



TAKE ACTION BRIEF

April 2023

The State Legislature’s policy committees are now in full swing taking up the more than 2,600 bills introduced in 2023, including CSDA sponsored legislation related to emergency remote Brown Act meetings. In the meantime, the California Air Resources Board (CARB) is poised to consider adoption of a zero emission vehicle mandate for all medium-duty and heavy duty vehicles at its April 27-28 meeting. Be sure to respond to CSDA’s Calls-to-Action and register for the May 16-17 Special Districts Legislative Days in Sacramento before the April 21 Early Bird Deadline.



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Contact a local CSDA representative near you!

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➤ ACTION ALERT: Submit comment letter on CARB zero emission vehicle mandate

The California Air Resources Board (CARB) has released an updated draft of its proposed Advanced Clean Fleet (ACF) Regulation and special districts and others have until April 7, 2023 to respond to the formal 15-Day Comment Period.

CARB's regulation seeks to mandate zero emission vehicles (ZEV) for all medium-duty and heavy-duty vehicles purchased starting January 1, 2027, with many agencies required to purchase 50 percent ZEV from 2024 – 2026. This will have a major impact on local agencies using Class 2b – 8 vehicles (those vehicles with gross vehicle weight rating of 8,500 lbs. or more).

CSDA will submit a formal comment letter together with city and county partners and is encouraging all affected special districts to submit their own comment letter.

Submit ACF Regulation Comment Letter to CARB

Download CSDA's Sample Letter at <https://csda.net/carb-zev-letter> or request a sample letter from your CSDA Public Affairs Field Coordinator. Please email a copy of your letter to advocacy@csda.net.

Written comments will only be accepted on the modifications identified in CARB's Notice. Comments may be submitted by postal mail or by electronic submittal no later than the April 7, 2023 due date to the following:

Postal mail: Clerks' Office, California Air Resources Board 1001 I Street, Sacramento, California 95814

Electronic submittal: <https://www.arb.ca.gov/lispub/comm/bclist.php>

The full CARB board is expected to take up the proposed ACF regulation at their upcoming April 27-28, 2023 meeting.

Details regarding CARB's latest ACF proposal are available here:

[Advanced Clean Fleets | California Air Resources Board](#)

CSDA has also released an **[updated fact sheet](#)** on the ACF draft regulation.



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➤ FEEDBACK REQUEST: How would a “.gov” website domain mandate impact your district?

CSDA is seeking member feedback on [Assembly Bill 1637 \(Irwin\)](#), which would require the following:

No later than January 1, 2025, a local agency, including a special district, that maintains an internet website for use by the public will be required to ensure that the internet website utilizes a “.gov” top-level domain or a “.ca.gov” second-level domain. A local agency that maintains public email addresses for its employees will also be required to ensure that each email address provided to its employees utilizes a “.gov” domain name or a “.ca.gov” domain name.

If a local agency maintains a website for use by the public that is noncompliant by January 1, 2025, it will be required to redirect that website to a domain name that does comply.

Please provide responses to Senior Legislative Representative Aaron Avery at aarona@cdda.net.

1. Does your agency already use a “.gov” or “.ca.gov” domain?
2. If your agency has already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, approximately how much did it cost to make the transition (e.g., coding, IT support, labor, lost productivity, stationary, vehicle wrapping, training and community outreach, etc.)?
3. If your agency has already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, was your agency’s preferred domain name/web address available? How long did you wait to receive your web address after requesting it?
4. If your agency has already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, please describe any challenges or other information you would like to share about the transition process.
5. If your agency has already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, have you achieved any cyber security or other benefits as a result? If so, please describe.
6. If your agency has not already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, please estimate the approximate amount it will cost to make the transition (e.g., coding, IT support, labor, lost productivity, stationary, vehicle wrapping, training and community outreach, etc.).
7. If your agency has not already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, please describe any challenges or other information you would like to share about the anticipated transition process.
8. If your agency has not already transitioned to a .gov or .ca.gov domain, has your agency requested or secured a .gov or .ca.gov domain?

NOTE: Due to AB 1637, and pending federal efforts that may eventually result in a requirement for local agencies to transition to a .gov domain, it may be advisable to [request](#) a .gov web address now.



➤ As Governor expands State of Emergency to 48 counties, CSDA works to extend emergency remote meeting authority

On March 28, 2023 Governor Newsom expanded his previous storm state of emergency declaration to also include the counties of Alameda, Marin, Modoc, and Shasta. Those counties join 43 others already under a state of emergency declaration.

Local agencies attempting to operate during this emergency and continue to conduct the people’s business remain well-positioned to function as a result of changes to the Brown Act under AB 361 (R. Rivas, 2021) that allowed for emergency remote meetings to be held. However, these statutory provisions will only remain in place until the end of 2023— unless this year’s AB 557 (Hart) is signed into law.

CSDA sponsored AB 361 and is sponsoring AB 557 and calling upon special districts to learn more and submit a letter of support through the CSDA website, at csda.net/advocate/take-action/brown-act557. CSDA is also collecting experiences from its members about the impacts the recent storms have had on district meetings, feedback that can be submitted by visiting csdaforms.wufoo.com/forms/q1prcmo50dh1p76/.

Other 2023 Brown Act bills of note include the following:

AB 817 (Pacheco) — This bill would allow “subsidiary bodies” (i.e., a legislative body that serves exclusively in an advisory capacity and is not authorized to take final action on legislation, regulations, contracts, licenses, permits, or any other entitlements) to meet remotely without the Brown Act requirements traditionally associated with teleconferencing (e.g., that agenda meeting notices are posted at all teleconference locations) and without regard to any emergency situation. Each member of the subsidiary body would be required to participate through both audio and visual technology.

SB 411 (Portantino) — This bill would allow a board, commission, or advisory body of a local agency, the membership of which board, commission, or advisory body is appointed and which board, commission, or advisory body is otherwise subject to the Brown Act to use teleconferencing in order to hold public meetings. This bill is also an urgency measure, requiring the support of two-thirds of both houses to pass.

AB 1379 (Papan) — This bill would provide that a local agency may instead post agendas at a singular designated physical meeting location, rather than at all teleconference locations. The bill would remove the requirements for the legislative body of the local agency to identify each teleconference location in the notice and agenda, that each teleconference location be accessible to the public, and that at least a quorum of the members participate from locations within the boundaries of the territory over which the local agency exercises jurisdiction. The bill would instead provide that, for purposes of establishing a quorum of the legislative body, members of the body may participate remotely, at the designated physical location, or at both the designated physical meeting location and remotely. The bill would require the legislative body to have at least two meetings per year in which the legislative body’s members are in person at a singular designated physical meeting location. Notably, AB 1379 also revises a number of provisions added to the Brown Act by AB 2449 (Lee, 2022).

SB 537 (Becker) — This bill would allow boards, commissions, or advisory bodies of multijurisdictional, cross county agencies, the membership of which is appointed, to use the emergency remote meeting provisions of AB 361 without regard to an emergency. “Multijurisdictional” in this sense means a legislative body that includes representatives from more than one county, city, city and county, special district, or a joint powers entity. This bill expands the definition of “just cause” added as part of AB 2449 to include situations in which an immunocompromised child, parent, grandparent, or other specified relative requires the member to participate remotely.



➤ OTHER WAYS TO TAKE ACTION

Learn More

The 2023 Special Districts Legislative Days Conference Brochure is LIVE!

*Tuesday and Wednesday, May 16 -17, 2022
Sheraton Grand Hotel
Sacramento, CA*

Gain the edge on policy changes impacting your agency and exchange ideas with California's top decision-makers at the 2023 Special Districts Legislative Days, an interactive and informative two-day legislative conference in our State's Capitol. Fully one-third of the State Legislature turned over this year, making the 2023 Special Districts Legislative Days a MUST-ATTEND EVENT! Don't miss this opportunity to build partnerships and strengthen the voice of local control. Check out all the details for this year's conference, and *secure Early Bird pricing before the deadline on April 21!*

View the brochure here: <https://www.csdanet/viewdocument/2023-special-districts-legislative>

Join Today

Join an Expert Feedback Team to provide CSDA staff with invaluable insights on policy issues. Visit [csdanet/get-involved](https://www.csdanet/get-involved) or email updates@csdanet to inquire about joining one of the following teams:

- Environment & Disaster Preparedness
- District Operations
- Governance
- Human Resources and Personnel
- Public Works, Facilities, and State Infrastructure Investment & Partnership
- Local Revenue

Stay Informed

In addition to the many ways you can **TAKE ACTION** with CSDA's advocacy efforts, CSDA offers a variety of tools to keep you up-to-date and assist you in your district's legislative and public outreach. Make sure you're reading these resources:

- CSDA's weekly e-Newsletter
- Districts in the News
- CSDA's *California Special Districts* Magazine

Email updates@csdanet for help accessing these additional member resources.