

2025 State Legislation

Recommendation for Support Position – April 2, 2025 Legislative Committee

AB 454 (Kalra D-San Jose) California Migratory Bird Protection Act Extension

Key Advocacy Goal:
Ecosystem Stewardship

- Would extend the California Migratory Bird Protection Act indefinitely and safeguard the migratory nongame birds and their habitats.
- Supports migratory corridors and bird populations.
- AB 454 presents an opportunity to secure bird protections at the state level, potentially setting a precedent.

**AB 616 (Caloza D-Los Angeles)
California State Library
Parks Pass Program**

**Key Advocacy Goal:
Equitable Park Access**

- Would authorize the California Department of Parks and Recreation to voluntarily provide free vehicle day use annual passes to the California State Library.
- Authorizes the Department the discretionary ability to issue these free passes.
- Increases park visitation and provides educational or recreational opportunities including the three state parks the Park District operates and manages.
- Would make passes available to all library-card holders to check out in-person or through a mobile library branch of participating locations.

Wildfire Preparedness Permitting

AB 846 (Connolly D-San Rafael)

Key Advocacy Goal:
Wildfire Resilience

- While maintaining protections for endangered species, this bill aims to streamline wildfire preparedness activities for local agencies.
- Following submission of a wildfire preparedness plan, requires the California Department of Fish and Wildlife to review within an expedited timeline and provide guidance and opportunities to utilize CalVTP and *Cutting the Green Tape* to advance wildfire mitigation work.
- Cities, counties, special districts, and local agencies qualify for this expedited review process.

**AB 1139 (Rogers D-
Santa Rosa)
Public Access for
Nonmotorized Recreation**

Key Advocacy Goal:
Equitable Park Access

- Amends Public Resources Code language advanced by the Park District's sponsored legislation AB 2091.
- Expands qualifying agencies to include county departments.

**ACR 36 (Carrillo
D-Palmdale)**

Special Districts Week

- Proclaims the week of May 18 – 24, 2025 to be Special Districts Week.
- The Park District has supported similar resolutions in the past.

**SB 427 (Blakespear D-Encinitas)
Habitat Conservation Fund
Extension**

Key Advocacy Goal:
Ecosystem Stewardship

- Ensures the continued annual allocation of \$30 million from the General Fund to the Habitat Conservation Fund.
- Maintains existing guidelines for habitat acquisition and enhancement, with roughly equal distribution between northern and southern California.
- Removes the sunset provision, making funding permanent.

SB 653 (Cortese D-San Jose) Environmentally Sensitive Vegetation Management

Key Advocacy Goals:
Wildfire Resilience and
Ecosystem Stewardship

- This bill proposes managing vegetation with a focus on minimizing environmental impact, particularly in the context of wildfire prevention.
- Signals the Legislature's commitment to creating a framework for more environmentally conscious methods of managing vegetation in wildfire-prone areas.
- Preliminary step toward developing more comprehensive wildfire prevention strategies that take ecological sensitivities in account.

**SB 795 (Richardson
D-San Pedro)
Incorporating 30x30 Goals in
State Planning and Regulatory
Processes**

Key Advocacy Goal:
Ecosystem Stewardship

- Incorporation of the state's 30x30 goal would be required for all California state agencies, departments, boards, offices, commissions and conservancies planning and regulatory processes.
- Mandates that when state agencies develop, revise or establish new plans, policies or regulations, they must explicitly consider the 30x30 goal and ensure, to the extent possible, new guidelines are not in conflict with the conservation objective.
- This is a formal legislative effort to integrate conservation principles across state government planning and decision-making processes.

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