

Legislative Report – End of the 2021 Session

Friday, September 10th was the last day for the 2021 legislative session. This year 2776 bills were introduced and as of today the bill status is:

Chaptered – 410

Enrolled – 694

Others to be determined – 1672

The Governor signed the largest budget in California’s history - \$262.6 billion budget, with \$80 million budget surplus. While both houses agreed on the budget – no conference committee this year - the legislature is still vetting and voting on trailer bills – implement the various categories in the budget. The last budget hearing was Tuesday, September 7th.

For detail on the budget:

<http://www.ebudget.ca.gov/budget/2021-22EN/#/BudgetSummary>

Key accomplishments of the 2021 legislative session:

Passed legislation to support schools, teachers, and students as they return to in-person learning

Provided record levels of funding for K-14 and made increased investments in child care and universal transitional kindergarten

Community schools, SNC in CDE in Office of School Based Health and School Health Demonstration Project - \$5 million over 5 years

Expanded healthcare to all Californians over age 60 regardless of immigration status

Transforms the behavioral health system for those 0-25 years

Higher education system – 5% base increase for UC and CSU and

Restored all reductions in the 2020 budget

Invested \$8 billion in tax cuts for EITC for those making up to \$75,000

Extended the moratorium on evictions and protections for tenants and small landlords

\$5 billion in tax relief and grants to help small businesses

\$12 billion to address homelessness and housing

Closing the digital divide with a \$6 billion investment in broadband Investment

Numerous trailer bills to address climate, environmental, water and wildfire preparedness and response

I have attached a bill folder for your review; we tracked 33 bills:

Supported 11 and opposed one:

School health issues:

AB 309 (Gabriel) Pupil mental health: model referral protocols – SUPPORT
Enrolled 9/9/2021

AB 387 (Garcia, C) – Menstrual products – SUPPORT
Enrolled 9/9/2021

SB 682 (Rubio) Childhood chronic health conditions: racial disparities
SUPPORT – enrolled 9/9/2021

SB 742 (Pan) – Vaccination sites: unlawful activities: obstructing, intimidating
or harassing - SUPPORT - Enrolled 9/8/2021

AB 815 (Rivas) school nurses: credentialing – OPPOSE - Enrolled 9/9/2021

Other bills of interest on their way to the governor’s desk:

AB 1015 (Rubio, Blanca) BRN: workforce planning: nursing programs
clinical placements

AB 1407 (Burke) Nurses: implicit bias courses

AB 1532 (Committee on Business & Professions) – Nursing
Extension of BRN sunset review – enrolled 9/9/2021

These bills that may reappear in January 2022:

AB 269 (Patterson) Nursing: licensure: renewal fees: reduced fee

AB 852 (Wood) Nurse Practitioners: scope of practice: practice
without standardized procedure

AB 410 (Fong) – Licensed registered nurses and licensed vocational nurses:
Nurse Licensure Compact

COVID ISSUES

While the state “opened up” in June, the legislature continued to primarily operate remotely; there were several “breakthroughs” in the Capitol and even the Governor’s office. Staff meetings were done via zoom and legislative hearings were conducted via Livestream through the Assembly or Senate web pages. Throughout this year, the legislature has not recommended “in-person attendance” due to physical distancing requirements and limited seating provided for the press and public.

We remain in the throes of COVID with the Delta variant ravaging certain communities and the unvaccinated. As noted previously, the Governor and the State Public Health

Officer issued several executive orders, proclamations, and guidance documents aimed at providing direction for businesses, schools, and the general public.

As of 9/12/2021:

California had 4,354,113 confirmed COVID cases

66,701 deaths

California has administered 47,908,225 vaccinations

Tests – 86,295,593 administered – 4.7% positivity – 7 day

The legislature attempted to address the continuing COVID issues through legislation but both attempts fell through; as was stated by Assembly Member Low, “these issues take time”. It should also be noted when word leaked of the legislative attempts to mandate new requirements for the workplace and to “protect employers from lawsuits” a rally was held on Wednesday at the Capitol with the organizers saying “they wanted to let the lawmakers know of their opposition in case they tried to bring the bills back next year”.

LAUSD is the largest school district in California and the second largest in the country. On Thursday, Sept 13th they mandated the COVID vaccine for their students over the age of 12:

The student vaccine requirement will not take full effect until January. Students older than 12 would need to receive their first dose by Nov. 21st and their second dose by Dec. 19th, which is the start of the district's three-week winter break. But students in extracurricular programs, such as sports, face earlier deadlines: those eligible students must get their first dose by Oct. 3 and their second dose by "no later than October 31."

According to [the plan voted on](#), "All other students must receive their first vaccine dose by no later than 30 days after their 12th birthday, and their second dose by no later than 8 weeks after their 12th birthday."

National Issues

President Biden issued a six-point plan on Thursday, September 9th:

Vaccinating the unvaccinated

Further protecting the vaccinated

Keeping schools safely open

Increasing testing & requiring masking

Protecting our economic recovery

Improving care for those with COVID 19

Vaccination or weekly testing for employers with 100+ employees

All federal workers and contractors must be vaccinated

Large entertainment venues must require proof of vaccinations or testing

for entry

Each point has detailed information – for the specifics see:

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/covidplan/>