

HF&H Spring 2026 Legislative Update



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Description of 2025-2026 Bills

SOLID WASTE, RECYCLING, AND SUSTAINABILITY

2025 Bills Signed into Law

Signed into Law

Bill	Description	Status
RECYCLING		
AB 476 Mark González Metal theft.	This bill would require junk dealers and recyclers to include additional information in the written record, including the time and amount paid for each sale or purchase of junk made, and the name of the employee handling the transaction. The bill would revise the type of information required to be included in the description of the item or items of junk purchased or sold, as specified. The bill would require ownership or the name of the person from whom the seller obtained the junk from to be signed, and would expand the list of materials and items to include, among other things, items reasonably recognizable as street lights and related equipment, and would increase the maximum amount of the criminal fine to \$5,000.	Chaptered by Secretary of State – Chapter 694, Statutes of 2025. (10/13/25)
AB 978 Hoover Department of Transportation and local agencies: streets and highways: recycled materials.	This bill would revise and indefinitely require a local agency's standard specifications to allow recycled materials in street and highway projects at a level no less than the level allowed in the Department of Transportation's 2018 specifications for specified materials. This bill would also require a local agency to respond to requests determining that such use is not feasible. This bill would eliminate the existing provision requiring the use of cost-effective advanced technologies and material recycling techniques that reduce the cost of maintaining and rehabilitating streets and highways and that exhibit reduced levels of greenhouse gas emissions through material choice and construction method.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 443, Statutes of 2025. (10/7/25)



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Bill	Description	Status
ORGANIC WASTE AND FOOD RECOVERY		
AB 1046 Bains Short-lived climate pollutants: recovered organic waste product: agricultural crop preparation service.	This bill would exempt from SB 1383 edible food recovery requirements an agricultural crop preparation service, as defined, that demonstrates to the department that it has not disposed of organic waste in a landfill on or after January 1, 2016.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 719, Statutes of 2025. (10/13/25)
AB 411 Papan Livestock carcasses: disposal: composting.	CalRecycle has adopted a regulation that prohibits the composting of unprocessed mammalian tissue except when received from certain sources. This bill would authorize any part of a livestock carcass resulting from a routine livestock mortality event or on-farm processing to be composted if certain requirements are met, including, among others, that the composting is conducted in accordance with best management practices for livestock composting adopted by the Secretary of Food and Agriculture, as specified.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 613, Statutes of 2025. (10/11/25)
AB 70 Aguiar-Curry Solid waste: organic waste: diversion: biomethane.	This bill would require the department, no later than January 1, 2027, to amend regulations related to a local jurisdiction's recovered organic waste product procurement requirements to include, as a recovered organic waste product attributable to a local jurisdiction's procurement target, pipeline biomethane converted exclusively from organic waste, as specified. This bill would define pyrolysis as the thermal decomposition of material at elevated temperatures in the absence or near absence of oxygen. This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 42652.5 of the Public Resources Code proposed by AB 786 to be operative only if this bill and AB 786 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 678, Statutes of 2025. (10/13/25)



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Signed into Law

Bill	Description	Status
<p>SB 279 McNerney</p> <p>Solid waste: compostable materials.</p>	<p>Existing regulations include four tiers for composting operations: excluded, enforcement agency notification, registration permit, and full solid waste permit. The excluded tier includes "excluded activities" that are not subject to permit or regulatory requirements related to composting operations, including, among others, the composting of specified materials where the total amount of feedstock and compost onsite does not exceed 100 cubic yards and 750 square feet. This bill would expand this excluded activity exemption for composting activities by eliminating the maximum square-foot condition and authorizing a total amount of feedstock and compost onsite at any one time of up to 200 cubic yards, or 500 cubic yards for a composting activity owned by a public agency, as defined.</p> <p>Existing regulations limit excluded and certain agricultural composting operations to give away or sell more than 1,000 cubic yards of compost annually. This bill would raise that amount to 5,000 cubic yards and authorize CalRecycle to further increase that amount when the composting is of agricultural materials and residues that are from a large-scale biomass management event at an agricultural facility.</p>	<p>Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 651, Statutes of 2025. (10/11/25)</p>
BEVERAGE CONTAINERS		
<p>AB 899 Ransom</p> <p>Beverage containers: recycled glass: market development.</p>	<p>This bill would authorize the department to set the market development payment at different levels but would prohibit that payment from exceeding \$150 per ton. The bill would, on and after January 1, 2028, and until January 1, 2030, authorize the department to expend \$20,000,000 annually from the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature, for glass market development payments.</p>	<p>Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 627, Statutes of 2025. (10/11/25)</p>



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Signed into Law

Bill	Description	Status
PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP AND EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY		
AB 1478 Hoover Used Mattress Recovery and Recycling Act: mattress recycling charge: consumer education.	This bill would authorize the distributor, retailer, or seller to pay the applicable charge to the mattress recycling organization on behalf of the consumer or ultimate end user if the distributor, retailer, or seller enters into a written agreement with a mattress recycling organization to pay the charge directly to the mattress recycling organization, as provided. The bill would make a distributor, retailer, or seller responsible for educating the consumer or the ultimate end user of the mattress in the state on the recycling of used mattresses and options available to consumers for the free dropoff or collection of used mattresses.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 70, Statutes of 2025. (07/28/25)
AB 60 Papan Cosmetic safety.	This bill, the Musk Reduction Act, would expand prohibitions on the manufacturing or selling of certain cosmetic products by adding musk ambrette, musk tibetene, musk moskene, and musk xylene to the list of banned ingredients. The bill would also, beginning January 1, 2027, prohibit the use of musk ketone in cosmetic products in excess of specified amounts, including 1.4% in fine fragrance products, and oral products, as defined. This bill would incorporate additional changes to Section 108980 of the Health and Safety Code proposed by Senate Bill 39 to be operative only if this bill and Senate Bill 39 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.	Chaptered by Secretary of State - Chapter 432, Statutes of 2025. (10/7/25)



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Newly Introduced 2026 Bills

2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
SOLID WASTE		
AB 2334 Bennett Solid waste: methane reduction: working group.	To address the issue of landfills catching fire and smoldering for years and the rapid depletion of landfill capacity, this bill would require the Director of Resources Recycling and Recovery to establish a working group to study the need for and value of alternative methods of methane reduction in the event SB 54 and SB 1383 are implemented as planned. The bill would require the working group to submit its findings and recommendations to the director on or before January 1, 2029.	Referred to Com. on NAT. RES. (03/09/26)
AB 2559 Ward Solid waste: construction debris: diversion: deposits.	This bill would require a city or county that requires a refundable deposit, performance security, or similar financial guarantee for the purpose of ensuring compliance with a construction or demolition debris requirement to return the full deposit if compliance documentation is provided.	Referred to Com. on NAT. RES. (03/09/26)
SB 1371 Durazo Solid waste handling services: labor dispute.	This bill would prohibit any franchise contracts, licenses, or permits for solid waste handling services entered into or substantially amended by a local agency on or after January 1, 2027, from including a force majeure provision that excuses or suspends the service provider's obligation to perform under the agreement in the event of a work stoppage arising out of or in connection with a labor dispute, and make existing provisions void and unenforceable, regardless of the date on which the contract, license, or permit was entered into.	Referred to Com. on L. GOV. (03/04/26)



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2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
RECYCLING		
AB 2226 B. Rubio Reusable grocery bags.	Existing law prohibits a store, as defined, from providing a precheckout bag, as defined, to a customer unless the precheckout bag is a compostable bag that meets certain criteria or a recycled paper bag. Existing law defines a “precheckout bag” for this purpose to mean a bag provided to a customer before the customer reaches the point of sale, which is designed to protect a purchased item from damaging or contaminating other purchased items in a checkout bag, or to contain an unwrapped food item. This bill would repeal those provisions.	Referred to Com. on NAT. RES. (03/09/26)
AB 2253 Boerner Solid waste: products: environmental marketing claims.	Existing law requires a manufacturer or supplier making an environmental marketing claim relating to the recycled content of a plastic food container product to maintain specified information and documentation in written form in its records in support of that claim. This bill would expand those provisions from plastic food container products to all products. The bill would additionally require the recycled content claim to be based on the actual physical recycled content used in the production of the product without the use of certain types of accounting.	Referred to Com. on APPR. (04/09/26)
ORGANIC WASTE AND FOOD RECOVERY		
AB 1618 Rogers Food Insecurity.	This bill would require the State Department of Social Services to annually conduct a statewide survey to assess food insecurity in the state. The bill would require the department, on or before October 1, 2028, and annually thereafter, to make the results of the statewide food insecurity survey publicly available on its internet website. The bill would authorize the department to collaborate or contract with a public research institution or other external vendor to implement these provisions and prohibit the department from conducting a statewide food insecurity survey during a year in which a federal food security survey is conducted.	Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (03/16/26)
AB 1734 Stefani Count Hunger Act.	The bill would require UCLA, in collaboration with the department, to publish any available statewide-, regional-, and county-level data, as feasible, that are linked to the food insecurity portion, as specified.	Re-referred to Com. on HIGHER ED. (03/18/26)



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2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
AB 2112 Bains Greenhouse gases: soil carbon sequestration.	This bill would develop a strategy to link waste diversion goals with soil health practices on natural and working lands and include incentives to increase climate-friendly on-farm compost production and use, such as compost application on grasslands and priority rangeland for improved vegetation and carbon storage.	Referred to Com. on NAT. RES. (04/14/26)
BEVERAGE CONTAINERS		
AB 1780 M. Rodriguez Beverage containers: redemption payments: exemption.	This bill would exempt a distributor from making redemption payments to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery for filled beverage containers that the distributor donates to an organization located in California that is exempt from federal income taxation. The bill would require the distributor to prepare and maintain records of the donations.	Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (03/24/26)
SB 955 Blakespear Beverage containers: supermarkets: reverse vending machines.	This bill increases the minimum gross annual sales defining a "supermarket" from \$2,000,000 to \$5,000,000 and revises the description of items for sale. The bill would specify that a reverse vending machine certified to operate as a recycling center does not make an unserved convenience zone served. The bill would not preclude a dealer cooperative or a mobile unit from operating and receiving program payments in the same convenience zone as a reverse vending machine. Nor would it make an existing certified recycling center ineligible for handling fees if a reverse vending machine is located in the same convenience zone. The bill would make an appropriation by expanding the entities that would be eligible at any given time for program payments paid by the department from the continuously appropriated fund.	Set for hearing April 20. (04/14/26)



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2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP AND EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY		
AB 2245 M. Rodriguez Lubricants waste: packaging: producer responsibility.	This bill would create a producer responsibility program for lubricants waste that is not covered by the California Oil Recycling Enhancement Act, and packaging associated with lubricant products, and would require a producer responsibility organization (PRO) to provide a convenient collection and management system for covered products at no cost to residents. The bill would require a producer of a covered product to register with the PRO, which would be required to develop and implement a producer responsibility plan for the collection and the safe and proper management of covered products. The bill would require CalRecycle, in coordination with Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), to adopt regulations to implement the program with an effective date no earlier than January 1, 2029. This bill would exempt producers of these covered products from requirements under SB 54.	Re-referred to Com. on E.S & T.M. (03/24/26)
AB 2462 Pellerin Unsafe products: disposal: penalties.	Under the Product Recall Safety and Protection Act, a manufacturer is required to provide for the safe return or appropriate disposal of an unsafe product at no cost to the end consumer or retailer. This bill would further require the safe return or appropriate disposal of the unsafe product to be at no cost to the end consumer, a recycling center, a municipal facility that accepts the product for recycling or disposal, a retailer that sells the product, a permitted solid waste facility, a household hazardous waste collection facility, or a thrift retail store.	Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (03/25/26)
SB 936 Blakespear Nitrous oxide: sales.	This bill would, except as specifically exempted, prohibit the sale and distribution of a nitrous oxide container that is capable of holding more than 8 grams of nitrous oxide or from which an individual may directly inhale nitrous oxide. The bill would also prohibit the sale and distribution of a nitrous oxide that has, or is marketed as having, the taste or smell of any food. The bill would prohibit the sale and distribution of a device that allows an individual to inhale nitrous oxide from the container or hold nitrous oxide for the purposes of inhalation. The bill would punish a violation of these provisions as an infraction, as specified. The bill would also authorize a court to suspend the business license, including a license to sell tobacco products or cannabis, if the business has a prior conviction for violating these prohibitions.	Re-referred to Com. on B., P., & E.D. (03/17/26)



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2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE/E-WASTE		
AB 1617 Alanis Household hazardous waste: reporting.	Existing regulations require each public agency that is responsible for household hazardous waste management to complete and submit a "Form 303 Household Hazardous Waste Collection Report" (Form 303) electronically to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery each year. This bill requires Form 303 to report information for the prior calendar year, rather than for the period from July 1 of the previous fiscal year through June 30 of the current fiscal year.	Re-referred to Com. on APPR. (03/11/26)
ILLEGAL DUMPING		
AB 2310 Carrillo Illegal Dumping.	This bill would make it a crime to transport waste matter, rocks, concrete, asphalt, dirt, or other construction debris for the purpose of illegally dumping such material. The bill would make a person violating these provisions four or more times, or in commercial quantities, guilty of a misdemeanor. Violations involving commercial quantities of material in excess of 50 cubic yards may also be punishable by a felony or misdemeanor.	Referred to Com. on PUB. S. (03/09/26)
SB 1218 Arreguin Refusal of registration: illegal dumping violation penalties.	This bill would require the DMV to refuse to renew the registration of a vehicle if the registered owner or lessee has been mailed a notice of a delinquent illegal dumping violation.	Set for hearing April 14. (03/26/26)
SB 1230 Valladares Solid waste: illegal dumping: penalties: resources.	This bill would increase the fine for illegal dumping to \$1,500 to \$3,000 for the second conviction, and \$3,000 to \$5,000 for the third and any subsequent convictions. The bill would also increase the fine for the dumping of commercial quantities of waste to \$6,000 to \$10,000 for the second conviction, and \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the third and any subsequent convictions, and fines would be higher for commercial businesses who illegally dump and have 10 or more employees. This bill would require CalRecycle to be the lead state agency to act as a resource for cities and counties to address illegal dumping and require CalRecycle to create an internet website with resources to help cities and counties combat, prevent, and clean up illegal dumping.	Set for hearing April 7. (03/23/26)



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2026 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
MISCELLANEOUS SOLID WASTE		
SB 881 McNerney Income taxation: credits: voluntary contributions: food bank donations.	Existing law authorizes individuals to contribute amounts in excess of their personal income tax liability for the support of specified funds, including the Emergency Food for Families Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund. Under existing law, the provisions governing that voluntary contribution fund are in effect until January 1, 2026, and are repealed as of December 1 of that year. This bill would extend the provisions that apply to the Emergency Food for Families Voluntary Tax Contribution Fund until January 1, 2037, as provided.	Set for hearing April 13. (03/27/26)
SB 1064 Dahle Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program: biennial testing.	Current law requires the State Air Resources Board to develop and implement a Heavy-Duty Vehicle Inspection and Maintenance Program for nongasoline heavy-duty onroad motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds. This bill would limit specified testing of all nongasoline heavy-duty onroad motor vehicles with a gross vehicle weight rating of more than 14,000 pounds to not more frequently than biennially.	Set for hearing April 8. (03/10/26)



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Bills Carried Over from 2025

2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
SOLID WASTE		
AB 1153 Bonta Illegal disposal site abatement.	Existing law requires CalRecycle to initiate a program for the cleanup of solid waste disposal sites and codisposal sites. This bill would authorize CalRecycle upon appropriation by the Legislature, to expend funds to remove and dispose of recreational vehicles, as defined, to develop enforcement strategies, and to develop local enforcement teams and illegal dumping enforcement officers, as specified.	In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (01/29/26)
SB 594 Padilla Waste discharge permits: landfills.	This bill would prohibit a state agency from issuing a waste discharge permit for a new Class III landfill, as defined, unless certain conditions are met, including, but not limited to, the county board of supervisors for the county in which the proposed project resides has held a separate publicly noticed hearing to consider whether the proposed landfill is consistent with the goals, policies, and objectives of the environmental justice element of the county's general plan. To the extent that the bill would require counties to perform additional duties related to application for a new Class III landfill, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. Statutory provisions establish the procedures for reimbursing local agencies and school districts, as required by the California Constitution, for certain state-mandated costs.	Re-referred to Assem. Com. on E.S & T.M. July 1 set for first hearing canceled at the request of author. (07/01/25)
AB 28 Schiavo Solid waste landfills: subsurface temperatures	This bill would require the state board to amend methane emissions regulations for a municipal solid waste landfill (MSW landfill) to include landfill gas temperature monitoring requirements. This bill requires landfill operators to monitor gas temperatures and take escalating actions, including filing a corrective action plan, if temperatures reach or exceed 131, 146, or 170 degrees Fahrenheit for over 60 consecutive days, alongside other criteria set by CalRecycle. The bill would authorize CalRecycle or a local enforcement agency to impose a penalty of \$10,000 per day for noncompliance.	Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator Blakespear. (09/08/25)



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
ORGANIC WASTE AND FOOD RECOVERY		
AB 643 Wilson Climate change: short-lived climate pollutants: organic waste reduction.	This bill would authorize a local jurisdiction to include organic material used as a beneficial agricultural amendment towards its recovered organic waste procurement target if the material is processed at a facility authorized by the department using specified approved technologies, the material is licensed for end use as an agricultural fertilizer by the Department of Food and Agriculture, as provided, and the material is not derived from, or processed using, specified activities relating to the final deposition or management of solid waste, as provided. The bill would require the amount of the procured materials to be calculated using the dry weight of the materials.	In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (01/27/26)
SB 353 Alvarado-Gil Income tax: credits: food banks.	The Personal Income Tax Law and the Corporation Tax Law allow a credit for qualified taxpayers in an amount equal to 15% of the qualified value of fresh fruits or vegetables and specified raw agricultural products or processed foods donated to a food bank for taxable years beginning on or after January 1, 2017, and before January 1, 2027. This bill would extend the authorization for those tax credits for taxable years beginning before January 1, 2032.	July 14 hearing: Retained in suspense file. (07/15/25)
BEVERAGE CONTAINERS		
SB 14 Blakespear State agencies: solid waste diversion: single-use plastic bottles.	The bill would require each state agency to submit an adopted integrated waste management plan and include descriptions of actions that will be taken to source reduce certain materials for the department to review and approve. State agencies would also be required to report annually on their compliance with the 50% solid waste reduction goal and the implementation of their integrated waste management plan. The bill would require the department to publish on its internet website a list of products available for purchase by state agencies that would reduce the overall amount of plastic or paper waste generated. Beginning January 1, 2026, all reportable purchases of plastic beverage containers by state agencies would be required to meet established minimum percentages of postconsumer recycled plastic per year.	Re-referred to Assem. Com. on APPR. pursuant to Assembly Rule 96. Held in committee and under submission. (08/29/25)



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
SB 633 Blakespear Beverage containers: recycling.	This bill, beginning on or before March 1, 2027, would require a manufacturer of a beverage sold in a plastic beverage container to report to CalRecycle by country of origin the amount of imported postconsumer recycled plastic used for plastic beverage containers subject to the California Redemption Value for sale in the state in the previous calendar year, and provide proof of third-party validation of that content. This bill would require CalRecycle to post the amounts of imported postconsumer recycled plastic used for plastic beverage containers in an aggregated form on its website, and exempt unaggregated amounts from disclosure under the California Public Records Act.	Placed on Assem. Com. on APPR. suspense file. August 29 hearing postponed by committee. (08/29/25)
SB 674 Cabaldon Beverage containers: recycling: redemption payment and refund value.	The California Beverage Container Recycling and Litter Reduction Act specifies that a beverage container that is a box, bladder, pouch, or similar container, containing wine or distilled spirits has a redemption payment and refund value of \$0.25. This bill would reduce the redemption payment and refund value for one of those wine or distilled spirit beverage containers, if it has a capacity of less than 24 fluid ounces, from \$0.25 to \$0.10, beginning January 1, 2026.	Placed on Com. on APPR. suspense file. Held in committee and under submission. (08/29/25)
PRODUCT STEWARDSHIP AND EXTENDED PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY		
AB 80 Aguiar-Curry Carpet recycling.	This bill would revise the penalty language under the State's product stewardship program for carpets. This bill would exempt a covered product from the transport requirements if certain conditions are met, including that it is returned to the producer. The bill would expand approved collection sites to include certain carpet recycling centers, municipal facilities, and retailers. This bill would expand the governing board of a PRO to require one voting and five nonvoting members, as specified, and require the annual report to be submitted by September 1 of each year. The bill would also require a producer to publish for each covered product, the components that constitute more than 1% of each product's weight and any component that is a hazardous chemical on its website, as specified. This bill would require a producer responsibility plan to explain how producers will use standardized stamping or other means to provide a visual mark on the back of a covered product that provides the name of the manufacturer, the date of manufacture, and a listing of face fibers and backing materials contained in the product.	Re-referred to Sen. Com. on APPR. Held under submission. (08/29/25)



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
<p>AB 864 Ward</p> <p>Hazardous waste: solar photovoltaic modules.</p>	<p>Existing federal regulations exclude from being classified as hazardous waste under federal law certain hazardous secondary material that is generated and then transferred to another person for the purpose of reclamation if specific conditions are met. The bill would make the universal waste designation applicable to a solar photovoltaic module that is intended for recycling and cannot otherwise be resold, reused, or refurbished only until the department adopts regulations implementing alternative management standards for solar photovoltaic modules. The bill would require the DTSC to institute a rulemaking to develop alternative management standards for solar photovoltaic modules that facilitate greater material recovery. The bill would also designate a solar photovoltaic module that can be resold, reused, or refurbished as surplus material.</p>	<p>Ordered to inactive file at the request of Senator McNerney. (09/10/25)</p>
<p>SB 501 Allen</p> <p>Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022: covered batteries.</p>	<p>The Responsible Battery Recycling Act of 2022 (Battery Recycling Act), establishes a stewardship program, administered by CalRecycle with the DTSC, as provided, for the collection, transportation, and recycling, and the safe and proper management, of covered batteries in the state in an economically efficient and practical manner. This bill would revise the description of a loose battery, for purposes of the definition of a covered battery, by providing that a key, application, or other locking device provided to the consumer by the producer of the product or battery that is warranted by the producer of the product or battery to serve solely to prevent theft of the battery or tampering by persons other than the consumer and not to inhibit the consumer's ability to remove, replace, or recycle the battery would not prevent a battery from being considered designed to be easily removed from a product by the user of the product with no more than common household tools. The bill would remove the exclusions from the definition of a covered battery for a primary battery and a rechargeable battery. The bill would categorize all covered batteries as either a small format battery or a medium format battery.</p> <p>The act requires a producer of covered batteries, individually or through a stewardship organization, to develop and implement a stewardship plan for the collection, transportation, and recycling, and the safe and proper management, of covered batteries in the state. The act requires the stewardship plan to describe how the producer or stewardship organization will provide a certain number of collection sites for covered batteries in each county, as provided. This bill would instead require the stewardship plan to describe how the producer or stewardship organization will provide a certain number of collection sites for small format batteries and medium format batteries, as specified.</p>	<p>In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk. (01/27/26)</p>



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
SB 561 Blakespear Hazardous waste: Emergency Distress Flare Safe Disposal Act.	This bill establishes the Emergency Distress Flare Safe Disposal Act, creating a manufacturer responsibility program for the safe and proper management of emergency distress flares. The bill would require a manufacturer of a covered product, individually or through a manufacturer responsibility organization (MRO), to develop and implement a manufacturer responsibility plan for the collection, transportation, and the safe and proper management of covered products, as specified. The bill would establish a process and timeline for the DTSC to implement regulations by January 1, 2027, and to approve, disapprove, or conditionally approve a submitted plan, which must be published on the DTSC website, except for specified manufacturer data. The bill would also require a manufacturer or MRO to submit an annual report, pay DTSC's regulatory costs, and prohibit the sale or import in or into the state of a covered product containing perchlorate.	Re-referred to Assem. Com. on E.S. & T.M. July 15 set for second hearing canceled at the request of author. (07/11/25)
SB 615 Allen Vehicle traction batteries.	This bill would require a battery supplier, as defined, to ensure the responsible end-of-life management of a vehicle traction battery offered or returned to its battery supplier or removed from a vehicle that is still in service, and to report information regarding the sale, transfer, or receipt of a vehicle traction battery or battery module to the DTSC, as provided. This bill imposes end-of-life battery management and reporting duties on secondary users and secondary handlers and requires auctioneers and salvage disposal auctions to report similar battery-related information to DTSC. This bill would require the battery supplier to pay DTSC's regulatory costs to implement and enforce these provisions and outlines funding mechanisms. This bill would also require DTSC to conduct a study on abandoned orphaned battery effects and post findings on its website by January 1, 2030, and every 3 years thereafter.	Ordered to inactive file on request of Assembly Member Aguiar-Curry. (09/09/25)
AB 1148 Sharp-Collins Food packaging: hazardous chemicals.	This bill would prohibit, on and after January 1, 2027, the manufacture, distribution, sale, or offering for sale in the state of food packaging that contains intentionally added bisphenols or ortho-phthalates, as defined. The bill would require, subject to an appropriation, the DTSC to adopt regulations to establish a threshold in food packaging for bisphenols or ortho-phthalates that are not intentionally added, as specified. The bill would authorize the department and the Attorney General to enforce these prohibitions and would subject a person to an administrative or civil penalty not to exceed \$5,000 for the first violation of a prohibition and not to exceed \$10,000 for each subsequent violation, as specified.	Sen. Environmental Quality Com.: Set, first hearing. Hearing canceled at the request of author. (06/27/25)



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
SB 758 Umberg Public health: nitrous oxide.	Existing law, the Cigarette and Tobacco Products Licensing Act of 2003, requires a retailer, as defined, to hold a license from the California Department of Tax and Fee Administration to engage in the sale of cigarettes or tobacco products. This bill would expand those provisions to prohibit a retailer from selling nitrous oxide in any retail location, subject to certain exceptions.	In Assembly. Read first time. Held at Desk. (01/27/26)
HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE/E-WASTE		
AB 599 Connolly Hazardous waste: classification and alternative management standards: notice of change.	This bill would, if DTSC proposes to reclassify wastes or adopt alternative management standards for regulated waste, require the department to take all necessary and authorized steps required by law to facilitate full public notification and review of state, regional, and local facility entitlements, to enable local community input regarding the proposed changes to the classification of wastes or the alternative management standards.	Referred to Sen. Com. on E.Q. Hearing postponed by committee. (06/24/25)
AB 762 Irwin Disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device: prohibition.	This bill would prohibit, beginning January 1, 2027, a person from importing or manufacturing for sale in this state a new or refurbished disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device, and, beginning January 1, 2028, a person from selling, distributing, or offering for sale a new or refurbished disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device in this state. The bill would define a "disposable, battery-embedded vapor inhalation device" to mean a vaporization device that contains nicotine but not cannabis or a cannabis product, as defined, and that is not designed or intended to be reused, as specified. The bill would make any person who violates the above-described disposable battery-embedded vapor inhalation device prohibition guilty of an infraction punishable by a fine of not more than \$500.	In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (01/29/26)
AB 998 Hadwick Household hazardous waste: vape pens.	The bill would prohibit a public agency, or its contractor, from including vape pens in a household hazardous waste materials exchange program. This bill would, until January 1, 2029, require the DTSC to evaluate opportunities to increase safety and convenience related to the management and disposal of vape pens confiscated from students by a school.	Re-referred to Sen. Com. on APPR. Held under submission. (08/29/25)



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2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
MISCELLANEOUS SOLID WASTE		
AB 443 Bennett Energy Commission: integrated energy policy report: curtailed solar and wind generation: hydrogen production.	This bill would require the commission, as part of the 2027 edition of the integrated energy policy report, to include an assessment of the potential for using curtailed solar and wind generation to produce hydrogen, as provided. The bill would define curtailed solar and wind generation for this purpose and require the assessment to do specified things, including providing an estimate of how much hydrogen could feasibly and reliably be produced using energy from curtailed solar and wind generation. The bill would repeal its provisions on January 1, 2029.	Referred to Com. on APPR. suspense file. Held under submission. (08/29/25)



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WATER RESOURCES, RATES, AND FEES

2025 Bills Signed into Law

Signed into Law		
Bill	Description	Status
SB 394 Allen Water theft: fire hydrants.	This bill would add to the list of acts for which a utility may bring a civil cause of action under these circumstances to include tampering with a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check, or connecting to, diverting water from, or causing water to be diverted from, a fire hydrant without authorization from the utility that owns the fire hydrant, except as provided. The bill would also expand the rebuttable presumption for a violation of these provisions to include, among other things, if a person tampers with or uses a fire hydrant, fire hydrant meter, or fire detector check without authorization to obtain water and without paying the full lawful charge of the water.	Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 540, Statutes of 2025. (10/10/25)
SB 72 Caballero The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.	This bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the department to expand the membership of the advisory committee to include, among others, tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, as part of the 2033 update to the plan, to update the interim planning target for 2050, as provided. The bill would require the target to consider the identified and future water needs for all beneficial uses, including, but not limited to, urban uses, agricultural uses, tribal uses, and the environment, and ensure safe drinking water for all Californians, among other things. The bill would require the plan to include specified components, including a discussion of the estimated costs, benefits, and impacts of any project type or action that is recommended by the department within the plan that could help achieve the water supply targets. The bill would require the department to report to the Legislature the amendments, supplements, and additions included in the updates of the plan, together with a summary of the department’s conclusions and recommendations, in the session in which the updated plan is issued. The bill would also require the department to conduct public workshops to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the plan.	Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 210, Statutes of 2025. (10/1/25)



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Newly Introduced 2026 Bills

2026 Active Bills		
Bill	Description	Status
SB 1153 Caballero Relating to disaster preparedness.	This bill would clarify the limited role of public water systems during wildfires while strengthening emergency preparedness in high-risk areas. Public water systems are designed and constructed to provide safe, reliable drinking water, not to serve as wildfire defense or suppression systems. While water agencies often aid firefighting efforts, it would be physically impracticable and financially infeasible to design water systems to function as wildfire suppression infrastructure.	Read second time and amended. Re-referred to Com. on N.R. & W. (3/25/26)
AB 2180 Ward Proportional Cost of Service.	This bill would clarify how water agencies comply with Proposition 218 when setting water rates. This clarification will provide predictability for agencies, support California’s water-use conservation goals and help minimize unnecessary legal disputes over water rates.	Passed committee and Read second time. Ordered to third reading. (3/26/26)
AB 2013 Bennet Emergency Preparedness Plan.	This bill would require a water supplier that services more than 100 customers that are located in a moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone to establish an emergency preparedness plan for response to red flag warnings, extreme weather events, and other major power outages or emergencies that pose a potential threat to providing adequate water service to the moderate, high, or very high fire hazard severity zone.	Assembly Rule 56 suspended (3/26/26)



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Bills Carried Over from 2025

2025 Active Bills

Bill	Description	Status
AB 35 Alvarez Administrative Procedure Act: exemption: program guidelines.	This bill would let California move Proposition 4 bond funds out faster by exempting certain program guidelines and selection criteria from the normal state rulemaking process. This bill still requires public draft guidelines, public comments, and state review before grants go out.	In Senate. Read first time. To Com. on RLS. for assignment. (01/27/26)



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LOCAL GOVERNMENT PROCESSES

2025 Bills Signed into Law

Signed Into Law

Bill	Description	Status
SB 707 Durazo Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.	This bill would, beginning July 1, 2026, and until January 1, 2030, require an eligible legislative body, as defined, to include opportunities for public participation in open and public meetings via a two-way telephonic service or a two-way audiovisual platform, as defined. The bill would require an eligible legislative body, on or before July 1, 2026, to approve at a noticed public meeting in open session a policy regarding disruption of telephonic or internet services occurring during meetings subject to these provisions, as specified, and would require the eligible legislative body to comply with certain requirements relating to disruption, including recessing the open session for at least one hour and making a good faith attempt to restore the service, as specified.	Chaptered by Secretary of State. Chapter 327, Statutes of 2025. (10/3/25)



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Newly Introduced from 2026 & Carried Over from 2025 Bills

2026 and 2025 Active Bills		
Bill	Description	Status
AB 259 Blanca Rubio Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.	Under the Ralph M. Brown Act, existing law generally requires all meetings of a local agency to be open to the public and authorizes the use of teleconferencing with set requirements, including posting agendas at all teleconference locations and identifying each teleconference location in the notice and agenda for public access. The legislative body of a local agency is authorized to use alternative teleconferencing if certain conditions are met, such as maintaining a quorum in person at a public location and limiting how often members can participate from a remote location until January 1, 2026. This bill would extend these provisions until January 1, 2030.	Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD. Hearing postponed by committee. (6/27/25)
SB 922 Laird Vehicles: local agency charges: use of streets or highways.	This bill would clarify that local governments may impose certain street-related fees to recover costs associated with maintenance, repair, and public works, while continuing to prohibit taxes or charges imposed solely for driving on public roads, particularly those based exclusively on vehicle weight.	Read second time. Ordered to third reading. (03/19/26)



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Additional Resources

- [Previous HF&H Legislative Updates](#)
- [Glossary of Legislative Terms](#)
- [California Legislation Tracking/Bill Search](#)
- [2025 Calendar of California Legislative Deadlines](#)
- [CalRecycle's Proposed Regulations/Rulemaking Page](#)
- [Federal Legislation Tracking/Bill Search](#)

Terms and Committee Abbreviations

Committee Abbreviations:

- Com on A. & A.R. – Committee on Accountability and Administrative Review
- Com. on APPR. – Committee on Appropriations
- Com. on B. & P. – Committee on Business and Professions
- Com. on E., U. & C. – Committee on Energy, Utilities, and Communications
- Com. on E.S. & T.M. – Committee on Environmental Safety and Toxic Materials
- Com. on E.Q. – Committee on Environmental Quality
- Com. on GOV & F – Committee on Governance and Finance
- Com. on HEALTH – Committee on Health
- Com. on JUD. – Committee on Judiciary
- Com. on NAT. RES. – Committee on Natural Resources
- Com. N.R. & W. – Committee on Natural Resources and Water
- Com. on PUB S. – Committee on Public Safety
- Com. on Rev. & Tax. – Committee on Revenue and Taxation
- Com. on RLS – Committee on Rules
- Com. on TRANS – Committee on Transportation
- Com. on U. & E. – Committee on Utilities and Energy

Other Terms/Abbreviations:

- CalRecycle: The Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery
- CARB: California State Air Resources Board
- DGS: Department of General Services
- DTSC: Department of Toxic Substances Control