

**HIGHLIGHTS OF THE
LEGISLATIVE ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF 1999**

**Prepared by the
California Senate Office of Research
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**A Summary of Significant Legislation that
Reached the Governor's Desk**

**Senate Office of Research
Elisabeth Kersten, Director**

Project Team:

**Barry Brewer
Jeff Brown
Kim Connor
Greg deGiere
Mark Dymally
Marlene Garcia
Jack Hailey
Peter Hansel
Rebecca LaVally
Patty Quate
Rona Levine Sherriff
Kate Sproul
Kip Wiley**

Formatted by Ginny Daley

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Table of Contents

[Introduction](#)

[Agriculture](#)

[Animals](#)

[Bonds](#)

[Civil Rights](#)

[Consumers](#)

[Domestic Violence](#)

[Economic and Small-Business Development](#)

[Education](#)

[Early Childhood through 12th Grade](#)

[Higher Education](#)

[Elections and Political Reform](#)

[Family Law](#)

[Gambling](#)

[General Government](#)

[Health Care](#)

[Housing and Urban Growth](#)

[Human Services](#)

[Information Technology and Communications](#)

[Insurance](#)

[Labor and Employment](#)

[Local Government](#)

[Natural Resources and Wildlife](#)

[Privacy](#)

[Public Employment and Retirement](#)

[Public Safety and the Judiciary](#)

[Revenue and Taxation](#)

[Transportation](#)

[Utilities](#)

[Veterans](#)

[Water](#)

[Ordering Information](#)

Introduction

This summary highlights some of the significant bills that were sent by the California Legislature in 1999 to the desk of Governor Gray Davis.

This is not a complete list, but it does illustrate a range of issues considered and actions taken by the California Legislature prior to its year-end recess on September 10. The governor was required to sign or veto all measures by October 10, and his actions are noted here. Most of the bills signed into law by Davis will take effect January 1, 2000.

This analysis does not review the 1999-00 budget bill, **SB 160 (Peace), Chapter 50/Statutes of 1999**, signed by

Governor Davis on June 28. The Legislative Analyst's Office has prepared a summary of the \$80 billion budget package, including budget companion bills, titled *California Spending Plan 1999-00: The Budget Act and Related Legislation*, which can be found on its web site. Companion bills to the budget, or trailer bills, are discussed in the various applicable policy sections of this *Highlights of the Legislature's Accomplishments of 1999* document.

You may use the California Legislative Information web site at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov> to read and print copies of bills noted here and read legislative staff analyses of the measures and issues.

Agriculture

Please also see "[Farmland Preservation](#)" and "[Farm-worker Housing](#),"

In the aftermath of the crash of a van that killed 13 Fresno County farm workers, the Legislature and Governor Davis enacted two measures, **AB 555 and AB 1165**, aimed at improving the safety of traveling farm laborers.

AB 555 (Reyes), Chapter 556/Statutes of 1999, requires the state labor commissioner to provide the California Highway Patrol with a list of all registered farm-labor vehicles each quarter, extends the inspection liability for farm-labor vehicles to vehicle owners and farm-labor contractors and increases fines for violations of inspection requirements for farm-labor vehicles. **AB 1165 (Florez), Chapter 557/Statutes of 1999**, requires all farm-labor vehicles to have certified safety restraints for the driver and all passengers and requires the vehicles to be inspected and certified by the Highway Patrol.

SB 204 (Lewis) -- Appropriates \$9.5 million for controlling and eradicating the infestation of the red imported fire ant in California. **Signed – Chapter 1010/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 649 (Costa) -- Imposes additional requirements for the cancellation of farmland security zone contracts. **Signed – Chapter 1019/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 805 (McPherson) – Appropriates \$60,000 from the General Fund to subsidize the first two weeks of a farm-labor center's operations beyond the regular 180-day season. Authorizes the Department of Housing and Community Development to approve the operating costs and two-week extension. **Signed – Chapter 308/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 985 (Johnston) -- Specifies how the term "recreational use" is defined under the Williamson Act. **Signed – Chapter 1018/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1014 (Poochigian) -- Defines "new plantings," for purposes of eligibility for tax exemptions, to include fruit or nut trees severely damaged by the December 1998 freeze. Damage to California tree crops from that freeze has been estimated at nearly \$600 million. **Signed – Chapter 291/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 47 (Cardoza) -- Requires that unused funds paid to the state controller for cancellation of contracts under the Williamson Act be used to fund grants for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements. **Vetoed.**

AB 1232 (Assembly Committee on Agriculture) -- Appropriates \$750,000 each year for three fiscal years from the General Fund to the Department of Food and Agriculture to fund Pierce Disease research. **Signed – Chapter 627/Statutes of 1999.**

Animals

SB 103 (Johanessen and Hertzberg) -- Increases the penalty from a six-month misdemeanor to a wobbler (either a felony or a mis-demeanor) when -- as a result of a dog owner's failure to exercise ordinary care -- the owner's dog bites a person on two separate occasions or on one occasion causing substantial physical injury. This crime is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for two, three or four years, or in the county jail not to exceed one year, or by a \$10,000 fine, or both. **Signed - Chapter 265/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 560 (Oiler) -- Amends the California Wildlife Protection Act of 1990 to allow the state Department of Fish and Game, or a local agency authorized by it, to kill or remove a mountain lion perceived by the department to be an imminent threat to the survival of any threatened, endangered or protected sheep species. **Signed - Chapter 435/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1482 (Alquist) -- Delays by one year the time when animal pounds and shelters must comply with last year's

law, SB 1785 (Hayden), Chapter 752/Statutes of 1998, which increased the holding period before an animal could be put to death. SB 1785, which took effect July 1, lengthened the previous three-day wait to at least four days at shelters with evening or weekend hours, and to at least six days at shelters without those hours. Nearly 600,000 abandoned animals are killed in California every year, but efforts to comply with SB 1785 created severe crowding at shelters. **Signed – Chapter 81/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1540 (Vincent) – Expands a law that prohibits abandoning dogs and cats to prohibit abandoning any animal. Allows humane officers to immediately charge a person who abandons any animal with a misdemeanor, punishable by imprisonment in the county jail for up to six months and/or a fine of up to \$1,000. **Signed – Chapter 303/Statutes of 1999.**

Bonds

The Legislature agreed to put a series of bond measures before voters to help meet the state's infrastructure needs. A Department of Finance study earlier this year projected unmet capital needs for school buildings, highways and other state construction at more than \$80 billion by 2008.

California voters will be asked to approve the following on the March 7, 2000, primary election ballot:

Public Libraries

SB 3 (Rainey, Burton, Alpert, Havice, Torlakson) -- Authorizes the California Reading and Literacy Improvement and Public Library Construction and Renovation Bond Act of 2000 to provide \$350 million in general-obligation bonds for public library construction and renovation. **Signed – Chapter 726/Statutes of 1999.**

Veterans Homes

SB 630 (Dunn) -- Authorizes \$50 million in general-obligation bonds to construct or renovate state-owned veterans homes. The state owns and operates veterans homes in Yountville in Napa County and in Barstow. A third home is under construction in Chula Vista in San Diego County. Two additional veterans homes have been authorized in Lancaster and in the Ventura County community of Saticoy. **Signed – Chapter 728/Statutes of 1999.**

Parks and Recreation

AB 18 (Villraigosa and Keeley) – Authorizes the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000 to provide a \$2.1 billion general-obligation bond issue for the acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and protection of park, recreational, cultural, historical, fish, wildlife, lake, riparian, reservoir, river, and coastal resources. **Signed – Chapter 461/Statutes of 1999.**

Forensic Labs

AB 1391 (Hertzberg and Polanco) -- Authorizes the Hertzberg-Polanco Crime Laboratories Construction Bond Act of 1999 to provide general-obligation bonds of \$220 million for construction and renovation of state and local forensic labs. **Signed – Chapter 727/Statutes of 1999.**

Water Quality

AB 1584 (Machado and Costa) -- Enacts the Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act to authorize a \$1.97 billion general-obligation bond for safe drinking water, improved water quality and reliability, and flood protection. **Signed – Chapter 725/Statutes of 1999.**

Civil Rights

AB 1670 (Chapter 591/Statutes of 1999), authored by the Assembly Judiciary Committee chaired by Assemblymember Sheila Kuehl, enacts the California Civil Rights Amendments of 1999, designed to give women, disabled workers and others greater protection against discrimination. Major provisions of the measure, which expands the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA), include:

- Increasing from \$50,000 to \$150,000 the amount of damages and administrative fines the Fair Employment and Housing Commission may award in employment discrimination cases;

- Extending sexual harassment protections to those who are working under contracts;
- Requiring that an employer reasonably accommodate a pregnant worker;
- Prohibiting employers from engaging in genetic testing;
- Defining supervisor as it is defined in the California Agricultural Labor Relations Act to clarify those who are acting with supervisory authority;
- Prohibiting a housing owner from harassing a tenant or prospective tenant on any basis protected under FEHA, such as race, ethnicity, gender, religion, or disability; and
- Expanding the FEHA's prohibition on workplace discrimination against those with mental disabilities to include employers of at least five workers, rather than those who employ 15 or more.

Domestic Partnerships

AB 26 (Migden) -- Defines a domestic partnership as a household relationship between adults of the same sex or opposite-sex partners over the age of 62 and provides for its registration and termination in the state. It specifies the legal effect of a domestic partnership, establishes the validity of domestic partnerships entered into outside of the state and establishes the right of a domestic partner and his or her child and the domestic partner of a patient's parent to make hospital visits to a patient. It also requires health insurers to offer to employers the option to purchase coverage for domestic partners, according to the same terms and conditions by which the insurer makes available coverage for employee dependents. Signed – Chapter 588/Statutes of 1999.

SB 75 (Murray) – Similar to AB 26 but does not limit domestic partnerships to same-sex couples or opposite-sex partners over the age of 62 and it does not include health insurance provisions. Unlike AB 26, SB 75 includes domestic partners in conservatorship proceedings and wills. Vetoed.

Workplace, Business Establishments, Health and Housing Issues

SB 26 (Escutia) – Affirms California public policy against age discrimination in employment and invalidates an appellate court case that determined an employer may dismiss an older employee to save money when a younger employee's compensation is less. Clarifies that age-discrimination plaintiffs, like other potential victims of employment discrimination, are not barred from trying to prove that an employment decision based on salary had a discriminatory impact on older workers as a group. Signed – Chapter 222/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1148 (Burton) – Prohibits the governing documents of a common-interest housing development, such as a condominium complex, from including covenants that restrict access to the development to persons based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, marital status, disability, national origin, or ancestry. Requires homeowner associations to amend discriminatory restrictions and allows an action for injunctive relief to enforce this provision. Real estate agents, homeowners' associations and other entities that provide governing documents on common-interest developments will have to include a cover page stating the law's prohibitions on restrictive covenants. Signed – Chapter 589/Statutes of 1999.

AB 407 (Cedillo) – Clarifies that all people, regardless of immigration status, are entitled to equal accommodations and services in business establishments, and to freedom from violence and intimidation. Vetoed.

AB 519 (Aroner) – Clarifies and strengthens California's sexual harassment provisions in the Unruh Civil Rights Act in the area of professional and business relationships. Specifically exempts principals from strict liability for sexual harassment by their agents when principals have no knowledge of the conduct. Signed – Chapter 964/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1001 (Villaraigosa) – Makes it unlawful to engage in discriminatory practices in employment and housing accommodations on the basis of sexual orientation under California's Fair Employment and

Housing Act. Signed – Chapter 592/Statutes of 1999.

Schools

AB 537 (Kuehl) – Prohibits a student from being subjected to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation -- defined as actual or perceived -- in instructional services and programs conducted by an educational institution. This includes a public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school, or post-secondary institution that receives state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state financial assistance. Signed – Chapter 587/Statutes of 1999.

Proposition 209

Proposition 209, a ballot initiative approved by California voters in 1996, prohibits either discrimination or preferences based on race, ethnicity or gender in public education, employment and contracting. The courts are determining whether some of California's long-standing affirmative action programs comply with this state constitutional amendment. Laws that had required the state to contract for its goods, projects and services with certain percentages of minority- and women-owned firms have been ruled unconstitutional.

SB 44 (Polanco) -- Makes a legislative finding that Proposition 209 does not prevent governmental agencies from engaging in public-sector outreach programs that may include focused outreach and recruitment of minority groups and women if any group is underrepresented in entry-level positions or in an educational institution. Vetoed.

SB 73 (Murray) – Authorizes substantial increases in the award of state contracts for professional bond services to small businesses and for businesses owned by disabled veterans. Authorizes local agencies to establish incentive programs to encourage participation of small business enterprises in local contracts. Vetoed.

Hate Crimes

SB 80 (Hayden) – Establishes the California Commission on Combating Hate Groups and the Attorney General's Commission on Hate Crimes Prevention and Prosecution. Vetoed.

AB 208 (Knox) – Provides for the penalty of life without parole for the intentional first-degree murder of a person because of their actual or perceived disability, gender or sexual orientation. Such a penalty is already possible based on the victim's race, color, religion or national origin. Signed – Chapter 566/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1163 (Steinberg) – Provides \$500,000 in matching funds to build a California Unity Center in Sacramento to illustrate the history of discrimination in California, help improve race relations and assist law enforcement in investigating hate crimes. Signed- Chapter 575/Statutes of 1999.

Miscellaneous

SB 78 (Murray) -- Requires Highway Patrol officers and law enforcement officers in selected counties to report to the commissioner of the California Highway Patrol:

- **The number of drivers stopped for all traffic law-enforcement purposes;**
- **Whether a citation or warning was issued;**
- **The race or ethnicity of the individual stopped;**
- **Whether the stop was based on**
 - a violation of state law,
 - a violation of a local ordinance, or

-the driver matching a suspect; and

- Whether a search of the vehicle took place and the results of that possible search. Vetoed.

SB 1178 (Figueroa) – Requires an oil company to state its reasons in writing if it withholds consent to sell a franchise to a proposed purchaser, and prohibits the oil company from withholding consent because the proposed purchaser does not speak English. Signed - Chapter 523/Statutes of 1999.

SJR 6 (Solis) -- Requests President Clinton and Congress to act favorably on federal legislation to grant full veterans' benefits to Filipino veterans of the U.S. armed forces. Resolution Chapter 65/Statutes of 1999.

Consumers

The Legislature sent Governor Davis a bill, **SB 850 (Torlakson), Chapter 585/Statutes of 1999**, to require annual state inspections and oversight of permanent amusement parks in the wake of a series of fatal accidents at some of California's most famous and popular amusement spots.

Traveling carnival rides already are annually inspected in California, but permanent parks have been unregulated.

A 12-year-old boy fell to his death from a ride at Paramount's Great America in Santa Clara County in August, not long before the bill won final passage. A Disneyland visitor was killed in an accident at a sailing ship in 1998, and in 1997 a teenage girl died when a slide collapsed at Waterworld USA in Concord.

California led the country with 12 fatal accidents at its amusement parks from 1973 to 1996, according to the California Research Bureau.

Assemblymember Tom Torlakson's legislation requires the Department of Industrial Relations (DIR) to develop regulations governing the installation, maintenance and use of permanent rides and to inspect these operations annually. Employees will have to be trained to operate rides safely.

Ride operators will have to report serious accidents to the DIR, and a ride's records must be inspected when a high number of accidents are reported. State and local authorities must immediately alert DIR when they're called to accidents involving serious injury or death, and the department will have authority to shut down unsafe rides

Amusement parks will face fines of \$25,000 to \$70,000 for violations of the new law that result in death or serious injury.

Gas Stations and Prices

SB 1131 (Burton) - Appropriates \$1 million to the state Department of Justice to investigate gasoline prices and oil company mergers. Signed - Chapter 956/Statutes of 1999.

AB 531 (Soto) -- Requires all service stations to provide free air and water to the public and to notify customers of this requirement. Signed – Chapter 531/Statutes of 1999.

Milk

SB 419 (Speier) – Directs the California Department of Food and Agriculture to conduct monthly statewide price surveys on the cost of milk at supermarkets and convenience stores. Price results are to be posted on the department's web site and recorded on its toll-free telephone milk line. Signed - Chapter 682/Statutes of 1999.

Wine

SB 791 (Perata, Chesbro, Johannessen, Monteith) – States the Legislature's intent to appropriate \$55,300, in equal amounts over five years, from the Wine Safety Fund to the state Department of Health Services to implement a statistically valid testing program to ensure levels of lead in wine sold in California meet applicable laws and regulations. Signed - Chapter 288/Statutes of 1999.

Faulty Automobiles

AB 1290 (Davis) -- Revises the "Lemon Law" to apply its presumptions for 18 months or 18,000 miles rather than one year or 12,000 miles, lengthening the period that consumers can obtain remedies for replacing faulty cars that can't be satisfactorily repaired. **Signed - Chapter 448/Statutes of 1999.**

Telephones

AB 406 (Knox) -- Requires the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to develop and implement any available measures to efficiently allocate telephone numbers to California's citizens, given that the number of area codes in California has doubled since 1991. **Signed - Chapter 809/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 535 (Reyes) -- Requires telephone service providers to give customers information about pay-per-use features and blocking options. States that customers are entitled to a one-time waiver of charges for the inadvertent use of such services. **Signed - Chapter 384/Statutes of 1999.**

Utilities

SB 531 (Baca) -- Requires the PUC to establish a web site by July 1, 2001, for consumers to submit informal complaints about their utility services. The PUC must annually report on the effectiveness of the complaint program. **Signed - Chapter 327/Statutes of 1999.**

Supermarket Cards

SB 926 (Speier) -- Enacts the Supermarket Club Card Disclosure Act of 1999, which prohibits requiring an applicant for a supermarket card to provide a driver's license or Social Security number. Also prohibits a card issuer from selling or sharing personal-identification information about cardholders. The bill becomes operative on July 1, 2000. **Signed - Chapter 586/Statutes of 1999.**

ATM Cards

SB 313 (Figueroa) -- Establishes the conditions for a debit cardholder's liability for unauthorized use and limits that liability to a maximum of \$50 in most cases. **Signed - Chapter 244/Statutes of 1999.**

Mobile Homes

SB 476 (Chesbro) -- Caps the price mobile-home park managers can charge residents for liquified petroleum gas in parks where tenants are prohibited from purchasing their own petroleum. **Signed - Chapter 326/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 351 (Figueroa) -- Declares that any amendments to the rules and regulations of a mobile-home park that have the effect of creating a new fee upon homeowners are void and unenforceable unless homeowners expressly agree to them. **Signed -Chapter 323/Statutes of 1999.**

Contractors

AB 952 (Wiggins) -- Creates a major-fraud investigation unit within the Contractors State License Board and appropriates \$750,000 for the 1999-2000 fiscal year from the Contractors' License Fund for the support of the unit. **Vetoed.**

Flowers

AB 1375 (House) -- Prohibits providers or vendors of floral or ornamental products from listing a local telephone number if they are not located in that area, unless the true business location is identified. **Vetoed.**

Coupons

AB 1231 (Machado) -- Prohibits offering a false or misleading coupon or characterizing a coupon as a gift or prize if the recipient must pay for any goods or services to use it. **Signed - Chapter 907/Statutes of 1999.**

Other Consumer Legislation

SB 185 (Peace) -- Prohibits businesses from using words that refer to a person's marital status as part of the mailing address on an envelope. Current law requires title companies to specify on deeds whether an individual is single, married, or unmarried, and when a title company sells a mailing list that information often is included. This bill provides a civil penalty of up to \$250 for each violation. **Signed – Chapter 343/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 661 (Alarcón) -- Requires the California Industrial Development Financing Advisory Commission to set up a program to start a secondary market for economic-development loans. **Signed – Chapter 863/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1162 (Burton) -- Requires 15 percent of the earnings of minors under contract for artistic services to be set aside in trust for the minor. **Signed -- Chapter 940/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 84 (Floyd) – Prohibits public agencies from approving retail stores larger than 100,000 square feet if more than 15,000 square feet is devoted to the sale of nontaxable merchandise, such as groceries and prescription drugs. Allows any person to sue to enforce the bill's provisions. **Vetoed.**

AB 423 (Dutra) -- Requires retardant roofing materials to be used on new structures and when repairing, altering, or replacing an existing structure. **Signed - Chapter 380/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1079 (Pacheco) -- Expands regulations and penalties governing consultants who advise immigrants on naturalization procedures and other issues. **Signed – Chapter 336/Statutes of 1999.**

Domestic Violence

The California Legislature has taken significant steps to address domestic violence in the last few years. Legislation in the 1999-2000 session continues to acknowledge the severity and prevalence of this hidden crime by proposing new school-related prevention programs, strengthening domestic-violence restraining-order provisions, tightening the laws prohibiting abusers access to firearms and recognizing the seriousness of the crime of stalking. For family-law bills related to domestic violence, see the "Family Law" section, page 52.

School-Related Prevention

AB 558 (Jackson) -- Authorizes age-appropriate instruction in domestic violence prevention for grades 1 –12. **Vetoed.**

Violence at Work

SB 56 (Solis) – Prohibits employers from discharging or otherwise discriminating against workers who take time off from work for reasons related to domestic violence, so long as the worker provides the employer with reasonable notice. **Signed – Chapter 340/Statutes of 1999.**

Relocation Expenses

AB 606 (Jackson) – Authorizes cash payments of up to \$2,000 for relocation expenses incurred by adult victims of domestic violence. **Signed – Chapter 584/Statutes of 1999.**

Restraining Orders

SB 218 (Solis) – Requires peace officers to arrest without a warrant a person who the officer has probable cause to believe has violated a domestic-violence restraining order whether or not the violation occurred in the presence of the officer. Gives out-of-state domestic-violence restraining orders the same enforceability as those issued in California. This bill is an omnibus measure that, among its provisions, allows courts to issue orders in languages other than English, allows the release of some confidential information to county-based domestic violence death review teams and enacts more stringent requirements related to firearms (see below). **Signed – Chapter 662/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 207 (Thomson) – Allows authorization to record confidential communications, such as cellular phone conversations, as part of a domestic-violence restraining order. These recorded communications could later be used as evidence in court to prove the violation of a domestic-violence restraining order by means of a harassing communication. **Signed – Chapter 367/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 825 (Keeley) – Requires the use of standard Judicial Council restraining order forms when law enforcement files such an order with the Department of Justice's Domestic Violence Restraining Order System. **Signed – Chapter 661/Statutes of 1999.**

Firearms

SB 218 (Solis) – Prohibits a batterer subject to a domestic-violence restraining order from owning or possessing a firearm for the duration of the restraining order. **Signed – Chapter 662/Statutes of 1999.**

Stalking

AB 1284 (Jackson) – Allows authorities to jail suspected stalkers without bail if they violate a restraining order, among other provisions imposing notification and bail conditions in stalking cases. **Signed – Chapter 703/Statutes of 1999.**

Economic and Small-Business Development

An important link in California's \$1 trillion economy and market structure is economic and small-business development. In today's marketplace, both domestic and global, the role of economic and small-business development has been substantial in improving competition, restraining inflation, spurring production, expanding employment opportunities, encouraging economic and social mobility, increasing productivity, promoting exports, and stimulating innovation and entrepreneurship. The state's role in contributing to this effort is outlined in the following legislation.

Taxes and License Fees

SB 30 (Peace) -- Requires the state Franchise Tax Board and state Department of Finance to recommend to the Legislature by July 1, 2000, ways to end or ameliorate the effects of double taxation of corporate dividends. **Vetoed.**

SB 943 (Dunn) – Revises the definition of "economic revitalization" manufacturing property for the manufacturing investment tax credit and extends the repeal date for the credit until January 1, 2003. The Legislative Analyst's Office is required to report to the Legislature by January 1, 2002, on these property-tax rebate provisions. **Signed – Chapter 274/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 10 (Correa) – Exempts new corporations from the minimum franchise tax for the first two years of business in California; expires in 2003. **Signed - Chapter 64/ Statutes of 1999.**

Community Development, Economic Development and Enterprise Zones

SB 73 (Murray) -- Authorizes substantial increases in the award of state contracts for professional bond services to small businesses and to businesses owned by disabled veterans. Also authorizes local agencies to establish incentive programs to encourage participation of small business enterprises in local contracts. **Vetoed.**

SB 84 (Costa) – Authorizes the inclusion of non-industrial or non-commercial land under certain conditions for the expansion of existing enterprise zones. In the case of the counties of Fresno and Kern, authorizes the expansion of an enterprise zone located in a city or in the unincorporated area of the county into an adjacent unincorporated area of the county. **Signed – Chapter 137/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 653 (Karnette) -- Enacts until January 1, 2002, a program to foster re-industrialization of the Alameda Corridor region. **Signed - Chapter 519, Statutes of 1999.**

SCR 45 (Karnette) -- Requests the governor to establish an Interagency Task Force on the Economic Development of the California-Mexico Border. **Chapter 143/Statutes of 1999.**

Exports and Trade

AB 61 (Cardoza) -- Requires the California Office of Export Development to develop a program to be known as the Rural Export Strategy, to include specified outreach activities. Requires that the strategy be developed in collaboration with relevant agencies, organizations, and businesses that serve or are located within rural California,

and include a cost-effective mechanism to educate the staff in California's overseas trade offices about products and services available from the state's rural communities. **Signed - Chapter 598/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 180 (Havice) -- Requires the Trade and Commerce Agency to develop a statewide alliance of public-private trade development organizations to undertake specified tasks in the development of trade opportunities in the state. The bill authorizes the Trade and Commerce Agency to adopt emergency regulations and requires a report to the Legislature by December 31, 2001. **Signed - Chapter 64/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 214 (Wiggins) -- Establishes preferences for the purchase of materials manufactured in the United States and California in public works contracts. **Vetoed.**

AB 1240 (Ashburn) -- Creates the California Central Valley International Trade Center in Tulare County to assist Central Valley businesses interested in expanding their markets. **Signed - Chapter 141, Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1616 (Havice) -- Requires the Trade and Commerce Agency's Office of Economic Research to monitor, on an ongoing basis, the incentives offered by other states to attract or retain businesses and provide information about them upon request. **Signed - Chapter 431/Statutes of 1999.**

Limited-Partnership Conversions

AB 197 (Ackerman) -- Specifies a comprehensive scheme for conversion of limited partnerships and limited liability companies into other business entities (defined to include corporations, business trusts, and real estate investment trusts), or a foreign limited partnership. **Signed - Chapter 250, Statutes of 1999.**

Capital Improvements and Building Reuse

SB 207 (Peace) -- Permits establishment of Infrastructure Financing Districts along the California-Mexico border. **Signed - Chapter 773/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 528 (Papan) -- Declares the bonds authorized by two specified joint powers agencies are valid. **Signed - Chapter 487/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 601 (Cedillo) -- Appropriates \$5 million for grant programs in the city of Los Angeles to reimburse property owners for the costs of adapting commercial property for use as residences. Appropriates \$1 million to Compton for urban adaptive reuse. **Vetoed.**

AB 636 (Midgen) -- Speeds up allocation of bond funds to school districts for modernization projects. **Signed - Chapter 718/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1473 (Hertzberg) -- Requires the governor, beginning on or after January 1, 2002, to submit annually a five-year proposed capital improvement plan to the Legislature that includes proposed capital improvement projects and their proposed funding sources. **Signed - Chapter 606/Statutes of 1999.**

Micro-enterprises

AB 1534 (Runner) -- Authorizes the Trade and Commerce Agency to issue grants for services to assist beneficiaries of CalWORKS in learning to start up micro-enterprises, which are very small businesses usually operated from the home. Provides that the bill shall be implemented only if funds are appropriated in the Budget Act and if matching private and public funds are available. **Vetoed.**

Rural Areas

AB 1464 (Florez) -- Creates a 21-member California Rural Development Council to establish a statewide entity to work in conjunction with the national Rural Development Partnership. The council will consist of 10 members appointed by the governor, 10 appointed by the Legislature; and the state director of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Rural Development. In addition, the Senate and Assembly shall each appoint two legislative members to serve as non-voting advisory members of the council. **Signed - Chapter 597/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1564 (Strom-Martin) -- Establishes the California Rural Policy Task Force within the Office of Planning and Research in the Governor's Office. Requires the task force to oversee the mobilization and effective delivery of the

state's resources to rural California, and to establish committees and hold hearings for these purposes. Requires the task force to report annually to the governor and the Legislature on its efforts in implementing these provisions, and to report to the Legislature by July 1, 2000, on the delivery of community development block grant funds. **Signed – Chapter 596/Statutes of 1999.**

Miscellaneous

SB 485 (Rainey) -- Provides a public agency with the power to transact any business or exercise any powers of an industrial development authority under the California Industrial Development Financing Act without having to establish an authority and provides that references in the act to authority and board shall mean public agency and governing body, respectively. **Signed – Chapter 61/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 661 (Alacron) -- Requires the California Industrial Development Financing Advisory Commission to set up a program to start a secondary market for economic development loans. **Signed – Chapter 863/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 808 (Peace) -- Revises the definition of "communication" facilities, for purposes of the California Infrastructure and Economic Development Bank Act, to include electrical and gas facilities. **Signed – Chapter 936/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 997 (Brulte) -- Revises the state's general-obligation bond law to authorize the issuance of variable-rate general obligation bonds, as long as no more than 20 percent of the aggregate principal amount of all outstanding bonds bear a variable interest rate. Also authorizes the state treasurer to sell general obligation refunding bonds on a "negotiated sale" basis. **Signed – Chapter 522/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1099 (Knight) -- Enacts the California Defense Retention and Conversion Act of 1999 to retain defense facilities within the state and to assist those communities that have experienced base closings. **Signed –Chapter 425/Statutes of 1999.**

Education

Early Childhood through 12th-Grade Education

Introduction

Education remained at the top of the legislative agenda in 1999. Some reasons for the continuing popularity of education this year include:

- Strong public interest in schools as evidenced by numerous polls and surveys.
- Public concern about the poor performance of California's school children as evidenced by achievement scores and other indicators of performance such as dropout rates.
- Renewed interest in the link between education and the health of our workforce and economy. Our state needs an educated workforce in order to be competitive in the global economy.
- More money to spend on education. A healthier economy has yielded substantial new revenues for public education. More expensive initiatives such as raising beginning teacher salaries and providing interventions and rewards to low-performing schools were not possible until recently.
- California's new governor made education his top priority in 1999, and
- Emerging evidence that some of the state's recent education reforms are working, e.g. the state's investment in new curriculum standards, a new statewide student achievement test, and the new reading initiative and class size reduction program.

The Legislature passed legislation on a range of issues aimed at improving the performance of our state's 5.7 million schoolchildren. These issues were deliberated in both the regular session and the special session of the Legislature on education, called by Governor Davis last January.

Some of the major education issues addressed by the Legislature in 1999 included:

- Establishing a new statewide school accountability system, building upon work that began in the 1997-98 session;
- Refining the state's assessment program through improvements in the administration of the STAR test;
- Improving the supply and quality of California's teachers by raising beginning salaries and establishing a new peer review system.
- Clarifying laws surrounding the assessment and reclassification of English learners following Proposition 227, and expanding support services to English learners.
- Extending new protections to students to prohibit discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation;
- Establishing new parent-involvement grant programs;
- Implementing a new charter school funding model;
- Creating a new system of assessing and mediating hazardous substances on school sites to protect school children; and
- Improving school transportation safety.

1999 Budget Act

The state budget for fiscal year 1999-2000 includes \$37.9 billion for K-12 schools, including \$26.4 billion in state general funds, an increase of \$1.6 billion (6.6 percent) over the current year.

The budget increases per-pupil spending from \$5,751 in 1998-99 to \$6,025 in 1999-00, an increase of \$274 (nearly 5 percent).

The 1999-2000 Budget Act and budget trailer bills establish and fund a number of new and expanded education initiatives for the state's schools, including \$192 million to implement a new state accountability system to reward improving schools and provide interventions and supports to low-performing schools, \$100 million for school safety and violence prevention, \$50 million to encourage schools to raise beginning teacher salaries to \$32,000 annually, \$50 million to reward successful teachers in low-performing schools, \$35 million to expand after-school learning programs for children and adolescents, and \$23 million to expand the state preschool program.

Details about these new education initiatives are included in the following discussion of the Legislature's special session on education, as well as the subsequent discussion of other education legislation by subject area.

Special Session Bills

Governor Davis in January called a special session of the Legislature to address school accountability, reading skills, and teacher quality. He sponsored the following four bills that were passed by the Legislature and signed into law:

SB 1X (Alpert) – Establishes a state accountability system for public schools built upon three components: 1) a statewide Academic Performance Index to measure the progress of schools; 2) a \$96 million effort to assist 430 schools in addressing problems and to penalize those that fail to make reasonable progress; 3) a \$96 million program to reward schools that significantly improve student performance. Chapter 3/Statutes of 1999. First Extraordinary Session.

SB 2X (O'Connell) – Requires high school students, commencing with the class of 2003-04, to pass an
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exit exam in reading, writing and mathematics to graduate. Students would first take the test in 10 grade and could take it as many times as necessary to pass. Chapter 1/Statutes of 1999. First Extraordinary Session.

AB 1X (Villaraigosa) -- Establishes the California Peer Assistance and Review (PAR) program to encourage exemplary teachers to assist veteran teachers in need of development in subject-matter knowledge or teaching strategies. In order to receive funding for the program, school districts are required to negotiate the development and implementation of the PAR program with local bargaining units. Chapter 4/Statutes of 1999. First Extraordinary Session.

AB 2X (Mazzoni) -- Adds several new components to California's Reading Initiative program including:

- **An intensive reading program during summer or inter-school sessions for all K-4 students, including students who are having problems learning to read.**
- **New reading institutes operated by the University of California in partnership with the California State University to provide reading instruction for up to 6,000 K-3 reading teachers.**
- **A statewide media campaign to promote family and community involvement in reading.**
- **A Governor's Reading Award program providing grants up to \$5,000 for K-8 schools whose students read a specified number of books from the state's recommended literature list.**
- **New, rigorous training institutes at selected UC campuses for school teachers and principals. Res. Chapter 2/Statutes of 1999. First Extraordinary Session.**

Please also see "Higher Education" for more information on SB 2X.

Assessment

SB 366 (Alpert) -- Makes various changes in law regarding the Standardized Testing and Reporting (STAR) program. These include extending publication of STAR test data to July 15th each year, instead of June 30th, to give the STAR publisher and the State Department of Education (SDE) additional time to review and correct data; establishing a single state contract for the acquisition and administration of STAR statewide, replacing the system of individual school district contracts; and extending the State Board of Education (SBE) deadline for adopting K-12 performance standards in core curriculum areas to December 31, 1999. Requires the STAR test publisher to make recommended reading lists, which are matched to different levels of student reading performance, available on the Internet. Signed - Chapter 735/Statutes of 1999.

Charter Schools

SB 267 (Lewis) - increases the amount of charter school revolving fund loans from \$50,000 to \$250,000 per school. (A \$5.4 million, federal revolving loan fund is available for interest-free loans to charter schools that are beginning operations.) Signed - Chapter 736/Statutes 1999.

SB 434 (Johnston) – Requires charter schools to offer the same number of instructional minutes as regular schools, and they must comply with the existing statute that prohibits funding for pupils on independent study unless the pupil is a resident of the county in which the funding is claimed or an immediately adjacent county. Signed -- Chapter 162/Statutes 1999.

SB 895 (Leslie) – Excludes the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of pupils who live outside of a district and attend a charter school in that district from counting as district ADA for purposes of the declining enrollment calculation. Vetoed.

AB 631 (Migden) – Allows charter schools to designate themselves as public school employers. If they do not designate themselves as such, they automatically become part of the school district's collective bargaining unit. Signed - Chapter 828/Statutes 1999.

Civil Rights and Educational Equity

SB 81 (Hayden) – Requires the SDE to develop standards for measuring equal opportunities in education for California’s public schools students and requires the governor to report annually to the Legislature on the status of equal opportunities, measured against these standards, for the state’s students. Requires the governor and the superintendent of public instruction to make equal opportunity a priority in allocating resources and funds to schools. Vetoed.

AB 537 (Kuehl) – Prohibits a student from being subjected to discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation -- defined as actual or perceived -- in instructional services and programs conducted by an educational institution. This includes a public or private preschool, elementary or secondary school, or post-secondary institution that receives state financial assistance or enrolls pupils who receive state financial assistance. Signed - Chapter 587/Statutes of 1999.

Class Size

SB 54 (O’Connell) – Makes changes to state law governing the 9th and 10th grade Class Size Reduction program that include prohibiting the State Board from granting class size waivers, clarifying the calculation of class size averages and caps, and allowing operations funds to be used for facilities construction, not only leasing. Vetoed.

AB 133 (Strom-Martin) -- Provides flexibility to very small school districts in implementing the Class Size Reduction Program to increase their participation. Vetoed.

Curriculum and Instructional Materials

SB 264 (Schiff) – Corrects a technical error in the 1998 Budget Act to ensure the allocation of state funds for the purchase of state-adopted, standards-aligned instructional materials for students in grades K- 8 in all core curriculum areas, not just math. Signed – Chapter 15/Statutes of 1999.

AB 116 (Mazzoni) -- Restricts the use of commercial brands and logos in instructional materials including school textbooks adopted by the State Board of Education and local school boards. Signed – Chapter 276/Statutes of 1999.

AB 630 (Cardenas) -- Requires that high school courses designated as honors courses meet standards and approval by the University of California. Provides grants to high schools with large portions of students who are low income for developing honors courses. Vetoed.

AB 910 (Washington) -- Appropriates \$1 million to school districts and county offices of education for the purchase of library materials. Signed - Chapter 962/Statutes of 1999.

English Learners

SB 395 (Hughes) -- Expands the law enabling credentialed teachers to earn an alternative certificate authorizing them to instruct English learners, also known as limited English proficient students. Signed - Chapter 685/Statutes of 1999.

SB 638 (Alpert) -- Requires school districts to conduct English language development assessments for English learners and set up criteria and guidelines for their classification as English learners and reclassification as English proficient. Signed - Chapter 678/Statutes of 1999.

AB 56 (Mazzoni) – Requires the State Department of Education, in agreement with the State Board of Education, to contract for an independent evaluation of the effectiveness of Proposition 227 and the governor’s supplemental instruction program for English learners enacted pursuant to AB 1116 and to provide two interim reports and a final report, due October 2005, with findings and recommendations to the governor and Legislature. Signed - Chapter 1009/Statutes of 1999.

AB 144 (Migden) –Excludes the test scores of limited English proficient (LEP) students who have been enrolled in school for less than 12 months from grade-level, school-level and district-level test score reports. Vetoed.

AB 1026 (Mazzoni) – Requires school districts to continue some assessment for students who have been identified as fluent in English to guide their transition from services and programs for students who are English learners. The bill also requires schools to inform parents of English learners about the educational rights of their children and to notify these parents if their children are placed in a structured or sheltered English immersion program. Vetoed.

AB 1027 (Cardenas) -- Requires that regulations guiding the community-based English tutoring (CBEST) program required by Proposition 227 consider the number of English learners in each district. The bill also requires the SDE to conduct an annual financial review of CBEST, after the first three years of implementation, and report findings to the Legislature. Vetoed.

AB 1059 (Ducheny) – Makes several changes to law relative to the qualifications of teachers who instruct students who are English learners. Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing (CTC) by July 1, 2002 to ensure that accredited teacher preparation programs integrate standards for teaching all students, including students who are English learners. The bill prohibits the CTC from issuing preliminary teaching credentials (effective July 1, 2003) and clear credentials (effective July 1, 2005) to applicants unless they have satisfied teacher preparation or induction program standards, or have a special authorization to instruct English learners. Signed - Chapter 711/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1115 (Strom-Martin) -- Revises existing law to require the State Board of Education to adopt English Language Development standards by July 1, 1999; release a proposal for development of the English Language Development test by August 15, 1999; and to select a contractor for the development of a test by September 15, 1999, to be available for administration in the 2000-01 school year. Budget trailer bill; Signed – Chapter 78/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1116 (Ducheny) -- Establishes the English Language Acquisition Program for students in grades 4-8 to provide assessments, instructional programs and support services for English learners. Participating local educational agencies receive \$100 for each English learner participating in the program. The bill also provides a one-time \$100 allocation for each student in grades K-12 reclassified as English fluent. Budget trailer bill; Signed – Chapter 71/ Statues of 1999.

Funding and Finance

AB 907 (Alquist) – Changes the funding formula for allocating general purpose revenues to county offices of education and requires the superintendent of public instruction to begin making funding equalization payments to eligible county offices of education. Budget trailer bill; Vetoed.

Governance

SCR 29 (Alpert) – Establishes the Joint Committee on Master Plan for Education – Kindergarten through University to provide a blueprint for education in California in the 21st century, to support lifelong learning for Californians, and to raise standards for educational excellence. The joint committee will be composed of nine senators appointed by the Senate Rules Committee and nine Assembly members appointed by the speaker of the Assembly. Resolution Chapter 43/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1268 (Committee on Health and Human Services) – Adds the superintendent of public instruction as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the California Children and Families First Commission and drops the word "First" from the Commission's name. Vetoed.

Incarcerated Students

SB 305 (Vasconcellos) -- Requires juvenile court schools and the California Youth Authority to provide a course in parenting education to students who are 12 or older. Vetoed.

SB 334 (Alpert) – Requires the Department of Youth Authority to ensure that each ward who has not earned a high school diploma or equivalent is enrolled in an appropriate educational program and has a high school graduation plan. Signed - Chapter 996/Statutes of 1999.

Parental Involvement

SB 305 (Vasconcellos) -- Requires schools to provide parenting education for all public school students in grades 9 through 12 in addition to the parent education coursework currently required in grades 7 or 8. Vetoed.

SB 343 (Hughes) – Establishes the Governor’s Distinguished Family-School Partnership Award and Grant Program administered by the secretary of education to provide grants (up to \$5,000 annually) and non-monetary awards to schools that provide specific family outreach programs. (Provisions of this bill were amended into AB 33 (Soto) as the Teresa P. Hughes Family School Partnership Grant and Award Program.) Vetoed.

SB 571 (Alarcón) – Appropriates additional funds to the Families for Literacy Program, which teaches parents with minimal reading skills how to read to their preschool age children, in order to serve non-English proficient parents and parents of school age children. Vetoed.

AB 33 (Soto) – Repeals the existing Parental Involvement Grant program established by a 1999 Budget Trailer bill (AB 1115) and replaces it with three new grant programs: (1) the Nell Soto Parent/Teacher Involvement Grant providing grants of up to \$40,000 per school for teacher stipends and home visits; (2) the Teresa P. Hughes Family-School Partnership Award and Grant program providing \$15,000 grants to schools for family outreach activities; and (3) the Tom Hayden Community Based Parent Involvement Grant program providing \$40,000 grants to schools for the purpose of contracting with community based organizations to offer training programs to parents to increase their involvement in the public schools. The bill appropriates \$20 million for these new grant programs. Signed - Chapter 734/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1115 (Strom-Martin) – Establishes the Parental Involvement Grant program to provide one-time grants of up to \$25,000 to school districts that develop parent involvement plans. The governor vetoed \$12 million in the 1999-2000 budget for this program. Budget trailer bill; Signed - Chapter 78/Statutes of 1999.

School Facilities and Sites

SB 162 (Escutia) – Creates an environmental assessment process that a school district must follow before using state funds for the acquisition of or construction on a school site. Requires an environmental assessment by a qualified environmental assessor for Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) review, to determine if further investigation is necessary. Requires a preliminary endangerment assessment of the proposed school site by a qualified environmental assessor for DTSC approval when further investigation is needed. Requires DTSC to oversee the process to ensure that it is administered in an efficient, responsible, and accountable manner. Signed - Chapter 1002/Statutes of 1999.

SB 993 (Hayden) -- Requires the task force proposed by AB 1207 (page 33) to develop children’s protection standards and guidelines to govern school site assessment -- initial assessment, preliminary endangerment assessment, site mitigation -- and selection. Requires these standards to guide school classroom and building standards and requires the state architect to revise current standards and guidelines for specification and design of school buildings to protect children’s health and learning abilities. Requires that in order to be eligible for state school facilities funds, schools must initiate a specified preliminary endangerment assessment for proposed and existing school sites felt to have an environmental risk. If the Department of Toxic Substances determined that a school site posed a risk to children’s health, it would be required to prescribe a remedial action plan necessary to make the school safe. Vetoed.

AB 137 (Firebaugh) –Requires the California State Library to prepare a census of school sites by June 30, 2000. Also requires the State Allocation Board by January 1, 2001 to implement a new program to survey hazardous materials on school sites. Vetoed.

AB 387 (Wildman) – Allows the State Allocation Board to provide school construction funds to schools for the evaluation of hazardous materials at a site to be acquired by a school district and for the removal of hazardous wastes. Requires that if a school district determines there may be hazardous materials on a school site they must enter into an agreement with the Department of Toxic Substances to oversee their response. The bill places new requirements upon the State Department of Education to work with other

state agencies in monitoring and reporting relative to hazardous materials in schools and funding for evaluation and response. Signed - Chapter 992/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1136 (Strom-Martin) – Requires that any new school funded from the state school facilities program after January 1, 2000 include a telephone connection in each classroom. Signed - Chapter 709/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1207 (Shelley) – Enacts the Healthy Schools Act of 1999 to improve environmental safety on California school sites. Among its provisions, the bill establishes a task force led by the state secretary of environmental protection and secretary of health and human services to evaluate environmental dangers at schools -- pesticides, toxic contamination, indoor air quality, maintenance -- and make recommendations to the governor by January 1, 2001 on how to eliminate those dangers. The bill also requires the Department of Pesticide Regulation to establish a state training program for schools on integrated pest management and requires schools to provide additional notification and maintain records on the use of pesticides on school sites. The bill further requires the Department of Health Services (DHS) to develop a training program on best practices for achieving healthy environmental conditions at schools and requires DHS and the Air Resources Board to study the health impacts of portable classrooms. Vetoed.

School Health Programs

SB 741 (Alpert) – Adds chickenpox, effective July 1, 2000, to the list of diseases students must be immunized for prior to admission to K-12 schools. Signed - Chapter 747/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1041 (Vasconcellos) -- Requires every school site serving 50 or more students through the federal free and reduced-price lunch program to offer federal free and reduced-price breakfasts to all eligible children. Vetoed.

AB 246 (Cuneen and Honda) – Requires that sex education courses in schools provide factually and medically accurate information to students that is free from racial, ethnic or gender bias. Signed – Chapter 234/Statutes of 1999.

AB 851 (Keeley) – Expands AIDS education courses, which schools are required to provide for students in grades 7-12, to include instruction on sexually transmitted infectious diseases, and requires such instruction and materials to be factually and medically accurate and free from racial, ethnic or gender bias. Vetoed.

AB 1363 (Davis) – Establishes standards for school health centers and makes qualified centers eligible for funding under the Healthy Families program as traditional and safety net providers. Vetoed.

School Safety and Violence Prevention

SB 334 (Alpert) – Enacts the No More Victims Violence Prevention and School Safety 2000 Strategy as a comprehensive juvenile justice, juvenile crime prevention and school safety initiative. The bill establishes the School Safety and Violence Prevention Strategy Program as a competitive school grant program administered by the superintendent of public instruction (SPI) and requires the SPI in conjunction with the attorney general to develop guidelines and standards for awarding grants and evaluation grant programs. Appropriates \$5 million for the program. The bill also extends existing law, due to sunset January 1, 2000, requiring all public schools to develop ongoing, comprehensive school safety plans. In addition, the bill requires the California Youth Authority to ensure that each ward who has not attained a high school diploma or equivalent is enrolled in school and has a high school graduation plan. Signed - Chapter 996/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 355 (Hughes)-- Provides K-12 school police officers with additional status and authority, similar to the status and authority provided in statute to peace officers, in specified domestic violence situations. Requires the K-12 school officer to notify local law enforcement when requesting an emergency protective order in a stalking or domestic violence situation. Signed - Chapter 659/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 570 (Alarcon) – Increases criminal penalties and in some cases imposes mandatory minimum jail terms for the willful disruption on school grounds by non-pupils. Signed - Chapter 1013/Statutes of

1999.

SB 711 (Burton) – Renames the Schools Safety and Violence Prevention Act as the Carl Washington School Safety and Violence Prevention Act, and renames the School Violence Prevention and Response Act of 1999 as the Machado School Violence and Prevention Response Act of 1999. Both of the programs were established by AB 1113 (Florez) as the 1999 Budget Act trailer bill on school safety. Signed – Chapter 86/Statutes of 1999.

AB 79 (Baldwin) -- Gives school districts the flexibility not to immediately suspend and expel a student in grades K-6 who has committed a serious offense at school under the so-called "zero tolerance" laws if the student is under age 14 and did not know of the wrongfulness of the act at the time it was committed. Vetoed.

AB 166 (Washington) – Modifies the Schools Safety and Violence Prevention Act established by AB 1113 (Florez), which was the 1999 Budget Act trailer bill on school safety. This bill would rename the act as the Carl Washington School Safety and Violence Prevention Act and authorize county offices of education to participate in the program pursuant to the act. Vetoed.

AB 457 (Scott) – Adds the conviction of selling, possessing, transporting or publishing obscene and pornographic material, including material stored electronically, to the list of sex offenses that would prohibit a perpetrator from receiving or maintaining a teaching credential, or being employed by a school. Signed - Chapter 281/Statutes of 1999.

AB 566 (Havice) -- Authorizes after-school programs funded under the state After-School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Program to be conducted on the grounds of a community park or recreational area if the grounds are located adjacent to the school site. Signed - Chapter 108/Statutes of 1999.

AB 558 (Jackson) – Authorizes age-appropriate instruction in domestic violence prevention for grades 1-12. Vetoed.

AB 646 (Bates) -- Requires the law enforcement agency responsible for the investigation of a missing child to inform the school district, other local educational agency or private school in which the child is enrolled that the child is missing and to note that information in the student's file. Signed - Chapter 832/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1113 (Florez) -- Establishes the School Safety and Violence Prevention Act to provide discretionary funds to high schools for staff training, security equipment, cooperative services with local law enforcement, and other uses directed to improving the safety of school campuses statewide. The 1999 Budget Act provides \$100 million for this new program. The bill also creates the School Violence Prevention and Response Task Force co-chaired by the superintendent of public instruction, the attorney general and the director of the Office of Criminal Justice Planning. Budget trailer bill; Signed – Chapter 51/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1136 (Strom-Martin) – Requires that any new school funded from the state school facilities program after January 1, 2000 include a telephone connection in each classroom. Signed - Chapter 709/ Statutes of 1999.

Special Education

SB 867 (Poochigian) -- Requires that local plans prepared by Special Education Local Plan Areas must describe the process for screening the phonemic awareness of special education students and describe how reading instruction will be integrated in each student's individualized education plan. The bill also requires that reading instruction for students with disabilities include, but not be limited to, direct instruction, phonemic awareness, systematic explicit phonics, and the use of decodable texts. Vetoed.

SB 1005 (Escutia) – Requires the state child welfare training program for social workers to include training on the assessment and support of children with learning disabilities, attention deficit/hyperactivity disorder and traumatic brain injury in order to better identify and treat children with these disorders in foster care settings. Vetoed.

SJR 12 (Lempert) -- Requests President Clinton and Congress to provide the maximum funding level for special education authorized by federal law. Resolution Chapter 53/Statutes of 1999.

SJR 21 (Burton, Chesbro, Escutia) – Requests the president and Congress to provide significant new funding to the National Institutes of Health to fund research on neurodevelopmental disorders, including but not limited to, specific learning disabilities, attention deficit disorder and autism. Resolution Chapter 136/Statutes of 1999.

AB 395 (Dutra) – Makes a number of changes to state law governing special education services for students with disabilities, including provisions to: conform state law to the federal Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) of 1997; clarify that students with disabilities who earn a regular high school diploma are ineligible for special education services; require the development and adoption of state content and performance standards for students with disabilities who are working on alternative curriculums; require the development of state guidelines for the participation of students with disabilities in alternative assessments for students who cannot participate in regular assessments; require local governing boards to adopt alternative high school exit exams for students with disabilities who cannot participate in standard exams; and eliminate the sunset date for the state special education law. Vetoed.

AB 645 (Honda) –Clarifies existing law regarding the responsibilities of county welfare department child protective services personnel and juvenile court personnel to ensure that educational services, including special education services, are provided to children with disabilities who have been adjudged a ward of the court. Vetoed.

AB 1020 (Corbett) – Allows a guardian, foster parent, student advocate, designated adult representative or a court in custody of a child to refer that child for a special education assessment. The bill also limits current law to allow teacher referrals for special education by teachers of the student only and requires the court to limit rights of parents or guardians over a child's educational decisions in circumstances when the child is no longer in their care and when it is felt the parent cannot attend to the child's educational needs. Vetoed.

AB 1062 (Margett) -- Clarifies existing laws and regulations to authorize the award of a certificate or document of educational achievement to eligible students with disabilities who cannot meet the requirements for a high school diploma and requires that students earning a certificate or document of achievement are eligible to participate in school graduation ceremonies and activities. Signed - Chapter 392/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1115 (Strom-Martin) – Requires state and local STAR test scores to be disaggregated for special education students, as required under federal law. The bill also prohibits the state from back-filling federal special education funds withheld from a local education agency due to non-compliance with special education law. Budget trailer bill; Signed – Chapter 78/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1187 (R. Pacheco) – Allows state special schools to qualify as a shortage area for purposes of qualifying for funding under the Assumption of Program of Loans for Education (APLE) program. The bill also requires the Department of Personnel Administration to survey the salaries of teachers at state special schools compared to the salaries of teachers of students with learning disabilities. Signed - Chapter 904/Statutes of 1999.

Suspensions, Expulsions and Truancy

AB 79 (Baldwin) -- Gives school districts the flexibility not to immediately suspend and expel a student in grades K-6 who has committed a serious offense at school under the so-called "zero tolerance" laws if the student is under age 14 and did not know of the wrongfulness of the act at the time it was committed. Vetoed.

Summer and After-School Programs

SB 119 (Ortiz) –Allows After School Learning and Safe Neighborhoods Partnership Programs now providing enrichment programs for students in grades K-9 to include pre-kindergarten students in their programs. Vetoed.

SB 410 (Escutia) – Eliminates limits on funding for supplemental instruction, including summer school, after school and Saturday school, for students in grades 2 through 6 who are being retained or at risk of being retained in their current grade. The bill also establishes an annual budget appropriation to fully fund remedial, supplemental instruction for students in grades 2 through 12. Vetoed.

Teacher Preparation, Training and Credentialing

(Please also see "Public Employment and Retirement,")

SB 131 (Baca) – Extends the Assumption of Loans for Education program, a loan forgiveness program, to applicants who agree to provide classroom instruction in school districts with a high percentage of teachers with emergency credentials or permit waivers and increases the number of loans assumed under the APLE program from 4,500 to 5,500 per year and as determined through the annual Budget Act. Signed - Chapter 651/Statutes of 1999.

SB 395 (Hughes) -- Expands a state law enabling credentialed teachers to earn an alternative certificate authorizing them to instruct English learners. Signed - Chapter 685/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1309 (Baca) – Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to provide notice to school districts about options for filling a vacancy when a fully credentialed teacher is not available. Signed - Chapter 400/Statutes of 1999.

AB 31 (Reyes) – Expands the Assumption Program of Loans for Education to include teachers who agree to teach in rural areas. Signed - Chapter 650/Statutes of 1999.

AB 192 (Scott) – Establishes the Teacher Cadet Programs to introduce high school students to the teaching profession through a grant program that would assist school districts in providing a yearlong program to offer training in teaching and exposure to the education system. Vetoed.

AB 1114 (Steinberg) -- Provides one-time performance awards to teachers and other certificated staff in underachieving schools that demonstrate significant improvement in pupil academic achievement. The bill requires the State Board of Education to establish criteria for granting the awards, which may not exceed an average of \$25,000 per certificated employee at each school. The 1999 Budget Act provides \$50 million for this program in 1999-2000. Signed - Chapter 52/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1115 (Strom -Martin) – Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to waive the \$60 credentialing fee for all first-time candidates applying for their teaching credentials. Budget trailer bill; Signed - Chapter 78/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1117 (Calderon) – Provides incentive funds to school districts to raise beginning salaries for credentialed teachers to \$32,000 per year, and once this is achieved, to increase salaries for their lowest-paid teachers. The 1999 Budget Act provides \$50 million for this program. Funds will be allocated to local educational agencies on the basis of the average daily attendance of their students. Signed - Budget trailer bill;– Chapter 53/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1242 (Lempert) – Requires the Commission on Teacher Credentialing to issue a California Professional (CAP) credential, an eminence credential, through the year 2005 to persons with knowledge and expertise in subject areas as demonstrated by a graduate degree, five or more years of practice in a field and basic skills proficiency. The CTC would be required to report to the Legislature on the number CAP credentials issued, retention rates for CAP credentialed teachers and recommendations for improving the CAP program. Signed - Chapter 737/Statutes of 1999.

Technology

AB 598 (Soto) -- Establishes a state Commission on Technology in Learning to advise the SBE on education technology issues. The bill also requires school districts to develop and maintain technology plans as a condition for receiving state educational technology funds. Signed - Chapter 830/Statutes of 1999.

Transportation

AB 15 (Gallegos) -- Requires all school buses manufactured or leased for use in California after January 1, 2002 to be equipped with lap/shoulder seatbelts, unless specifically prohibited by the National Highway Transportation Safety Administration. Signed - Chapter 648/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1573 (Strom-Martin) – Requires the California Highway Patrol to study the safety signals and systems on school busses and report findings to the Legislature. Signed - Chapter 647/Statutes of 1999.

Miscellaneous

SB 524 (Polanco) -- Establishes a task force to recommend to the Legislature the components of a law enforcement mentoring program for at-risk youth that would prepare these youth for a career in law enforcement. Vetoed.

AB 117 (Mazzoni) -- Prohibits school district governing boards from entering into exclusive contracts for the sale or advertising of carbonated beverages or entering into contracts for electronic products or services that include advertising, except as specified. Signed - Chapter 374/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1014 (Cardenas) -- Establishes the Instructional School Gardens program to provide grants and technical assistance to K-12 schools and county offices of education. Funding for this new program is to be derived from private donations, special funds, and/or federal funds. Signed - Chapter 713/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1319 (Correa) – Extends sunset date for the Early Intervention for School Success program to June 30, 2004 and makes other changes to statutes authorizing the program. This program provides instruction materials and services to children in preschool through grade K-2 intended to improve educational outcomes and reduce the need for remedial and special education services. Signed - Chapter 955/Statutes of 1999.

Higher Education

UC's Revised Admission Requirements

The University of California Board of Regents on March 19 adopted Governor Davis's proposal to make the top 4 percent of graduating seniors from each high school in the state, who have met eligibility requirements, automatically eligible to attend UC. The decision will take effect in the fall of 2001.

Under the current Master Plan policy, the top 12.5 percent of graduating seniors in the state who are part of a statewide eligibility pool and who have met all academic requirements are eligible for acceptance to one of the UC campuses.

The new policy, which was adopted after passage of anti-affirmative action Proposition 209 in 1996, is expected to expand the pool of eligible student from the current 11.1 percent to the 12.5 percent recommended by the Master Plan. The plan is expected to generate about 3,600 more students, of which 20 percent are expected to be Chicano/Latino and 5 percent are expected to be African-American.

Higher Education's Role in K-12 Reform and Teacher Preparation

Much of the early legislative focus on higher education issues this year was tied to K-12 reform. This focus was driven in large part by the special legislative session called by the governor in January 1999 to focus on legislation designed to increase student achievement in the state's public schools.

AB 2X (Mazzoni), Resolution Chapter 2/Statutes of 1999, was signed into law earlier this year by Governor Davis as part of the Education Reform package approved during the special session. This new program provides funding for six governor's initiatives in the areas of K-12 reading instruction and preparation of teachers and school principals. Of the six new programs, three specifically involve higher education.

- *California Reading Professional Development Institutes*-- UC was provided funding to develop jointly with the California State University (CSU) and the independent colleges and universities institutes to provide intensive reading instruction to K-3 teachers or those who supervise

beginning reading teachers. The program will serve up to 6,000 students, each receiving a \$1,000 stipend. The new law appropriates \$12 million to fund this program, \$6 million of which would go to UC for developing the program in cooperation with CSU and the independent colleges and universities. The remaining \$6 million will go to local districts to provide stipends to participants.

- ***Governor's Teacher Scholars Program*** -- This program is designed to recruit top-caliber students to participate in a 15-month rigorous master's-level teacher-preparation program. The program is scheduled to begin July 1, 2000 and will be offered at the UCLA and UC Berkeley campuses. It will serve 400 students annually who will receive full, privately funded scholarships in return for a commitment to teach for four years in the most difficult-to-staff schools. The new law appropriates \$500,000 to UC to fund this effort.
- ***Governor's Principal Leadership Institute*** -- This program would recruit and train highly skilled school-site administrator candidates to become principals. The program will establish a rigorous two-year administrator-preparation program that culminates in a master's degree. It will begin July 1, 2000, at the UCLA and UC Berkeley campuses, and serve 400 students annually who will receive full, privately funded scholarships in return for a commitment to work for four years in the most difficult-to-staff schools. The bill appropriates \$500,000 to UC to develop this program.

In addition to special session bills, several bills were introduced that deal with increasing the number and improving the quality of teachers in California.

AB 192 (Scott) -- Establishes the California Teacher Cadet Program to introduce high school students to the teaching profession. This program consists of a grant program to assist school districts in offering yearlong coursework designed to expose pupils to teaching careers through the development of a hands-on education curriculum. Vetoed.

AB 1242 (Lempert) -- Expands, for a specified period of time, the ways by which an individual can qualify for a single subject teaching credential. Signed – Chapter 737/Statutes of 1999.

SB 131 (Baca) -- Expands the Assumption Program of Loans for Education (APLE) to forgive the student loans of persons who teach in those schools employing a high percentage of teachers using emergency teaching credentials. Between 30,000 and 43,000 individuals are currently teaching in California schools with emergency teaching permits, meaning that they are not fully credentialed for the area in which they are teaching. Signed – Chapter 651/Statutes of 1999.

AB 31 (Reyes) -- Expands the APLE program to include rural area schools. Signed – Chapter 650/Statutes of 1999.

Strengthening College Preparation and Increasing Diversity

The Legislature continues to advocate increased academic preparation and diversity among students entering colleges and universities. Last year, the Legislature passed numerous bills to strengthen students' preparation for college. This year, SB 81 (Hayden), which was vetoed, was introduced to expand last year's Academic Partnership Act from grades 1 through 6 to grades 1 through 12.

Two bills attempted to improve the process for students transferring from community colleges to four-year institutions. SB 76 (Murray), vetoed, would have guarantee every community college student who attains an associate of arts or associate of science degree and meets the transfer requirements a spot somewhere in the UC or the CSU systems. AB 667 (Romero), also vetoed, would have directed the California Community College Board of Governors and requested the UC Board of Regents to develop a plan for increasing the number of students transferring to UC from those community college campuses that transfer the lowest percentage of students to four-year institutions.

Access and Capacity Issues

According to the state Department of Finance (DOF) and the California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC), California's colleges and universities are expected to experience a surge in

enrollment commonly referred to as Tidal Wave II. The DOF and CPEC project the state's college-going population will increase by 450,000 by the year 2005. Based on current facilities and staffing practices, the state's public colleges and universities will be able to accommodate only a limited portion of this projected enrollment growth without making significant changes.

The Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) recently recommended that colleges and universities operate year-round in an effort to increase capacity with minimal new capital investments. The LAO projects that year-round operations could increase university capacity by up to one-third once fully implemented.

The Legislature approved supplemental language in the 1999-00 state Budget Act that asks UC and CSU to conduct feasibility studies to examine the advantages and disadvantages of implementing year-round academic programs and report back to the Legislature by April 2000.

A handful of facilities measures dealing with specific segmental needs are moving through the process. One vetoed measure, SB 1283 (Polanco), would have established a facilities modernization program for community colleges and increased the capital outlay resources available to participating community college districts for modernization projects.

AB 902 (Torlakson), also vetoed, would have provided the CSU with additional flexibility related to its capital outlay decisions.

State Funding Issues

The state continues to seek a long-term financing mechanism for its public institutions of higher education to provide stable and predictable funding. In past years, the state's public colleges and universities have been subject to deep budget cuts, leading to steep student fee increases as a budget-balancing strategy.

UC and CSU are negotiating the provisions of a "Compact II" funding agreement with Governor Davis. This compact would guarantee a predictable funding level for a set number of years that would be tied to measurable outcomes to be met by the two higher education systems. This effort builds on the 1995 Higher Education Funding Compact established between then-Governor Pete Wilson and the two higher education segments. Like Compact II, the original compact provided a stable funding base in return for the two university systems' commitment to achieve productivity gains and meet specified policy goals. The governor, UC and CSU have yet to reach agreement on Compact II.

AB 734 (Romero), Chapter 402/Statutes of 1999, will require the Community College Board of Governors to report to the Legislature and governor on various issues relating to community college financing, such as program-based funding criteria, the enrollment growth funding formula, and cost-of-living adjustments.

College Affordability

College affordability continues to be an important issue for the state. Several bills have been introduced that either reduce student fees, increase financial aid options or address issues related to the financial aid system.

The 1999-00 state Budget Act funds the reduction of student undergraduate fees by 10 percent for students attending CSU and UC and reduces the per-unit fee paid by community college students by \$1, from \$12 to \$11. These fee reductions were implemented through the adoption of budget trailer bill, AB 1118 (Reyes), Chapter 72/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1262 (O'Connell) -- Transfers the administration of the Golden State Scholarshare College savings Program (Scholarshare Program) from the California Student Aid Commission to the Scholarshare Investment Board and makes technical changes to comply with federal law and make the Scholarshare Program easier to administer and market. Signed -- Chapter 664/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1031 (Hughes) -- Clarifies the authority of the California Student Aid Commission (SAC) to provide loan guarantee services to out-of-state students. This allows California to maintain market share and ensure the growth in resources needed to provide complete services to the California student loan

market. This bill also extends the operational agreement between the SAC and Ed Fund, the auxiliary organization established in state statute as a nonprofit benefit corporation for the purpose of providing operational and administrative services for the SAC's participation in the federal student loan program (FEELP). Signed - Chapter 636/Statutes of 1999.

Service Learning

The Legislature approved legislation that encourages the development of community-service learning as an accepted and institutionalized component of a college student's academic experience.

SB 751 (Hayden), which was vetoed, would have codified the existing California Commission on Improving Life Through Service authorized by Executive Order and designated the commission as the California Commission on Community Service.

Governor Davis recently requested each of California's public colleges and universities to establish a community service requirement for undergraduate students. The governor has requested that each of the segments of higher education develop a plan that would establish this requirement and that these plans be coordinated with the Intersegmental Committee of Academic Senates.

Labor Issues

Two major bills were passed this year to address labor issues within the higher education arena. SB 645 (Burton), Chapter 952/Statutes of 1999, amends the Higher Education Employer-Employee Relations Act of 1978 (HEERA) to require the implementation of a mandatory "fair share" or "agency shop" fee for all employees of the University of California and California State University. A "fair share" or "agency fee" arrangement requires an employee to pay the organization that has been chosen by a majority of workers as the official bargaining representative a "fair share" (dues substitute) to help cover the cost of representation.

Another measure, AB 420 (Wildman), Chapter 738/Statutes of 1999, makes a variety of enhancements to the compensation and benefits for part-time California Community College faculty. The bill would not become operative unless funds are statutorily appropriated. If the funds are not sufficient to cover the costs associated with the requirements of this bill, the California Community Colleges chancellor would be required to pro-rate the funds among all affected community college districts.

Other Significant Legislation

AB 1570 (Villaraigosa), Chapter 916/Statutes of 1999, expands the CPEC requirement to develop and maintain a comprehensive data base to include the development of longitudinal studies of individual students as they progress through the state's postsecondary education system. This authority allows CPEC to more thoroughly complete one of its mandates to conduct long-range planning for postsecondary education in the state.

Two bills were vetoed that dealt with voter registration on college campuses. SB 86 (Murray) would have required various state and local public agencies to provide voter registration information, including the CSU and the community colleges. AB 164 (Romero) would have requested UC and required CSU and the community colleges to direct their respective campuses to distribute voter registration forms annually to each newly admitted student.

AB 213 (Romero) increases student representation on the CSU Board of Trustees from one representative to two representatives. Signed - Chapter 251/Statutes of 1999.

Elections and Political Reform

SB 86 (Murray) was intended to encourage voter registration and increase voter turnout by requiring each county to implement an outreach plan to identify qualified voters who are not registered to vote and to register those persons. Vetoed by the governor, it would have required public high schools, colleges and universities to distribute registration forms to students and allowed any voter to apply for permanent absentee voter status.

SB 50 (Johnson) -- Changes the filing schedule for campaign reports to reflect the shifting of the primary election from June to March. Signed - Chapter 158/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 100 (Burton) -- Requires elections officials to report the results of the presidential primary in two separate ways to insure that each political party is able to send delegations to their respective national conventions in 2000 while still allowing voters to vote for the candidate of their choice irrespective of party as allowed by the an open primary law. The first vote tally would reflect all votes cast for the candidate in accordance with the open primary. The second vote tally would document only the number of votes the candidate received from voters of the same political party. Signed - Chapter 18/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1135 (Murray) -- Allows any local, special, or consolidated election to be conducted wholly by mail if certain conditions are met, among them that a local election cannot occur on the same date as a statewide primary or general election. Vetoed.

SB 1024 (Johnson) – Requires the secretary of state to disclose online an index of political committee identification numbers, which would be updated monthly throughout most of the year and would be updated weekly during the six-week period preceding any statewide election. Signed - Chapter 208/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1025 (Johnson) -- Requires the secretary of state to maintain a directory of lobbyists on the Internet, including a weekly listing of changes. Signed-Chapter 858/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1219 (Schiff) – Requires that petitions for initiatives, referendums, or recall elections contain a public notice saying whether the individual circulating the petition is being paid or is a volunteer. Also would have required the name and address of any committee that is circulating or distributing petitions to appear on the petitions. Vetoed.

AB 164 (Romero) -- Requires the California Community Colleges and the California State University, and requests the University of California, to distribute a voter registration form to each student when issuing identification cards or during student orientation. Vetoed.

AB 186 (Hertzberg) -- Requires counties and cities, when redrawing supervisorial and city-council district boundaries to take into account the boundaries of existing cities and "communities of interest," defined as geographic areas with adopted community plans or identified in general plans. Also, requires county boards of supervisors and city councils to hold at least one public hearing on a redistricting plan prior to the public hearing at which the plan is voted on. Signed - Chapter 429/Statutes of 1999.

AB 228 (Migden) -- Expands the list of people who can return absentee ballots on a voter's behalf by allowing roommates, friends, coworkers or others so designated by the voter. This bill lifts the current restriction of allowing only immediate family members to return absentee ballots. However, campaigns and political parties are specifically prohibited from returning a voter's absentee ballot. Vetoed.

AB 709 (Cardenas) -- Requires polling places to be kept open an additional hour on election day and close at 9:00 p.m. instead of 8:00 p.m. Vetoed.

AB 917 (Hertzberg) -- Requires all special primary and special general elections held between January 2000 and January 2005 to fill vacant congressional or legislative seats to be conducted on specified Saturdays and Sundays, unless consolidated with the next statewide election. Vetoed.

AB 1530 (Longville) -- Requires absentee ballot results to be reported by precinct for any statewide election or certain special elections conducted on or before June 1, 2000. Also requires election results to be made available to the Legislature and appropriate legislative committees for reapportionment purposes. Signed - Chapter 697/Statutes of 1999.

Family Law

Child Support

One of the most important topics before the Legislature in 1999 was reforming California's child-support

system. Key topics included reforming the county-run, state-oversight enforcement system and legislation resolving the future of California's child-support automation system.

Structural Reform

California has maintained 58 county-run child-support enforcement programs, usually referred to as family support bureaus within district attorney offices. The state Department of Social Services' Office of Child Support has overseen the county programs. The following bills will change this basic structure.

AB 196 (Kuehl) – Creates a Department of Child Support Services within the state Health and Human Services Agency to centralize the management and control of county child-support enforcement offices. The director of this new agency will have a direct line of communication with the governor. District attorneys will no longer manage these offices, but employees of county family-support divisions will be able to transfer to these new offices and district attorneys will still be responsible for prosecuting deadbeat parents. The new state agency will establish one state system with uniform forms, procedures, standardized data-collection requirements and clear performance standards. This measure also will expand the role of the state Franchise Tax Board in making child-support collections and add independent contractors to the pool of employees whose wages can be tapped for child support. Signed – Chapter 478/Statutes of 1999.

SB 542 (Burton and Schiff) – Adopts clean-up provisions to AB 196 to help implement California's new child-support enforcement system. Signed – Chapter 480/Statutes of 1999.

SB 240 (Speier) – Makes numerous changes to the state child-support enforcement program, from making it easier to establish paternity to expanding the duties of the family law facilitators. Signed – Chapter 652/Statutes of 1999.

AB 472 (Aroner) -- Allows a parent to request a hearing before a Department of Social Services (DSS) administrative law judge when a district attorney fails to take required action on his or her child-support case. Signed – Chapter 803/Statutes of 1999.

A Statewide Child-Support Computer System

The 1988 federal Family Support Act required states to establish a statewide automated child support case tracking system to improve collections within the state and between states. California contracted with Lockheed Martin Information Management Services (Lockheed) to develop such a system. After much frustration with Lockheed's performance, the state terminated its contract with Lockheed in November 1997. Because California was unable to meet the requirements of federal law by the October 1997 deadline, the state will have to pay penalties to the federal government. Federal legislation (HR 3130) to lessen the penalties passed in 1998.

In 1998, Legislation passed AB 2779 (Aroner), Chapter 329/Statutes of 1998, to require counties to use one of four interim systems to be linked statewide. In April of 1999, the federal government rejected this linked approach and told California to develop one statewide system. The Legislature, following up in 1999, passed AB 150 (Aroner, Kuehl and Villaraigosa) to require such a statewide system. AB 150 gives the state Franchise Tax Board \$6 million to implement and administer the statewide child-support automation system and appropriates \$95.5 million for the state to cover the current federal penalties. Signed – Chapter 479/Statutes of 1999.

A Statewide System for Collecting and Distributing Child Support

California faces potential penalties for its failure to implement a state disbursement unit (SDU) by October 1, 1998, as required by the federal welfare reform law passed in 1996 (the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Reconciliation Act or PRWORA). An SDU is a centralized system for collecting and distributing child support.

This April, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services notified California that the penalty for failure to operate an SDU is the loss of all child-support administrative funding – over \$300 million annually – and potentially the loss of the entire welfare block grant at \$3.7 billion. After the federal decision, U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein introduced S. 1033, which says states shall not face penalties for

failure to develop an SDU if they are already paying a penalty for computer-related problems. Representative Bob Matsui introduced H.R.2877, a companion measure that mirrors S. 1033 in the House. AB 150, noted above, also contains provisions requiring the state to expedite the development of the SDU system.

Enforcement

Finding more innovative enforcement tools is one way the Legislature has sought to improve collections. This legislation to address the enforcement problems of non-custodial parents reached the governor's desk in 1999:

AB 380 (R. Wright) – Creates the Child Support Enforcement Fairness Act of 2000 designed to give the non-custodial parent fair notice and relief under difficult circumstances, such as incarceration, when enforcement actions are taken against him or her. Signed – Chapter 653/Statutes of 1999.

Welfare

California's 1997 welfare-to-work law, known as Cal WORKs, authorizes up to three child-support assurance projects in three counties to test whether a child-support assurance program might be more cost effective and better at lifting children out of poverty. Child-support assurance programs guarantee a minimum level of support for children living in single-parent homes by providing a base-line child-support payment to families whether or not any child support is collected from the absent parent. If the child support collected from the absent parent exceeds the base-line assured amount, then the family is paid the higher amount. AB 472 (Aroner) modifies the requirements for these three pilot projects. Signed – Chapter 803/ Statutes of 1999.

Child Custody and Visitation

SB 668 (Sher) -- Repeals the existing Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction Act and replaces it with a new act called the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act. The new act makes numerous changes to the laws affecting child custody where the courts of another state may also have, or previously had, jurisdiction. Specific provisions ensure the confidentiality of addresses of victims of domestic violence and child abuse. Signed – Chapter 867/Statutes of 1999.

AB 673 (Honda) -- Authorizes Superior Courts to start programs of supervised visitation, parenting skills and group counseling and requires families to pay for these services based on ability to pay. Signed – Chapter 1004/Statutes of 1999.

AB 840 (Kuehl) -- Creates a presumption against awarding custody of a child to a person who has committed acts of domestic violence within the previous five years. Signed – Chapter 445/Statutes of 1999.

Divorce Proceedings

AB 391 (Jackson) – Exempts marriages longer than ten years from the state goal of each spouse becoming self-supporting within a reasonable amount of time. Signed – Chapter 846/Statutes of 1999.

AB 808 (Strom-Martin) – Requires courts to consider emotional distress resulting from domestic violence when making a spousal support award. Signed -- Chapter 284/Statutes of 1999.

AB 933 (Keeley) – Protects victims of domestic violence in community property arbitration actions by requiring training of arbiters and implementing security measures. Vetoed.

Family Law Legal Assistance

Current law requires every county to have a family law facilitator to assist parents who do not have lawyers with child support matters. SB 240 (Speier) expands existing law to require family law facilitators to provide assistance in child custody and visitation matters as they relate to calculating child support. SB 240 contains additional funding of \$705,000 for the family law facilitator program. Signed – Chapter 652/Statutes of 1999.

Marriage

SB 185 (Peace) – Makes it a misdemeanor for a business to list an individual's marital status as part of the customer's mailing address on a billing statement or related correspondence. The bill responds to a practice of identifying recipients in ways such as "Jane Doe, an unmarried woman." Businesses may use the prefixes Mr., Mrs., Ms. or Miss. Signed – Chapter 343, Statutes of 1999.

AB 889 (Jackson) – Requires the Judicial Council to develop, update and distribute a fact sheet regarding the laws pertinent to marriage that couples would receive at the time they apply for a marriage license. The fact sheet would also be available on the Judicial Council's web site. Vetoed.

Gambling

The California Supreme Court in August invalidated Proposition 5, a statutory initiative that California voters passed in the November 1998 election. Proposition 5 would have permitted gambling on California Indian tribal lands, subject to specified conditions. The court ruled that Proposition 5, by allowing games such as 21 and blackjack and slot-machine-style video games, permitted the operation of casinos like those operating in Nevada and New Jersey and thereby violated a provision of the state Constitution that prohibits such gambling.

Governor Davis and California tribes responded by negotiating compacts that would permit the tribes to continue and, in some cases, expand their current gambling operations with more restrictions and state oversight than Proposition 5 would have permitted. These new compacts will be valid only if the voters amend the state Constitution to permit them – as Senate Constitutional Amendment 11 (Burton), Res. Chapter 142, Statutes of 1999, proposes. The Legislature put SCA 11 on the March 7, 2000, primary election ballot. It would allow the governor to negotiate compacts with federally recognized California Indian tribes for the operation on tribal lands of slot machines, lotteries and percentage card games. The compacts would be subject to ratification by the Legislature.

There are reported to be 41 Indian gambling operations in California now, offering games including bingo, card games, a type of blackjack, and electronic (i.e., video) slot-machine-like devices. The governor also has signed compacts with four tribes allowing pari-mutuel wagering on horse racing.

AB 1385 (Battin), Chapter 874/Statutes of 1999, like SCA 11, designates the governor as the state officer responsible for negotiating tribal-state compacts and provides for legislative ratification of any such compact.

Voters also will decide on the March ballot whether private, nonprofit organizations will be permitted to conduct raffles to raise funds for charitable works. That proposed constitutional amendment, passed by the Legislature, is SCA 4 (McPherson).

However, the governor vetoed a series of other gambling bills, saying "I am generally not inclined to support measures that allow more than a modest expansion of gambling." These bills were:

- **SB 346 (Ross Johnson)** and **AB 315 (Wright)** would have allowed expanded wagering on horse racing. Vetoed.
- **SB 354 (Perata)** would have expanded simulcast horse-race gambling. Vetoed.
- **SB 416 (Perata)** would have allowed certain horse-racing associations also to operate other gambling establishments. Vetoed.
- **SB 474 (Ross Johnson)** would have expanded satellite wagering on horse races and live horse racing at fairs. Vetoed.
- **AB 714 (Firebaugh)** would have expanded the types of individuals allowed to own gambling establishments. Vetoed.
- **AB 1406 (Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)** would have permitted betting on mule

ances. Vetoed.

- **AB 1409 (Assembly Governmental Organization Committee)** would have placed the current card-room rules into law. Vetoed.
- **AB 1517 (Firebaugh)** would have allowed progressive-pot card games. Vetoed.

General Government

A sprawling mansion in Carmichael designed but never completed for Governor Ronald Reagan went on the auction block early in Governor George Deukmejian's tenure in accord with a 1982 budget trailer bill, SB 1326 (Alquist).

The bill was signed a few months before Deukmejian took office by Governor Jerry Brown, who had declined to live in the still-unfinished mansion. The Carmichael home on 11 acres of riverfront land donated by friends of the Reagans was sold in 1984 for \$1.53 million to a private developer.

Today Governor Davis and his wife live in a suburban house originally bought for use by Deukmejian and his wife, Gloria, by a nonprofit foundation established by Deukmejian's friends and supporters. Pete and Gayle Wilson lived there during Wilson's two terms as governor. Under a long-standing lease between the foundation and the state, the state pays maintenance, repairs, taxes, utilities, insurance and other costs associated with the house.

Proceeds from the sale of the Carmichael mansion were earmarked for a replacement residence. As of January 1999, this fund and its accrued interest totaled \$3.1 million. **SB 1091 (Ortiz), Chapter 732/Statutes of 1999**, creates a Governor's Permanent Residence Commission, made up of legislative leaders or their representatives, to oversee planning for a permanent residence for the governor. The commission's final recommendations are due by June 30, 2000.

"Sunshine" Laws

SB 48 (Sher and Speier) -- Creates a procedure for appealing a denial by a public agency of a written request for information to the state attorney general. Establishes penalties of up to \$100 per day for the public agency's refusal to provide access to the information after the attorney general has opined or a court has ruled that information should have been disclosed. The attorney general's opinions would be available to the public, including on the Internet.

Health Care

Introduction

The Legislature in 1999 passed significant bills dealing with managed care reform, health care access, allocation of tobacco settlement dollars, public health, and health facility regulation and oversight.

Close to 70 bills were introduced in the 1999 half of the 1999-2000 session to deal with reform of HMOs and managed health care entities. In August, Governor Davis weighed in with his list of suggested reforms, including external review of treatment denials, allowing patients to sue when plans' denial or modification of recommended treatment results in substantial harm, creation of a new department for regulation of the managed care industry, enactment of a list of patients' rights, and closer scrutiny of medical groups and their solvency. Close negotiations between the Legislature and the governor produced legislation in all of these areas.

In addition, the Legislature chose to supplement the governor's list by sending him bills mandating coverage for specific benefits, including mental health, contraceptive, hospice, and diabetes management and treatment services.

The 1999-00 state budget contained numerous provisions to boost access to health care services for uninsured and underinsured Californians, including:

- Expanding eligibility for the Healthy Families program,
- Extending Medi-Cal coverage to working families with incomes under 100 percent of the poverty

level,

- Extending eligibility of recent legal immigrants to health care and long-term care services, and
- Reaffirming eligibility of undocumented women to prenatal care services.

The budget also directs the Department of Health Services (DHS) to simplify the Medi-Cal application process and related forms and expands deductions of health insurance costs for self-employed persons in conformity with federal law. Other legislation sent to the governor requires the California Health and Human Services Agency to submit reports to the Legislature on the feasibility of consolidating the Medi-Cal, Healthy Families, and Access for Infants and Mothers (AIM) programs into a single family-coverage program as well as on options for achieving universal health care coverage in California.

The Legislature sent legislation to the governor to implement the national settlement with tobacco products manufacturers as well as to allocate funding from the settlement. California, its counties and four of its cities are slated to receive roughly \$1 billion annually under the terms of the settlement, which is designed to reimburse states for costs associated with treatment of smoking-related illnesses. AB 100 (Thomson et al), vetoed by the governor, earmarks proceeds from this settlement for expansion of health and health care services, while other legislation sent to the governor ensures that California will receive its full allotment by establishing incentives for small, nonparticipating manufacturers to join the settlement.

The Legislature sent important public health initiatives to the governor in the areas of children's health, rural health, HIV reporting, legal protections for local entities administering clean needle exchange programs, and standards for school health clinics, as well as authorization for the University of California to establish a marijuana research program to study the safety and efficacy of marijuana for medical purposes.

A number of bills were adopted to address the needs of California's growing elderly and younger disabled population, including bills requiring pharmacies to use the Medi-Cal reimbursement rates as the prescription prices for Medicare beneficiaries, creating a pilot program to reduce financial abuse against elderly persons, and beefing up protections against other abuses of the elderly.

The Legislature also acted in response to reports of quality of care problems in hospitals and nursing homes by passing legislation to require the Department of Health Services to specify nurse-to-patient ratios for hospitals and to establish goals for direct care staffing in skilled nursing facilities. The latter action supplemented action contained in the budget to provide a 5 percent wage pass-through to nursing home staff and enhanced staffing ratios in nursing homes.

Finally, the Legislature acted to impose additional requirements on the performance of cosmetic surgery procedures in outpatient settings in response to reported deaths and injuries resulting from those procedures.

Managed Care Reform

Health Plan Liability and Independent Medical Review

SB 21 (Figueroa) – Enacts the Managed Health Care Insurance Accountability Act of 1999, which requires that a health care service plan or managed care entity have a duty of ordinary care to provide medically appropriate health care service to its subscribers and enrollees where the health care service is a benefit provided under the plan. Applies to services rendered on or after January 1, 2001. Signed-Chapter 536/Statutes of 1999.

AB 55 (Migden and Strom-Martin) – Establishes, commencing January 1, 2001, an independent medical review system (IMRS) for enrollees to seek an independent review whenever health care services have been denied, delayed, or otherwise limited by a plan or one of its contracting providers based on a finding that the service is not medically necessary or appropriate. Does not exclude Medi-Cal or Medicare beneficiaries from participation. Signed - Chapter 533/ Statutes of 1999.

Licensing of Health Plan Personnel

AB 58 (Davis) – Requires that any person who makes a decision regarding the medical necessity or appropriateness of health care services recommended by a physician or surgeon that results in a denial of care must be licensed in California. Vetoed.

Regulation and Plan Operations

SB 59 (Perata and Ortiz) – Requires health plans that review and approve, modify, delay or deny requests by providers for authorizations for treatment to meet specified utilization review (UR) requirements. Requires the UR provisions to be applicable to health plans that delegate functions to contracting providers. Requires the criteria and guidelines used by health plans, health insurers, their provider groups and contracting UR managers to authorize or deny health care services to be available to the public upon request. Signed - Chapter 539/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 189 (Schiff) – Makes several changes to the health plan grievance review process, including requiring health plans to provide written responses to grievances that include specified information, including all clinical reasons for the decision related to medical necessity and requiring health plans to complete the grievance process in 30 days (instead of 60 days), and in three days (instead of five days) in cases involving an imminent and serious threat to the health of the patient. Signed - Chapter 542/Statutes of 1999.

SB 260 (Speier) – Requires the regulation of risk-bearing provider organizations to help ensure the financial solvency of medical groups and continuity of care for patients, including through creation of a new advisory Financial Solvency Standards Board with specified rulemaking and reporting requirements. Signed - Chapter 529/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 559 (Brulte) -- Requires agents who sell or otherwise transfer a list of contracting providers and their contracted preferred reimbursement rates to other payors or contracting agents to disclose in advance to the providers involved those arrangements. Imposes requirements on payors who seek to pay a discounted reimbursement rate to those providers and provides that the failure to comply with these requirements renders the payor liable to pay the nonpreferred rate, as specified. Signed - Chapter 545/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1053 (Poochigian)-- Requires health care service plans to allow a patient to obtain covered services from any participating physician outside of the patient's service area for conditions that, in the opinion of the enrollee's primary care or treating physician, have a likelihood of causing death, loss of limb, or loss of vital bodily function. Vetoed.

AB 12 (Davis) – Requires health plans and insurers to provide or authorize a second opinion upon request of a patient or a health professional treating a patient under certain circumstances. Signed - Chapter 531/Statutes of 1999.

AB 78 (Gallegos) – Transfers responsibility for the implementation of programs to the Department of Managed Care in the state Business, Transportation, and Housing Agency, established pursuant to the bill, and makes conforming changes. Establishes an Advisory Committee on Managed Care to assist and advise the director of the state Department of Managed Care. Also establishes an Office of Patient Advocate to provide educational material to plan enrollees and to render advice and assistance to enrollees. Signed - Chapter 525/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 215 (Soto) – Requires plans to approve, modify or deny a request from a provider for a specialty referral within 24 hours of receiving the request if the enrollee is facing an imminent and serious threat to health. Signed - Chapter 530/Statutes of 1999.

AB 285 (Corbett) – Requires any in-state or out-of-state entity engaged in the business of providing telephone medical advice to a patient in California to be registered with the Department of Consumer Affairs. Signed - Chapter 535/Statutes of 1999.

AB 351 (Steinberg)-- Establishes various requirements governing the merger, acquisition or change of control of a nonprofit health care service plan doing business in the state, including notice to the state attorney general, solicitation of public comments regarding the proposed transaction, and the consent or conditional consent of the attorney general. Vetoed.

AB 1049 (Aanestad) – Requires disability insurers to prominently indicate on each insured's identification card whether a separate telephone number must be called to verify eligibility for benefits and coverage. Signed - Chapter 88/Statutes of 1999.

AJR 73 (Thomson) -- Urges health insurers and health care service plans to provide expeditious access to diagnostic and screening tests for life-threatening diseases and conditions when those diagnostic and screening tests are recommended by professional treatment guidelines, as specified.

Covered Benefits

SB 5 (Rainey) -- Prohibits the denial of enrollment or coverage to an individual solely due to a family history of breast cancer, or who has had one or more diagnostic procedures for breast disease but has not developed or been diagnosed with breast cancer. This applies to health care service plan contracts and certain policies of disability insurance that are issued, amended, delivered, or renewed on or after January 1, 2000. Signed - Chapter 537/Statutes of 1999.

SB 41 (Speier) -- Establishes the Women's Contraception Equity Act, which requires health insurers to cover prescription contraceptive methods. Specifically, requires every disability insurance policy issued, amended, renewed or delivered on or after January 1, 2000, that provides coverage for outpatient prescription drug benefits to include coverage for a variety of federal Food and Drug Administration-approved contraceptive drugs and devices. Signed - Chapter 538/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 64 (Solis) -- Requires every health care service plan and disability (health) insurer to provide coverage for the management and treatment of diabetes mellitus, including equipment, supplies, medications, outpatient self-management education and medical nutrition therapy as medically necessary or medically appropriate. Signed - Chapter 540/Statutes of 1999.

SB 148 (Alpert) -- Requires health plans to offer coverage for the testing and treatment of phenylketonuria (PKU). Signed - Chapter 541/Statutes of 1999.

SB 205 (Perata) -- Requires every health plan contract, except a specialized health plan contract and every policy of health insurance that covers hospital, medical or surgical expenses, issued, amended, delivered or renewed on or after July 1, 2000, be deemed to provide coverage for all generally medically accepted cancer screening tests, as specified. Signed - Chapter 543/Statutes of 1999.

SB 349 (Figueroa) -- Redefines emergency services and care to include psychiatric screening, examination, evaluation, and treatment by a physician, or other personnel to the extent permitted by applicable law and within the scope of their licensure and privileges, and the care and treatment necessary to relieve or eliminate the psychiatric emergency medical condition within the capability of a facility. Signed - Chapter 544/Statutes of 1999.

AB 39 (Hertzberg) -- Requires health care service plan contracts to provide coverage, under terms and conditions applicable to other benefits, for a variety of FDA-approved prescription contraceptive methods. Signed - Chapter 532/Statutes of 1999.

AB 88 (Thomson) — Requires health plans to provide coverage for the diagnosis and medically necessary treatment of severe mental illnesses, as defined, of a person of any age, and of serious emotional disturbances of a child, under the same terms and conditions applied to other medical conditions. Signed - Chapter 534/Statutes of 1999.

AB 892 (Alquist) – Includes, as a basic health care service, hospice care equivalent to that provided under the federal Medicare program. Signed - Chapter 528/Statutes of 1999.

Medical Records Privacy

SB 19 (Figueroa) -- Makes a number of changes to existing law governing disclosure of medical information, prohibits health care service plans from conditioning health care services upon the enrollee waiving medical information confidentiality protections, and provides that no health care plan or its contractors can use any medical information for any commercial purpose. Signed - Chapter 526/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 416 (Machado) -- Restricts access to confidential medical information by specified persons, such as health care service plan billing agents and members of group-practice prepayment health care service plans, if the information relates to a patient's participation in outpatient treatment with a psychotherapist. Signed - Chapter 527/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 435 (Corbett) -- Prohibits the disclosure of medical information relative to a patient being infected with the HIV without the prior authorization of the patient unless the patient is an injured worker claiming to have been infected with HIV through the course of employment. Signed - Chapter 766/Statutes of 1999.

Health Access

1999 - 2000 Budget (SB 160, AB 1107 and SB 708)

The budget and accompanying trailer legislation make several changes to the Medi-Cal Program and specified public health programs as well as expand funding for several programs and adopting federal tax conformity for deduction of health insurance costs of self-employed individuals. Among the changes made by the budget bill, SB 160, and by accompanying trailer bills, AB 1107 and SB 708, are the following:

- **Expands eligibility of children for the Healthy Families program to include families with net incomes after allowable deductions of up to 250 percent of the federal poverty level.**
- **Includes legal immigrant children arriving after August 22, 1996, in a state-funded ("state-only") program that will expire in one year.**
- **Allows sponsors to pay costs associated with family contributions on behalf of families applying for Healthy Families coverage for their children.**
- **Expands Medi-Cal coverage to intact families whose children are already on Medi-Cal and are below 100 percent of the federal poverty level effective January 1, 2000.**
- **Conforms state law to the federal deduction percentages for self-employed health-care costs beginning in 1999.**
- **Provides a 5 percent wage pass-through to nursing home staff effective as of August 1, 1999, and provides for an enhanced staffing ratio (from 2.9 to 3.2) effective January 1, 2000.**
- **Re-affirms an existing state law that provides prenatal care to undocumented persons.**
- **Reauthorizes Medi-Cal long-term care services for undocumented persons, but limits expenditures to the amount needed to serve 110 percent of the 1999-2000 estimated eligible population.**
- **Requires the DHS to develop a simplified Medi-Cal application process and related forms by no later than July 1, 2000, including mail-in applications, a simplified quarterly reporting process, and a simplified supplemental resource form.**
- **Appropriates \$21 million for various outreach activities to enroll children in the Medi-Cal and Healthy Families programs, including \$6 million for community based organizations.**
- **Establishes the Family PACT Waiver Program to enable the state to receive a 90 percent federal fund match for services presently provided under the state-only program. Also expands the program to include men, provides for Medi-Cal reimbursement for measles, mumps, and rubella vaccines for women of reproductive age, and clarifies access to contraceptive services.**

- Extends for one year the Medi-Cal Medical Education Supplemental Payment program to provide additional allocations to specified teaching hospitals to assist in offsetting costs associated with medical instruction.
- Reduces by \$30 million annually the amount required to be transferred by governmental entities operating hospitals as part of the state fee associated with operation of the Disproportionate Share Hospital program.
- Provides for disenrollment, in accordance with specified limitations, for Medi-Cal providers and prohibits enrollment for provider applicants found to have committed fraud or abuse.
- Extends existing provisions, under which services provided under the California Children's Services program to children with handicapping conditions are paid for outside of Medi-Cal managed care plans, for five years until August 2003.
- Codifies the Office of Multicultural Health within DHS.
- Augments funding for rural, seasonal agricultural, migratory-worker, and Indian health clinics by \$5 million.
- Augments funding for Expanded Access to Primary Care Clinics by nearly \$14 million. Signed - Chapters 50, 146, and 148, Statutes of 1999.

SB 114 (Escutia)-- Requires health care service plans and disability insurers which offer Medicare supplement coverage to Medicare beneficiaries whose coverage has been terminated by a Medicare HMO to offer the same basic coverage to beneficiaries who are eligible by reason of disability if there is no other participating HMO available in the geographic area, and to limit premium rates for persons under age 64 to those charged to persons 65 years of age under the same contract. Vetoed.

SB 480 (Solis) -- Requires the secretary of the Health and Human Services Agency to report to the Legislature on or before December 1, 2001 concerning options for achieving universal health care coverage and establishes a process to develop these options. Signed - Chapter 990/Statutes of 1999.

SB 737 (Committee on Insurance)-- Conforms state law to federal regulations by providing that employees eligible for small-employer health insurance who have declined coverage during previous enrollment periods may enroll themselves and their dependents when a person becomes their dependent through marriage, birth, adoption, or placement for adoption. Signed - Chapter 434/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1047 (Murray) -- Requires, on or before January 1, 2000, the California Health and Human Services Agency to submit a report to the Legislature regarding (1) the feasibility of consolidating the Medi-Cal program, the Health Families Program, and the Access for Infants and Mothers Program into a single program administered by DHS; and (2) the feasibility of creating a single public insurance purchasing pool to allow for maximum patient choice. Vetoed.

AB 26 (Migden) -- Requires health insurers to offer to employers the option to purchase coverage for domestic partners, according to the same terms and conditions by which the insurer makes available coverage for employee dependents. Signed - Chapter 588/Statutes of 1999.

AB 936 (Reyes) – Provides an additional open enrollment opportunity for specified Medicare patients who were terminated by their managed care health plans. Signed - Chapter 716/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1253 (Nakano)-- Establishes a three-year pilot program to provide health care services to working poor families who are not eligible for other public health care programs or private insurance. Signed - Chapter 1025/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1363 (Davis) -- Requires the MRMIB to include school-based health centers within the Healthy Families program as traditional and safety net providers. Vetoed.

Master Tobacco Settlement

SB 822 (Escutia) -- Specifies that any tobacco-product manufacturer selling cigarettes to consumers within the state shall either become a participating manufacturer under the terms of the tobacco settlement -- and meet its financial obligations -- or place into an escrow fund an amount calculated on the basis of tobacco products sold. Signed - Chapter 780/Statutes of 1999.

AB 100 (Thomson et al) -- Creates the Thomson, Dunn and Escutia Tobacco Settlement Fund in the state treasury as a repository, beginning July 1, 2000, for the state share of all funds received from the tobacco litigation Master Settlement Agreement of 1998. The bill restricts the use of these funds to expansion of health and health care services. Vetoed.

AB 437 (Wesson) -- Appropriates \$2 million annually from funds received by the state from the master tobacco litigation settlement for enforcement of laws against selling tobacco to minors. Vetoed.

Medi-Cal Reforms

SB 393 (Speier)-- Requires pharmacists, as a condition of participation in the Medi-Cal program, to charge Medicare beneficiaries the Medi-Cal rate for their prescriptions. Requires DHS to conduct an annual study of the adequacy of Medi-Cal pharmacy reimbursement rates. Signed - Chapter 946/Statutes of 1999.

AB 155 (Migden)— Requires DHS to adopt a federal option under which any employed individual whose countable income does not exceed 250 percent of the federal poverty level and who is disabled shall be eligible for benefits under the Medi-Cal program. Applies until April 1, 2005, and is subject to federal financial participation. Specifies that any employed individual whose countable income, determined by criteria specified in the bill, does not exceed 250 percent of the federal poverty line and who is disabled for specified purposes, shall be eligible for benefits under the Medi-Cal program, subject to the payment of premiums. Signed - Chapter 820/Statutes of 1999.

AB 217 (Wildman) -- Directs the DHS to develop risk-adjusted capitated rates for treatment of Medi-Cal patients with HIV. Vetoed.

AB 249 (Papan)-- Permits the California Medical Assistance Commission (CMAC) to consider unreimbursed medical education expenses as a factor when it negotiates Medi-Cal inpatient hospital service contracts with children's hospitals, county hospitals, public university medical centers and private hospitals contracted to provide health services to indigent persons. Permits the California Medical Assistance Commission to include reimbursement for the costs of graduate medical education incurred in connection with the treatment of Medi-Cal eligible patients when it negotiates Medi-Cal inpatient hospital services contracts with children's hospitals. Vetoed.

AB 359 (Aroner)-- Creates a pilot program to allow 10 intermittent skilled nursing care facilities to provide continuous skilled nursing care. Signed - Chapter 845/Statutes of 1999.

AB 461 (Hertzberg)-- Requires the director of DHS to compare California's physician Medicaid (or Medi-Cal) reimbursement rates with those of other large states and report annually to the Legislature on the result of Medi-Cal provider rate reviews. Vetoed.

AB 469 (Papan)-- Makes enrollment in certain Medi-Cal managed health care plans voluntary for aged, blind and disabled recipients of the federal Supplemental Security (SSI) program and specified low-income infants and children, and allows Medi-Cal beneficiaries in the California Children's Services program to disenroll from mandatory managed care if certain conditions are met. Vetoed.

AB 761 (Briggs) -- Permits small and rural hospitals with standby emergency rooms to qualify for distributions of emergency services and supplemental payment funds. Signed - Chapter 226/Statutes of 1999.

AB 784 (Romero) -- Implements several measures to combat provider fraud in the Medi-Cal program. Signed - Chapter 993/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1353 (Committee on Health) -- Provides that any hospital that qualified as a disproportionate share hospital at the time it submitted its final plans for an eligible capital project under SB 1732 shall continue to receive reimbursement irrespective of whether or not the hospital qualifies as a disproportionate share hospital after submission of its final plans. Signed - Chapter 701/Statutes of 1999.

Public Health

SB 25 (Escutia) -- Requires the state Air Resources Board to review and, if necessary, revise existing air quality standards for toxic air contaminants to protect infants and children. Creates a Children's Environmental Health Center within the California Environmental Protection Agency (Cal EPA) to advise the secretary of Cal EPA and the governor on environmental health matters and environmental protection of children. Signed - Chapter 731/Statutes of 1999.

SB 493 (Figueroa)-- Authorizes the addition of a new personal income tax check-off to fund the California Birth Defects Research Fund. Signed - Chapter 398/Statutes of 1999.

SB 514 (Chesbro)-- Creates the Rural Health Care Equity Trust to provide subsidies and reimbursements for various health care costs incurred by employees and annuitants that live in rural areas. Signed - Chapter 743/Statutes of 1999.

SB 584 (Chesbro) -- Requires DHS to grant funds for up to three years to eligible, private, nonprofit, community-based primary care clinics for the implementation of (1) local health programs for seasonal agricultural and migratory workers and (2) health services development projects in under-served rural areas. Signed - Chapter 744/Statutes of 1999.

SB 613 (Solis)— Expands the duties of the Office of Multicultural Health and establishes an interagency task force on multicultural health, within the Health and Human Services Agency. Vetoed.

SB 741 (Alpert)-- Adds chickenpox to the list of diseases for which immunization is required before a child is admitted to institutions for kindergarten and above beginning July 1, 2001. Signed - Chapter 747/Statutes of 1999.

SB 847 (Vasconcellos)-- Allows the University of California to establish a Medical Marijuana Research Program to study the safety and efficacy of marijuana usage for medical purposes. If studies confirm the value of marijuana for medicinal purposes, medical guidelines could be developed for appropriate administration and use. Signed - Chapter 750/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1009 (Ortiz)-- Revises the procedures for the administration of the Cancer Research Fund, outlines allocations of funds for gender-specific cancer research, and provides for multi-year expenditure authority of appropriated grants. Signed - Chapter 751/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1115 (Chesbro)-- Creates the Lyme Disease Advisory Committee in DHS. Requires the department to establish a public information service, including the printing and distribution of pamphlets and the creation of a telephone hotline service, relating to lyme disease. Signed - Chapter 668/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1191 (Perata)-- Requires DHS to designate tests and regulations to detect sickle cell anemia and other hemoglobin disorders prenatally or neonatally. Requires DHS to conduct one or more umbilical-cord blood-bank pilot projects to determine the usefulness of cord blood banking and appropriates \$250,000 from the Genetic Disease Testing Fund for implementation of the project. Vetoed.

SB 1235 (Polanco)-- Requires DHS to appoint a dentist to administer the department's dental programs. The bill directs this dentist to submit a plan to the Legislature on how to streamline and better coordinate oral health programs within DHS. Vetoed.

SB 1240 (Burton)-- Requires DHS to adopt and enforce standards to control food reimbursement costs in order to maximize participant access and ensure the integrity of the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children (WIC) program. Signed -Chapter 21/Statutes of 1999.

AB 63 (Ducheny)--Creates the state Office of Border Bi-national Health, to facilitate cooperation between

Californian and Mexican health officials and health professionals to reduce the risk of disease in the California border region. Signed - Chapter 765/Statutes of 1999.

AB 103 (Migden) -- Requires DHS to develop, implement, and evaluate a uniform, statewide system that reports cases of HIV with a unique code. Extends existing confidentiality and disclosure provisions to public health records relating to HIV that contain unique codes. Vetoed.

AB 136 (Mazzoni) -- Exempts from criminal prosecution public entities and their agents and employees who distribute hypodermic needles on syringes to participants in clean needle and syringe projects authorized by the public entity pursuant to a declaration of a local emergency due to the existence of a critical local public health crisis. Signed - Chapter 762/Statutes of 1999.

AB 161 (Alquist)--Establishes the California Osteoporosis Prevention and Education Program within DHS. Signed - Chapter 819/Statutes of 1999.

AB 611 (Cardenas)-- Requires DHS to: (a) review the adequacy of prenatal nutrition information in continuing education programs available to various health practitioners, (b) assess the efficacy of specified programs that educate women on prenatal nutrition, and (c) report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2001. Vetoed.

AB 689 (Gallegos) -- Appropriates \$15 million for support of the Breast Cancer Early Detection Program. Signed - Chapter 831/Statutes of 1999.

AB 851 (Keeley-- Adds instruction in the prevention of sexually transmitted infections to the existing instruction on HIV/AIDS, and requires that the instructional materials be medically accurate and free of ethnic, gender and racial biases. Vetoed.

AB 1047 (Firebaugh) -- Requires that all antiviral drugs approved by the federal FDA for the treatment of HIV or AIDS shall be made available through the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) and requires DHS's Office of AIDS to report on specified aspects of consumer protections under the ADAP Program. Signed - Chapter 497/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1207 (Shelley)--Enacts the Healthy Schools Act of 1999 and establishes numerous restrictions on the use of pesticides in and around schools. Vetoed.

AB 1363 (Davis)-- Establishes a variety of guidelines and requirements for school health centers, and allows those that meet required conditions to be included as traditional and safety net providers that can contract with health plans participating in the Healthy Families Program. Vetoed.

AB 1548 (Cardoza) -- Beginning January 1, 2000, requires DHS to inspect new and registered food-processing facilities in a targeted manner, adjusting scope, depth, and frequency based on statewide public health risks. Signed - Chapter 915/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1595 (Migden)-- Requires a manufacturer or importer of cigars to place a printed warning on each retail package of cigars shipped for distribution in California. Signed - Chapter 693/Statutes of 1999.

Aging and Long-Term Care

SB 163 (Hughes)--Creates a pilot program to be administered by the state Department of Social Services to reduce financial abuse against mentally impaired elder persons. Authorizes certain peace officers to issue a certification that an elder person is experiencing or at risk of financial abuse and to take charge of the property of the elder person. Vetoed.

SB 393 (Speier)-- Requires a pharmacy to use the Medi-Cal reimbursement rate as the prescription price for a Medicare beneficiary, and requires specified studies. Signed - Chapter 946/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 475 (Dunn)-- Requires the state insurance commissioner to annually prepare a consumer rate guide for long-term care insurance. Signed - Chapter 669/Statutes of 1999.

SB 710 (Burton)-- Provides clean-up to AB 1682 (Honda), the In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS)

budget-trailer bill sent to the governor. Signed - Chapter 91/Statutes of 1999.

SB 870 (Vasconcellos)-- Makes comprehensive, substantive changes to the long-term care insurance law that would affect individual and group policy benefits, changes requirements for eligibility, and establishes and modifies marketing and disclosure requirements. Signed - Chapter 947/Statutes of 1999.

SB 910 (Vasconcellos)-- Requires the University of California (UC) to compile information that addresses the impending demographic, economic, and social changes triggered by California's aging society. Signed - Chapter 948/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1082 (Ortiz)-- Provides residents of continuing care retirement communities (CCRCs) with access to information and additional state oversight. Signed - Chapter 949/Statutes of 1999.

SJR 1 (Speier)--Requests the federal government to take steps to ensure that persons abandoned by Medicare HMOs have access to other HMOs or Medigap policies and to rescind the determination that disabled persons under 65 years of age enrolled in HMOs do not have the same rights as other Medicare enrollees. Res. Chapter 63/Statutes of 1999.

AB 27 (Nakano) -- Requires the California Health and Human Services Agency to: (1) develop a long-term care infrastructure blueprint to analyze how information technology could be used for specified purposes, (2) contract with a consulting firm for a technical analysis of long-term care infrastructure development costs, and (3) report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2001. Signed - Chapter 950/Statutes of 1999.

AB 59 (Cedillo) -- Authorizes the issuance of emergency and other protective orders, similar to domestic-violence protective orders, to prevent abuse of the elderly and dependent adults by unrelated roommates or housemates, caregivers, or others. Signed - Chapter 561/Statutes of 1999.

AB 160 (Alquist)—Extends the California Alzheimer's Disease and Related Research Fund to January 1, 2005. Signed - Chapter 315/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 452 (Mazzoni)-- Establishes a Long-term Care (LTC) Council within the California Health and Human Services Agency to coordinate LTC policy development and program operations and develop a strategic plan for LTC policy. Signed - Chapter 895/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 582 (Firebaugh) -- Revises the criteria required for approval and designation of local Multipurpose Senior Services Program sites. Signed - Chapter 859/Statutes of 1999.

AB 891 (Alquist) -- Revises and recasts provisions of existing law for creation of durable powers of attorney for health care and the Natural Death Act. Establishes a new Advance Health Care Directive Form for declaring preferences regarding provision of life-prolonging treatment. Signed - Chapter 658/Statutes of 1999.

AB 893 (Alquist)-- Requires DHS to provide specified information on the Internet regarding long-term care facilities, and appropriates funds for this purpose. Signed - Chapter 430/Statutes of 1999.

AB 936 (Reyes) -- Provides additional open enrollment opportunities for Medicare beneficiaries who have been terminated by their Medicare managed care health plans. Signed - Chapter 716/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1492 (Thomson)-- Continues the Traumatic Brain Injury Project to January 1, 2005, and increases the number of demonstration service sites from four to eight. Signed - Chapter 1023/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1682 (Honda)-- Makes changes to the IHSS program administered by the Department of Social Services for the purposes of implementing the Budget Act of 1999-2000. Signed - Chapter 90/Statutes of 1999.

Mental Health and Developmental Disabilities

AB 34 (Steinberg)— This bill establishes, and provides \$10 million in funding for, new county

demonstration programs, building upon existing county programs serving adults who are severely mentally ill, homeless, or recently released from a correctional institution. Signed - Chapter 617/Statutes of 1999.

Health Facilities

SB 97 (Burton)-- Prohibits a health facility from discriminating against a patient or employee who presents a grievance or cooperates in any investigation against that facility. Signed - Chapter 155/Statutes of 1999.

SB 349 (Figueroa)-- Redefines emergency services and care to include psychiatric screening, examination, evaluation, and treatment by a physician, or other personnel to the extent permitted by applicable law and within the scope of their licensure and privileges, and the care and treatment necessary to relieve or eliminate the psychiatric emergency medical condition within the capability of a facility. Signed - Chapter 544/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1128 (Speier)-- Authorizes San Francisco to receive federal Medicaid reimbursement for construction costs associated with rebuilding Laguna Honda Hospital. Signed - Chapter 757/Statutes of 1999.

AB 254 (Cedillo) -- Makes existing notice and approval requirements governing sales or transfers of health facility assets by nonprofit corporations to for-profit entities applicable to sales and transfers between nonprofit or public benefit entities and to foreign nonprofit corporations. Requires the state attorney general to make available to the public in written form the notice provided by the health facility and any other information provided to it under these provisions. Signed - Chapter 850/Statutes of 1999.

AB 394 (Kuehl)-- Requires DHS to adopt regulations specifying nurse-to-patient ratios for general acute care hospitals, acute psychiatric hospitals and special hospitals and prohibits hospitals from assigning unlicensed personnel to perform nursing functions in lieu of a registered nurse, and unlicensed personnel from performing certain functions. Signed - Chapter 845/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1160 (Shelley)--Establishes goals for direct care staffing in skilled nursing facilities (SNFs), revises the calculation for determining nursing hours in SNFs and intermediate care facilities, requires specified disclosure of licensee information, requires a report on SNF reimbursement rates be submitted to the Legislature, and makes several other changes to existing law impacting nursing homes. Vetoed.

Health Professionals

SB 308 (Escutia)-- Permanently extends the Registered Nurse Education Program and the related \$5 biennial assessment used to support the program's activities, which include scholarships and loan repayments, to nurses who agree to work in facilities that serve low-income and rural populations. Signed - Chapter 149/Statutes of 1999.

SB 450 (Speier)-- Clarifies current law governing use of certain professional affiliations in advertising, and requires the Medical Board of California to adopt extraction standards for body liposuction procedures performed outside of a general acute care hospital. Signed - Chapter 631/Statutes of 1999.

SB 835 (Figueroa) -- Enacts the Cosmetic Surgery Patient Disclosure Act, which requires physicians who perform cosmetic surgery to provide the Medical Board of California with specified information, including training, board certifications, and number of procedures performed, and requires the board to make this information available to the public upon request, or post the information on the internet. Vetoed.

SB 836 (Figueroa) -- Revises and expands the prohibition against fraudulent advertising by health care professionals. Signed -Chapter 856/Statutes of 1999.

AB 271 (Gallegos)-- Requires physicians to carry malpractice insurance for surgery performed outside of acute care hospitals, requires minimum staffing levels for some outpatient procedures, and requires physicians to report to the Medical Board of California any death or serious hospitalization of a patient resulting from certain procedures. Signed - Chapter 944/Statutes of 1999.

AB 655 (Scott)-- Requires the chancellor of the California Community Colleges, the chancellor of the California State University, and the president of the University of California to jointly issue a report to the governor and the Legislature by January 1, 2001, on a recommended plan and budget for significantly increasing the number of students graduating from nursing programs. Signed - Chapter 954/Statutes of 1999.

AB 791 (Thomson)-- Adds pain management training, assessment, and education requirements for health care practitioners. Signed - Chapter 403/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1545 (Correa)-- Permits nurse practitioners and physician assistants, in specified circumstances, to furnish prescription drugs to patients in their place of practice, as long as certain conditions are met. Signed - Chapter 914/Statutes of 1999.

Housing and Urban Growth

Faced with evidence of a severe and worsening shortage of housing, especially affordable housing – and signals that Governor Davis was interested in addressing it -- legislators passed several significant bills and budget items to build, preserve, and help low- and middle-income Californians afford decent housing.

The Legislature passed and Davis approved direct funding in the 1999-00 state budget, including:

- \$6 million for housing for low-income families, with preserving existing federally subsidized housing as the top priority;
- \$2 million of owner-occupied housing;
- \$1 million for supportive housing for persons with special needs;
- \$635,000 for operating National Guard armories as winter homeless shelters;
- \$4 million for farm-worker housing; and
- \$5 million for welfare-to-work transitional housing.

The Legislature also passed bills to create a state rental-subsidy program, streamline the state's affordable-housing process, continue a \$50 million annual state tax credit for development of low-income housing, increase the California Housing Finance Agency's revenue-bond cap by \$2.2 billion, and cut red tape to allow assisted housing to qualify for partial property-tax exemptions.

Other legislation would strengthen state laws against disapproving affordable housing developments and reaffirm local governments' legal ability to regulate demolition or conversion of residential rental property.

Legislators also passed a series of bills to keep mobilehome parks affordable and in good repair, and to provide more than \$1 million for homeless-shelter-based adult education programs.

One major urban-revitalization bill provides \$135,000 for a pilot project focusing on the Alameda Corridor in Los Angeles County.

Californians continue to report discrimination limiting their access to housing. The Legislature passed bills to prohibit landlords from discriminating based on the source of income, and to outlaw restrictive covenants based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, marital status, disability, national origin, or ancestry in homeowners association documents.

As a step to meet the state's critical shortage of farm-labor housing, the Legislature passed a bill to allow growers to set aside land for that purpose without violating their Williamson Act contracts. The bill also requires local governments' General Plans to identify land for farm-worker housing.

Finally, the Legislature passed a series of bills to help growers keep their land in agriculture.

Affordable Housing

SB 430 (Alarcón) -- Allows a local governments to collect overdue fees for building and safety code violations by placing liens against the property, except owner-occupied, residential property. **Signed - Chapter 681/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 781 (Speier) – Would have created a state rental-housing subsidy program to be administered by counties, at their option. Families who are successfully meeting welfare-to-work requirements, and some former welfare recipients whose incomes are less than 150 percent of the poverty level, would have received rent subsidies for up to three years. A county that joins the program would provide a 15 percent match. The bill would have appropriated \$5 million from federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) block grant funds for the program. **Vetoed.**

SB 948 (Alarcón) -- Reaffirms a local government's authority to regulate demolition of rental property and its conversion to non-residential use. The bill strengthens the existing "anti-NIMBY" ("not in my backyard") law by requiring that, if a local government seeks to disapprove an affordable housing development proposal based on finding an adverse impact on public health or safety, the impact must be "quantifiable, direct and unavoidable." It also reduces the amount of time a local government has to approve or disapprove a government-financed low- or very low-income housing development project from 180 days to 90 days after the local government certifies the Environmental Impact Report. Finally, it allows someone challenging the adequacy of the housing element of a local government's General Plan to file suit within 60 days of the Department of Housing and Community Development's review or after providing the local government 60 days to correct the deficiencies. **Signed - Chapter 968/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1121 (Alarcón) -- Combines and coordinates state housing programs to streamline the process of funding affordable-housing projects. Provides a standard set of rules applicable to all rental-housing programs administered by the Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD). Authorizes HCD to make loans to developers for development, construction, reconstruction, rehabilitation, acquisition, and rehabilitation of new and existing transitional and rental housing developments. Requires any entity taking advantage of HCD's financial assistance to maintain affordable rents. **Signed - Chapter 637/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1205 (Escutia) -- Dispenses with some notice requirements to allow certain nonprofit foundations to buy housing developments on which federal affordability requirements are expiring in 1999. **Signed - Chapter 26/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 97 (Torlakson) -- Continues \$35 million in annual state tax credits for development of low-income housing projects. **Signed - Chapter 893/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 919 (Dutra) -- Strengthens existing "anti-NIMBY" law, similar to **SB 984 (Alarcon)**. A Senate committee analysis explains the bill this way: *"Housing developers and builders apply to cities and counties for approval to build affordable housing projects. State law requires cities and counties to make specific findings that a project is adverse to the community or there is an over concentration of lower income housing before they can deny a project. But city councils and planning commissions continue to delay or deny affordable housing projects because of neighborhood opposition. When cities and counties deny affordable housing projects, the affordable housing needs continue to increase. The lack of affordable housing creates higher home prices and increases commutes because people have to live farther from work. AB 919 reduces barriers and encourages the development of more affordable housing."* **Signed - Chapter 966/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1404 (Dutra) -- Increases the California Housing Finance Agency's revenue-bond cap by \$2.2 billion. **Signed - Chapter 264, Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1559 (Wiggins) -- Cuts the administrative requirements on various forms of low-income and assisted housing to qualify for partial property-tax exemptions. **Signed - Chapter 927, Statutes of 1999.**

Fair Housing

SB 382 (Haynes) -- Allows adult dependent children of senior residents to be "qualified permanent residents" of senior housing, unless the governing body of a senior housing development finds that a dependent may be harmful to himself, herself, or others. Allows persons without an ownership interest, such as renters, to live in senior housing if they otherwise qualify. **Signed - Chapter 324/ Statutes of 1999**

SB 1098 (Burton) -- Prohibits a landlord from discriminating against a tenant or prospective tenant based on source of income. In cities that have rent-control laws, the bill provides that termination of a tenancy is not a voluntary vacancy that allows a unit to be "decontrolled" (allowing the landlord to increase the rent for the next tenant) when:

- An inspection report has cited the rental unit as containing serious code violations that have remained unabated for at least 60 days preceding the vacancy; or
- The landlord no longer accepts federal Section 8 housing payments and terminates the tenancy because the tenant cannot pay the rent without the Section 8 assistance. In such a termination, the rent would continue to be controlled for the next tenant.

If the landlord no longer accepts Section 8 payments and terminates the tenancy because the tenant cannot pay the rent without the Section 8 assistance, the bill requires the owner to provide the tenant with 90 days' written notice. During that 90 days, the tenant would not be obligated to pay more than the tenant's portion of the rent as determined by the Section 8 contract. Finally, the bill also clarifies the law to make clear that persons invited onto residential property to provide information about tenants' rights or to participate in a tenants' association meeting are not liable for trespass. **Signed - Chapter 590/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1148 (Burton) -- Prohibits all restrictive covenants based on race, color, religion, sex, familial status, marital status, disability, national origin, or ancestry in homeowners associations' deeds or other governing documents. **Signed - Chapter 589/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1001 (Villaraigosa) -- Prohibits housing discrimination based on sexual orientation. **Signed - Chapter 592/Statutes of 1999.**

Farmland Preservation

AB 47 (Cardoza) – Would have required money generated by Williamson Act cancellation fees and not designated for the Soil Conservation Fund to be used to buy agricultural conservation easements. **Vetoed.**

AB 1229 (Cardoza) -- Allows open space districts and other local special districts to hold agricultural conservation easements and to help local landowners participate in the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program (ALSP). **Signed – Chapter 503/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1480 (Assembly Agriculture Committee) – Would have tightened the criteria for approving the simultaneous swap of cancelled Williamson Act contract land for land subject to ALSP easements. Also would have allowed the purchase of ALSP easements in a county other than the one where the cancelled Williamson Act contract land is located. **Vetoed.**

Farm-Worker Housing

AB 1505 (Ducheny) -- Requires the housing element of a city or county general plan to identify adequate sites for housing for agricultural employees to meet the city's or county's regional share of farm-worker housing. Authorizes a landowner subject to a Williamson Act contract to set aside up to five acres to be transferred to a local government or nonprofit organization for agricultural laborer housing. It also would indemnify owners of land in Williamson Act contracts against claims arising from use of the land for agricultural laborer housing that is compatible with farming. **Signed - Chapter 967/ Statutes of 1999.**

Homelessness

SB 644 (Chesbro) – Would have continued to make National Guard armories available as homeless shelters through June, 2000. Also would have appropriated \$1,050,000 to the Department of Community Services and Development for shelter-based adult education programs. **Vetoed.**

SB 805 (McPherson) -- Appropriates \$60,000 to subsidize extended occupancy of farm-labor centers that provide shelter, education, sanitation, and day care. **Signed - Chapter 308/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 34 (Steinberg) -- Establishes new county demonstration programs, building upon existing county programs serving severely mentally ill adults who are homeless or recently released from incarceration. Re-appropriates \$10

million from the 1999-2000 state budget for a grant program for one year in up to three counties to demonstrate that comprehensive sources can be provided to these severely mentally ill adults. **Signed - Chapter 617/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1105 (Jackson) -- Continues to make National Guard armories available to local governments for use as emergency homeless shelters indefinitely, along with other budget-trailer provisions. **Signed - Chapter 67/Statutes of 1999.**

Mobilehomes

SB 351 (Figueroa) -- Provides that fees imposed by mobilehome parks on mobilehome owners under amended rules are void and unenforceable unless expressly agreed to by the mobilehome owners. **Signed - Chapter 323/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 476 (Chesbro) -- Caps the price a mobilehome park may charge a resident for liquefied petroleum gas at 110 percent of the actual price paid by the park if the management does not permit residents to buy gas from other sources. **Signed - Chapter 326/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 534 (Dunn) -- Creates a mobilehome-resale disclosure form for use when disclosure requirements take effect on January 1, 2000. **Signed - Chapter 517/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 574 (Dunn) -- Expands the Mobilehome Park Resident Ownership Program by making non-profit housing organizations and local governments, like resident organizations, eligible to receive low-interest state funding to buy mobilehome parks. **Signed - Chapter 473/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 700 (O'Connell) -- Revises the Mobilehome Park Inspection Program to require state and local enforcement agencies to inspect all mobilehome parks once every seven years and focus inspection efforts on parks with the most serious violations and the most complaints. The bill requires the Department of Housing and Community Development to convene a task force on the inspection program by January 1, 2000. **Signed - Chapter 520, Statutes of 1999.**

Urban Revitalization and Land Recycling

SB 653 (Karnette) -- Appropriates \$135,000 to the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission for an Alameda Corridor industrial reclamation pilot program. The program includes improving work-force preparedness and retaining, expanding manufacturing facilities, and attracting new manufacturing facilities by identifying and reclaiming dysfunctional real estate. **Signed - Chapter 519, Statutes of 1999.**

AB 601 (Cedillo) -- Would have appropriated \$5 million for grant programs in the city of Los Angeles and \$1 million to Compton to reimburse property owners for the costs of adapting under-used commercial property for use as residences. **Vetoed.**

1999-2000 State Budget

Governor Davis signed **SB 160 (Peace)**, the state budget bill, **Chapter 50/ Statutes of 1999**, on June 29, 1999. Here are some of the major budget provisions affecting housing:

Affordable Housing

The governor vetoed \$6.5 million of \$12.5 million that the Legislature intended for loan funds to preserve, rehabilitate or construct housing for low-income families. First priority will be preserving the affordability of existing federally subsidized rental housing (Section 8 preservation). In addition, Davis approved the \$2 million for self-help ("sweat equity") housing as originally proposed by both his administration and the Legislature.

Farm-Worker Housing

The governor accepted \$4 million of the \$5 million that the Legislature approved for farm-worker housing; \$3.5 million went to the Farmworker Housing Grant Program, and \$500,000 for a specific project in Salinas.

Homelessness

The governor approved \$1 million, as he originally proposed, for supportive housing for persons with special needs. He vetoed the Legislature's appropriation of an additional \$2 million. In his veto message, Davis said that any augmentation of funds for this program appeared duplicative because of additional funds already budgeted for special-needs housing and services, such as \$5 million provided for CalWORKS transitional housing and \$10 million for local incentive grants for integrated services for the mentally ill.

The governor retained \$635,000 in the Military Department budget for the costs of operating National Guard armories as winter shelters.

Welfare-to-Work Housing

Davis approved the \$5 million for Families Moving to Work Housing as the administration originally proposed and the Legislature passed. This is money for development of transitional housing with support services for CalWORKS families.

Human Services

Child Care

SB 259 (Wright) -- Makes it easier for children who are 11 or 12 years of age, and whose parents participate in CalWORKs, to receive subsidized child care services through county welfare departments. **Vetoed.**

SB 618 (Chesbro) -- Eliminates any fees charged to child care personnel for mandatory criminal records clearances processed by the Department of Justice.

SB 938 (Solis) -- Revises the cap on the percentage of children enrolled in private child-care programs who may be fully or partially subsidized by state and federal funds. Currently no more than half may be subsidized; this bill increases that to 75 percent. **Signed – Chapter 882/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1268 (Committee on Health and Human Services) -- Adds the superintendent of public instruction as an ex-officio, non-voting member of the California Children and Families First Commission, and drops "First" from the commission's statutory name. **Vetoed.**

AB 855 (Cardenas) -- Allows family day-care homes to apply for funds through the child-care facilities direct loan fund.

Foster Care and Adoptions

SB 887 (Ortiz) -- Changes the regulation of foster group homes, particularly in areas of fiscal reporting. **Vetoed.**

AB 247 (Kuehl) -- Confers rights on foster parents during court hearings, allowing them to testify and requiring that information they provide be given to the court. **Vetoed.**

AB 607 (Aroner) -- Enacts the Foster Children's Health Care Services Act, establishing a health-care system for foster children and setting up a coordinated system of health, mental health, and social services for them. **Vetoed.**

AB 1225 (Ashburn) -- Changes adoption-assistance grants, increasing the maximum reimbursement of an adoption agency fee from \$3,500 to \$5,000 for the placement of a child eligible for the Adoption Assistance Program. **Signed - Chapter 905/Statutes of 1999.**

Child Welfare

SB 208 (Polanco) -- Creates a presumption in dependency proceedings that a child before the dependency court is a dependent ward of the court and at substantial risk of abuse or neglect, if the child's parent or guardian is currently alleged to have committed or previously was convicted of sexual abuse. **Signed - Chapter 417/ Statutes of 1999.**

Other Human Services Legislation

SB 659 (Wright) – Allows drug felons access to Cal WORKs welfare-to-work services. Vetoed.

SB 869 (Schiff) -- Expands the range of vocational training and employability options for at-risk youth. Vetoed.

SB 1089 (Bowen) -- Includes post-traumatic stress disorder as it applies to children in the training requirements for child welfare workers. Signed – Chapter 211/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1039 (Aroner) -- Authorizes the state Department of Social Services to approve demonstration projects, in up to five counties, to provide a wage-based subsidized employment program for CalWORKs recipients in lieu of, or in addition to, participating in community service. Vetoed.

AB 1659 (Assembly Human Service Committee) -- Makes a number of clarifying changes in last year's reforms in the rules governing out-of-state placements of foster children and youths. AB 1659's changes include requiring participants on the county multidisciplinary teams that assess out-of-state group homes to be familiar with child abuse and neglect cases. Signed - Chapter 881/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1682 (Honda) -- Makes statutory changes necessary to implement the provisions of the Budget Act of 1999 pertaining to the In-Home Supportive Services program. Signed – Chapter 90/Statutes of 1999.

Information Technology and Telecommunications

Please also see Privacy and Utilities

Information technology and telecommunications have tremendous impacts on every aspect of Californians' lives.

The Legislature this year approved bills to encourage the growth of electronic commerce, protect consumers from high-technology crime, protect Californians' privacy in the information age, require government agencies to do more business electronically for the public's convenience, protect telephone users, and cope with the year 2000 problem.

Electronic Commerce and the Internet

SB 820 (Sher) -- Enacts the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, which applies to all electronic transactions except wills, testamentary trusts, and certain other transactions. Provides that a record or signature may not be denied legal effect solely because it is in electronic form. Provides that if a law requires a record or signature to be in writing, or provides consequences if it is not, an electronic record or signature satisfies the law. Also enacts provisions governing changes and errors, the effect of electronic signatures, and admissibility in evidence. Signed - Chapter 428/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1124 (Vasconcellos) -- Provides that an application transmitted electronically by a prospective customer to enter into a brokerage agreement with a licensed broker-dealer is a valid contract if accompanied by the prospective customer's digital signature. Also requires an electronically transmitted application to comply with all applicable federal and state securities laws and regulations. Signed - Chapter 213/Statutes of 1999.

AB 583 (Papan) -- Makes the escrow law applicable to an Internet escrow agent, defined as any person engaged in the business of receiving escrows for deposit or delivery over the Internet. Signed - Chapter 441/Statutes of 1999.

AB 991 (Papan) -- Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to monitor and participate in the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) proceeding examining line sharing to allow competitive data carriers to provide high-bandwidth services over telephone lines simultaneously with services provided by phone companies. If the FCC issues an order regarding line sharing, the bill requires the PUC to implement the order within 90 days. If the FCC does not issue an order by January 1, 2000, the bill requires the PUC to examine the issue of line sharing and adopt appropriate rules. Signed - Chapter 714/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1430 (Bates) -- Authorizes physicians and pharmacists to enter prescriptions and orders directly into

a pharmacy's or hospital's computer, with permission of the pharmacy or hospital. Provides that a pharmacy receiving a prescription shall not be required to reduce the prescription to writing or to hard-copy form as long as the pharmacy is able to readily produce a hard copy immediately upon request. Also makes other changes in pharmacy law. Vetoed.

High-Tech Crime and Law Enforcement

SB 157 (Patrick Johnston) -- Continues the High Technology Theft Apprehension and Prosecution Program, which funds local law enforcement and prosecutors to deter, investigate, and prosecute high-technology crimes. Signed - Chapter 427/Statutes of 1999.

AB 234 (Lowenthal) -- Authorizes law enforcement to give criminal-history information from the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System, a statewide computerized system, to local public agencies that administer federally assisted housing to be used for screening prospective participants. Signed - Chapter 31/Statutes of 1999.

AB 451 (Maddox) -- Allows judges to order the forfeiture of computers and software used in crimes including forgery, counterfeiting, hacking, and impersonation. Signed - Chapter 254/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 1586 (Florez) -- Authorizes a peace officer to prohibit a public agency from posting his or her photograph on the Internet. Signed -- Chapter 338/ Statutes of 1999.

Public Records and State Agencies

SB 367 (Dunn) -- Permits courts to allow the filing and service of court papers electronically. Requires the Judicial Council to adopt uniform rules for the electronic filing and service of court documents. Signed - Chapter 514/Statutes of 1999.

SB 658 (Karnette) -- Requires the secretary of state to develop an online filing process for reports required by the Political Reform Act. This bill ensures that campaign statements for the 2000 primary elections will be available on line. Signed - Chapter 433/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1065 (Bowen) – Would have required any state or local government agency that has public records in an electronic format to make that information available to the public in any electronic format in which it holds the information. Vetoed.

SB 1024 (Johnson) -- Requires the secretary of state to post online the identification number of every person, entity, or committee required to file any election campaign contribution disclosure. The index is to be updated monthly except during the six weeks before a statewide election, when it is to be updated weekly. Signed - Chapter 208/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1025 (Johnson) -- Requires the secretary of state to maintain an online directory of registered lobbyists, lobbying firms, and lobbyist employers and to update that information weekly. Signed - Chapter 855/Statutes of 1999.

AB 187 (Hertzberg) -- Requires each state agency to make available on its Internet web site a listing of all grants administered by the agency. Requires the sites to provide instructions on filing grant applications electronically, or on the manner in which to download, complete, and mail grant applications to the agency. Requires state agencies to make grant application forms available on their web sites. Signed - Chapter 405/Statutes of 1999.

AB 893 (Alquist) -- Requires the Department of Health Services to provide specified information on the Internet about long-term care facilities. The bill provides consumers with accessible information regarding the quality of care standards in skilled nursing facilities. Signed - Chapter 430/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1234 (Shelley) -- Amends the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act to require state government bodies to make meeting notices and minutes available on the Internet, and would require their paper notices of meetings to include their web site addresses. Extends the deadline for taking legal action to seek a judicial nullification of state bodies' actions in violation of the open-meeting law from the current 30

days to 90 days. Signed - Chapter 393/Statutes of 1999.

Telephone User Protections

AB 406 (Knox) -- Requires the PUC to develop and implement any available measures to efficiently allocate telephone numbers. Also requires a phone company to return blocks of numbers for reassignment if the PUC or a federal agency establishes a process to allocate telephone numbers in blocks smaller than 10,000. The bill is intended to stop the growth in the number of area codes. Signed - Chapter 809/Statutes of 1999.

AB 535 (Reyes) -- Requires local phone companies that offer pay-per-use features such as three-way dialing that don't require an access code to provide new residential customers information about those features and blocking options. The bill also requires those companies to notify all existing residential customers about those features and blocking options by May 1, 2000. Gives customers a right to a one-time waiver of charges for the inadvertent or unauthorized activation of those services. Signed - Chapter 384/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1375 (House) -- Makes it a crime for floral or ornamental products or services business to misrepresent its geographic location by listing a local phone number in a local phone directory if calls are routinely forwarded outside the local calling area and the listing does not identify the true physical address of the business. Vetoed.

Year 2000 Problem

SB 317 (Leslie) -- Prohibits a state-regulated financial institution from imposing any fee, charge, or penalty on a consumer as a result of the institution's year 2000 problem. Also provides that if a third-party charges a consumer a fee, charge, or penalty (such as a late fee or bounced-check charge) solely because of a financial institution's year 2000 problem, the financial institution must reimburse the consumer. Signed - Chapter 513/Statutes of 1999.

AB 724 (Dutra) -- Enacts the Year 2000 Problem Good Government Omnibus Act to:

- Allow pharmacists to refill certain prescriptions on a patient's request from December 1, 1999, to February 1, 2000;
- Make a year 2000 computing or accounting failure a "reasonable cause" for a state agency to dispute a Medi-Cal provider's claim for prompt payment;
- Authorize the state to print or post electronically in December 1999 checks and other claims that otherwise would occur in 2000, and to hold these payments until the normal issue date;
- Waive the Public Records Act requirement that a government agency provide an exact copy of a document if an exact copy is unavailable due to a diversion of resources to addressing the year 2000 problem, up to June 30, 2001;
- Require the Office of Emergency Services to serve as the central state agency for the emergency reporting of all disasters and severe energy shortages related to Y2K;
- Authorize a state agency to use volunteers to implement a disaster plan;
- Declare that identification and remediation of Y2K problems is the top-priority state information technology project;
- Postpone to July 1, 2001, the legal requirement that some state agencies maintain specified electronic data and post them on the Internet. Signed - Chapter 784/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1476 (Dutra) -- Prohibits state agencies from imposing fines on small businesses for violating non-criminal laws, rules or regulations as a result of a Y2K problem. Requires each state agency to establish

a point of contact to act as a liaison between the agency and small businesses regarding Y2K problems and compliance issues. **Signed - Chapter 698/Statutes of 1999.**

Insurance

(Please also see Managed Care Reform, in the chapter on Health Care.)

One of the most hotly contested bills of the legislative session will allow certain third-party lawsuits against California insurance companies. The measure, **SB 1237, Chapter 720/Statutes of 1999**, was authored by **Senator Martha Escutia**, chair of the Senate Health and Human Services Committee.

State law permits a person to sue his or her insurance company for delaying or mishandling a claim, but prohibits the person from suing other insurance companies involved in the case. The bill generally will permit such third-party suits in liability cases if the plaintiff can show that an insurance company unfairly denied or delayed a legitimate claim.

A companion measure, **AB 1309 (Scott), Chapter 721/Statutes of 1999**, limits the application of SB 1237 in a number of ways. For example, it excludes emotional distress claims unless the distress is accompanied by physical symptoms. AB 1309 calls for a study by the state auditor to evaluate the effects of SB 1237, as amended by AB 1309.

Low-Cost Insurance for Low-Income Drivers

SB 171 (Escutia, Speier, Brulte) -- Requires insurers participating in the California Assigned Risk Plan to also participate in a pilot program to be established by the state insurance commissioner that will offer, until January 1, 2004, a low-cost automobile insurance policy in Los Angeles County. This pilot will make minimum liability coverage available to low-income drivers with household earnings up to 150 percent of the federal poverty level, or about \$20,000 for a family of three. The cost of the policy to good drivers will be \$450 annually, with some exceptions. It will provide coverage of \$10,000 for liability for bodily injury or death per person, subject to a limit of \$20,000 for all persons, and \$3,000 for liability for damage to property. **Signed - Chapter 794/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 527 (Speier, Escutia and Brulte) – Similar provisions to SB 171 and applies in San Francisco. **Signed - Chapter 807/Statutes of 1999.**

Mandatory Insurance

SB 652 (Speier, Escutia, Brulte) -- Cancels expiration of the law requiring a person to show proof of insurance when registering a motor vehicle. Requires the imposition of a minimum and maximum penalty of \$100 to \$200, plus penalty assessments, for a first offense of driving without insurance, and requires the imposition of a greater-than-minimum fine unless the vehicle owner has presented proof of insurance to the court. **Signed - Chapter 880/Statutes of 1999.**

Other Insurance Legislation

SB 940 (Speier) – Levies a 50-cent fee on auto insurance policies to finance anti-fraud activities by the state Department of Insurance and a 30-cent fee to pay for consumer-protection activities. **Signed - Chapter 884/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1296 (Polanco) – Prohibits an automobile or homeowner's insurance company from refusing to renew a policy solely because of a pending claim. **Signed - Chapter 313/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1297 (Schiff) – Repeals a law that prohibits reciprocal insurers, such as the California State Automobile Association and the Automobile Club of Southern California, from offering rebates to customers, since the practice is an option for other insurance organizations. **Signed – Chapter 314/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 189 (Schiff and Migden) -- Requires the creation of dispute-resolution systems for complaints against health insurers. **Signed – Chapter 542/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 802 (Dutra) – Requires every insurance policy and billing statement to contain disclosures regarding periodic finance charges and annual percentage rates. **Signed - Chapter 388/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1454 (Assembly Committee on Insurance) -- Requires that beginning July 1, 2000, a written disclosure must be provided by a lender to a borrower that states the lender is prohibited from requiring the borrower to carry hazard-insurance coverage in an amount exceeding the replacement value of real estate property. **Signed - Chapter 412/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1456 (Scott) – Requires the state Department of Insurance to adopt regulations specifying prima facie rates for various types of credit insurance by January 1, 2001, and to make actual loss ratios available to the public annually. **Signed - Chapter 413/Statutes of 1999.**

Labor and Employment

The California labor market continued to reach record levels this year with over 15.7 million persons employed in August. The August unemployment rate was 5.1 percent, the lowest level since February 1990, and down from 5.9 percent in August of 1998. This year the Legislature sent Governor Davis a broad package of legislation that focused on measures to provide workers with enhanced workplace benefits and protections, including disability and worker compensation insurance benefit increases, anti-discrimination protections, and increased occupational safety standards.

Overtime and Time Off

SB 56 (Solis) -- Allows victims of domestic violence to take time off from work to appear in court to obtain a civil restraining order or other legal protection necessary to ensure their health and safety. **Signed - Chapter 340/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 60 (Knox) -- Provides for time and one-half pay after eight hours of daily work; allows for personal time off for an employee's personal obligation to be made up during a workweek without payment of overtime compensation; allows for employee election of an alternative work week schedule by a two-thirds vote of affected employees; permits an employee who was voluntarily working an alternative workweek schedule on July 1, 1999, to continue to work that schedule without entitlement to daily overtime compensation. **Signed - Chapter 134/ Statutes of 1999.**

Family Care and Medical Leave

California's family care and medical leave law requires employers with 50 or more employees to grant an unpaid leave of up to 12 weeks annually for childbirth, adoption or serious medical conditions of the employee or family members.

SB 656 (Solis) – Asks the Employment Development Department (EDD) to report to the Legislature on or before July 1, 2000 on the fiscal impact of giving disability benefits to workers taking a family leave. **Signed – Chapter 974/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 109 (Knox) – Requires employers who provide sick leave to their employees to permit their employees to use one-half of their sick leave days to attend to an ill child, spouse or parent. **Signed – Chapter 164, Statutes of 1999.**

Workers' Compensation, Unemployment Insurance and State Disability Benefits

SB 320 (Solis) -- Increases the maximum permanent and temporary disability benefits for workers' compensation by 2.5 percent per year over a six-year period; creates a new position of court administrator to administer trial-level activities; and speeds up the dispute resolution process. **Vetoed.**

SB 656 (Solis) -- Increases the maximum weekly benefit amount for state disability insurance from \$336 to \$490, thereby restoring the balance between state disability insurance and workers' compensation. **Signed - Chapter 973/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1303 (Solis) -- Increases from \$25 to \$200 the amount of earnings that an unemployment insurance recipient who was laid off as a direct result of the freezing weather in December 1998 could earn before benefits are reduced based upon those earnings. **Signed - Chapter 9/ Statutes of 1999.**

Worker Protections

Older workers, defined by federal law as those over the age of 40, are increasing as a percentage of the workforce. As baby boomers age, they are healthier and are working longer. The U.S. Department of Labor predicts that by the year 2005, over half of all workers will be over the age of 40.

In an effort to enhance anti-discrimination protections for older workers, the Legislature with Governor Davis's signature enacted **SB 26 (Escutia), Chapter 222/ Statutes of 1999**. This new law declares the Legislature's intent that a finding of age discrimination may be made when salary differences are used to differentiate among employees to determine who will be terminated, if using salary differences adversely impacts older workers as a group.

SB 460 (Hayden) -- Requires that apparel manufactured in California and procured by the state shall be produced by registered contractors and manufacturers. Establishes a task force to study the use of public funds in the purchase of manufactured good under sweatshop conditions. **Vetoed**.

SB 1185 (Johnston) -- Creates a uniform definition of "genetic characteristic" to clarify that the term, for purposes of the laws prohibiting workplace discrimination based on a medical condition, refers to the propensity of a person to develop a disease or disorder because of a gene or chromosome, and not those persons who are currently ill. **Signed- Chapter 311/ Statutes of 1999**.

AB 633 (Steinberg) -- Establishes a wage guarantee system within the apparel industry and strengthens enforcement of wage and hour laws. **Signed - Chapter 554/Statutes of 1999**.

AB 1001 (Villaraigosa) -- Moves the provisions prohibiting employment discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation from the Labor Code to the Fair Employment and Housing Act and codifies case law that prohibits housing discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation. **Signed - Chapter 592/Statutes of 1999**.

AB 1395 (Correa) -- Requires the Division of Labor Standards Enforcement to protect the confidentiality of any employee who reports a violation regarding public works projects. **Signed - Chapter 302/ Statutes of 1999**.

AB 1670 (Assembly Judiciary Committee) -- Increases the amount of damages and administrative fines that may be awarded by the Fair Employment and Housing Commission in employment discrimination cases from \$50,000 to \$150,000; extends harassment protections under the Fair Employment and Housing Act (FEHA) to contract workers; requires employers to provide reasonable accommodations to pregnant employees; and expands the class of employers subject to FEHA's prohibition against discrimination on the basis of mental disability from those with 15 or more employees to those with five or more employees. **Signed - Chapter 591/Statutes of 1999**.

Occupational Safety and Health

AB 555 -- (Reyes) requires the Labor Commissioner to provide the California Highway Patrol with a list of all registered farm labor vehicles on a quarterly basis, extends the inspection liability for farm labor vehicles to vehicle owners and farm labor contractors and increases fines for violations of inspection requirements. **Signed - Chapter 556/Statutes of 1999**.

AB 850 (Torlakson) -- Establishes a program for the regulation of permanent amusement rides, including the adoption of regulations for installation, maintenance, operation, inspection, record-keeping and accident reporting. The regulations are intended to be consistent with regulations for traveling amusement rides. **Signed - Chapter 585/ Statutes of 1999**.

AB 1165 -- (Florez) requires all farm labor vehicles to have certified safety restraints for the driver and all passengers and requires all farm labor vehicles to be inspected and certified by the California Highway Patrol. **Signed - Chapter 557/Statutes of 1999**.

AB 1127 (Steinberg) -- Increases the civil and criminal penalties for violations of statutes and regulations regarding worker safety and makes related changes to Labor Code provisions regarding worker health and safety. **Signed – Chapter 615/Statutes of 1999**.

Whistleblowing

SB 951 (Hayden and Johnston) -- Expands protections provided to employees who disclose improper governmental activities to the state auditor to apply to state employees who disclose improper governmental

activities to anyone or who refuse to obey an illegal order. **Signed – Chapter 673/ Statutes of 1999.**

Miscellaneous Labor Issues

SB 16 (Burton) -- Specifies the methodology for determining prevailing wage rates for public works projects. Requires the director of the Department of Industrial Relations to establish as the prevailing wage either (a) the single rate being paid to a majority of workers, or if there is no single rate, (b) the single rate being paid to the greatest number of workers (the modal rate). **Signed - Chapter 30/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 211 (Solis) -- Provides that for enforcement of the FEHA, "employer" includes any person or entity identified as the employer on the employee's federal Form W-2. **Signed - Chapter 797/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 319 (Burton) -- Extends the sunset provision of the multi-agency Joint Enforcement Strike Force on the Underground Economy from January 1, 2000 to January 1, 2006. **Signed - Chapter 306/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 1137 (Vasconcellos) -- Creates the California Workforce and Economic Information Program for economic and work-force data collection, analysis and dissemination within the Employment Development Department. **Vetoed.**

AB 442 (Cedillo) -- Prohibits any recipient of state funds or resources from using them to discourage unionization. **Vetoed.**

AB 613 (Wildman) -- Requires the inclusion of the janitorial and building maintenance industry in state enforcement efforts of tax and labor laws. **Signed - Chapter 299/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 921 (Keeley) -- Revises apprenticeship standards for apprentices and programs, requires periodic audits of existing programs, and changes the composition of the California Apprenticeship Council. **Signed - Chapter 903/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 931 (Calderon) -- Establishes minimum standards for training, competency and certification of electricians. **Signed - Chapter 781/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1268 (Kuehl) -- Provides that no association or organization, or its officers or members, participating or interested in a labor dispute, shall be held responsible or liable for the unlawful acts of individual officers, members, or agents, except upon clear proof of actual participation in, or actual authorization of, those acts. **Signed - Chapter 616/Statutes of 1999.**

Local Government

The Senate Local Government Committee reports that the 1999-2000 state budget "was the best for local governments this decade." **AB 1661 (Torlakson), Chapter 84/ Statutes of 1999**, a budget trailer bill, allocates \$150 million for fiscal relief to local governments, cash-strapped since the passage of tax-cutting Proposition 13 more than 20 years ago. Another budget trailer bill, **AB 1662 (Leonard), Chapter 79, Statutes of 1999**, appropriates \$50 million to cities for booking fees and processing cost associated with criminal justice services paid to counties.

AB 676 (Brewer), Chapter 94/Statutes of 1999, which became law without the governor's signature, requires the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) to study financial inequities among cities, counties, and special districts under the property-tax allocation system that followed passage of tax-cutting Proposition 13 of 1978. If possible, the LAO is to make recommendations for achieving property-tax parity among local governments in its report, due by January 1, 2000.

SB 223 (Kelley) -- Allows the Salton Sea Authority to use an infrastructure-financing district for the environmental restoration of the Salton Sea—one of the most diverse avian habitats in the United States, and an important haven for resident and migratory bird species. **Signed - Chapter 59/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 497 (Rainey) -- Allows the attorney general to obtain a court order for a redevelopment agency's non-compliance or violation of the Community Redevelopment Law. Provides that if a court issues such an order, it would prohibit the agency from encumbering funds, adopting a redevelopment plan, amending a redevelopment plan, or

incurring any indebtedness except to comply with the court order. **Signed - Chapter 362, Statutes of 1999.**

SB 807 (Senate Agriculture and Water Committee) -- Allows Local Agency Formation Commissions (LAFCOs) to approve extra-territorial services by cities and special districts in response to threats to public health or safety. **Signed-Chapter 779/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 985 (Johnston) -- Revises the Williamson Act regarding compatible land uses, cancellation requirements, and local zoning for minimum parcel sizes. **Signed– Chapter 1018/ Statues of 1999.**

AB 47 (Cardoza) -- Shifts monies generated by cancellation fees from Williamson Act contracts to the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program as opposed to the state's General Fund. **Vetoed.**

AB 84 (Floyd) -- Prohibits public agencies from approving big-box retail stores if they use more than 15,000 square feet to sell food and drugs. **Vetoed.** A companion measure, **SB 95 (Perata and Lember)**, provides that selling non-taxable merchandise exclusively via Internet does not fall into the category prohibited by AB 84. **Vetoed.**

AB 262 (Runner) -- Conforms statutory law to Proposition 11, approved by the voters in November 1998, by allowing cities and counties to enter into local sales-tax revenue-sharing agreements subject to a two-thirds vote of each affected jurisdiction' governing body. **Signed - Chapter 56/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1480 (Assembly Agriculture Committee) -- Requires specific elements to be met before Williamson Act contracted land can be simultaneously converted to an agriculture conservation easement under the Agricultural Land Stewardship Program. **Vetoed.**

AB 1511 (Florez) -- Prohibits joint powers agencies that issue Marks-Roos Act bonds from using mutual water companies to meet the requirements of state law. **Vetoed.**

AB 1555 (Longville) -- Expedites the annexation of unincorporated islands to surrounding cities. **Signed-Chapter 921/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1630 (Lowenthal) -- Appropriates \$320,000 to the Los Angeles LAFCO to study the feasibility of detaching the harbor area from the city of Los Angeles. **Signed - Chapter 924/ Statutes of 1999.**

Natural Resources and Wildlife

Recycling

SB 332 (Sher) -- Increases the containers included in the beverage container recycling program to over 2 billion annually, including carbonated and non-carbonated water, non-carbonated soft drinks and sport drinks, specified non-carbonated fruit drinks, coffee and tea drinks, and carbonated fruit drinks if those products are sold in plastic, glass, bimetal, or aluminum containers in liquid, ready-to-drink form. Increases spending from the recycling fund to \$23.5 million for conveyance zone payments and increases per-site payments to \$2,300. Increases payments to curbside programs, and provides \$15 million for grants to community conservation corps. **Signed – Chapter 815/Statutes of 1999.**

Parks

AB 18 (Villraigosa and Keeley) -- Enacts the Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water, Clean Air and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000, which will authorized a \$2.1 billion bond, if approved by voters on March 7, 2000, for the acquisition, development, improvement, rehabilitation, restoration, enhancement, and protection of park, recreational, cultural, historical, fish and wildlife, lake, riparian, reservoir, river, and coastal resources. **Signed – Chapter 461/ Statutes of 1999.**

Coastal Resources

SB 227 (Alpert) -- Requires the State Water Resources Control Board to prepare, implement and enforce a non-point source pollution-protection program by February 1, 2001. **Signed – Chapter 560 Statutes of 1999.**

SB 390 (Alpert) -- Allows the state and regional water boards, on and after January 1, 2000, to waive

certain discharge requirements for up to five years if the waiver is not against the public interest. Provides that a person may be liable civilly if that person, in violation of a waiver condition or certification, intentionally or negligently discharges waste into the waters of the state and creates a condition of pollution or nuisance. Signed – Chapter 686/Statutes of 1999.

AB 64 (Ducheny) -- Requires the state Department of Boating and Waterways and the state Coastal Conservancy to submit a report to the Legislature detailing their beach restoration, nourishment and enhancement activities and their effectiveness. Signed – Chapter 798/Statutes of 1999.

AB 503 (Peschetti) -- Defines, for the purposes of oil-spill contingency planning, "marine waters" to include the waterways into the ports of Stockton and Sacramento. Signed – Chapter 613/Statutes of 1999.

Environmental Quality

SB 115 (Solis) -- Establishes the Governor's Office of Planning and Research as the coordinating agency in state government for environmental justice and defines "environmental justice" to mean "the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, and implementation and enforcement of statutes, ordinances, regulations, and policies." Signed - Chapter 690/Statutes of 1999.

SB 162 (Escutia) – Creates an environmental assessment process that a school district must follow before using state funds for acquiring or building on a school site. Requires an assessment by a qualified environmental assessor for review by the Department of Toxic Substances Control to determine if further investigation is necessary. Requires a preliminary endangerment assessment when further investigation is needed. Signed – Chapter -1002/Statutes of 1999.

SB 529 (Bowen) -- Prohibits the state Air Resources Board from adopting any regulation that establishes a specification for motor-vehicle fuel without an evaluation by affected agencies, coordinated by the state board and reviewed by the California Environmental Policy Council. Signed – Chapter 813/Statutes of 1999.

SB 827 (Sher) -- Requires the Department of Transportation to determine the cost-effectiveness of using recycled materials, such as rubber from used tires, in road construction and repair services. Signed - Chapter 816/Statutes of 1999.

SB 989 (Sher) -- Requires the State Water Resources Control Board to initiate a research program to quantify the probability and environmental significance of releases from petroleum underground-storage tanks that have met upgrade requirements. Directs the board to require a tank to be fitted with a containment or spill-control system approved by the board. Requires a local agency to inspect every tank system at least once every year. Signed – Chapter 813/Statutes of 1999.

SB 993 (Hayden) -- States legislative findings and declares that children have the right to attend school without the threat of illness from hazardous waste and related substances. Expresses legislative intent that each school district conduct an environmental assessment of each proposed or existing school site. Requires school districts to initiate preliminary danger assessments for all proposed and existing schools if the districts determine there is reason to assume environmental risks exist. Vetoed.

SB 1001 (Burton) -- Requires the state Energy Commission to submit quarterly reports to the Legislature summarizing the amount of MTBE used by each California refinery and to document the quarterly changes. Signed - Chapter 814/Statutes of 1999.

SB 1253 (Sher) -- Requires the Energy Commission to undertake a variety of activities to better understand and prepare for the impacts of greenhouse gas emissions in California, including updating its 1998 inventory of greenhouse gas emissions and establishing a climate-change advisory committee. Vetoed.

AB 387 (Wildman) -- Requires school districts to enter into agreements with the Department of Toxic Substances Control to oversee response actions at school sites if a preliminary danger assessment discloses the presence of hazardous materials at concentrations that could pose significant risks at the

schools. Signed - Chapter 992/Statutes of 1999.

Mountain Lions

AB 560 (Oller) -- Authorizes the Department of Fish and Game to remove or take any mountain lion that is perceived by the department to be an imminent threat to the survival of any threatened, endangered or fully protected sheep species. The Sierra Nevada bighorn sheep, a species threatened with extinction by predation, is estimated to number fewer than 100, a third of its mid-1980s number. Signed – Chapter 435/Statutes of 1999.

Discarded Tires

SB 1055 (Bowen) – Allows the California Integrated Waste Management Board to obtain access to illegal tire piles when the situation presents a significant threat to public health or the environment. Signed – Chapter 292/Statutes of 1999.

Privacy

A new survey conducted by the Privacy Journal⁴ ranks California as the strongest state in protecting personal privacy. California's state courts and Constitution provide the strongest privacy protection in the nation, according to the publication, and we now have probably the strongest collection of laws protecting personal information.

The Legislature this year took further steps to protect California's privacy in such fields as electronic mails, market discount cards, and medical information.

Deceased Celebrities

SB 209 (Burton) -- Enacts the Fred Astaire Celebrity Image Protection Act to provide greater control to the heirs of deceased celebrities over photographs and other images of the celebrities. Extends, from 50 to 70 years after the death of a celebrity (consistent with recent changes to federal copyright law), the time in which a person may be subject to liability for the use of a deceased celebrity's image on products or in advertising without the consent of heirs. Requires the Secretary of State's Office to post on the Internet its registry of persons who claim to be successors to the rights of a deceased celebrity. Signed - Chapter 998/Statutes of 1999

E-mail

SB 1016 (Bowen) – Would have prohibited an employer from secretly monitoring the electronic mail or other personal computer records generated by an employee. Would have required an employer who intends to inspect, review, or retain any personal e-mail or other personal computer records to give all employees the employer's policies on workplace privacy and electronic monitoring. Vetoed.

Identity Theft

SB 930 (Hughes) -- Combats the growing crime of identify theft -- the practice of scam artists who fraudulently obtain credit, loans, long distance phone service, etc. in another person's name. The bill requires a credit-card issuer to verify a change of address when it mails an offer to receive a credit card - a so-called pre-approved credit-card application -- and, in response, receives a completed application that lists a different address or a change-of-address request and a request for an additional card. The consumer will not be liable for the unauthorized use of the card if the issuer does not verify the change of address, unless the issuer proves that the consumer actually used the card. The bill also prohibits a person who accepts credit cards from printing more than the last five digits of the credit-card account number or the expiration date on a receipt, starting in 2004. Chapter 423/Statutes of 1999.

Intimate Body Parts

AB 182 (Ackerman) -- Makes it a crime use a concealed device to videotape, photograph, or electronically record the intimate body parts of another without consent. Signed - Chapter 231/Statutes of 1999

Medical Information

AB 62 (Davis) – Includes health care service plans under the Confidentiality of Medical Information Act. The bill also broadens the definition of "medical information" that must be kept confidential, and prohibits willfully and knowingly disclosing medical information or negligently abandoning or destroying medical records. Signed - Chapter 618/Statutes of 1999

AB 435 (Corbett) – Strengthens employees' right to medical privacy in workers' compensation claims cases. The bill prohibits an insurer from disclosing to an employer any medical information concerning an employee being infected with HIV without the prior authorization of the patient unless the patient is an injured worker claiming to have been infected with HIV in the course of employment. Signed - Chapter 766/Statutes of 1999.

Pager Services

AB 617 (Campbell) -- Protects pager services from some lawsuits that claim privacy violations. Provides that the disclosure of any information by commercial mobile radio service providers, in good faith compliance with the terms of a state or federal court warrant or subpoena, is a complete defense against specified civil actions relating to the right of privacy. Signed - Chapter 256/Statutes of 1999.

Shoppers' Privacy

SB 926 (Speier) -- Requires stores that want to collect information about shoppers through their supermarket club cards to obtain the customers' permission. Signed - Chapter 586/Statutes of 1999.

Public Employment and Retirement

In recent years, as the stock market soared, so has the portfolio of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS). While CalPERS has realized large returns on its investments, the basic retirement formula for most state and school employees has not improved in the past 30 years.

In an attempt to redistribute a portion of these profits to public employee members, and to overcome inequities among various membership groups within CalPERS, the Legislature sent Governor Davis **SB 400 (Ortiz), Chapter 555/Statutes of 1999**. This legislation provides a new retirement formula for state miscellaneous, university, state industrial and school members who retire as of January 1, 2000. It also increases benefits for state and school employees who retired under the system prior to 1998. In many cases retirees have lost significant purchasing power over the years. SB 400's raises to retirees come in addition to annual cost-of-living increases and range from 1 percent to 6 percent, with the largest going to those who retired before 1975.

The new retirement formula under SB 400 will provide a benefit factor of 2 percent at age 55, increasing to 2.5 percent at age 63. The minimum retirement age is 50.

State Highway Patrol members will receive a retirement benefit factor of 3 percent at age 50. State peace officer/firefighter members will receive enhanced retirement benefits of 3 percent at age 55 but be able to retire, on a discounted basis, as early as 50. State safety members will receive a retirement-benefit factor of 2.5 percent at age 55 with provisions allowing members to retire on a discounted basis as early as age 50.

Additionally, **SB 400** revises options for current employees in a "second tier" retirement plan that was adopted as a cost-saving measure during the recession of the early 1990s, allowing them to move into the higher-paying "first tier" plan.

SB 105 (Burton) -- Requires CalPERS and the State Teachers' Retirement System (STRS) to annually investigate and report to the Legislature on the extent to which U.S. corporations in which they invest are complying with principals in Northern Ireland aimed at increasing employment opportunities for members of underrepresented religious groups. Signed - Chapter 341/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 159 (Johnston) -- Requires STRS to develop a program to provide health care benefits for members, beneficiaries, children, and dependent parents. Signed - Chapter 740/Statutes of 1999.

SB 234 (Hughes) -- Guarantees that monthly allowances financed by local contracting agency members of CalPERS

be maintained at 80 percent of their original purchasing power and that allowances of state, university, and school members of CalPERS be maintained at 75 percent. **Vetoed.**

SB 258 (Ortiz) -- Authorizes local fire protection agencies, including the fire departments of cities and counties, to give hiring preferences to civilian firefighters who lost their federal jobs in the downsizing of military bases. **Signed - Chapter 305/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 397 (Ortiz) -- Allows PERS local contracting public agencies to offer up to two years of additional service credit (golden handshake) to retiring employees who meet the established minimum eligibility requirements (at least five years of service and 50 years of age). **Signed - Chapter 640/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 437 (Rainey) -- Restores benefits to the surviving spouse of deceased STRS members, if entitlement was lost due to remarriage before October 16, 1992. **Signed - Chapter 432/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 477 (Brulte) -- Provides 32,000 state supervisors and managers (who are excluded from representation by an employee organization in collective bargaining) with a 4 percent salary increase retroactive to July 1, 1999, and an additional 4 percent increase as of July 1, 2000. **Vetoed.**

SB 713 (Senate Budget and Fiscal Review Committee) - Establishes career minimums in retirement allowances of \$15,000 to \$20,000 annually for STRS beneficiaries with 20 to 30 years of service, on a sliding schedule. **Signed - Chapter 632/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 232 (Alquist) -- Requires local employers that contract with CalPERS to continue certain survivor allowances upon the remarriage of the surviving spouses of CalPERS members. **Signed - Chapter 800/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 363 (Migden) -- Increases the lump-sum death benefit for school employee members of CalPERS from \$600 to \$5,000. **Vetoed.**

AB 366 (Scott) -- Allows state annuitants, survivors, and beneficiaries of deceased annuitants who were eligible for health coverage upon separation from employment an opportunity to restore health benefits during a 60-day open-enrollment period or during future annual open-enrollment periods. **Vetoed.**

AJR 9 (Correa) -- Urges the president and Congress not to include mandatory Social Security coverage on non-covered state and local government employees in Social Security reform legislation. **Signed -Chapter 40/ Statutes of 1999.**

Public Safety and the Judiciary

Please also see "School Safety and Violence Prevention," "High-Tech Crime and Law Enforcement," and "Hate Crimes"

Responding to a number of highly visible public shootings in California and across the United States, California in 1999 enacted some of the strongest gun-control laws in the nation. Buyers will be permitted to purchase no more than one gun per month under **AB 202 (Knox), Chapter 128**. The law is aimed at curtailing bulk purchases of weapons that might be resold on the streets.

Designed to tighten California's ban on military-style assault weapons, **SB 23 (Perata, Alpert, Bowen, Ortiz), Chapter 129**, creates a "generic" definition in prohibiting the manufacture, sale or possession of such weapons and outlaws importing or selling large-capacity ammunition magazines. The new law is intended to prevent weapons that are only slightly different from those that are banned from being legally sold. Current owners will have to register their weapons to keep them legally.

SB 15 (Polanco), Chapter 248, requires handguns to have safety devices and pass safety tests. Violations are punishable by a year in jail. Guns must be sold with trigger locks and warning materials beginning in 2002 under **AB 106 (Scott, Aroner, Hayden), Chapter 246**, and **SB 130 (Hayden), Chapter 245**. Minors will be barred from gun shows unless they are with guardians under **AB 295 (Corbett and Wright), Chapter 247**, which also requires weapons at the shows to be labeled with the owner's name, signature and driver's license number. The measure requires gun shows to post signs that explain requirements governing gun sales.

Hate crimes were a focus of legislation as well. Within just a few miles of the Capitol, three synagogues were

firebombed in June and anti-Jewish materials left behind. Just a few weeks later, five persons were injured by a gunman at a Jewish community center in the San Fernando Valley. A white supremacist was charged with those shootings. (See page 9.)

Firearms

SB 29 (Peace, Burton, Perata) -- Authorizes the state Department of Justice to require that licensed dealers report the date and time they delivered a pistol, revolver, or other firearm capable of being concealed upon the person to the purchaser of the firearm. **Vetoed.**

AB 1142 (Soto and Keeley) – Creates new penalties for failing to properly store a firearm, whether loaded or not, if a minor brings the firearm to school. **Vetoed.**

Bonds

AB 1391 (Hertzberg and Polanco) -- Authorizes the Hertzberg-Polanco Crime Laboratories Construction Bond Act of 1999 on the March 7, 2000, ballot to provide general-obligation bonds of \$220 million for construction and renovation of state and local forensic labs. **Signed – Chapter 727/Statutes of 1999. Requires voter approval.**

Juvenile Justice

SB 334 (Alpert and Pacheco) enacts the "No More Victims Violence Prevention and School Safety 2000 Strategy," which sets forth the findings and strategy of the Legislature regarding juvenile crime. It revises various provisions of the Arnold-Kennick Juvenile Court Law with respect to:

- Direct prosecution of certain juvenile repeat offenders who are 16 years of age or older in a criminal court,
- Sentencing of juvenile offenders who are convicted in a criminal court jurisdiction,
- Assessment of the mental health status of juveniles armed during a felony or attempted felony,
- Conditions of release from secure detention,
- Public attendance at juvenile court hearings,
- Rights of victims of juvenile crime to attend juvenile court hearings with support persons and to present victim impact statements, and
- Reports to the court by a juvenile regarding the payment of restitution or performance of community service.
Signed – Chapter 996/Statutes of 1999.

Under existing law, access to juvenile court records is severely limited, and offending minors, when they become adults, may have juvenile records sealed. **SB 199 (Polanco)** enacts the Lance Helms Law of Confidentiality to allow the divulgence of certain aspects of a juvenile's dependency court record if that minor dies while in custody or as a ward of the court. In releasing the ward's records, the court may edit some provisions of the record to protect the ward's siblings and other minors who may be associated with the ward's record. **Signed – Chapter 984/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 6 (Rainey) – Raises from 12 to 16 the age at which a missing-person bulletin must be immediately issued by law enforcement. **Signed - Chapter 579/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 524 (Polanco) -- Establishes a task force to recommend to the Legislature the substantive components a law-enforcement mentoring program for at-risk youth. **Vetoed.**

SB 746 (Schiff, Costa, Rainey) – Allows the use of one of the two forcible sex offenses necessary to make a prison inmate eligible for commitment as a sexually violent predator to be a juvenile adjudication for such an offense. The law permits sexually violent predators to be civilly committed for psychiatric treatment after serving a prison term. **Signed - Chapter 995/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 623 (Vincent) -- Authorizes the Los Angeles County chief probation officer to release minors committed to juvenile hall for probation violations after the juvenile court has been notified that the county juvenile hall population equals or exceeds 125 percent of its rated capacity, as specified. **Vetoed.**

AB 637 (Migden) – Revises the purpose and mission of the Department of the Youth Authority. **Signed – Chapter 333/Statutes of 1999.**

Offenses Against Minors

SB 1199 (Costa) -- Requires the state Board of Prison Terms and the state Department of Corrections to notify local law enforcement and child protective services in communities where persons convicted of sex offenses against minors are to be released on parole. **Signed - Chapter 957/Statutes of 1999.**

School Safety

AB 1113 (Florez) -- Establishes the School Safety and Violence Prevention Act to provide funding for conflict-resolution personnel, on-campus communication devices, staff-training programs and the establishment of cooperative arrangements with law enforcement agencies. **Signed – Chapter 51/Statutes of 1999.**

Elder Abuse

SB 163 (Hughes) -- Creates a pilot program, administered by the state Department of Social Services, aimed at reducing financial abuse of mentally impaired elders. Authorizes peace officers to certify that an elder person is incapable of managing his or her property, permitting a public guardian to immediately take charge of the elder person's property if there is danger of loss or misappropriation. The pilot program sunsets on January 1, 2003. **Vetoed.**

AB 59 (Cedillo) -- Authorizes the issuance of emergency and other protective orders, similar to domestic violence protective orders, to prevent abuse of the elderly and dependent adults by unrelated roommates or housemates, caregivers, or others. **Signed – Chapter 561/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 526 (Zettel) – Allows statements by victims of alleged elder and dependent-adult abuse to be used in criminal proceedings charging abuse or neglect, in the event the victims cannot appear in court. It may be necessary to rely on the victim's previous testimony when perpetrators are apprehended and tried after the victim has either died or become incompetent. **Signed – Chapter 383/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 925 (Hertzberg) -- Requires all private professional conservators and guardians to register in a statewide registry maintained by the state Department of Justice. Presently all private conservators and guardians must register with the county clerk of the county where they provide services. **Signed – Chapter 409/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1499 (Lowenthal) -- Requires staff in nursing homes and nonmedical community care facilities to be trained to recognize and report abuse. **Signed – Chapter 414/Statutes of 1999.**

Traffic Stops

SB 78 (Murray) -- Requires California Highway Patrol officers to report: 1) the number of drivers stopped for traffic law enforcement, 2) whether or not a citation or warning was issued, 3) the race or ethnicity of the individual stopped, and 4) whether the stop was based on a) a violation of state law, b) a violation of a local ordinance or c) the driver matching a description of a suspect. The same requirements would be imposed on specific counties in the years 2002 and 2003 and by year 2004 this would be a state mandated program. Identification of specific individuals, including law enforcement personnel, would be prohibited in the data gathering. **Vetoed.**

Knives

AB 1188 (Runner) -- Prohibits the commercial manufacture, sale, or importation of any "undetectable knife," a weapon that is not detectable by a metal detector. Violations will be misdemeanors punishable by up to six months in a county jail and/or a fine up to \$1,000. Beginning January 1, 2000, "undetectable knives" manufactured in California that use materials undetectable by a metal detector must include materials that will ensure they are detectable. **Signed – Chapter 976/Statutes of 1999.**

Lasers

AB 221 (Wildman) – Expands the law making it a misdemeanor to aim or point a laser scope at another person in a threatening manner to include the use of laser pointers. Imposes a maximum penalty of six months in jail for the threatening use of a laser pointer or laser scope when the victim is a police officer. **Signed – Chapter 438/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 293 (Wesson) -- Creates an infraction for misuse of laser pointers. **Signed – Chapter 621/Statutes of 1999.**

Department of Corrections

SB 794 (Speier) -- Requires public disclosure of any legal settlements, which often involve allegations of sexual harassment or discrimination, above \$10,000 from the Departments of Corrections and Transportation. The governor had directed that only settlements at state agencies in excess of \$400,000 must be disclosed. Corrections paid only \$114,000 in settlement claims for sex harassment cases in 1993-94, but \$5.2 million in 1997-98. **Vetoed.**

AB 1440 (Migden) – Overturns regulations adopted by the Department of Corrections in 1996 that restrict the news media from interviewing prison inmates. **Vetoed.**

Study of Three Strikes

SB 873 (Vasconcellos) – Directs the Legislative Analyst's Office to study the effectiveness of the "Three Strikes" law, a 1994 statute that requires a sentence of 25 years to life in prison upon conviction of a third serious or violent felony. **Vetoed.**

Secret Taping or Videotaping

AB 182 (Ackeman) – Makes it a misdemeanor to secretly videotape, photograph or electronically record for sexual gratification another identifiable person in a location where that person had a reasonable expectation of privacy. **Signed – Chapter 231/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 207 (Helen Thomson) -- Allows a domestic-violence restraining order to include a provision permitting the victim to record phone calls from the perpetrator. **Signed - Chapter 367/Statutes of 1999.**

Seized Property

AB 191 (Dickerson) – Allows a city or county, after attempting and failing to contact the legal owner, to give away seized personal property valued at \$500 or less that has been held 90 days by law enforcement. The property would have to go to specific beneficiaries for use in preventing juvenile delinquency. **Signed – Chapter 233/ Statutes of 1999.**

Terrorism

AB 140 (Hertzberg) –Enacts the California Prevention of Terrorism Act to provide penalties for persons using, manufacturing or threatening to use weapons of mass destruction with particular emphasis on chemical and biological agents. Also requires peace officers who encounters such biological or chemical agents to immediately notify local public health officers. **Signed – Chapter 563/Statutes of 1999.**

School Disruptions

SB 570 (Alarcon) – Increases criminal penalties and in some cases imposes mandatory minimum jail terms for the willful disruption on school grounds by non-pupils. **Signed – Chapter 1013/Statutes of 1999.**

Small Claims Court

AB 1361 (Aroner) -- Authorizes the board of supervisors in each county, after giving notice and holding a public hearing, to impose an additional \$5 filing fee in Small Claims Court actions to be used solely to fund a small-claims legal adviser program. **Vetoed.**

State Bar

SB 143 (Burton) - Requires the state Bar to review its disciplinary practices to determine whether there is any institutional bias in favor of large law firms. **Signed - Chapter 221/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 144 (Schiff and Hertzberg) -- Authorizes the State Bar to collect \$318 as membership dues for the year 2000, on top of the on-going authorization to collect \$77, for a total dues bill of \$395. **Signed - Chapter 342/Statutes of 1999.**

Grand Juries

AB 527 (Baugh) – Permits persons being questioned by grand juries to have their attorneys with them. **Vetoed.**

Public Defenders

SB 763 (Sher) – Gives public defenders legal immunity from malpractice suits filed by their clients. **Vetoed.**

Other Public Safety Legislation

SB 139 (Johnson) – Provides that a person who actively conceals an accidental death, as defined, is guilty of a misdemeanor. **Signed – Chapter 396/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 230 (Burton) - Authorizes a voluntary state income-tax check-off to raise funds for the California Peace Officer Memorial. **Signed - Chapter 215/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 243 (Wildman) – Establishes the Bail Fugitive Recovery Person Act to require that "bounty hunters," persons seeking to track down fugitives who have fled on bail, meet specified training and criminal-history requirements. **Signed – Chapter 426/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 381 (Cardoza) -- Makes taking hostages and other forms of false

imprisonment to avoid arrest a serious felony. **Signed – Chapter 298/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 880 (Dutra) – Requires the Office of Emergency Services to procure mobile-communication translators to enable mutual aid emergency response agencies to communicate while operating on incompatible frequencies. **Signed – Chapter 356/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1151 (Leach) -- Establishes a minimum fine of \$1,000 for departing the scene of a boating accident without leaving identifying information. **Signed – Chapter 500/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1586 (Florez) – Authorizes a peace officer to forbid a public agency to post his or her photograph on the Internet. The bill expands existing law that prohibits law enforcement agencies from providing an officer's home address or photograph without their consent. **Signed – Chapter 338/Statutes of 1999.**

Revenue and Taxation

SB 30 (Peace) -- Raises the vehicle license fee offset for international truckers from 25 percent to 35 percent for the tax year 2000. **Vetoed.**

SB 94 (Chesbro) -- Enacts a taxpayers' bill of rights, conforming many provisions of state tax code to federal law. **Signed – Chapter 931/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 275 (Senate Committee on Local Government) -- Omnibus property tax bill makes those minor changes necessary for smooth local administration of property tax laws by assessors and others. **Signed – Chapter 550/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 493 (Figueroa) -- Establishes the birth defects research fund and allows taxpayers to contribute to the fund through a tax-form check off. **Signed – Chapter 398/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 685 (Monteith) – Requires the Franchise Tax Board to send out additional 30-day notices to taxpayers

regarding potential liens on their assets when the FTB has given the taxpayers a grace period for more than six months. Signed – Chapter 348/Statutes of 1999.

SB 705 (Sher) -- Increases the research and development credit from 11 percent to 12 percent. Signed – Chapter 77/Statutes of 1999.

AB 10 (Correa) -- Establishes a zero franchise tax for the first two years of all new corporations, regardless of size. Signed - Chapter 64/Statutes of 1999.

AB 84 (Floyd) -- Prohibits local governments from approving stores larger than 100,000 square feet that have more than 15,000 square feet devoted to non-taxable (grocery) items. Vetoed.

AB 145 (Vincent) -- Gives insurance companies a credit against the gross premium tax for their investments in economic development funds. Signed – Chapter 821/Statutes of 1999.

AB 414 (Havice) -- Increases to four years the statute of limitations for a taxpayer to file for a state income-tax refund. Signed – Chapter 614/Statutes of 1999.

AB 790 (Honda) -- Requires the state Board of Equalization to list publicly the 12 largest tax delinquencies over \$1 million. Signed – Chapter 443/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1120 (Havice) -- Removes the sunset for the 50 percent exclusion of gains from small business stock held five years or longer. Signed - Chapter 69/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1121 (Nakano) -- Increases the vehicle license fee offset from 25 percent to 35 percent for 2000 only. Signed - Chapter 74/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1432 (Oller) -- Provides a 100 percent credit on the gross premium tax for insurance policies written in the Los Angeles County and San Francisco County pilot projects for low-cost auto insurance for low-income drivers. Signed – Chapter 808/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1637 (Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee) – Eliminates personal, dependent, blind, and age tax credits from computation of the alternative minimum tax. Signed – Chapter 930/Statutes of 1999.

Transportation

Transportation infrastructure is the engine that powers the state's economy. The California Transportation Commission, responding to Senate Resolution 8 authored by Senate President pro Tempore John Burton and Senate Transportation Committee Chair Betty Karnette, in May estimated California's transportation infrastructure requirements at \$100 billion in its *Inventory of Ten-Year Funding Needs for California's Transportation Systems*.

The state Department of Transportation (Caltrans) expects vehicle miles driven each year on California's state highways to jump from about 145 billion today to nearly 200 billion in just six years, an increase of 34 percent in traffic.

Without improvements in transportation efficiency and productivity, California's long-term competitiveness and economic stability could be threatened. **SB 928 (Burton), Chapter 862/Statutes 1999**, authorizes the state treasurer, in cooperation with the California Transportation Commission (CTC), Caltrans and regional transportation planning agencies, to issue federal highway grant anticipation notes (GARVEE bonds) to accelerate funding for eligible transportation projects. It establishes guidelines for project eligibility.

SB 98 (Alarcón) – Extends from August 1, 1999, to August 1, 2004, the expiration date on the authority of the South Coast Air Quality Management District to impose a \$1 annual vehicle-registration surcharge to finance clean-fuels programs. **Signed - Chapter 36, Statutes of 1999.**

SB 117 (Murray) -- Deletes a 10-year limit on the Environmental Enhancement and Mitigation Program Fund and instead states the Legislature's intent that the program continue indefinitely with an annual appropriation of \$10 million. Requires Caltrans to submit a list of funded projects to the Legislature. **Signed - Chapter 739/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 371 (Solis) -- Provides that the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) shall not be required to verify the authenticity of a proof-of-legal-presence document required to apply for an original driver's license unless the document appears to be fraudulent. **Vetoed.**

SB 372 (Murray) -- Requires a transportation zone or similar organizational sub-unit of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, established on or after January 1, 1999, to assume the duties, obligations, and liabilities arising from any existing collective bargaining agreements or labor obligations of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority. Also prohibits the Metropolitan Transportation Authority from considering certain criteria when evaluating the cost-effectiveness or potential efficiencies arising from the establishment of a new transportation zone. **Vetoed.**

SB 428 (Perata) -- Repeals the authority of the Metropolitan Transportation Commission to adopt a long-range plan for implementing high-speed water transit on the San Francisco Bay. Instead creates the San Francisco Bay Area Water Transit Authority and specifies its membership, duties and powers. Requires the preparation of a comprehensive regional water transit plan, to become operative upon statutory approval by the Legislature. **Signed - Chapter 1011/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 601 (Karnette) -- Expands the authority of transit districts to use competitive negotiation. **Signed - Chapter 101/ Statutes of -1999.**

SB 652 (Speier) -- Extends the requirement that every application for renewal of a motor-vehicle registration provide proof of insurance or other financial responsibility. **Signed - Chapter 880/Statutes of 1999.**

SR 8 (Burton) -- Requests the CTC, working with Caltrans and the state's regional transportation planning agencies, to prepare a 10-year needs assessment of the state's transportation system. Identifies the needs to be addressed. **This assessment was submitted to the Senate on May 10, 1999.**

AB 15 (Gallegos) -- Requires that school buses manufactured, purchased or leased after January 1, 2002, be equipped with seatbelts that have a combination lap and upper torso restraint system. **Signed – Chapter 648/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 71 (Cunneen) -- Allows inherently low-emission vehicles to use carpool lanes, and requires the DMV to issue special labels, decals or other identification to be placed on the vehicle. **Signed – Chapter 330/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 405 (Knox) -- Authorizes Caltrans to conduct a pilot program for the completion of up to six transportation projects using a design-sequencing process, and to evaluate and report the results of the program when completed. **Signed -Chapter 378, Statutes of 1999.**

AB 745 (Washington) -- Caps the amount of a penalty assessment at \$100 for motor-vehicle registration and equipment violations. Requires the DMV to retain failure to appear records for 10 years, rather than five as under current law. **Vetoed.**

AB 975 (Ducheny) -- Provides additional funding to the California Motorcyclist Safety Program and extends the authority for the program indefinitely. **Signed – Chapter 610/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1012 (Torlakson) -- Enacts a series of provisions designed to accelerate the development and delivery of state and local transportation projects and make more efficient use of funds in the State Highway Account. Includes an effort to develop a more sophisticated project-management information system within Caltrans. **Signed – Chapter 783/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1041 (Strickland) -- Requires the DMV, in consultation with the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation, to design a Ronald Reagan Presidential Library license plate. The plates may be issued in a combination of numbers or letters, or both, as requested by the applicant of the plates. **Signed - Chapter 594/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1155 (Torlakson) -- Serves as an implementing statute for SCA 3 (Burton), a proposed constitutional amendment pending in the Legislature to establish procedures for voter-approved financing of local transportation projects. **Vetoed.**

AB 1165 (Florez) --Requires that any farm-labor vehicle be equipped with safety belts. All currently operational farm-labor vehicles would have until May 1, 2000, to comply with this requirement, but all newly certified farm labor

vehicles must comply upon the enactment of this measure. **Signed – Chapter 557/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1571 (Villaraigosa) -- Creates the Carl Moyer Air Quality Standards Attainment Program to provide grants to offset the incremental costs of projects to replace high-emission, heavy-duty diesel engines with cleaner models in order to reduce nitrogen oxide and other emissions. **Signed – Chapter 923/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1573 (Strom-Martin) -- Requires the California Highway Patrol to study the safety signals and systems on school busses and report findings to the Legislature. **Signed - Chapter 647/Statutes of 1999.**

Utilities

Please also see Information Technology

SB 282 (Kelley) -- Requires the Public Utilities Commission (PUC) to examine ways to reduce energy costs and improve competitive opportunities for state agriculture and other rural energy consumers. Also requires the California Energy Commission to study the causes of high rates for agricultural electricity use. **Signed - Chapter 322/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 531 (Baca) -- Requires the PUC to establish a web site by July 1, 2001 for consumers to submit informal complaints about their utility services. The PUC must to prepare an annual report on the effectiveness of the informal complaint program. **Signed – Chapter 327/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 813 (Peace) – Exempts natural-gas power plants from the California Energy Commission's site-evaluation process. Requires the commission to report to the governor and Legislature on improvements in its process for siting power plants, on data collection in the restructured electricity market and the environmental performance of electric-generation facilities.

AB 406 (Knox and Villaraigosa) -- Requires the PUC to develop measures for efficiently allocating telephone numbers to California's citizens. The number of area codes in California has doubled since 1991. **Signed – Chapter 809/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 535 (Reyes) – Requires telephone service providers to give customers information about pay-per-use features and blocking options, and provides that customers are entitled to a one-time waiver of charges for the inadvertent activation of such services. **Signed – Chapter 384/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 991 (Papan) -- Facilitates the concept of "line sharing," permitting competitors to use lines of telephone companies to offer high-speed Internet access. **Signed – Chapter 714/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1421 (Wright) -- Freezes competition in natural gas markets and makes the incumbent utility the default provider of gas service. **Signed – Chapter 909/Statutes of 1999.**

Veterans

SB 4 (Johannessen) – Will require the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) to design, develop, and construct a state-owned and state-operated Northern California veterans cemetery in Shasta County. **Signed - Chapter 604/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 36 (Baca) -- Requires every city and county to implement a veterans' civil-service preference system by 2002 or adopt a resolution explaining why not. **Signed - Chapter 201/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 152 (Johannessen) -- Establishes a new deputy secretary in the DVA for medical oversight of the state veterans homes. **Signed - Chapter 511/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 249 (Johannessen) -- Requires the DVA to study the Cal-Vet life and disability insurance program to determine what other insurance is available that would provide equal or better coverage at a more equitable or lower cost. The study would be due by January 1, 2000. **Signed - Chapter 472/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 594 (Morrow) -- Grants armed service members' spouses the same exemption from motor-vehicle registration fees enjoyed by the service members. Signed - Chapter 100/Statutes of 1999.

SB 637 (Baca) -- Extends the law allowing spouses of veterans who were killed or totally disabled in combat to receive certain educational benefits beyond the age of 27. Signed - Chapter 404/Statutes of 1999.

SB 630 (Dunn) – Places a \$50 million bond measure on the March 2000 state ballot. If approved by voters, the measure will provide the state share of the costs of building new California veterans' homes. Signed - Chapter 728/ Statutes of 1999.

SB 703 (Poochigian) -- Appropriates \$1,032,000 for the proposed Washington D.C. memorial to World War II veterans. Signed - Chapter 864/Statutes of 1999.

AB 92 (Floyd) -- Establishes an inspector general for veterans affairs, appointed by the governor. The inspector general will review the operations and financial condition of the veterans homes, the Cal-Vet veterans farm and home purchase programs, and all other veterans' programs supported by the state, and make recommendations to the Veterans Board and the Legislature. Signed - Chapter 894/ Statutes of 1999.

AB 193 (Cardoza) -- Establishes a governor's commission to examine the need for a new state veterans home in the Central Valley. Signed - Chapter 810/Statutes of 1999.

AB 409 (Dickerson) -- Continues certification for a veteran's spouse or child for three years after the death of a disabled-veteran business owner. Signed - Chapter 767/Statutes of 1999.

AB 640 (Bates) -- Exempts veterans entitled to special "Pearl Harbor Survivor," "Legion of Valor," "Combat Wounded," "Purple Heart," and "PH" vehicle license plates from special fees for the plates. Signed - Chapter 612/Statutes of 1999.

AB 699 (Wiggins) -- Authorizes an agreement between the state and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs to provide qualified veterans with outpatient treatment at California veterans homes. Signed - Chapter 194/Statutes of 1999.

AB 879 (Havice) -- Makes permanent the position of deputy secretary for women veterans in the DVA. Signed - Chapter 839/Statutes of 1999.

AB 1633 (Floyd) -- Requires school districts to work toward a goal of 3 percent in hiring disabled-veteran business contractors to participate in work on school construction projects. Signed - Chapter 133/ Statutes of 1999.

Water

The Legislature and Governor Davis agreed to put on the March 7, 2000, ballot an omnibus water bond of nearly \$2 billion to protect water quality and supplies, financial flood-control measures, expand groundwater storage and conservation and manage water supplies. **AB 1584 (Machado and Costa)** would – with the approval of voters -- enact the Safe Drinking Water, Clean Water, Watershed Protection, and Flood Protection Act. It would authorize a \$1.97 billion bond to finance a range of state and local projects to meet safe drinking water standards, reduce flood risks, control erosion, acquire and restore habitat, protect wildlife, restore groundwater, construct water treatment plants and control water pollution. **Signed – Chapter 725/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 18 (Villaraigosa and Keeley) on the same ballot would authorize the Villaraigosa-Keeley Safe Neighborhood Parks, Clean Water and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2000. In signing it, Davis issued a statement saying:

The \$2.1 billion general obligation park bond, if approved by the voters, will provide California's first opportunity in more than a decade to invest in local and state parks, clean water and coastal beaches...No bond acts for parks have been approved in the 1990s, leaving state and local parks, habitat protection and other conservation efforts severely under-funded.

Among other things, AB 18 would provide \$45.8 million for river, parkway and land conservation and \$220 million for

protection of coastal areas, watersheds and wetlands. **Signed – Chapter 461/ Statutes of 1999.**

SB 216 (Solis) -- Establishes the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy as a state agency within the Resources Agency to acquire and manage public lands within the San Gabriel River and lower Los Angeles River watersheds for open-space, recreation, educational uses, and wildlife protection. **Signed – Chapter 789/Statutes of 1999.**

SB 496 (Sher) -- Includes, in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, certain segments of the South Yuba River and would designate those segments as scenic or recreational. **Signed – Chapter 1016/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 703 (Lempert) -- Establishes a general ballast-water-management program under the direction of the State Lands Commission in consultation with other state and federal agencies. Requires vessels entering the territorial sea of the United States to manage their ballast water. Prohibits the discharge of any oil or noxious liquid substance, except in accordance with state, federal, or international laws. States legislative intent that a person in charge of a vessel minimize the discharge of ballast water containing non-indigenous species into the waters of the state, provided that such measures do not compromise the safety of the vessel. **Signed - Chapter 849/ Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1104 (Migden) -- Sets a \$3,000 minimum penalty for dischargers who seriously and repeatedly violate the terms of their discharge permits. Authorizes the State Water Resources Board, a regional board, or a publicly owned treatment works to require a discharger to complete a prescribed pollution-prevention plan. **Signed – Chapter 92/Statutes of 1999.**

AB 1355 (Havice) -- Establishes the San Gabriel River and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to acquire and manage public lands within the main San Gabriel Basin, the San Gabriel River and its tributaries, the lower Los Angeles River and its tributaries, and the San Gabriel Mountains. **Signed – Chapter 788/Statutes of 1999.**

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