

2017 MID-YEAR LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

ANNA M. CABALLERO, CHAIR



Assembly Committee on Agriculture

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Assembly Committee on Agriculture
Anna M. Caballero, Chair

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ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 243 (Cooper) – California Beef Commission.

This bill would establish the California Beef Commission. It would provide the Commission with broad authority, including authorization to negotiate directly with governmental agencies and to educate those effecting policy likely to impact California cattle producers or beef and beef products.

In Senate Judiciary Committee. Set, first hearing. Hearing Canceled at the request of author.

AB 441 (Frazier) – Land use: zoning regulations: farm to table cafes.

This bill would prohibit a zoning ordinance of a city, county, or city and county from prohibiting an agricultural producer from operating a farm to table cafe, as defined.

*Referred to Assembly Committees on Local Government and Agriculture.
In Assembly Local Government Committee.*

AB 465 (Ting) – Urban agricultural incentive zones.

This bill extends the sunset of the Urban Agriculture Incentive Zones (UAIZ) Act from January 1, 2019 to January 1, 2029 and makes technical changes to the UAIZ Act.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 313, Statutes of 2017.

AB 486 (Mathis) – Market milk: ultra-filtered milk products.

This bill would define "ultra-filtered milk products" and would authorize the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to establish milk standards for ultra-filtered milk products sold in California. The bill would also require ultra-filtered milk products to meet all standards and requirements for market milk and would require ultra-filtered milk products to be labeled in accordance with applicable federal laws.

In Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

AB 527 (Caballero) – Pest control aircraft pilot's certificate: unmanned aircraft.

This bill allows commercial unmanned aircraft systems (drone) operations for the purpose of pesticide application for mosquito and vector control, provides that the drone operator comply with Federal Aviation Administration FAA rules governing drone flight and the drone operator has approval from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation. This bill creates a new pest control aircraft pilot certificate for drone operators, to be provided upon operators passing the exam, as specified.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 404, Statutes of 2017.

AB 564 (Agriculture Committee) – Food and agriculture: fruits, nuts, and vegetables: inspections.

This bill makes changes in the Food and Agriculture code to conform it to the Food Safety Modernization Act, by clarifying that the California Department of Food and Agriculture may enforce and make inspections of grade, standard of quality, and other provisions of any raw unprocessed fruit, nut, or vegetable marketing, food safety, or enforcement programs that are adopted by the United States or California.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 79, Statutes of 2017.

AB 768 (Aguiar-Curry) – Certified farmers' markets: enforcement: civil penalties.

This bill deletes the sunset clause on the fees and enforcement authority for the Direct Marketing Program, which includes certified farmers' markets, field retail stands, farm stands, community-supported agriculture, and other forms of direct marketing.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 83, Statutes of 2017.

AB 822 (Caballero) – Institutional purchasers: sale of California produce.

This bill requires all California state-owned or state-run institutions, except public universities and colleges and school districts, to purchase agricultural products grown in California when the bid or price of the California-grown agricultural product does not exceed, by more than 5%, the lowest bid or price for an agricultural product produced outside the state and the quality of the produce is comparable.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 785, Statutes of 2017.

AB 861 (Dahle) – Africanized honey bees.

This bill authorizes a county agricultural commissioner, in the absence of a local ordinance, to take abatement action against a hive containing Africanized or overly defensive honey bees if it is determined that the hive is a public nuisance.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 143, Statutes of 2017.

AB 925 (Frazier) – Williamson Act: farmland security and conservation zones.

This bill creates Farmland Security Zone contracts of 30, 40 and 50 years. This bill was double referred to Assembly Committee on Agriculture and the Local Government Committee.

In Assembly Committee on Local Government.

AB 933 (Agriculture Committee) – Food and agriculture omnibus bill.

This bill authorizes specified funds appropriated to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to be disbursed to the California Agricultural Commissioners and Sealers Association to offset program and personnel expenses; authorizes, rather than requires, CDFA to expend funds on fair exhibits and judges, as specified; requires milk products to be labeled with a date that would ensure consumer quality; and authorizes the Olive Oil Commission of California to engage in public education activities.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 144, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1126 (Agriculture Committee) – Pesticides: carbon monoxide.

This bill extends, to January 1, 2023, the sunset date that authorizes the use of carbon monoxide to control burrowing rodent pests, subject to specified requirements, and under the condition that a warning label be permanently affixed to the carbon

monoxide delivery device.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 112, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1131 (Lackey) – District agricultural associations: joint powers agreements: audits.

This bill states that if the 50th District Agricultural Association is part of a joint powers agreement (JPA), the JPA agency is responsible for conducting annual examinations and reviews of its books, and a triennial audit.

Chaptered by Secretary of Statue, Chapter 556, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1163 (Irwin) – Minors: power of attorney to care for a minor child.

This bill, as introduced, would have appropriated \$1 million from the General Fund to the Buy California Program, within the California Department of Food and Agriculture, to promote California grown products, including specialty crops and non-specialty crops.

This bill was amended on June 22, 2017, and replaced with language that removed it from the Committee on Agriculture's jurisdiction.

In Senate Committee on Rules.

AB 1232 (Fong) – Agricultural pest control: citrus disease prevention: funding.

This bill would appropriate \$10 million from the General Fund to the Citrus Disease Management account in the California Department of Food and Agriculture for the purpose of citrus disease prevention.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee. Held under Submission.

AB 1348 (Aguiar-Curry) – Farmer Equity Act of 2017.

This bill requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture to ensure the inclusion of socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers in the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of food and agriculture laws, regulations, and policies and programs.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 620, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1351 (Caballero) – District Agricultural Associations: authorized activities.

This bill allows, under a District Agriculture Association (DAA) leasing authority and with the California Department of General Services' approval, the lease, construction and maintenance of affordable housing, as specified, on DAA property.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 559, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1486 (Caballero) – Milk products: licenses: fees.

This bill consolidates milk products' plant permits, increases license and permit fees, and updates food safety laws regarding the manufacture and sale of frozen and soft-serve dairy and nondairy products.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 153, Statutes of 2017.

AB 1564 (Arambula) – Agricultural preserves: Williamson Act.

This bill would require a county board of supervisors or city council to establish rules for partial cancellation and partial non-renewal of Williamson Act contracts, and would make numerous technical changes to the Williamson Act.

Senate Inactive File.

AB 1713 (Agriculture Committee) – Fertilizer: fertilizing material.

This bill would require the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to perform annual field test for Organic Inputs Material (OIM) for high risk materials. This bill would require CDFA to conduct field tests on OIM that are considered high risk material; require CDFA to update regulations relating to sampling methodology on or before July 1, 2018; and, require CDFA to report to the Fertilizer Inspection Advisory Board the cost of the inspection for OIM.

In Assembly Appropriations Committee. Held under Submission.

AJR 11 (Flora) – California agricultural industry.

This Assembly Joint Resolution urges the President and the Congress of the United States to recognize the importance of the California agricultural industry to our nation, to keep California's farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers in mind when considering global trade and immigration matters, and to break down barriers to agricultural trade.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Res. Chapter 173, Statutes of 2017.

SENATE BILLS

SB 175 (McGuire) – Marijuana: county of origin: marketing and advertising.

This bill would expand marijuana appellation of origin protections to advertising and prohibit the use of names that sound similar to a California county in advertising, labeling, marketing, or packaging of marijuana products if it is likely to mislead consumers as to the product's appellation of origin. Double referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Business and Professions.

In Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

SB 243 (Galgiani) – Citrus disease prevention.

This bill appropriates \$9,616,000 from the Citrus Disease Management Account to the California Department of Food and Agriculture for operating expenses necessary for the prevention and management of citrus diseases.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 10, Statutes of 2017.

SB 335 (Cannella) – Nursery Advisory Board.

This bill codifies the Nursery Advisory Board within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to provide recommendations to the Secretary of CDFA on all matters pertaining to the nursery industry.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 234, Statutes of 2017.

SB 368 (McGuire) – Horse racing: fairs: funding.

This bill provides that any unused revenues from specified deposits into the Fair and Exposition (F&E) Fund and other funding appropriated by the Legislature or otherwise designated for fairs, is to be continuously appropriated for allocation by the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture for capital outlay to fairs. This would streamline the use of the F&E funds for fairs' deferred maintenance projects.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 808, Statutes of 2017.

SB 732 (Stern) – General plan: agricultural land.

This bill allows a city or county to develop an agricultural land component of their open-space element, or a separate agricultural land element, in return for priority consideration for funding provided by the Department of Conservation.

Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 434, Statutes of 2017.

SB 782 (Skinner) – School meals: state agriculture.

This bill would require the California Department of Food and Agriculture and the State Department of Education to annually meet to discuss the intersection of state agriculture and school meals policy. Double Referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture and the Committee on Business and Professions.

In Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

INFORMATIONAL HEARINGS

Joint Informational Hearing February 7, 2017

Assembly Committee on Business and Professions
Chair, Assemblymember Rudy Salas

Assembly Committee on Health
Chair, Assemblymember Jim Wood

And

Assembly Committee on Agriculture
Chair, Assemblymember Anna M. Caballero

Cannabis Regulation: The Path Forward after Proposition 64

Joint Informational Hearing October 25, 2017

Assembly Committee on Agriculture
Chair, Assemblymember Anna M. Caballero

And

Assembly Select Committee on Economic Development and Investment
In Rural California
Chair, Assemblymember Anna M. Caballero

Agriculture Technology: Innovation, Startups and Workforce Readiness