



San Bernardino County Employees'
Retirement Association

MEMORANDUM

DATE December 4, 2025 **PHONE** (909) 885-7980, Ext. 1351
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TO **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**
 San Bernardino County Employees'
 Retirement Association

SUBJECT 2025 – 2026 - CALIFORNIA LEGISLATION

*Updated information reflected in [blue](#). This is the first year of the 2025-2026 Legislative Term. Bills listed as Inactive/Dead will **not** appear in future updates.*

2025-2026 Legislative Term Update

Below are the bills we are monitoring that may impact SBCERA as a public retirement system and/or as an employer. A summary is provided for each bill, as well as a position recommendation in line with SBCERA's Legislative Principles and Guidelines.

A. County Employees Retirement Law and PEPRA

Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 853 (Senate Pension Committee) This omnibus bill includes three changes to County Employee Retirement Law (CERL) that are sponsored by the State Association of County Retirement Systems (SACRS). It also includes changes to Teachers Retirement Law (TRL) and Public Employees' Retirement Law (PERL). Below is a summary of the changes to the CERL. The bill amends Government Code section 31470.14 to clarify that when a position is enhanced from general to safety, the enhancement does not apply to any service on or after January 1, 2013.

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Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
	It amends Government Code section 31462.05 to clarify that CERL systems base pensionable compensation for a PEPRA member, who has absences in their final three-year period, on the compensation of their position at the beginning of the absence. It amends the return-to-work provision SACRS requested from the Legislature in 2024 to conform them to CERL system operations. The prior language was taken directly from the PERL section that applies to CalPERS, which handles returning retirees differently than CERL systems. • Employers must report returning retirees in the “format determined by the system.” The law currently says “enroll” since CalPERS requires employers to enroll returning retirees in the CalPERS pension management system. Some CERL systems expressed concerns about the use of the term “enroll” since they do not enroll returning retirees into their pension systems. • Employers who do not report the pay rate and hours worked of returning retirees within a time period determined by a CERL system may be fined \$200. The law currently says employers must report this information within 30 days following the last pay period a retiree worked. SBCERA policy requires employers to report the pay rate of a returning retiree before the retiree commences work. Additionally, SBCERA participating employers are required to provide a list of all returning retirees working along with their pay rates and hours worked within ten days after the end of each fiscal year. Employers may be fined if they do not notify SBCERA within two business days of discovering a retiree has exceeded the 960-hour work limit. Status: Signed into law Impact: Sponsor: SACRS, CalPERS, STRS

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Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 301 (Grayson) This bill would prohibit a “city or district” that contracts with a CERL system from amending their contract with the system to exclude some but not all employees from the pension system. The bill was amended in August to include this language clarifying that its provisions would not alter existing law: <i>The Legislature finds and declares that this section is declaratory of existing law.</i> Status: Signed into law Impact: None Sponsor: California Professional Firefighters

B. Public Employment

Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 7 – Employment: automated decision systems (Bryan and Elharwary) This bill would require employers who use AI to make hiring decisions to notify workers that they use AI for this purpose. Additionally, it would require employers to notify workers when an AI employment-related decision is made that affects them. Status: Vetoed Impact: None Sponsor: California Federation of Labor Unions, AFL-CIO

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C. Local Government (including Brown Act, Public Records Act, & Conflict of Interest

Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 707—Open meetings: meeting and teleconference requirements (Durazo) This bill extends the authorization for public representatives to teleconference into a public meeting for just cause to January 2030. It currently expires January 2026. The bill requires legislative bodies to provide copies of the Brown Act to each member of the legislative body. The law currently says legislative bodies may require a copy be provided to members. The bill requires <i>eligible legislative</i> bodies to provide an opportunity for members of the public to attend public meetings via a 2-way telephonic service or a 2-way audiovisual platform. Status: Signed into law Impact: Would permit a Board member whose disability cannot be accommodated to participate in meetings remotely and count toward meeting quorum. Extends teleconferencing provisions for just cause until January 2030. Sponsor:

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Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 827 Local official training (Gonzalez) This bill would require specified local officials to receive two (2) hours of financial training every two years. The bill also would add department heads and other similar administrative officers to the list of officials who must receive biennial ethics training. In addition, officials who commence service with a public agency on or after January 1, 2026, must receive the ethics and financial training within six (6) months of commencing service rather than within the first year. Status: Signed into law Impact: Pending Sponsor:
None	AB 370 California Public Records Act: Cyberattacks (Carrillo) Makes accommodations for PRA requests when a public agency has been the victim of a cyber-attack. Status: Signed into law Impact: Potentially Sponsor: City of Hesperia
None	AB 1029 Statements of financial interest: digital financial assets (McNerney) This bill expands the definition of “investment” for purposes of the Political Reform Act of 1974 to include a digital financial asset. Status: Signed into law

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Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
	Impact: Designated employees/SBCERA officials will be required to disclose digital financial assets on their annual 700 forms starting in 2027. Sponsor:
None	SB 852 Political Reform Act of 1974: Citizens Redistricting Commission (Committee on Elections and Constitutional Amendments) This bill adds public officials who manage public investments to the list of individuals for whom the FPPC is the filing officer for statements of economic interest and requires those officials to file their statements of economic interest through the FPPC’s electronic filing system. Status: Signed into law Impact: SBCERA Board of Retirement members and “high-level officers and employees” who manage public investments must file their Form 700s electronically directly with the FPPC. Some of the individuals in this group currently file their Form 700s with the SBCERA Clerk of the Board rather than directly with the FPPC. Sponsor: Fair Political Practices Commission

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D. Other Bills of Interest Re CalPERS, STRS, and JRS I and II

Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 443— JPA Tier Preservation (Rubio) Under this bill, a joint powers authority (JPA) could offer classic benefits to pre-PEPRA employees of a non-founding member agency who transfer to the JPA within 180 days of the agency becoming a JPA member. The JPA would be required to seek the retirement system’s approval prior to offering pre-PEPRA benefits to new employees who qualify. Status: Signed into law Impact: No Sponsor: City of La Verne and city of Covina
None	AB 1067— Public employees’ retirement: felony convictions (Quirk-Silva) This bill requires an employer to continue investigating an employee suspected of misconduct related to their job duties even if the employee retires before the investigation is completed. It requires the employer to report the crime to the appropriate law enforcement agency for prosecution if the investigation indicates the employee may be guilty of misconduct. Status: Signed into law Impact: Sponsor:

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Position Recommendation	Bill and Summary
None	SB 711 Taxation Federal Conformity (McNerney) Among other things, this bill applies the same tax exclusion provided by federal tax code for safety service-connected disability retirements to state tax code. Status: Signed into law Impact: Sponsor: California Society of Enrolled Agents (Federally licensed tax professionals advocacy group)

End of Memo.

BMH:SV:ycb