

Date: November 10, 2021

To: Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Thomas B. Modica, City Manager 

Subject: **Government Affairs Year in Review 2021**

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Attached are two documents that provide information on the City of Long Beach (City) funding and legislative advocacy efforts by the Government Affairs Office for 2021.

At both the Federal and State levels, City staff and the City's legislative representatives, Arc Strategies and Dentons, advocated for funding available through pandemic relief legislation and the annual budget process. These advocacy efforts supported more than \$300 million in funding to the City through one-time project funding and program assistance.

The City also took a position on 33 pieces of legislation in the 2021 State Legislative Session. Position letters sent on behalf of the City can be located on the City's [State Legislative Outreach](#) webpage.

Of the State bills the City took positions on:

- 11 were enacted and will become State law;
- 1 was adopted by the State Legislature, but vetoed by the Governor; and,
- 21 failed passage in the State Legislature.

At the Federal level, eighth letters of support were sent for various pieces of legislation and can be located on the City's [Federal Legislative Outreach](#) webpage.

If you have any questions, please contact Tyler Bonanno-Curley, Manager of Government Affairs, at (562) 570-5715 or [Tyler.Curley@longbeach.gov](mailto:Tyler.Curley@longbeach.gov).

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## Government Affairs by the Numbers – 2021

### Federal Items

American Recovery Plan Act	
• Flexible City Funding Direct to Long Beach	\$135,700,000
• Airport Grant Award	\$15,100,000
• Epidemiology Grant	\$26,700,000
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	
• Round 1	\$30,100,000
• Round 2	\$21,200,000
HUD (Homelessness)	\$10,000,000
Vaccination Grant	\$2,700,000
Health Disparities Grant	\$7,700,000
<b>FEDERAL TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$249,200,000</b>

### State Items

Direct One-Time Funding	
• Parks projects	\$19,650,000
• Community partnership projects	\$6,000,000
Emergency Rental Assistance Program	\$13,000,000
Cannabis Equity Program	\$3,900,000
Youth Workforce Development	\$6,348,277
Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (Round 3)	\$8,516,928
<b>STATE TOTAL:</b>	<b>\$57,415,205</b>

**GRAND TOTAL: \$306,615,205**

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### **Federal Successes**

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, City staff led recurring legislative advocacy meetings with the City's county, state, and federal representatives' offices. Staff update the delegation offices on the City's proactive COVID-19 response efforts and share information about the City's top funding and legislative needs to address the pandemic and advance long-term economic recovery. Based on the Council-adopted COVID-19 Advocacy Strategy, the City has continued to advocate for a number of top priorities that were incorporated in the American Recovery Plan Act (ARPA) enacted on March 11, 2021, including direct City funding, housing assistance funds, and resources to address the public health challenges of the pandemic. Altogether, ARPA has provided nearly \$250 million in federal funds to the City's COVID-19 recovery plan, including emergency rental assistance, vaccination efforts, and more. These funds are vital for the City as we continue to move forward and recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The City also had an opportunity to request project funding through congressionally-directed spending requests (or earmarks), as outlined in a [June 18, 2021 memorandum](#). The Government Affairs Office coordinated input from City departments to identify viable projects and assemble the applications for each congressional delegation office based on Council-approved projects. The City's congressional delegation prioritized almost \$25 million for City infrastructure and community projects, including major corridor improvements, ADA curb ramps and sidewalk improvements, signature playground installation, library services and programming, and public safety training. Congress is still negotiating these earmark requests as part of their efforts to finalize the FY 22 annual appropriations bills and the larger infrastructure package, and staff will provide an update to Council once those details are solidified, likely by the end of the calendar year.

### **State Successes**

Staff saw a similar response at the State level to prioritize funding for COVID-19 recovery and significant investments in one-time funding projects due to historic relief and surplus in the State budget. In total, the State FY 22 adopted budget provides more than \$57 million direct to the City to fund one-time parks and community projects, emergency rental assistance, cannabis equity program, youth workforce development, and homeless housing assistance and prevention. The State's major investments in areas such as economic development, homelessness and housing, public health equity, public safety, education, infrastructure, and the environment will all positively benefit the City and its recovery efforts. More details about the State budget's impacts on Long Beach and the City's advocacy efforts can be found in the [August 10, 2021 memorandum](#).

### Overview of the City's Legislative Positions

The City's legislative positions for 2021 are listed below. When discussing State bills, "Chaptered" refers to bills that made it through the entire legislative process and were signed by the Governor, while "Vetoed" bills passed the Legislature but did not receive the Governor's signature. Bills that were not successful through the legislative process are listed as "Failed". Calendar year 2021 is the first year of a two-year State legislative session, so some of these proposals may have an opportunity to continue in 2022, when the State Legislature reconvenes. The City will continue to monitor and register positions on those bills as appropriate. The City's positions on federal legislation are also included in the table below.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
<b><i>Cannabis</i></b>	SB 603 (Bradford) Cannabis License Deferral: Tax Credit	Support	Failed
<b><i>COVID-19</i></b>	SB 285 (McGuire) California Tourism Recovery Act	Support	Failed
	H.R. 1319 (Yarmuth) American Rescue Plan Act of 2021	Support	Chaptered
<b><i>Economic Development</i></b>	AB 106 (Salas) Regions Rise Grant Program	Support	Failed
<b><i>Environment</i></b>	AB 585 (Rivas) Extreme Heat and Climate Resiliency Program	Support	Failed
	AB 847 (Quirk) Electrically Conductive Balloons	Support	Failed
	SB 619 (Laird) Organic Waste: Reduction Regulations	Support	Chaptered
	S. 1782 (Booker) TREES Act of 2021	Support	Introduced
<b><i>Equity</i></b>	AB 1338 (Low) Public Social Services: Financial Assistance Demonstration and Research Programs	Support	Failed
	SB 17 (Pan) Office of Racial Equity	Support	Failed
	H.R. 5 (Cicilline) Equality Act	Support	Passed House
	H.R. 1 (Sarbanes) The For the People Act	Support	Passed House
<b><i>Finance</i></b>	AB 1177 (Santiago) California Public Banking Option Act	Support	Chaptered
<b><i>Fireworks</i></b>	SB 277 (Archuleta) Fireworks: Dangerous Fireworks: Seizure Management	Support	Failed
<b><i>Housing</i></b>	AB 491 (Ward) Housing: Affordable and Market Rate Units	Support	Chaptered
	SB 679 (Kamlager) Los Angeles County: Affordable Housing	Support	Failed

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Legislation</b>	<b>Position</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
	ACA 1 (Aguiar-Curry) Local Government Financing: Voter Approval	Support	Failed
	SB 15 (Portantino) Rezoning of Idle Retail Sites	Support	Failed
	S. 2357 (Feinstein) Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act	Support	Introduced
	S. 580 (Feinstein) Affordable Housing Redevelopment Act	Support	Introduced
<b>Immigration</b>	SB 452 (Gonzalez) Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs	Support	Failed
	H.R. 1177 (Sanchez) U.S. Citizenship Act	Support	Introduced
<b>Libraries</b>	S. 127 (Reed) Build America's Libraries Act	Support	Introduced
<b>Oil</b>	AB 353 (O'Donnell) Oil Revenue: Oil Trust Fund	Support	Failed
<b>Public Health</b>	AB 97 (Nazarian) Health Care Coverage: Insulin Affordability	Support	Failed
	AB 221 (Santiago) Emergency Food Assistance	Support	Failed
	AB 240 (Rodriguez) Local Health Department Workforce Assessment	Support	Failed
	AB 1400 (Kalra) Guaranteed Health Care for All	Support	Failed
	SB 635 (Gonzalez) Cleanup Activities on State Highways, Rights-of-Way, Off Ramps, and Homeless Encampments	Support	Failed
<b>Public Safety</b>	AB 118 (Kamlager) CRISES Act	Support	Chaptered
<b>Public Works</b>	AB 43 (Friedman) Traffic Safety	Support	Chaptered
	AB 773 (Nazarian) Street Closures and Designations	Support	Chaptered
	SB 640 (Becker) Transportation Funding: Jointly Proposed Projects	Support	Chaptered
<b>Recycling</b>	AB 962 (Kamlager) Reusable Beverage Containers	Support	Chaptered
	AB 1201 (Ting) Compostability and Biodegradability	Support	Chaptered
	SB 289 (Newman) Battery and Battery-Embedded Product Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021	Support	Failed
	SB 343 (Allen) Environmental Advertising: Recycling Label	Support	Chaptered
<b>Telecomm</b>	AB 1425 (Gipson) Broadband Public Housing Account	Support	Failed
	SB 4 (Gonzalez) California Advanced Services Fund	Support	Chaptered

Subject	Legislation	Position	Outcome
	SB 556 (Dodd) Street Light Poles, Traffic Signal Poles: Small Wireless Facilities Attachments	Oppose	Vetoed
	SB 743 (Bradford) Broadband Adoption: Grant Program	Support	Failed

## Cannabis

### *Support for SB 603 (Bradford) Cannabis License Deferral: Tax Credit*

This bill proposed to remove a 2021 deadline to extend authority to waive application fees, licensing fees, or renewal fees for needs-based applicant or licensee thereby requiring a state licensing authority to implement a fee deferral or waiver program, upon an appropriation in the annual Budget Act or another statute for that purpose. This bill would have allowed a credit against those taxes for each taxable year beginning on or after January 1, 2021, equal to the amount of state and local cannabis licensing fees paid by a local equity applicant or a local equity licensee. This bill did not make it out of the Assembly policy committee it was referred to.

## COVID-19

### *Support for SB 285 (McGuire) California Tourism Recovery Act*

The California Tourism Recovery Act proposed to implement a strategic media and jobs recovery campaign known as the "Calling All Californians" program for the purpose of reversing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the travel and tourism industry in California. The bill would have required an appropriation to be made in the Legislature of a suggested \$45 million allocation. The bill was ordered to the Senate inactive file at the request of the author and did not move forward this year.

### *Support for H.R. 1319 (Yarmuth) American Rescue Plan Act of 2021*

This bill provides additional relief to address the continued impact of COVID-19 (i.e., coronavirus disease 2019) on the economy, public health, state and local governments, individuals, and businesses.

## Economic Development

### *Support for AB 106 (Salas) Regions Rise Grant Program*

This bill would have established the Regions Rise Grant Program within GO-Biz for the purpose of supporting inclusive, cross-jurisdictional, and innovative engagement processes that lead to inclusive strategies to address barriers and challenges confronting communities in creating economic prosperity for all. The bill would have defined "region" as a geographic area composed of one or more counties and cities that form a functional economy. The bill passed through the Assembly but was unable to move through the Senate.

## Environment

### *Support for AB 585 (Rivas) Extreme Heat and Climate Resiliency Program*

This bill proposed to establish the Extreme Heat and Community Resilience Program to coordinate the state's efforts to address extreme heat and to facilitate the implementation of regional and state climate change planning into effective projects through the awarding of competitive grants to eligible entities for implementation of those projects. Local agencies qualified as an eligible entity. This bill was held in the Senate Appropriations Committee.

### *Support for AB 847 (Quirk) Electrically Conductive Balloons*

This bill proposed to require the Office of Energy Infrastructure Safety, on or before September 1, 2022, in consultation with the Office of Emergency Services, to adopt regulations governing the sale or manufacture in the state of celebratory balloons constructed of electrically conductive material and filled with lighter than air gas. The bill, on and after September 1, 2023, would have prohibited a business from selling or offering for sale, and a manufacturer from manufacturing for sale, a celebratory balloon made of electrically conductive material unless the balloon complies with specified provisions. This bill was ordered to the Assembly inactive file at the request of the author.

### *Support for SB 619 (Laird) Organic Waste: Reduction Regulations*

This bill will extend the date by one year of which CARB can enforce and impose a penalty on a local jurisdiction for not making a reasonable effort to comply with organic waste targets. CARB will not be able to penalize localities until January 1, 2023. This bill was approved by Governor Newsom on October 5, 2021.

### *Support for S. 1782 (Booker) TREES Act of 2021*

The Tress for Residential Energy and Economic Savings (TREES) Act of 2021 would direct the Secretary of Energy to establish a grant program to facilitate tree planting that reduces residential energy consumption.

## Equity

### *Support for AB 1338 (Low) Public Social Services: Financial Assistance Demonstration and Research Programs*

This bill proposed to extend indefinitely the deadline for participants of financial assistance program to be able to apply for and use State public social services. This bill was held on the Assembly Appropriations Committee suspense file.

### *Support for SB 17 (Pan) Office of Racial Equity*

This bill proposed to establish in state government an Office of Racial Equity, an independent public entity not affiliated with an agency or department, that shall be governed by a Racial Equity Advisory and Accountability Council. The bill would have authorized the council to hire an executive director to organize, administer, and manage the operations of the office. The bill would have tasked the office with coordinating, analyzing, developing, evaluating, and recommending strategies for advancing racial equity across state agencies, departments, and the office of the Governor. This bill was

referred to the Assembly Appropriations committee and the hearing was cancelled at the request of the author.

*Support for H.R. 5 (Cicilline) Equality Act*

This bill prohibits discrimination based on sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity in areas including public accommodations and facilities, education, federal funding, employment, housing, credit, and the jury system. Specifically, the bill defines and includes sex, sexual orientation, and gender identity among the prohibited categories of discrimination or segregation.

*Support for H.R. 1 (Sarbanes) For the People Act of 2021*

The For the People Act proposes several provisions to expand and protect voter eligibility nationwide. It would implement automatic voter registration, allow same-day registration, and require each registered voter receive a mailed ballot and be able to vote early. To better protect fair and equitable elections, the Act includes security measures such as sharing intelligence information with state election officials, supporting states in securing their election systems, developing a national strategy to protect U.S. democratic institutions, and establishing in the legislative branch the National Commission to Protect United States Democratic Institutions.

## **Finance**

*Support for AB 1177 (Santiago) California Public Banking Option Act*

The California Public Banking Option Act will establish, in state government, the Public Banking Option Board consisting of nine members, including the Treasurer or the Treasurer's designee and would require the board to administer the BankCal Program, which the act would create for the purpose of protecting consumers who lack access to traditional banking services from predatory, discriminatory, and costly alternatives, by offering access to voluntary, zero-fee, zero-penalty, federally insured transaction account and debit card services at no cost to account holders. The act requires the board to, on or before July 1, 2023, conduct and deliver, as specified, a market analysis to determine both if the program can be implemented and if program revenue is more likely than not to be sufficient to pay for program costs within 6 years of the program's implementation. This bill was signed by the Governor on October 10, 2021.

## **Fireworks**

*Support for SB 277 (Archuleta) Fireworks: Dangerous Fireworks: Seizure Management*

This bill proposed to expand the definition of a dangerous firework to include any firework that contains lead and lead compounds and hexachlorobenzene. The bill also would have required any seized dangerous or safe and sane fireworks, as defined, to be managed by the State Fire Marshal, as provided. The bill would have required the State Fire Marshal to consult with relevant federal and state agencies to develop specific protocols and procedures for the safe seizure, storage, repurposing, destruction, or disposal of specified dangerous fireworks. The bill passed through the Senate but was unable to make it through the Assembly.



## Housing

### *Support for AB 491 (Ward) Housing: Affordable and Market Rate Units*

This bill will require housing developments built after January 1, 2022 to provide equal access to common spaces from affordable units as market rate units and not consolidate affordable units to one area or floor of the development. Governor Newsom signed the legislation on September 28, 2021.

### *Support for SB 15 (Portantino) Rezoning of Idle Retail Sites*

This bill, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or other statute, would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development to administer a program to provide incentives in the form of grants to local governments that rezone idle sites used for a big box retailer or a commercial shopping center to instead allow the development of workforce housing. This bill made it through the Senate but was held at the Assembly desk and not referred to committee.

### *Support for SB 679 (Kamlager) Los Angeles County: Affordable Housing*

This bill proposed to create a new countywide agency with the authority to raise funds for renter support programs, affordable housing preservation, and affordable housing production. Long Beach would have had a seat on the governing board of the agency created through SB 679 and would receive direct allocations to achieve greater levels of affordable housing production and tenant assistance. This bill was held in its first Assembly policy committee.

### *Support for ACA 1 (Aguilar-Curry) Local Government Financing: Voter Approval*

This bill proposed to allow local governments to levy an ad valorem tax to service bonded indebtedness incurred to fund the construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, or replacement of public infrastructure, affordable housing, or permanent supportive housing, or the acquisition or lease of real property with 55% approval by voters instead of the previous 66% threshold. This bill did not make it out of its first Assembly policy committee.

### *Support for S. 2357 (Feinstein) Fighting Homelessness Through Services and Housing Act*

This legislation proposes to address homelessness faced by Americans across the nation through the provision of a grant program that administers planning and implementation funding for local government entities.

### *Support for S. 580 (Feinstein) Affordable Housing Redevelopment Act*

This bill reauthorizes the Neighborhood Stabilization Program for FY2021 to provide grants to states, local governments, and nonprofit entities for the conversion of blighted, abandoned, or foreclosed property into affordable housing for low-income families.

## Immigration

### *Support for SB 452 (Gonzalez) Office of Immigrant and Refugee Affairs*

This bill proposed to establish the Immigrant and Refugee Affairs Agency as an agency within state government. The bill would have established the Office of Immigrant and

Refugee Affairs within the agency. The bill would have transferred functions relating to immigrants and refugees to the office and would declare the intent to incorporate existing and future programs created to assist immigrants and refugees into the office. This bill made it through the Senate but not out of the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

*Support for H.R. 1177 (Sanchez) U.S. Citizenship Act*

The Act would allow undocumented individuals currently in the country, including Dreamers, immigrant farmworkers, and Temporary Protected Status holders, to apply for green cards if they pass background checks and pay taxes. The legislation also seeks to make the family-based immigration system more efficient and to support workforce development through employment-based green cards.

## **Libraries**

*Support for S. 127 (Reed) Build America's Libraries Act*

This bill establishes and provides funds through FY2024 for the Build America's Libraries Fund, from which the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) must allocate funding to states and, through them, need-based grants to libraries to make long-term improvements to library facilities. Specifically, the bill requires each state that receives an allocation, and each library that receives a grant, to carry out certain activities to improve library facilities. These activities include constructing and renovating library facilities, investing in infrastructure projects to improve internet access and connectivity, improving indoor air quality, and making facilities accessible to individuals with disabilities.

## **Oil**

*Support for AB 353 (O'Donnell) Oil Revenue: Oil Trust Fund*

The City is the local sponsor of this bill which proposed to make an appropriation by deleting the provisions relating to the limit on the total amount deposited in the Oil Trust Fund in the State Treasury. This bill did not make it out of its first Assembly policy committee.

## **Public Health**

*Support for AB 97 (Nazarian) Health Care Coverage: Insulin Affordability*

This bill proposed to prohibit a health care service plan contract or a health insurance policy issued, amended, delivered, or renewed on or after January 1, 2022, from imposing a deductible on an insulin prescription drug. Because a willful violation of these provisions by a health care service plan would be a crime, the bill would have imposed a state-mandated local program. This bill was held on the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

*Support for AB 221 (Santiago) Emergency Food Assistance*

This bill would have required the Department of Social Services to provide a food assistance benefit statewide to low-income California residents, regardless of their immigration status, upon the appropriation of funds by the Legislature for this purpose or a determination by the Governor that specified funds available to the Governor may be used for this purpose. This bill made it through the Assembly but was held on the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

*Support for AB 240 (Rodriguez) Local Health Department Workforce Assessment*

This bill would have required the Department of Public Health to partner to contract an entity to evaluate the adequacy of the local health department infrastructure and make recommendations to fund local public health. The Department would have been required to share findings and recommendations by July 1, 2024. The implementation of the bill was contingent upon sufficient funding from state, federal, or private funding for the department to support the advisory group and the evaluation contract. This bill made it through the Assembly but was held on the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

*Support for AB 1400 (Kalra) Guaranteed Health Care for All*

This bill proposed to create the California Guaranteed Health Care for All program, or CalCare, to provide comprehensive universal single-payer health care coverage and a health care cost control system for the benefit of all residents of the state. The bill would have provided that CalCare cover a wide range of medical benefits and other services and would have incorporated the health care benefits and standards of other existing federal and state provisions, including the federal Children's Health Insurance Program, Medi-Cal, ancillary health care or social services covered by regional centers for persons with developmental disabilities, Knox-Keene, and the federal Medicare program. This bill was introduced but never set for a hearing in a policy committee.

*Support for SB 635 (Gonzalez) Cleanup Activities on State Highways, Rights-of-Way, Off Ramps, and Homeless Encampments*

This bill proposed to require Caltrans to review, audit, and efficiently coordinate cleanup activities related to state highways, rights-of-way, off ramps, and homeless encampments on department-owned property. In coordinating cleanup activities, the department would have to solicit information from, and coordinate with, health and safety agencies, mental health agencies, law enforcement agencies, continuum of care entities, nonprofit organizations, and any other federal, state, or local agencies or organizations who have jurisdiction over the maintenance and safety of roads and highways or that coordinate with the department for highway cleanup activities purposes. This bill did not make it off of the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

**Public Safety***Support for AB 118 (Kamlager) CRISES Act*

This bill will enact the Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems Act or the C.R.I.S.E.S. Act for the purpose of creating, implementing, and evaluating the 3-year C.R.I.S.E.S. Grant Pilot Program. The bill will require the office to establish rules and regulations for the program with the goal of making grants to community organizations, over 3 years, for the purpose of expanding the participation of community organizations in emergency response for specified vulnerable populations. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 8, 2021.

**Public Works***Support for AB 43 (Friedman) Traffic Safety*

This bill will require local authorities to consider other factors, including pedestrian and bicycle safety, in determining highway speed limits that are allowed but not required to be

considered under existing law. The bill will also allow local authorities to consider additional factors, including the current or immediately prior speed limit. This bill will establish a prima facie speed limit of 25 miles per hour on state highways located in any business or residence district and would authorize the Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to change the speed limit on any such highway, as prescribed, including erecting signs to give notice thereof. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 8, 2021.

*Support for AB 773 (Nazarian) Street Closures and Designations*

This bill will authorize a local authority to adopt an ordinance to implement a slow street program, which may include closures to vehicular traffic or through vehicular traffic of neighborhood local streets with connections to citywide bicycle networks, destinations that are within walking distance, or green space. The bill will require the local authority to meet specified conditions to implement a slow street, including a determination that closure or traffic restriction is necessary for the safety and protection of persons using the closed or restricted portion of the street, conducting an outreach and engagement process, and clearly designating the closure or traffic restriction with specific signage. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 6, 2021.

*Support for SB 640 (Becker) Transportation Funding: Jointly Proposed Projects*

This bill authorizes cities and counties to jointly propose projects to be funded by the cities and counties' apportionments of Road Maintenance and Rehabilitation Program funds. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on July 16, 2021.

## **Recycling**

*Support for AB 962 (Kamlager) Reusable Beverage Containers*

This bill requires CalRecycle to certify processors for cleaning reusable beverage containers. This bill authorizes, for a reusable beverage container, a processor approved by the department to handle reusable beverage containers to satisfy those operation requirements by transferring the reusable beverage container to a washer approved by the department. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 5, 2021.

*Support for AB 1201 (Ting) Compostability and Biodegradability*

This bill prohibits a person from selling a plastic product that is labeled with the term "compostable," "home compostable," or "soil biodegradable" unless the product meets specified standards and satisfies specified criteria. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 5, 2021.

*Support for SB 289 (Newman) Battery and Battery-Embedded Product Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021*

This bill proposed to make the Rechargeable Battery Recycling Act of 2006 and the Cell Phone Recycling Act of 2004 inoperative as of June 30, 2025 and would have repealed those acts on January 1, 2026. The bill would have enacted the Battery and Battery-Embedded Product Recycling and Fire Risk Reduction Act of 2021, which would require producers, individually or through the creation of one or more stewardship organizations, to establish a stewardship program for batteries and battery-embedded products. The bill would have required a stewardship organization or producer, on or before June 30, 2024,

to submit to the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery a stewardship plan for the collection, transportation, and recycling, and the safe and proper management, of batteries or battery-embedded products in the state. This bill did not make it out of the Senate Appropriations Committee.

*Support for SB 343 (Allen) Environmental Advertising: Recycling Label*

This bill requires CalRecycle, on or before January 1, 2023, to update certain regulations to include the types and forms of plastic products and packaging for which a claim of recyclability may be made. The bill requires the department director to consider specified criteria to determine the material types and forms that are recyclable and requires the department to develop and publish a list of the material types and forms determined to be recyclable. The bill will, if a material type and form is not on the list, or is removed from the list, prohibit a person from offering for sale, selling, distributing, or importing into the state any product or packaging manufactured 90 days after the list is published or updated if the product or packaging displays a chasing arrows symbol. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 5, 2021.

## **Telecommunications**

*Support for AB 1425 (Gipson) Broadband Public Housing Account*

Beginning January 1, 2022, AB 1425 would have allocated \$25 million to the Broadband Public Housing Account to provide grants to provide connectivity to residents of publicly subsidized multiunit housing complexes. The bill would have established that the goal of the Broadband Public Housing Account was to provide connectivity to all residents of publicly subsidized multiunit housing by 2025 or as soon as practicable thereafter. This bill made it through the Assembly but did not make it off the Senate Appropriations suspense file.

*Support for SB 4 (Gonzalez) California Advanced Services Fund*

This bill establishes the California Advanced Services Fund to streamline local land use approvals and permitting related to broadband infrastructure deployment and connectivity, with priority for projects in unserved areas. The bill directs California Advanced Services Fund (CASF) bill revenue toward these efforts through 2022. This bill was signed by Governor Newsom on October 8, 2021.

*Opposition to SB 556 (Dodd) Street Light Poles, Traffic Signal Poles: Small Wireless Facilities Attachments*

This bill would have prohibited a local government from unreasonably denying the leasing of its streetlight or traffic signal poles to communications service providers for the purpose of placing small wireless facilities on those poles. The bill would have required that streetlight and traffic signal poles be made available for the placement of small wireless facilities under fair, reasonable, and nondiscriminatory fees. The bill would have authorized a local government or local publicly owned electric utility to condition access to its streetlight poles or traffic signal poles on reasonable terms and conditions, including reasonable aesthetic and safety standards. This bill was passed by the Legislature but was vetoed by Governor Newsom on October 4, 2021.

*Support for SB 743 (Bradford) Broadband Adoption: Grant Program*

This bill would have required the Department of Housing and Community Development to establish a grant program to fund broadband adoption, digital literacy, and computer equipment for eligible publicly supported communities. The bill would have required the department to award grants to eligible publicly supported communities for the purpose of providing either one-time funding for computer equipment and to establish computer labs or ongoing funding for up to 3 years for broadband service and digital literacy programs. This bill made it through the Senate but did not make it off the Assembly Appropriations suspense file.