



**MAYORS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS' ASSOCIATION OF SONOMA COUNTY
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Petaluma, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, Sebastopol, Sonoma, Windsor

Finley Community Center
Manzanita Room
2060 West College Avenue
Santa Rosa, CA 95401
Friday March 20, 2026
9:00 AM

LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA

1. Call to Order

2. Roll Call

Cloverdale		Petaluma		Sebastopol	
Cotati		Rohnert Park		Sonoma	
Healdsburg		Santa Rosa		Windsor	

3. Public Comment

If members of the public would like to provide public comment, we encourage you to submit them via email to Lauren Berges, by 8:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting: lberges@sonomacountylocalleaders.org

4. Business

- A. Legislative Update: Review of Current Assembly and Senate Bills
- B. City and Legislative Representative Updates

5. Adjournment to Next Meeting: April 17, 2026

/s/ Lauren Berges, Executive Director

Copies of all staff reports and documents subject to disclosure that relate to any item of business referred to on the agenda are available for public review the Tuesday prior to the regularly scheduled meeting on the Sonoma County Mayors' and Councilmembers' website: <https://sonomacountylocalleaders.org/> or by email upon request at lberges@sonomacountylocalleaders.org. Any documents subject to disclosure that are provided to all, or a majority of all, of the members of the Association regarding any item on this agenda, after the agenda has been distributed, will be made available for review. In accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Santa Rosa City Clerk's Office at 707-543-3015. Notification 72-hours prior to the meeting will enable the Association to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to this meeting.

Legislative Update: Review of Current Assembly and Senate Bills**SB 922 (Laird) Vehicles: local agency charges: use of streets or highways. (Amended - 3/11/2026)**

Existing law bars local agencies from imposing fees for using streets or highways, except for permit fees related to extralegal loads, unless the fees were imposed before June 1, 1989. This bill clarifies that the prohibition specifically applies to weight-based charges. It states that local agencies are allowed to impose fees or surcharges to cover costs of street maintenance and repair, as well as other related public service costs, and these are not considered prohibited taxes or charges. The bill also updates the language by removing outdated references and making technical corrections.

AB 1708 (Solache) Homeless Housing, Assistance, and Prevention program: round 7. (Introduced - 2/4/2026)

The Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) program provides grants to help address homelessness at local levels. It distributes funds to continuums of care, cities, counties, and tribes over several funding rounds. Rounds 1 to 5 are managed by the Interagency Council on Homelessness, while round 6 is managed by the Department of Housing and Community Development. Round 7, beginning July 1, 2026, includes a \$500 million appropriation, released only after a confirmation that round 6 funds are nearly fully disbursed. For round 7, this bill mandates that funding be allocated to smaller jurisdictions (cities with populations under 300,000) that meet specific criteria, including adopting a housing resolution, maintaining a compliant housing element, and establishing a local encampment policy. Continuums of care must follow set procedures when accepting applications from these smaller jurisdictions.

AB 1866 (Rogers) California Disaster Assistance Act: minimum damages thresholds. (Amended - 3/11/2026)

The California Disaster Assistance Act requires the Director of Emergency Services to fund local agencies for costs related to disaster response when the Governor declares a state of emergency. The Act typically covers up to 75% of the eligible costs unless the local agency has a locally adopted hazard mitigation plan, in which case, the provisions may differ. This bill mandates the director to prioritize funding for local agencies that can't access federal assistance because they don't meet federal damage thresholds. Additionally, the bill clarifies what costs can be included in the local agency's share of expenses.

AB 1761 (Rogers) Electricity: calculation methodology: data disclosure. (Introduced - 2/9/2026)

The Public Utilities Commission (PUC) has authority over public utilities, including setting fair rates for electrical corporations. This bill mandates that the PUC ensure all data used in decisions or analyses related to customer charges for recovering costs of contracts or resources owned by electrical corporations be accessible to load-serving entities and ratepayer advocates. The data must be publicly disclosed, except for market-sensitive information. Violations of this bill would be considered a crime under the Public Utilities Act, thus initiating a state-mandated local program. The bill specifies no reimbursement is needed from the state for associated costs.

AB 1699 (Rogers) Good Fire Act: Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program: burn bosses: California Environmental Quality Act. (Introduced - 2/3/2026)

Existing law establishes the Prescribed Fire Liability Pilot Program, administered by the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, to increase the use of prescribed fires and cultural burning while reducing barriers. It includes the creation of the Prescribed Fire Claims Fund to cover losses for nonpublic entities. Claims require specific eligibility, including supervision by designated fire professionals and prior department approval of a burn plan. Funding of \$20 million was appropriated for this purpose. Governor Newsom's executive order temporarily suspended some restrictions to allow more entities like resource conservation districts to join the program. This bill, named the Good Fire Act, aims to extend this pilot program indefinitely and expand eligibility to more non-department and non-federal entities. It seeks to streamline processes by eliminating the department's pre-approval requirement for plans already reviewed by a burn boss and include prioritization methods when funds are oversubscribed. The State Fire Marshal is responsible for developing a burn boss certification program, and the bill requires burn bosses to recertify no sooner than every three years. It also encourages increasing the number of instructors for this program and simplifying the designation process for burn bosses.

SB 299 (Cabaldon) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: day care center: family daycare home: zoning. (Amended - 1/14/2026)

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) mandates a lead agency to prepare and certify an environmental impact report for any project potentially affecting the environment or to adopt a negative declaration if the project is deemed not to have a significant

environmental effect. If a project could have a significant effect but can be revised to mitigate this, a mitigated negative declaration must be prepared. Certain projects, like those involving only a daycare center not located in residential areas, are exempt from CEQA. This bill would broaden this exemption to include daycare centers or family daycare homes situated on land zoned exclusively for residential use, with some exceptions. This bill would assign new responsibilities to lead agencies to determine if these exemptions apply, thus creating a state-mandated local program. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local entities for specified state-mandated costs, but this bill states no reimbursement is needed for the costs it would impose.

AB 2517 (Calderon) Fire safety: fire hazard severity zones. (Introduced - 2/20/2026)

Existing law mandates the State Fire Marshal to classify local responsibility areas into moderate, high, and very high fire hazard severity zones using statewide criteria based on expected fire hazards. These classifications must be reviewed every five years and should ideally align with county general plan updates. Local agencies have 120 days to implement these classifications and may adjust zone severity levels at their discretion. Any alterations made by local agencies to these recommendations are considered final and must be reported to the State Board of Forestry and Fire Protection within 30 days. This bill proposes that before finalizing these classifications, the State Fire Marshal must post relevant information online, hold regional public workshops, and conduct a 30-day period for written public comments, which must be responded to within 30 days. Additionally, the Fire Marshal is required to review these zones every five years, independently of the county plan schedules, and to publish relevant local ordinances online within 60 days. The bill also permits local agencies to apply a higher fire hazard severity across an entire parcel if it contains multiple zone designations.

AB 1623 (Davies) Planning and Zoning: Regional Housing Needs Allocation and Annual Report: Student Housing Quarters

This measure would allow local governments to receive RHNA credit for student housing quarters and would task HCD with determining which student housing quarters may count for RHNA.

AB 2433 (Alvarez) Housing Development: Affordable Homes Bonus

This measure would require local agencies to ministerially approve a density bonus law (DBL) project. Additionally, the measure would increase the number of concessions or waivers a project applicant could qualify for under DBL without increasing the number of

affordable units a developer must build. The measure also allows density bonuses to be permitted within or outside the geographic areas of the housing development where the affordable or market-rate units are located. Finally, the measure would require local agencies to adopt procedures and timelines to notify an applicant that a project is eligible for a density bonus and to process a density bonus application.

SB 1216 (Cabaldon) Planning and Zoning Law: Housing Leadership Designation

This measure would provide production-based incentives to local governments that permit a set number of housing units per 1,000 residents, which will depend on the jurisdiction's housing affordability as determined by the median purchase price of a home in the jurisdiction and the area median household income.

AB 1903 (Wicks) Construction defects. (Introduced - 2/12/2026)

Spot Bill: Existing law specifies the rights and requirements of a homeowner to bring an action for construction defects, including applicable standards for home construction, the statute of limitations, the burden of proof, the damages recoverable, a detailed prelitigation procedure, and the obligations of the builder and homeowner. Existing law requires a builder, for fit and finish items, to provide a home buyer with a minimum one-year express written limited warranty covering the fit and finish of specified building components.

This bill would make nonsubstantive changes to the provision requiring a builder to provide a warranty for specified building components.

SB 1159 (Cabaldon) Artificial intelligence: transparency and governance. (Introduced - 2/18/2026)

The California Constitution ensures public access to information regarding government activities through laws like the California Public Records Act, the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act, and the Ralph M. Brown Act. These laws define a "person" broadly to include individuals, companies, and organizations, allowing them access to government records and meetings. Additionally, the Political Reform Act of 1974 regulates public officials, campaign activities, and political disclosures, while the Administrative Procedure Act manages rule-making processes of state agencies. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) ensures environmental review processes are conducted for projects impacting the environment. The bill clarifies that terms such as "person" in these acts do not include artificial intelligence, robots, or nonhuman entities, ensuring only human entities engage

with governmental agencies. It also reaffirms that these laws must align with constitutional requirements to promote public access to government information and meetings.