

News from Sacramento – April 11, 2025

From Geoff Neill and Michelle Rubalcava, Nielsen Merksamer

Bills, Bills, Bills

The Legislature is on spring recess, returning April 21 for a wild three weeks of policy committee hearings. Many bills listed below of possible interest. Please also review bills featured on previous Fridays.

Government Operations

[AB 1337 \(Ward\)](#) would impose enormous new requirements on local agencies in how they handle personal information by including them in the state's Information Practices Act. Among other things, the bill would prohibit sharing anyone's name, address, photo, or any other information about them without their explicit permission, including pursuant to a search warrant or when required to investigate unlawful activity. The implications of this policy are far-reaching and local agencies should review it with their departments and counsel. If you would like to considering opposing AB 1337 or if you want more information, please let us know.

[AB 1331 \(Elhawary\)](#) has been expanded to include public employers. It would prohibit use of workplace surveillance tools in many instances, using a very broad definition of the term that could interfere with commonplace tools like security cameras and access cards.

[AB 1383 \(McKinnor\)](#) will be amended soon to unwind important parts of PEPR, including reducing the public safety retirement age and making the normal cost bargainable, instead of split evenly between employers and employees.

[SB 496 \(Hurtado\)](#) would expand the "emergency vehicle" exemption from the Advanced Clean Fleets requirements and create an appeal process review denied requests for exemptions. ([Sample support letter](#))

[SB 707 \(Durazo\)](#) would add several requirements to Brown Act meetings, redefine "legislative body", and expand the definition of what constitutes a meeting. Substantial amendments add several new requirements.

[AB 868 \(Carrillo\)](#) would, for non-charter counties, would ensure county elections would appear on the November ballot by either placing the top two vote-getters in the primary on the general election ballot or, if only two candidates file, holding the election between them on the November ballot.

[AB 1108 \(Hart\)](#) would prohibit a sheriff-coroner from conducting the autopsy or determining the cause of death in cases of any in-custody death.

[SB 485 \(Reyes\)](#) would prohibit a board of supervisors from removing an appointed public defender during their term only for neglect of duty, malfeasance or misconduct in office, or other good cause.

Homelessness, Housing, and Development

AB 98 cleanup: [AB 735 \(Carrillo\)](#) and [SB 415 \(Reyes\)](#). If you have specific concerns related to AB 98 and would like to discuss them, please reach out.

[AB 650 \(Papan\)](#) would allow local agencies to start their housing element updates six months earlier and reduce ambiguity in the housing element review process. ([Sample support letter](#))

[AB 1007 \(Rubio\)](#) would reduce the shot clock for approving residential development projects from 90 days to 45 days.

[AB 1153 \(Bonta\)](#) would authorize grants to abate illegal disposal sites, disposing of RVs, and other illegal dumping activities. The bill is accompanied by a budget request of \$15 million over five years.

[AB 1294 \(Haney\)](#) would require HCD to adopt a standardized application form for housing entitlements and require local agencies to accept them without adding any other forms.

[SB 315 \(Grayson\)](#) would impose new limits on Quimby fees.