ABC California Priority Bill List

Weekly List of ABC Priority Bills

AB 1235 | Rogers, D | HTML | PDF

California State University: skilled and trained workforce requirement.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/03/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Current law establishes requirements that apply when a public entity is required by statute or regulation to obtain an enforceable commitment that a bidder, contractor, or other entity will use a skilled and trained workforce to complete a contract or project. The California State University Contract Law authorizes the Trustees of the California State University to enter into an agreement with a contractor to provide all or significant portions of the design services and construction of a project, chosen by a competitive bidding process that employs selection criteria in addition to cost. Current law also requires a contractor, when selecting subcontractors under this provision, to competitively bid for those portions of work. This bill would prohibit a contractor from being prequalified for, shortlisted for, or awarded a contract with the Trustees of the California State University, as described above, unless, among other things, the contractor provides an enforceable commitment to the trustees that the contractor and its subcontractors at every tier will use a skilled and trained workforce to perform all work on the project or contract that falls within an apprenticeable occupation in the building and construction trades, as specified. The bill would exempt from its provisions, among things, a project or contract for the development of housing. (Based on 08/30/2026 text)

AB 1439 | Garcia, D | HTML | PDF

Public retirement systems: development projects: labor standards.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/04/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Existing law prohibits the boards of the Public Employees' Retirement System (PERS) and the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) from making certain new investments or renewing existing investments of public employee retirement funds, including in a thermal coal company, as defined. Existing

law provides that a board is not required to take any action regarding those investments unless the board determines in good faith that the action is consistent with the board's fiduciary responsibilities established in the California Constitution. This bill would request the University of California, Berkeley, Labor Center to conduct an independent study to analyze the extent of labor standards protections in California real estate and infrastructure development projects funded through the real asset portfolios of PERS and STRS. The bill would request that the study and a report of its findings be completed and provided to the Legislature and the Department of Finance by January 1, 2028, as specified. (Based on 09/01/2026 text)

AB 1707 | Davies, R | HTML | PDF

Electricians: certification application, examination, and renewal.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	Support

Bill information

Status: 08/31/2026 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 78. Noes 0.).

Summary: Existing law establishes the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement, under the direction of the Labor Commissioner, within the Department of Industrial Relations, for the purpose of enforcing labor laws. Existing law requires the division to maintain minimum standards for the competency and training of electricians through a system of testing and certification. Existing law requires the division to issue certification cards to electricians who have been certified and paid a fee, in accordance with certain procedures. This bill would authorize an individual who fails the certification examination to immediately submit an application to retake the examination, as specified. The bill would transfer authority over the certification of electricians from the division to the Contractors State License Board, contingent upon an appropriation for these purposes by the Legislature and pursuant to certain timelines and procedures. (Based on 09/04/2026 text)

AB 1786 | Harabedian, D | HTML | PDF

Public contracts: best value construction contracting for counties, cities, and the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 08/27/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Existing law establishes a program to allow counties to select a bidder on the basis of best value, as defined, for construction projects in excess of $1,000,000. Existing law also authorizes counties to use a best value construction contracting method to award individual annual contracts, not to exceed $3,000,000, for repair, remodeling, or other repetitive work to be done according to unit prices, as specified. Existing law establishes procedures and criteria for the selection of a best value contractor and requires that bidders verify specified information under oath. Existing law requires the board of supervisors of a participating county to submit a report that contains specified information about the projects awarded

using the best value procedures described above to the appropriate policy committees of the Legislature and the Joint Legislative Budget Committee before March 1, 2029. Existing law repeals the program provisions on January 1, 2030. This bill would, instead, authorize a county, city, or the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments to select a bidder on the basis of best value, as described above, for construction projects in excess of $500,000, would make various conforming changes to the above-described provisions, and would extend the operation of those provisions until January 1, 2032. (Based on 08/24/2026 text)

AB 1803 | Lowenthal, D | HTML | PDF

Employment: sexual harassment training and education: anti-hate speech training.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/03/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Existing law requires a specified employer with 5 or more employees to, by January 1, 2021, provide at least 2 hours of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all supervisory employees and at least one hour of classroom or other effective interactive training and education regarding sexual harassment to all nonsupervisory employees in California and, after that date, once every 2 years. Existing law requires an employer to include prevention of abusive conduct as a component of that training and education. This bill would additionally require that, beginning January 1, 2028, the above-described training and education include, as a component of the training and education, anti-hate speech training, as specified. (Based on 08/30/2026 text)

AB 1809 | Fong, D | HTML | PDF

Public contracts: school and community college districts.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 08/27/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: The Local Agency Public Construction Act authorizes job order contracting, as defined, for school districts until January 1, 2027. Existing law requires job order contractors to submit a questionnaire to the school district containing specified information verified under oath, under penalty of perjury. This bill would extend the termination date for these provisions until January 1, 2037. (Based on 08/24/2026 text)

AB 1860 | McKinnor, D | HTML | PDF

School facilities: design-build: alternative design-build: county superintendents of schools.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 08/27/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Existing law authorizes a school district, with the approval of the governing board of the school district, to procure design-build contracts for public works projects in excess of $1,000,000, awarding the contract to either the low bid or the best value, as provided. Existing law requires specified information relating to design-build bid proposals to be verified under penalty of perjury. Existing law, until January 1, 2029, authorizes a school district, with the approval of its governing board, to procure alternative design-build contracts for public works projects in excess of $5,000,000, awarding the contract to either the low bid or the best value, as provided. Existing law authorizes county boards of education that have had all or a portion of certain duties and functions relating to expenses transferred to them by the county board of supervisors to acquire, lease, lease-purchase, hold, and convey real property for purposes of housing the offices and the services of the county superintendent of schools. This bill would authorize county superintendents of schools to procure the same above-described design-build and alternative design-build contracts, subject to the same requirements that are applicable to school districts, except that the bill would, notwithstanding any other law, require county superintendents of schools to have exclusive authority to award design-build and alternative design-build contracts on behalf of a county office of education and county board of education. (Based on 08/24/2026 text)

AB 1883 | Bryan, D | HTML | PDF

Workplace surveillance tools.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/10/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement within the Department of Industrial Relations. Existing law authorizes the division, which is headed by the Labor Commissioner, to enforce the Labor Code and all labor laws of the state, the enforcement of which is not specifically vested in any other officer, board, or commission. This bill would, with certain exceptions, prohibit an employer from using a workplace surveillance tool that uses artificial intelligence to, among other things, collect neural data or recognize an individual's emotional state. The bill would define an employer to include a governmental entity, including, among other entities, charter cities and the University of California. This bill would authorize the Labor Commissioner or a public prosecutor to enforce the bill's provisions. The bill would subject an employer who violates the bill's provisions to a civil penalty of up to $500 for each violation. The bill would define various terms for purposes of its provisions. (Based on 09/03/2026 text)

AB 1980 | Caloza, D | HTML | PDF

Labor: apprenticeship: Equal Representation in Construction Apprenticeships Grant Program.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/03/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 4 p.m.

Summary: Existing law requires the Department of Industrial Relations, upon appropriation by the Legislature, to establish a Women in Construction Priority Unit to, among other things, provide resources for employers and project owners, including public agencies, to improve construction worksite culture, address barriers to employment, and develop training and materials for workforce pipeline professionals specific to women and nonbinary individuals in construction. This bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require the department to establish, through the Division of Apprenticeship Standards, the Equal Representation in Construction Apprenticeships Grant Program, and would state the goals of the program, including, among other things, providing women, nonbinary individuals, and underrepresented populations with opportunities to train for a construction career with greater access to preapprenticeship and apprenticeship programs that are registered with the division. (Based on 08/30/2026 text)

AB 2074 | Haney, D | HTML | PDF

Regional transit hub districts: downtown housing developments.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/10/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The Planning and Zoning Law generally regulates local government zoning and approval of certain types of housing development projects. The law authorizes a development proponent to submit an application for a development that is subject to a prescribed ministerial approval process if the development complies with certain procedural requirements and satisfies specified objective planning standards. The law also requires a housing development project within a specified distance of a transit-oriented development stop to be an allowed use as a transit-oriented housing development on any site zoned for residential, mixed, or commercial development, if the development complies with specified requirements, as applicable. This bill would, by July 1, 2027, require major transit cities to designate at least one regional transit hub district, as specified, and prescribe requirements for those districts, including requiring that a district make a downtown housing development an allowable use, as specified. The bill would define “downtown housing development” as a housing development project within a regional hub district that meets certain conditions, including that it meets specified labor standards. The bill would prescribe requirements for the developments, including that the developments are eligible for streamlined ministerial approval, as specified. (Based on 09/03/2026 text)

AB 2152 | González, Mark, D | HTML | PDF

California Environmental Quality Act: essential local fire station projects: infrastructure project streamlining.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/10/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 3 p.m.

Summary: The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. Existing law authorizes the Governor to certify projects meeting certain requirements as infrastructure projects and provide those certified projects with certain streamlining benefits, including requiring the lead agency to prepare the record of proceedings concurrently with the environmental review process and requiring the resolution of an action or proceeding challenging the certification of an EIR for certified projects or the granting of any project approvals, to the extent feasible, within 270 days of the filing of the record of proceedings with the court, as specified. Existing law requires the lead agency, within 10 days of the certification of an infrastructure project, to provide a public notice of the certification, as provided. If a lead agency fails to approve a project certified as an infrastructure project before January 1, 2033, existing law specifies that the certification is no longer valid. Existing law requires the Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation to make evidence and materials submitted for the certification of a project available to the public on its internet website at least 15 days before the certification of the project. This bill would also authorize the Governor to certify an essential local fire station project for streamlining as an infrastructure project if the Governor ensures that the project meets specified requirements, including, among others, that the applicant agrees to pay the costs of the trial court and the court of appeal in hearing and deciding any case challenging a lead agency's action on the project, and the applicant agrees to pay the costs of preparing the record of proceedings for the project, as specified. The bill would require a project to meet specified requirements to be eligible for certification as an essential local fire station project. (Based on 09/03/2026 text)

AB 2321 | Ortega, D | HTML | PDF

Occupational safety and health: investigations.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	Oppose

Bill information

Status: 08/31/2026 - Senate amendments concurred in. To Engrossing and Enrolling. (Ayes 58. Noes 17.).

Summary: Existing law requires the Division of Occupational Safety and Health to investigate the causes of any employment accident that is fatal to one or more employees or that results in a serious injury, illness, or exposure, except as specified. Existing law requires the chief of the division and all qualified inspectors and investigators authorized by the chief to have free access to any place of employment to investigate and inspect and sets forth various other duties related to investigation and inspection, as specified. This bill would make it a misdemeanor to willfully resist, prevent, impede, or interfere with the chief or their authorized representative in the performance of the above-described duties or to willfully violate an order of the court relating to those duties. (Based on 09/04/2026 text)

SB 887 | Padilla, D | HTML | PDF

California Environmental Quality Act: environmental leadership development projects: data centers: geothermal powerplant projects.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 09/09/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 2 p.m.

Summary: (1) The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) requires a lead agency, as defined, to prepare, or cause to be prepared, and certify the completion of, an environmental impact report on a project that it proposes to carry out or approve that may have a significant effect on the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if it finds that the project will not have that effect. CEQA also requires a lead agency to prepare a mitigated negative declaration for a project that may have a significant effect on the environment if revisions in the project would avoid or mitigate that effect and there is no substantial evidence that the project, as revised, would have a significant effect on the environment. This bill would define "data center" for the purposes of CEQA and prohibit the application of categorical exemption to a project for the development and operation of a data center, as specified. By increasing the duties of a lead agency in relation to the environmental review of a data center project, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 09/04/2026 text)

SB 1012 | Smallwood-Cuevas, D | HTML | PDF

Employment of inmates.

Tracking form

Client	Position
ABC	

Bill information

Status: 08/30/2026 - Enrolled and presented to the Governor at 6 p.m.

Summary: Existing law establishes the Prerelease Construction Trades Certificate Program in the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation to increase employment opportunities in the construction trades for inmates upon release. Existing law requires the department to establish a joint advisory committee composed of, among others, representatives from building and construction trades employee organizations to implement the program, as specified. Existing law establishes the California Conservation Camp program to provide for the training and use of the inmates and wards assigned to conservation camps in the furtherance of public conservation, including forest fire prevention and control. This bill would additionally require the joint advisory committee, in consultation with various state entities, to facilitate the admission of graduates of the California Conservation Camp program, as defined, after release into state-approved apprenticeship programs for the construction craft laborer occupation, as specified. The bill would state that successful participation in the program, beginning July 1, 2027, constitutes qualifying experience for a state-approved apprenticeship for the construction craft laborer occupation. (Based on 08/27/2026 text)

Total Measures: 14
Total Tracking Forms: 14