

California State Senate

CAPITOL OFFICE
STATE CAPITOL
SACRAMENTO, CA 95814
TEL (916) 651-4026
FAX (916) 651-4926

WWW.SENATE.CA.GOV/ALLEN
SENATOR.ALLEN@SENATE.CA.GOV

SENATOR
BENJAMIN ALLEN

TWENTY-SIXTH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE
2512 ARTESIA BLVD., SUITE 320
REDONDO BEACH, CA 90278
TEL (310) 318-6994
FAX (310) 318-6733



Senator Ben Allen 2015 Legislation

SB 277, Vaccines (Pan/Allen) – High rates of unvaccinated students in many schools has led to outbreaks of communicable diseases that were eradicated decades ago, such as measles. SB 277 will reduce the number of unvaccinated students by eliminating the “Personal Belief Exemption” from current law, which has allowed children to attend school without the required immunizations. This change will protect students from exposure to potentially deadly diseases.

SB 380, Topline Teacher Recruitment Act – To encourage California’s best and brightest to enter the teaching profession, SB 380 creates a program to recruit top high school seniors by offering them a full merit scholarship to a public college or university, in return for a five-year commitment to teach in a public high school.

SB 386, Veterans pension scams – Veterans of the United States armed forces face many challenges when they return to civilian life, and some have been preyed upon by unscrupulous persons who promise a lump sum of money in exchange for signing over their future monthly benefits. These schemes are illegal, but advertisements for them continue to appear in publications targeting veterans. SB 386 makes it illegal to advertise this type of financial scam.

SB 434, Property tax fairness – Mobile homes purchased prior to 1980 are taxed as vehicles at a low rate of between \$19 to \$80 a year. If these mobile homes are completely rebuilt on a foundation system, SB 434 requires that they be subjected to the local property tax instead.

SB 439, Voter registration expansion – California’s statewide voter turnout in the November 2014 election was just 42%, a record low. Los Angeles County’s turnout was the lowest in the state at 31%. To increase voter participation, starting in 2017, voters may register and vote at the county Registrar of Voters’ office in the two weeks before an election. SB 439 will expand this authorization to satellite locations so that people do not have to travel to the Registrar’s office.

SB 447, Community clinic reimbursements – Community clinics provide an affordable, convenient way for low-income and uninsured persons to obtain medical care, including prescription medications. But a complicated billing methodology required by the state has prevented clinics from receiving reimbursement for medications they dispense. SB 447 simplifies the drug reimbursement process by specifying clinics are entitled to the Medi-Cal reimbursement rate, and will result in clinics receiving crucial funding to which they are entitled.

SB 450, Absentee voting – This bill requires county registrars of voters to include with every sample ballot sent to voters a notice inviting them to apply for permanent absentee voter status.

SB 460, English language learners funding – This bill enables school districts to continue to receive supplemental funding for English language learners for two years after they have been redesignated as no longer English language learners, or until statewide redesignation standards are implemented.

SB 618, Alzheimer's and dementia care – This legislation requires the state Department of Health Care Services to develop evidence-based guidelines for the care of persons with dementia and Alzheimer's disease, in consultation with nurses, social workers, primary care physicians, advocates for people with dementia, health plans and insurers.

SB 637, Rivers and stream protection – Suction dredging is a form of mining for precious metals that can cause severe environmental damage to rivers and streams. SB 637 will give the State Water Resources Control Board the authority it needs to ensure water quality is protected during suction dredging, or to deny a permit to do so if it cannot be done in a manner that maintains water quality standards.

SB 652, Science curriculum – The new Next Generation Science Standards will revolutionize the way students learn and align with new Common Core standards. SB 652 will help to ensure the success of the science curriculum by allowing an additional year for the curriculum framework and instructional materials criteria to be adopted.

SB 687, Climate change; renewable gas standard – Natural gas is responsible for one-quarter of all California's greenhouse gas emissions. SB 687 requires gas sellers to reduce the carbon intensity of their gas by increasing the percentage of renewable gas they use, and sets a goal of 10% renewable sources by 2030. Eligible renewable sources would include gas made from organic waste.

SB 773, Air pollution; unregistered vehicles – Unregistered vehicles are a major source of air pollution because a disproportionate number of these cars are gross-emitting vehicles that have not passed smog tests. SB 773 provides a financial incentive to local jurisdictions to enforce vehicle registration laws by allowing them to keep the new revenue from registration fees they secure at the local level for the first year. The bill will also make it more difficult to steal vehicle registration tags.

SB 778, Clean automotive motor oils – As part of the state Senate's legislative package addressing climate change, this bill will require motor oil sold in the state to meet quality standards that protect engines, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, lessen oil pollution in waterways and the ocean, and make improvements to gas mileage equivalent to taking a half a million cars off the road.