



Date: April 28, 2017

To: Members, California Fire Chiefs Association
Members, Fire Districts Association of California

From: Russell Noack, Public Policy Advocates

Re: FIRE Weekly Legislative Report – Week Ending 04/28/2017

With several legislative deadlines fast approaching, policy committees of both Houses of the Legislature have been very busy considering hundreds of bills. The following bills of interest to the CFCFA and FDAC were considered this week:

AB 78 (Cooper): Would improve safety on waterways by permitting the use of distinctive blue lights on fire department/district vessels. The bill passed the Assembly and is awaiting consideration in the Senate. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 263 (Rodriguez): Would require an employer that provides emergency medical services as part of an emergency medical services plan to provide their employees with prescribed meal periods. The bill passed the Assembly Labor Committee and was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: WATCH*

AB 288 (Oberholte): The bill has been amended this week to establish an SRA fee amnesty pilot program to eliminate penalties for late payments. AB 288 is awaiting consideration by the Assembly Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 289 (Gray): Would require OES to update the State Emergency Plan by January 1, 2019, and every five (5) years thereafter. The bill passed the Assembly and is awaiting consideration in the Senate. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 579 (Flora): Would develop a statewide firefighter pre-apprenticeship program. The bill passed the Assembly Labor Committee and was referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 708 (Quirk-Silva): Would streamline the Cal/OSHA accident reporting requirement. Sponsored by the Orange County Fire Authority, the bill passed the Assembly Labor Committee and has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee: *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 911 (Wood): Would exempt bomb squad members from certain training requirements designed for X-ray technicians. The bill passed the Assembly and is awaiting consideration in the Senate. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

AB 1120 (Cooper): Was significantly amended this week to prohibit the purchase of large quantities of butane in an effort to restrict the use of “honey oil” in the home production of marijuana products. The bill passed the Assembly Public Safety Committee and has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: UNDER REVIEW/PENDING*

AB 1283 (Rodriguez): Would provide for fire departments with volunteer firefighters that receive federal reimbursement for costs associated with firefighting to pass through to the volunteers a portion of the amount that otherwise would be required to hire an employee for the services. The amended bill passed the Assembly Labor Committee and has been referred to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: WATCH*

ACR 71 (Flora): Would establish May 4, 2017, as International Firefighters’ Day to honor the sacrifices made by firefighters in California and around the world. This resolution was introduced last week. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

SB 35 (Wiener): Would streamline the approval process for planning and zoning for affordable housing. We have met with the author regarding suggested changes. SB 35 passed the Senate Governance and Finance Committee and has been re-referred to the Senate Rules Committee. *FIRE Position: OPPOSE*

SB 188 (Jackson): Would extend the Emergency Management Assistance Compact until 2023. The bill passed the Senate and is awaiting consideration in the Assembly. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

SB 431 (Bates): Would allow a local agency by ordinance to waive certain building code requirements on accessory dwelling units in order to issue permits on these properties. This week the bill was made a two-year bill meaning it will not be taken up again this year. *FIRE Position: OPPOSE UNLESS AMENDED*

SB 432 (Pan): Would require a health facility to provide immediate notice to emergency medical or rescue personnel who are exposed to individuals who are diagnosed with a communicable disease. The bill passed the Senate Health Committee and has been referred to the Senate Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: SUPPORT*

SB 496 (Cannella): Part of a package of items negotiated between Governor Brown and Legislative Leadership to secure sufficient votes to pass **SB 1** (Beall), the landmark transportation/fuel tax bill. SB 496 would limit the use of indemnity clauses in public agency agreements covering design professional services. The bill was approved by the Senate last week, approved by the Assembly this week and is awaiting action by the Governor. *FIRE Position: OPPOSE*

[SB 562 \(Lara\)](#): Entitled “The Healthy California Act,” this measure would make a massive change in our health care system. The bill would establish a government-run single payer system in California for the first time. Hundreds of witnesses testified during the three-plus-hour Senate Health Committee hearing this week, and the bill was approved on a 5-to-2 vote. The bill now moves on to the Senate Appropriations Committee. *FIRE Position: WATCH*

[2017 Assembly & Senate Legislative Calendar](#)