



September 1, 2022

TO: State Association of County Retirement Systems
FROM: Edelstein Gilbert Robson & Smith, LLC
RE: **Legislative Update – September 2022**

General Update

The Legislature adjourned for final recess late last night, marking the end of the 2021-22 Legislative Session. The Legislature spent the last days of session on the Senate and Assembly Floor working through final budget bills as well as hundreds of policy bills that needed floor votes and concurrence votes to pass out of the Legislature.

The Governor will have until September 30 to act upon the bills on his desk.

SACRS Sponsored Bills

AB 1824 (Committee on Public Employment and Retirement) – Committee Cleanup Bill. This bill passed out of the Legislature unanimously on August 18 and is awaiting consideration by the Governor. SACRS submitted a letter formally requesting the Governor’s signature on the bill.

AB 1971 (Cooper) – CERL Policy Bill. This bill passed out of the Legislature on August 22 and is awaiting consideration by the Governor. Like AB 1824, SACRS submitted a letter formally requesting the Governor’s signature on the bill.

In preparation for next year’s cleanup bill, the SACRS Legislative Committee will be fielding and reviewing cleanup proposals in the fall.

Other Bills of Interest

AB 2493 (Chen) – Disallowed Compensation. As initially amended, this bill would have allowed OCERS to adjust retirement payments based on disallowed compensation for peace officers and firefighters under certain circumstances. The bill was later amended to apply to all CERL systems.

When this bill had a hearing in the Senate Judiciary Committee in late June, CSAC was the lead opposition witness and discussed these cost concerns as well as how the bill differs from SB 278 (Leyva) from 2021.

The bill was amended substantially after the author and sponsors worked with committee staff. While SACRS did not take a position, we are aware that some systems submitted their own letters and shared concerns with the Legislature.

The bill passed out of the Senate, but before it was brought up for a final vote in the Assembly, the author pulled the bill from consideration based on opposition from counties and discussions with the Governor's office.

AB 2449 (Rubio) – Public Meetings. This bill would allow a local agency to use teleconferencing for a public meeting if at least a quorum of members of the legislative body participate in person from a single location that is identified on the agenda and is open to the public within the local agency's jurisdiction, among other requirements. The last amendments to the bill added more guardrails for when a board member can participate remotely and added a sunset date, among other changes.

The bill passed out of the Legislature and is on the Governor's desk for consideration.

Compensation Earnable Bills – Last year, two bills were introduced relating to compensation earnable - **AB 498 (Quirk-Silva)** and **AB 826 (Irwin)**. As reported in previous updates, AB 826 was gutted and amended in June of 2021 with the CERL provisions currently contained in the bill. AB 498 (Quirk Silva) was similarly amended at the end of session last year in September.

In late June, AB 498 was gutted and amended again, this time with provisions unrelated to county retirement systems, so it is no longer of interest to SACRS.

AB 826 was amended and pulled off the Inactive File on August 3. It subsequently passed out of both houses of the Legislature and is now on the Governor's desk.