



Legislative Week in Review (August 24-28)

August 31, 2009

The past week was a busy week for tobacco-related bills as two bills received floor votes in the Senate, two bills received committee votes and one bill was placed on the inactive file. The two bills that were passed by the Senate (AB 574, legislation prohibiting smoking on hospital campuses, and AB 625, legislation prohibiting sale of novelty lighters) will now be sent to the Governor who will be able to sign the bills into law or veto them. Legislative activity resumed on SB 600, legislation to increase the state tobacco tax by \$1.50 per pack, as the bill was passed by two Senate committees and referred to another committee where it now awaits further action. Finally, legislative activity for SB 4, legislation to prohibit smoking at state parks and state beaches, is finished for 2009 as the bill was placed on the inactive file at Senator Oropeza's request. According to Senator Oropeza's office, there is still work needed to gain the Governor's support for this legislation and Senator Oropeza will continue to work on this issue in 2010.

With only two weeks remaining in the 2009 legislative session, legislative activity will continue at a busy pace. For daily updates on tobacco-related bills, visit the Center's [Bill Tracker](#). Below is a summary of the legislative activity that occurred on the remaining tobacco-related bills during the week of August 24-28 and the next step for each bill.

AB 574: Prohibiting Smoking at Hospitals (Hill – D, San Mateo)

Legislative Activity: AB 574 was passed by the full Senate by a vote of 21-15 on August 27.

Next Step: The bill will now be sent to the Governor who can sign, veto or allow the bill to become law without his signature.

AB 625: Prohibiting Sale or Distribution of Novelty Lighters (Lieu – D, Torrance)

Legislative Activity: AB 625 was passed by the full Senate by a vote of 23-12 on August 27.

Next Step: The bill will now be sent to the Governor who can sign, veto or allow the bill to become law without his signature.

SB 4: Prohibiting Smoking in State Parks and State Beaches (Oropeza – D, Long Beach)

Legislative Activity: At the request of the author, SB 4 was placed on the inactive file on August 27.

Next Step: This legislation will not see further action in 2009, but will be eligible to become a two-year bill when the 2010 legislative session begins.

SB 364: Prohibiting Cancer Center Leadership from also Holding a Leadership Position for a Tobacco Company (Florez – D, Shafter)

Legislative Activity: SB 364 was passed by the Assembly Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9-7 on August 27.

Next Step: SB 364 will be sent to the Assembly floor where it will await a floor vote by the full Assembly.

SB 400: Including Electronic Cigarettes in the Definition of a Tobacco Product (Corbett – D, San Leandro)

Legislative Activity: No activity this week.

Next Step: SB 400 has been sent to the Assembly floor and is awaiting a floor vote by the full Assembly.

SB 600: Increasing the State Tobacco Tax (Padilla – D, San Fernando Valley)

Legislative Activity: SB 600 was passed by the Senate Revenue and Taxation Committee by a vote of 5-3 on August 26. The legislation was then passed by the Senate Appropriations Committee by a vote of 8-5 on August 27.

Next Step: The bill has been sent to the Senate Rules Committee where it awaits further action.

SJR 8: Requesting the FDA to Prohibit Sales of Electronic Cigarettes until Proven Safe (Corbett – D, San Leandro)

Legislative Activity: SJR 8 was referred to the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.

Next Step: SJR 8 is waiting to be scheduled for a hearing by the Assembly Governmental Organization Committee.

For full summaries of these bills and to see how legislators voted, visit the Center's Bill Tracker at www.Center4TobaccoPolicy.org/bills.

Center for Tobacco Policy & Organizing, August 31, 2009

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/bills-updates.

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

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