



California Association for Bilingual Education

February 2026 Legislative Advocate Report

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Bills Introduced

The deadline to introduce new legislation has passed, resulting in 1,897 newly introduced bills. Once introduced, a bill must be in print for 30 days before it can be sent to a committee for consideration. While a number of bills have been introduced with their initial desired goals stated, many are not yet ready for comprehensive review. These bills will likely be amended prior to, or during their first hearing in a policy committee. Bills are now being reviewed and will be presented with recommended positions shortly. Once positions have been finalized, letters stating those positions will be sent to the respective legislative committees that will be reviewing these bills. Status reports on legislation will be added to future monthly updates once positions have been finalized and communicated.

LAO Recommends Uses Revenue Improvements

The Legislative Analyst's Office recently released a report titled [*How to Use One-Time Revenue Improvements*](#), which discusses recent unexpectedly strong revenue gains and provides the Legislature guidance on how they should respond. It explains that income tax collections have outpaced earlier projections, resulting in an additional estimated \$5 billion compared with the Governor's budget estimates, which could translate into roughly a \$2.5 billion boost to the state's fiscal situation. The report cautions that these gains are temporary and that California continues to face long-term structural deficits and significant reliance on reserves and budgetary borrowing. Because of this, it recommends against using one-time windfall revenue to support ongoing spending and instead suggests the Legislature use extra funds to bolster reserves, reduce debt and borrowing, and strengthen budget resiliency for future downturns.

CABE-Monitored Bills

AB 1631 (Muratsuchi): Mandatory kindergarten: Would make kindergarten mandatory beginning in the 2028-29 school year. The bill was referred to the Assembly Education Committee and will be eligible to be heard after February 25th.

AB 1851 (Gipson): Pupil health: social-emotional, behavioral, and mental health supports: Would require the State Department of Education (CDE) to create a statewide Tier 1 Social and Emotional Learning, behavioral health, and restorative justice education program for K-12 students. School districts, county offices of education, and charter schools would be required to implement the program, with guidance from the CDE, with funds from the Children and Youth Behavioral Health initiative. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 11th.

AB 2019 (Gipson): Deported or detained faculty at community colleges: Requires community colleges to allow deported faculty to teach and perform professional duties using distance education. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 17th.

AB 2056 (Alvarez): Teacher exchange programs: Revises teacher exchange programs through the CDE and federal government by: 1) Eliminating the use of the regulatory process by the State Board of Education; 2) Eliminating the administration of the program by the CDE; 3) Expressly allowing for exchanges with Mexico; 4) Expanding authorized exchanges to include both county offices of education and charter schools; 5) Eliminating the one-year time limit on exchanges, and; 6) Should regulations be adopted, would require them to authorize specific visa sponsors designated by the United States Department of State to sponsor teachers from Mexico for placement in California schools. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 18th.

AB 2107 (Pellerin): Expanded Learning Opportunities Program (ELOP): unduplicated pupils: Would require local educational agencies (LEAs) with the ability to utilize ELOP by prioritizing access to unduplicated pupils. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 18th.

AB 2114 (Bryan): Nonresident tuition fee exemption: educational asylum program: Would allow California public educational systems, including public schools and institutions of higher education, to grant educational asylum status to a transfer student and would exempt these students, beginning with the 2027-28 school year from paying nonresident tuition. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 18th.

AB 2294 (Ta): State holiday: Sylvia Mendez Day: Would declare April 14th as Sylvia Mendez Day in honor of the landmark Mendez v. Westminster school desegregation case. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 19th.

AB 2332 (González): Dual language immersion coordinator: Would require, prior to July 1, 2027, that the CDE designate a Dual Language Immersion Coordinator (DLIC) to assist in the coordination between LEAs, by providing resources and knowledge on dual language immersion programs. The DLIC would be the primary contact between the CDE and LEAs to assist with creating new or expanding existing dual language immersion programs, as well as to create, publish, and maintain a directory of operative dual language immersion programs on the CDE's website by 2028. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 19th.

AB 2430 (Muratsuchi): Expanded learning programs: middle and high school students: Creates legislative intent to reallocate existing funding to increase access for unduplicated pupils to expand learning programs for students in grades 7-12, which are aligned and coordinated with existing programs, including ELOP, the After School Education and safety Program, and the 21st Century Community Learning Centers program. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 20th.

AB 2468 (Patel): School accountability: students with disabilities: Contingent upon an appropriation, beginning in the 2027-28 school year, would require the California Collaborative for Educational Excellence to administer the Supporting Innovative Practices project, as well as to expand

the project and build on its alignment and partnerships with statewide improvement initiatives. This would include improving student outcomes by increasing opportunities for students with disabilities to access education in general education settings, as well as supporting the educator workforce. The project would be required to provide technical assistance to LEAs and charter schools focused on supporting evidence-based practices to increase access by students with disabilities in general education settings and to support progress toward a high school diploma. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 20th.

AB 2495 (Kalra): Unlawful immigration-related practices: Would expand to the list of unlawful labor and immigration-related practices to include a prohibition of employers, persons, or entities, from engaging or directing another person or entity to engage in coercion against any person by engaging in unfair immigration-related practices. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 20th.

AB 2555 (Patel) English learner reclassification: This measure is currently a placeholder and will be amended in the future to change the reclassification process for English learners. The bill has not yet been referred to a committee and will be eligible to be heard after March 20th.

Legislative Calendar

February 20 – Last day for bills to be introduced.

March 26 – Legislative Spring Recess.

April 6 – Legislature reconvenes from Spring Recess.

April 21 – CAFE Lobby Day.

April 24 – Last day for policy committees to hear bills that are fiscal.

May 1 – Last day for policy committees to hear non-fiscal bills.

May 8 – Last day for policy committees to meet prior to June 1.

May 15 – Last day for fiscal committees to hear bills introduced in their house. Last day for fiscal committees to meet prior to June 1.

May 25-29 – Floor session only.

May 29 – Last day for each house to pass bills introduced in that house.

June 1 – Committee hearings may resume.

June 15 – Budget bill must be passed by midnight.

June 25 – Last day for a legislative measure to qualify for the November election.

July 2 – Last day for policy committees to meet. Legislative Summer Recess begins.

August 3 – Legislature reconvenes from Summer Recess.

August 14 – Last day for fiscal committees to meet.

August 17-31 – Floor Session only.

August 31 – Last day for each house to pass bills. Final recess begins upon adjournment.

September 31 – Last day for Governor to sign or veto bills.