



CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU FEDERATION

# FRIDAY REVIEW

LEGISLATIVE AND GOVERNMENTAL UPDATE

June 3, 2019

## **Appointment**

Barry Broad, 61, of Sacramento, has been appointed to the California Agricultural Labor Relations Board. Broad has been a managing partner at Broad & Gusman LLP since 1994. He held several positions at the California Teamsters Public Affairs Council from 1985 to 2018, including legal counsel and legislative director. Broad was a legal advisor for the Public Employment Relations Board from 1982 to 1985. He earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Davis School of Law. This position requires Senate confirmation and the compensation is \$153,689. Broad is a Democrat.

## **Legislative Deadline**

The Legislature has reached yet another pivotal deadline in the legislative process—the house of origin. Bills which originated in one house must have passed the floor of that house to then be transmitted to the second house. As an example, all Assembly bills must have passed the Floor of the Assembly by today; those that have passed will move to the Senate and await assignment to a policy committee. All bills which fail passage of their house of origin, are ineligible to continue in the legislative process for the duration of this year.

## **Air Quality**

[SB 210](#), (Leyva) would create an inspection and maintenance program for heavy-duty diesel vehicles. This bill would essentially create a smog-check program for heavy-duty vehicles and prevent their use if a vehicles malfunction indicator light is illuminated. The Air Resources Board (ARB) is in the process of developing a similar program as part of the State Implementation Plan for San Joaquin Valley PM 2.5. ARB is expected to adopt a heavy duty “smog-check” program regardless of the outcome of SB 210. Farm Bureau is currently opposing SB 210 unless amendments are taken to reduce the impacts the proposed program would have on trucks agricultural operations depend upon. SB 210 passed off of the Senate Floor this week with a vote of 27-10; and it now goes to the Assembly. *Staff contact: Noelle Cremers at [ncremers@cfbf.com](mailto:ncremers@cfbf.com) or (916) 446-4647*

## **Economic Development**

[AB 417](#) (Arambula), is a Farm Bureau sponsored measure to authorize the Department of Food and Agriculture to create a new advisory position to the Secretary to make recommendations related to rural agricultural economic issues and development programs. This position would also be empowered to provide comments on the economic impacts of other state agencies and department regulations, including the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act. This bill passed the Assembly Floor unanimously. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, [troschen@cfbf.com](mailto:troschen@cfbf.com) or 916-446-4647*

## **Environmental**

SB 1, (Atkins) would require state environmental and labor agencies to review changes to federal law and regulation and consider adopting state regulations that would ensure no labor or environmental protections are lost due to federal modifications. The law gives specific authority to the California Air Resources Board, State Water Resources Control Board, Fish and Game Commission, Department of Fish and Wildlife, Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board, and Department of Industrial Relations. The bill also gives individuals the authority to sue to enforce the federal standards as they were in place in January 2017.

Farm Bureau is particularly concerned about the impacts that SB 1 would have on the management of California's water system. The bill would shift the burdens of compliance with endangered species protections more heavily on state water contractors and is likely to dramatically impact the implementation of the voluntary settlement agreements.

SB 1 passed off the Senate Floor this week on a party line vote of 28-10; it now moves to the Assembly. *Staff contact: Noelle Cremers at [ncremers@cfbf.com](mailto:ncremers@cfbf.com) or (916) 446-4647*

## **Invasive Species**

The California Interagency Noxious and Invasive Plant Committee will meet on Tuesday, June 4<sup>th</sup> to discuss CA's Invasive Species Action Week, which is aimed to increase public awareness of invasive species issues. Farm Bureau staff will participate in the meeting. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, [troschen@cfbf.com](mailto:troschen@cfbf.com) or 916-446-4647*

## **Labor**

AB 555, (Lorena Gonzalez, D-San Diego) expands California's Paid Sick Leave (PSL) mandate by requiring employers to provide 40 hours or five days of PSL in each year of employment, calendar year, or 12 month period, and requires employers to allow employees to carry over 80 hours of 10 days of accrued paid sick leave; employers using "lump sum" PSL are required to provide an employee 40 hours or five of PSL at the beginning of each calendar or employment year or 12 month period. AB 555 was not taken up on third reading in the Assembly prior to the house of origin deadline and became a two-year bill. Farm Bureau opposes.

SB 135, (Hannah-Beth Jackson, D-Santa Barbara) expands the California Family Rights Act (CFRA) job-protected family leave requirement to employers of five or more employees; current law applies to employers of 50 or more. SB 135 was not taken up on third reading prior in the Senate prior to the house of origin deadline and become a two-year bill. Farm Bureau opposes. *Staff contact: Bryan Little (916) 561-5622 or [blittle@cfbf.com](mailto:blittle@cfbf.com)*

## **Nutrition**

SB 499 (McGuire), is a bill which would establish the California-Grown for Healthy Kids Program to increase the provision of universally free school meals with California-grown fruits and vegetables. Participating schools would be eligible to receive additional supplemental funds of \$0.10 per breakfast served. Farm Bureau is in support and this measure has passed the Senate unanimously. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, [troschen@cfbf.com](mailto:troschen@cfbf.com) or 916-446-4647*

## **Pesticides**

The California Environmental Protection Agency has announced that Teresa Marks has retired from her position of Interim Director at the Department of Pesticide Regulation. As the Agency and the

Department identify a new director, Val Dolcini, CalEPA's Agricultural Advisor will temporarily serve in her stead. *Staff contact: Taylor Roschen, [troschen@cfbf.com](mailto:troschen@cfbf.com) or 916-446-4647*

### **Utilities**

SB 247, (Bill Dodd, D – Napa) is a union sponsored bill that initially required CalFire to provide a “trim list” to each investor owned utility that identifies all trees and other vegetation in the vicinity of electrical lines or equipment owned by the utility to be removed or trimmed, including the extent of trimming required. The bill is fashioned around further reducing fire risk. The language in the bill was initially very broad and would include orchards as well as trees and vegetation in fire prone areas. CFBF's extensive discussions about the broad reach of the bill with the author's office, engendered positive results. Amendments were taken in the Senate Natural Resources and Water Committee that completely removed the section on the trim list and focuses CalFire's auditing function of utility activities on the areas subject to the utilities' wildfire mitigation plans. CFBF was originally opposed but is now neutral with the amendments. The bill advanced to the Assembly after approval in the Senate. CFBF will continue to monitor the bill. *Staff contact: Karen Norene Mills, [kmills@cfbf.com](mailto:kmills@cfbf.com) or 916-561-5655*

### **Wildlife**

The Habitat Conservation Fund (HCF), which provides \$30 million annually for the acquisition of habitat for mountain lions and other wildlife as well as restoration and enhancement of natural lands will be continued under SB 474, (Stern). The HCF was created under Proposition 117 in 1990 and is set to expire in 2020. Farm Bureau is concerned with extending the fund due to the continued funding of land acquisition by the state and is working with the author on amendments to address these concerns. California currently has a backlog of deferred maintenance on the property it owns of approximately \$20 billion. Acquiring additional lands without management funding is a poor policy decision. SB 474 passed out of the Senate with a 34-2 vote and it now goes to the Assembly.

In addition to SB 474, the Budget Conference Committee is also considering budget trailer bill language to extend the HCF and Farm Bureau will be requesting amendments through the budget process as well. *Staff Contact: Noelle Cremers at (916) 446-4647 or [ncremers@cfbf.com](mailto:ncremers@cfbf.com)*