



California's Center for Tobacco Policy & Organizing

Legislative Week in Review (August 18-22)

The California Legislature has been very busy voting on bills over the past week as there is now only one week remaining in the 2008 legislative session. While the Legislature finishes its work on 2008 bills, a budget has still not been adopted for fiscal year 2008-2009. Because of that, legislators may need to stay in Sacramento past the end of August to continue working on and passing a budget. There are two tobacco-related bills remaining alive in the Legislature. Below is an update on those two bills with status information, vote details and next steps.

AB 2344: Annual Fee for State Tobacco Retailer License (Beall – D, San Jose)

This bill would increase the fee for a state tobacco retailer license from \$100 to \$185 and require this fee to be paid annually.

Status – AB 2344 has been passed by both the Assembly and the Senate and will now be sent to the Governor. Once he receives the bill, he will have until September 30 to sign it into law, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

AB 3010: Prohibiting Tobacco Use at State Mental Hospitals (Blakeslee – R, San Luis Obispo)

This bill would authorize the Director of the Department of Mental Health to prohibit smoking by patients and staff at any of the five state mental hospitals upon the request of the director of one of those hospitals.

Status – The full Senate passed AB 3010 on August 20 by a vote of 29-6.

Voted in Favor – Alquist, Calderon, Cedillo, Cogdill, Corbett, Correa, Cox, Dutton, Florez, Harman, Kehoe, Lowenthal, Machado, Maldonado, Margett, Migden, Negrete McLeod, Oropeza, Padilla, Perata, Ridley-Thomas, Romero, Scott, Simitian, Steinberg, Torlakson, Wiggins, Wyland, Yee

Voted Against – Aanestad, Ackerman, Ashburn, Denham, Hollingsworth, McClintock

Absent or Not Voting – Battin, Ducheny, Kuehl, Runner, Vincent

Next Step – Since this bill was amended in the Senate, it will need to be passed again by the full Assembly, which originally passed the bill in May. After the Assembly passes the bill with the Senate amendments, the bill would then be sent to the Governor who can sign it into law, veto it or allow it to become law without his signature.

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If you have questions about this analysis, please contact Justin Garrett, at (jgarrett@alac.org) or Paul Knepprath (pknepprath@alac.org) at (916) 554-5864 (LUNG). To view this update and past legislative updates, please visit www.Center4TobaccoPolicy.org.

Sources: Copies of the legislation outlined above and vote information may be obtained at <http://www.leginfo.ca.gov>.

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