

MURDOCH WALRATH & HOLMES

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 3, 2025

To: CABE Board Members
Dr. Edgar Lampkin, CABE CEO

From: Jennifer Baker, Legislative Advocate

Subject: Sacramento Update

When Albert Einstein declared, "Great spirits have always encountered violent opposition from mediocre minds," he could have been describing the current environment facing our great state. The national political hyper-polarization, which has been increasing in its passion, has spilled into California, dividing the California Legislature in daunting ways that may be difficult to recover from. While partisan politics have always played a role in state politics, the two primary political parties that control the Legislature have repeatedly come together to address significant problems, including the number of natural disasters that have plagued our state over the past decade.

The recent national push for gerrymandering has changed business as usual by pushing political leaders to take sides. As described below, the special election, as well as the process of creating it, has become the primary mode of operation as the Legislature finalizes its session for 2025. Not only will this issue dominate political conversations for the rest of this session, but it will also captivate the minds and pocketbooks of political strategists and consultants as the campaigns in support and opposition to [Proposition 50: Use of Legislative Congressional Redistricting Map Amendment](#) escalate. Should this ballot initiative succeed, the immediate impact on the affected Congressional districts will reverberate throughout the political and campaign world. Should the efforts succeed in shifting the named Congressional districts to left-leaning elected officials, we should expect a number of current elected-officials in other offices to scramble to take their place, leading to a political game of musical chairs across the state.

November Special Election Declared

The Legislature passed, and the Governor signed a temporary redistricting overhaul last week, leading to the creation of a November 4, 2025 special election. While a fiscal analysis on the cost of these measures is not yet available, costs could potentially be above \$200 million. The following are included in the package -

[ACA 8 \(Rivas\): Congressional redistricting](#) creates the "Election Rigging Response Act," which would amend the California constitution to utilize redrawn congressional districts, included in AB 604 (Aguiar-Curry) for the 2026, 2028, and 2030 elections. These maps would solely become operative if Texas, Florida, or another state adopts new congressional district maps that take effect between 2025 and 2031.

[SB 280 \(Cervantes\): Elections](#) creates the timelines and procedures to conduct a statewide special election for Proposition 50, as well as provides funding for the special election, which would take place on November 4th.

[AB 604 \(Aguiar-Curry\): Redistricting: congressional districts](#) creates temporary congressional district maps, which would become operative should the voters pass ACA 8 and would remain in effect until new congressional district maps are certified by the Citizens Redistricting Commission following the national decennial census.

The following Congressional districts would be impacted:

1st Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Doug LaMalfa (R – Chico). The new proposed map would split this district in half, creating two seats, one from Santa Rosa through Chico to the Nevada border, and the other from the Marin County coast to the Oregon border.

3rd Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Kevin Kiley (R – Rocklin). The new proposed map would eliminate the Easter Sierra region from this district and would incorporate parts of Sacramento.

9th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Josh Harder (D – Stockton). The new proposed map would add parts of the East Bay.

13th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Adam Gray (D - Turlock). The new proposed map would incorporate parts of Stockton.

22nd Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. David Valadeo (R - Hanford). The new proposed map would add a section from Fresno County.

27th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. George Whitesides (D – Santa Clarita). The new proposed map would swap an area in the high desert for part of the San Fernando Valley.

41st Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Ken Calvert (R – Corona). The new proposed map would break up the district and redistribute the voters, adding a seat in southeast Los Angeles County.

45th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Derek Tran (D – Cypress). The new proposed map would incorporate parts of Los Angeles County around Norwalk.

47th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Dave Min (D – Costa Mesa). The new proposed map incorporates part of Long Beach.

48th Congressional District: Currently held by Rep. Darrell Issa (R – Escondido). The new proposed map would shift voters from the Coachella Valley into the east San Diego County district.

In response to this partisan package, republicans have introduced:

[ACA 15 \(Tangipa\): Redistricting: eligibility for congressional office](#) requires that if ACA 8 (Rivas) is enacted and approved, members of the California Legislature who voted in favor of ACA 8 (Rivas) would be prohibited from being a candidate for the new congressional offices.

[AJR 21 \(DeMaio\): Redistricting: independent redistricting commissions](#) urges Congress to create a constitutional amendment requiring all states to adopt nonpartisan, independent redistricting commissions to draw congressional and legislative district lines and adopt maps with bipartisan support.

[AJR 23 \(Gallagher\): New state formation](#) expresses the consent of the Legislature to separate California into two states, one primarily coastal and urban, and one that includes the following counties: Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, Del Norte, El Dorado, Fresno, Glenn, Imperial, Inyo, Kern, Kings, Lassen, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Modoc, Momo, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Joaquin, Shasta, Sierra, Siskiyou, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tehama, Trinity, Tulare, Tuolumne, Yuba, as well as any adjacent counties that vote to join with the names counties.

It is not expected that these Republican-led measures will garner sufficient support to move forward.

Assembly Reviews Major Impacts of H.R. 1 on California

The Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 7 on Accountability and Oversight held an overview hearing on August 20th to review the impacts of H.R. 1, also known as the One Big Beautiful Bill Act, on California. The Legislative Analyst's Office provided an overview that noted several critical areas impacting California. Under health care, the bill would curtail states' ability to tax Medicaid services for federal match funds, impose limits on provider payments, require able-bodied adults to engage in work or community service, and accelerate eligibility reviews for childless adults. In food assistance, CalFresh eligibility would narrow, states would shoulder more administrative costs, and a portion of benefit costs might shift to the state depending on error rates.

In higher education, the legislation would widen Pell Grant eligibility to include accredited short-term workforce training programs, introduce caps on both annual and aggregate federal student loans for graduate and other borrowers, merge existing repayment plans into two new ones, and launch an earnings-based accountability test for academic programs to maintain federal aid eligibility. On taxes, it would extend many Tax Cuts and Jobs Act provisions, introduce temporary deductions for seniors, overtime, tips, and auto-loan interest, expand the State and Local Tax (SALT) deduction, and permanently preserve business incentives like bonus depreciation and full expensing for short-lived R&D investments. Lastly, in the clean energy and electric vehicle sectors, the bill phases out a range of federal renewable energy, efficiency, and EV tax credits and rescinds unallocated Inflation Reduction Act funds for energy and natural resource programs.

As California may need to incur additional expenses to cover the fiscal and policy changes under H.R. 1, this may lead to reductions in funding for other programs or the elimination of various services, as cost pressures created a need to reduce options previously provided at the federal level.

CABE-Supported Legislation

The following includes the status of CABE-supported bills:

AB 49 (Muratsuchi): Immigration Enforcement: Would prohibit local educational agency (LEA) school officials and employees from allowing an agency conducting immigration enforcement from entering a school site for any purpose without providing valid identification and a signed and valid

judicial warrant, a court order, or exigent circumstances necessitating immediate action. The measure further requires the LEA to limit access to school facilities, as prescribed by law. This measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 243 (Ahrens): Student Financial Aid Dependency Status: Would require financial administrators of the California Community Colleges, California State University, University of California, or the Student Aid Commission to accept a sworn statement signed under penalty of perjury by a representative of a LEA, county welfare department, or probation department as a sufficient document for student aid. This measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 419 (Connolly): Education Equity: Immigration Enforcement: Would require schools to post guidelines on educational rights related to immigration enforcement actions in English and Spanish. CAFE is working with the author to amend the bill to ensure these materials would be translated into every language spoken at a school site, regardless of whether they have achieved 15 percent of the student population. This measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 695 (Fong): California Community Colleges Access and Continuity for Deported Students: Would ensure community college students who have been involuntarily removed do not have to pay nonresident tuition. This important measure will assist students wishing to pursue higher education in continuing to pursue their goals. The measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 833 (Alvarez): Teacher Exchange Program: Would require the State Board of Education's rules and regulations regarding teacher exchanges with Mexico to be reported to the Legislature, including the number of teachers participating, disaggregated by home country. The measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 1348 (Bains): Average Daily Attendance: Immigration Enforcement Activity: Would protect school funding from declining due to immigration enforcement activities. The measure is on the Senate Floor.

AB 1454 (Rivas): Pupil Literacy: Administrative Services Credential Program Standards and Professional Development: Instructional Materials: Would support California's efforts to improve student literacy for all students through the strengthening of professional development, updating professional materials, and ensure training that incorporates evidence-based instructional strategies that will also support English Learners in language development and literacy. This measure is on the Senate Floor.

SB 48 (Gonzalez): Immigration Enforcement at School Sites: Would prohibit school districts, county offices of education, or charter schools and their personnel from allowing Immigration and Customs Enforcement to access a school campus without a judicial warrant. To the extent possible, SB 48 would require local education agencies and their personnel to document and have a witness present when denying such access. Additionally, the bill would prohibit LEAs and their personnel from disclosing or providing education records about a pupil, pupil's family, school employees, or teachers, without a judicial warrant. The measure has been held in the Assembly Judiciary Committee and is a two-year bill.

SB 98 (Pérez): Immigration Enforcement Notification: Would require school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and postsecondary educational entities to immediately notify all pupils,

parents, faculty, staff, and other school community members of the presence of immigration officers on the school site. The measure is on the Assembly Floor.

Legislative Calendar

September 2-12 – Floor session only.

September 5 – Last day to amend a bill on the Floor.

September 12 – Last day for each house to pass bills. Interim Recess begins.

October 12 – Last day for the Governor to sign or veto bills.

November 4 – Special Election.

January 1 – Statutes take effect.