

Senate Committee on Agriculture

Senator Cathleen Galgiani, Chair

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2019-2020 Legislative Summary

Introduction

This publication provides a comprehensive list of bills referred to the Senate Committee on Agriculture as well as a brief synopsis of the oversight and informational hearings held during the 2019-2020 legislative year.

This report is intended to provide a quick reference to bills considered by the Committee and is not intended to provide a comprehensive analysis of the bill. Each summary includes the final status of the bill. Bills the Legislature passed and the Governor signed into law also include their chapter references.

The Committee also keeps a record of all oversight and informational hearings. The record includes the hearing agenda, background materials developed by Committee staff, testimony, and supporting materials submitted by witnesses. In addition, oversight and informational hearings are generally audio and/or video recorded. Those recordings are posted on the Senate's website at <http://senate.ca.gov/media-archive>.

If you would like additional information about a particular bill or oversight or informational hearing presented in this report, please contact the Committee office by phone at (916) 651-1508 or visit the Committee's website at <http://sagri.senate.ca.gov>. The Legislature also maintains a website where all bills and analyses are readily available. This website can be accessed at <http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/>.

Senate Bills

SB 153 (Wilk)

Industrial hemp.

This bill revises provisions regulating the cultivation and testing of industrial hemp to conform to the requirements for a state plan under the federal Agriculture Marketing Act of 1946, as amended by the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (the federal Farm Bill).

Signed into law. Chapter 838, Statutes of 2019.

SB 185 (McGuire)

Cannabis: marketing.

This bill prohibits the use of an appellation of origin or similar-sounding word unless the cannabis or cannabis product meets the appellation of origin requirement guidelines.

Signed into law. Chapter 841, Statutes of 2019.

SB 202 (Wilk)

Animal blood donors.

This bill permits commercial blood banks for animals (CBBA) to collect blood from community-sourced animal blood and imposes rules around the collection of community-sourced animal blood.

Vetoed by the Governor.

SB 253 (Dodd)

Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: Environmental Farming Incentive Program.

This bill requires Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA), upon appropriation, to establish the Environmental Farming Incentive Program (EFIP) to fund incentives, educational materials and outreach to farmers or ranchers for practices that support environmental and other conservation benefits. This bill also requires the Scientific Advisory Panel on Environmental Farming to advise the secretary of CDFA on the implementation of EFIP.

Held under submission in the Assembly Appropriations Committee.

SB 449 (McGuire)

Pest control: Pierce's disease.

This bill extends the sunset date for the Pierce's Disease Control Program within the California Department of Food and Agriculture to March 1, 2026.

Signed into law. Chapter 371, Statutes of 2019.

SB 657 (Monning)

Cannabis cultivation: county agriculture commissioners: reporting.

This bill authorizes a county agricultural commissioner to report to the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture the condition, acreage, production, and value of cannabis produced in the commissioner's county.

Signed into law. Chapter 252, Statutes of 2019.

SB 787 (Agriculture Committee)

Animal welfare.

This bill replaces the outdated term "pound" with the term "shelter" in current code to reflect the terms now used by animal shelters. Additionally, this bill removes the current reference in code to a publication regarding hoof care standards that is no longer published and replaces it with the publication currently being used. This bill also replaces in code references to the California Animal Control Directors Association and the State Humane Association of California with the California Animal Welfare Association to reflect the merger of the two entities.

Signed into law. Chapter 331, Statutes of 2019.

SB 864 (Wilk)

Industrial hemp: reporting of hemp production: laboratory test reports.

This bill establishes a registration program administered by county agricultural commissioners and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) for growers of industrial hemp, hemp breeders, and established agricultural research institutions, as defined. This bill requires CDFA to report to the Farm Service Agency of the United States Department of Agriculture specified information regarding all hemp production in the state.

Died in Assembly Agriculture Committee without a hearing.

SB 1028 (Dodd)

Agriculture: Cannella Environmental Farming Act of 1995: Environmental Farming Incentive Program.

The bill requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture to establish and administer the California Environmental Farming Incentive Program, subject to an appropriation by the Legislature.

Died in Senate Agriculture Committee without a hearing.

SB 1115 (Wilk)

Commercial blood banks for animals: animal blood donors.

This bill allows commercial blood banks to obtain blood from community-sourced animals; establishes procedures for phasing out commercial blood banks for animals upon determination

by the California Department of Food and Agriculture that a supply of blood equivalent to that sold in California from captive closed-colony blood banks for animals during the years 2019-2020, inclusive, is being produced over an equivalent time period from community-sourced blood banks for animals; implements a permissive adoption program for captive closed-colony blood bank for animals; and increases the license application and license renewal fees to \$1,000 and authorizes the fees to be increased by the secretary in an amount not to exceed the reasonable regulatory costs administering these provisions.

Died in Assembly Agriculture Committee without a hearing.

SB 1239 (Glazer)

**Animals: California Animal Response
Emergency System program: Animal
Care Network in Disasters program.**

This bill would requires the department to expand and develop the Animal Care Network in Disasters program that represents a coordinated network of government agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and volunteers to assist in the evacuation and care of household and domestic animals and livestock in emergencies.

Died in Senate Agriculture Committee without a hearing.

Assembly Bills

AB 409 (Limón)

**Climate change: agriculture: Agricultural
Climate Adaptation Tools Program: grants.**

This bill establishes the Agricultural Climate Adaption Tools Program; establishes pilot projects in the Central Valley, Central Coast, and desert regions of the state; requires trainings for technical assistance providers on how to use planning tools; requires the Strategic Growth Council to make available, upon appropriation, \$2,000,000 to fund a grant program; and requires the council to provide the planning tools developed as part of this program to the Office of Planning and Research.

Held on the Suspense File in Senate Appropriations.

AB 417 (Arambula)

Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Act.

This bill creates the Agriculture and Rural Prosperity Act. This bill authorizes the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to consult with other stakeholders to identify opportunities to further rural agricultural economies. This bill also requires CDFA to create a position within the department's executive office to assist the secretary with the act and establishes the Rural Economic Development Account to carry out the provisions of the act.

Vetoed by the Governor.

AB 419 (Agriculture Committee)

Food and Agriculture.

This bill extends the sunset for fruit and vegetable standardization to January 1, 2025. This bill also extends the California Department of Food and Agriculture’s authority to establish an additional fee to operate the licensing program for the rendering and collection of inedible kitchen grease until July 1, 2025, and repeals this authority on January 1, 2026.

Signed into law. Chapter 261, Statutes of 2019.

AB 450 (Arambula)

Bees: Apiary Protection Act.

This bill requires an apiary owner who relocates registered apiaries within a county to provide the new location to the agricultural commissioner of that county within 72 hours. This bill also delays implementation of a new penalty structure for violations of the Apiary Protection Act from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2021.

Signed into law. Chapter 300, Statutes of 2019.

AB 466 (Agriculture Committee)

Interstate shipments: market milk: 6 percent milk: Office of Farm to Fork: report.

This bill allows the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to enter into place of origin inspection agreements for all items requiring entry inspection for plant pests; defines 6% milk products and authorizes the secretary to establish milk standards for 6% milk products sold in California; and extends the date by which CDFA’s Office of Farm to Fork is required to submit to the Legislature an overview of the account’s income and expenditures.

Signed into law. Chapter 301, Statutes of 2019.

AB 590 (Mathis)

Milk.

This bill makes various changes to current state law to comply with California’s Federal Milk Marketing Order.

Signed into law. Chapter 304, Statutes of 2019

AB 635 (Bigelow)

Horse racing: state-designated fairs: employees.

This bill clarifies existing law regarding the qualifications for fairs to receive funding from the air and Exposition Fund.

Signed into law. Chapter 353, Statutes of 2019.

AB 657 (Eggman)**Agriculture: commercial feed.**

This bill increases the maximum rate of the inspection tonnage tax from \$0.15 to \$0.25 per ton of commercial feed sold. This bill extends the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture's authority to designate a specified amount of tonnage taxes collected to provide funding for research and education from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025. This bill extends the date on which the new license fee requirement of \$100 for each location will take effect from January 1, 2020, to January 1, 2025.

Signed into law. Chapter 306, Statutes of 2019.

AB 858 (Levine)**Cannabis: cultivation.**

This bill updates the existing definition of a Type 1C cannabis cultivation license to include a maximum cultivation size of 2,500 square feet of total canopy size for outdoor cultivation of commercial cannabis.

Signed into law. Chapter 809, Statutes of 2019.

AB 916 (Muratsuchi)**Pesticide use: glyphosate.**

This bill prohibits, until January 1, 2025, a city, county, charter city, city and county, or a special district from using any pesticide that contains the active ingredient glyphosate. The bill does not preclude a city, county, charter city, city and county, or a special district from adopting or enforcing stricter pesticide use policies.

Died in Senate Agriculture Committee without a hearing.

AB 1086 (Bauer-Kahan)**Off-highway vehicular recreation: Carnegie State
Vehicular Recreation Area: Alameda-Tesla
Expansion Area.**

As passed by this committee: This bill requires the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to:

1. Adopt regulations and guidelines to be used in awarding grants under the State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program.
2. Prioritize financial assistance for farms and ranches of 500 acres or less and socially disadvantaged farmers.
3. Fund qualified technical assistance providers with demonstrated expertise in irrigation and nutrient management education including, but not limited to, the University of California, Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, resource conservation districts, and the California State University.
4. Convene a technical advisory committee of the Scientific Advisory Panel no later than April 1, 2020, to make recommendations to the panel and secretary regarding the

program's guidelines, quantification methods, application process, and selection process to improve specified aspects of the program.

Withdrawn from Senate Agriculture Committee. Agriculture provisions removed by 09/09/20 amendments.

AB 1205 (Limón)

**California Cut Flower Commission: membership:
reconvening commission.**

This bill reduces the number of board members for the California Cut Flower Commission and repeals term limits for the commission board members. This bill also allows the secretary of the California Department of Food and Agriculture to conduct a vote to reconvene the commission.

Signed into law. Chapter 267, Statutes of 2020.

AB 1288 (Cooley)

Cannabis: track and trace.

This bill requires the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Bureau of Cannabis Control, to ensure the California Cannabis Track-and-Trace system is fully integrated into the California Law Enforcement Telecommunications System by July 1, 2020; updates information recorded by the track and trace program to include the date of retail sale to a customer and whether the sale is on the retail premises or by delivery; requires the licensed retailer to upload their delivery inventory ledger, or email it to the bureau if the system is not accessible prior to leaving the licensed premise; adds the cannabis industry to the list of businesses that may be included in future updates to the CalGOLD program; and allows the bureau to share information regarding local ordinances and regulations with the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development during periodic updates of the CalGOLD program.

Died in Senate Appropriations Committee. Held under submission.

AB 1472 (Mark Stone)

California Dungeness Crab Commission.

As passed by this committee: This bill creates the California Dungeness Crab Commission.

Agriculture provisions removed by 06/24/20 amendments.

AB 1800 (Agriculture Committee)

Fairs: state funding: classification.

This bill allows the Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) to reclassify fairs within the network of California fairs once every five years, instead of annually. This bill also deletes outdated sections of current law.

Signed into law. Chapter 198, Statutes of 2019.

This bill exempts from the California Meat and Poultry Supplemental Inspection Act a mobile slaughter operator who provides services to an owner of cattle if certain conditions are met; increases various inspection fees per head of cattle to \$1.50; increases the inspection fees on carcasses with the hide on and of hides to \$2.00 per carcass or hide; and repeals the requirement that female cattle of the beef breeds that are over 12 months of age and sold within the state to bear evidence of the official brucellosis vaccination.

Signed into law. Chapter 324, Statutes of 2019.

Oversight and Informational Hearings

04/30/19

Growing Hemp in California: An Overview.

This informational hearing provided information and updates on growing hemp in California since the passage of the federal farm bill in 2018, which removed hemp from the list of Schedule 1 drugs.

The hearing provided expert testimony from the California Department of Food and Agriculture, the California Hemp Council, and a grower on the past, present, and future of growing industrial hemp in California.

The hearing was held at the State Capitol, Sacramento, California.