



SACRAMENTO UPDATE

August 13, 2010
SU18 -10

Legislative Activity

The two house's Appropriations Committees on Thursday decided which bills moved to the respective floors for further consideration. With two-weeks left in the legislative session, there will be many hours of floor sessions for debate and vote on the remaining bills.

Below is a recap of the keys bills for the week:

AB 2036 (B. Berryhill) – Passed by Appropriations Committee. The bill prohibits local entities from charging for plans and specifications. The bill allows, not requires, local governments to charge a refundable \$250 deposit for paper plans if the plans are returned in reusable condition within 14 business days of the award of the project.

AB 2060 (Calderon) – Passed by Appropriations Committee. GSBE co-sponsored legislation allows for prospective protection for fix-priced contracts on public works projects should future state sales tax increases be implemented. The bill was amended to require a mandatory change order. This was done in the event the sales tax is decreased.

AB 1254 (Leno) – Passed the Appropriations Committee. Marin Builders' Association sponsored legislation authorizes the Contractors State License Board (CSLB) to issue a stop work order when a contractor fails to provide adequate workers' compensation coverage for employees. The bill has a second component which increases the number of peace officers the Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) may designate to the CSLB special investigations unit from three to 12.

AB 1853 (Huffman) – Held in Committee. This measure would require state agencies to provide a 2% bid preference on public works contracts if the bidder and subcontractors provide health care coverage to employees.

AB 2627 (Nielsen) – Held in Committee. After losing "good faith" with respect to DVBE requirements during last year's budget negotiations, efforts to reinstate provisions were met with opposition from the DVBE community and key legislators wishing not to run afoul veterans organizations. Recently amended, AB 2627 would allow a contractor to meet the 3%

DVBE goal by combining both public and private contract work and include the use of in-house DVBE in meeting the requirements.

No Water Bond

The legislature passed legislation to remove from the 2010 ballot and delay the vote on a water bond until 2012. There was a strong belief the economic conditions were not conducive to passing a bond at this time.

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