



RCRC 2022 LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

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RCRC 2022 LEGISLATIVE DIGEST

As a result of the 2022 legislative session California will see nearly 1,000 new laws take effect in 2023, many impacting local governments statewide. This Legislative Digest is intended to outline some of those statutory changes affecting RCRC member counties, as well as measures that either failed passage in the Legislature, or were not signed by the Governor, but will continue to be a policy discussion in the upcoming legislative cycle.

Below are a few highlights of statutory changes that may have significant impacts for counties in 2023 and beyond.

AB 205 (Budget): Energy Trailer Bill, among other things, establishes an opt-in process for renewable energy, transmission, battery storage, and manufacturing developers to bypass local permitting processes and seek approval by the California Energy Commission. RCRC, CSAC, CalCities, and the Urban Counties of California strongly opposed the measure as an overly-broad usurpation of local permitting authority.

AB 759 (McCarty): Elections County Officers, requires elections for county sheriffs and district attorneys to be held during the presidential primary and specifically affirms that district attorneys and sheriffs elected in 2022 will serve six-year terms, with the next elections for those offices taking place at the 2028 presidential primary. Other provisions in AB 759 also permit a board of supervisors to determine, by ordinance, whether elections for the selection of any other county officer (except the county superintendent of schools) should be held at the presidential primary.

AB 2449 (B. Rubio): Open Meetings Teleconferences, allows, until January 1, 2026, members of a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing without identifying each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting, and without making each teleconference location accessible to the public, under certain circumstances. RCRC, in coalition with association and government partners, removed opposition to this bill after amendments addressed stakeholder concerns.

SB 1127 (Atkins): Workers' Compensation Liability Presumptions, would modify various timelines and penalties under the workers' compensation system, relating primarily to benefits for specified members of law enforcement and first responders. RCRC opposed this measure.

SB 1186 (Wiener): Medicinal Cannabis Patients' Right of Access Act, which, on and after January 1, 2024, would prohibit a local jurisdiction from adopting or enforcing any regulation that prohibits the retail sale by delivery within the local jurisdiction of medicinal cannabis to medicinal cannabis patients or their primary caregivers by medicinal cannabis businesses or that has the effect of prohibiting the retail sale by delivery within the local jurisdiction of medicinal cannabis in a timely and readily accessible manner. RCRC opposed this measure.

SB 1338 (Umberg): CARE Court, creates the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act. CARE is intended to provide an opportunity in a civil court setting to develop an individualized care plan for persons with qualifying mental health conditions. CARE Court framework includes new responsibilities across multiple county departments that require additional resources. RCRC advocated strongly for numerous amendments to make this program workable at the local level and funding for both planning and implementation.

The RCRC Government Affairs staff advocated on behalf of member counties on hundreds of bills over the last year. Below is a list of significant bills representing these efforts, organized by policy area.

AIR QUALITY

The Administration continues to push for a 100 percent zero-emission vehicle fleet in California by the year 2040, with the California Air Resources Board (CARB) working on regulations to transition the state's commercial vehicles as early as 2036. Legislation was introduced early in 2022 that would have codified the Administration's goals for passenger vehicles but failed to pass its house of origin. Meanwhile, the Legislature cited environmental justice concerns as justification to push for more control over federal dollars that could have profoundly impacted funding for vital rural programs such as broadband deployment, electric vehicle charging infrastructure, and wildfire mitigation. RCRC continued to push back on proposals that inequitably impacted socio-economically disadvantaged rural communities.

California Communities Environmental Health Screening Tool (CalEnviroScreen)

AB 2419 (Bryan): Federal Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, would have established a state Justice40 Advisory Committee and allocated 40 percent of Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act funds in California to disadvantaged communities as determined by CalEnviroScreen. **Failed Passage**

Emission Standards

AB 1218 (McCarty): Zero-Emission Vehicles, would have codified Governor's Executive Order N-79-20 declaring that 100 percent of all new passenger and light-duty truck sales in California will be zero-emission by the year 2035. **Failed Passage**

CEQA/NEPA

In 2022, RCRC was able to kill several measures that would have made the California Environmental Quality Act even more of a litigious trap and burdensome for local governments. Unfortunately, RCRC also saw the Senate kill its sponsored bill, AB 1154, creating a CEQA exemption for emergency egress projects in high fire risk areas. Finally, while Senator Caballero tried to address the unworkability of the Vehicle Miles Traveled metric for

CEQA projects in rural areas, those efforts largely fell flat due to opposition of environmental and anti-sprawl organizations.

AB 1001 (C. Garcia): Environmental Mitigation Measures and Environmental Justice, would have made CEQA even more litigious and unwieldy by requiring all public agencies to “give consideration to the principles of environmental justice” when implementing CEQA. The measure would have also modified the process for mitigating a project’s air quality effects on a disadvantaged community. RCRC and others strongly opposed the measure as being the wrong approach to addressing commendable goals like promoting local mitigation and facilitating engagement of those residents most acutely impacted by a project. **Failed Passage**

AB 1154 (Patterson): Exemption for Emergency Egress Route Projects, would have exempted from the California Environmental Quality Act secondary egress route projects undertaken by a public agency for a subdivision in a high fire threat area that was evaluated by the Board of Forestry. RCRC sponsored this measure. **Failed Passage**

AB 1642 (Salas): Exemption for Groundwater Well Projects, exempts from CEQA vital projects to prevent or mitigate failure of a well that would leave residents without an adequate supply of drinking water. This exemption only applies to those wells in areas designated by the State Water Resources Control Board as being at high risk or medium risk in the state’s annual Drinking Water Needs Assessment. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 859, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 33 (Cortese): CEQA Statutes of Limitations, would have increased uncertainty for project proponents and local governments by significantly extending the statute of limitations for CEQA litigation for even innocent and non-prejudicial procedural oversights. RCRC and CBIA strongly opposed the measure. **Failed Passage**

SB 886 (Wiener): Exemption for Public University Housing, exempts from CEQA faculty, staff, and student housing projects at higher education facilities, so long as those projects meet specified labor and environmental requirements. **Signed (Chapter 663, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 922 (Wiener): Exemption for Transportation-Related Projects, creates a number of new minor CEQA exemption for transportation-related projects in urbanized areas. **Signed (Chapter 987, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1404 (Stern): Oak Woodlands, would have established a statewide threshold of significance for the removal of oak trees under CEQA and eliminated an important safe harbor provision under which a project’s implementation of locally-adopted mitigation measures is deemed to satisfy CEQA’s requirements related to the project’s effects on oaks and oak woodlands. RCRC coordinated a large group of local governments to oppose SB 1404 and helped secure its defeat. **Failed Passage**

SB 1410 (Caballero): Vehicle Miles Traveled, would have aligned CEQA with the original intent of SB 743 of 2013, which was to require the use of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) metrics for analysis of a project’s transportation impacts for projects within a transit priority area

(TPA). RCRC strongly supported the measure, as VMT is an inappropriate metric in most rural areas and nearly all VMT mitigation strategies are unworkable in rural areas. **Failed Passage**

COMMUNITY & ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Following an unprecedented year of federal and state infrastructure investments in community and economic development, legislative activities in this area for 2022 focused primarily on finalizing rules for implementing funding programs and allocating new monies. However, there were some notable policy changes in housing and land use planning, as outlined below.

Housing

SB 897 (Wieckowski): Accessory Dwelling Units: Junior Accessory Dwelling Units, amends the statewide standards that apply to locally adopted ordinances governing the construction of accessory dwelling units (ADUs). This measure increases the height maximum of ADU's from 16 to 18 feet for parcels with an existing or planned multifamily building; or 20 feet for a multifamily or single-family parcel located within one half mile of transit. This measure also requires local jurisdictions to allow an ADU, that is attached to a primary single-family residence, to be constructed with a height of 25 feet or the maximum height allowance of the primary dwelling, whichever is lower. **Signed (Chapter 664, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1445 (Levine): Planning and Zoning: Regional Housing Need Allocation: Climate Change Impacts, commencing Jan. 1, 2025, adds the impacts of climate change as a factor that a regional council of governments (COGs) may consider in developing their methodology that allocates regional housing needs. **Signed (Chapter 948, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1695 (Santiago): Affordable Housing Loan and Grant Programs: Adaptive Reuse, provides that any notice of funding availability issued by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) for an affordable multifamily housing loan program shall state that adaptive reuse of a property for affordable housing purposes is an eligible activity. This measure also defines "adaptive reuse" for these purposes to mean the retrofitting and repurposing of an existing building to create new residential units, as specified. **Signed (Chapter 639, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1743 (McKinnor): General Plan: Annual Report, requires the planning agency to include in the annual report whether each housing development application is subject to a ministerial or discretionary approval process. **Signed (Chapter 641, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2217 (Reyes): CalHome Program: Grant Allocation, requires Housing and Community Development (HCD) to consider setting higher per-unit and total project allocations based on local development costs when appropriate. This measure also requires HCD to consider adjustments to the maximum unit and project allocations for each new round of funding. **Signed (Chapter 207, Statutes of 2022)**

Homelessness

SB 914 (Rubio): Help Act, enacts the Homeless Equity for Left Behind Populations (HELP) Act, which requires cities, counties, and continuums of care (COCs) receiving state funding to

address homelessness to include families, people fleeing or attempting to flee domestic violence, and unaccompanied women within the vulnerable populations for whom system supports are developed to serve by Jan. 1, 2024. This measure also requires the California Interagency Council on Homelessness, by Jan. 1, 2025, to establish initial goals to prevent and end homelessness among domestic violence survivors, their children, and unaccompanied women and to evaluate the goals at least every two years to determine whether updates are needed. **Signed (Chapter 665, Statutes of 2022)**

Land Use

AB 2011 (Wicks): Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022, creates the Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022, which authorizes a development proponent to submit an application for a housing development that meets specified objective standards and affordability and site criteria, including being located within a zone where office, retail, or parking are a principally permitted use, and would make the development a use by right and subject to one of two streamlined, ministerial review processes. This measure requires a development proponent for a housing development project approved pursuant to the streamlined, ministerial review process to require, in contracts with construction contractors, that certain wage and labor standards will be met, including a requirement that all construction workers be paid at least the general prevailing rate of wages. This measure also requires a development proponent to certify to the local government that those standards will be met in project construction. **Signed (Chapter 647, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2094 (R. Rivas): General Plan: Annual Report: Extremely Low-income Housing, requires a city or county's annual report to include the locality's progress in meeting the housing needs of extremely low-income households. **Signed (Chapter 649, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2233 (Quirk-Silva): Excess State Land: Development of Affordable Housing, requires the Department of General Services (DGS) to develop, in consultation with Housing and Community Development (HCD), no later than Sept.1, 2023, a set of criteria to consistently evaluate state-owned parcels for suitability as affordable housing sites. This measure also requires, on or before July 1, 2024, and every four years thereafter, the DGS to, among other things, conduct a review of all state-owned property and identify state-owned parcels that are potentially viable for affordable housing based on those criteria. This measure requires DGS to update the digitized inventory created pursuant to E.O. N-06-19 of all excess state land, as defined, suitable for affordable housing identified by its review. This measure requires DGS and HCD to evaluate and update the two screening tools created pursuant to E.O. N-06-19. **Signed (Chapter 438, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2234 (R. Rivas): Planning and Zoning: Housing: Post-entitlement Phase Permits, requires a local agency to compile a list of information needed to approve or deny a post-entitlement phase permit to post an example of a complete, approved application and an example of a complete set of post-entitlement phase permits for at least five types of housing development projects, in the jurisdiction, and to make those items available to all applicants for these permits no later than Jan. 1, 2024. This measure also requires a digital permitting system if the local agency meets a specific population threshold. **Signed (Chapter 651, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2244 (Wicks): Religious Institution Affiliated Housing: Place of Worship, clarifies that the definition of “religious-use parking spaces” applies to both existing parking spaces and those parking spaces required of a proposed development for a new place of worship. This measure recasts the provisions relating to the elimination of parking spaces to prohibit the number of spaces proposed to be eliminated in the case of a proposal for a newly constructed place of worship from exceeding 50% of the spaces that would otherwise be required. **Signed (Chapter 122, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2295 (Bloom): Local Educational Agencies: Housing Development Projects, deems a housing development project an allowable use on any real property owned by a local educational agency if the housing development satisfies certain conditions, including other local objective zoning standards, objective subdivision standards, and objective design review standards, as described. This measure deems a housing development that meets these requirements consistent, compliant, and in conformity with local development standards, zoning codes or maps, and the general plan. This measure also authorizes the land used for the development of the housing development to be jointly used or jointly occupied by the local educational agency and any other party, subject to specified requirements. This measure exempts a housing development project subject to these provisions from various requirements regarding the disposal of surplus land. The measure makes these provisions effective on January 1, 2024, except that the measure requires Housing and Community Development to provide a specified notice to the planning agency of each county and city on or before Jan. 31, 2023. The provisions of this bill sunset on Jan. 1, 2033. **Signed (Chapter 652, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2339 (Bloom): Housing Element: Emergency Shelters: Regional Housing Need, revises the requirements of the housing element in connection with zoning designations that allow residential use, including mixed use, where emergency shelters are allowed as a permitted use without a conditional use or other discretionary permit. This measure deletes language regarding emergency shelter standards structured in relation to residential and commercial developments and instead require that emergency shelters only be subject to specified written, objective standards. **Signed (Chapter 654, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2625 (Ting): Subdivision Map Act: Exemption: Electrical Energy Storage System, exempts from the requirements of the Subdivision Map Act the leasing of, or the granting of an easement to, a parcel of land, or any portion of the land, in conjunction with the financing, erection, and sale or lease of an electrical energy storage system on the land, if the project is subject to discretionary action by the advisory agency or legislative body. **Signed (Chapter 212, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2536 (Grayson): Development Fees: Impact Fee Nexus Studies: Connection Fees and Capacity Charges, requires a local agency, prior to levying a new fee or capacity charge or approving an increase in an existing fee or capacity charge, to evaluate the amount of the fee or capacity charge. This measure requires the evaluation to include evidence to support that the fee or capacity charge does not exceed the estimated reasonable cost of providing service. **Signed (Chapter 128, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2592 (McCarty): Housing: Underutilized State Buildings, requires, by Jan. 1, 2024, the Department of General Services to prepare and report to the Legislature a streamlined plan to

transition underutilized multistory state buildings into housing for the purpose of expanding affordable housing development and adaptive reuse opportunities. **Signed (Chapter 439, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2653 (Santiago): Planning and Zoning Law: Housing Elements, requires the planning agency to additionally include in its annual report the number of all new housing units, the number of housing units demolished, and data from all projects approved to receive a density bonus from the city or county. This measure authorizes Housing and Community Development to request corrections to the housing element portion of an annual report. **Signed (Chapter 657, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2798 (Fong): Freight Development Projects, expedites the local review and permitting of short-term freight transportation projects under certain circumstances. RCRC worked with the author and others to address concerns about the overbreadth of earlier versions of the bill. **Signed (Chapter 535, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 6 (Caballero): Local Planning: Housing, the Middle Class Housing Act of 2022, deems a housing development project an allowable use on a parcel that is within a zone where office, retail, or parking are a principally permitted use, if specified conditions are met, including requirements relating to density, public notice, comment, hearing, or other procedures, site location and size, consistency with sustainable community strategy or alternative plans, prevailing wage, and a skilled and trained workforce. RCRC was opposed to this measure unless amended. **Signed (Chapter 659, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 932 (Portantino): General Plans: Circulation Element: Bicycle and Pedestrian Plans and Traffic Calming Plans, requires a local jurisdiction, upon any substantive revision of the circulation element of a general plan, on or after Jan. 1, 2025, to both incorporate principles of the Federal Highway Administration's Safe System Approach that aim to eliminate fatal and serious injuries for all road users and develop bicycle plans, pedestrian plans, and traffic calming plans based on the policies and goals in the circulation element. Changes enacted in this measure must be completed within 25 years of the date of adoption of the modified circulation element, within the scope of the general plan and projected availability of revenues. **Signed (Chapter 710, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1425 (Stern): Open-space Element: Updates, requires every city and county to review and update its local open-space plan by Jan. 1, 2026. This measure requires the local open-space plan update to include plans and an action program that address specified issues, including climate resilience and other co-benefits of open space, correlated with the safety element. **Signed (Chapter 997, Statutes of 2022)**

Telecommunication

AB 2750 (Bonta): Department of Technology: State Digital Equity Plan, requires the Department of Technology, by Jan. 1, 2024, in consultation with the public, the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), and the California Broadband Council, to develop a state digital equity plan. This measure requires the plan to include, among other things, the identification of barriers to digital equity faced by specified populations, including, among other barriers, the

availability and affordability of access to fixed and wireless broadband technology. **Signed (Chapter 597, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2752 (Wood): Broadband Infrastructure and Video Service: Mapping: Subscriber Information, authorizes the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to collect information from providers of broadband services at the address level. This measure also prohibits the CPUC from disclosing residential subscriber information. **Signed (Chapter 801, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 717 (Dodd): Department of Technology: Broadband Communications: Report, requires the Department of Technology, on or before May 1, 2024, with input from relevant state agencies and stakeholders, to conduct, complete, and submit a report to specified legislative committees that reviews and identifies barriers to, and opportunities for, investment in, and efficient building of, broadband access points on private and government-owned structures and property, private and public lands and buildings, and public rights of way. This measure also requires the report to identify barriers to, and opportunities for, access to mobile and fixed broadband internet service infrastructure by low-income tribal, urban, and rural customers, and underserved communities. RCRC was opposed to this measure unless amended. **Signed (Chapter 813, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 857 (Hueso): Telecommunications: Universal Service Programs, extends the authorization for the California High-Cost Fund (CHCF) A and B programs through Jan. 1, 2028. The California Public Utilities Commission maintains both programs to provide universal service rate support to small independent telephone corporations in certain amounts in furtherance of the state's universal service commitment to the continued affordability and widespread availability of safe, reliable, high-quality communications services in rural areas of the state. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 706, Statutes of 2022)**

COUNTY OPERATIONS

This year, legislation introduced covered a wide range of issues impacting county operations, including Brown Act/Open meetings, employee relations, retirement systems, workers' compensation, elections, and cannabis. With the emergence of virtual participation in public open meetings due to the pandemic, this year saw several bills addressing the Brown Act, including flexibilities for local governments to use teleconferencing for public meetings. Within the budget, the Governor and Legislature also focused on cannabis, including grants to cities and counties to develop local retail ordinances and process applications.

Brown Act

AB 2449 (Rubio): Open Meetings Teleconferences, allows, until January 1, 2026, members of a legislative body of a local agency to use teleconferencing without identifying each teleconference location in the notice and agenda of the meeting, and without making each teleconference location accessible to the public, under certain circumstances. RCRC, in coalition with association and government partners, removed opposition to this bill after amendments addressed the concerns raised by the coalition. **Signed (Chapter 285, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2647 (Levine): Local Government Opening Meetings, allows writings that have been distributed to members of a legislative body of a local agency less than 72 hours before an open, regular meeting to be exempt from specified requirements of the Ralph M. Brown Act (Brown Act) if the agency meets certain requirements. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 971, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1100 (Cortese): Open Meeting Orderly Conduct, authorizes the presiding member of the legislative body conducting a meeting, or their designee, to remove, or cause the removal of, an individual for disrupting the meeting. This measure also provides that prior to removing an individual, the presiding member, or their designee, must warn the individual that their behavior is disrupting the meeting, and that their failure to cease the behavior may result in their removal. **Signed (Chapter 171, Statutes of 2022)**

Cannabis

SB 1326 (Caballero): Cannabis Interstate Agreements, an RCRC-sponsored bill, creates a process for California to enter into agreements with other states to allow cannabis transactions (both medical and adult use) with entities outside California. RCRC advocated strongly on this measure to address struggling rural production regions of the state that, without market expansion through interstate commerce, risk collapse negatively impacting rural economies. **Signed (Chapter 396, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1186 (Wiener): Medicinal Cannabis Patients' Right of Access Act, on and after January 1, 2024, prohibits a local jurisdiction from adopting or enforcing any regulation that prohibits the retail sale by delivery within the local jurisdiction of medicinal cannabis to medicinal cannabis patients or their primary caregivers by medicinal cannabis businesses, or that has the effect of prohibiting the retail sale by delivery within the local jurisdiction of medicinal cannabis in a timely and readily accessible manner. RCRC opposed this measure. **Signed (Chapter 395, Statutes of 2022)**

Elections

AB 759 (McCarty): Elections County Officers, requires elections for county sheriffs and district attorneys to be held during the presidential primary and specifically affirms that district attorneys and sheriffs elected in 2022 will serve six-year terms, with the next elections for those offices taking place at the 2028 presidential primary. This measure also permits a board of supervisors to determine, by ordinance, whether elections for the selection of any other county officer (except the county superintendent of schools) should be held at the time of the presidential primary. **Signed (Chapter 743, Statutes of 2022)**

Labor/Pension/Workers Compensation

AB 1932 (Daly): Construction Manager At-Risk Construction Contracts, deletes the January 1, 2023 sunset date on current state law authorizing counties to utilize the Construction Manager At-Risk method for specified public works projects. RCRC supported AB 1932, which was sponsored by CSAC. **Signed (Chapter 435, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2188 (Quirk): Discrimination in Employment Use of Cannabis, after January 1, 2024, makes it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against a person in hiring, termination, or any term or condition of employment, if the discrimination is based upon the person's use of cannabis off the job and away from the workplace, except for preemployment drug screening, or upon an employer-required drug screening test that has found the person to have nonpsychoactive cannabis metabolites in their hair, blood, urine, or other bodily fluids. The measure specifies that it does not preempt state or federal laws requiring applicants or employees to be tested for controlled substances as a condition of employment, receiving federal funding or federal licensing-related benefits, or entering into a federal contract. RCRC opposed this measure. **Signed (Chapter 392, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2463 (Lee): Public Works Exemption, extends, for seven years, the sunset date on the prevailing wage exemption for public works projects performed by volunteers, volunteer coordinators, and members of the California Conservation Corps or community conservation corps. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 210, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2493 (Chen): County Employee Retirement, would have made changes to the County Employees Retirement Law of 1937 ('37 Act or CERL) regarding pension calculation adjustments arising from erroneous inclusion of disallowed compensation, including requiring participating county employers to do the following: (1) reimburse their respective retirement system for pension overpayments made to peace officer and firefighter retirees arising from erroneous employer reporting of disallowed compensation and (2) pay affected retirees a lump sum amount equal to 20 percent of the present value of a retiree's "lost" pension going forward due to the system's recalculation of the retiree's benefit to exclude the disallowed compensation. RCRC opposed this measure. **Failed Passage**

AB 2693 (Reyes): COVID-19 Exposure, until January 1, 2024, extends the sunset date on COVID-19 related workplace reporting requirements and for Cal OSHA to disable an operation or process at a place of employment when the risk of COVID-19 infection creates an imminent hazard. **Signed (Chapter 799, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 931 (Leyva): Deterring Union Membership Violations, authorizes any union within the jurisdiction of the Public Employee Relations Board (PERB) to bring a claim alleging that a public employer has violated existing law related to the public employer prohibition against deterring or discouraging union membership. Public employers found in violation of this law would be subject to a civil penalty of \$1,000 per employee, not to exceed \$100,000 in total. In addition, this bill would require PERB to award attorney's fees and costs to the prevailing union employee unless the claim was frivolous. RCRC had a position of opposed unless amended to this measure. **Signed (Chapter 823, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1044 (Durazo): Employers Emergency Condition Retaliation, prohibits an employer, in the event of an emergency condition, from taking or threatening adverse action against any employee for refusing to report to, or leaving, a workplace or worksite within the affected area because the employee has a reasonable belief that the workplace or worksite is unsafe. Disaster service workers, as defined in Section 8562 of the Government Code, are exempted from this requirement. The bill also prohibits an employer from preventing any employee from accessing the employee's mobile device or other communications device for seeking

emergency assistance, assessing the safety of the situation, or communicating with a person to confirm their safety. RCRC opposed this measure. **Signed (Chapter 829, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1127 (Atkins): Workers' Compensation Liability Presumptions, modifies various timelines and penalties under the workers' compensation system, relating primarily to benefits for specified members of law enforcement and first responders. RCRC opposed this measure. **Signed (Chapter 835, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1131 (Newman): Address Confidentiality, establishes an address confidentiality program for public entity employees and contractors and includes additional protections for election workers and reproductive health care providers. Containing an urgency clause, the measure took effect immediately upon the Governor's signature. **Signed (Chapter 554, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1313 (Hertzberg): Local Public Employee Organizations, effectively circumvents the local collective bargaining process that occurred in Los Angeles County by attempting, after collective bargaining concluded, to codify what benefits individuals would, and can, receive. This bill calls into question all current and future labor agreements negotiated in good faith, and abridges the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors' constitutional power. County associations, including RCRC, opposed this measure for its dangerous precedent for state involvement in local collective bargaining. **Vetoed**

Taxes

AB 1951 (Grayson): Sales and Use Tax Exemptions, which would have eliminated the local share of sales tax related to the purchasing of manufacturing equipment for five years. Citing the softening economy and the impact of the loss of sales tax revenues on counties and cities, the Governor vetoed the measure, urging the Legislature to consider proposals in the context of the state budget. This measure would have cost counties and cities well over \$2 billion in lost revenue over the five-year period. RCRC opposed this measure. **Vetoed**

SB 1340 (Hertzberg): Property Taxation Solar Energy Systems Extension, extends the new construction exclusion for active solar energy systems from the 2023-24 fiscal year through the 2025-26 fiscal year, and its sunset date from January 1, 2025, to January 1, 2027. The Governor's signing message indicated that he believes this short-term extension appropriately balances the need to bring planned but delayed solar projects online, with minimal impact on local government revenues. **Signed (Chapter 425, Statutes of 2022)**

FOREST & PUBLIC LANDS STEWARDSHIP

The year 2021 saw an unusually early start to wildfire season after ongoing drought conditions persisted throughout the winter. The state's dry conditions and lingering need to increase pace and scale of forest resilience and fuels treatment programs culminated in the largest single wildfire in California history, the near-million acre Dixie fire. As a result, the health and resilience of California's forests and public lands remained a major topic during the 2022 Legislative session.

Forest Resilience

AB 267 (Valladares): CEQA Exemption for Prescribed Fire, Fuels Reduction and Thinning Projects, would have extended the sunset currently in place for provisions under Senate Bill 901 (Dodd, 2018) related to prescribed fire, thinning and fuels reduction projects on federally-managed lands subject to the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) which exempt them from the provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Currently the provisions sunset in 2023, and this measure would have extended the sunset to 2026. Although the bill died, the sunset was extended via the 2022-23 State Budget, and the new extension expands the SB 901 CEQA exemption to include reforestation and habitat restoration projects, and eliminates the requirement for annual certification of the exemption by the Secretary for Natural Resources. RCRC supported this measure. **Failed Passage**

AB 522 (Fong): Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, extends the Forest Fire Prevention Exemption, which aids in tree removal activities on private lands for the purposes of fire prevention, to January 1, 2026. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 491, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1644 (Flora): California Jobs Plan Act of 2021, exempts applicants for projects for healthy forest and fire prevention programs and projects, and the completion of prescribed fire and other fuel reduction projects, from the provisions of Assembly Bill 680 (Burke, 2021). RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 202, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1717 (Aguar-Curry): Public Works Definition, would have expanded the definition of “public works” to include fuel reduction work done on contract and paid for in whole or part by public funds, thereby requiring prevailing wage be paid for community fuels treatment and forest resilience projects. The bill included a 1-year implementation delay (2 years for nonprofits) and a full exemption on tribal lands. RCRC strongly opposed this measure. **Vetoed**

SB 926 (Dodd): Prescribed Fire Liability, establishes the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund to support the Prescribed Fire Liability Program to support potential losses from permitted prescribed fires by individuals and non-public entities to encourage the use of beneficial prescribed fire for fuels treatment and wildfire prevention purposes. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 606, Statutes of 2022)**

Parks/Conservancies

SB 1012 (Glazer): Open Fires in State Parks, would have required a unit of the state park system to follow and enforce the rules relating to open fires, as defined, that are at least as restrictive as the rules adopted by a local fire department or a fire protection district within whose boundaries the unit is located. RCRC supported this measure. **Failed Passage**

Wildfire

AB 1249 (Gallagher): Gross Income Tax Exclusions for Victims of Wildfire, excludes victim compensation for various wildfires caused by investor-owned utilities from state income tax laws and authorizes the refund of overpayments of tax by wildfire victims as a result of the above-described exclusion. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 749, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 396 (Bradford): Utility Vegetation Management, would have exempted electrical utilities from liability for vegetation management activities undertaken to reduce wildfire risk. RCRC opposed this measure. **Failed Passage**

ENERGY

The year 2022 saw several high-profile energy related bills. To avoid the prospect of rolling blackouts, a budget trailer bill extended the operation of the state's last operating nuclear powerplant. Another budget trailer bill, AB 205, strongly opposed by local governments allows renewable energy, energy storage, and energy-related manufacturing projects to bypass the local permitting process by obtaining approval from the California Energy Commission. To reduce wildfire risk and increase energy reliability in rural areas, SB 884 seeks to expedite the administrative approval of utility power line undergrounding projects.

AB 205 (Budget): Energy Trailer Bill, among other things, establishes an opt-in process for renewable energy, transmission, battery storage, and manufacturing developers to bypass local permitting processes and seek approval by the California Energy Commission. RCRC, CSAC, CalCities, and the Urban Counties of California strongly opposed the measure as an overly-broad usurpation of local permitting authority. **Signed (Chapter 61, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1078 (Patterson): Rooftop Solar Exemption for Wildfire Rebuilds, would have exempted residential buildings damaged or destroyed in a disaster during the 2020 calendar year from having to install solar energy systems under the California Energy Commission's recently adopted building requirements. RCRC strongly supported this legislation. **Vetoed**

AB 1814 (Grayson): Transportation Electrification: Community Choice Aggregators, would have authorized Community Choice Aggregators (CCAs) to submit applications to the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) to receive funding to administer transportation electrification programs in the communities they represent. RCRC supported the measure. **Failed Passage**

AB 1956 (Mathis): Biomass Collection and Conversion, would have established a biomass collection and disposal pilot program for rural counties with a population of less than 250,000. RCRC supported the measure to help the state achieve its wildfire risk reduction and organic waste management goals. **Failed Passage**

AB 2878 (Aguar-Curry): Forest Biomass Waste Utilization Program, would have required the state to undertake various actions to consider and promote the use of biomass energy generation and wood products manufacturing. Earlier versions would have extended the sunset date of the state's BioMAT program that promotes the use of small-scale bioenergy projects for management of municipal solid waste, agricultural waste, and forest byproducts. RCRC co-sponsored this bill with the Placer County Air Pollution Control District. **Failed Passage**

AB 2892 (Bigelow): Income Tax Credits for Backup Generators, would have created a tax credit for the purchase of a backup power generator. RCRC supported this measure to increase energy resiliency. **Failed Passage**

SB 833 (Dodd): Community Energy Resilience Act, would have required the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission to develop and implement a grant program for local governments to develop community energy resilience plans. RCRC strongly supported this measure. **Failed Passage**

SB 884 (McGuire): Electric Utility Undergrounding, establishes an expedited process for the state's review and approval of electrical utility undergrounding projects in high fire risk areas. **Signed (Chapter 819, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1032 (Becker): Clean Energy Infrastructure Authority Act, would have established a Clean Energy Infrastructure Authority to finance, develop, acquire, own, maintain, or operate electrical transmission and storage systems. RCRC strongly opposed the bill because it would have significantly constrained local land use and permitting authority, reduced local property tax revenues, and increased liability to the state. The bill was subsequently narrowed in scope and turned into a study bill. **Failed Passage**

SB 1109 (Caballero): Bioenergy Projects, extends SB 901 BioRAM biomass energy facility contracts by an additional five years. RCRC supported SB 1109 as a way to support biomass energy production and provide an end use for forest byproducts from forest health improvement and wildfire risk reduction projects. **Signed (Chapter 364, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1266 (Borgeas): Income Tax Credits for Backup Generators, would have created a tax credit for the purchase of a backup power generator. RCRC supported SB 1266 to increase energy resiliency. **Failed Passage**

SB 1297 (Cortese): Low-embodied Carbon Building Materials, would have required the state and local governments to prefer the use of building materials with low-embodied carbon, including recycled building materials, in bid specifications for public projects. RCRC worked with the author to incorporate amendments to reduce the potential of future litigation by deferring to a public agency's determination about product feasibility and cost-effectiveness. **Failed Passage**

HEALTH CARE & SOCIAL SERVICES

Throughout the 2021-22 legislative session the COVID-19 pandemic played an important role in Health Services policy decisions. RCRC advocated for ongoing state investment in local public health infrastructure, health care workforce investment and permanent continuation of telehealth flexibilities utilized in the COVID-19 pandemic. The Governor focused on SB 1338 his Community Assistance, Recovery and Empowerment (CARE) Court proposal, which is a cross-jurisdictional approach to provide new ways to encourage individuals with serious mental illness (schizophrenia and psychosis) to receive treatment. The CARE Court framework outlines new responsibilities that require additional resources at the county level. RCRC advocated strongly for numerous amendments to make this program workable at the local level and to provide funding for both planning and implementation. Further clean-up amendments and long-term funding allocation methodology will be a focus in 2023.

AB 32 (Aguiar-Curry): Telehealth, makes various changes to Medi-Cal telehealth policy, including permitting the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to allow, under specified circumstances, new patients to be established with providers using audio-only synchronous and other modalities, and permits exceptions from requirements to ensure beneficiary choice of modalities. RCRC supported this measure. **Signed (Chapter 515, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 240 (Rodriguez): Local Health Department Workforce Assessment, would have required the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) to contract with an appropriate and qualified entity to conduct an evaluation of the adequacy of the local health department infrastructure, and to make recommendations for future staffing, workforce needs, and resources, to fund local public health accurately and adequately. RCRC supported this measure. **Vetoed**

AB 988 (Bauer-Kahan): Mental Health, enacts the Miles Hall Lifeline and Suicide Prevention Act to establish 9-8-8 centers in California for the purpose of connecting individuals experiencing a behavioral health crisis with suicide prevention and mental health services. This bill also provides a dedicated revenue source to fund a 9-8-8 system in California. **Signed (Chapter 747, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2242 (Santiago): Mental Health Services, will 1) require individuals who have been involuntarily detained for purposes of evaluation and treatment, and placed under a conservatorship, to receive a care coordination plan developed by specified entities; 2) require the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) to convene a stakeholder group to create a model care coordination plan to be followed when discharging those held under temporary holds or a conservatorship; and, 3) permit county mental health plans to pay for the provision of services for individuals placed under involuntary detentions and conservatorship using specified funds, including Mental Health Services Act funds. RCRC opposed this measure. **Signed (Chapter 867, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1302 (Portantino): Pupil Health, would have appropriated \$250 million from the Mental Health Services Fund to provide grants of \$250,000 to certain high schools in order to establish or improve school-based health centers that provide mental health services by licensed or credentialed mental health professionals. Governor Newsom vetoed this measure, and his veto message echoed RCRC concerns of redirecting county funding with strict statutory defined goals and an established local planning process, which would be contrary to the intent of the Mental Health Services Act. RCRC opposed this measure. **Vetoed**

SB 1338 (Umberg): CARE Court, creates the Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment (CARE) Act. CARE is intended to provide an opportunity in a civil court setting to develop an individualized care plan for persons with qualifying mental health conditions. **Signed (Chapter 319, Statutes of 2022)**

PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

California's rural counties play a critical role in protecting their local communities. RCRC works to ensure that county public safety programs and services are provided adequate funding and

advocates for long-term funding mechanisms that support the county's role to protect local communities. This legislative year RCRC vigorously advocated to preserve county authority to consolidate elected public safety county offices. Moving into next year, bail reform, juvenile justice and illicit cannabis enforcement are likely to be hot topics.

AB 503 (Stone): Wards Probation, would have presumptively limited juvenile probation terms to six months, although courts would have been given the option to extend the term under specified circumstances. The Governor's veto message cites his concerns about the bill's impact on the juvenile justice system in light of the imminent closure of the state's detention facilities. **Vetoed**

AB 731 (Bauer-Kahan): County Jails Recidivism Reports, would have required county sheriffs to collect and submit extensive data to the Board of State and Community Corrections (BSCC) about educational and rehabilitative programs in county jail and their impacts on recidivism rates. The Governor's veto message notes workload impacts and implementation costs. **Vetoed**

AB 1608 (Gipson): Deconsolidation of Coroner-Sheriff Functions, would have repealed boards of supervisors' authority to consolidate, by ordinance, the duties of county sheriff and coroner offices. The measure also specified that if those offices were consolidated prior to January 1, 2023, they would have to be separated effective upon the conclusion of the term for the person elected or appointed to the consolidated offices on or before January 1, 2023. RCRC strongly opposed this measure. **Failed Passage**

SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

Much of the legislative focus in the solid waste arena centered around increasing manufacturer responsibility for managing the products they introduce into the stream of commerce. Many of the bills introduced also sought to reduce consumer and local government costs of management and disposal of hard-to-recycle items. RCRC was able to secure passage of legislation that overhauls the state's hazardous waste management laws to provide more flexibility to local governments and reduce costs and administrative burdens associated with managing hazardous waste.

AB 1857 (Garcia, Cristina): Diversion Credit for Transformation, repeals the ability for local governments to claim diversion credit for solid waste sent to a transformation facility and creates a new grant program to help communities transition to a zero-waste circular economy. RCRC successfully brokered removal of provisions that would have add another regulatory hurdle for the permitting of new or expansion of existing landfills. **Signed (Chapter 342, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 1985 (R. Rivas): Organic Waste Procurement, phases in CalRecycle's SB 1383 local organic waste procurement requirements over three years and allows the state to create an adjusted procurement schedule. **Signed (Chapter 344, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2048 (Santiago): Solid Waste Franchise Agreements, requires jurisdictions and public agencies to post all current solid waste franchise agreements online and provide a link to CalRecycle. **Signed (Chapter 457, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2059 (Carrillo): Hazardous Materials Business Plans and Recordkeeping, expands authority for Certified Unified Program Agencies (CUPAs) to require hazardous materials handlers to notify the CUPA upon transfer of specified quantities of hazardous materials. RCRC secured an amendment exempting local household hazardous waste collection facilities from these notification requirements. **Signed (Chapter 278, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2208 (Kalra): Fluorescent Lamp Phase Out, bans the sale and distribution of fluorescent lamps beginning January 1, 2024, for screw- or bayonet- type lamps and January 1, 2025, for pin-type lamps, with limited exemptions. **Signed (Chapter 409, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2374 (Bauer-Kahan): Illegal Dumping, increases penalties for illegal dumping of commercial quantities of waste. RCRC supported the measure and secured amendments broadening the definition of “commercial quantities of waste.” **Signed (Chapter 784, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2440 (Irwin): Battery Recycling, requires producers of batteries to establish a stewardship program for the collection, transportation, recycling, and management of those products. RCRC supported AB 2440 as a way to reduce local government costs associated with managing batteries in the waste stream. Local governments will be able to participate in the takeback program and have their costs reimbursed by the stewardship program. **Signed (Chapter 351, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2481 (Smith): Hazardous Waste Management, makes several changes to laws related to transportation of household hazardous waste (HHW) and operation of household hazardous waste collection facilities (HHWCFs). RCRC sponsored AB 2481 to help reduce costs and administrative burdens on local governments and facilitate proper disposal of hazardous wastes. **Signed (Chapter 499, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2886 (Lee): Electric Vehicle Battery Recycling, would have required producers of electric vehicle batteries to establish stewardship organizations for the collection, transportation, and recycling of out-of-warranty electric vehicle batteries. RCRC supported this measure because it would have ensured that consumers throughout the state would have access to free takeback and recycling opportunities. **Failed Passage**

SB 45 (Portantino): Organic Waste, requires CalRecycle to assist local governments in implementing SB 1383 organic waste regulations, but provides that this requirement does not absolve local governments of complying with those laws. **Signed (Chapter 445, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 54 (Allen): Single-Use Packaging, establishes the Plastic Pollution Prevention and Packaging Producer Responsibility Act, which imposes minimum content and recycling requirements for single-use packaging and food service ware and source reduction requirements for plastic single-use packaging and food service ware. Provides these requirements are to be achieved by producer responsibility organizations (PRO) and that all

costs borne by local governments will be reimbursed by the PRO. Requires manufacturers to pay \$500 million annually to the state to fund plastic pollution prevention, cleanup, and mitigation projects. RCRC supported and helped craft language ensuring that manufacturers have a greater role in the management, disposal, and recycling of the products they introduce into the stream of commerce, thereby relieving local governments and ratepayers of those burdens. **Signed (Chapter 75, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1013 (Atkins): Beverage Container Recycling, adds wine and distilled spirits to the state's beverage container recycling program and subjects them to the \$0.05 and \$0.10/bottle deposit starting January 1, 2024. The measure also provides that boxed wine, wine bladders, and wine pouches will be subject to a \$0.25/container deposit. The bill expands consumer access to redemption opportunities by changing retailer take-back obligations by allowing dealers to either take containers back in the store or form a dealer cooperative to arrange for the collection of beverage containers for recycling, thereby repealing the optional \$100/day in-lieu payments to CalRecycle. This measure was supported by RCRC's affiliate, ESJPA. **Signed (Chapter 610, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1046 (Eggman): Pre-checkout and Carryout Bags, beginning January 1, 2025, prohibits stores from providing pre-checkout bags (used by a customer before reaching the point of sale to contain unwrapped food items) that are not compostable or made of recycled paper. **Signed (Chapter 991, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1111 (Archuleta): Trash Receptacles and Storage Containers, beginning January 1, 2026, requires owners of trash receptacles or storage containers longer than 3' and taller than 4' and designed to be placed on a roadway or curb to mark each container with reflective tape 6" wide and 4' long vertically on each corner and the owner's name a current telephone number. **Signed (Chapter 244, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1215 (Newman): Battery Recycling, adds battery embedded products to the state's covered electronic device (E-Waste) program, under which consumers must pay an advanced disposal fee to support end-of-life management of those products. RCRC supported an earlier version of the bill to help reduce costs for local governments to manage these products at the end of their useful lives. **Signed (Chapter 370, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1256 (Wieckowski): Single-Use Propane Cylinders, would have banned the sale of single use small propane cylinders in order to promote the production and sale of refillable cylinders. RCRC affiliate ESJPA supported the measure as a way to reduce local hazardous waste management costs. **Vetoed**

TRANSPORTATION

Due to continued interest from the federal administration and state policymakers, particularly because of a focus on infrastructure funding as a major plank of domestic policy, transportation funding remains a priority in California that continues to receive appreciable funding and policy review.

There are two areas of transportation policy outside of budget spending that should be noted. On the electric vehicle (EV) front, the Legislature appears anxious to clear budgetary, process and permitting hurdles to deploy a robust EV charging network. RCRC continues to advocate that state policy and funding must focus on rural roadways, as many of the issues relating to range and access particularly manifest in rural areas—for both rural residents and for urbanites who are increasingly desiring to take their electric vehicles to rural destinations.

The Legislature also pushed a raft of major transportation planning legislation in an attempt to further usher local and regional transportation planning to prioritize reduction of vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and related climate-focused transportation metrics. RCRC strongly opposed these bills because of their intrusion into local and regional transportation policy priorities.

AB 1778 (Garcia): State Transportation Funding; Freeway Projects, would have required the Department of Transportation to consult the California Healthy Places Index, as defined, as a condition of using state funds or personnel time to fund or permit freeway projects, as provided. The bill would have required the department to analyze housing and environmental indicators through the index, as provided, and would have prohibited any state funds or personnel time from being used to fund or permit freeway projects in certain areas that fall within the zero to 40th percentile on the housing and environmental indicators analyzed through the index. RCRC opposed this measure. **Vetoed**

AB 2237 (Friedman): Transportation Planning: Regional Transportation Improvement Plans, would have required projects and programs included in each regional transportation improvement program to also be consistent with the most recently prepared sustainable communities strategy of the regional transportation planning agency or county transportation. The bill would have prohibited funds collected from any local transportation tax measure passed on or after January 1, 2023, from being spent until the transportation projects or programs to be funded by the tax measure are included in the most recently adopted sustainable communities strategy of the applicable regional transportation planning agency or county transportation commission. RCRC opposed this measure. **Vetoed**

AB 2438 (Friedman): Transportation Funding: Guidelines and Plans, requires the California Transportation Agency, the California Transportation Commission, and the Department of Transportation, no later than January 1, 2024, to each establish guidelines to ensure transparency and accountability for specified transportation funding programs that they respectively administer, and for the project selection processes applicable to those programs. The bill would have required those guidelines to meet certain requirements and for those agencies to hold public workshops to solicit input before establishing the guidelines. RCRC was opposed to this measure unless amended. **Vetoed**

WATER

Facing a third year of drought, the Legislature considered increasingly far-reaching policy that would empower the state to further regulate water allocations. As an example, legislation was considered that would impose new requirements on local groundwater permitting. In addition, the Legislature looked at new ways to bolster the authority of State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to directly make water rights decisions in specified circumstances. While

much of the legislation ultimately failed, these bills are likely a preview of future policy in the Statehouse.

AB 2106 (R. Rivas): Water Quality Permits, would have required, on or before December 31, 2024, the State Board to modernize its stormwater data collection systems, and to establish a statewide commercial, industrial, and institutional national pollutant discharge elimination system order and to publish a draft order of the statewide order for public comment on or before December 31, 2025. **Vetoed**

AB 2108 (R. Rivas): Water Policy: Environmental Justice, directs the Governor to appoint a member to State Water Board and regional board with environmental justice or tribal resources expertise. **Signed (Chapter 347, Statutes of 2022)**

AB 2201 (Bennett): Groundwater Well Permitting, would have required groundwater sustainability agencies (GSA) to evaluate and approve applications for new well permits, in addition to a county's permitting authority, and would have designated the State Board as the reviewing agency in cases where a GSA was under probationary status. This bill was structured to largely parallel the new well permit language in the Governor's recent drought order. RCRC opposed this measure. **Failed Passage**

AB 2451 (Wood): State Water Board: Drought Planning, would have directed the State Board to establish a Drought Section within the Division of Water Rights. It also would have required the State Board, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to adopt principles and guidelines for diversion and use of water in coastal watersheds, as specified, during times of water shortage for drought preparedness and climate resiliency. The bill would have required that the guidelines provide for the development of watershed-level contingency plans to support public trust uses, public health and safety, and the right to water in times of water shortage. **Failed Passage**

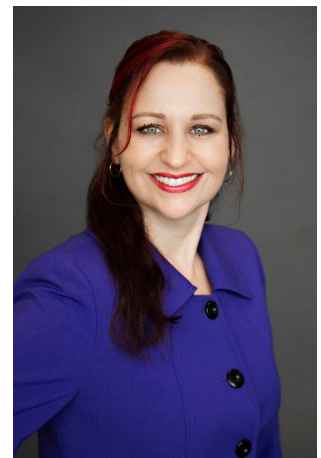
SB 222 (Dodd): Water Rate Assistance Program, would have required the State Board to develop and administer a statewide Water Rate Assistance Program to provide rate assistance to low-income residential ratepayers of a community water system or wastewater system. **Vetoed**

SB 1157 (Hertzberg): Urban Water Use Objective, accelerates the state's planned reduction in indoor residential water use standards by 2025 and 2030 from 55 and 50 gallons per person daily, and to 52.5 and 40 gallons per person daily. **Signed (Chapter 679, Statutes of 2022)**

SB 1205 (Allen): Water Rights: Appropriation, requires the State Board to adopt regulations that provide "greater specificity" as to the methods and practices in determining water rights permits, including consideration of climate change impacts on hydrology. **Signed (Chapter 369, Statutes of 2022)**



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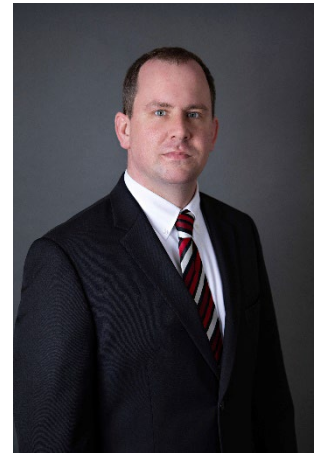


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