

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

2019-2020

SUSAN T. EGGMAN, CHAIR



Assembly Committee on Agriculture

MEMBERS:

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Hon. Cecilia Aguiar-Curry
Hon. Jordon Cunningham
Hon. Heath Flora
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Assembly California Legislature



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ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE SUSAN TALAMANTES EGGMAN, Ph.D., CHAIR ASSEMBLYMEMBER, THIRTEENTH DISTRICT

November 1, 2020

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The following report summarizes legislation referred to the Assembly Committee on Agriculture during the 2020 legislative session and indicates the final status of each measure.

The Committee's primary jurisdiction extends to agricultural land use, commodity specific legislation, agricultural commissions and councils, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, fairs and expositions, agricultural marketing, food safety and labeling, and agricultural pesticides.

For additional information regarding this summary, or other activities of the Assembly Committee on Agriculture, please contact the Committee staff at 916-319-2084.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Stg", likely representing Susan T. Eggman.

Susan T. Eggman, Chair

ASSEMBLY AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE 2019 - 2020 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

ASSEMBLY BILLS

AB 256 (Aguiar-Curry) – Wildlife: California Winter Rice Habitat Incentive Program. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 420, Statutes of 2019.

This bill revises the provisions of the California Winter Rice Habitat Incentive Program. Specifically, this bill:

1. Revises the definition of “productive agricultural rice lands that are winter-flooded” to remove the requirement that the field has been farmed to rice at least two of the last three growing seasons, and instead requires that the field has been farmed to rice during each growing season before each of the winter flooding seasons contracted for flooding.
2. Requires contracts under the program to require an agreement by the owner or the lessee to restore, enhance, and protect the waterfowl habitat character of an established number of acres of described land that may be annually rotated provided that the minimum contracted acreage amount is achieved for each of the contracted winter-flooding seasons.
3. Removes the requirement that lessees of the rice lands have the owners of record execute the contracts.
4. Authorizes the Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to enter into agreements with qualified entities that possess demonstrated experience and understanding of California rice farming practices and wildlife-related conservation practices to assist with the implementation of conservation contracts on behalf of the DFW.

AB 256, as introduced, was regarding cotton pests abatement districts, and was referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee. On June 28, 2019, this bill was gut and amended with the current bill language, and was re-referred to the Assembly Committee on Water, Parks, and Wildlife.

AB 366 (Bloom) – Animals: blood, blood components, and biologics. Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

This bill will allow for the creation of canine blood banks based on a voluntary blood donor program and eliminate, by 2022, the use of closed colony animal blood banks that produce canine blood and blood components.

AB 417 (Arambula, Mathis, Robert Rivas) – Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Act. Vetoed by the Governor, October 12, 2019.

This bill creates the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Act. This bill authorizes the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to consult with other stakeholders to identify opportunities to further rural agricultural economies. This bill also requires CDFA to create a position within the Department’s executive office to assist the Secretary with the Act and establishes the Rural Economic Development Account to carry out the provisions of the Act.

GOVERNOR’S VETO MESSAGE:

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am returning Assembly Bill 417 without my signature.

This bill would establish the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Act by authorizing the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to consult with other stakeholders to identify opportunities to further rural agricultural economies. This bill also requires CDFA to create a position within the department’s executive office to assist the Secretary with the Act and establishes the Rural Economic Development Account to carry out the provisions of the Act.

I support the creation of new opportunities for CDFA to work with federal, state and local partners to identify new partnerships and innovative solutions to enhance rural economies through technology, education and workforce training. However, I believe establishing the new position and responsibilities envisioned by this bill is better done in the budget and in the context of the broader mission of the department.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

AB 419 (Committee on Agriculture) – Food and Agriculture. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 261, Statutes of 2019.

This bill extends the Fruit and Vegetable Standardization Program (FVS Program) to January 1, 2025. The bill also extends the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA) authority to establish an additional fee to operate the licensing program for the rendering and collection of inedible kitchen grease until July 1, 2025, and extends to July 1, 2021, the optional county subvention program for enforcement activities, and other provisions of California Seed Law.

AB 450 (Arambula, Irwin, Mathis) - Bees: Apiary Protection Act. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 300, Statutes of 2019.

California has the largest beekeeping industry of any state in the nation. Nearly three-quarters of the country's documented commercial honeybee crop pollination is conducted in California, adding over six billion dollars to the value of California agricultural products. Nearly 500,000 colonies of bees are operated by 400 commercial and semi-commercial beekeepers. The state is also the leader in honey production.

Under current law, any person relocating an apiary from one county to another must report it to CAC in the new county within 72 hours. This bill will require apiaries that move within a county to also file a notice of movement within 72 hours to the local CAC. According to the author, this would provide for timelier bee hive movement notification in a timely manner. Furthermore, this will improve on the information reported to the CAC Commissioners in order to prevent any incident where a pesticide use permit is approved for a pesticide that is harmful to bees when there is an apiary in the area.

AB 466 (Committee on Agriculture) – Interstate shipments: market milk: 6 percent milk: Office of Farm to Fork: report. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 301, Statutes of 2019.

This bill allows California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to enter into place of origin inspection agreements for all items requiring entry inspection for plant pests; defines 6% milk products and authorizes the Secretary of CDFA to establish milk standards for 6% milk products sold in California; and extends the date by which CDFA's Office of Farm to Fork is required to submit to the Legislature an overview of the account's income and expenditures.

AB 534 (Mayes) – Social services: access to food. Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

Establishes the Envision a Hunger-Free California Act of 2019, (EHF Act) that requires the California Department of Social Services, the Department of Public Health, Department of Education, and the California Department of Food and Agriculture to develop a plan to end hunger, which shall include identification of barriers to food access, among other elements: further requires the plan to be presented to the Legislature no later than January 1, 2021.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Health Committee as first committee of reference, and to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as second committee of reference.

AB 590 (Mathis, Eggman) – Milk. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 304, Statutes of 2019.

This bill makes various changes to current state law to comply with California's Federal Milk Marketing Order (FMMO). Specifically, this bill:

Updates how milk producers pay into the Milk Producers Security Trust (MPST) Fund; aligns definitions with California's FMMO; revises the Dairy Council of California Law to focus the council's activities on research, communication, and education regarding the nutritional value of milk and milk products within a balanced diet; and, allows the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to implement a new assessment structure to fund the activities of the council as a result of the loss of the Milk Marketing and Stabilization Program.

AB 635 (Bigelow) – Horse racing: state-designated fairs: employees. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 353, Statutes of 2019.

Clarifies employees on fairground properties that are a part of a valid collective bargaining agreement are exempt from specified aspects of overtime requirements.

The Senate Amendments:

Deleted the Assembly version of this bill, which would have authorized a district agricultural association (DAA) to purchase commercial automobile and mobile equipment insurance from a joint powers agency (JPA) that is created for providing liability coverage for a DAA, and replaced it with specified overtime exemptions for fairground employees who are part of a valid collective bargaining agreement. This bill had an urgency clause.

AB 657 (Eggman) – Agriculture: commercial feed. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 306, Statutes of 2019.

This extends the sunset date for commercial feed licensure and inspection tonnage tax from January 1, 2020 to January 1, 2025. The bill also increases the maximum rate of the tonnage tax from \$0.15 to \$0.25 per ton of commercial feed sold. The funding is used for education and research regarding the safe handling of commercial feed.

AB 838 (Eggman) – Flood Management: Mossdale Tract. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 208, Statutes of 2020.

As originally introduced, this bill would have created the Farm Equity and Innovation Center within the University of California's (UC) Small Farm Program.

The bill was amended June 25, 2020 to provide the Mossdale Tract an individual extension of the 2025 deadline for achieving urban level flood protection to 2028. These amendments remove AB 838 from the Committee on Agriculture Jurisdiction.

AB 858 (Levine) – Cannabis: cultivation. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 809, Statutes of 2019.

This bill adds to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) type1C (specialty cottage) cannabis cultivation license a limit of 2,500 square feet of canopy for an outdoor grow.

The Legislature passed legislation in 2015 to regulate medical cannabis in California, including its cultivation, transportation, storage, distribution, and sale. In 2016, the voters passed Proposition 64 (Prop 64), which legalized the recreational use of cannabis. As of January 1, 2018, the State of California has begun issuing licenses for the cultivation, manufacturing, testing and sale of both medical and adult use of cannabis.

This is a technical fix to the Type 1C license types for conforming purposes. AB 2516 (Wood) Chapter 827, Statutes of 2016, provided for a Type 1C, or "specialty cottage," state cultivator license to be issued by CDFA, as specified, under the authority of the Medical Marijuana Regulation and Safety Act. It did not place a canopy size limit. This is inconsistent with all other licenses. By placing a limit of 2,500 square feet of canopy for an outdoor grow, the Type 1C license will conform to all the outdoor cannabis license types.

AB 958 (Aguiar-Curry) – The California Organic-to-school Pilot Program. In Committee: Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

This bill creates the California Organic-to-School Pilot Program (Pilot Program) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture's (CDFA's) Office of Farm to Fork. The Pilot Program will provide grants to school authorities to purchase California organic food products. A school authority that receives a grant must submit a report to CDFA containing specified data and information.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference, and to the Assembly Education Committee as second committee of reference.

AB 986 (Robert Rivas) – Agricultural land: socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers: REEAL Act of 2019. Filed with the Chief Clerk pursuant to Joint Rule 56.

This bill requires the Department of Conservation (DOC) to establish the Regional Economy and Equity in Agricultural Lands (REEAL) Program to help socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers gain access to agricultural land. DOC must award grants to eligible conservation entities for fee-title acquisition and agricultural conservation easements.

AB 1205 (Limón) – Cut flowers and cut greens: importation for sale: production standards. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 267, Statutes of 2020.

This bill reduces the number of board members for the California Cut Flower Commission (CFC) from 13 to 9 and repeals term limits for CFC board (board) members. These changes are needed because the decrease in cut flower producers in California has created a challenge for CFC. In November of 2019, the board voted to reduce the size of the board and eliminate

term limits for board members. This will better match the cut flower industry in California and help CFC operate with a full board.

AB 1678 (Carrillo) – Indoor-Grown Cannabis Commission. Without Further Action.

This bill would create the Indoor-Grown Cannabis Commission in state government with a prescribed membership, and would specify the powers, duties, and responsibilities of the commission's board of directors; would authorize the commission to, among other things, conduct research for specified purposes, assess and address the impact of local and state regulations on the cannabis and indoor-grown cannabis industries, and collect and disseminate market price information to prevent unfair trade practices; would authorize the commission to levy assessments on all indoor cultivators, as defined, in amounts within unspecified ranges based on the weight or value of indoor cannabis marketed; and, would continuously appropriate these funds to the commission for the purposes of implementing these provisions.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Business and Professions Committee as second committee of reference.

AB 1800 (Committee on Agriculture) – Fairs: state funding: classification. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 198, Statutes of 2019.

This bill allows, instead of requires, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to classify fairs at least once every five years instead of annually. This bill also allows CDFA to consider other factors in classification than what is currently required in statute.

AB 1801 (Committee on Agriculture) – Cattle: inspections. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 324, Statutes of 2019.

This bill eliminates the requirement that intact female cattle of beef breeds are required to have identification of calf-hood vaccination for Brucellosis at change of ownership to be sold for breeding; updates the current brand fee structure and authorizes the California Department of Food and Agriculture to increase the livestock inspection brand fee by 20%, with the approval of the Livestock Identification Advisory Board; and, clarifies the recent mobile slaughter law to apply to cattle only.

AB 1841 (Salas) – District agricultural associations: fiscal and compliance audits: ethics training. Without Further Action.

This bill would have made makes various changes for reporting and ethics training for District Agricultural Associations (DAA), including: 1) Requiring DAAs to report every year the salary information of their employees to the Controller; 2) Requiring the chief executive officer and each director of a DAA to attend ethics and conflict-of-interest training classes as required by current law; 3) Requiring California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to develop appropriate controls to protect the assets of DAAs and to mitigate the potential for misuse, prevent inappropriate purchases and travel, and segregate duties as a preventive measure against improper purchases by DAAs; and, 4) Requiring CDFA to ensure a fiscal and compliance audit of a DAA in the CDFA's "Fairs on the Watch Program."

This bill was double referred to Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Elections and Redistricting Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, AB 1841 was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 1990 (Aguiar – Curry) – Agriculture: cotton pests abatement districts: organization and establishment: authorized counties. Without Further Action.

This bill would have deleted the authority to establish Cotton Pests Abatement Districts in the Counties of Orange, San Diego, and Ventura.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2039 (Levine) – Mobile slaughter: operations: sheep and goats. Without Further Action.

This bill would have provided a new exemption for a mobile slaughter operator for sheep and goats.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2074 (Aguiar – Curry, Mathis) – Agriculture: olive oil: labeling. Without Further Action.

This bill would have clarified the prohibition that any representation that an olive oil is produced entirely from olives grown within California, unless the olive oil is produced from 100% California olives, includes an olive oil brand's name.

This bill was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Health Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, AB 2074 was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2163 (Robert Rivas, Aguiar-Curry, Mathis) – Rural Broadband and Emergency Infrastructure Grant Act of 2020. Without Further Action.

This bill would have established the Rural Broadband and Emergency Infrastructure (RBEI) Grant Act of 2020 to ensure that all California fairgrounds are equipped with adequate broadband and telecommunications infrastructure to support local, regional, and state emergency and disaster response personnel and systems. The bill would have, upon appropriation, required the Department of Technology, Department of Food and Agriculture, Public Utilities Commission, California Broadband Council, and Office of Emergency Services to jointly develop the RBEI Grant Program to provide each California fairground with grant moneys to support broadband and telecommunications infrastructure deployment.

AB 2163 was double referred to the Assembly Communications and Conveyance Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as second committee of reference. Due to COVID 19, this bill was not heard in either Committee.

AB 2173 (Megan Dahle) – Department of Food and Agriculture: Fair and Exposition Fund: loans to fairs: deferral of loan repayment. Without Further Action.

This bill would have allowed fairs to defer repayment of loans issued by the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s CDFA Fairs and Exposition Fund (F&E Fund) until July 1, 2021. Specifically, this bill would have allowed a fair to defer repayment of loans issued by the F&E Fund until July 1, 2021, provided that interest will not accrue on the loans during the deferral; and, an urgency clause was added.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2250 (Carrillo) – Secretary of Food and Agriculture: cooperative agreements: agricultural inspector services. Without Further Action.

This bill would have removed the prohibition on the California Department of Food and Agriculture from entering into cooperative agreements with Los Angeles County for agricultural inspection services unless a specified percentage of agricultural inspector associates are granted permanent County civil service status.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2431 (Mathis) – Milk and other dairy products: Dairy Council of California Law: producer-handlers. Without Further Action.

This bill would have made the following changes to California Dairy Law:

1. Remove the designation Producer/Handler from Dairy Council of California law. This is done to match up to the Federal milk marketing order definition.
2. Clarify and confirm that CDFA still has a role in setting milk safety standards.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2482 (Mark Stone, Bauer-Kahan) – Agriculture: environmental farming programs and grants. Without Further Action.

This bill would have codified the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program (SWEEP) in the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

This bill was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, AB 2482 was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2550 (Eduardo Garcia) – Grazing land: California Conservation Ranching Incentive Program. Without Further Action.

This bill would have established the California Conservation Ranching Incentive Program (CCRIP) as a separate component of the California Farmland Conservancy Program.

This bill was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, AB 2550 was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2632 (Patterson) – Williamson Act: subvention payments: appropriation. Without Further Action.

This bill would have appropriated an additional \$40,000,000 from the General Fund to make Williams Act subvention payments to counties for losses incurred by counties from the reduction of assessed property taxes.

This bill was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Local Government Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, AB 2632 was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 2955 (Robert Rivas) – Agricultural land conservation: California Farmland Conservancy Program Act. Without Further Action.

The bill would have revised and recast provisions of the California Farmland Conservancy Program Act.

AB 2955 was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 3103 (Megan Dahle) – Commercial feed: Feed Inspection Advisory Board. Without Further Action.

This bill would have allowed the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture the authority to certify private laboratories for testing, sampling, and analyzing agricultural products, such as animal feed and seeds.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 3113 (Eggman) – Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: grant program update. Without Further Action.

This bill would have made technical changes to the Cannella Environmental Farming Act.

AB 3113 was double referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee as second committee of reference.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 3309 (Flora) – Poultry plants: licenses: expiration: prorated license fees. Without Further Action.

This bill would have required poultry plant's license fees to be prorated.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 3321 (Fong) – Pest control operations: aircraft operations: certificates. Without Further Action.

This bill would have allowed out of state pest control pilots of Unmanned Aerial Systems, known commonly as drones, who have a federal drone pilot license, to be exempt from California law requiring pest control drone pilots to have 50 to 150 hours of training depending on the type of drone.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

AB 3361 (Committee on Agriculture) – Department of Food and Agriculture: Secretary of Food and Agriculture: Secretary of Food and Agriculture: bee management and honey production. Without Further Action.

The bill would have made numerous technical and non-substantive changes to the Food and Agriculture Code.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Committee on Agriculture.

HR 20 (Eggman, Mathis) – California Agriculture Day. Adopted March 18, 2019.

WHEREAS, March 20, 2019, was designated as California Agriculture Day, a day of celebration to commemorate agriculture's importance in our daily lives, its vital role in keeping Californians nourished, and its role in keeping the state's economy ranked as the fifth largest in the world.

HR 89 (Eggman, Mathis) – California Agriculture Day. Adopted August 30, 2020.

This resolution recognizes and honors all those who work in California agriculture for their dedication and productivity by observing March 18, 2020, as California Agriculture Day, and designating Wednesday, March 24, 2020, as National Agriculture Day.

SENATE BILLS

SB 67 (McGuire) – Cannabis: marketing appellations of origin: county, city, or city and county of origin. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 298 of 2020.

As originally introduced, this bill would have extended temporary cannabis cultivation licenses (temporary license) until September 15, 2019, for applicants who submit an annual application before the expiration date of the licensee temporary license, and authorizes licensing authorities to issue a provisional temporary license to individuals without a temporary license, as specified.

As amended on August 25, 2020, this bill prohibits a licensed cannabis cultivator from designating a city, or city and county, of origin for cannabis if 100 % of the cannabis was not produced within the designated city or city and county, and restricts the establishment of appellations of origin to cannabis that was produced in the ground in a canopy area that excludes certain specified practices.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference and to the Assembly Business and Professions Committee as second committee of reference.

SB 153 (Wilk) – Industrial hemp. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 838, Statutes of 2019.

This bill revises oversight of industrial hemp cultivation and testing to align state policy with the federal Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (2018 Federal Farm bill). Specifically, this bill:

- 1) Requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), by May 1, 2020, to develop and submit to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) a state plan consistent with the 2018 Federal Farm bill related to industrial hemp production.
- 2) Requires a county agricultural commissioner (CAC) to submit specified information, including contact information and registration status of each hemp breeder, to CDFA and requires CDFA to submit that same information to USDA within a set timeframe.
- 3) Prohibits industrial hemp from being cultivated on a premises licensed to cultivate or process cannabis. Any industrial hemp, regardless of THC content, cultivated on such a premise will be considered cannabis.
- 4) Establishes a range of consequences for violations of provisions governing industrial hemp production, including possible five-year suspension from the program.

- 5) Makes ineligible for participating in the industrial hemp program any person convicted of a felony related to a controlled substance for 10 years following conviction or any person that materially falsifies any information in an application or registration.
- 6) Establishes registration requirements for established agricultural research institution (EARI). The requirements to register an EARI include: a research plan, review by a county agricultural commission (CAC), maintenances of records, rules for changing a research plan, and specified information to be submitted to CACs, CDFA, and USDA.
- 7) Increases the number of growers from four to five and decreases representatives of businesses that sell industrial hemp products from three to two on the Industrial Hemp Advisory Board.
- 8) Makes numerous technical and conforming changes.

SB 185 (McGuire) – Cannabis: marketing. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 841, Statutes of 2019.

This bill expands existing truth-in-marketing requirements that apply to marketing cannabis grown in specific counties, to further apply to "appellations of origin" established pursuant to authority currently granted to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA).

Major Provisions

- 1) Prohibits the use of the term appellation of origin unless the cannabis or cannabis product meets the appellation of origin requirement guidelines.
- 2) Makes technical changes.
- 3) Makes chaptering out changes to Business and Professions Code Section 26001 proposed by SB 34 (Weiner) of the current legislative session, if both this bill and SB 34 are enacted and this bill is enacted last.

SB 202 (Wilk) – Animal blood donors. Vetoed by the Governor, October 13, 2019.

This bill would have permitted commercial blood banks for animals (CBBA) to collect blood from community-sourced animal blood and imposes rules around the collection of community-sourced animal blood.

Major Provisions

- 1) Would have modified the definition of CBBA to include establishments that produce animal blood or blood component products from community-sourced animals, which are animals kept, housed, maintained at their owners' residences or brought in by owners to a commercial blood bank to have its blood collected.
- 2) Would have prohibited a CBBA from paying for donated community-sourced animal blood and requires a commercial blood bank to ensure, through a licensed veterinarian providing indirect supervision, that the production of blood is safe and not injurious to the community source animal's health.

- 3) Would have required a commercial blood bank to annually report to the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) on specified metrics related to community-sourced animal blood donations, and would have required CDFA, by January 1, 2025, to submit a report to the Legislature on this information.
- 4) Would have delayed the licensing and inspection portion of this bill, as it relates to CBBA, until January 1, 2021, or until CDFA has sufficient funds for licensing and inspection of CBBA.
- 5) Would have required CDFA to increase the CBBA license application fee to cover the increased cost of licensing and inspection of CBBAs included in this bill, and make public notice on CDFA's website a notice indicating that a CBBA fee structure is put in place.

GOVERNOR'S VETO MESSAGE:

To the Members of the California State Senate:

I am returning Senate Bill 202 without my signature.

This bill permits commercial blood banks for animals to collect blood from community-sourced animal blood and imposes rules around the collection of community-sourced animal blood.

I am supportive of changing California's law governing animal blood donation. However, this bill does not go far enough. I ask that the Legislature send me legislation that effectively leads to the phasing-out of "closed colonies," where dogs are kept in cages for months and years to harvest their blood for sale. The legislation should provide for the safe and humane treatment of donor animals, the welfare of the recipients and adequate oversight and enforcement of this program.

Sincerely,

Gavin Newsom

SB 253 (Dodd) – Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: Environmental Farming Incentive Program. Without Further Action.

This bill would have required the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), upon appropriation, to establish the Environmental Farming Incentive Program (EFIP) to fund incentives, educational materials and outreach to farmers or ranchers for practices that support environmental and other conservation benefits. This bill also would have required the Scientific Advisory Panel on Environmental Farming (Advisory Panel) to advise the Secretary of CDFA on the implementation of EFIP.

Among other provisions, this bill would have: Allowed EFIP to provide funding for land fallowing to enhance groundwater supplies and provide wildlife habitat in support of the implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act; and, would have allowed the Advisory Panel to advise CDFA on a simplified and coordinated application process to streamline and improve farmer and rancher access to incentive funding from the EFIP, the Healthy Soils Program, the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program, and other environmental farming incentives.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference, and to the Assembly Natural Resources Committee as second committee of reference.

SB 449 (McGuire) – Pest control: Pierce’s Disease. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 371, Statutes of 2019.

This bill extends, from March 1, 2021, to March 1, 2026, the sunset date for the Pierce's Disease Control Program (PDCP) within the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). Specifically, this bill:

Requires CDFA to establish a referendum for PDCP by April 15, 2020, and makes conforming and technical changes.

SB 527 (Caballero) – Local Government: Williamson Act: cultivation of cannabis and hemp. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 273, Statutes of 2019.

Clarifies that commercial cannabis and hemp cultivation may be designated as an agricultural use or a compatible use under the Williamson Act (WA).

This bill defines industry hemp as an agricultural commodity and provides that commercial cultivation of cannabis, as defined by the Medicinal and Adult-Use Cannabis Regulation and Safety Act (MAUCRSA) may constitute a compatible use on WA or non-contracted lands (agriculture preserves).

SB 657 (Monning) – Cannabis cultivation: county agricultural commissioners: reporting. Chaptered by Secretary of State, Chapter 252, Statutes of 2019.

AB 657 would increase the maximum rate of the inspection tonnage tax from \$0.15 to \$0.25 per ton of commercial feed sold: extend the Secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s authority to designate a specified amount of tonnage taxes collected to provide funding for research and education from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025; and, extend the date on which the new license fee requirement of \$100 for each location would take effect from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025.

This bill was double-referred to the Assembly Agriculture Committee as first committee of reference, and to the Assembly Business and Professions Committee as second committee of reference.

SB 864 (Wilk) – Industrial hemp: reporting of hemp production: laboratory test reports. Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Without Further Action.

This bill would have established a registration program administered by county agricultural commissioners and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for growers of industrial hemp, hemp breeders, and established agricultural research institutions, as defined. This bill would have required CDFA to report to the Farm Service Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) specified information regarding all hemp production in the state.

Due to COVID 19, this bill was not heard in the Assembly Committee on Agriculture

SB 1115 (Wilk) – Commercial blood banks for animals: animal blood donors. Referred to Committee on Agriculture. Without Further Action.

Due to the COVID 19 pandemic, this bill was not heard in the Assembly Committee on Agriculture.

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