



## CALAFCO Legislative Summary

LAFCo Meeting April 22, 2025

The legislature reconvened on January 6 and the last day for new legislation to be introduced is February 21. The session gets busier in May with the revised State Budget and committee meetings.

The latest CALAFCO bill tracker report is attached and dated March 10, 2025 (with CALAFCO staff turnover, some resources are not being kept updated). As of then, CALAFCO is tracking 17 bills. None appear to be of concern to Yolo LAFCo but are briefly summarized as follows:

- AB 1156, SB 5 and SB 729 make nonsubstantive changes to Williamson Act provisions.
- AB 259, AB 351, AB 370, SB 239, SB 707 make minor changes to open meetings/teleconference, campaign contributions, public records act requests, and automated decision systems for housing.
- SB 360, SB 390, SB 392, and SB 558 address issues that are county specific and are not Yolo County.
- SB 462 would require the This bill would require the State Controller to transfer \$20,000,000 each year from the General Fund to create the California Farmland Conservancy Program Fund to acquire conservation easements for the permanent preservation of agricultural lands.
- SB 598 is CALAFCO's omnibus bill.
- SB 740 would extend the date municipal wastewater agencies are required to provide agreements to LAFCos from 30 to 40 days.

**AB 259** (Rubio, Blanca, D) Open meetings: local agencies: teleconferences.**Current Text:** 01/16/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Introduced:** 01/16/2025**Status:** 02/10/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing, as specified, and requires a legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing to comply with specified requirements, including that the local agency post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency to use alternative teleconferencing if, during the teleconference meeting, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, and the legislative body complies with prescribed requirements. Existing law requires a member to satisfy specified requirements to participate in a meeting remotely pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including that specified circumstances apply. Existing law establishes limits on the number of meetings a member may participate in solely by teleconference from a remote location pursuant to these alternative teleconferencing provisions, including prohibiting such participation for more than 2 meetings per year if the legislative body regularly meets once per month or less. This bill would remove the January 1, 2026, date from those provisions, thereby extending the alternative teleconferencing procedures indefinitely. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/16/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO**AB 351** (McKinnor, D) Campaign contributions: agency officers.**Current Text:** 01/30/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Introduced:** 01/30/2025**Status:** 02/18/2025 - Referred to Com. on Elections.

**Summary:** The Political Reform Act of 1974 prohibits an officer of an agency from accepting, soliciting, or directing a contribution of more than \$500 from any party, participant, or a party or participant's agent, while a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use is pending before the agency and for 12 months following the date a final decision is rendered in the proceeding, if the officer knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest, as defined. The act also prohibits an officer of an agency from making, participating in making, or in any way attempting to use the officer's official position to influence the decision in a proceeding involving a license, permit, or other entitlement for use pending before the agency if the officer has willfully or knowingly received a contribution of more than \$500 within the preceding 12 months from a party or a party's agent, or from any participant or a participant's agent, if the officer knows or has reason to know that the participant has a financial interest in the decision, as defined. This bill would increase the contribution thresholds described above from \$500 to \$1500. The bill would require the commission to adjust these contribution thresholds to reflect any increase or decrease in the Consumer Price Index beginning January, 2027, and in January of each odd-numbered year thereafter, as specified. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/30/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO**AB 370** (Carrillo, D) California Public Records Act: cyberattacks.**Current Text:** 02/03/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)**Introduced:** 02/03/2025**Status:** 02/18/2025 - Referred to Com. on JUD.

**Summary:** The California Public Records Act requires state and local agencies to make their records available for public inspection, except as specified. Existing law requires each agency, within 10 days of a request for a copy of records, to determine whether the request seeks copies of disclosable public records in possession of the agency and to promptly notify the person of the determination and the reasons therefor. Existing law authorizes that time limit to be extended by no more than 14 days under unusual circumstances, and defines "unusual circumstances" to include, among other things, the need to search for, collect, and appropriately examine records during a state of emergency when the state of emergency currently affects the agency's ability to timely respond to requests due to staffing shortages or closure of facilities, as provided.

This bill would revise the definition of unusual circumstances as it applies to a state of emergency to require the state of emergency, in addition to currently affecting the agency's ability to timely respond to requests as described above, to also require the state of emergency to directly affect the agency's ability to timely respond to requests as described above. By restricting the time period in which a local agency may respond to requests, thus increasing the duties of local officials, this bill would create a state-mandated local program. This bill would also expand the definition of unusual circumstances to include the inability of the agency, because of a cyberattack, to access its electronic servers or systems in order to search for and obtain a record maintained on the servers or systems in an electronic format that may be responsive to a request. Under the bill, the extension would apply only until the agency regains its ability to access its electronic servers or systems and search for and obtain electronic records that may be responsive to a request. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/03/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**AB 1018** **(Bauer-Kahan, D) Automated decision systems.**

**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/20/2025

**Status:** 02/21/2025 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 23.

**Summary:** The California Fair Employment and Housing Act establishes the Civil Rights Department within the Business, Consumer Services, and Housing Agency and requires the department to, among other things, bring civil actions to enforce the act. Existing law requires, on or before September 1, 2024, the Department of Technology to conduct, in coordination with other interagency bodies as it deems appropriate, a comprehensive inventory of all high-risk automated decision systems that have been proposed for use, development, or procurement by, or are being used, developed, or procured by, any state agency. This bill would generally regulate the development and deployment of an automated decision system (ADS) used to make consequential decisions, as defined. The bill would define "automated decision system" to mean a computational process derived from machine learning, statistical modeling, data analytics, or artificial intelligence that issues simplified output, including a score, classification, or recommendation, that is used to assist or replace human discretionary decisionmaking and materially impacts natural persons. This bill would require a developer of a covered ADS, as defined, to take certain actions, including conduct performance evaluations of the covered ADS and provide deployers to whom the developer transfers the covered ADS with certain information, including the results of those performance evaluations. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**AB 1156** **(Wicks, D) Agricultural land use: conversion to solar-use easements.**

**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/20/2025

**Status:** 02/21/2025 - From printer. May be heard in committee March 23.

**Summary:** Existing law, the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, otherwise known as the Williamson Act, authorizes a city or county to contract with a landowner to limit the use of agricultural land to agricultural use if the land is located in an agricultural preserve designated by the city or county, as specified. Existing law authorizes the parties to mutually agree to rescind the contract in order to simultaneously enter into a solar-use easement, if the parcel is determined eligible by the Department of Conservation, as specified. This bill would, instead, require the right or interest in the parcel acquired by the city or county described above to be for a term of years, rather than an indefinite period, and the covenant with the county or city contained in the easement described above to run with the land for a term of years, rather than indefinitely. The bill would make these changes applicable only to easements rescinded and converted to solar use pursuant to these provisions after January 1, 2026. This bill contains other existing laws. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 5** **(Cabaldon, D) Infrastructure financing districts: allocation of taxes: agricultural land exclusion.**

**Current Text:** 12/02/2024 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 12/02/2024

**Status:** 01/29/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Summary:** Existing law, the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, otherwise known as the Williamson Act, authorizes a city or county to enter into contracts with owners of agricultural land to preserve the land for agricultural use, as specified, in return for reduced property tax assessments. The act also authorizes a landowner of specified agricultural land to petition the city or county to cancel the Williamson Act contract in order to designate the land as a farmland security zone, whereby the land is eligible for a specified property tax valuation and taxed at a reduced rate for specified special taxes. Existing law authorizes the legislative body of a city or a county to establish an enhanced infrastructure financing district, with a governing body

referred to as the public financing authority, to finance public capital facilities or other specified projects of communitywide significance. Existing law requires the public financing authority to prepare and adopt a proposed infrastructure financing plan, as specified. Existing law authorizes the plan to require a certain portion of specified taxes levied upon property within the district to be allocated to the district each year, as specified. This bill would exclude the taxes levied upon a parcel of land enrolled in or subject to a Williamson Act contract or a farmland security zone contract, as specified, from the above-described allocation to the district. (Based on 12/02/2024 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 239**     **(Arreguín, D) Open meetings: teleconferencing: subsidiary body.**

**Current Text:** 01/30/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 01/30/2025

**Status:** 02/14/2025 - Referred to Coms. on L. GOV. and JUD.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. The act generally requires for teleconferencing that the legislative body of a local agency that elects to use teleconferencing post agendas at all teleconference locations, identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting or proceeding, and have each teleconference location be accessible to the public. Existing law also requires that, during the teleconference, at least a quorum of the members of the legislative body participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction, except as specified. Existing law, until January 1, 2026, authorizes specified neighborhood city councils to use alternate teleconferencing provisions related to notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed, if, among other requirements, the city council has adopted an authorizing resolution and 2/3 of the neighborhood city council votes to use alternate teleconference provisions, as specified. This bill would authorize a subsidiary body, as defined, to use alternative teleconferencing provisions and would impose requirements for notice, agenda, and public participation, as prescribed. The bill would require the subsidiary body to post the agenda at the primary physical meeting location. The bill would require the members of the subsidiary body to visibly appear on camera during the open portion of a meeting that is publicly accessible via the internet or other online platform, as specified. The bill would also require the subsidiary body to list a member of the subsidiary body who participates in a teleconference meeting from a remote location in the minutes of the meeting. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 01/30/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 360**     **(Rubio, D) Land conservation: California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act: County of San Bernardino.**

**Current Text:** 02/13/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/13/2025

**Status:** 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

**Summary:** The California Wildlife, Coastal, and Park Land Conservation Act, an initiative measure approved by the voters in the June 7, 1988, statewide primary election, provided bond funds for wildlife, coastal, and parkland conservation. The initiative measure authorizes the act to be amended by a 2/3 vote of the Legislature if the amendment is consistent with the purposes of the act. Existing law requires an applicant receiving state funds under the act to maintain any property acquired in perpetuity, as specified, and use the property only for the purposes stated in the act and to make no other use, sale, or other disposition of the property except as authorized by a specific act of the Legislature. Existing law authorizes the County of San Bernardino to sell or exchange property it owns within the Chino Agricultural Preserve that was purchased with grant funds if it meets certain conditions. Among those conditions, existing law requires the county to preserve all lands and conservation easements acquired or dedicated as authorized by the act in perpetuity for open-space conservation purposes or agricultural preservation, and specifies that open-space conservation includes community gardens, agricultural heritage projects, agricultural and wildlife education or wildlife habitat. This bill would additionally authorize preservation of those lands or easements for park and recreational purposes, and would explicitly include, to the extent they are consistent with the purposes of the act, playgrounds, recreational venues, sporting venues, amphitheaters, and preservation of historical resources as appropriate purposes. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/13/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 390**     **(Becker, D) Community facilities district: inclusion or annexation of territory: County of San Mateo.**

**Current Text:** 02/14/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/14/2025

**Status:** 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Mello-Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982, authorizes the legislative body of a local agency, as defined, to create a community facilities district to finance specified types of services within an area. Existing law prohibits a territory that is dedicated or restricted to agricultural, open-space, or conservation uses from being included within or annexed to a specified community facilities district without the landowner's consent. This bill would, notwithstanding those prohibitions, specify that for territory that is located within the regional shoreline of the County of San Mateo, the consent of a landowner is not required, if specified conditions are met. This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the County of San Mateo. (Based on 02/14/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 392**     **(Grayson, D) Regional park districts: East Bay Regional Park District: East Bay Hills Conservation Program.**

**Current Text:** 02/14/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/14/2025

**Status:** 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Summary:** Existing law establishes procedures for the formation of regional park districts and prescribes the powers, functions, and duties of those districts. The East Bay Regional Park District is one such regional park district. This bill would authorize the East Bay Regional Park District to establish and administer the East Bay Hills Conservation Program to address resource and recreational goals of the East Bay Hills, as defined. The bill would authorize the Park District to collaborate with state, regional, and local partners to help achieve specified goals of the program. The bill would require a proponent or party to a certain proposed development project to convert natural lands within the East Bay Hills to provide notice to the district of the proposed project, and would authorize the district to provide analysis of the environmental values and potential impacts of the proposed project. The bill would require the East Bay Hills to be acknowledged as an area of statewide significance in local planning documents developed or updated on or after January 1, 2026, affecting land use within the East Bay Hills. To the extent that this bill would impose new duties on local entities, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill would make legislative findings and declarations as to the necessity of a special statute for the East Bay Regional Park District. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/14/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 462**     **(Cortese, D) California Farmland Conservancy Program: conservation easements: funding.**

**Current Text:** 02/19/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/19/2025

**Status:** 02/26/2025 - Referred to Com. on N.R. & W.

**Summary:** Existing law establishes the California Farmland Conservancy Program in the Department of Conservation and authorizes the program to offer financial assistance, including grants or contracts, for projects and activities on agricultural lands that support agricultural conservation and sustainable land management. Existing law creates the California Farmland Conservancy Program Fund and requires moneys in the fund, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act, to be used for purposes of the program. Notwithstanding that provision, existing law continuously appropriates moneys in the fund from federal grants and gifts and donations to the department for purposes of the program. This bill would require the Controller to transfer \$20,000,000 on July 1 of each fiscal year, commencing with the 2025–26 fiscal year, from the General Fund to the California Farmland Conservancy Program Funding Account, which the bill would create within the California Farmland Conservancy Program Fund. The bill would continuously appropriate moneys in the account to the department to allocate to entities that meet specified criteria, thereby making an appropriation, and would require those entities to use the moneys solely to acquire conservation easements that result in the permanent preservation of agricultural lands. (Based on 02/19/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 558**     **(Padilla, D) Imperial Valley Healthcare District: voting districts.**

**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/20/2025

**Status:** 03/05/2025 - Referred to Com. on L. GOV.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Local Health Care District Law, authorizes the organization and incorporation of local health care districts and specifies the powers of those districts, including, among other things, the power to establish, maintain, and operate, or provide assistance in the operation of, one or more health facilities or health services, including, but not limited to, outpatient programs, services, and facilities; retirement programs, services, and facilities; chemical dependency programs, services, and facilities; or other health care programs, services, and facilities and activities at any location within or without the district for the benefit of

the district and the people served by the district. This bill would instead authorize a member of the initial board of directors to become the first elected member for a voting district if the member is otherwise eligible for the position and is elected by the electors of that voting district. This bill contains other existing laws. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 598**     **(Durazo, D) Local government.**

**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/20/2025

**Status:** 03/05/2025 - Referred to Com. on RLS.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts, except as specified. This bill would make a nonsubstantive change to the provision naming the act. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 634**     **(Pérez, D) Local government.**

**Current Text:** 02/20/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/20/2025

**Status:** 03/05/2025 - Referred to Com. on RLS.

**Summary:** Existing law provides for the formation and powers of various local governments, including counties and cities. Existing law, the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, provides the sole and exclusive authority and procedure for the initiation, conduct, and completion of changes of organization and reorganization for cities and districts. This bill would state the intent of the Legislature to enact legislation relating to local government. (Based on 02/20/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 707**     **(Durazo, D) Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements.**

**Current Text:** 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/21/2025

**Status:** 02/24/2025 - From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 24. Read first time.

**Summary:** Existing law, the Ralph M. Brown Act, requires, with specified exceptions, that all meetings of a legislative body, as defined, of a local agency be open and public and that all persons be permitted to attend and participate. This bill would, until January 1, 2030, require a city council or a county board of supervisors to comply with additional meeting requirements, including that all open and public meetings include an opportunity for members of the public to attend via a two-way telephonic option or a two-way audiovisual platform, as defined, that a system is in place for requesting and receiving interpretation services for public meetings, as specified, and that good faith efforts are made to encourage residents to participate in public meetings, as specified. By imposing additional meeting requirements on city councils and county boards of supervisors, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program. This bill contains other related provisions and other existing laws. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 729**     **(Limón, D) Williamson Act: agricultural preserves.**

**Current Text:** 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/21/2025

**Status:** 02/24/2025 - From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 24. Read first time.

**Summary:** Existing law, the California Land Conservation Act of 1965, otherwise known as the Williamson Act, authorizes a county board of supervisors or a city council to agree to indemnify an owner of land who agrees to permit the use of their land for free public recreation against all claims arising from that public use. The act authorizes a city, county, housing authority, state agency, or nonprofit organization to indemnify an owner of land who agrees to permit the use of their land for agricultural laborer housing facilities, as specified, against all claims arising from that use. This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to these provisions. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

**SB 740**     **(Rubio, D) Municipal wastewater agency: new agreement or amendment.**

**Current Text:** 02/21/2025 - Introduced [HTML](#) [PDF](#)

**Introduced:** 02/21/2025

**Status:** 02/24/2025 - From printer. May be acted upon on or after March 24. Read first time.

**Summary:** Existing law authorizes a municipal wastewater agency to enter into agreements with entities responsible for stormwater management, including, but not limited to, municipal, industrial, and commercial stormwater dischargers, for the purpose of managing stormwater and dry weather runoff. Existing law requires a municipal wastewater agency, if the agency enters into a new agreement or amends an agreement pursuant to those provisions, to file a copy of the agreement or amendment with the local agency formation commission in each county where any part of the municipal wastewater agency's territory is located within 30 days after the effective date of the new agreement or amendment. This bill would extend that filing requirement timeline to 40 days. (Based on 02/21/2025 text)

**Organization:** CALAFCO

Total Measures: 17

Total Tracking Forms: 17