



TO: State Association of County Retirement Systems
FROM: Cara Martinson, Public House Consulting
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RE: **Legislative Update – March 2025**

The Legislature is now in its second month of this year’s legislative session and has passed its first major deadline—the bill introduction deadline on February 21st. Despite leadership in both chambers limiting the number of bills each legislator can introduce during the two-year session, a total of 2,510 bills were still submitted- an increase from years past. As expected, there are a number of bills related to disaster assistance and wildfire, immigration and ongoing housing and homelessness proposals. As we move into March, the Legislature is rapidly ramping up its budget subcommittees and policy committees to meet upcoming legislative deadlines.

Beyond the routine legislative process, some notable developments have taken place “under the dome.” Recently, Assembly Speaker Robert Rivas removed several GOP lawmakers from committees, citing a 2020 resolution. This move breaks from precedent, as minority party leaders have traditionally had informal influence over their members’ committee assignments.

According to the California Assembly Democratic Caucus, HR-1 “empowers the Speaker to choose committee membership and leadership, and these changes will allow the Assembly to best conduct the people’s business.”

Additionally, on March 3rd, the Governor issued an executive order requiring all agencies and departments within his administration to update their hybrid telework policies. By July 1, 2025, the default expectation will be at least four days per week in the office, with telework flexibilities granted on a case-by-case basis in alignment with family-friendly employment policies and legal obligations.

“To further enhance the state’s workforce needs, the Governor is also directing CalHR to streamline the hiring process for former federal employees seeking employment in key roles, including firefighting, forest management, and weather forecasting,” according to the Governor’s Office press release.

The following is a list of bills that SACRS is actively tracking.



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- **ACA 2 (Jackson)** –seeks to reinstate retirement for State Legislators. ACA 2 would establish a retirement system specifically for legislators elected or serving from November 1, 2010 onward. To qualify, legislators would be required to serve at least 10 years. If their service is less than 10 years, legislators could transfer their accumulated service credits to another public pension or retirement system they are a part of. Status: This bill has not yet been referred to a policy committee.
- **AB 259 (Rubio)** –would remove the 2026 sunset on existing laws governing teleconferencing procedures for public meetings. This bill is sponsored the CA Special District’s Association (CSDA). Status: This bill has been referred to the Assembly Local Government Committee.
- **AB 288 (McKinnor)** – deletes a reference in government code 3558 to a date in which the section is operative. The section is related to the ability of an exclusive representative to file a charge of an unfair labor practice with the Public Employment Relations Board alleging a violation related to notice requirements. Status: This bill has been referred to the Assembly Committee on Public Employment & Retirement (PERS).
- **AB 339 (Ortega)** – would require the governing body of a public agency to give a recognized employee organization no less than 120 days’ written notice before issuing a request for proposals, request for quotes, or renewing or extending an existing contract to perform services that are within the scope of work of the job classifications represented by the recognized employee organization. Status: This bill has been set for hearing on 3/19 in the Assembly PERS Committee.
- **AB 340 (Ahrens)** – would establish an employee-union representative privilege in the context of California public employment. Specifically, the bill would prohibit a public agency employer from questioning any employee or employee representative regarding communications made in confidence between an employee and an employee representative in connection with representation relating to any matter within the scope of the recognized



- employee organization's representation. Status: This bill has been set for hearing on 3/19 in the Assembly PERS Committee.
- **AB 409 (Arambula)** – would delete the 2026 sunset on existing laws governing teleconferencing procedures for California Community College student body associations and student-run community college organizations. Status: This bill has been referred to the Local Government and Higher Educations Committees.
 - **AB 467 (Fong)** – extends the sunset date from 2026 to 2031 for teleconferencing procedures for neighborhood councils, defined as an advisory body with the purpose to promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs that is established pursuant to the charter of a city with a population of more than 3,000,000 people that is subject to the Brown Act. Status: This bill has been referred to the Assembly Local Government Committee.
 - **AB 569 (Stefani)** – would permit a local public employer and a union representing one or more of its bargaining units to negotiate and agree to contributions to a supplemental pension plan administered by or on behalf of the union representing the bargaining unit. Status: This bill has been referred to the Assembly PERS Committee.
 - **AB 1323 (Chen)** – this bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to public retirement. This is a “spot” placeholder bill.
 - **SB 239 (Arreguín)** – allows flexibility for remote meetings of local advisory bodies (“subsidiary bodies” in the language of the bill). Specifically, this bill would allow a subsidiary body of a local agency to teleconference their meetings without having to publicly notice or make all locations publicly available. This bill is nearly identical to last year’s AB 817, which stalled in the Senate Local Government Committee. Status: The bill has been referred to the Senate Local Government and Judiciary Committees.
 - **SB 301 (Grayson)** – would make non-substantive changes to the CERL Act. This is “spot” placeholder bill.



- **SB 470 (Laird)** – would delete the 2026 sunset on existing laws governing teleconferencing procedures for state agencies relative to the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act. Status: This bill has been referred to the Senate Governmental Organization and Judiciary Committees.
- **SB 707 (Durazo)** – would add additional teleconferencing meeting options for local governments until 2030 to allow members of the public to attend a public meeting via a two-way teleconferencing option or two-way audio-visual platform. The bill would also require additional alternative language noticing requirements. Status: The bill has yet to be referred to a policy committee.

Contact:

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Cara Martinson at cara@publichouseconsulting.net, or Laurie Johnson at lauriejconsult@gmail.com.