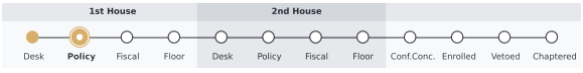

Bill information

Status: 02/24/2025 - From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 24. Read first time.

Summary: Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. This bill would, until January 1, 2030, require a city council or a county board of supervisors to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic option or a two-way audiovisual platform, as defined, that a system is in place for requesting and receiving interpretation services for public meetings, as specified, and that good faith efforts are made to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified. By imposing additional meeting requirements on city councils and county boards of supervisors, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

Location: 02/21/2025 - Senate RLS.

Total Measures: 12
Total Tracking Forms: 12

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