

November 15, 2022

To: CSAC Agriculture, Environment & Natural Resources (AENR) Policy Committee

From: Catherine Freeman, Legislative Representative  
Ada Waelder, Legislative Representative

Re: **AENR Year in Review and 2023 Legislative Priorities**

---

## 2022 YEAR IN REVIEW

### *Signed into Law*

#### **AB 1811 (Fong) Local Flood Protection Plans**

AB 1811 requires local flood protection plans to include planning for climate change and rainwater and stormwater management. The bill would require the plan to additionally include an update on the status of coordination with water suppliers on how the management of flood waters can bolster local water supplies.

#### **AB 1985 (Rivas) Organic Waste**

This bill establishes a delayed and ramping timeline for CalRecycle to impose penalties on local jurisdictions which fail to reach organic waste procurement targets. Penalties will have to adhere to the following schedule:

- After January 1, 2023, a local jurisdiction shall only be subject to penalties if it fails to reach less than 33 percent of its procurement target;
- After January 1, 2024, a local jurisdiction shall only be subject to penalties if it fails to reach less than 66 percent of its procurement target; and
- After January 1, 2025, a local jurisdiction shall only be subject to penalties if it fails to reach less than 100 percent of its procurement target.

#### **AB 2048 (Santiago) Solid Waste Franchise Agreements**

AB 2048 requires local jurisdictions to post current franchise agreements between contract waste and recycling haulers and public agencies to their website. Cal Recycle will, in turn, maintain a publicly accessible database of these agreements.

#### **SB 45 (Portantino) Local Government Assistance for Organic Waste**

This bill formally directs Cal Recycle to assist local agencies in implementing SB 1383 which, requires cities and counties to reduce and eventually eliminate organic wastes from their disposal facilities to reduce methane emissions.

### **[SB 1186 \(Wiener\)](#) Medicinal Cannabis Patients’ Right of Access Act**

This bill requires all jurisdictions that do not allow cannabis retail as of January 1, 2022, to allow for delivery sales of medicinal cannabis. The bill also prohibits regulations that would impose “unreasonable restrictions” on the sale of medicinal cannabis. Local jurisdictions have until January 1, 2024, to develop and pass ordinances to comply. [CSAC opposed this measure](#), and worked with a coalition to remove more harmful provisions.

### **[SB 867 \(McGuire\)](#) Wildfire Debris Cleanup & Removal**

This bill requires CalRecycle to prequalify contractors to enter into contracts to perform prescribed wildfire debris cleanup and removal work in communities impacted by wildfires. Clean up of debris includes the removal, transport, and recycling/disposal of metals, ash, debris, concrete foundation, potentially dangerous trees and contaminated soil on residential, commercial and public properties.

### ***Vetoed by Governor***

### **[AB 2247 \(Bloom\)](#) PFAS Product Disclosure**

AB 2247 would require anyone manufacturing products containing perfluorinated or polyfluorinated substances (PFAS) to report their products to the Department of Toxic Substances Control. This requirement would go into effect in 2026. PFAS are a group of around 9,000 man-made products used in many household and industrial products. These chemicals do not breakdown, and thus have been called “forever chemicals.” PFAS have been found in the blood of humans and animals, soil, water, and air, and linked to harmful health impacts. [CSAC supported AB 2247](#), and it was vetoed by the Governor.

### **[AB 2550 \(Arambula\)](#) State Air Resources Board: San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District: nonattainment**

AB 2550 would remove local control from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District by transferring responsibility to regulate stationary pollution sources to the California Air Resources Board (CARB). CARB already has the authority to oversee local air quality management activities, and works closely in the development of air pollution plans. [CSAC opposed AB 2550](#), and it was vetoed by the Governor.

## 2023 AENR PRIORITIES

**Drought.** As California continues to experience extreme drought, the need for state and federal investments has become more important than ever. CSAC will support counties through advocacy for diversified regional water investments, continued watershed restoration projects and improved management of local water supplies. CSAC will emphasize core county roles including groundwater management, dry well monitoring and support, and water projects with co-benefits. This includes dam retrofits, flood and water-recharge investments, and support for low-income communities. CSAC will support efforts to bring options to areas with lower water availability through funding and actions with state agencies.

**Wildfire.** Hand in hand with drought comes extreme fire. CSAC will continue efforts to reduce wildfire risk through active participation in partnerships such as the Forest Management Task Force and land stewardship actions. We will support efforts to increase prescribed burning with best available practices, appropriate insurance risk, and training. In addition, it is critical to invest in programs that have co-benefits of reduced community wildfire risk and watershed conservation, advocate for regional wildfire and watershed program actions, community wildfire insurance, and wildland fire risk reduction through public and private working lands.

**Cannabis.** Throughout 2022 CSAC worked to update the County Platform to better reflect the ever-changing world of cannabis. CSAC will use the newly approved language to further our advocacy with regards to cannabis. The state must invest in resources to combat illegal cannabis and give counties the tools to ensure that they are able to appropriately address the fallout from unlicensed activity. However, cannabis is a major economic driver for many counties and CSAC's advocacy will go beyond enforcement to support the licensed market in new and creative ways.