



February 16, 2018

New Bill Introductions

Today is the last day for members for the Legislature to introduce new legislation. Bills that are introduced today will show up in print over the weekend and will be included in next week's Friday Review. Below is a brief description of those bills in print as of today.

Agriculture, Generally

Assemblywoman Caballero (D-Salinas) has introduced the California Farm Bill ([AB 2166](#)). As drafted, this bill would establish the Growth Council Initiative to streamline regulations to help growers comply with state law and reduce costs to the agricultural industry. The bill also requires CDFA to develop an online portal with all regulatory requirements and with the assistance of County Agricultural Commissioners, to identify Internet connectively gaps that inhibit the adoption of ag technology. This bill would also require CDFA to encourage community colleges, UCs and CSUs and fairs to maintain smart farms and require the CA Community Colleges to develop an Ag Business and Technology Program to be adopted broadly. Finally, this bill would require the State to examine the economic and employment impact of agriculture in California and provide for an unspecified tax credit for costs incurred to deploy ag technology. Farm Bureau has been in contact with Assemblywoman Caballero and her staff to discuss this bill but has yet to take a formal position.

Assemblyman Gallagher (R-Yuba) has introduced a bill ([AB 2697](#)) that will require the Wildlife Conservation Board to incentivize landholders to cultivate or retain cover crop or natural vegetation on idled agricultural land for waterfowl and game bird habitat.

Cannabis

Several bills have been introduced to allow for policies to be developed for the administration of medical cannabis to animals (Assemblyman Kalra, D-San Jose-[AB 2215](#)) and K-12 school children (Senator Hill, D-San Mateo-[SB 1127](#)).

Climate

Several climate related bills have been introduced as of late. Assemblywoman Irwin (D-Thousand Oaks) has introduced [AB 2377](#) which requires CDFA to establish a technical assistance grant program to assist small to moderately-sized farms and ranches in applying to the Cap and Trade funded programs managed by CDFA (with the exception of dairy digesters). Assemblyman Grayson (D-Antioch) has introduced [AB 2470](#) which would codify the Invasive Species Council of California and appropriate \$10 million from the Greenhouse Fund to address invasive species, \$2 million to UC for invasive species research, and \$2.5

million to CDFA to be allocated for weed management control and abatement. Finally, Senator Quirk (D-Hayward) has introduced [AB 2120](#), which would require any regulatory changes made by the Air Resources Board on agricultural burning include a technical discussion of the emissions related to prescribed fires or managed wildfire ignitions by agriculturalists.

Commodities

California would be required to list processed meat as a substance known to cause cancer or reproductive toxicity under a Senate Concurrent Resolution introduced by Senator Ricardo Lara (D-Bell Gardens), [SCR 100](#). The resolution would require the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment to include “processed meat (for consumption)” on California’s list of chemicals mandated by Proposition 65, which means all processed meat would now have to include a Prop 65 label on its package.

Natural Resources

The state would provide grants for landowners to plant habitat for Monarch butterflies under a bill proposed by Assemblymember Mark Stone (D-Scotts Valley), [AB 2421](#). The bill creates the Monarch Butterfly and Pollinator Rescue Program at the Wildlife Conservation Board (WCB). Once funding is available, the WCB would distribute grants to interested landowners to plant breeding and foraging habitat that would benefit Monarchs and other pollinators. For more information, contact Noelle Cremers.

Nutrition

Assemblyman Arambula (D-Fresno) has introduced the Hunger Impact Act of 2018 ([AB 2297](#)), which would require an additional \$15 allowance/month to CalFresh (food stamp) recipients that have special diet or food preparation requirements and provide an additional \$28/month to CalFresh recipients, generally. These funds would be derived from the State General Fund. In a related measure, Assemblyman Ting (D-San Francisco) has introduced [AB 2335](#) which would require CDFA, upon recipient of matching federal funds, to administer a grant program to the City of Los Angeles and San Francisco to fund the purchases of energy-efficient refrigeration units by small businesses and corner stores in food deserts. Senator Skinner (D-Oakland) has introduced a spot bill ([SB 1138](#)) which declares the intent to require schools, hospitals and prisons to offer plant-based meal options.

Water

A measure that requires the Department of Water Resources to inspect all dams at least once per fiscal year that are classified as “significant” hazard, and dams that would not jeopardize lives or property in the event of a failure, classified as “low” hazard at least once every two fiscal years, passed out of the Assembly 71-0 on concurrence this week and is now on the Governor’s desk. [AB 1270](#) (James Gallagher, R-Yuba City) ensures thorough dam safety inspections and requires the department to work with independent dam safety and risk management organizations to update dam safety protocols. These protocols must address deficiencies identified by the forensic team, like the review of the original design and construction of a dam and auxiliary structures. Farm Bureau supports.

A Farm Bureau sponsored measure was introduced this week that would add clarifying language to Section 1601 of the Fish and Game Code. [AB 2545](#) (James Gallagher, R-Yuba City) would state that “streambed, bank, or channel” only means the land containing the river, stream, or lake during its ordinary course. This change would narrow when a streambed alteration agreement would be required to activities only in the bed, bank, or channel rather than the entire floodplain.

Appointments

Dee Dee D’Adamo was reappointed to the State Water Resources Control Board and Jenny Lester-Moffit was announced as the new Undersecretary at the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Below are their announcements from the Governor’s Office:

Dorene D'Adamo, 57, of Turlock, has been reappointed to the State Water Resources Control Board, where she has served since 2013. D'Adamo served as senior policy advisor to Congressman Jim Costa in 2013 and to Congressman Dennis Cardoza from 2003 to 2012. She was legal counsel for Congressman Gary Condit from 1994 to 2003 and a visiting instructor at California State University, Stanislaus from 1992 to 1998. D'Adamo was an associate attorney at the Law Offices of Perry and Wildman from 1992 to 1994 and a policy consultant at DeeDee D'Adamo Consulting from 1991 to 1992. She was legislative director for Congressman Gary Condit from 1990 to 1991 and assistant director at the California Youth Authority from 1988 to 1990. D'Adamo was legal counsel at the California State Assembly Committee on Public Safety from 1986 to 1988 and legislative director for the California State Assembly Assistant Majority Leader from 1985 to 1986. She is a member of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and served on the California Air Resources Board from 1999 to 2013. D'Adamo earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law. This position requires Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$147,778. D'Adamo is a Democrat.

Jennifer Moffitt, 37, of Davis, has been appointed undersecretary at the California Department of Food and Agriculture, where she has served as deputy secretary since 2015. Moffitt was managing director at Dixon Ridge Farms from 2005 to 2015. She was an education, outreach and research specialist at the American Farmland Trust from 2004 to 2005, where she was a land projects coordinator from 2002 to 2004. Moffitt is a member of the California Agricultural Leadership Foundation. This position does not require Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$170,328. Moffitt is a Democrat.